

THE BOLTON GAZETTE

THE TOWN OF BOLTON, VERMONT

"THE LAND OF BOULDERS AND BEARS"

3045 THEODORE ROOSEVELT HIGHWAY, BOLTON VT 05676

DECEMBER 2014 EMAIL: BOLTONGAZETTE@GMAVT.NET

VOLUME #2 ISSUE #11



*Season's Greetings
And
Best Wishes for
The New Year!*

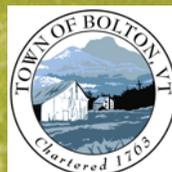
MMMUSD NOTICE

Please see the official warning (inside the cover sheet of the hard copy Gazette version, page 9 of the electronic Gazette version) for the organizational meeting of the Mount Mansfield Modified Union School District to be held on Thursday, December 18, 2014, 6:30 p.m. at MMU High School in Jericho.



AMAZING ARTWORK AT PRESTON POND!

Thanks to the amazing art of Bolton artist Julie Longstreth, the Preston Pond trail network has been beautifully enhanced! Head on out on the trails to see if you can spy the red fox, flycatcher, and bobcat!



CLERK'S CORNER

AMY GROVER • TOWN CLERK & TREASURER
CLERKBOLTON@GMAV.T.NET

LET THE JOYOUS NEWS BE SPREAD, THE ROUTE 2 PROJECT HAS BEEN PUT TO BED!

Or something like that...in other words, **it's done!** Project outreach coordinator Francine Perkins has reported that except for some "punch list items" to be completed in the spring of 2015, which should NOT affect traffic flow, the Route 2 project has been completed. Information from the state indicates that the continuation of the Route 2 reclamation project to the west, between Bolton and Richmond, is scheduled for "State Fiscal Year 2017." The ½ mile or so section up Hayden Hill, just to the west of the stopping point this year, is on the "priority one list" for patching next year, as funding allows. With many thanks to Francine for her wonderful job keeping us all informed these last seven months as the project outreach coordinator.

PROPERTY TAXES

Thank you to all the Bolton property owners who paid the second installment of property taxes that were due on November 17th. Please note: 1% interest will be applied monthly on any unpaid balance, and if left unpaid by the final installment due date of May 18th, will incur an immediate 8% penalty along with the 1% interest and will be turned over to the delinquent Tax Collector for collection.



PHOEBE POINTS TO A TOWN TREASURE

PHOEBE'S KIDS' QUESTION

OF THE MONTH!

Here I am at the town office pointing out one of our town's treasures! What do you think it is, and how old do you think it is? I know it's hard to see with the reflections from the Good Citizen of the Year Awards, but that tells you that it is under glass – look really closely, you may see some rectangles, and words. What do you think those rectangles are? If I could smell it, would I think it would be yummy to chew? Hmmmm....

Find out in next month's issue!

WOOF! WOOF!!

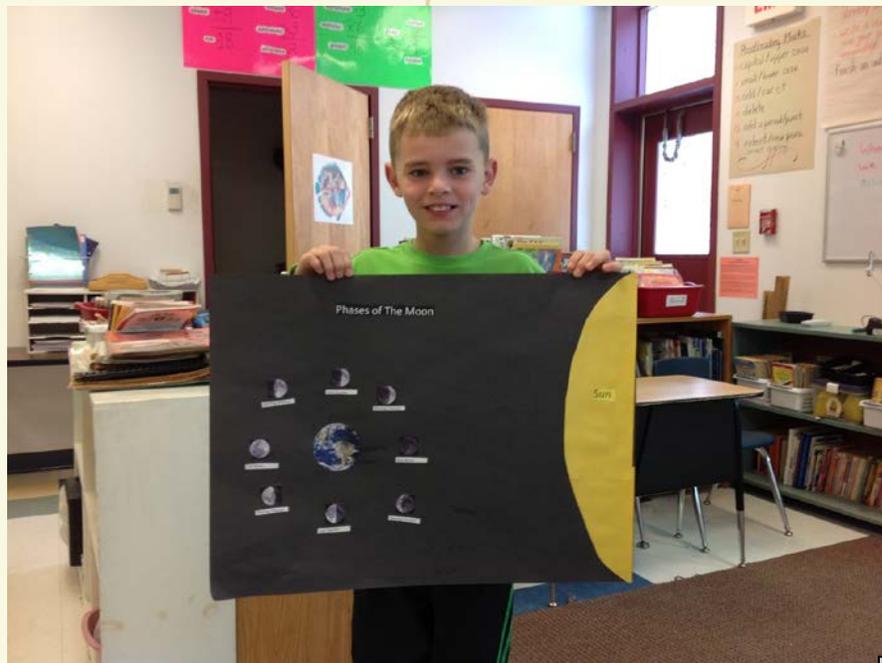
Last month's answer: The little cabin we found in the woods is "Bryant Cabin." It is located on the state owned "Nordic Lands" at Bolton Valley on a trail named "Bryant!" This cabin was Edward Bryant's "Upper Camp," which he and his friends used when they skied in that area back in the 1920s and 1930s. Mr. Bryant owned 10,000 acres of land in Bolton up until his death in 1945, when the land was sold to a lumber company, and then to the Deslauriers family who then founded Bolton Valley Resort. The Green Mountain Club plans to help restore the cabin so that it can be used by skiers and hikers for at least another 80 years!



SMILIE SCHOOL NEWS

The third and fourth grade science theme this trimester was Solar System, specifically phases of the moon and night and day. Students learned that the reason the moon seems to change place in the sky is because of its relation to the sun and earth. During a new moon phase (when the moon appears dark), the moon is between the sun and the earth so there is no sunlight reflected off of it towards the earth. During a full moon, the earth is between the sun and the moon and the light from the sun is reflected off of the moon for us to see. This doesn't seem to make sense until you think of how far apart the sun, earth and moon are. (Think of a fly on a light bulb. It wouldn't affect the amount of light you see.) Students modelled this in class using a dark room, a bare lightbulb (which represented sun) and a basketball (representing the moon). The students sat in the center of the room and the basketball was moved around them simulating the moons orbit around the earth.

Students also learned that night and day are caused by the rotation of the earth on its axis and that the length of that rotation is 24 hours. The earth's orbit is its movement through space and around the sun. It takes 365 days, or 1 year, to orbit the sun. The earth's orbit is elliptical. Because of the earth's tilt on its axis we have seasons. In the winter we are actually closer to the sun in our orbit but because the northern hemisphere faces away from the sun it is colder and the amount of sunlight we receive is shorter. During the summer months the earth is actually farther away from the sun but because we are tilted towards it we get more daylight hours.....and heat.



SMILIE NEWS CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



Making a Difference for the Earth

Smilie School has begun to TerraCycle! TerraCycle is a program that recycles and upcycles items that would otherwise be filling up our landfills. Through the TerraCycle program, our community learns about the importance of caring for the environment, while making a change and earning money for scholarship programs at our school.

Mrs. LeFrancois' first and second graders are working on a claymation film to teach students and families more about TerraCycle, why we do it and what items we collect. You can learn more by visiting the TerraCycle tab on Smilie's home page.



ever ever gentle - life
and love point past

A LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY FROM JERRY MULLEN

Bolton, VT November 11th 2014

To the Citizens of Bolton, Huntington, Buels Gore and Waterbury.

I would like to express my gratitude to all of you who supported me in the election of November 4th. It is always a long shot when running as an Independent against an incumbent of a major party, even one who has co-sponsored legislation that violates the Constitution. But considering that we were running on a tight budget, with only three part-time helpers, we did reasonably well. Nine hundred and seven of you gave me your vote, and for that I thank you.

It will be interesting to see what our representatives do in the next two years. I based my campaign around several issues that our legislature has ignored for decades, and which I feel are causing citizens of Vermont much grief. Three of these are:

1. Property taxes: I first became aware of the trouble these were causing while teaching the Environmental Studies course at Burlington High School. They are not based on people's ability to pay. In the 1970's and 80's they were driving family owned farms out of business, and today they are driving older folks out of their homes. Some legislators who are out of touch with reality have been quoted as saying they were "fair" and one person even told me that they were not only fair but "weighted in favor of poor people." I fear there is little chance of changing this antiquated system of funding local services.
2. Legalizing and taxing Marijuana: The analogy between the present drug policy and Prohibition, some 80 years ago, is striking. Alcohol, as well as drugs, causes problems. But when governments start banning things that people want or need, they accomplish three things. 1. They lose control of the banned items. 2. They turn the supply over to criminals who become very wealthy, and 3. They turn many otherwise law abiding citizens into criminals. Instead of enriching criminals, I say legalize the stuff, control it and use the tax revenue for public purposes.
3. Constitutional concerns: A lot of big out-of-state money is being spent this year to get Vermont Legislators to violate the Constitution of Vermont. Constitutions can be amended. In Vermont, that action has to start in the Vermont Senate. But Constitutions are adopted to "secure domestic tranquility." If you watch the news, you will see that in states where Constitutions have been violated, they often have little tranquility. In Vermont we do. Constitutions are hard to change, deliberately, so that we don't change them for transitory emotional reasons, or even for trumped up reasons. We should watch our representatives and hold them to account if they violate the Constitution.

Again, I would like to thank those of you who supported me, and to all of you, whether you supported me or not, I wish a good Deer Season, a Merry Christmas and a Happy

New Year.

Jerry A. Mullen

Our Community Cares Camp by Marie Thomas

Children are the most important and precious resource we have as a community. They need food and love and nurturing from parents, siblings, extended family, neighbors and community in order to thrive.

We live in a rich and wonderful community full of caring people. But we also live in a community where nearly 30% of our children live in homes that are so economically stressed that food insecurity may be an issue. Even if food is not the most urgent need, often there is not enough left over after providing the basics of living to provide for enriching activities like vacations, trips to museums or summer camps. Children from these families may do less well in school because they lack adequate nutrition and stimulation to develop and keep up with their peers. They may have fewer opportunities to be successful.

Our Community Cares Camp was incorporated as a non-profit corporation in 2009, when it inherited the mission of feeding children from Bolton, Huntington and Richmond in the summer and providing a free summer camp with enriching activities. That first year we served 1900 meals and had 33 children a day at camp with 11 employees. In 2014, our 6th year, we served 5500 meals to more than 240 children at camp, at summer school and at the Richmond and Huntington libraries. We had 32 employees and 9

interns and around 80 kids a day at camp from grades k – 9.

Many of our employees are teens from Richmond, Huntington and Jericho, guided by talented adults. They are what makes OCCC a magical place each summer. At OCCC we feed the whole child - their bodies and their spirits. It's a place where kids learn to make good choices in food and in behavior. A place where children feel loved and nurtured. We know we are doing well when we hear the camper's stories. One girl said "I used to dread summer – now I love summer because I have something to do, a place to go and good friends and activities." Another boy talks about how he was able to meet someone who was to become his best friend, years before they went to Camels Hump together. Some children can't imagine their summers without OCCC. The message we send to kids is – We are here for you, this is your camp, we like you. And they hear this message loud and clear. One day a child looked into our Program Director's eyes and said very seriously "Who will take over when you retire? Because this camp always needs to be here."

We offer children the chance to explore, to be creative, and to learn to play the ukulele, or to cook a meal, or to try something new like painting or clay. We encourage them to perform their new skills before their peers - knowing that whatever they do, whether it be

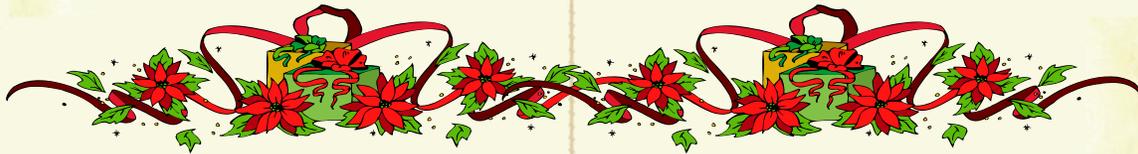
singing, stacking cups or running in circles, they will be cheered on by the whole camp saying "Good Job". And they also learn that it is OK to try and fail, and people will still cheer and say "Good Try". Our campers are developing skills and confidence and faith in their own abilities

Supporting the camp is an investment in our community – in our children. We are making our towns a better place for everyone to live. Our Community does care. We cannot survive without the

talents and contributions of many people throughout the community.

We hope you will support Our Community Cares Camp. And we hope you share the belief that OCCC improves the lives of our children and enriches our community. Thank you.

Marie Thomas, Executive Director
Donate online at www.ourcommunitycarescamp.org or P.O. Box 503 Richmond 05477
Contact us at occc@gmavt.net or 434-6006 for more information.



CLERK'S CORNER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

BOLTON UP AND DOWN TOWN CLUB SENIOR DINNER

See you in January 2015! Happy Holidays!

STILL OPEN DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD ALTERNATE

Yes, still seeking a volunteer to serve as an alternate on the DRB. Please contact the town office if you are interested in volunteering to serve your community.

THANK YOU TO THE TOWN OFFICE GARDEN ANGEL



A special thank you to Linda Baker for tucking in the office garden for the winter, trimming the shrubs and cutting back the huge ornamental grasses!

NEED GIFT IDEAS? COME SHOP AT THE TOWN OFFICE!

Are you ready for the holidays? Only 15 shopping days left until Christmas! Stop by the town office to pick up a 2015 "TICKLED PINK" calendar, a "TASTE OF WEST BOLTON" cookbook created by West Bolton-ite Bradlee Westie, TOWN T- SHIRTS AND SWEATSHIRTS, beautiful POTHOLDERS AND APRONS handmade by resident Raelene Emerson, or to make a DONATION TO THE RICHMOND FOOD SHELF by purchasing \$1, \$2, or \$3 Foodshelf bucks (for lack of a better term!)

ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM - APPLY BY DECEMBER 31ST!

Green Mountain Power (GMP) has an Energy Assistance Program that can save low-income customers about \$20 a month. Only 18% of eligible households have signed up however, and AARP is encouraging Vermonters on fixed incomes to apply. The program provides a 25% discount on the first 600 kilowatt hours of electricity a household uses each month. In addition, new enrollees who apply between October 1 and December 31 are allowed a one-time forgiveness of a past-due bill. GMP customers with an annual income of up to \$17,508 for an individual, or \$23,592 for a couple may be eligible. For more information or to apply call 1-800-775-0516 or go to:

<http://dcf.vermont.gov/esd/eap/GMP>

There is also a Fuel Assistance Program. Call 1-800-479-6151 for more information, or go to:

http://dcf.vermont.gov/esd/fuel_assistance

REAPPRAISALS IN WEST BOLTON AND DUXBURY ROAD

Reappraisals will be going on winter hiatus shortly, so if you have received a postcard regarding a reappraisal and have not yet scheduled an appointment, please call the town office to do so. Appointments are scheduled on Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Thanks!

ACT 148 RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING IN 2015

In 2012, the Vermont Legislature unanimously passed [Act 148](#), a universal recycling and composting law that offers Vermonters a new set of systems and tools for keeping as much as possible out of the landfill, with landfill bans that are phased in until 2020. For more information provided by the Chittenden Solid Waste District go to their website at:

<http://cswd.net/about-cswd/universal-recycling-law-act-148/>

What landfill bans will take effect July 1, 2015?

- Landfill ban for all businesses and residents: mandatory recyclables.
- Facilities that offer services for managing trash must also accept leaf and yard debris.
- Haulers offering curbside trash collection must also offer collection of mandatory recyclables
- Mandatory composting/donation of food organics for generators of more than 52 tons/year, if composting facility is within 20 miles of generator
- Transfer stations, drop-off centers, and haulers required to begin mandatory variable rate pricing (PAYT)
- Recycling containers must be provided in publicly owned places (municipal & state) where trash cans are located (except bathrooms)

BOLTON GAZETTE INFORMATION

Reminder: The deadline for submissions in the 15th of the month for the following month's edition. Your submissions of any type and in any format are more than welcome!!! To **OPT IN** to receive the Bolton Gazette electronically and in color (help the town save \$ on paper and postage costs!) email boltongazette@gmavt.net

OFFICIAL WARNING

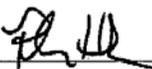
MOUNT MANSFIELD MODIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

December 18, 2014

The legal voters of the Mount Mansfield Modified Union School District comprising the voters of the town school districts of Huntington (Grades 5-12), and Bolton, Jericho, Richmond, Underhill Town and Underhill Incorporated School District, (all Grades PK-12) are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Mount Mansfield Union High School on **Thursday, December 18, 2014, at 6:30 p.m.** to transact the following:

- Article 1: To elect a temporary presiding officer and clerk from among the qualified voters.
- Article 2: To adopt Robert's Rules of Order or other rules of order which shall govern the parliamentary procedures of this and subsequent meetings of the Mount Mansfield Modified Union School District.
- Article 3: To elect the following officers:
- Moderator for one year,
 - Clerk for one year,
 - Treasurer for one year,
- Article 4: To determine and approve compensation, if any, to be paid district officers.
- Article 5: To establish a date of the annual meeting.
- Article 6: To establish provisions for payment of any expense incurred by the Mount Mansfield Modified Union School District.
- Article 7: To authorize the Mount Mansfield Modified Union School District to borrow money pending receipt of payments from the State Education Fund by the issuance of its notes or orders payable not later than one year from date: provided however, that the newly formed modified union school district is authorized by Vermont Statutes to borrow sufficient funds to meet pending obligations.
- Article 8: To transact any other school business thought proper when met.

Dated this 14th day of November, 2014.


_____, Vermont Secretary of Education

Handwritten notes in cursive script, partially obscured by the official warning text. Legible fragments include: "top lake, size garden", "even even angle", and "2000 1000 1000".