



Times of Shrewsbury



July 2022

EMERALD ASH BORER: UPDATE AND RECOMMENDATIONS

There seems to be an increase in citizen concern about Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) based on the number of calls and e-mails I have been getting this summer from people wanting simple answers to difficult questions. The difficult part is the nature of the Emerald Ash Borer itself and its direct impact on ash trees. We're dealing with a beetle that is only a 1/4 to 1/2 inch in length and bullet shaped making detections difficult. Additionally, the Vt Invasives EAB maps show much of Vermont having an EAB presence but the actual number of visibly infested ash trees is still quite rare. Despite this it is still time to be concerned.

First of all those same EAB maps include sections of Shrewsbury (lower sections of upper and lower Cold River Roads) indicating a probable presence of the beetles. That is not to say that the remainder of our town is exempt when the same maps indicate the presence of EAB in most of our adjacent towns as well.

So it is worthwhile when driving around enjoying our beautiful trees to look for ash that show the first visible signs – crown dieback. June thru September is the “flight season” when the beetles are dispersing looking for new ash to invade or to find mates. When an ash is attacked the first sign is loss of upper crown leaves in the infested area. The power of this insect is in beetle numbers and as the tree continues to be invaded by EAB more and more damage occurs leading eventually (3-5 years) to death.

Vigilance also needs to increase because moving firewood during this time can also spread EAB. Infested ash wood will have furrowed

bark which may split and fall off showing the distinctive “S” shaped galleries. Bark may even have blonding (lighter colored with flat ridges) and the distinctive “D” shaped exit holes from beetle emergence. Wood in this condition should probably be left until fall before being moved and used.

While the town must be concerned about infected hazardous ash along our beautiful town roads, it is the tree in your yard that has prompted many e-mails this summer. Yes, you can inoculate ash trees to prevent invasion from EAB and several landowners have done that. But before you spend the money examine your ash tree for overall health, shape, and location. A healthy ash will have a full green crown, tight bark, and branches elongating as the tree grows this summer. Its shape should NOT include dead sections within the crown, any sort of major lean, the presence of other insects and/or diseases, or growth habits like “V” shaped branch crotches which can easily separate in high winds or heavy snow loads.

Finally, is your ash tree in a location that makes a significant contribution to your local landscape? All of these factors should be considered before treatment. Trees can be treated only by someone with a Certified Pesticide Applicators license and there are six of them in the area between Rutland, Manchester, and White River Junction. A complete list is posted on the Tree

Warden's Bulletin Board at the library or can be found at the Vt Invasives website. Stay vigilant this summer. You probably will not find heavily infested ash trees but you just might notice ash with thinning crowns that were healthy last year.

~Article by Gary Salmon, Tree Warden

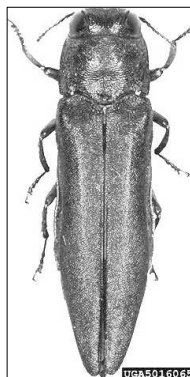
Times of Shrewsbury

June 2011



Bugs, Bugs, Bugs....It's that time of year!

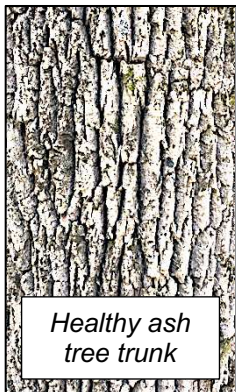
You may notice some purple traps hanging from trees in the Shrewsbury area this season. They're designed to survey for the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) which has been devastating to the ash trees in numerous states. In a collaborative effort with the U. S. Department of Agriculture fourteen states, including Vermont, are participating in a “grid-based” survey to monitor the leading edge of EAB infestations. The fact that traps are located in Shrewsbury does not mean the beetles are present, but it does mean survey crews are looking for the beetle. They will be collecting information from the traps in mid-summer, and they will also be refreshing the sticky “lure” at that time. In the fall the traps will be surveyed a second time and then be removed. The traps are not a risk for humans, pets, or wildlife but the non-toxic glue can be very messy if you touch it.



The USDA requests that the traps not be disturbed, but if you see one on the ground please report it by calling the USDA-EAB Hotline at 1-866-322-4512. They also request that you inspect your own trees for any indications of infestation, and they emphasize that firewood should not be moved from the area where it is obtained.

And about the color purple--it turns out that through research it has been discovered that the insect family to which the EAB belongs is attracted to red and purple. They even tested to see which color worked better and found purple to be the color of choice. So this summer if a beetle lands on you while you're wearing purple, you might check it out!

This is one bug we do not want in town! For more information and a color photo of the Emerald Ash Borer go to the Town of Shrewsbury's website. ~Chryl Martin



Healthy ash tree trunk



Infested ash tree trunk

The EAB has been on the front page of the Times of Shrewsbury before!

Employment Opportunity

Town of Shrewsbury is accepting applications for
Road Crew member

Work includes: plowing, ditching, road repair, roadside mowing, culvert work, chainsaw operation, equipment maintenance, and other duties.

Benefits include 100% Town paid Medical and Dental insurance

A clean driving record, CDL Class B License, and ability to pass drug/alcohol test required.

Contact Jamie Carrara @ 492-3656

Times of Shrewsbury ONLINE NOTICE:

The Shrewsbury Town website has indicated that at the current time they do not have space to include the Times of Shrewsbury on the website. However, all issues of the Times of Shrewsbury since February 2011 and including the most recent issue can be found on the Shrewsbury Historical Society website:

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

Vermont State Senators:

Brian Collamore: bcollamore@leg.state.vt.us
Cheryl Hooker: chooker@leg.state.vt.us
Josh Terenzini jterenzini@leg.state.vt.us

Vermont State House of Representative:

Logan Nicoll: Inicoll@leg.state.vt.us

The Vermont General Assembly is in session January thru June. To view committee member-ships, bills that have been introduced, track each bill's progress, and review committee agendas go to www.leg.state.vt.us. During the week you can contact your legislator by leaving a message at the State House by calling 1-800-322-5616 or 828-2228 (the Sergeant-At-Arms' Office).

United States Senators:

Senator Patrick Leahy

www.leahy.senate.gov/contact
Vermont Office: (802) 229-0569
Washington office: (202) 224-4242

Senator Bernie Sanders

www.sanders.senate.gov/contact
Vermont Office: (800) 339-9834
Washington D. C. Office:
(202) 224-5141; Fax (202) 228-0776

United States House of Representative:

Representative Peter Welch

<https://welch.house.gov/contact>
Vermont Office: (802) 652-2450 or (888) 605-7270
Washington, D.C. Office: (202) 225-4115

Revised 8/1/2021

The Times of Shrewsbury

The *Times of Shrewsbury* is published monthly from February through December, and compiled by volunteers from material submitted by residents with the goal of informing townspeople of what is happening in Shrewsbury. The views and opinions expressed in articles are solely those of the author and not necessarily those of the editors.

All submissions must be accompanied by the name of the submitting person and are printed at the editors' discretion subject to editing for length and clarity. Letters to the Editor exceeding 350 words will be subject to editing for length. Any information piece or informational political letters (without specific party or vote appeal) will be subject to the guidelines previously described.

A writer of a letter that names a Shrewsbury resident or organization in a critical manner must get copies to the resident or organization, and to the *Times* by the 10th 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, nature reports, family event announcements, or feature articles or letters that are not commercial.

Articles and Advertisements: Deadline for submission is 5pm on the 20th of the month prior to publication; exceptions will be announced in the prior month's *Times*.

Ads in the *Times* are for area businesses, local non-profit events, and local ballot election advertisements.

Best Formats: Articles: Word or as an email message with no formatting. Photos: jpeg. Ads: jpeg or Word document.

Monthly advertising fees and relative sizes:

Full page	\$90	(7.5"w x 9.5"h)
Half page	\$50	(7.5"w x 4.5"h or 3.5"w x 9.5"h)
Quarter page	\$10	(7.5"w x 2.5" h; or, 3.5"wx 4.5"h)
Business card	\$5	(3.5"w x 2"h)
Classified ad	\$3	(15 words or less)

Payment due by the 20th of the month prior to publication.

Chryl Martin ~ Rich Biziak ~ Victoria Arthur
Times of Shrewsbury, P. O. Box 373, Cuttingsville, VT 05738

Email: shrewsburytimes@gmail.com Online: www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com

SHREWSBURY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

June 25	5pm	Outdoor Concert at the Meeting House with Gypsy Reel (rain date June 26)
June 26	1pm	*Shrewsbury Historical Society Meeting
June 26	7pm	*Science Book Club discussion
June 29	7pm	*Northam Cemetery Association Annual Meeting
July 3	1-3pm	*Shrewsbury Historical Society Museum open
July 9	8:30am	*Easy hike in Jeffords Forest with the Shrewsbury Conservation Commission
July 4		Independence Day
July 10	5pm	*Outdoor Concert at the Meeting House with Yankee Chank (rain date TBA)
July 17	4pm	*Famous Books Book Club discussion
July 22	4-6pm	*Liambu Tasty's Beer Tasting at Pierce's Store
July 23	5pm	*Outdoor Concert at the Meeting House with Tone Dog (rain date July 24)
July 24	7pm	*Science Book Club discussion group
July 30	11am-2pm	*Blueberry Festival at Pierce's Store
July 30	5pm	*Outdoor Concert at the Meeting House with Hermit Hollow (rain date July 31)
Aug 5	7pm	*Screening of Vermont filmmaker's documentary at Shrewsbury Library (reservations required)
Aug 6	12noon	*Laurel Hall, Laurel Glen Mausoleum, and Historical Society open

*see elsewhere in newsletter for details

TIMES OF SHREWSBURY
online at
www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com



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

REGULAR MEETINGS and EVENTS

Board of Selectman Meeting	1 st & 3 rd Wednesdays – 6:30pm at Town Office
Bone Builders	Tuesdays & Thursdays – 10am at Meeting House
Development Review Board	4 th Wed -7pm at Town Office; check town website for agenda
Library Trustees Meeting	2 nd Tuesday – 7pm at Shrewsbury Library
Mill River Unified Union School Board Mtg	1 st Wed 7pm @ MRHS & 3 rd Wed. 7pm location TBA
Planning Commission	2n & 4th Tuesdays 7pm at Town Office
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)	Sundays – 10am via Zoom; contact wildernessfriends@gmail.com
Shrewsbury Community Church	Sundays – 10:30am - Worship service – Shrewsbury Center Church
Shrewsbury Community Church	Sundays – 10:30am - Kids Funday Program - Shrewsbury Center Church
Shrewsbury Conservation Commission	2 nd Tuesday – 5:15pm at 450 Frank Lord Road until further notice.
Shrewsbury Historical Society	Postponed until further notice
Shrewsbury Historical Society Museum	Open Sundays 1-3pm until October 30
Shrewsbury Singers	Currently taking a break
Shrewsbury Sno-Birds	2 nd Tuesday – 7pm at Southside Steakhouse in Rutland
Shrewsbury Volunteer Fire Department	Thursdays – 7pm at the Cuttingsville Station

Shrewsbury Town Website: www.shrewsburyvt.org

Clerk's Office	492-3511 Mon – Thurs 9am – 3pm; Closed Friday
Town Garage	492-3656 (Follow prompts to report roadway blockage on non-work days)
Listers	492-2009 available by appointment
Treasurer's Office	492-3558 Monday 9am-11am
Transfer Station	Sunday 8am-4pm ~ Wednesdays 12noon-6pm
Library	492-3410 Hours: Mon 10am-12noon; Tues 7-9pm; Wed 10am-5pm & 7-9pm; Thurs 7-9pm; Fri 10-12noon; Sat 10am-12noon
Meeting House	492-6050 Reservations: 492-3361 or julanne@vermontel.net
News Flash Email List:	vtbenbeano@gmail.com or benbeano@vermontel.net [Urgent and reminder news info]

Cuttingsville Post Office 492-3585 Window Hours Mon-Fri 7:30am-10:30am & 11:30am-2:30pm; Sat 8am-11am.
Lobby Hours Mon- Fri 7:00am-7:00pm and Sat 7:00am-4pm

Animal Control Officer: Vacant (Contact a Selectboard member)	1 st Constable: TBA	Game Warden: Tim Carey 793-2776
Emergency Management Aaron Korzun 492-3362	Green Mountain Power outage 1-800-451-2877	
Medical-Police-Fire Emergency Dial 911	Ambulance 773-1700	Rutland Hospital 775-7111

SHREWSBURY SELECTBOARD MINUTES

The Selectboard meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 7pm at the Town Office.

June 1, 2022: Selectboard Meeting Minutes

Present at meeting: Selectboard members: Aaron Korzun, Francis Wyatt, Steven Nicholson. Listers: Sharon Winnicki, Susan Kennedy. Road Commissioner: Jamie Carrara. Treasurer: Linda McGuire. James Bennick-Sheriff Lieut.

Members of the Public: Todd Fillmore.

The meeting was convened at 6:30pm

Agenda: Motion made by A. Korzun to follow the agenda. S. Nicholson seconded. All in favor, motion approved.

Sheriff's Contract: Reviewed draft contract with Sheriff's Dept. Discussed details with Lieutenant Bennick. Need to send the Sheriff's Dept. signed and dated traffic and animal control ordinances with Town Clerk seal and signature. A. Korzun made a motion to accept the Sheriff's Dept. contract from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. S. Nicholson seconded. Approved.

Lister's Report: Listers requesting a 30-day extension under Title 32 Section 4342 for filing the abstract grand list. Sharon Winnicki submitted a GIS parcel mapping contract to review and approve at the next Selectboard meeting.

FCC Radio Frequency Coordination-Road Crew Radios:

The Town of Fayston wants to operate on the same radio frequency as the Town of Shrewsbury. Their request notes that if any interference occurs that they would take care of resolving the issue at their own expense. A. Korzun made a motion to approve The Town of Fayston's Radio Frequency Coordination Letter of Concurrence. F. Wyatt seconded. Approved.

ARPA Funds: The Fire Dept. is requesting \$25,000 of ARPA money for first responder personal protective equipment (PPE) to address COVID issues. We'll need some additional information. Martha Sirjane requested that the townspeople be notified about the ARPA funds and a summary of the requests for the money so far.

Excess Weight Permit: A. Korzun made a motion to approve an excess weight permit for Consolidated Communications. S. Nicholson seconded. Approved.

New Business: Todd Fillmore noted that it is unsafe for pedestrians to cross over the bridge near his house, because there are no shoulders and the guard rails come right up to the edge of the road. He's concerned about his grandson crossing the bridge.

Linda McGuire said that the Meeting House is requesting money. F. Wyatt made a motion to advance half of the warned appropriation for the Meeting House, which would be \$8,000. A. Korzun seconded. Approved.

S. Nicholson said we need to get the new ballot box installed and secured.

Review Minutes: A. Korzun made a motion to accept the 5/18/2022 Selectboard meeting minutes. Seconded by S. Nicholson. Approved.

Review Orders: F. Wyatt made a motion to approve Selectboard Orders #6 for \$4,750.79 and Road Orders #6 for \$10,297.78. Seconded by S. Nicholson. Approved.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:36pm

Respectfully submitted, Francis Wyatt

These minutes are unofficial until approved by the Selectboard at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

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### June 15, 2022: Selectboard Meeting Minutes

Present at meeting: Selectboard members: Aaron Korzun, Francis Wyatt, Steven Nicholson. Road Commissioner: Jamie Carrara. Auditors: Rich Biziak, Sandy Bragg. Fire Dept: Barry Griffith. Tree Warden: Gary Salmon. Conservation Commissioner: Cynthia Thornton. Lister: Sharon Winnicki. Treasurer: Linda McGuire. Town Clerk: Megan LaChance.

Members of the Public: Gerry Martin, Chryl Martin.

The meeting was convened at 6:30pm

**Agenda:** Motion made by A. Korzun to follow the agenda with the following additions: Read Cashel letter and Authorization for the Treasurer to borrow funds. S. Nicholson seconded. All in favor, motion approved.

**Emerald Ash Borer (EAB):** The demise of our Ash trees is just a matter of time, unless inoculated. We only have to deal with the potentially hazardous trees. Sharon Winnicki would like for us to inoculate some of the trees. Trees that are already diseased are more expensive to cut because they are hazardous. Should look into whether ARPA funds could be used to remove or inoculate trees. Inoculation only lasts for two years. GMP will only deal with the trees after there has been EAB presence identified in town. Gary has a tree inventory, but not in computer format. Cynthia Thornton offered to help get it into Excel format.

Unrelated to the EAB issue, Gary Salmon provided a list of tree work that is needed on Town property.

**Parcel Mapping:** A. Korzun made a motion to approve the Cartographic Associates, Inc. (CIA Technologies) Tax Map Maintenance Proposal. S. Nicholson seconded. Approved.

**Kinsman Hill Repeater:** Lease has been transferred to the new owners (Ott). A. Korzun suggests that we renew the lease for another 10 years in September when the current lease expires. The other Selectboard members agree.

**ARPA Funds:** We currently have the following possible ideas for ARPA funds (\$293,844):

1. Digitizing land records
2. Town copier/printer/scanner
3. Website improvement
4. Solar panels on town buildings
5. Culverts
6. Broadband for parts of town not served by VTel
7. Pierce's Coop revenue losses
8. Library inability to fund raise due to COVID - \$8,852.
9. Fire Dept for first responder personal protective equipment to address COVID issues.
10. Remove or inoculate Ash trees in hazardous areas.
11. Town office audio visual (AV)
12. Upgrade to Kinsman Hill Repeater
13. Meeting House ventilation system
14. Town Office internet upgrade



# SHREWSBURY SELECTBOARD MINUTES

(continued)

It's unclear whether non-municipal organizations can qualify for ARPA funds unless they indicate specifically what the funds will be spent on. This needs to be clarified.

**Town Statement Audit - RFP:** Rich Biziak has provided a revised RFP for the Town Statement Audit. RFP response deadline by August 15, 2022. Request an update halfway through the process? No, but ensure that there is plenty of time to discuss with the auditors. Rich will provide a revised RFP before the Selectboard's next meeting.

**Town Website:** We're back to needing to find a website developer. Ahmet is no longer interested. Megan will attend a video conference being held by another website host targeted to Vermont towns. Make sure that we own the data on our town website.

**New Business:** A. Korzun made a motion to authorize the Treasurer to borrow funds as needed to pay bills from the reserve funds to be paid back with interest, until taxes are collected. S. Nicholson seconded. Approved.

Aaron Korzun read a letter from the Cashels to the Selectboard regarding parties at their property. The letter stated that they are only having parties for friends and family and not receiving compensation.

**Review Minutes:** A. Korzun made a motion to accept the 6/1/2022 Selectboard meeting minutes. Seconded by S. Nicholson. Approved.

**Review Orders:** F. Wyatt made a motion to approve Selectboard Orders #6a for \$10,549.53 and Road Orders #6a for \$55,861.51. \$47,446.94 is transfer from equipment reserve fund for John Deere lease payment. Seconded by S. Nicholson. Approved.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:29pm

*Respectfully submitted, Francis Wyatt*  
*These minutes are unofficial until approved by the Selectboard at the next regularly scheduled meeting.*  
*Editor's Note: The minutes have been edited for brevity but not content. For complete minutes, go to the Town website [www.shrewsburyvt.org](http://www.shrewsburyvt.org)*

## SHREWSBURY BROADBAND COMMITTEE NEWS

Shrewsbury is one of eighteen towns of the Otter Creek Communications Union District (OCCUD) which is organized to expand broadband services to unserved and underserved addresses in its member towns.

### Update on Otter Creek CUD's activities:

OCCUD recently received two responses to its Request for Proposals for a partner to provide Broadband services via fiber optic cable to underserved locations in the OCCUD's member towns. The proposals are currently under review. The company proposing to partner with OCCUD to provide broadband services to the underserved locations in Shrewsbury is Consolidated Communications Inc. (CCI); their fiber internet service goes by the name of "Fidium."

There are still some inaccuracies as to the eligible and underserved addresses in Shrewsbury as well as in some other towns. The Shrewsbury Broadband Committee is working on getting this corrected.

### Internet Speed Tests Results:

Thank you to all who responded to the request in the May Times of Shrewsbury to test internet speeds. Although the number of tests reported was limited, the pattern is very clear:

(Speeds in Mbps, higher is better)

| Provider     | Avg Download | High Download | Low Download | Average Upload | High Upload | Low Upload |
|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|------------|
| Consolidated | 5.32         | 9.86          | 0.37         | 0.76           | 0.96        | 0.22       |
| Vtel         | 197.41       | 528.67        | 14.04        | 282.68         | 784.04      | 3.54       |
| Comcast      | 284.76       | 449.28        | 105.53       | 55.73          | 116.00      | 23.20      |

On download, second place Vtel is, on average, 37 x as fast as CCI. A one minute Vtel download would take 37 minutes for a CCI user, a 10 download would take 370 minutes (over six hours).

(Ping in ms) Ping is a method of determining the amount of time it takes for data to travel between two devices or across a network. Lower is better, faster

| Provider     | Avg Ping | Low Ping | High Ping |
|--------------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Consolidated | 62.37    | 21.00    | 236.00    |
| Vtel         | 27.27    | 3.00     | 155.00    |
| Comcast      | 17.36    | 15.00    | 22.00     |

|                    |           |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Excellent Ping     | < 30 ms   |
| Average Ping       | 30-50 ms  |
| A Little Slow Ping | 50-100 ms |
| Slow Ping          | 100-500   |

*Submitted by Laura Black and Alan Shelvey*

We Need You To  
drive us to school

our happy students  
are nice, respectful,  
have calm bodies  
and will draw you  
pictures.



Apply  
on  
School  
Spring!

\$26-\$30/  
hour CDL  
drivers  
licence  
needed.

The district is really short on bus drivers right now, and it's been causing problems for the kids getting to school; so my third graders created this poster to try to recruit some bus drivers. ~Carrie Clancy, third grade teacher at Shrewsbury Mountain School





## SHREWSBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Your Fire Department always welcomes a spell without emergencies requiring our response. Even in those times, there are always things to do. Fire Chief Phil Severy has been busy – among other things -- attending meetings regarding anticipated coming changes in the radio dispatch system for first responders in our part of the State. We will explore that situation more in a future article.



In Phil's absence, former Fire Chiefs Kevin Brown and Russ Carrara organized and ran a useful drill at Northam School. Our Junior Firefighters – Phil Severy Jr., Ethan Severy and Dylan Thomas participated, as did newer members Hal Niblack and Mark Goodwin. Dan Cavato, a member of Mt. Holly's Fire Department and Shrewsbury Highway Department – assisted in the drill (as he often does at emergency calls) by running the pumps. The exercise was an opportunity for all to practice dumping water from the tanker and using the fire engine to pump the water through attack hoses to its target. Drills like this allow newer members to learn firefighting skills from seasoned veterans, as well as permitting experienced members to keep up those skills.



No prior experience is necessary to join our Fire Department – become a member and we will train you at drills like this.

Maintenance of our equipment is important to make sure it is in working order when an emergency strikes. This past month volunteer drivers took our four fire trucks to Earle's for their annual inspections and maintenance. Members also inventoried older equipment stored at the town garage in the Center, disposing of outdated items. We hosted a fire truck manufacturer's representative as part of our truck committee's ongoing efforts to find the best option for eventual replacement of the pumper at Cuttingsville Station. That engine has served us well for 22 years but won't last forever. We must prepare for the time when it is no longer a reliable emergency vehicle.

Department members will be gathering soon for our annual review of hiking trail hazard areas and access points. Every year hundreds of people pass through Shrewsbury on foot. Some are hiking from Massachusetts to Canada on Vermont's Long Trail, others from Georgia to Maine on the longer Appalachian Trail. This is the time of year when the bulk of those hikers begin to pass through Shrewsbury. With that volume of traffic, accidents are inevitable. When a hiker calls 911, the local fire department is dispatched to answer the call.

We want to be ready for any emergency – including calls like these. That is why we do this training.

This past month we bid farewell to past member Bob Gould. In SVFD's early decades Bob, together with brothers-in-

law Duane and Herb Carrara, teamed up to provide a prompt and professional response from the Department's Northam Station. Members attended the graveside service at Northam Cemetery and erected a tent for the reception which followed. Rest in peace, Bob. To the rest of you: Enjoy the summer and

**BE FIRE SAFE.**

*Submitted for SVFD by Barry Griffith*

## Explore the Northeastern Trails of Shrewsbury!

Come for an easy hike with the SCC up into Jeffords State Forest

**Saturday, July 9**

**8:30 – 10:00am**

**Meet at the Brown Bridge at 8:30**

for a lovely walk along a bubbling stream.

Be sure to wear protective tick gear and bring water.

Most ages welcome! Questions?

Contact Weezie 492-3327 or vtzipity@gmail.com





# SHREWSBURY LIBRARY

Library News Submitted by Joan Aleshire

## LIBRARY & FOOD SHELF HOURS

Monday 10am - 12 pm

Tuesday 7pm -9pm

Wednesday 10 am - 5pm and 7 pm - 9pm

Thursday 7pm - 9pm

Friday 10am - 12pm

Saturday 10am - 12pm

\*\*\* MASKS: We're keeping them on for now, and thank you for doing so too, when in the building.

\*\*\* We are looking for a STUDENT TRUSTEE to join our Board. If you are interested in helping with Young Adult book selection and programming; are a student in grades 7 through 12 who can: meet with the Young Adult Committee; attend most trustees' meetings (the second Tuesday of each month at 7pm.); and help staff during library hours occasionally, we would like to hear from you. Please contact a member of the Nominating Committee:

Gail Hartigan: [scgthartigan@vermontel.net](mailto:scgthartigan@vermontel.net)

Trish Norton: [knsh@vermontel.net](mailto:knsh@vermontel.net)

Lisa Sharow: [cutsvil@vermontel.net](mailto:cutsvil@vermontel.net)

We understand how busy middle and high school students are, and will work with you to find ways that you can help the Library serve you and others your age. THANKS!

\*\*\* MANY THANKS to the VERMONT DEPARTMENT of HEALTH for the Baby Carrier/Backpack that parents and caregivers can borrow to use at a state park or for hikes around town. Please come to the Library to check it out!

\*\*\* MANY THANKS to HENRY TITTERTON for making the CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS SUGGESTION BOXES, to be found at the Library, Pierces' and the Outdoor Concerts. Please give us your ideas and sign up if you can help!

## Coming Events (Save the Dates):

Friday, August 5 @ 7pm: (Reservations required): Vermont filmmaker NORA JACOBSON returns to Shrewsbury with her documentary about former VT Poet Laureate, RUTH STONE. We'll meet in the Library Meeting Room, masked and distanced. Space is limited; please e-mail [joanaleshire@vermontel.net](mailto:joanaleshire@vermontel.net) to reserve your place. Please see Sandy Bragg's article elsewhere in this issue of The Times for details. Many thanks, Sandy!

Saturday, August 27: Time TBA: ANNUAL STREET DANCE with MARCOS LEVY and THE SHREWSBURY COMMUNITY BLUES BAND @ THE TOWN HALL/MEETING HOUSE. Details to come!

## Continuing Programs:

Sunday, July 17 @ 4pm: FAMOUS BOOKS BOOK CLUB: The Overstory by Richard Powers. Please join us for a discussion of this recent Pulitzer Prize-winning novel concerned with the interaction of humans and natural worlds.

Sunday, July 24 @ 7pm: SCIENCE BOOK CLUB: Best American Science and Nature Writing 2021. Print and e-books will be available. Please let Margery Salmon know your preference: [salmonm@vermontel.net](mailto:salmonm@vermontel.net).

## New Books include:

- *The Lioness*: the new novel by Vermont writer Chris Bohjalian.
- *The High Sierra: A Love Story*: A history, geography, and environmental appreciation, by Kim Stanley Robinson, noted science fiction writer.
- *Two Nights in Lisbon*: A new spy novel by Chris Pavone.
- *Cuba: An American History* by Ada Ferrer: A Pulitzer Prize-winning study of this intriguing island.
- *This Will Not Pass: Trump, Biden, and the Battle for America's Future* by Jonathan Martin and Alexander Burns: An account of events from January 6 to the Inauguration, by two New York Times investigative journalists.
- *Give Unto Others* (a Commissioner Guido Brunetti mystery) by Donna Leon: An armchair trip to Italy with an engaging sleuth!

## New DVDs:

- *The Handmaid's Tale: Seasons 3 & 4*
- *Licorice Pizza*: directed by Paul Thomas Anderson: An autobiographical coming-of-age film from the director of Boogie Nights and Magnolia.



## Red Ribbons = Invasives!

(Left) You might see red ribbons streaming from the greenery along our roads, and those ribbons = invasive plant patches that Pam Darrow and her team of invasive eradicators intend to remove. When the plants are removed, the ribbons are removed too! (Can't see the ribbon? Look at the photo in **COLOR** online at [www.Shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.Shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com))

(Right) The Conservation Commission is fortunate to have the help of Henry and Fred Titterton to pull garlic mustard invasive plants...lots of them! ~Chryl Martin





## BOOK REVIEWS

- \*\*\*\*\* *Fantastic*
- \*\*\*\* *Compelling page turner*
- \*\*\* *Enjoyable*
- \*\* *Just O.K.*
- \* *Not recommended*

### Entangled Life

How fungi make our worlds, change our minds,  
& shape our futures  
by *Merlin Sheldrake*

★★★★★

Sounds like a steamy romance novel, doesn't it? Actually, it may well be. Seriously. An example: Lichens are fungus plus alga = shot gun marriage! Entangled Life is an amazing little paperback, chock-full of incredible facts about fungi. Remember the childhood chant, "There's fungus among us?" Now, I understand how remarkably prescient that was!

Fungi have not received the attention that we have given to animals and plants, even though they number 3.8 million species, six to ten times the estimated number of plant species. Also, actual fungal accomplishments would take months to recite. We are only just beginning to understand the intricacies and sophistication of fungal lives. Although fungi have been lumped together with plants, they are more closely related to animals. The author cites this as "an example of the kind of category mistake that researchers regularly make in their struggle to understand fungal lives."

There are many things I would like to share with you, but space is limited. Lichens turn out to be really something. They can tolerate outer space, and one lichen in Swedish Lapland is more than 9,000 years old! Lichens are called "extremophiles." I will start looking at them in a more respectful light.

Most plants depend on fungi for nutrients from the soil, and plants are actually socially networked by fungi--called the "wood wide web" by Mr. Sheldrake! "Mycorrhizal" is the name of the fungal root, and "hyphae" is the name of each branching filament. "Mycelium" is ecological connective tissue, the living seam by which much of the world is stitched into relation. Mycorrhizal mycelium is a sticky living seam that holds soil together; remove the fungi, and the ground washes away. Unsustainable agricultural practices using antifungal chemicals reduce the ability of plants to form relationships with the beneficial fungi on which they depend. In fact, agricultural practices have ravaged the underground communities that sustain the life we eat. How fortunate we are in Shrewsbury and elsewhere in the state to have our wonderful farmers growing our food in the best possible, respectful way.

Fungi have persisted through Earth's five major extinction events--each of which eliminated between 75 to 95% of species on the planet. Fungi are some of the best-qualified organisms for environmental remediation. The dense network of mycelium can even be used to filter polluted water and can sop up heavy metals like a sponge. This is one of the ways that fungi might help save the world to restore contaminated ecosystems. Fungi are harvesting the energy emitted by radioactive particles in Chernobyl. After Hiroshima was destroyed by the bomb, the first living thing to emerge from the devastation was a matsutake mushroom. I could go on....

*Reviewed by Marilyn Dalick*

## SHREWSBURY MEETINGHOUSE OUTDOOR CONCERT SERIES

Please bring a \$ contribution of any amount and your own seat, or listen from your car. Your contributions benefit the musicians and the historic Shrewsbury Meeting House.

For more info, please call Vicky or Paul at 492-3649



### YANKEE CHANK

**Sunday, July 10 @ 5pm**

*(Rain date: TBA)*

Since 1996, this VT group has been performing traditional Cajun music from the heart of southwest Louisiana. Using fiddle, accordion, drums, guitar and bass, they offer a distinctive immersion into this unique regional music. The audience will be invited to learn Cajun and Zydeco dance steps and we'll have a dance party! Marble Valley Kitchen is back with Gumbo and other treats!



### STONE DOG

**Saturday, July 23 @ 5pm**

*(Rain date July 24 @ 5pm)*

Shrewsbury's own Silas Hamilton returns to us with his trio from Durango, CO that effortlessly merges jazz, old time and bluegrass classics. Silas' bandmates Alex Graf and Tony Holmquist join him on vocals and feature their expert command of the bass, mandolin, guitar, banjo and fiddle. La Catrina will be on site offering up Mexican/Baja California cuisine!



### HERMIT HOLLOW

**Saturday, July 30 @ 5pm**

*(Rain date Sunday, July 31 @ 5pm)*

Last year they joined us and were a big hit! Steeped in old time and traditional bluegrass music, with strong and saucy vocals and featuring tight musicianship on bass, mandolin, fiddle and guitar. Vermont Bliss will be there with tasty food while you listen.



# Shrewsbury Historical Society

www.shrewsburyhistoricalsociety.com

SHS is awakening after its two and a half years of Covid isolation. The museum will be open on Sunday afternoons from 1-3 p.m., from July 3 until October 30 and also by appointment. Please call Brian Winkler, our President, at 802-492-3324, for an appointment.

SHS also invites folks to come to our next meeting at the museum, on June 26, at 1 pm. We'd love to see our members again and also welcome people who would like to be members.

Barry Griffith, of the Laurel Glen Association, will be there to share updates on a special event in Cuttingsville, which will happen on August 6. The festivities will feature the John P. Bowman mansion (known as Laurel Hall) and the Laurel Glen cemetery, across the road from the mansion. The Old Vermont Cemetery Association will arrive at 9 a.m. on August 6 to begin restoration and clean-up of the cemetery, which includes a greenhouse as well as the spectacular mausoleum built by John Bowman for his family and himself after his wife's death in 1879. Volunteers are invited to help the Old Vermont Cemetery Association with the clean-up of the cemetery.

At noon on August 6, the SHS museum, as well as the Bowman mansion and the mausoleum, will be open for visitors. Barry Griffith and others will happily explain the history and drama of Laurel Glen, including the strange story of John Bowman himself (tanner and maker of leather boots and saddles for the U.S. government during the Civil War). Docents, some dressed in 19th century costume, will be there to guide you on a tour of the mansion.



In June, continuing a tradition started three years ago, the Historical Society gave each student in the graduating class of grade 6 at the Shrewsbury Mountain School a copy of *Shrewsbury, Vermont, Our Town As It Was*, by Dawn Dashner Hance, who was once a student in Shrewsbury herself. The SHS sends greetings to all the students, teachers, staff, volunteers and parents at the Shrewsbury Mountain School. We hope to see you at the museum this summer and fall. We also salute the various school celebrations that happened this month, including Trout Release Day, climbing Shrewsbury Peak, Field Day, a student concert, Achievement Awards, Graduation Day and Moving Up Day. Also, a big thank you to all the cub reporters who shared their writing and drawing in the Times of Shrewsbury. Shrewsbury's history continues. Best wishes for a great summer vacation!

*Grace Brigham and Penelope Weiss  
for the Shrewsbury Historical Society*

## WANTED Town Auditor

The Shrewsbury Board of Auditors is responsible for reviewing the financial statements for the Town of Shrewsbury, and preparing the Annual Report.

- Interested in serving the community?
- Comfortable working with Microsoft Excel?

If so, this might be an opportunity to serve the town!

If you can balance a check book you can handle the town's auditing tasks. Accounting experience would be a plus but not necessary. We can provide instruction and work sheets to help guide you.

Compensation is available.

For more information, please contact either:

Rich Biziak, [auditshrewsbury@gmail.com](mailto:auditshrewsbury@gmail.com)  
(802-492-2255)

or

Sandy Bragg, [sandy.bragg@gmail.com](mailto:sandy.bragg@gmail.com)  
(802-492-2143)

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Sun is solstice high  
 Summer time welcomed by all  
 Winter Memories

Haiku and Photo by John O'Dowd

### About Haiku

For some time I have dabbled in Haiku. For those who don't know, it is a traditional form of Japanese poetry. It deals primarily with nature and emotions, and limits itself to a strict format. When brought to the West and translated into English it settled into a standard format composed of three lines of seventeen total syllables; no titles, capitals, or punctuation. Reading a translated haiku you might notice that the count is not the same. Translated syllables are not the same: In Traditional Western/American haiku: The first line has five syllables; the second seven syllables and the third line five syllables. The first two lines build to, and transition to the subject in the third line. I have taken some liberties with the nature and emotion, but tried very hard to maintain the Western 3 lines, and 17 total syllables.

In Japanese tradition, there is often competition. Someone selects a subject or "prompt" and the competitors write verses based on that subject. Haiku does not have titles for the poems, and is rarely used to augment art. I cheat just a little. As my "prompt" I use "Shrewsbury", and use haiku to "compliment" photographs of the community that I take on my wanderings. I try to make everything local and seasonal.

If you are interested in haiku I cannot do better than recommend *Basho, The Complete Haiku*. Translated by Jane Reichhold and published by Kodansha USA, Inc. (available on Amazon). Matsuo Basho, writing in the 17th Century, was a true master of the form and words. One of my favorites:

"in full bloom  
 may the plum not be touched  
 by the wind's hand"

Submitted by John O'Dowd  
 (Editor's Note: John's haiku and photographs in Shrewsbury will be featured each month in the Times for us all to enjoy.)



### When You Should and Should Not Rescue Baby Birds

As I write this, I have just come inside from nearly stepping on a baby Robin fledgling! How do I know what to do or what not to do? First of all, let me say that I am not an expert on birds, and certainly not a wildlife rehabilitator, but I have received a couple of calls from neighbors recently, concerned with what they should do with the baby bird they found in the road, on the lawn, etc. It is the time for baby birds to hatch and fledge (grow feathers big enough for flying), and I share that concern of what to do also, but I always turn to the experts. It can be difficult to keep your parental instincts in check, but in some cases, you should, as it may be best for the birds themselves. Here's an excerpt from an Audubon Society article by Benji Jones. To read the full article, go to <https://www.audubon.org/news/when-you-should-and-should-not-rescue-baby-birds>.

*Is the bird a nestling or a fledgling?*

*When you come across a rogue baby, first determine its age. And there's one obvious sign: feathers. While fledglings are larger and covered almost completely in down and feathers, nestlings are small and typically naked—or with just a few fluffs. In other words, one looks like an awkward young bird, and the other kind of looks like a pink little alien.*

*If you've found a healthy fledgling: Walk away from the bird. Rescuing healthy fledglings is not only unnecessary, but it can be detrimental to their development. "When raised by hand, babies might confuse humans as their parents and if that happens, they don't know how to be a bird", says Rita McMahon, Co-Founder and Director of the Wild Bird Fund, a nonprofit animal rehab center in New York.*



*If you've found a nestling: Help. First, look for the baby's nest in the nearby bushes or trees; if you find it, simply put the chick back and*

*the parents will resume care. And don't worry about touching the bird: The idea that once you've touched a baby bird it will be rejected is not true, says Susan Elbin, director of conservation and science at New York City Audubon. "Birds have a sense of smell, but it's not very well developed," Elbin says. "They're not going to abandon their chick."*

*If the nest is nowhere to be found or simply out of reach, just craft one yourself. Find a small container, like a strawberry basket, and load it with a scrap of T-shirt or some straw—anything dry will do. Gently place the youngling inside, and affix the artificial nest in a tree close to where the bird was found and as high up as possible.*

For more info on determining if the bird is sick, wounded or at risk, read the full article

~Photo by Chryl Martin; Article by Vicky Arthur;



## Invasive Gets a New Name: Spongy Moth

If you've driven recently on Route 4 from Castleton to Rutland, you couldn't help but notice that several of the mountains along that path are denuded of leaves. The culprit? The *Lymantria dispar*, an invasive moth that causes significant damage to trees in the eastern United States, now known as the "spongy moth." Previously, the insect's common name, "gypsy moth." In 2021, the ESA (Entomological Society of America) officially stripped the moth of its name and created new rules for naming insects that "no longer allow references to ethnicities, races, or people groups." The term Spongy describes the surface of the egg masses left on tree bark over the winter.



Respect • Protect • Enjoy



This invasive insect accidentally escaped from the home and lab of a Dr. Trouvelot in 1869, who brought the moths from Eurasia to Medford, MA to see if they could be developed into an alternative to the silk moth. Since then, spongy moth has spread throughout the Northeast and well beyond, munching their way among many tree types. Last year, the insects caused a significant amount of defoliation in Vermont and all indications are that the same will occur this year. Fortunately, the infestations do not generally kill the trees, but do stress them, especially if repeated for several years.

I've noticed that spongy caterpillars particularly enjoy my apple trees so this year I've taken the advice of experts and am trying a trapping method to prevent defoliation. There are several



YouTube videos demonstrating how to wrap the sticky side of duct tape around trunks to prevent the caterpillars from reaching the leafy portions of the tree.

Vtinvasives.org suggests wrapping an 18" strip of burlap around the tree at chest height. Then tie a string around the center of it and fold the top portion down to form a skirt, with the string acting as a belt. With both methods you have to pick off the caterpillars daily and dispose of them by submerging them into a container with soapy water.

You can get a safe biopesticide called BTK to spray in two applications that will kill the early larva but this is not effective after mid-June but may be something to consider next year. A way to prevent attack for next year is to take a walk past trees you are concerned about in fall and winter to look for the tan egg masses that lie flat against the trees through the winter to hatch in May. Use a scraper to remove the masses and submerge them into a bucket of soapy water to be destroyed (not onto the ground where they can still hatch).

Hey, here's another thing I didn't know! If you are traveling out of state from a location within the spongy moth quarantine area, which includes the entire state of Vermont, to a location outside the quarantine area, you must inspect your outdoor household items, like outdoor furniture, ladders, etc for the gypsy moth and remove all life stages of this destructive insect before you

move says the US Department of Agriculture. <https://www.upack.com/articles/how-to-check-for-spongy-moths-before-you-move>

~Article by Louise Duda

## It's Okay to Interrupt Garlic Mustard!

I know it's rude to interrupt, but surely, we've all experienced that person who hogs the conversation and goes on and on with no end in sight. Well, some plants are like that! All plants tell a self-promoting tale, lovely leaves and enticing flowers designed to ensure reproductive success

What we refer to as "invasive" plants hog this conversation between sun and soil, preventing others from speaking up. Perhaps both boorish person and plant may be interrupted without guilt! Interruption at any point in the growth process will mean that the plant cannot go on and on. When we remove invasive plants, we are freeing up space for the wonderful riot of flower and fruit that has evolved to live in our special corner of Earth.

This year we have had help from a number of great volunteer invasive "interrupters", including several charming young folk! Fred and Henry Titterton have been enthusiastic defenders of Coolidge State Forest and other woodlands, while Davis Rudisill has joined the SCC as a junior member and garlic mustard interrupter. We are happy to have this infusion of youth energy and encourage any kids who'd like to help to let their parents know they want to be in on this!

Here is a piece Davis wrote about his experiences:

"When pulling garlic mustard with Pam and Carrie, I learned that when a garlic mustard falls down, the seeds can be transported somewhere else by birds, vehicles, wind, etc. to make more garlic mustard. I also learned the process of pulling garlic mustard, which involves picking the flowers off the top and putting them in a bucket to get disposed of so the seeds don't spread. Then you loosen the soil around the stem and pull it out of the ground carefully. Then you snip off the roots and scatter the stems and roots on the side of the dirt road to dry and get driven over. Last but not least, I learned that garlic mustard is invasive to the state of VERMONT!" Sincerely, Davis R.



As always, I am available to answer questions and concerns about invasive plants, to the best of my ability. When calling, you will have to endure an answering machine, but the answering person will get back to you.

*Pam Darrow - Shrewsbury Conservation Committee, keeping Shrewsbury wild and free!*

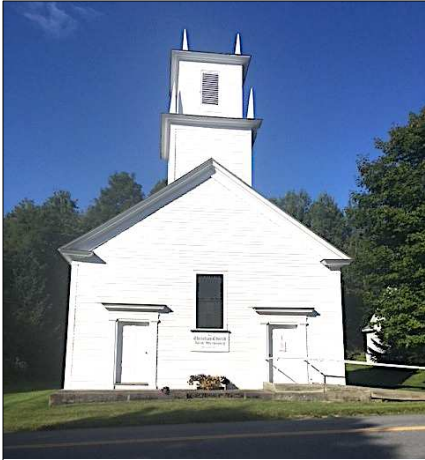
## The Shrewsbury Community Church



Compiled by Sue Ransom-Kelley

What happens in July you ask?

The Shrewsbury Community Church moves to Northam for July and August! The Church in Northam is the little white church with the tall steeple next to the town office and just around the corner from Pierce's Store on the Cold River Road in North Shrewsbury.



Our July 3 Service will be sure to include your favorite patriotic music played on our historic Estey Pump Organ! It will surely be a treat you don't want to miss!

Everyone is welcome to visit this historic meeting house where we can gather to sit and reflect in the peace and calm, feeling the connection with people from

previous centuries as well as our own pasts. The building was constructed 180 years ago and has been preserved in its original condition, without electricity, heat or water. We continue to use the original oil lamps and candles as light sources, in addition to the sun which shines through small colored pieces of glass which line the windows.

The Shrewsbury Community Church Welcomes all Visitors. Stop by the Northam Church any Sunday at 10:30 am. The sanctuary is large enough to easily maintain safe social distancing. It is always uplifting! We can meditate in the quiet and beauty of the sanctuary, enjoy the beautiful organ and piano music, and hear an uplifting message from our Pastor Wendy Savery. Refreshments are served following services. You may also request the virtual service at roxramah@gmail.com.

### Community Food Shelf

Free Community Food Shelf at the Library in the front entry way. Those in need are welcome to help themselves any time the Library entryway is open. Limited hours are: Mon 10am-12noon; Tues 7pm-9pm, Wed 10am-5pm; 7pm-9pm, Th 7pm-9pm, Friday 10am-12noon & Saturday 10am-12noon.

We have our additional Summer Food Shelf on the side porch at Pierces Store in North Shrewsbury. Those in need are welcome to help themselves.

Food Delivery and Assistance If you are unable to get to the Food Shelf at the library in Shrewsbury, we will deliver groceries to you. If you need items which are not available on the shelf we can provide grocery gift cards. Call Karen at 802-558-5991 or Sue at 802-661-8399 or 802-492-3738.

## Community Church Calendar

•Sunday, June 26 @ 10:30am – Worship Service led by Wendy Savery, at the Center Church

**\*\*NOTE: Sunday Worship Services will move to the Northam Church in North Shrewsbury for July and August.\*\***

•Sunday, July 3 @ 10:30am – Worship Service and Holy Communion led by Wendy Savery

•Sunday, July 10 @ 10:30am – Worship Service led by Wendy Savery

•Sunday, July 17 @ 10:30am – Worship Service leader to be determined

•Sunday, July 24 @ 10:30am – Worship Service led by Wendy Savery

•Sunday, July 31 @ 10:30am – Worship Service led by Wendy Savery

### Community Needs

Wedding, Funeral or Memorial Service Requests: Contact Donna Smith 802-492-3367 or Sue Kelley 802-492-3738, 802-661-8399.

Community Helping Hand Requests: Contact Donna Smith 802-492-3367 or Sue Kelley 802-661-8399, 802-492-3738 or Karen Lorentz 802-558-5991. Shrewsbury residents experiencing financial hardship. Assistance can be given for basic needs such as food, heating, gasoline, etc. If you or a neighbor are in need please let us know!

Pastoral Care, Home, Hospital Visitation, Outreach Requests: Contact Roxanne Ramah 802-492-3675 or Ruth Kinne 802-775-5318.



Swallow Tail Butterflies love Lavinia's garden after a rain.  
Photo by Lavinia Seide





Jan O'Hara 802-492-8687 and Donna Swartz 802-773-7403 are the persons to call if you need home health equipment or, have equipment in good condition that you would like to donate.

A Personal Note: I've been involved with Living in Place since its' beginning and hope that some younger residents will step in with their energy, ideas, and organizational skills to help support this group!

In line with that, they say that all good things must come to an end and regretfully our 17 years in Shrewsbury will end this August. Our children and grandchildren are back in New Jersey, and we are moving to a senior living community close to them. To all who have made our time in Shrewsbury so memorable, thank you! We will miss you and this lovely, incredible town.

~Submitted by Judy and Jack Emerick



**Mark your calendar!  
Shrewsbury Day  
September 17, 2022**

### **'Vast Library of the Female Mind' Comes to Shrewsbury**

Vermont filmmaker Nora Jacobson will be screening her documentary 'Ruth Stone's Vast Library of the Female Mind' at the Shrewsbury Library on August 5 at 7pm. The film chronicles the poetry and life of Ruth Stone, a former Vermont Poet Laureate who formed much of her art from her hilltop home in Goshen, Vermont. "Ruth Stone's poems are mysterious, hilarious, powerful," wrote Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Sharon Olds. "She has a tragic deadpan humor: love and destruction are right next to each other."

Jacobson's interest in Ruth Stone began in 2009 when she was hired to film an interview with the ninety-four-year-old poet surrounded by her three adult granddaughters. To this initial kernel, Jacobson added verité footage of Ruth, interviews with her family, friends and fellow poets, and animation by granddaughter Bianca Stone, herself an accomplished poet and artist. Ruth Stone's house in Goshen also plays a starring role as it is transformed from a ramshackle farmhouse to a vibrant poetry center.

The Goshen home was very much a part of Ruth Stone's poetry. This excerpt from her poem 'Plumbing' celebrates a visit from a local plumber:  
"He is a god with wrenches;

a quiet young man  
using a flame torch.  
He solders the joints.

.....

And you admire him  
as you would Saint Francis,  
for his simple acceptance  
of how things are.

And the water comes like a miracle."

Stone's toilet, recipient of miracles, appears in the film while a family member tells how Stone gave the poem to the plumber as a gift.

Jacobson's 76-minute documentary, which premiered in Burlington VT last fall to a standing ovation, has won awards at the Literature in Cinema Festival and the New Jersey International Film Festival. Best known for initiating and editing the six-part 'The Vermont Movie', Jacobson, one of Vermont's leading filmmakers, will be joining the Shrewsbury screening of the film for Q&A afterwards.

Jacobson's documentary captures not only Ruth Stone's humor but also her resilience as a single mother after her husband, also a poet, committed suicide in 1959. "Ruth's life embodied the alchemical process of turning tragedy into art," said Nora Jacobson in an interview. "I want people to create their own images of her poetry in their minds when they hear her words or read her work."

Ruth Stone had a connection with Shrewsbury because one of her daughters was a resident at Spring Lake Ranch in the late 60's/early 70's. Jacobson also visited Spring Lake Ranch when she was researching her film "Nothing Like Dreaming", which was shown in Shrewsbury a few years ago.

The screening is sponsored and funded by the Shrewsbury Library. "Ruth Stone made a vibrant and defiant life and art out of personal loss and poverty. It's a privilege to experience this film and to hear from the filmmaker, Nora Jacobson."

Admission is free, but space is limited, and reservations are required. Please e-mail [joanaleshire@vermontel.net](mailto:joanaleshire@vermontel.net).

*Article by Sandy Bragg*



## Applying The Latest Climate Adaptation Science to Jockey Hill Farm in Shrewsbury

Back in mid-May UVM's Dr. Anthony D'Amato (Director of Forestry Program) joined us at Jockey Hill Farm to plant 160 climate resilient trees (nine species) including 50 American Chestnuts. Tony has been instrumental in introducing forest carbon sequestration and storage to Vermont and other New England states. The intent of planting these trees is to gradually transition our forest to include trees that are more resistant to the impacts of climate change such as higher temperatures, droughts, flash floods and invasive plants and insects. A natural transition of trees is expected to occur as more southern species move north. Our efforts intend to accelerate this transition.

Jockey Hill Farm is now one of a number of sites around the State where Tony is exploring this transition in different conditions. This effort at the farm was joined by my family, the American Forest Foundation, several consulting and county foresters, Farm and Wilderness, Redstart Consulting and Sustainable Woodstock. This is the sixth project at the farm to enhance carbon sequestration and storage to enable the land to become a more effective carbon sink (where carbon is stored instead of concentrating in our atmosphere where it accelerates climate change).

On the following weekend, Dr. Alexandra Kosiba, Vermont's Climate Forester, led a field trip at the Farm to assist landowners in understanding Forest Carbon Payment Programs such as the Family Forest Carbon Program (FFCP) in which I'm enrolled now and which is offered by the American Forest Foundation and The Nature Conservancy.

There are now seven companies conducting business in Vermont actively promoting managing forests for carbon and identifying carbon credits that can be sold on the California carbon market. Ali gave us all an in-depth understanding of what forest management practices landowners can pursue to enhance carbon sequestration and storage on their land, a number of which we're pursuing at Jockey Hill Farm. Ali has also been instrumental in establishing a five-lecture series on forest carbon which can be found at [www.northernforestcarbon.com](http://www.northernforestcarbon.com) (not to be confused with my group [www.northamforestcarbon.com](http://www.northamforestcarbon.com)).

Now for the fun. First, anyone in Shrewsbury is welcome to explore Jockey Hill Farm either with me, another family member or on their own. The farm is at 630 Coldham Rd off Upper Cold River Road. There's a Lucite box containing trail maps along with a welcome note at the bridge over to our cottage. Take and keep each if you so desire. I can be reached at 617-899-1011 or [stoutim@gmail.com](mailto:stoutim@gmail.com). I'm always happy to give one-on-one tours of the land.

Finally, I'm planning two field trips in July/early August to talk about how we're managing the land for a changing climate based on expert advice from around the country. More to come on the dates and content. I'm always available to talk with landowners about climate practices they can apply to their land to adapt to climate change. Just give me a call.

*~Submitted by Tim Stout*



## Shrewsbury Conservation Commission's Trail Camera Picture of the month



A May trail camera capture of a moose by Tom Papeika! The moose takes a close up look at the camera. Are moose recovering from their winter tick decline here in town? Please send me your moose sightings for our Wildlife Map!

Do you have a wildlife picture to share? A track for us to identify? Send your trail cam, phone or camera picture to Linda Shelvey, [Lpurdyshel@gmail.com](mailto:Lpurdyshel@gmail.com). Please include your location in your email, so we can include your location.

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### Baxter Beauties

They are living about three blocks apart and are almost twins in size and shape. One is on Maple Street (between Pine and Baxter) and the other is on Baxter (between Library and Park). There is actually a third one at the corner of Pine and Maple but it is smaller and not as easy to see. All three are Silver Maples, all are a living history to both Rutland City and H. Henry Baxter, and all defy the conventional thinking about what a yard tree should be.

What makes these trees interesting is their sheer size compared to others living in the area. They are huge silver maples approaching 4' in diameter and 100' tall and sitting right in the middle of the front yards of each house. They literally dwarf the houses that they share space with.



Of further interest is where they came from - planted or home grown - and that's where the history lesson starts. This area of Rutland is in flood plain and silver maples are native to flood plains so they could have gotten a start and just kept growing. On the other hand, there are many other silver maples around the city that have been planted as yard trees so that might have been a source as well.

Much of this area prior to becoming part of Rutland City had an agricultural history. Successful local businessman H. Henry Baxter and his brother John owned almost 300 acres of farmland in this area in the late 1800's. It was part of what was then called Maple Grove Farm that raised among other things sheep and race horses. The land eventually became the Rutland Country Club (brother John's holdings) and part of a rapidly expanding Rutland City. By the turn of the century houses were established and many more would follow. Baxter Street, Baxter Park, and the Rutland Jewish Center (originally the H. H. Baxter Memorial Library) stand today as testaments to this Rutland resident.



Back to the maples. While they are very large trees silver maples are extremely fast growing and can attain great size in less than a century. Silver maples are able to withstand flooding which aided them considerably during the 1927 and 1947 floods that devastated houses in this area. Being in a "lower" section of Rutland also helped them survive the Noricane of a few years ago plus more recent wind events. A tree growing as a yard tree should complement its surroundings including yard, house, and street. These trees continue on as healthy specimens but they have run out of growing space and their sheer size focuses attention to the tree and not to the house barely sharing yard space with them. Are they state record size for silver maple? The current state record lives in Brattleboro and is over two feet larger in diameter. And as for the case for how they originated, they both are growing right in the middle of a front yard suggesting that they were likely planted and date to when the house was built.

~Submitted by Gary Salmon, Tree Warden



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**Crown Point Road Association Outings**

**July 9:** As part of the annual weekend of events to celebrate the historic battle in Hubbardton, and as one of the event's regular attendees, the CPRA will have a booth on Saturday to meet visitors. Come attend the event and support your organization at the re-enactment. Admission fee for the weekend's events will be \$6 per person, per day. For more info, call the Battlefield Welcome Center at (802) 273-2282

**July 10:** Sunday afternoon, meet at 1pm at the Downer's Corner Store, located at the intersection of VT 106 & VT 131 in Weathersfield (area also known as Downers). There will be a combination auto and walking tour from CPR Markers #17 to #24. The tour will be led by long-time CPRA members Steve Aikenhead and Dennis Devereux. Contact Steve at stevea47@tds.net or Dennis at 802-259-2460.

**IRA Historical Society  
Roadside Marker Dedication & Re-enactment**

The Ira Vermont Historical Society will host a dedication ceremony on Saturday, July 30 at 2pm for the new Vermont Historic Site plaque describing the town's iconic eighteenth-century Ira Town Hall. The marker has been in place for two years and this is our long-awaited opportunity to celebrate. After the dedication, the Society's museum on the second floor of the Town Hall will be open to visitors for the first time.

Revolutionary War reenactors from the Massachusetts 3rd Regiment will have an encampment with a cooking demonstration, musket firing, and talks on period dress and food planned for the day. Light refreshment offered. For details visit <https://www.iravhs.com/home> or call Robert Kirbach at 802-235-2604.

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**SNO-BIRDS NEWS**

The Sno-Birds have been busy with the raffle and have sold almost all the 200 tickets already. We also have been getting materials together for our sign project and we have assembled the top pieces already. Our next work day will be Saturday July . That day we are planning to start setting the posts at the intersections. We also have planned our debrushing with Dave's excavator and brush head and small trail relocation on 407. I want to thank all that are helping with these projects and also with the raffle. For more info on any of these projects contact me @ 802-775-3406 or 802-779-5228 or one of our other members that you might know. ~Roy Arthur



**MOVING SALE**  
**186 Adams Rd Shrewsbury**  
**Saturday, June 25**  
**8 A.M. til ?**

**Furniture, china, crystal, clothing, linens, Blackstone gas griddle, lawn care equipment, small kitchen appliances, tools, stair chair**

Directions From Rt.7: 103 to left onto Lincoln Hill Rd., 1st left onto Adams Rd., bear left at the fork to 2nd house on right

**LIAMBRU TASTY BREWERY'S**  
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**at Pierce's Store Garage**

**FRIDAY, JULY 22**  
**4-6pm**



Shrewsbury's own Josh and Amy Ridlon bring some of their brews to Pierce's for your tasting pleasure. Brewed in nearby Proctor, VT, their creations have labels like Thug Duck, Sinister Surfer and Van Wicked.  
 Rain or Shine

**Shrewsbury Family Looking for a Piano**

Our children have been enjoying taking piano lessons for a while now and we have been dreaming of a piano of our own. If you are looking to rehome yours, give us a call. I am sure that we can arrange for a private concert :)

We don't know too much about what to look for in a used piano, so any help is appreciated!

Laurel, Everett, Cabot, Steve Spatz, and Sarah Bolster

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## MILL RIVER UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

The big news is that Summer is here! The last weeks of school were the usual hectic rush to finish up school work, go on field trips, attend end-of-year concerts, and celebrate the kids moving up and out of our little school to Mill River's halls and for the grads at MRU to celebrate their moving on and out into the world.

Shrewsbury is sending the following kids on to Mill River this fall:

**Kyrie Adamsen  
Bex Akin  
Emma Bilodeau  
Adelynne Cimonetti  
Dylan Collins  
Abbigail Dayton  
Ryan MacGregor  
Aydan Patterson  
Elizabeth Rayborn  
Cora Rudisill  
Sierra Seidler  
Ethan Yarwood**

The Moving Up ceremony was sweet as it always seems to be a few tears and lots of laughter.

Mill River's graduation was lovely with two Shrewsbury kids walking the stage:

**Liviana Adamsen  
Mitchel Mero**

represented us well. Sam Green attended and wanted me to share a few tidbits. The 8th graders "moved up" to play with the high school band and the advice to the grads for the evening came from kindergarteners via our departing MRU Principal, Tyler Weideman. "Always remember to be kind, be nice and be caring to people," he said. "Eat healthy food, like bananas, hot dogs and meatballs ... Always be generous. Share your toys. Be respectful by listening. ... Don't forget to wash your hands. ... Listen to your mommy and daddy. ... Reach for the sky. ... When people are bullied, speak up. ... Keep smiling every day. Laugh every day. If someone falls down, help them up. Make new friends. Try your best every day. ... Don't forget to change your underwear." Personally, I thought all of their advice was spot on and plan to follow it.

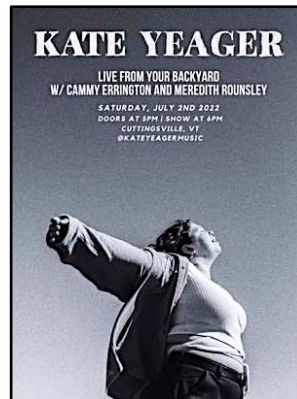
Next year we welcome many new faces in our Administration. I hope I don't forget anyone, but the list is so long this year.... Brian Hill will start officially as our new Superintendent; Bjorn Behrendt (who grew up in Town) is our new Technology Director; Kaelyn Thompson (who lives in Town), new Principal at MRU; Karen Stannard, new Vice Principal at MRU; Kristin Cimonetti, new principal at SMS (She lives in Town, too.); and Jane Richards, new principal at Clarendon. These new folks will build on systems that we've had in place and develop new ones where needed. They have big shoes to fill and lots of work to do to continue helping our students recover from the upheaval of the pandemic and get our school community back in the schools. If you have a chance to introduce yourself to any and all of them, I think you will be pleased that they all are excited to be part of the MRUUSD family and I believe will work hard for us and our students.

That's it for this month. Next month I hope to report on the summer projects that will be going on in our buildings and the work going on behind the scenes by our teachers and staff getting ready for the next school year. It will be here before you know it.

*Submitted by Adrienne Raymond and Sam Green.*

## FREE NEIGHBORHOOD CONCERT

Join us July 4th Weekend for our first annual Backyard Concert! We'll be hosting two incredibly talented musicians from 6pm-9pm Saturday, July 2 at our house in Cuttingsville. Returning to



VT while on tour, Kate Yeager of Nashville via NYC plays all original tunes with her guitar. Opening the night will be Rutland's own, Cammy Errington. Both have extremely fresh sounds and fresher material!

This event is open to the public. Bring a blanket or chair, snacks, and drinks to enjoy this neighborhood event. Dancing is encouraged! Facilities and parking are across the street at Wally's Corner. Address: 5299 VT-103, Cuttingsville, VT 05738 (brick house on the corner of Town Hill Rd.

*~Submitted by Hallie Muscente*

## PRIMARY ELECTION BECCA BALINT FOR U.S. REPRESENTATIVE

Senator Becca Balint from Brattleboro is running for the open seat to represent Vermont in the U.S. Congress. Becca is currently President Pro Tempore and was previously Majority Leader of the Vermont State Senate to which she was first elected in 2014.

She is an experienced Legislator who will represent us extremely well in Congress. Becca has a solid record of achievement in Montpelier in passing laws on housing, economic justice, reproductive freedom, and the environment, and she will be an effective leader on these and other issues in Washington.

Early and absentee ballots for the Primary Election on August 9 will be available from the Shrewsbury Town Office the week of June 27. Cast your ballot to send the most qualified candidate - **Becca Balint** - as our Representative to Congress.

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On June 3, We took our first step for a new and improved fruit orchard at Shrewsbury Mountain School! SAGE and SMS are working with “ReTreeUS”, a Maine-based non-profit that helps schools establish educational orchards.



Program Director Richard Hodges, met with Ms. Rice’s 2nd graders and Ms. Bonafine’s K-1 students to talk about tree siting and the ecology of orchard trees, and the students were loaded with great questions!



SMS will be getting 12 fruit trees along the edge of the baseball playing field. We’ll have honey crisp, Liberty, Black Oxford’s and maybe a peach or two to see how they fare in Shrewsbury.

SAGE will cardboard sheet mulch the tree sites and cover with compost that will begin to break down over the summer. ReTreeUS will be back in the fall to plant the trees before winter!

The trees may start producing fruit in 3-4 years. One student exclaimed, “I’ll be in 6th grade then!” to this news. We are excited to partner with this innovative non-profit on their first school orchard in Vermont!

For more information about SAGE: contact Stephen Abatiell at educate.sage@gmail.com, Joan Aleshire at 492-3550 or visit www.sagevt.wordpress.com. Follow us on Facebook for up to date event details at Shrewsbury SAGE.

*Submitted by Steve Abatiell*

## REINBOW RIDING NEWS

Thanks to the generally fine weather it’s been very busy at Rainbow Riding Center this spring. Riders from Rutland, Mt. Holly and Ludlow schools participated in the spring session. The Rutland High School students finished off their riding lessons with a ride through the fields at the Center, followed by a trail ride. We would like to thank GE Aviation and GE Volunteers for funding this program once again.

This is Rainbow’s second year at Stone Wall Farm in Belmont and we’re still planting daylilies and other perennials on the hillside below the ring. Thank you to everyone that has donated plants for this effort and helped get them in the ground. Hopefully it won’t be too long before we see the colorful result. We’d also like to thank everyone that has put returnable bottles and cans in our shed at the Mt. Holly transfer station.

A big welcome to our new Executive Director, Liz Karle. Liz joins Rainbow Riding after 8+ years of non- profit finance and management experience. She previously spent six years at Spring Lake Ranch in the business office, and two plus years as Finance Director at NeighborWorks of Western Vermont. Liz moved to Vermont around 10 years ago after growing up in Berkshire County, Massachusetts, and earning her bachelor’s degree at Bentley University in Waltham, MA. As of 2016, she completed her MBA and started a family in Mt. Holly. Liz has two small children, Maya (6) and Rhys (3), with her husband Adam. The family is rounded out by an Old English Sheepdog, Rhino, and three cats. We are excited to apply the experience that Liz brings to the program as we begin the next phase in our organization.

If you want to say hello, schedule a tour, ask any questions, or make a suggestion, you can always reach her at lizkarle@rainbowridingcenter.org or 413-652-5440. If you’re interested in becoming a volunteer, board member, partner, or donating, please visit us at rainbowridingcenter.org or on Facebook for more information.

The next (summer session) at Rainbow Riding begins after July 4. For more information about our programs or to sign up for lessons please check out our website: rainbowridingcenter.org And follow us on Facebook, Twitter @RainbowRiding and Instagram @rainbow\_riding\_center. Information: 802-236-2483 Email: programs@rainbowridingcenter.org

*~Submitted by Janet Upton*



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## DEAR MOTHER EARTH

*An Advice Column*

### Dear Mother Earth!

I'm so glad you're communicating with us and raising awareness about plastic pollution. I think we can do a lot better to avoid the use of plastic bags. Many of us are old enough to remember the days before plastic bags were invented. We did just fine without them, using paper, cloth and those knotted string bags. We did not have plastic garbage bags. We used paper grocery bags and lined the bottom with folded newspaper. My mother went even further with this and always emptied the bathroom waste basket (usually containing tissues) into the bottom too, as a liner. I still do this and always have.

We can all reuse the plastic bags we must buy. Those of us lucky enough to have animals usually must buy dog, cat, horse and wild bird food in large bags coated with plastic. Use those for the garbage pail instead of buying the big black trash bags. I can honestly say I have never purchased a plastic bag in my life, although I have reused bags others have given me.

Chock-Full-of-Nuts sells coffee in recyclable steel cans. It's a bit more expensive but worth it. Of course buying in bulk is always a great option, including dish and laundry detergent. You also can make your own dishwasher detergent, it works better than store bought. Look it up online. Thanks for giving me a chance to share some ideas. I'm always on a rant about this at home!,

*~Ranting Nancy from Shrewsbury*

### Dear Ranting Nancy,

I so appreciate hearing from you about your efforts to reduce plastic waste. I hear from lots of people who are trying very hard to reduce their plastic footprint. They too confess to ranting whenever it seems appropriate and sometimes even when it doesn't! Many who are pet owners, like you, also are frustrated at the lack of plastic-free pet food packaging. I would encourage you to check out Sundays For Dogs. This dog food appears to come in cardboard boxes. You can also buy canned dog and cat food. Many dog treats come in cardboard boxes as well. Choose these over plastic packaging every time!

Pet food packaging is, of course, only one of the problems with sustainable pet ownership. A large concern is the amount of protein cats and dogs consume. According to The Zero Waste Pet ([thezerowastepet.com](http://thezerowastepet.com)):

"In 2009, a book on sustainable lifestyles came out and claimed that pets' carbon pawprints are twice the size of gas-guzzling SUVs. In large part, the authors attributed that impact to diet...Producing

enough protein to feed the world is nearing the brink of impossibility, and our animals consume vast quantities of that protein." Shockingly, "The average European cat uses as many resources in his lifetime as the average African (human)," said Jason Clay of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) in a presentation to the Pet Sustainability Council. "With the dramatic, exponential growth in human population, that just isn't sustainable—or even possible. Or reasonable... Cats and dogs consume tons of meat. As we all know, the vast majority of meat production isn't done in a sustainable or humane manner, compounding the problem even further."

Pet owners have a responsibility to do their part to reduce the impact their pets are having both on the environment and on the health of other humans. Feed your pet less protein by adding vegetables to stretch their food, or consider insect protein (Jiminy's dog food). I would encourage all pet owners to visit The Zero Waste Pet website or The Pet Sustainability Coalition for many helpful suggestions on how to reduce your pet's impact on the health of the Earth. Begin by using plant-based bags to clean up your pets' messes, and forget about the plastic toys, a bone will serve the purpose better.

Please be the best pet owner you can be by committing to zero waste and sustainability in your pet owning practices! Just being more conscious about the impact each of your decisions has on our planet and on every other living creature will help. Be mindful, please! *~Ever Hopeful, Mother Earth*



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## NEWS FROM PIERCE'S STORE

**802-492-3326**

Bob Knudsen, Manager



**Pierce's Mugs  
now available in two sizes**

Happy Independence Day! We hope everybody is staying cool and enjoying their summer so far!

### JULY EVENTS

We have a number of events coming up this month! First up are our Friday Day Pie Days! We will have a limited number of pie slices available for sale on these days, courtesy of Margery Salmon and Judith Thomas. We also have a beer tasting as well as the annual Blueberry Festival! Here is the calendar of events:

- **Friday, July 1:** In honor of Independence Day, there will be Cherry Pie and Strawberry n' Rhubarb
- **Friday, July 15:** Peach Pie and Blueberry Pie featuring our own locally grown Shrewsbury's Blueberries
- **Friday, July 22, 4-6pm :** Beer tasting with Josh and Amy Ridlon with their very own brand of Liambu Tasty.
- **Friday, July 29:** We will have an extra special treat with Deedee Erb's delicious Rum Chiffon Pie, as well as a flourless Chocolate Torte for our gluten free friends
- **Saturday, July 30:** The Blueberry Festival, also featuring Shrewsbury's own blueberries from 11am until 2pm.

We are also planning to have Wilcox 802 Ice Cream Bars at some of the events.

### SURVEYS

We have received a lot of feedback surveys from everybody and are already starting to implement some of your suggestions where we can. Keep sending those in – we can only improve if we know what everybody wants! Of course, we may not be able to do everything that people suggest, but we are going to do everything we can to accommodate as many suggestions as possible.

### FRESH LOCAL FOODS

Do you love baked goods? Well, have we got some good news for you! Button Hill Bakery will now be delivering twice weekly, on Tuesdays and Saturdays to help keep up with increased demand! Brownies, Scones, Muffins, Turnovers and more! We are also planning to have some more baked goods made by our own talented Rob Jaimes, including cupcakes and other delectable treats! We are still working on the schedule for Rob's goodies, so stay tuned. Vermont Bliss is also going strong, increasing the amount of lunch foods on Tuesdays as well as bringing by a restock and some fresh items on Thursdays!

### BULKING UP

We have now begun to return certain bulk items to the store, starting with Rolled Oats and Steel Cut Oats! Some rices, sugars, and flours are soon to follow, and, as space allows, perhaps some other favorites. If there are some things you would like to see available in bulk, be sure to put that on your survey, or just come on by and let us know!

**As always, thanks for supporting local co-ops and businesses and we hope to see you in the store!**

## **BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL at Pierce's Store**

**SATURDAY, JULY 30  
11am-2pm**



July is National Blueberry Month and Pierce's is celebrating with a delectable assortment of blueberry creations for sale at the Garage, featuring locally grown blueberries.

Come join your fellow Shrewsberries!  
Rain or Shine.



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