

# Benson Bulletin

The Community Newsletter of Benson, VT- November 2022

## BENSON VILLAGE SCHOOL - Go BEARS!

After a beautiful start to fall, we watch as those last few leaves cling to the trees and the days get shorter. The students have been in school for 41 days at the start of this month and have enjoyed so many new experiences both in and outside of the classrooms! Girl Scouts is in full swing with both a Brownie and Girl Scout group meeting every Tuesday at BVS. Our 1st & 2nd Soccer Clinic was a tremendous success and we look forward to another partnership with parent volunteers in the spring. The K - 6 students enjoyed 8 weeks of yoga with Petra O'Neill from Petra's Wellness Studio and they continue monthly outings with Sandra Owens and her Funology.

Academic areas have been assessed and data is being continually analyzed for both classroom instructional needs and intervention groupings. STAR 360, Lexia and Bridges Number Corner allow teachers to monitor student understanding, growth and proficiency in the areas of reading and mathematics. BVS is so proud of our students in the specific area of mathematics as there was not 1 student K - 6 who displayed any regression from the spring of 22' to this fall based on the STAR 360 assessment. This speaks volumes about the incredible instruction the teachers deliver and how engaged and supported the students feel.

The K - 6 students have enjoyed their first whole school PBIS Celebration (<https://www.pbisvermont.org/>) after filling the school hive with buzz beads awarded for positive behavior to individual students and classrooms. Decorating cupcakes was the chosen activity! Individual classroom celebrations included extra recess and bring your favorite stuffed animal in movie afternoons. Our October Student Count holds strong at 70 students with the biggest class of Kindergarteners (14 students) in over 10 years.

Benson's Thanksgiving Family Dinner will welcome families back into the building on Tuesday, November 22nd this year. The school holiday vacation begins on the 23rd.

I encourage you to engage with the SVUVT Board meetings as we move into the budget season. The dates and links for virtual attendance can be found here: <https://www.slatevalleyunified.org/documents/school-board/60976>.

As always, I extend the appreciation of the Benson Village School staff for the incredible support we receive from this community. *Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much - Helen Keller*

Amy Roy M.Ed., Principal, Benson Village School

Please visit our website: <http://benon.svuvt.org>

Also, check out our Facebook page!

## Transfer Station Use

It is important for the transfer station operator to fill dumpsters as full as possible and compress material to minimize the cost per ton of trucking. Sometimes though it is difficult for users to unload more material when dumpsters are nearly full. If you are planning a big trip to the transfer station with a pickup load or more of material (especially metal or building materials), you can call the Transfer Station at 802 537 3657 to make sure there's room for your load.

Thanks in advance

For questions or contributions to the Benson Bulletin reach out to Kate at 537-2976  
or email [benonnews@shoreham.net](mailto:benonnews@shoreham.net)

## Neighbors Helping Neighbors

**Fair Haven Concerned** has been recognizing and providing assistance to our neighbors in need in the Slate Valley region for forty years. We provide access to food, fuel assistance and connections to community services.

Our Vision is to serve as our communities' source of hope while providing services to meet the needs of

our community members. We strive to empower everyone to become as self-sufficient as possible while providing opportunities to give and receive help.

Our food shelf hours are 10-2 Monday through Friday and our staff is there from 9-4 Monday through Friday to offer assistance by phone or appointment. Our staff includes Jeff Jackson, and Michelle Kellogg, food shelf manager. Both are energetic and willing to help anyone who enters our door at 49 Main Street, Fair Haven. Stop in and meet them! Please consider volunteering at our food shelf. If you have 2-3 hours during the day that you could help just one day a week, it would help us to be open more hours. Volunteering is a great way to stay active during the winter and meet other caring people. Join us!

As we all know, Covid has brought unique challenges to everyone in the ways we live and conduct business. We are proud to say we were able to provide services throughout the two years of Covid. While there are still concerns with the virus, we continue to provide assistance to our neighbors in need.

If you need assistance or are considering volunteering, please call 802-265-3666 or [fairhavenconcerned@gmail.com](mailto:fairhavenconcerned@gmail.com)

## From the Road Commissioner

The leaves are starting to fall and we are all hustling to get things finished up before winter .

Our winter sand pile was completed last week, special thank you to Orwell Highway and West Haven highway for coming over to lend Jeff and I a hand in getting it all covered.

Our grants and aides project were completed on time, inspected and approved last week, on the section of Mill Pond Rd from Howard Hill to East Road.

We rented a grader the month of October, and this particular machine has worked well for us as we have made a pass on all roads by the end of the month.

We have made great progress in replacing aged collapsed road culverts throughout our town , and we will continue to make a push in spot repairing and grading our roads as long as the weather permits.

I want to thank our towns people for all the positive comments and continued support.

Brad

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Doug Hathaway

1080 Stage Road, Benson VT 05743



## 4H in Benson

Did you know? The Benson Busy Buddies 4-H Club has not disbanded! We are currently on hiatus due to unforeseen circumstances. When we are able to resume, we will continue to be a very "hands on" club that offers sewing, cooking, arts & crafts, and community service. Our Club is one of the oldest in the State of Vermont at 40+ years. We look forward to many more years. If you have any questions please reach out to us at [bensonbusybuddies@gmail.com](mailto:bensonbusybuddies@gmail.com)

Rachel Collett



**NEW DO'S HAIR SALON**  
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## SCOTT PERRON PLUMBING & HEATING Benson, VT

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**Need Some Ideas for Day Trips in the Vermont? Be sure to check each site for public access and costs. And have a great day!**

- President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site.
- VINS Nature Center and Quechee Gorge.
- Shelburne Museum.
- Bennington Battle Monument.
- Hildene: The Lincoln Family Home.
- University of Vermont Morgan Horse Farm.



Preserving God's Creation

## Taxidermy

Cathy Gearwar  
 ~ Wildlife Artist ~  
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## Jeanne Bartholomew Realty

East Road Benson

802-537-4938

[Jeannebrealty@aol.com](mailto:Jeannebrealty@aol.com)

*Looking for listings! Thinking of selling? Give me a call for a "no-obligation" chat.*

**Benson** 5-6 bedroom, 2 bath, older home with 10 open acres, older barns and RT 22a frontage. This home has had some nice upgrades and is perfect for a Bed and Breakfast, a rental or an ideal Family home and office! Seller is motivated! Give Jeanne a call.

**Benson** 17 acre Country Estate with a well-maintained 1900's Farmhouse. Seller has updated all systems and fully insulated, making this 4 bedroom 2 bath home an efficient one in relation to heating and cooling costs. The oil furnace does the job and the pellet stove keeps your costs down as well . Property comes with a 30 ft by 60 ft metal barn, ideal for all kinds of storage, as well as a work and play area! Property was the former home of Stony Point Stables and although the horses are gone, the 4 stall barn, tack room, pole barn and separate 'run in' are all there for you to enjoy with your horses or other livestock. There is 5 acres of fenced pasture and about 12 acres of mowed hay land with a nice little pond. The 2 story home is nicely landscaped and also has an attached garage/workshop area, a large unfinished room , nice back deck and much more! It is less than a mile to Benson Landing where you can launch your boat on Lake Champlain and enjoy some of the best fishing around! Give Jeanne a call and come take a look.

**New Listing** on Perch Pond. Nice swimmable lot with new 30 ft composite dock, new 16 by 24 deck, all new landscaping and set up for a 27 ft motorhome. There is power, septic and more. \$150,000

**Shoreham** Watch Point Road on Lake Champlain. 2 lots being sold together with over 900 ft of Lake frontage. This 40 acre parcel includes a beautiful mix of open meadow land and woods and is located on a town maintained dead end road. Plenty of opportunities and privacy! ~ \$350,000

November 11<sup>th</sup> is Veterans Day

This day is set aside to honor, and express gratitude, to all our Military members who served in both war and peace.






## BENSON PUBLIC LIBRARY



Tuesday 10 am to 1 pm  
 Wednesday 4 pm to 7 pm  
 Saturday 10 am to 1 pm

 *Check us out on Facebook - Benson Vermont Public Library*

The Reading Group will meet at the library on Wednesday, November 16, 2022 to discuss **As Bright As Heaven** by Susan Meissner. In 1918, Philadelphia was a city teeming with promise. Into this bustling town came Pauline Bright and her husband, filled with hope that they could now give their three daughters--Evelyn, Maggie, and Willa--a chance at a better life. But just months after they arrive, the Spanish Flu reaches the shores of America. As the pandemic claims more than twelve thousand victims in their adopted city, they find themselves in a world that looks nothing like the one they knew.

Copies of the books are available in the library. You are welcome to join us for an interesting discussion.

## THE WHEEL INN

Corner of Lake Road and Stage Road  
 Benson, VT 802-537-2755



Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner  
 Open Daily (except Tuesdays)  
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DINING INSIDE OR ORDERS TO GO

See our full menu and  
 daily specials on FACEBOOK

Beverages to go!!!

C'mon Over. 'Wheel' be happy to see you!!

### Bone Builders

Meets on Monday and Thursday at 9 a.m. in the Community Hall. Program is free and weights are provided. Covid vaccination is required. If you wish to be part of this group, call 802-537-3021 for additional information.

### Senior Lunch

The traditional Senior Lunch will be on November 14<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon. It's held in the Community Hall first floor. The cost for seniors, those over 60 years of age, is \$3.50 but families and friends under 60 are welcome as well for \$4.00. Please reach out to Marcia Anderson to make reservations by the Friday before at 802-537-2313.

"The right to vote helps to maintain an equal and fair democracy. When you vote you help to determine how society will be organized, and resources will be allocated."  
 unknown



## **NEW! Culinary Corner**

this from one of our neighbors

### Apple Cake

1 cup sugar  
 1 egg  
 1 tbsp butter  
 ¼ c applesauce  
 1 ½ c flour  
 1 tsp baking soda  
 ¾ tsp cinnamon  
 ½ tsp salt  
 2 c peeled and chopped apples

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease or otherwise prepare an 8x8 square pan. In a large mixing bowl combine sugar, egg, butter and applesauce and mix on high speed for 2 minutes. fold in the flour, baking soda, cinnamon and salt. Mix just until smooth. Mix apples in gently. Pour into prepared pan and top with a mixture of 2 tbsp of sugar and ½ tsp of cinnamon. Bake for 45-55 minutes. Cool in the pan on a wire rack. *Hint*, this is fabulous served warm topped with ice cream or whipped cream!

### **Girl Scouts of the USA**

Every Girl Scout has their own curiosity, dreams, and talents, so when they come together to decide which of the thousands of Girl Scout activities to try, the sky's the limit. Whether visiting an animal shelter, camping, hosting a dance-off, or filming a movie—they're learning to take risks, trust their gut, and team up with others for good. Our local Girl Scout Troup # 63444 meets weekly from 3:30 to 4:45 at the Benson Village School. The troop hosts children from Daisies to Juniors in a multilevel group. Joining is simple and you can reach the troop leader, Bethany Edwards directly at 802-558-6709 or email her at [bethanyedwards1991@gmail.com](mailto:bethanyedwards1991@gmail.com) for more information. Additionally, you should check out the national website at <https://www.girlscouts.org>.



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### **United Church of Benson**

will be having tag sale on November 12th from 9-1. Over 50 counted cross stitch supplies. Many toys, CDs and books. Quilts, sheets, Christmas dishes and much more.

A big Thank You! to all who contributed to the church's Roof Replacement project. We have a new roof, thanks to Karl Sbardella and his crew. We also have a new porch floor and railings, thanks to Ted Kellogg and his crew.

### **Honor our Veterans**

In 1954 Dwight Eisenhower called upon all citizens to observe November 11<sup>th</sup> no longer as Armistice Day—the official end of World War I—but as Veterans Day, stating in his proclamation that on that day we should "solemnly remember the sacrifices of all those who fought so valiantly, on the seas, in the air, and on foreign shores, to preserve our heritage of freedom."

**On this Veterans Day, all members of the Benson community are invited to gather at the Veterans Monument in front of the Town Office at 11:00AM on Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup> for the reading of the Honor Roll and the laying of a wreath.**

If you would like to lead the reading of a section of the Honor Roll in honor of a family member who served, please contact Heidi Chandler at the Town Office (802-537-2611).



## Town Calendar

Tuesday	11/8	Election Day		
Friday	11/11	Town Office Closed for Veteran's Day		
Monday	11/14	Select Board Meeting	7pm	Town Office
Monday	11/14	Senior Lunch	noon	Community Hall
Wednesday	11/16	Reading Group	4pm	Library
Wednesday	11/23	Town Office Closed		
Monday	11/28	Select Board Meeting	7pm	Town Office

**JPW**  
Accounting Services

Jennifer Partch

**518-538-3047**

**802-537-4021**

P.O. BOX 630  
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## Selectboard Highlights

- Special Town Meeting was held October 20, 200 at 7:00pm at the Community Hall Regarding Traffic and Parking Ordinance. The revisions to the Ordinance approved by the Selectboard in July 2022 were voted down by a vote of 35 to 12. *The ordinance passed in 2014 remains in effect.*
- Mill Pond Road project has been completed, with a little under a mile of road being ditched and bad culverts replace. 80% of the cost this project was funded by a grant.
- Brad Barret has been hired as the Town Road Foreman
- Town Garage project has been postponed until Spring
- Plans are in the works to get the cell phone tower on Stage Road wired and so that the repeater the Town has purchased can be installed and used. When the new equipment is installed, members of the Fire Department will receive notification for calls through the Cell tower on Stage Road, improving signal quality.
- Big Thank you to The Towns of Orwell and West Haven for the use of their equipment
- Grading and Ditching continue all over town
- Winter Sand has been hauled in and the sand pile covered.
- A contract for winter salt has been signed.







