

Benson Bulletin

The Community Newsletter of Benson, VT- Mar/Apr 2023

Benson Village School GO BEARS!

As we approach the 130th day of school this month, it is impressive to watch our student's gaining confidence and proficiency with their many skills and strategies in the areas of math and reading specifically. Teachers collect both formative and summative data to adapt their instructional practices and ensure that each student is receiving the support they need to continue on their learning continuum.

March is National Read Aloud Month and Benson Village School is hosting several special guest readers. As I travel through the classrooms, it is impressive to see and hear the growth our students are making as readers themselves. Our BVS Librarian, Rebekah Nadler, has done an outstanding job in her first year with us and further opened up the library space and brought in numerous titles to engage our students.

On the 23rd of the month, BVS will be hosting an Invitation to Learning for families. This is an opportunity to come to see students in action for an hour in the afternoon. Your child(ren)'s teacher will be sending information as the date gets closer.

Wonderfeet Museum will be coming to BVS on March 29th and 30th for Prek - Kindergarten students.

Girls on the Run Information (3rd - 6th) will be traveling home with students early this month.

A field trip to a local sugar house is on the books for March 24th as well.

The preschool screening will be held on Friday, March 10th for 3 and 4-year-olds. Please call 537-2491 to have your child(ren) scheduled.

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

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

Also, check out our Facebook page!


#BVS #GOBEARS #BenStrong #SVUVT



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*

For Reading Group meeting on March 15, 2023

The Mystery of Mrs. Christie by Marie Benedict. In December 1926, Agatha Christie goes missing. Investigators find her empty car on the edge of a deep, gloomy pond, the only clues some tire tracks nearby and a fur coat left in the car — strange for a frigid night. Her husband and daughter have no knowledge of her whereabouts, and England unleashes an unprecedented manhunt to find the up-and-coming mystery author. Eleven days later, she reappears, just as mysteriously as she disappeared, claiming amnesia and providing no explanations for her time away. The puzzle of those missing eleven days has persisted.

For the Reading Group meeting on April 19, 2023

The Reading Group will meet at the library on Wednesday, April 19, 2023 to discuss **The Daughters of Yalta** by Catherine Katz. This is the dramatic story of the three young women who were chosen by their fathers to travel with them to Yalta, each bound by fierce family loyalty, political savvy, and intertwined romances that powerfully colored these crucial days. Kathleen Harriman was a champion skier, war correspondent, and daughter of US ambassador to the Soviet Union Averell Harriman. Sarah Churchill, an actress-turned-RAF officer, was devoted to her brilliant father, who depended on her astute political mind. Roosevelt's only daughter, Anna, chosen instead of her mother Eleanor to accompany the president to Yalta, arrived there as keeper of her father's most damaging secrets.

From the Road Commissioner

Things are looking up, day light is longer, and we spring forward on our time clocks Sunday March 12th. However, March can traditionally be a snowy month! Our maples are being tapped all over town, and the steam can be seen from the roofs from cooking sap. Unfortunately, we have not had a frost this year which will make the dirt roads a mess. Please tread lightly and avoid heavy loads. The Road Crew is doing our best to continue through the end of winter to fix the worst part of our roads. Keep up the faith and help each other out when you can. Brad, Road Commissioner

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Doug Hathaway
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Calendar Events for March/April

March 10	Friday	Preschool Screening	call 802-537-2491
March 13	Monday	Senior Lunch at 12 noon	Community Hall
March 15	Wed	Reading Group at 4 pm	Benson Library
March 15	Wed	Second paymt of 2022-2023	Property Taxes due
March 18	Saturday	Basket Raffle	Castleton Legion
March 25	Saturday	Rabies Clinic at 9-10:30	at the Community Hall
April 10	Monday	Senior Lunch at 12 noon	Community Hall
April 19	Wed	Reading Group at 4pm	Benson Library
April 21	Friday	Paint and Sip at 7pm	to benefit Family Days at
April 22	Sat	at 11am	Peace of My Art Studio



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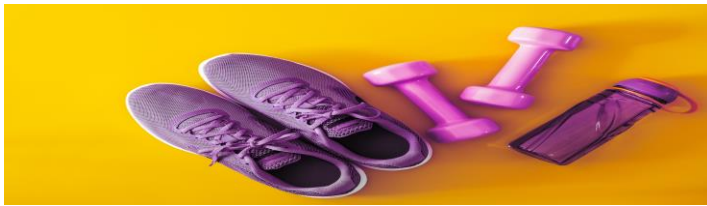
United Church of Benson

Did You Know...?

The Bible is a collection
of 66 different books.

Our Bible fact series number 1.

Leave a message for us at:
(802) 537-2455



Bone Builders

Meets on Monday and Thursday at 9 a.m. in the Community Hall. The program is free and weights are provided. Strength training exercises will improve bone mineral density and help prevent fractures, help strengthen your core and prevent or delay cognitive decline. Less than an hour of strength training per week may reduce risk of heart attack and stroke by 40 to 70%! If you wish to join our group, call 802-537-3021.

THE WHEEL INN

Corner of Lake Road and Stage Road
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Jeanne Bartholomew Realty

East Road Benson

802-537-4938

Jeannebrealty@aol.com

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

Benson, Perch Pond lot for sale. Sellers have done all the work. Driveway, septic, power, docking system and more! This property has wonderful swimming and offers plenty of peace and quiet! All set up for your motor home to enjoy beautiful, private Perch Pond. A great get away anytime of the year! \$135,000

Hubbardton, 31 acres with large beaver pond, very private with ROW, no road frontage. Shared swimming beach on Lake Hortonia. Possible terms \$125,000

Benson, 418 acre Organic Farm. Property is conserved with the Vermont Land Trust and affords many opportunities, including a Dairy or Beef operation, bed and breakfast, Agri Tourism and many more. A wonderful opportunity for many endeavors. VLT reserves the ROFR. Give Jeanne a call for all the details.

Perch Pond, one acre unimproved lot with 150 feet private pond frontage. Great for camping, swimming, fishing and boating. Build a dock and a "primitive" and have a great 'get away'. \$50,000

March 17th is St Patrick's Day. A very Happy St. Paddy's Day to everyone!

Cooking and Baking!

from one of our neighbors

Asparagus Soup

Ingredients:

- 1 onion
- 1 clove of garlic
- 1 stick of butter, separated
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 1 bundle of asparagus spears (around 15 spears)
- 3 tablespoons dry white wine
- 4 cups vegetable broth
- ½ teaspoon Paprika
- ¼ teaspoon Nutmeg
- Salt and pepper to taste
- ½ cup heavy cream
- 2 cups cheddar cheese
- Cooked bacon (optional)

Directions:

1. Peel and dice your onion and garlic into small pieces and cook in a large pot with two tablespoons of butter until your onions are translucent.
2. Add the rest of your butter and let it melt before adding in the flour and stirring until it forms a thickened paste.
3. Chop your asparagus into ¼ inch pieces, then place it into the pot with your onions and butter mixture. Cook on low for about five minutes with the lid on your pot.
4. Add your white wine and your broth and stir, then season with paprika, nutmeg, salt, and pepper. Mix well.
5. Bring your mixture to a boil, then reduce the heat and mix in your heavy cream. Then allow to a simmer for 20 minutes.
6. Reduce the heat to low and add cheese gradually, stirring to allow it to melt evenly.
7. Serve warm and top with cooked bacon crumbles if desired.

Cooking and Baking!

from one of our neighbors

EASY HOMEMADE PLAYDOUGH

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 cup water
- 2 teaspoons cream of tartar
- 1/3 cup salt
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- food coloring

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Mix together all the ingredients in a 2-quart saucepan.
2. Cook over low/medium heat, stirring.
3. Continue stirring until the mixture is thickened and begins to gather around the spoon.
4. Remove the dough onto wax paper or a plate to cool.

Makes the equivalent of 3 containers.
Cool completely before storing in a zip lock bag or sealed container.

And, while not recommended, it is completely edible!





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Benson is now Online!

We are happy to announce that the Town of Benson has a new website. It is located at www.bensonvermont.gov and it's our hope that you can use it to find all the town information you need in one location on the internet.

Features include: a calendar with all select board meetings, town clerk payment reminders, and other town events; a comprehensive list of town documents, including agendas and meeting minutes; links to schools, emergency management and local places of interest; and of course, Latest News and Current Updates to keep you informed.

The website is still under construction, so have patience with us as we figure it out. Please read the posts, explore the site, and if you have any feedback or questions contact the webmaster, Cheryl Murray through email cookinvt9@gmail.com.

In addition, we have started an official Facebook page. You can find it at <https://www.facebook.com/townofbensonvermont>. We hope to use Facebook, in conjunction with our website, to get timely information out to the people of Benson, including weather-related info, emergency management, and public events.

As we have limited resources to monitor social media (both from a staff perspective and the fact that our internet signal stinks), we plan to start out small. Our Town Clerk and Road Crew Foreman will have access to be able to make posts and we hope to do more as we go along.

Rt 22A Update

Cheryl Murray met with Bruce Martin of AOT (Roadway Design Project Manager) and two design engineers who are consulting with him on the Route 22A project. They have been working on some changes to the plan for the Benson segment, based on the feedback they received at the 502 hearing in June.

They reported that they have also met with the Agency of Natural Resources to map wetlands and coordinate any issues, in order to integrate that into the plan.

The new design includes changes to the intersection of Lake Rd and Rt 22A. They are currently looking at a left turning lane, a straight through lane, and a right turning lane, heading both north and south for this intersection. In addition, they are changing the layout of the intersection to bring Mill Pond Rd a little farther north, so that it aligns more directly across from Lake Rd, instead of the angle it is currently at. I told them I thought this would be well received news for both sides of town.

Based on feedback and a closer inspection of the G&L Store regarding gas pumps, parking issues, and the setback requirements, they have designed a larger curb on the corner of Route 144 and also moved the traveled roadway more towards the west. The additional space that would be provided by shifting the roadway and adding more pavement would provide much better mobility and more opportunity for turning movements for all vehicles. In addition, there would be a one-way entrance to the G&L from Route 144, instead of the way it is now (with cars able to enter and exit from all directions).

The current plan with these changes has now been sent out to review for 3 weeks for others around the Agency to comment on, regarding permitting aspects, constructability, etc. that may need some revising prior to meeting with property owners. Once the design is finalized, they will update the website with the new drawings, and then the next step is to begin property owner meetings in February/March.

If you have any questions or would like more information, you can contact Bruce Martin directly at bruce.b.martin@vermont.gov

Cheryl Murray, Rutland TAC representative from Benson

The VTrans web page regarding all Route 22A projects currently in the works can be accessed at <https://vtrans.vermont.gov/vt22a>.

Bruce Martin is the VTrans representative who came to meet with the Benson Select Board previously, and facilitated the 502 hearing on June 15th. His contact information is as follows.

Bruce Martin

bruce.b.martin@vermont.gov

802-595-9653.

Vermont Agency of Transportation

c/o Bruce Martin

219 North Main St

Barre VT 05641

JPW

Accounting Services

Jennifer Partch

518-538-3047

802-537-4021

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Senior Lunch

The traditional Senior Lunch will be on March 13th and April 10th 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.

~Basket Raffle~



Where: Castleton Legion

378 Route 4a, Castleton VT

When: March 18th

Doors open @11, Drawing @1

All Proceeds benefit 4
FHUHS cheerleaders on their
trip to Hawaii in June!!



Please contact Andrea Tester
(dreatester22@gmail.com or
802-989-4693) If you'd like to donate
baskets/gift certificates!

We have over 100 baskets, large ticket items, 50/50 raffle, food and really cool gift certificates available from Killington Mountain to Champlain Valley Fair!

