

THE BOLTON GAZETTE

THE TOWN OF BOLTON, VERMONT

"THE LAND OF BOULDERS AND BEARS"

3045 THEODORE ROOSEVELT HIGHWAY, BOLTON VT 05676

APRIL 2016

EMAIL: BOLTONGAZETTE@GMAV.T.NET

VOLUME #4 ISSUE #4



GREEN UP VERMONT
Green Up Day, First Saturday in May
Live the Green Up Way Every Day!

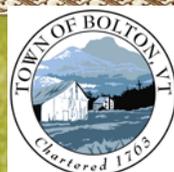
Bolton Green-Up Day Celebration **Free Lunch Live Music Roadside Litter** **12:00 - 3:00 Saturday, May 7, 2016** **Smilie Elementary School**

As a thank you to all the fine people of Bolton for pitching in to help keep our roadsides clean and green, we're saying thank you by celebrating with free hamburgers and hotdogs while listening to the music of the Bolton's own *Woodstack!* 



Burgers and dogs to eat A band to keep the beat Getting roadside litter off the street

~~~ Thanks for Pitching In to Help Keep Bolton Beautiful ~~~  
See more about Bolton's Green Up Day 2016 on page 5!



## CLERK'S CORNER

AMY GROVER • TOWN CLERK & TREASURER  
CLERKBOLTON@GMA.VT.NET

### **HAVE YOU REGISTERED YOUR DOG?**

If you have registered your dog, thank you! If you have not, Vermont law requires that dogs be licensed annually by April 1<sup>st</sup>. The fee is \$12 and requires proof of current rabies. If you have not registered your dog, expect a reminder phone call. We are happy to issue licenses by mail.

Every dog registered by April 1<sup>st</sup> will be entered into the drawing to win a free 207 license! We will announce the winner in the May Gazette, and post it on the town's Facebook page on April 4<sup>th</sup>.

Please remember that Bolton does have an Animal Control Ordinance in effect, and our Town Constable, Chris LaBerge, is available to address animal control issues and concerns.

### **BOLTON'S REAPPRAISAL**

Bolton's five year reappraisal cycle will conclude this spring.

If you were issued a **building permit** in the past year and you have not had an appraisal visit, please call the town office ASAP to schedule an appraisal visit with our Assessor, Kermit Blaisdell, and his assistant, Linde Emerson. If you have **not had an appraisal visit in the last five years** please call the office ASAP to schedule an appraisal visit.

In early June, every property owner will receive an appraisal report via the USPS which will include information on the grievance process (how to grieve your property's assessed value), and the new/current and prior year property values for the entire town.



**PHOEBE IS GETTING READY TO "TAKE A GREEN BAG OUT FOR A WALK!"**

### **PHOEBE'S KIDS' QUESTION**

#### **OF THE MONTH!**

Green Up Day 2016 is coming! It is always the first Saturday in May, so that will be May 7<sup>th</sup> this year. I can't wait to "take a green bag out for a walk" with my humans to "Green Up" and help make Bolton a little cleaner & greener! Can you guess how many pounds of trash and tires we cleaned up in Bolton last year? Find out in next month's issue! Be sure to read all about Bolton's Green Up Day events on page 5!

**WOOF! WOOF!!**

Last month's answer: How many voters voted at Bolton's First Town Meeting? **FOURTEEN!**

That's a whole bunch less than this year's Town Meeting where 438 voters voted!

SMILIE SCHOOL NEWS

Did you know that the most of the pioneers that moved west from Independence, Missouri to Oregon walked the entire 2000 mile journey and that it took 5 months to do it? The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders in Mr. Menz's and Ms. Cafferty's classes are studying Westward Expansion. We're learning why people moved from the cities east of the Mississippi river and headed west across "the great American desert" towards Oregon and California during the 1800's. Our students are working with partners to plan for and take a virtual trip along the trail. Students were given a budget of \$1000.00 and a load limit of 1500 pounds. They used a supply list to purchase what they thought they might need on their journey and had to keep track of how much money they spent and the weight they loaded into their wagon. Students had to choose the "team" to pull their wagon. They chose between horses, oxen or mules and made their decisions based on cost, speed and what those animals ate. We're using Google Earth to locate important sites along the Oregon Trail and are writing journal entries based on each location and "situation cards" which introduce a dilemma faced by the pioneers. Later on each student will be making a model of their own wagon. This has been a great unit so far and a lot of fun! And, yes! Most pioneers walked the whole way because the wagons were full of everything they would need when they reached Oregon and there wasn't room for anything else. Here we are planning our trip West!



Mrs. Cole's Kindergarten Class was dressed all in green for St. Patrick's Day!



Smilie School News continued on page 7!



**WHY IS THE TOWN PLAN IMPORTANT?**

The Planning Commission has been putting a lot of time and energy into reaching out to residents about the Town Plan. In the process, there have been some questions about the plan's purpose. The Town Plan does the following:

- Identifies and protects what the Town values.
- Provides a thoughtfully developed plan for the Town that allows for growth and increasing the tax base while maintaining the characteristics the Town values.
- Identifies priorities for decision making, funding, and policies.
- Provides the foundation for the Bolton Land Use and Development Regulations.
- Allows the Town to weigh in and respond to Act 250 (state land use) and Section 248 (energy) applications.
- Provides a source of information about the Town.
- Strengthens Town applications for state and federal grants.
- Provides an action plan with programs and projects that have measurable tasks for the short term, midterm and long term to achieve the goals and objectives in the plan.
- Is a starting point for strategic planning and studies.
- Is a tool for planning with other towns and regions.

**PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MONDAY, APRIL 11**

The Planning Commission will be meeting Monday, April 11 at 6 p.m. in the Town Office. We will be discussing the goals and objectives for education, child care, seniors, people with disabilities, health, and community building events.

**UPDATE ON THE SALE OF THE PRESTON LAFRENIERE HOMESTEAD**

From the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources:

Things are finally moving forward on sale of the Preston Lafreniere Homestead property. A draft purchase and sales agreement has been developed and was forwarded to the winning bidders for their review. We are hopeful that we can finalize and execute the agreement very soon. While we cannot divulge the name of the prospective buyers at this time, we can say that they clearly love this property, appreciate its

history and its importance to the Town of Bolton, and have the motivation, know how, and means to restore the property. They hope to be able to close as soon as possible on the sale of this property so that they can begin restoring the house this spring.



**GREEN UP DAY INFORMATION**

What: **GREEN UP DAY 2016**

When: **Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>**

Where: **Pick up designated Green Up Bags** at the Town Office (bags will be available 24/7 in a container on the porch).

**Pick up roadside litter** and leave full Green Up Bags and other bulky items along the roadside for the Town Highway Crew to pick up or bring the waste to the Town Garage. If you want to transport any collected material yourself, please drop it off at the Town Highway Garage.

**Pick up Smilie School grounds** – The Smilie Community Association is holding their annual Smilie School Clean-Up Day from 9:00 to 12:00. Grab a rake, come on down and help beautify Smilie!

**Pick up lunch**, chat with neighbors, and listen to some live music at Smilie School 12:00 to 3:00

Why: To help keep Bolton beautiful. To foster our community spirit. To take a green bag out for a walk.

Note: If you come upon a pile of debris too large to clean up, please let the Town Office know about it so that we can send out a special ops team to take care of it at a later date! Thank you!

Launched in 1970  
First Saturday in May



# Green Up Vermont

## Green Up Day ~ May 7th, 2016 ~ 46th Year!

**VERMONT ALERT**

Vermont Alert is a new free service from the State of Vermont that will send alerts via phone, text, or email about emergencies that may affect you or your loved ones. The alerts are relevant and localized, based on your home and work addresses as well as your current location, and the information is reliable – from state and federal agencies and local first responders. You can sign up at for this free service at [www.vtalert.gov](http://www.vtalert.gov) and choose your delivery method, enter your frequent locations, and select the alerts you wish



to receive (weather, traffic, Amber Alerts etc.).

“Free, easy online sign-up in less than five minutes!” [www.vtalert.gov](http://www.vtalert.gov)

**CLERK'S CORNER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2**

**BOLTON UP AND DOWN TOWN CLUB SENIOR DINNER**

Date: Thursday, April 28, 2016

Time: 5 p.m.

Place: Bolton Fire Station

Menu: Baked Ham, Creamy Thyme Potato Gratin, Green Beans, Rolls, & Pineapple Upside Down Cake

See you there! Doris Wheelock 434-3769



**FINAL REMINDER FOR THE WHEELER TRUST SCHOLARSHIPS AND**

**NEW!!! TOWN OF BOLTON SCHOLARSHIP!**

This is the final reminder that the *Wheeler Trust Scholarship* application deadline is April 30<sup>th</sup>. Overseen by the Board of Civil Authority, the Wheeler Trust Scholarship annually awards funds to two – five full time college students from Bolton. For the last several years, the numbers of applicants has far exceeded the number of scholarships available, and awarding the scholarships has been very challenging given the large number of highly qualified and deserving applicants. Unfortunately, the BCA is bound by the rules of the Wheeler Trust, and cannot award more than five scholarships, making the process very competitive. See the town website or call the Town Office for the full guidelines on applying.

In addition to the Wheeler Trust Scholarships, the Town of Bolton will also be awarding one scholarship, up to \$1,300, this year and for the next three years. This is being funded by a donation to be used for scholarships that was made to the town several years ago. The Board of Civil Authority will utilize the Wheeler Trust standards/application form to determine the recipient, and all Wheeler Trust applicants will also be considered for the Town of Bolton scholarship. Applicants will be eligible to receive only one scholarship per year.

**THE FINAL INSTALLMENT OF PROPERTY TAXES IS DUE ON MONDAY, MAY 16, 2016**

Reminder: late payments of the final installment of property taxes incur an immediate 8% late penalty + 1% interest and are turned over to the Delinquent Tax Collector for collection. ***There is no grace period.*** May 16, 2016 **FEDERAL** (not meter) postmarks are accepted as on time.

**BOLTON GAZETTE INFORMATION**

Reminder: The deadline for submissions is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month for the next month's edition. To **OPT IN** to receive the Bolton Gazette electronically and in color (help the town save \$ on paper and postage costs!) email [boltingazette@gmavt.net](mailto:boltingazette@gmavt.net).

We welcome all submissions, in any format: stories, news, events, art, poetry, photographs. Drop submissions at the town office or, you've got it, email them to [boltingazette@gmavt.net](mailto:boltingazette@gmavt.net)!

**DATA GROUPS in ACTION**



On our Delayed Opening on March 9, teachers and administrators analyzed the results of a recent math assessment. Care was taken to see how students solved each problem to determine how they are thinking about the problem and what strategies they were using. Teachers then planned next steps for the class

and each individual child. Instruction was planned for the whole class, small groups and individuals. It was great that our Superintendent, John Alberghini, was able to join us. We all learned a great deal from our math coaches, Karen Reinhardt and Christian Courtemanche.

**SMILIE'S FIRST ANNUAL SPRING HEE HAW DANCE**

Many families enjoyed a wonderful evening of dancing at Smilie's First Annual Spring Hee Haw Dance last Friday evening. The decorations were spectacular and both healthy and not so healthy snacks were served. One particular highpoint of the evening was when everyone lined up to try the LIMBO dance!



Smilie School News continued next page!



## Spring Happenings at Camels Hump Middle School

By Mark Carbone, Principal



I am pleased to welcome Wilhelmina Picard as the interim Assistant Principal of Camels Hump Middle School. Mrs. Picard earned her Masters in Education from Western Maryland College and for the past eight years has worked for the State of Vermont, overseeing the educational programs within the Department of Corrections. Prior to this, Mrs. Picard was the Director of Curriculum and Instruction for the Essex Town School District. Mrs. Picard brings a wealth of knowledge and energy to our middle school. We look forward to her expertise and leadership. Please stop by Camels Hump and welcome her to our community!

This year's drama production at CHMS is *Alice in Wonderland*. Performers and crew have been working hard with Lauren Larkin of Very Merry Theatre. The Very Merry Theatre is a dynamic organization that provides children from the ages of five to eighteen with the opportunity to produce and perform original plays through their schools. Performances open to the public will be Friday, April 1 at 7pm and Saturday, April 2 at 4pm.

With the melting ice on the lake and Sugar Maple sap running, the spring activities at Camels Hump Middle School begin: softball and baseball, intramurals, and the second session of after-school programs including the healthy cooking club with our Farm-to-School Coordinator, Mae Quilty.



Students at this time of year are rigorously tested on the new common core standards via the "Smarter Balance Assessment Consortium". SBAC replaces the previously used NECAP standardized tests. For more information about SBAC, visit [www.smarterbalanced.org](http://www.smarterbalanced.org). Upon completion of SBAC Testing, all CHMS students will be participating in the 2nd Annual Grand Prix! Teams will race tricycles through a challenging course in the school parking lot--last year's event was well-received and a ton of fun!

The next Mount Mansfield Modified Union School District meeting will be held on April 4, at 6:30-8:30, at Brewster-Pierce Elementary School. The public is welcome, and encouraged, to attend.