

THE BOLTON GAZETTE

THE TOWN OF BOLTON, VERMONT

"THE LAND OF BOULDERS AND BEARS"

3045 THEODORE ROOSEVELT HIGHWAY, BOLTON VT 05676

NOVEMBER 2014

EMAIL: BOLTONGAZETTE@GMA.VT.NET

VOLUME #2 ISSUE #10

FOLLOW UP ON THE PRESTON LAFRENIERE HOMESTEAD FOR SALE

Last month the Gazette noted that the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation and the Vermont Department of Buildings and General Services were requesting bid proposals for the purchase of the 30 acre former Preston Lafreniere Homestead, located in Camel's Hump State Park on the southwest corner of Duxbury and Honey Hollow Roads.

The state held an open house, which several residents, Lafreniere family members and town staff attended.



We know that the Bolton community sincerely hopes that a buyer will come forward that will give this historic property the fitting care and attention it so justly deserves.



Reminder: the state's deadline for submittal of bid proposals is 4:00 P.M. on **Monday, December 1, 2014.**

For detailed information:

<http://bgs.vermont.gov/propman/landsale/preston-lafreniereproperty>



BOLTON IS WAY ABOVE AVERAGE...

THANK YOU FOR VOTING!

The town of Bolton saw 48.3% of Bolton's registered voters vote on November 4th. That was well above both the state's 43.7% and nation's 37% turnout. As folks have expressed an interest, see some of Bolton's voting results on page 7.



CLERK'S CORNER

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

FALL CLEANING?

From the Chittenden Solid Waste District:
November is bring us your hazardous leftovers month! Take a peek in your closets, cabinets, basements, and sheds, and get rid of those hazardous leftovers before the winter freeze sets in. Bring 'em to the Environmental Depot so they are disposed of or recycled responsibly. Paint isn't the only item accepted at the Environmental Depot, we'll take just about anything with any of these words on the label:

WARNING - DANGER - POISON - CAUTION

Environmental Depot

1011 Airport Parkway, South Burlington

Hours: Wed-Fri 8-2; Sat 8-3:30.

Resident line: 863-0480

PROPERTY TAXES DUE NOVEMBER 17TH!

Reminder: the second installment of property taxes is due on Monday November 17th. Payments must be received by 4 p.m. on the 17th to be considered on time, or postmarked November 17th. There is no grace period and late payments incur a 1% interest penalty.

REAPPRAISALS IN WEST BOLTON AND DUXBURY ROAD

If you live in the West Bolton or Duxbury Road areas and have not had your property reappraisal, please call the town office to schedule an appointment. Appointments are scheduled on Wednesdays between 10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Thank you!



PHOEBE AT THE "MYSTERY CABIN"

PHOEBE'S KIDS' QUESTION

OF THE MONTH!

In early fall, I took a nice hike with my humans and came to this little cabin in the woods! Where do you think we found this little cabin? Is that a map above the door? Do you think that someone once lived there, or lives there now? Hmmm...? Find out in next month's issue!

WOOF! WOOF!!

Last month's answer: The special "mystery tree" marks a pretty nifty spot ~ it's where the boundaries of Bolton, Richmond and Jericho all meet! This spot is on land that is owned by the Jericho Underhill Land Trust, so you can visit there too! Read more about this area on page 8! It was really fun hiking to the tree, sniffing (of course), and running in the woods with the other "town dogs!"

SMILIE SCHOOL NEWS

In grades 2-4, we are continuing to explore, study carefully and learn about reading informational text. The author of informational text intends to "teach" his/her reader, and the reader of informational text intends to "learn" something reading this text type. This week we learned that when reading informational text, that the voice in our head is much closer to that of a teacher, than when reading literary text. Our pacing is also different. We pause often when reading informational text in order to ask ourselves "What have I learned?"

Grade 4 students have been busy practicing their addition with regrouping strategy with large numbers and working on place value concepts up to 10,000. We have also been working to use our knowledge of multiplication to solve division problems with and without remainders. (What do you do with those leftovers?) The highlight has been working on our "Dream Houses." By designing them, students are working on several skills; using arrays to figure out area, figuring out perimeter and adding large numbers. This project also asks students to be neat and precise. Look for our finished designs in the hallways!



Designing
Our
Dream
Houses!



SMILIE SCHOOL IS GOING GLOBAL...GLOBAL READ ALOUD!

As planned, we began our participation in the Global Read Aloud Program. This week we connected with classrooms in Pennsylvania and Washington State. The plan is to continue chatting with students in these schools, so that we can have ongoing conversations about The miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane.

Smilie students listen respectfully to directions for a joint Art and Library project



Pumpkin Chuckin' and More!

By Mark Carbone, Principal, Camels Hump Middle School

We enjoyed the Pumpkin Chuckin' on Saturday, October 25th at Camel's Hump Middle School. Did you come and witness pumpkins in flight? Teams of CHMS students worked to build all sorts of contraptions to awe and amaze you. We hope that you and your family joined in the fun! This year's event supported the continuation of the PROSPER Program--a 7week program for 6th grade students and their families to assist both through the challenges of adolescence.

Although the days are getting shorter, the solar array on the CHMS roof continues to crank out energy savings. Since 2008, we have met over 85% of the goals proposed through an energy audit by Energy Efficiency of Vermont. We have reduced our annual Kilowatt usage by 400,000 resulting in annual savings of approximately \$45,000. This summer, CHMS was honored as a Green Ribbon School for "exemplary efforts to reduce environmental impact and costs, promote better health, and ensure effective environmental education, including STEM, green careers and civics." Our cost-saving efforts have

had a positive fiduciary impact on the school's budget.

Camels Hump Middle School continues to look for parent and community volunteers to help in the education and success of our students. A number of folks from the community have come forward to volunteer with reading fluency and comprehension. Math volunteers are still needed to help with basic calculation and computation skills. Training is provided and schedules are flexible. Thank you in advance for your support. Please consider volunteering. For more information, please call 434-2188 or email: mark.carbone@cesuvt.org.

The next CHMS/MMU school board meeting will be held on November 13. Budget preparation for the Mount Mansfield Union School District fiscal year 2015-16 has commenced. For a schedule of the finance committee meetings, please visit the CESU Website: <http://cesu.k12.vt.us/>. The public is welcome, and encouraged, to attend.

ATTENTION BOLTON!

This holiday season the Bolton community is organizing a food drive to benefit Bolton Seniors' Holiday Gift Baskets, and is collecting non-perishable food and monetary donations,

Monetary donations ~ mail checks to the town office, payable to the Town of Bolton. Please do not include senior basket donations with tax payments – checks must be separate due to the tax administration program software.

Food donations ~ there are several convenient food donation drop-off locations:

- The Bolton Store
- Smilie School
- The Jonesville Post-Office
- Stargazer Gifts in Richmond
- Long Trail Physical Therapy in Richmond

Monetary donations will be used to purchase fresh dairy, fruits and vegetables.

Please, no outdated foods.



**Invitation for Ideas ~ \$1500
Community Clean Up Grant**

From the
Bolton Conservation Commission



The Chittenden County Solid Waste District has awarded a \$1500 grant to the Town of Bolton to be spent at the discretion of the CSWD, Bolton's representative to the CSWD, Duncan Galbraith, with recommendations for approval from the Conservation Commission and the Select Board.

If you have an idea for a clean-up project in Bolton to utilize all or a portion of this grant, please submit your proposal together with a summary of expected expenses to clerkbolton@gmavt.net by December 15, 2014

Proposals will be reviewed by CSW, the CSW representative, and the Conservation Commission, and all applicants will be notified of their proposal status.



BOLTON UP AND DOWN TOWN CLUB SENIOR DINNER

Due to the holiday season fast approaching, we're combining our November and December dinners into one delicious December dinner, our last dinner for 2014! *YANKEE SWAP! If you would like to participate, please bring a wrapped gift!*



Date: Thursday, December 4, 2014

Place: Bolton Fire Station

Menu: Ham, macaroni and cheese, side of vegetables, rolls and butter

DESSERT?? If you would like to share a holiday dessert, please call Doris to be put on her list!

Time: 5:00 PM

RSVP: Doris @ 434-3769. Thank you!

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD ALTERNATE POSITION OPEN - VOLUNTEER

Still seeking a volunteer to serve as an alternate on the Development Review Board. Please contact the town office if you are interested in serving your community on the DRB.



MOTLEY CREW!

All five of the Chittenden East Town Clerks gathered in early fall to discuss the logistics of the recent school merger vote. It's always a pleasure to have an opportunity to get together with these knowledgeable & dynamic ladies!

(Left to right) Linda Parent, Richmond, Jessica Alexander, Jericho, Amy Grover, Bolton, Heidi Racht, Huntington, and Sherri Morin, Underhill. Photo credit: Stephanie Colburn

THANK YOU TO OUR ELECTION OFFICIALS AND POLL WORKERS

A huge thank you to our election officials and poll workers; Carol Devlin, Linde Emerson, Paula Gervia, Brenda McKeown, Jen Dudley-Gaillard, Hilary Besse, Gene and Debbie Armstrong, Sharon Murray, Bob Fett, Jim and Susan Bralich, and John Devine.

Hand counting Bolton's ballots required nearly 30 "man hours" and 12,123 tally marks!

TOWN OF BOLTON T-SHIRTS FOR CHRISTMAS!

Only 42 shopping days left until Christmas! Make Christmas dreams come true (well maybe not quite!) by giving a Town of Bolton T-shirt! The shirts are dark green with "Town of Bolton" in white on the front and the town seal in white on the back. Available in sizes medium to 2X large.

YOUR DRIVEWAY CULVERT AND YOU!

Is your driveway culvert cleared for winter? Help prevent driveway or even road washouts by making sure both ends of your driveway culvert are clear from rocks and debris. If debris builds up, the culvert can become blocked and cause flooding and/or washouts. Be sure to haul off any debris to prevent that debris from re-entering your culvert or washing downstream to your neighbor's culvert. Winter is fast approaching – see **Bolton's Winter Operations Plan** on the mailing cover, or page 9 of the electronic version, for a reminder and information on winter operations!



BOLTON'S WEBSITE

Town website volunteers, Deb Shelby and Steve Barner, and Snelling Center staff recently held a website training for key board members who are taking on website "uploading responsibilities" for their boards. Look for the town website to be back online by January 1, 2015 at the latest, or maybe even a bit earlier. With thanks to the Snelling Center staff and a huge thank you to both Deb and Steve for volunteering so much of their time and expertise in creating our new town website.

BOLTON GAZETTE INFORMATION

Reminder: The deadline for submissions in the 15th of the month for the following 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 boltongazette@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 boltongazette@gmavt.net!



Bolton and CESU Voting Results

State Representative (2):

Rebecca Ellis: 205
 Jerry A. Mullen: 272
 Tom Stevens: 167
 Blank/Spoiled/Write-In: 254
 Total: 898

State Governor:

Dan Feliciano: 36
 Scott Milne: 180
 Peter Schumlin: 212
 Blank/Spoiled/Write-In/Other: 21
 Total: 449

CESU Proposed Merger

Bolton: Yes 324 ~ No 120
 Huntington: Yes ~ No 521
 Jericho: Yes 1240 ~ No 334
 Richmond: Yes 1043 ~ No 570
 Underhill (combined): Yes 1336 ~ No 460
 Total: Yes 4228 ~ No 2005

Unified District Representative:

Andrew Pond: 224
 Lynda Deslauriers: 147
 Blank/Spoiled/Write-in: 78
 Total: 449



Gathering at the "Mystery Tree!"

By Amy Grover

On a beautiful fall Sunday, Jericho Town Clerk, Jessica Alexander, Huntington Town Clerk, Heidi Racht, Wright Preston, Richmond resident, Livy Strong, Jericho Underhill Land Trust (JULT) board member and I (and three town dogs!), meandered our way (with our respective towns' logos in hand!) to the

"mystery tree," which you now know is the boundary point between the towns of Bolton, Jericho, and Richmond. I'm standing in Bolton, Jessica is standing in Jericho, and Wright is standing in Richmond, on behalf of Richmond Town Clerk, Linda Parent, who wasn't able to join us.



This "Wolfrun Natural Area Gateway Land" encompasses 123 acres of prime wildlife habitat, historic structures, and extensive trails, and it offers access to the 279 acre "Wolfrun Natural Area." Purchased by the JULT in 2009, the Gateway Land is accessed from Stage Road in Richmond through a literal gateway at the entrance to the VAST trail. Learn more about the JULT, the Gateway Land and trails, and their 6 other conserved properties at <http://www.jult.org/>

Thanks to Jessica for arranging another "tri marker" adventure, and to Wright and Livy, for guiding our group!

Heidi by the it's-not-a-mystery-any-more-tree!

Next: an expedition to the tri marker border of Bolton, Huntington, and Richmond?

TOWN OF BOLTON WINTER OPERATIONS PLAN



1. Plow routes are set up to open the major traffic and school bus routes first. After these routes are open and cleared, roads which are the most problematic for the public (traffic volume, steepness and curves) are plowed, with plowing continuing until all roads are open and cleared.
2. The town will enforce **NO PARKING** at all times on the traveled portion of all highways within the town's right-of-way, and in any school bus turnarounds. Vehicles will be towed at the owner's expense.
3. The town of Bolton has two and a half (two full time and one part time) highway personnel to do winter maintenance on 22 miles of road. Each road crew member has a specific route to complete. These routes are only varied in an emergency situation. Bolton is different from other towns in that the road mileage is not concentrated in a small area. Driving time needed to get to a specific section of road affects the completion time of the job.
4. The town does not plow any private roads or Class 4 Highways.
5. The town crew usually starts their day between 3 and 4 am during a snow storm to have major traffic and bus routes open and cleared by 7 am.
6. After 16 hours on the job, it is required that operations are stopped to allow the road crew to have a minimum of 6 hours off.
7. Salt will be applied to most paved roads with a minimum of sand added as necessary. Salt is not effective when the road temperature is below 20 degrees.
8. Sand will be applied on all gravel roads.
9. In most cases, there will be no road maintenance between 10 pm and 3 am.
10. According to VSA 23, Section 1126, it is illegal to plow snow from a private road or drive onto or across a town highway.

This policy was adopted by the Bolton Select Board on November 25, 2002.