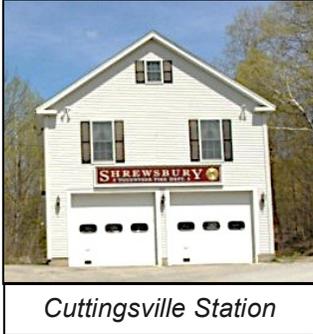




# Times of Shrewsbury



December 2014



Cuttingsville Station



## SHREWSBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT



Northam Station

With the colder weather of late fall and winter upon us, the SVFD has been preparing for the inevitable calls that will

come with the increase of adverse weather conditions. Those preparations include checking all of the gas powered equipment such as the jaws of life, chain saws, portable pumps and the like. Winter weather firefighting poses a great demand upon equipment and firefighters alike with most of our calls coming from traffic accidents, chimney fires, and unfortunately, the occasional structure fire either in Shrewsbury or one of our neighboring towns.

October and November have been relatively quiet for the SVFD with only two calls. One was a mutual aid call to Mount Holly which was a turn back situation. The second was the report of a power line fire on Sanderson Road. Both calls were responded to without further incident.

To start business for the New Year, the newly elected trustees gathered to discuss issues facing the department. For fourteen years now, the department has managed to hold its annual budget at the same level, but this has been mostly due to fundraising efforts as well as diligent maintenance of equipment. Unfortunately, regardless these efforts, situations and needs arise which are out of our control. Some of these issues include the obsolescence of most of our current air packs and the thermal imager on the Cuttingsville pumper. In addition, preservation of our trucks is a constant problem which was addressed with a capital budget scheduled to rotate each vehicle after a life of 28 years.

The Cuttingsville Station has had heating problems for several years, and we will soon face replacing the current furnace. Also, the station itself is too small to accommodate currently built fire trucks, so when a replacement is due, the department will have to con-

sider ways to address this, whether it is getting smaller trucks which would have limitations, or doing something with the current station. The need for additional, younger firefighters was also discussed. Inevitably, an increase in the SVFD budget would seem likely. Currently, the SVFD budget is much smaller than other local departments of similar size, yet call volume in all areas seems to increase each year.

In other business, several of the volunteers under the direction of Jaime Carrara spent several Saturdays rebuilding the dry hydrant at Connolly's Pond in the Center. This involved removing and rebuilding the strainer, and ensuring that the intake pipe was secure. Department members have also worked at testing other pumps and hydrants around town, only to learn that they are silted in or limited for use and will require future work as well.

Once again, this year Barry Griffith and Bob Snarski along with the help of Chief Carrara and other members are working on a grant to bring our air packs into compliance. After many hours of work, the grant will be submitted again this year in December. Hopefully, this year we will be successful in obtaining the funds to replace important, life protecting SCBAs.

Finally, the SVFD would like to thank all community members for being supportive of the department in 2014, and we ask that you continue to be vigilant about safety. We wish one and all a happy and safe holiday season.

*Submitted by: Bob Snarski, SVFD Safety Officer*

*There will be  
No January Issue  
of The Times of Shrewsbury*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Thanks!

Thank you so much to all of you lovely Shrewsberies who helped Rich and me through a tough time recently. I spent a week in RRMC and then was transferred to The Pines for rehab. My problem was a "Back Attack" – a flare-up of a long existing back problem. We sincerely thank you dear folks who are always there to help others in need. Rich and I thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

*Fran Patten and Rich Bettelli*

### Dear Shrewsbury,

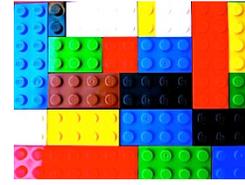
I regret that I am no longer able to serve as a Shrewsbury Mountain School Director due to life changes. Thank you for electing me to the School Board. It has been an honor and pleasure serving the town in this capacity. I wish the school and the town continued success in its most noble mission of providing excellent education for our greatest treasure.

Respectfully,  
Fahima Thompson

### FREE COMMUNITY FOOD SHELF

The Free Community Food Shelf is at the Library in the front entry way. All are welcome to come in and help yourself any time the Library is open.

*–Sponsored by the Community Church*



### Lego Club

at the Shrewsbury Library  
Saturday, December 13  
10:00-11:30

All school age children are welcome. Younger children with an adult are also welcome. Come discover, explore and create with legos. Questions? Please call Doris Perry 492-3440

### Somebody's missing an Elmo shoe!

Is it you?!!



Brown shoe with red Elmo  
Size 6W

It's now downstairs in the Meeting House for someone to claim

## 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 are subject to editing for length and clarity and must be accompanied by the name of the submitting person. Letters to the Editor exceeding 350 words will be subject to editing for length. Any opinion piece or informational political letters (without specific party or vote appeal) will be subject to the same guidelines previously described. All items including letters are printed at the editors' discretion. A 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 10<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication or it will not run. If the named person or organization indicates in writing to the writer and to the *Times* that they choose not to respond,

the letter will run. If the named entity responds, the response and initial letter will run in the same issue.

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

**Articles and Advertisements:** Deadline for submission is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication; exceptions will be announced in the prior month's *Times*. If you have questions, call Chryl Martin at 492-2244 or email [shrewsburytimes@gmail.com](mailto:shrewsburytimes@gmail.com)

**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 \$60      1/4 page \$10  
1/2 page \$25      Business card \$5  
Classified ad (15 words) \$2.

Payment is due by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication.

Chryl Martin

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

Email: [shrewsburytimes@gmail.com](mailto:shrewsburytimes@gmail.com)

Online: [www.shrewsburyvt.org](http://www.shrewsburyvt.org)

# SHREWSBURY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- Dec 6 7pm \*Silent Auction and Cookie Swap at the Shrewsbury Library  
 Dec 7 8am-2pm \*Snowmobile Safety Course offered by Shrewsbury Sno-Birds  
 Dec 9 12noon \*Senior Lunch at The Doll House, Rutland. Call Tess Willaims for reservations. Gift exchange with \$5 gifts for those who want to participate.  
 Dec 12 7:30pm \*Program on Habitat for Humanity: Bali, Indonesia at the Library  
 Dec 13 10-11:30am \*LEGO Club at the Library  
 Dec 17 12noon \*Prayer Shawl group meets at the home of Fran Patten 492-3706  
 Dec 24 7pm \*Community Candle Light Service at the Shrewsbury Community Church  
 After Jan 1 \*Dog licenses available  
 Jan 13 12noon \*Senior Lunch at 99 Restaurant, Rutland. Call Tess Williams at 492-2187  
 Jan 16 7:30pm \*The Brown Bridge Builder...and Covered Bridges of Rutland County” at the Library  
 Jan 18 4pm \*Famous Books Discussion group meets at the Library  
 Jan 19 \*Last day to file petitions for articles to be included on the Town Warning  
 Jan 25 4pm \*Science Book Club group meets at the Library  
 Jan 26 5pm \*Deadline to file nominating petitions for Town Offices

\* see elsewhere in newsletter for details

**TIMES OF SHREWSBURY**  
 Is online at the town website at  
[www.shrewsburyvt.org](http://www.shrewsburyvt.org)



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

## REGULAR MEETINGS and EVENTS

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Board of Selectmen Meeting             | 1st & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays—7:00pm at Town Office                              |
| Bone Builders                          | Tuesdays & Thursdays—9:00am at Meeting House  |
| Library Trustees’ Meeting              | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday—7:00pm at Shrewsbury Library                                |
| Mill River Union School Board Mtg      | 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays—7:00pm at Mill River Union High School |
| Pierce’s Store Take-Out Meals          | Friday nights   |
| Planning Commission                    | 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mondays—7:30pm at Town Office                     |
| Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) | Sundays—10:00am at Shrewsbury Library, upstairs                                     |
| Shrewsbury Community Church Worship    | Sundays—10:30am at Shrewsbury Center Church   |
| Shrewsbury School District Board Mtg   | 1 <sup>st</sup> Monday & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday—6:30pm                             |
| Shrewsbury Sno-Birds                   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays—7:00pm at the Snow Angel Tavern in Mendon                  |
| Shrewsbury Volunteer Fire Dept.        | Thursdays—7:00pm at Cuttingsville Station   |
| Conservation Commission                | 1 <sup>ST</sup> Tuesday—5:15pm at 450 Frank Lord Road                               |

**Shrewsbury Town Website: [www.shrewsburyvt.org](http://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

Window (Retail) Hours:

Monday-Friday Open 7:30am-10:30am and 1:30pm-4:30pm  
 Saturday 8am-11am

Lobby Hours:

Monday-Friday 7:30am-5pm & Saturday 7:30am-11am

**Meeting House** 492-6050 (Reservations: 492-3361)

**Health Officer** Daphne LeaHemmer 773-7157

**Emergency Management** Bert Potter 773-2272

**Ambulance** 773-1700

**GrMP power outage** 1-800-451-2877

**Medical—Fire—Police Emergency** Dial 911

**Rutland Hospital** 775-7111

10/20/14

**2014 Statewide General Election  
Tuesday November 4**

471 Votes  
51.6% of the Checklist  
84 Early / Absentee Ballots Cast

<b>Representative to Congress (1)</b>	
MATTHEW ANDREWS	5
MARK DONKA	164
CRIS ERICSON	6
RANDALL MEYER	5
JERRY TRUDELL	3
PETER WELCH	274
<b>Governor (1)</b>	
PETE DIAMONDSTONE	4
CRIS ERICSON	2
DAN FELICIANO	20
SCOTT MILNE	216
BERNARD PETERS	25
EMILY PEYTON	3
PETER SHUMLIN	196
<b>Lietenant Governor (1)</b>	
MARINA BROWN	8
DEAN CORREN	149
PHIL SCOTT	303
<b>State Treasurer (1)</b>	
MURRY NGOMIA	36
BETH PEARCE	286
DON SCHRAMM	77
<b>Secretary of State (1)</b>	
JAMES C CONDOS	275
BEN EASTWOOD	72
MARY ALICE HERBERT	53
<b>Auditor of Accounts (1)</b>	
DOUG HOFFER	343
<b>Attorney General (1)</b>	
ROSEMARIE JACKOWSKI	19
SHANE MCCORMACK	178
WILLIAM H. SORRELL	254

<b>State Senator (3)</b>	
WILLIAM TRACY CARRIS	137
BRIAN P COLLAMORE	203
ANISSA DELAIRI	93
PEG FLORY	208
ELDRED FRENCH	251
KEVIN J MULLIN	198
KELLY SOCIA	27
<b>State Representative (1)</b>	
DENNIS DEVEREUX	323
<b>Probate Judge (1)</b>	
KEVIN P. CANDON	269
NICHOLAS G MICHAEL	175
<b>Assistant Judge (2)</b>	
JEAN H COLOUTTI	315
DAVID W LEWIS	209
<b>State's Attorney (1)</b>	
MARC D BRIERRE	214
ROSE KENNEDY	240
<b>Sheriff (1)</b>	
STEPHEN BARNARD	370
<b>High Bailiff (1)</b>	
PENELOPE GAROFANO	324
<b>JUSTICE OF THE PEACE (7)</b>	
BARRY GRIFFITH	285
JOHN BERRYHILL	270
BETSY JESSER	248
LARRY CARRARA	244
JULANNE SHARROW	222
LEE WILSON	216
HULL MAYNARD	202
TRISH NORTON	189
LYNN MCDERMOTT	159
BOB FERGUSON	157
LARRY WILLIAMS	127
FRANCIS "JOLLY" WYATT	127
JONATHAN GIBSON	122
LAVINIA SEIDE	117

Thanks to all the hard work by the Poll Workers and Election Officials, it was a long day:

Martha Abel, Bill & Katherine Clancy, Pam Grace, Gail & Thomas Hartigan, Gerry & Chryl Martin, Doris Perry, Adrienne Raymond, Anne Ridlon, Theresa Williams, Sharon Winnicki, Joan Judge, Ann Vanneman, Mike Stewart, Melissa Reichert, Bert Potter, Steven Nicholson, Gary Salmon, Timothy Vile, David & Laurel Fretz, Marilyn Dalick, Carol Goodwin, Lee Wilson, Julianne Sharrow, Barry Griffith, John Berryhill and Betsy Jesser.

*Markk Goodwin, Town Clerk*



2015 Dog Licenses will be available after January 1 at the Town Clerk's Office.

**Reminder:**

- **January 19** is the last day to file with the Town Clerk petitions for articles to be included in the Town Meeting warning. (5% of Checklist)
- **January 26 at 5:00pm** is the deadline for filing with the Town Clerk nominating petitions for Town Offices. (1% of Checklist)
- **February 25** at 5:00pm is the last day to apply for addition to checklist (register) to vote for Town Meeting election
- **Monday, March 2, 2015** – Informational Meeting (more details in February issue of the *Times*)
- **Tuesday, March 3, 2015** - Town Mtg Voting Polls open 10am to 7pm

Absentee Ballot requests can be made anytime by contacting the Town Clerk:

- Phone 492-3511
- E-mail  
shrewsbuuryclerk@vermontel.net
- Download form requesting Absentee Ballot:

shrewsburyvt.org/>Town Office>Elections and Voting and mail to 9823 Cold River Rd.

*Mark Goodwin, Town Clerk*

**Offices to be elected March 3, 2015:**

- Annual Elections  
(Offices are for a One Year Term)
- Town Moderator
- Town Grand Juror
- Town Agent
- 1<sup>st</sup> Constable
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Constable
- School Moderator

2015 Town Offices

- Selectboard: 1 – 3 year term  
1 – 2 years of a 3 year term
- Town Clerk : 3 year term
- Town Treasurer: 3 year term
- Auditor: 1 – three year term
- Lister: 1 – three year term  
1 – 2 years of a 3 year term
- Cemetery Commissioner: 1- three year term

School Offices

- Shrewsbury Mountain School Director  
1 – three year term  
1 – 2 years of a 3 year term

## Enjoy the Northam Trails This Winter!



With winter's snow soon to come, it is time for an annual reminder about the

Northam Trails. There are more than 9 miles of trails located between the Old Plymouth Road and the CCC Road on state land ideal for cross country skiing and snowshoeing as well as for hiking year around. These trails are maintained by the Shrewsbury Outing Club pursuant to an Adopt-A-Trail agreement with the Vermont Department of Forest and Parks. The land is open only to non-motorized recreational uses.

The trails can be accessed by driving up the Old Plymouth Road (just beyond Pierce's Store) to a parking area beyond which the road is not plowed during the winter. About a quarter mile up the road from the parking lot at the top of the hill is a gate or bar way on the left through which the trails can be accessed. This is the easiest to find access point but it is not the only one. Beyond the gate is a kiosk that includes a small map of the area.

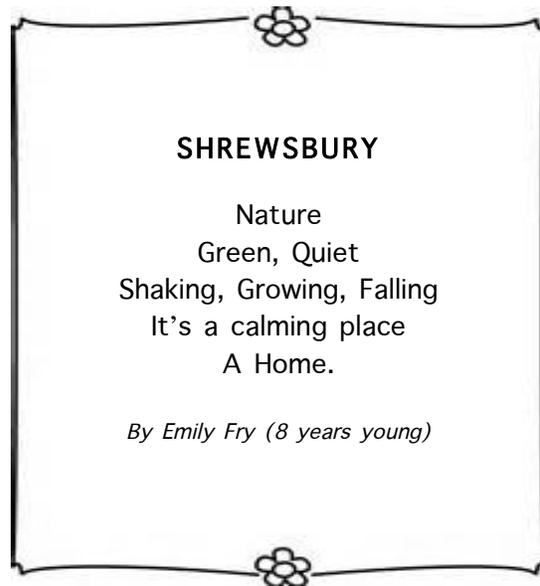
A fair amount of work has been done on the trails this fall including brushing, marking some trails, and building some small log bridges over wet areas. Some trails, because of wetness and rocks, are better used by skiers after prolonged cold weather and more snow cover. But there are many trails which can be used for skiing with winter's first significant snow fall.

Should you desire more information about the trails, including directions and perhaps even a guided tour, please call Andy Richards-Pelle at 492-3648, Tim Vile at 342-1736, or Lee Wilson at 492-3542. These trails are a wonderful town and state resource and it is our hope they will be enjoyed by many.

--Lee Wilson

**CCC ROAD  
CLOSED FOR THE SEASON**  
From Black Swamp Parking Area  
to Route 100

**NOVEMBER 15, 2014**  
VT Forest Parks & Recreation



*Shrewsbury Womens Italian Club Bocce Champs 2014: Catherine Carrara, Sharon Winnicki, Wendy Stewart, Betsy Jesser, Lisa King, Christine Stewart, and Tonya Hutchinson.*

### **Bocce Team Wins Trophy!**

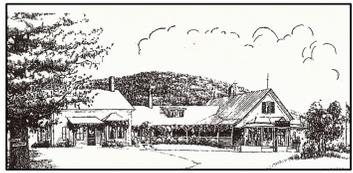
Our local group was recently awarded the 2014 Bocce Club Championship trophy at the Italian American Club Banquet. An important part of our evening was a moment of silence for Carly Ferro. Our Shrewsbury team wore purple in remembrance and honor of her.

The group has been playing together for seven years and it is their second Championship in addition to several first-in-league bragging rights!

Members of the Shrewsbury Women's Team are locals Catherine Carrara, Betsy Jesser, Sharon Winnicki, Wendy Stewart, Christine Stewart, Tonya Hutchinson, Barbara Ferguson, and Susanna Jesser. Other members are Lynn Hennessey, Lisa King, and Teri Gildersleeve.

--Betsy Jesser

## LIFE AT PIERCE'S



I love coincidences. I love how it is a small world. I love how it is not six degrees of separation, but really two! Guess what? My tutor, Julia, is connected to the Pierces.

It all started when Julia and I met to review my November essay. As she waited for me when I left the table for a moment, she leafed through Karen Lorentz's book, "The Good Vermonters: The Pierces of North Shrewsbury." Earlier, Julia and I had been discussing our ancestors. Her mother had relations who lived close by in the neighboring town of Plymouth. They were the Purdy clan.

Now, here's where it gets complicated but I will walk you through it. Julia had a great uncle, Ellery Purdy. Mr. Purdy married a Katherine Aldrich in 1920. When I look at the Pierce line of Marjorie's ancestors, there are Aldriches who were the fourth family to settle in Shrewsbury. Julia and I made that loose connection that day we met each other to review my paper. We found the genealogy chart on page 14 of Lorentz's book which mentioned a Catherine Aldrich.

Catherine was Marjorie's great, great grandmother who had three sons and a daughter. One son was Eugene who had two daughters, Katherine and Midge. Katherine married Ellery Purdy who is Julia's great uncle. So, in fact, Julia and Marjorie are distantly related. And I think they both inherited the excellent teaching gene, as well as Julia's mother and Ellery Purdy.

But, I do want to mention a couple of interesting tidbits about their ancestors. First, besides the Aldriches being some of the first settlers of Shrewsbury, Marjorie had a Pierce ancestor who was President Calvin Coolidge's housekeeper in Plymouth. Her name was Aurora Pierce. Julia's great aunt Katherine Aldrich's father, Eugene, was the cheesemaker hired by John Coolidge, Calvin's father, whose plan was to help the local dairy farmers financially. And remember Ellery Purdy? He sold antiques out of Midge's tearoom at the Top O' the Notch where Midge also kept three tourist cabins. This is all located within a stone's throw of each other and is now the Calvin Coolidge State historic site. So, the Purdys and the Aldriches knew

each other. It was really fun figuring this all out.

May I mention, I randomly found Julia, as I have written before, on the internet when I was searching for a tutor. Neither one of us knew we would find a Marjorie Pierce connection. What a nice gift.

I find these connections all the time. Only this past weekend at a workshop in Springfield, did I put the pieces together that my instructor's son knows my former colleague and backpacking partner's son from the days when I lived in Vail, Colorado. I'm starting to think it is one degree of separation!

With all of this, I can only say that we are all connected in some sort of way whether it's friends knowing friends, shared interests or beliefs, or just being another person living life. It is a good reminder, as we enter the holiday seasons, to be reminded of kindness. It is one gift always worth giving.

See you in 2015. Stay warm and with good cheer-

Stacy McKiernan



### Join one of the Shrewsbury Library Book Discussion Groups!



Here's what they read and discussed in 2014:

#### **2014 Famous Books Discussion Selections**

- Jan: *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens
- Feb: Benito Cereno by Herman Melville:
- Mar/Apr: *Light in August* by William Faulkner.
- May: *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio
- June: *Hamlet*, by William Shakespeare
- July: *A Passage to India* by E.M. Forster
- Aug: Uncle Vanya by Anton Chekov
- Sept: The Cherry Orchard by Anton Chekov
- Oct/Nov: *Wolf Hall* by Hilary Mantel

#### **2014 Science Book Club Selections**

- Feb: *The Drunkards' Walk* by Leonard Mlodinow
- Mar: *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot
- Apr: *Best Science and Nature Writing 2013*
- May: *Ever Since Darwin* by Stephen Jay Gould
- June: *The Great Influenza: The Story of the Greatest Epidemic in History* by John M. Barry
- July: *American Canopy* by Eric Rutkow
- Aug: *The Girls of Atomic City* by Denise Kiernan
- Sept: *The Sixth Extinction* by Elizabeth Kolbert
- Oct: *The World Without Us* by Alan Weisman
- Nov: *The Wave Watcher's Companion* by Gavin Pretor-Pinney



\* We're very pleased to welcome MARGE BENINI back to the Board of Trustees for a winter term. Marge served on the Board several years ago, before leaving to work full-time as a music teacher in New York City. After coming back to Shrewsbury, she has volunteered as a Library staffer and is a member of both Library book clubs: Famous Books and the Science Book Club.

\* MANY THANKS in advance to everyone who has made donations to the Silent Auction! We look forward to seeing all our friends -- with cookies in hand or not! -- at our annual Holiday event, on Saturday, December 6th. Please see our ad elsewhere in The Times for details.

\* MANY THANKS, too, to those trustees and friends who have worked on the forthcoming Shrewsbury Phone Book: planning, verifying phone numbers, selling ads: It's a big job!

\* Special thanks to Donna Swartz for her tireless efforts and to Chryl Martin for her expertise selling ads. We look forward to seeing this handy guide to our town sometime after the Holidays.

**New Books include:**

- \* *Gray Mountain* by John Grisham: His latest legal thriller
- \* *The Moth*, edited by Catherine Burns: An anthology of stories from the popular NPR program
- \* *Being Mortal* by Atul Gawande: Meditations on end-of-life issues by a doctor and author
- \* *The Children Act* by Ian McEwan: The latest best seller from the author of *Atonement*
- \* *Pay Any Price* by James Risen: The New York Times reporter who may go to jail for refusing to reveal his sources gives his reasons for defending freedom of the press.

**New DVDs include:**

- \* "Breaking Bad: Seasons 2 & 3": More of this addictive series
- \* "The Newsroom: Season 2": Another installment of this gripping, behind-the-scenes look at journalism
- \* "A Most Wanted Man": Philip Seymour Hoffman's last role, in John Le Carre's spy thriller.

Library News Submitted by Joan Aleshire

**Coming Events:**

Saturday, December 6: COOKIE SWAP & SILENT AUCTION HOLIDAY PARTY!

Friday, December 12 @7:30pm: HABITAT for HUMANITY: BALI, INDONESIA with Stan and Weezie Duda, and Sandy and Kristi Bragg. Come along on another working adventure to Asia!

Friday, January 16 @7:30pm: NICHOLAS STROM-OLSEN will speak on "The BROWN BRIDGE BUILDER: Nicholas Powers and the Covered Bridges of Rutland County." Recently, Shrewsbury's Brown Bridge was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Sunday, February 15 @ 2pm: GARY SHATTUCK on his new book, INSURRECTION, CORRUPTION and MURDER in EARLY VERMONT: LIFE on the WILD FRONTIER.

**Continuing Programs:**

Sunday, January 18 @ 4pm: FAMOUS BOOKS BOOK CLUB: James Joyce's ULYSSES (1<sup>st</sup> Session). Books available at the Library or call Joan for more copies (492-3550).

Sunday, January 25 @ 4pm: SCIENCE BOOK CLUB. Next book: INHERITANCE: How Our Genes Change Our Lives and Our Lives Change Our Genes by Sharon Moalam. Books will be available in the Library.

**Area Lecture/Discussion Programs**

December 3\_ @ 7pm: Vermont Humanities 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday Program @ Rutland Free Library. Topic: Jesus: The Human Face of God (No Fee)]

December 7 @ 4pm: Science Pub @ Iron Lantern in Castleton. Topic: What Are We Eating When We Eat GMO Food?. (No Fee)

January 4 @ 4pm: Science Pub @ Southside, Rutland. Topic: Culture or Hormone?

January 7 @ 7pm: Vermont Humanities 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday program @ Rutland Free Library. Topic: Rowing Against Wind and Tide: The Journals and Letters of Anne Morrow Lindbergh

February 1 @ 4pm: Science Pub at Fair Haven Inn, Fair Haven. Topic: Stranded Polar Bears? That's The Least of It.



# Spring Lake Ranch

Therapeutic Community  
*Working Toward Wellness*

I am happy to have been able to donate two beautiful parcels of our family's lakeshore property on the southeast side of Spring Lake to Spring Lake Ranch Therapeutic Community last year. My parents, Wayne and Elizabeth Sarcka, founded Spring Lake Ranch in 1932. They, along with some of their relatives, bought various parcels of land around Spring Lake, which made up the original Ranch holdings. At one point it came to about two-thousand acres of land!

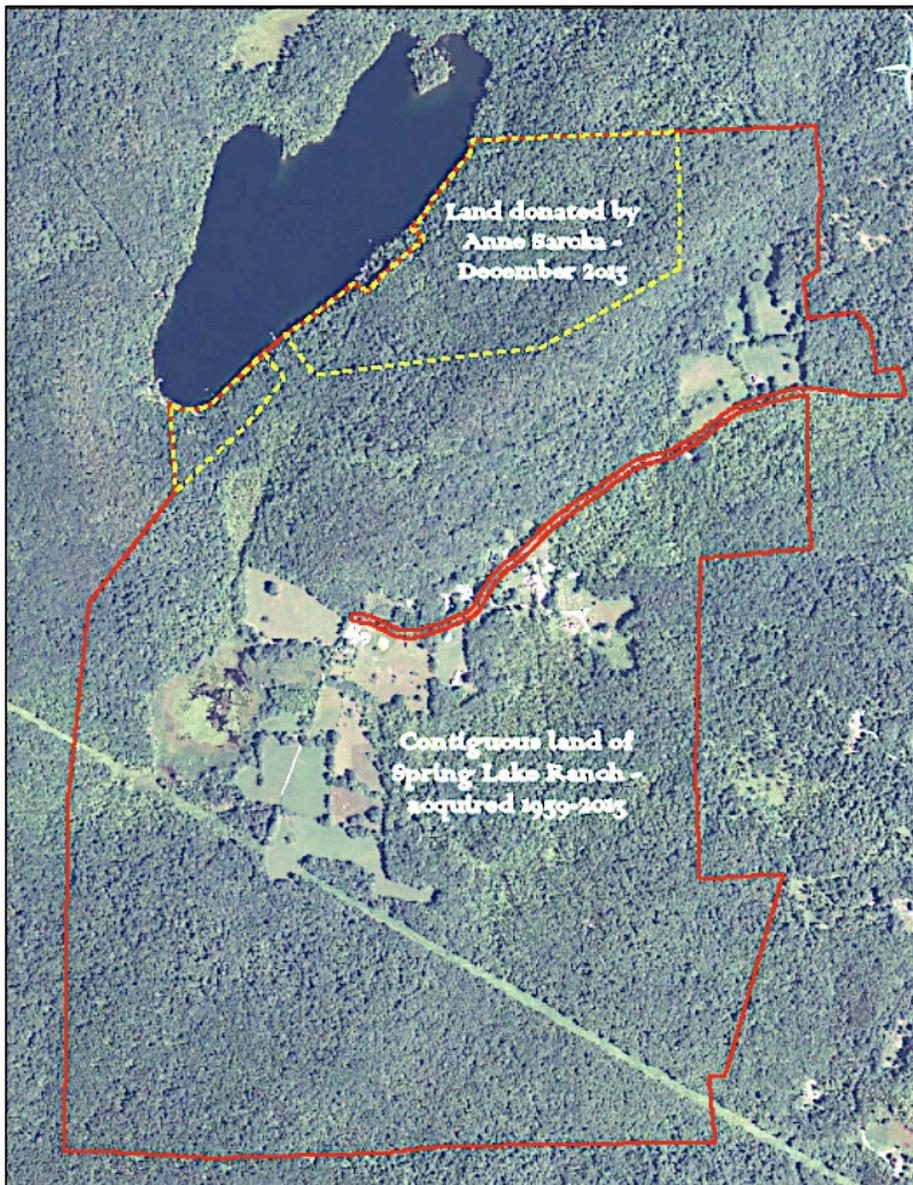
Growing up on the Ranch, Spring Lake was a big part of our summer recreation program. Kids and Ranch-

ers took lessons from the wonderful recreation directors we had over the years—Ray Sparks, Walt Kabis, Jim Haddick, and General Norm Smith were all strong recreation leaders in the forties and fifties.

I donated the land because it was time to find other stewards for my property. I hoped that the Ranch and my Vermont family, the children and grandchildren of my cousin Ray



Anne Sarcka.



This attached map depicts the new Ranch property Lines.

Sirjane—who worked at the Ranch for many years—would be the new stewards of the lake property. In my view, the outcome was the perfect solution all-around. Six members of the Sirjane family will manage a parcel on the northeast side of Spring Lake and the Ranch will manage the other parcels.

The two Ranch parcels were appraised as charitable donations at \$165,000 last fall. Because I placed conservation easements on the land, in collaboration with the Vermont Land Trust and the Conservation Fund, it is protected in perpetuity, and its value is a fraction of what it would bring if it were able to be developed.

It is good to know that the property will be enjoyed by Ranchers and others for many decades to come. This was a win-win for all concerned. I am sure that the forest and land will be much loved and well cared for. Enjoy!

Anne Sarcka

*Editors Note: Recently I received an email from John Davis expressing his desire to see articles about or from Spring Lake Ranch in the Times. As a result of his inquiry Heather Brown, Director of Development at the Ranch, plans to provide articles in the future about this important part of the Shrewsbury Community. Thanks to John for his suggestion!*

## Tree Health A Concern for All



Although Shrewsbury's forests seem to surround us all one has to occasionally forget the forest and focus on the trees. I was reminded of that recently while watching the power line right of way along the Cold River Road get its ten year haircut; a professional review by a tree service company to identify and remove

hazardous trees and judiciously prune side branches from healthier ones all in an effort to keep the electricity flowing by minimizing the potential for a tree to take down the line by falling on it. A hazardous tree is one with a structural defect of some kind which is likely to cause failure of all or a part of the tree and strike a TARGET. The two (a tree with a defect and a target) have to both be present to define a hazardous condition since if the proverbial tree falls in the woods and does not land on anything except earth it is simply a tree falling. But if the tree can land on a power line, or dwelling, or vehicle, or place where people gather then it is a target and perhaps a closer look at the trees that can fall on it is in order.

Defects in trees are visible signs that the tree is failing and there are six to look for. The most obvious and greatest threat is the presence of any amount of DEAD wood; especially if the entire tree is dead or there are any large dead branches. CRACKS (deep split through the bark and deeply into the wood or completely through the trunk) indicate that the tree is failing structurally. More subtle are WEAK BRANCH UNIONS where two or more equally sized upright branches grow so close together that bark grows inside the union instead of solid wood. Solid wood is always better. DECAY and CANKERS can, but not always, create a hazardous situation. It depends on the extent of the soft, punky wood or actual hole present and the area of the trunk where the bark is sunken or missing. Take action if the decay is extensive or a canker is larger than half the trees circumference or if either of these is growing near a crack or weak branch union. Roots hold the tree firmly into the ground and provide the nutrients to keep it alive. When they are damaged ROOT PROBLEMS are the result and most can't be seen. One that can is when a tree starts leaning and an obvious soil mound is created opposite to the lean from the roots being loosened and uprooted.

So now that the leaves are off and the entire tree can be examined take a quick look for this six-pack of symptoms. If any exist and concern you have a tree service professional (arborist) take a look. Targets are hard to move but vigilance is cheap insurance against having a HAZARDOUS TREE rather than a healthy one.

*Gary Salmon, Tree Warden*

## Christmas Angel

When the third grade chose me to be the angel, they mistook physical limit for spiritual reach. They should have picked our newest classmate, bravely injecting herself with insulin, and golden-haired, blue-eyed besides.

Bossy, self-centered, yet I was to stand, dressed in white, winged and haloed, atop a book-case tree, on which my classmates swayed, waving ornaments and fringed green sleeves.

The structure I had to climb shook as I climbed so high, shaking, that the raised curtain brushed my head, and shook as my classmates sang and swayed energetically below me.

I tried to look as if I was ascending into heaven, as angels do, except that I was cross at the teacher and trembling, ten feet off the floor. If anyone envied me, they shouldn't have: the burden of being good and prominent so precarious, putting me above everyone, that I prayed for nothing but a swift end to "O Christmas Tree," so I could gain the solid stage again: earth where I belonged.

*Joan Aleshire*

## About "Christmas Angel":

This poem comes from project I began several years ago to recall my childhood; it's published in my fifth book of poems, *Happily*, which came out in 2012 from Four Way Books, a small non-profit press that publishes mostly poetry, but also some fiction.

I think of this book as a memoir, except that it's poetry, not prose, and moves from moment to moment, incident to incident, without explanations or connective tissue. I trust the reader to enter the poems, and to experience the situations as the characters do. In writing about being born with a physical difference, I'm concerned with what my family, especially my mother, felt at my birth and through my growing up. Also, of course, I present my own point of view as a child and adolescent: subversive, smart-alecky, refusing to be stereotyped.

You can find the book at the Library, Pierces' Store, the usual book stores; and on-line.

*Joan Aleshire*

# Shrewsbury Historical Society

www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com

## Traditions

I am writing this column betwixt and between the holidays of Halloween and Thanksgiving, and it is for the December issue of Times.

Recently I was talking with Grace Brigham and she was telling me wonderful stories of traditions of years back in our town. I want to share with you her memories of past magical times. So, here in Gracie's own words, please enjoy.

"At Halloween the spirit of Mary Stapleton haunts Cuttingsville. The building that houses the amazing Shrewsbury Library was originally the Cuttingsville School. Mary Stapleton taught there for many years and some of us old timers had the privilege of being her students for our first eight grades.

Ms. Stapleton's enthusiasm for celebrating holidays encouraged us to anticipate them with glee. At Christmas time our Play took place at the Cuttingsville Church (now the SHS Museum) where there was more room to perform and have an audience. But it is her Halloween that returns to haunt us. Back in the fifties, there would be a costume party at the school. Costumes invented and constructed for weeks ahead in great secrecy. There would be the Grand March and prizes, bobbing for MacIntosh apples in a tub of water (Al Ridlon taught us how to corner one, sink it to the bottom along with his head, and get a grip on it with his teeth!), and various other games including one involving pennies buried in a saucer of flour to be extricated with a nose only. The older kids were sent in teams on the Scavenger Hunt.

It seems now as if it was always a frosty moonlit night as we galloped through the village to find objects, dates, numbers. We were into culverts, Ridlon's horse barn, and fetched up at the cemetery where we tiptoed about for our last items before racing back to warmth and refreshments at the school. In 2013 on Halloween, mysterious twinkling lights were observed moving swiftly from the site of the old railroad station, across fields, around the library, behind the museum and underneath the Cuttingsville bridge. A bonfire appeared on the dry riverbed opposite Keane's horse pasture, soon surrounded by dark figures of all sizes.

In 2014, the lights appeared again. They seemed to converge further down the river. But next morning

there was not a trace, except for some artfully carved pumpkins in odd places.

A more tangible historical tradition is the photo album being assembled by Fran Patten. When completed you'll be able to see all the Shrewsbury floats and costumes that were part of the Rutland Halloween Parade beginning in 1975.

And as a final note, may Shrewsbury's First Annual SAGE Harvest Celebration become yet another wonderful tradition in this special community."

~~~~~

Thanks to Grace, I am transported back to a simpler, exciting time of my youth in the 1940's. On Long Island we young adults would travel by car to gather the clues from mimeographed maps. It was such fun. There were no farmlands, no bridges over rivers, and no local cemeteries. Just plain fun is all.



I know I am speaking for all the Shrewsbury Historical Society members in wishing you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy 2015.

*Submitted by Ruth Winkler*



## SHREWSBURY MOUNTAIN SCHOOL PTO FUNDRAISER

**Do you plant a home vegetable garden or are you interested in starting one?**

The Shrewsbury Mountain School's PTO is selling a nice variety of seeds from High Mowing Organic Seeds. If you plan on purchasing seeds for a garden this spring please consider ordering through this fundraiser, which will help raise money to support an artist-in-residence program at our school. Thank You!





## Organic Seed Fundraiser Order Form

By purchasing these Vermont 100% certified organic seeds you are helping the Shrewsbury Mountain School PTO raise money for an artist-in-residence program while growing delicious organic produce. The School will receive 50-60% of the proceeds.

**Thank You for Your Support!**

**Return form and payment by January 23, 2015. Make checks payable to Shrewsbury Mountain School PTO.**  
 Order forms can be dropped off or mailed to Shrewsbury Mountain School; or emailed to Sarah Bolster @ [sbsc@vermontel.net](mailto:sbsc@vermontel.net)  
 Orders will arrive by mid-February.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

| Quantity | Individual Seed Packets  | Total \$ |
|----------|--------------------------|----------|
|          | \$2.75 each              |          |
|          | Astro Arugula            |          |
|          | Black Seeded Lettuce     |          |
|          | Gourmet Lettuce Mix      |          |
|          | Mesclun Mix              |          |
|          | Corvair Spinach          |          |
|          | Rainbow Mix Chard        |          |
|          | Red Russian Kale         |          |
|          | De Cicco Broccoli        |          |
|          | Early Wonder Beet        |          |
|          | Cosmic Purple Carrot     |          |
|          | Danvers Carrot           |          |
|          | Cherry Belle Radish      |          |
|          | Marketmore Cucumber      |          |
|          | Dark Green Zucchini      |          |
|          | New England Pie Pumpkin  |          |
|          | Green Arrow Shell Pea    |          |
|          | Sugar Daddy Snap Pea     |          |
|          | Mammoth Snow Pea         |          |
|          | Brandywine Tomato        |          |
|          | Matt's Cherry Tomato     |          |
|          | Sweet Basil              |          |
|          | Santo Cilantro           |          |
|          | Mammoth Sunflower        |          |
|          | Pacific Beauty Calendula |          |
|          | Dwarf Jewel Nasturtium   |          |

| Quantity                            | Seed Packet Collection                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Total \$ |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
|                                     | <b>Summer Sunflowers</b><br>(3 packets: Mammoth, Teddy Bear, Autumn Beauty Mix)<br>\$8.25                                                                                                                                                           |          |
|                                     | <b>Easy Salad Greens</b><br>(3 packets: Gourmet Lettuce Mix, Astro Arugula, Tye Spinach)<br>\$8.25                                                                                                                                                  |          |
|                                     | <b>Three Sisters Garden</b><br>(3 packets: Ashworth Sweet Corn, Kentucky Wonder Pole Bean, Delicata Squash)<br>\$8.25                                                                                                                               |          |
|                                     | <b>Kitchen Herbs</b><br>(5 packets: Dill, Flat Leaf Parsley, Basil, Cilantro, Thyme)<br>\$13.75                                                                                                                                                     |          |
|                                     | <b>Kid's Garden</b><br>(5 packets: Mammoth Sunflower, Howden Pumpkin, Cosmic Purple Carrot, Rattlesnake Pole Bean, Dwarf Jewel Nasturtium)<br>\$13.75                                                                                               |          |
|                                     | <b>A Bee's Garden</b><br>(5 packets: Dill, Common Sage, Florence Fennel, Bright Lights Cosmos, Strawberry Blonde Calendula)<br>\$13.75                                                                                                              |          |
|                                     | <b>Garden Starter</b><br>(10 packets: Provider Bush Bean, Detroit Red Beet, Danvers Carrot, Marketmore Cucumber, Mild mix, Gourmet Lettuce Mix, Cascadia Snap Pea, Cherry Belle Radish, Basil, Dark Orange Calendula)<br>\$27.50                    |          |
|                                     | <b>Heirloom Vegetable</b><br>(10 packets: Detroit Red Beet, French Breakfast Radish, Red Russian Kale, Laxton's Shell Peas, Yellow Crookneck Squash, Red Salad Bowl Lettuce, Boothby Blonde Cucumber, Ruby Red Chard, Brandywine Tomato)<br>\$27.50 |          |
| <b>Individual Seed Packet Total</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | \$       |
| <b>Seed Packet Collection Total</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | \$       |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b>                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | \$       |

\*Seed descriptions and photos can be found on [www.highmowingseeds.com](http://www.highmowingseeds.com)

## SHREWSBURY MOUNTAIN SCHOOL (AND BOARD) NEWS

December has almost arrived as I write this and I have to say I am amazed at how fast Fall moved through. The Thanksgiving holiday is past and the "crazy holidays" seem to have arrived in full force.

I hope many of you attended the Harvest Supper that a group of our parents and local farmers put together to benefit the Fruits and Vegetables Program at school. This program brings local fruits and vegetables into our lunch and snack program and is an amazing benefit to our kids. They are learning at a young age that healthy eating is both good for them and really delicious, too. The Board is truly thankful that so many people have worked so hard to continue and improve the program this year. For next year the school has applied for a planning grant that hopefully will lead into some ongoing funding to further improve our ability to source our fruits and vegetables locally. More information on this as we learn it.

The week-long Circus Smirkus program was a great success. The kids learned a tremendous amount and had a great time doing it. The kids performed for parents (and a few lucky visitors) at the end of their week to great acclaim for their new skills. Many thanks to the PTO for supporting this.

Our music program is presenting a Winter Holiday Concert on December 4 at 6:30 and all are very wel-

come to attend. There is a snow date of December 11, just in case.

January will see a start to our Winter Sports Program with X-country, downhill, or snowboarding available to our children. There is usually a day of skating in there somewhere for the younger kids, too. Volunteers are welcome, please call the school to find out how it works.

On a sad note, our newest Board-member Fahima Thompson, has resigned due to family commitments. We are sad that she had to make this decision, but are thankful for the time she had to give us. We are very lucky to have Ed Hemmer step back in to fill her position until we can elect a new member for the remaining 2 years of Fahima's position. We meet on the 1st Monday at 6:30 in the school library every month as well as combined Elementary Boards on the 3rd Tuesday in a rotating location and participate in the RSSU at Board and Committee levels. Agendas, minutes of past meetings, policies, etc are all available on the website, [www.rssu.org](http://www.rssu.org).

We are in the midst of budgeting for the 15/16 schoolyear and plan to start negotiations with our teachers in January. It is a big job, but very rewarding. Call anyone on the Board for more information.

*Submitted by Adrienne Raymond, 492-3578*



### Lady Long Rider"

On November 11 the traveling horse lady paid us another visit in Northam, stopping by Pierce's store for a cup of coffee to warm up and get a few snacks. Bernice Ende "Lady Long Rider" is currently on an 8,000-mile horse ride. The card she left describes her route this way; "From the northwest corner of Montana to Maine." She passed through here late in September on her way east on one of those days Stacy and I were outside.. Stacy loved the story and looked Bernice up on her website:

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

She got me pondering the idea of traveling by horse these days. It's not so much the distance that she has traveled, but the fact that it must be rather challenging in this day and age to actually travel the roads. I asked her half joking, half serious if she had a GPS on her horse. (She laughed, and no she doesn't).

*Submitted by Timothy Vile*

## The Shrewsbury Community Church



*Compiled by Sue Ransom-Kelley*

Tis the season and exciting things are happening! We are preparing for Community Candle Lite Christmas Eve Service 7:00pm.

Come One Come All! Christmas Eve at the Church is a very Special Evening. We gather with neighbors and friends to sing carols, hear the Christmas story, the choir, the organ, the bells and enjoy the candle light. The sanctuary is filled with the smell of balsam from fresh balsam wreaths and our amazing Christmas Tree. It truly is a wonder to behold! No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you are welcome here! Please join us for this magical evening. All are Invited to Attend and Participate. If you would like to sing in the choir call Roxanne 492-3675. If you would like to read or act call Sue 779-5241 or 492-3738.

We enjoyed a wonderful community supper on Nov 8. Great Italian Food, Great Desserts, Great Music and Great Company! Thanks to everyone who cooked, baked, set up, decorated and cleaned up! Thank you to all who made donations to the Community Sharing Project!

On Nov 30 we enjoyed a retirement celebration for the Reverend Cindy Yee. She has led us in services on the 5th Sundays of the year, special presentations, memorial services and filled in for other services for the past couple of years. The Reverend Cindy has also faithfully served as the Hospice Chaplin for the Rutland Area Visiting Nurses. She is a wonderful lady and we appreciate her sharing her

special gifts and love with our Shrewsbury Community and the greater Rutland Area Community! We will miss her!

One of the most valuable lessons I have learned from the Reverend Cindy is that Forgiveness is key to living a healthy and fulfilled life. This season give yourself the gift of forgiveness! Forgive all the wrongs and hurts done unto you, whether they are deserved or not. In doing so you will truly set yourself free from all those hurt feelings, resentments, anger and baggage you can carry around. In doing this you will find peace. Happy Holidays and Peace to All!

### Community Church Calendar

Dec 7 @ 1030am: Worship Service and Holy Communion Rev. Bob Boutwell. Bring a non-perishable food item.

Dec 14 @1030am: Worship service Rev. Skip Dickinson

Dec 17 @ 12 noon: Prayer Shawl Meeting at the home of Fran Patten. Please bring a bag lunch, dessert and drinks will be provided. Please call Fran 492-3706 to let her know if you can attend.

Dec 21 @ 1030am: Worship Service of Carols Rita Lane

Dec 24 @ 700 pm. Community Candle Light Service.

Note No Service On Dec 28-

### Community Needs

Wedding, Funeral or Memorial Service Requests: Contact Rita Lane 775-2578 or Sue Kelley 492-3738, 779-5241.

Community Helping Hand Requests: Contact Rita Lane 775-2578 or Donna Smith 492-3367  
Pastoral Care, Home, Hospital Visitation, Outreach Requests: Contact Rita Lane 775-2578, Roxanne Ramah 492-3675 or Ruth Kinne 775-5318.

During the Holiday Season we will be providing gift cards for holiday dinners. If you or a neighbor would like to be included please call Rita at 775-2578 or Sue at 779-5241.

---

The sanctuary will soon be adorned with beautiful poinsettias, fresh Shrewsbury balsam wreaths and our spectacular Christmas Tree. Come and see them!

If you would like to have a wreath or poinsettia placed in the sanctuary for the holiday season donations are \$10 for a poinsettia or \$12 for a wreath. Please make payment to the Shrewsbury Community Church and mail in care of Sue Kelley at PO Box 366 Shrewsbury Vermont 05738 Please indicate your preference for a wreath or poinsettia.

Order \_\_\_\_ wreath(s) or \_\_\_\_ Poinsettia(s)

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_ or In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

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WATER FOR SOUTH SUDAN (WFSS)

All profits will be donated to help drill wells in South Sudan.  
Seeds will be available for purchase in early March; Watch for order forms on  
our website and at several locations in mid to late January. Orders can be  
emailed or mailed.

Seeds will be purchased through the cooperative seed company  
Fedco Seeds; Fedco does not knowingly sell GMO seeds.

If you have questions please call  
Cedelle Sirjane at 492-3377 or email me at  
**seedsworthsowing@gmail.com**

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Visit [www.waterforsouthsudan.org](http://www.waterforsouthsudan.org) to learn more about  
the organization, Water for South Sudan.

## MILL RIVER UNION HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

*"Music is the universal language of mankind."*

*Henry Wadsworth Longfellow*

**MRUHS Fine Arts:** Congratulations to everyone who worked on the school's production of *Evita*. It was a huge success!

**Mill River Winter Instrumental Concert:** Wednesday, December 3, at 7:00pm.

**Mill River Vocal Concert:** Wednesday, December 10, at 7:00pm.

**American Choral Director's Association National Honor Choirs:** Congratulations to Christian Brand, Katherine Bullock and Timothy Heffernan on being selected to perform with the 2015 American Choral Directors' Association National Honor Choirs. They will travel to Salt Lake City, Utah, to perform under the direction of world renowned conductors at the end of February. They will also perform with the prestigious Mormon Tabernacle Choir. Being selected to the national honor choirs is the highest honor for students singing at the high school level. ( Over 3,300 singers auditioned this year for only 300 positions.)

**MRUHS Chapter of the National Honor Society:** Mill River's honor society is hosting a SOUP BOWL DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION on Friday, December 5, from 5 -8pm in the Mill River Cafeteria. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children, with a maximum family price of \$25. There will be many items to bid on in the silent auction. All proceeds benefit MRU's Annual Holiday Food Basket Program which provides 80 to 100 local families with a week's worth of grocery staples and all the fixings for a turkey dinner! Come enjoy a bowl of homemade soup and take home a student-made ceramic bowl, bid on some great items donated by local businesses and artists, and support your neighbors at the same time. If anyone would like to suggest a family that would appreciate receiving a basket due to current difficult circumstances, please contact Ms. Sullivan at the school (775-3451 ext. 260)

**1:1 Update, Etc.:** All the iPads for students in Grades 7,8 and 9 are being used for innovative classwork. Students in Grade 9 Physics are using two apps on the iPad that allow them to track movement using the iPad camera and accelerometer, and then create graphs that show rate, acceleration and more. The Honors Physics class is using a digital textbook this year, and the students are enjoying embedded simulations, videos and interactive simulations.

**Winter Sports:** The winter sports season is off and running! Basketball, wrestling, cheerleading, skiing and snowboarding are among the sports offered in the winter months. The first basketball games of the season will be played in the Dean Houghton Memorial Gym on Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30/7:00 pm with the JV and Varsity girls hosting the Springfield Cosmos. The first home boys basketball games will be on Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 12:00/1:30pm. against MSJ! All game schedules are on the Mill River webpage. Click the sports section found on the left side of the screen. The sports schedule and info tab will provide a link that accesses all games at all levels. Community members are invited to attend games and support Mill River athletes. Questions about Mill River sports can be directed to Kim Maniery, Athletic Director (KManiery@rssu.org or at 775-3451 ext. 222)

**A Message from Principal Pomeroy:** *"December and January are surprisingly exciting times of the year in our school! Outside it is cold and dark, but inside there is a lot going on. We have many sporting events, vocal and instrumental concerts, the Holiday Food Baskets, and the end of the first semester and mid-term exams. Information about school events can be found on the school's webpage ([http://www.rssu.org/mill\\_river/](http://www.rssu.org/mill_river/), our Facebook page, or by calling the school. The Monday Morning from the Mill e-mail that I send out also contains information about school events. As always, thank you for your support of our academic program and all of our activities."*

**From Your School Board Members:** This is the time of year when the finance committee works diligently to create a budget that provides the best possible education for Shrewsbury's young people while being mindful of today's economy and the community's taxpayers. Your school directors are very appreciative of the support given to Mill River Union High School by the community.

Happy New Year!

Look for more news from MRUHS in the February issue of the Times of Shrewsbury!

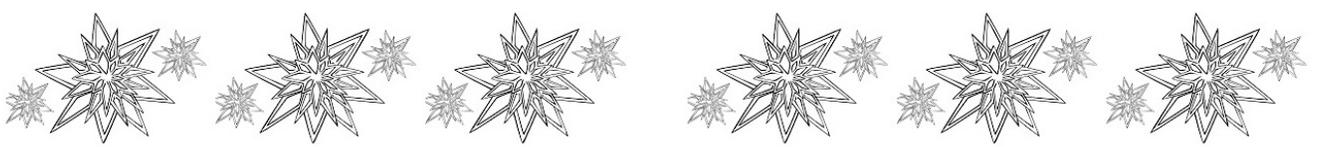
*Sally-Anne Snarski 492-3505*

*Adrienne Raymond 492-3578*

### For Sale

Hide-a-bed with floral print cover. \$25.00.

Call Fran at 492-3706 for more info.



**Shrewsbury Library's Holiday  
Celebration**

**Saturday December 6**  
Starting at 7pm

**Silent Auction  
and  
10<sup>th</sup> Annual Cookie Swap**



Please support us by bidding on any one of our splendid  
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Relish some music by Marcos Levy in the Great Room,  
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What a wonderful way to mingle and share!

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Email: [shrewsburylibrary492@gmail.com](mailto:shrewsburylibrary492@gmail.com) or  
Call: 492-3410



## SHREWSBURY HOME FOR SALE BY OWNER

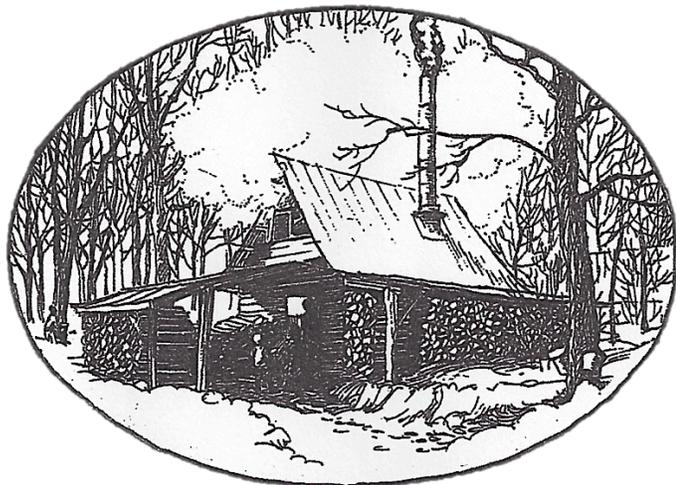
- Three Bedrooms
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### Tinmouth Contra Dance Schedule

All dances are taught, and you do not need a partner. If you are a beginner, come at 8. There will be live music, enthusiastic swinging and dancing and a fun night for all.

The dance takes place in the Tinmouth Community Center, generally on the third Friday of the month. The Community Center is on Rte 140 in the center of Tinmouth, Vermont 5 miles west of Wallingford. Please bring clean, non-marring shoes. Admission is \$9, \$7 for teens and free for children 12 and under. Refreshments will be available to benefit the dance fund. For info, call 235-2718, 446-2928, or go to [www.Tinmouthvt.org](http://www.Tinmouthvt.org) for directions. Mark your calendars for: December 19 (with Jim Fownes and NOVA) and January 16.

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Excavating**

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**Robert W. Beardmore Jr.**

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 Learning from our own mistakes  
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### Snowmobile Safety Course

Shrewsbury Sno-Birds will hold g a Snowmobile Safety Course on Sunday,, December 7 from 8am to 2pm at a location to be announced later. Lunch will be provided. For more information call Dave Bleich at 492-3782

### RACHELLE PATTON MASSAGE THERAPIST

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PEGTV, Rutland County's public access television station, would like to invite organizations, businesses or individuals within Rutland County are welcome to stop by the station's Howe Center studio to record a special seasonal greeting on a pre-decorated holiday set. Or, if you would like PEGTV to come to your establishment, simply call up and reserve a time and one of our field producers will stop by to record your message. Greetings will be played throughout the holiday season on Channels 15, 20 and 21.

Why not wish your community well this holiday season? It's quick, easy, free and a wonderful way to spread some seasonal cheer. If you would like to set an appointment call the station at 802-747-0151 or email skent@pegtv.com. Sample holiday greetings are available on our website and YouTube channel.

PEGTV is comprised of Channels 15, 20 and 21 and is available to all cable subscribers throughout Rutland County. Streaming programming, video on demand services and hyper-local weather forecasts are also available online at www.pegtv.com.

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## Letter from Pierce's Store

November 20, 2014

To The Shrewsbury Community:

We are writing this letter to the community because Pierce's is at a crossroads. As many of you know, we have primarily been staffing the store with volunteers, in addition to a full-time manager and a part-time employee who can work the register (as well as the bakery and cleaning personnel, but their roles do not extend to the register).

While we believe that it is vital to retain volunteers for our operations, we currently do not have enough volunteers to continue in this mode. It is putting an undue burden on everyone who volunteers and works at the store, leading to some double shifts and an unpredictable schedule. For that reason, the board has determined that it is no longer feasible to continue as we have been.

We have approved a proposal from the manager which will allow for the hiring of a second part-time employee. We expect that this hire will allow us to reduce our dependence on volunteers. We will still need volunteers, some at the register, but other varied tasks are being identified to further help smooth the operations of the business.

This plan will cause an increase in our payroll expenses. To cover the expense of this additional hire, we will need to have an increase in sales. Our treasurer has estimated it to be in the eleven percent range for the first year. This is where the membership and the community at large are vital to the continuing viability of Pierce's.

There are many ways you can help, ranging from increasing your regular purchases, to encouraging non-customer friends to try Pierce's, to taking advantage of the special offers the manager plans to promote. And, as always, if there are items you would like Pierce's to carry, or if there are other suggestions or concerns that you have, please let the manager know.

Please feel free to discuss any aspects of this with any board member. Pierce's is a community undertaking and will only exist if it has the full support of the community behind it.

*Kristi Bragg, President, SCPS*

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## NEWS FROM PIERCE'S STORE

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



### Holiday Schedule

Closing early on Christmas Eve  
CLOSED on Christmas and New Year's Days  
Regular store hours on New Year's Eve.

### What's Going on at Pierce's?

Watch for information on Holiday Specials from the store.

~ There will be preorders for turkeys and perhaps hams.

~ Rob plans to make a couple of pies and baked treats, Dinner Rolls, Cranberry Sauce and holiday breads.  
See this information at the store, in your email or on our FaceBook page by the second week in December.

\* Soups, Pizzas and Friday meals from Rob's kitchen change from week to week. The anticipated schedule for December & January is:

#### Soups

|                                               | <u>Dates</u>            |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Black bean w/ corn & veggies                  | 12/6                    |
| Chicken lemon rice                            | 1/31                    |
| Clam Chowder                                  | 12/31, 1/9              |
| Corn Chowder                                  | 1/17                    |
| French vegetable with cannellini              | 1/14                    |
| German Sauerkraut w/ potatoes & sausage       | 1/2                     |
| Italian Christmas Soup                        | 12/24                   |
| Italian Vegetable (minestrone w/out noodles)  | 1/18                    |
| Lentil w/ Andouille & kale                    | 12/26                   |
| Lentil with coconut milk & vegetables         | 12/19                   |
| Lentil with corn, chicken & vegetables        | 1/16, 1/28              |
| Lentil with Italian sausage & kale            | 1/11                    |
| Mexican corn & cabbage w/ pinto beans         | 1/23                    |
| Mushroom barley w/ aromatic vegetable & leeks | 1/24                    |
| Polish Borscht w/ kielbasa                    | 12/3, 12/20, 1/3        |
| Potato Leek w/ aromatic vegetables            | 12/14, 12/27, 1/21      |
| Southwestern butternut squash                 | 12/5, 12/28, 1/30       |
| Split pea w/ ham                              | 12/7, 12/17, 1/10, 1/25 |
| Yucatan chicken                               | 12/12, 1/4              |
| Vegetable Beef                                | 12/13, 1/7              |
| West African Peanut                           | 12/10                   |
| Winter Vegetable w/ Italian Sausage           | 12/21                   |

#### Date & Pizza Variety

|       |                                                                                    |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 12/3  | Pesto, Tomatoes, Dry Salami & Mozzarella                                           |
| 12/10 | Caramelized Onions, Gorgonzola & Mozzarella                                        |
| 12/17 | Marinara, Artichokes, Italian Sausage & Mozzarella                                 |
| 12/24 | Marinara w/ Red & Green Sweet Peppers & Mozzarella                                 |
| 12/31 | "Pizza Sfinzione" traditional Sicilian pizza with marinara, mozzarella, and olives |
| 1/7   | Marinara w/ Shaved Proscuitto, Mozzarella & Parmesan                               |
| 1/14  | Marinara with Sautéed Mushrooms, Chopped Arugula and Mozzarella                    |
| 1/21  | Butternut Squash, Caramelized Onions, Gorgonzola & Mozzarella                      |
| 1/28  | Puttanesca w/ Capers, Olives, Anchovies, Seasonings & Tomatoes                     |

#### \*\* Friday Meals

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| 12/5, 12/19, 1/2, 1/16, 1/30 | Mac & Cheese |
| 12/12, 12/26, 1/9, 1/23      | Lasagna      |

#### Pierce's Store Friday Night Dinners

December 12: Guest chefs Gene & Kathy Felder; Brisket Vermont Style, Potato Latkes with Apple Sauce and a surprise Hanukah present.

January 9: Guest chef Joyce Wilson.  
Menu TBA

January 23: Guest chef Lynette Over;  
Menu TBA

*Meals will be available 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**

if you are interested in making a meal, please contact either Heather Shay at 492-2284 or Sally Deinzer at the store,

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## THANKS!

The *Times* is grateful to the Shrewsbury contributors of 2013 who provided articles, poetry, stories, general information, photos, and letters to the editors. Their submissions help to make the *Times* more interesting and informative for us all!

*Chryl Martin*

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### Forget Christmas??

Each year I sit with pen in hand to try to create a rhyme  
About that guy from Santaland who comes at Christmastime.

But as the time goes sailing by like Santa in his sleigh  
I find myself say, "My, oh my 'tis almost Christmas day".

Hurry, scurry, so much to do like *everyone* who's busy  
Christmas isn't something new yet we all get in a tizzy.

So here I am again this year did you think I would forget?  
To wish you happiness and cheer and the very best year yet!

*Greetings from Fran Patten*



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