The Barnard Bulletin

JULY 2013 **Vol. XXVIII No. 7**

SELECTMEN'S NEWS

At a Special Town Meeting last Wednesday evening attended by only six voters other than Selectmen and the Moderator, we amended Article 1 and voted to "carry forward in the General Fund the FY12 surplus of $208,671," the purpose being to not exacerbate a critical cash flow problem due to FEMA reimbursement monies bogged down somewhere causing us to run for a tax anticipation loan so we could pay our bills. Meanwhile, back at the ranch, we no sooner got all that done when a wad of the wayward FEMA money showed up in our checking account! Based on paperwork we're receiving suddenly from VT AOT and the Vermont Treasurer's office, most of the FEMA money, in excess of $800,000 may be in the Town's account by the end of the fiscal year!

We won't have a really clear picture of where we stand until we're well into the audit for the current fiscal year ending June 30. With the cash crunch mentioned above, Selectmen also authorized transfer of the $100,000 Irene recovery dedicated fund into the General Fund. We kind of went from rags to riches on paper overnight! We'll update you next month on what it looks like. Hopefully, once the FEMA money is in, some or most of the FY12 "surplus" we just voted to carry forward will become a little more tangible.

Article 2 of the Special Town Meeting, by the way, passed. The income from the timber sale on the Town Forest lot will be saved into a dedicated fund for future plantings and greening of the Forest lot, Town Hall property and roadsides.

Speaking of the end of the current fiscal year, anyone having claims against the Town for labor or services, please submit and invoice forthwith so it may be paid in the current fiscal year. For BCA and BOA members, Selectmen have increased compensation to $9/hr to get us at or above minimum wage of $8.65.

A spell of relentless wet has set back our highway maintenance a little not to mention haying, gardens, lawns, motorcycling, boating, fishing and most anything outdoors. You know it's bad when the farmers can't even make wrapped green hay much less dry bales. Looks a little better for the week at hand. Lord knows our summers are short enough here even when the sun shines!

The Fourth is almost here already; BVFD's BBQ and flea market is the 6th with tasty chickens ready at 11. Fable Farm begins CSA pickups and community Thursday pot luck suppers, some with dinner theater, over at Clark Farm. Visit them at www.fablefarm.org and they're on Facebook and Twitter. BarnArts has various pretty professional summer theater offerings which you may check out at www.barnarts.org. The State Park at Silver Lake and BGS are open for business. Enjoy all these activities as well as those mentioned in the paragraph above while the tomatoes, corn and cukes ripen.

* * * * * * * * *

SILVER LAKE DAY

SATURDAY, JULY 6. 2013, FROM 2:00 TO 5:00PM
(Rain date, Sunday July 7th.)

To be held on the waterfront, across from the Barnard General Store

This year, to honor the Barnard Community Trust's accomplishment of reviving the Barnard General Store, our town offers a big THANK YOU!

Events are scheduled as follows:

2:00pm - Ceremony of Thanks, for the efforts of the Barnard Community Trust members. This will include a reading of the winning essays written by Barnard Academy students on "Why I Love Silver Lake".

3:00pm Canoe, paddle boat and kayak races, from the Silver Lake State Park to the dam.

4:00 Children's games on the Dorothy Thompson Common. Organized by the Barnard Recreation Committee

D.J. Don Munro will be playing music all during the event.

Silver Lake Day is sponsored by the Barnard Silver Lake Association

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BARNARD COMMUNITY TRUST NEWS

On June 1st, Governor Shumlin came to Barnard and helped Joe and Jillian, the Barnard Community Trust, many Barnard residents and visitors cut the ribbon for the official grand opening of our store. The weather was dry and very warm which helped the celebratory mood felt by all. That day marked the culmination of a year's worth of fundraising, café hours and renovations in and outside the store. We thank all those who contributed to the success of this project, financially and in kind.

One year ago in July, the Barnard Community Trust was formed as a local, non-profit, organization for the purpose of finding a way to save our much loved and much needed Barnard General Store. This goal has been accomplished, but we still need financial help. It is time for the renewal of existing memberships and for new people to become members.

In the next few weeks, the BCT will be mailing forms for this purpose. These forms are also available in the store next to our donation jar near the cash register. Please help us continue to keep the store in good condition and to enable us to pay the property taxes and insurance on the building. We also have a mortgage on the remaining $150,000 of the purchase price that is due by the end of 2013.

The Barnard General Store and the Barnard Community Trust are making storage for boats available on the Stage Road side of the store. There will be a rental / storage fee of $30 per season, per boat stored on the premises. Payment should be made to the Barnard General Store where forms are available. All details for the boat storage can be found in these forms. Boats that were left from last year need to be picked up by July 1st or paid for and registered for this season if you do not want them to be considered abandoned and removed. New racks will be built within the next few weeks.

The annual meeting of Barnard Community Trust members will be held to elect the board members held on Monday, July 22nd at 7PM at the Barnard Town Hall. We hope that many of you will attend.

Enjoy the summer. Enjoy the lake. Support the store.

Dana Bargezi - for the Barnard Community Trust

If you have any questions or suggestions please contact one of the following BCT board members: Rick Carbin, Tom Platner, Boyd Bishop, Dana Bargezi, Teo Zagar, Mary Blanton, Mary Myers, Lee Resseguie, Leah Stewart or Tony Braca.

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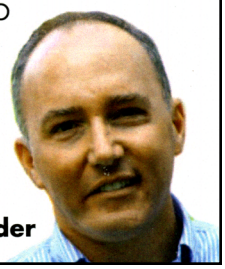

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LOCAL CRYPTOGRAM

A cryptogram is a code in which one letter is substituted for another. For example, the word "Church" could be written BWMSBW. The letter B would be the letter C and would be throughout the entire message. In this message **G = Y.** The solution is found by trial and error.

K I C V A P L K I A V D P R G

V H L C S A L B W H U K I C W B G

V R O Z W A U N A R C W

V R G H U Z K O R R .

S C W I A P R Q K I H U B S I G

O U Q R H B C A P L

V A L C V O K I C L W K L G

V A L R H T C L K G O U Q

D P W K H X C V A L O R R .

The answer to the CRYPTOGRAM can be found on the inside of the back page.

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BARNARD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL JULY 4TH CELEBRATION

Flea Market and Chicken Barbecue

Saturday July 6th

Flea Market at 10AM at Barnard Town Hall

Chicken Ready at 11AM

Homemade salads with soda and ice cream

RAFFLE PRIZES:

Vermont Castings Barbecue Grill
Donated by Vermont Castings, Bethel

Barbecue Propane Grill
Donated by Dead River Co.,Woodstock

Kayak, paddle, and PFD
Donated by Barnard Businessmen

Kayak, paddle, and PFD
Donated by Barnard Businessmen

$250.00 Oil or Propane Fuel
Donated by Dead River Co.,Woodstock

$250.00 Oil or Propane Fuel
Donated by CV Oil Co., Pittsfield

PLUS additional prizes!

Tickets $10.00 each and can be purchased at Mills Hardware in Bethel, or from any Barnard Fireman

Drawing- July 6th 1PM at Barnard Town Hall

*To donate items for the flea market, please call Mike Manning at 234-5263 or Scott Mills at 234-9073 to arrange for pick up

THOMPSON CENTER NEWS

Submitted by Pam Butler

We are celebrating Town Days again and we invite Barnard residents to come to the Thompson on Monday July 8th for a great $3.00 lunch at noon. If you would like to bring a group, call ahead and we will gladly reserve a table for you and your friends. Come and see what your Senior Center has to offer and read on for details about upcoming summer events.

How do you know when it's time for you or a loved one to limit or stop driving? This is a tough subject for most families, and it's a serious matter. Wayne Cook, an AARP certified trainer, will offer a two part series at The Thompson, "We Need to Talk", to address this critical decision. Part I will be held on July 11th, at 1:00PM. This seminar is open to anyone but specifically geared to older drivers. Wayne will offer tips, guidance, and resources to help you determine when it is time to limit or stop your driving. Wayne will share other important facts and statistics about older drivers. Part II will be on July 25th, 5:00-6:00PM and is open to anyone but specifically geared to friends or relatives of older drivers. Wayne will offer tips to assess someone's driving skills and share suggestions and resources to facilitate sensitive and successful conversations with a friend or loved one when their driving safety is a concern.

An Evening with Rick Libbey, The Moose Man: Tuesday, July 30th, 5:30 Dinner – 6:30 Presentation. Enjoy an evening with New England's premier photographer of moose wildlife, who chronicles their behavior with stunning pictures in their natural habitat. In his own words, "My approach is quite unique, I choose to work from a kayak rather than be married to a tripod. I work from a monopod and use wind direction to increase my chance at success. My love of moose and loons has evolved to a place of respect for them. By educating myself on their habits and tendencies I have found a way to work with them peaceably and I simply love it when I get the job done without disturbing them from feeding."

Kripalu Yoga, with Annie Frates: Ongoing, Thursdays 1:00-2:00PM. This gentle yoga class is for everyone---standers, sitters, experienced and inexperienced. Annie will guides her students through a variety of yoga exercises that will help people gain flexibility, improve posture and spine health, develop strength, and increase breath awareness. Anne Frates is a certified Kripalu Yoga teacher and has been in the fitness industry for over 20 years. Cost: $5.00 per class and is offered to adults of all ages. Please sign up by noon on Thursdays so we can guarantee a minimum of five students.

Thank you to each of our 2012 Share the Harvest Barnard contributors. By dedicating an extra row or two of vegetables in your gardens, you help provide Thompson Chef Ryan with fresh, seasonal local produce for our daily luncheon and Meals On Wheels Programs. We serve over 20,000 nutritious meals each year and your donations of produce helps to provide good nutrition to our patrons and eases our food budget.

Please visit The Thompson Center website at www.thompsonseniorcenter.org to view The Thompson Times monthly newsletter including our daily menu. See you at The Thompson!

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LISTER NOTES

Most of the information below was included in a Change of Value Notice that was sent to all tax paying landowners on Wednesday, June 19, 2013. I am repeating it here in order to make sure that all registered voters are aware of the reappraisal and grievance process.

With this town wide reappraisal the Listers have updated the land schedule and organized the town into neighborhoods that reflect areas along the roads in Town. For example Neighborhood 6 includes those properties that are accessed from the Tower road. Each neighborhood land schedule was derived from sales of property that have occurred in the neighborhood or adjacent neighborhoods. For those neighborhoods that did not have recent sales, values were calculated from older sales and adjusted to reflect the current market trends.

Land grade factors will be G, F, and/or V as defined below:

HS (house site) 2 acres may or may not have a "G" factor, which is a combination of the following: Utilities, Roads/ Access, Drainage, Landscaping, Ponds, Views, Vacant/ Developed Site and Slope. (More than one house site that is undeveloped is given a "V" (vacant) -25%.

RE (residential excess land) 8 acres may or may not have a "G" factor if it is improved it is then treated in the same way as the primary two acre house site.

RU (rural undeveloped land) may or may not have a "G" factor reflecting slope and or land quality, and may or may not have an "F" factor that reflects developed fields.

The land grading information has been compiled by neighborhood and is available in a table or an individual grading card for each property, both of which are available on request.

Lister Grievances will not be allocated to particular time slot, but will be on a first come first serve basis and will be held to a 15 minute presentation by the land owner. State law requires a written request by the land owner for a grievance be filed prior to or at the time of grievance.

Grievance hearings will be on the following days: July 9, 10, 11, between 8:00AM and 3:00PM at Barnard Town Hall. A written grievance may be filed in lieu of a hearing and must be received no later than 3:00 PM on July 8, 2013. If you cannot make it to the Listers office during the grievance period, you should send a written grievance to the Listers before the grievance period starts. Remember that you must file a grievance in order to be able to continue the appeal process to the Board of Civil Authority and if necessary to the State.

Your argument should focus on why the 2013 valuation may be inequitable or is not at fair market value. You should supply supporting facts in written form; a written record will also help us make our decision. If you have had a recent professional appraisal done on your property please have a copy available for the record.

Please remember that the Listers are charged with finding fair market value for all the properties in town and are expected to keep the values between comparable properties equitable. The April 1, 2013 reappraisal building and land tables will be used for valuation until the next town wide reappraisal in order to maintain equity in the town.

In addition I would like to note, that the property taxes you pay are not only determined by your property valuation, but are primarily governed by the tax rates set by the Selectmen and the State. These tax rates in turn are driven by the need for the Town and the State to fund their budgets. These budgets are set by the voting residents of the town at Town Meeting and by the duly elected representatives elected to the State Legislature by the legal voters of Vermont.

The State property Tax Rate is anywhere from 7 to 9 times the Town tax rate, which means that 70 to 90 percent of the property taxes you pay are collected by the State of Vermont to pay for State spending. If you really want to reduce the property taxes you pay, you should contact you State Senators and Representatives, and let them know that State spending, particularly education spending, should be reduced or paid for by something other than the property tax.

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EAST BARNARD NEWS

Fund-Raising for Community Hall Moves Apace

by Virginia Glass Schlabach

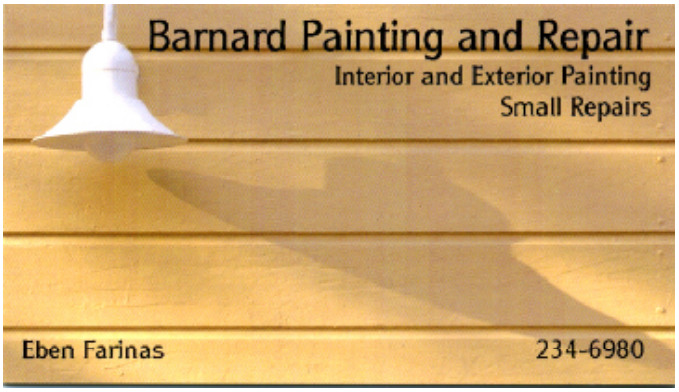
When I wrote in May, East Barnard was anticipating the giant yard sale to kick off fund-raising for new siding for the Community Hall. As we had hoped, a beautiful day brought carloads of bargain hunters into the village on May 18. Although bucketing rain prevented most people from coming back a week later for the followup half-price sale in the Hall, the two events raised $2,819 for the cause. With $1,960 from Community Club and Irene recovery funds added in plus a number of gifts in response to a fund-raising appeal letter, $8181.56 has been raised as of June 13. The thermometer on the front of the Hall is rising slowly toward the July 31 goal of $20,000, which includes $14,000 for the siding; $4,500 for carpentry, trim and roof painting; and a $1,500 contingency fund. Work is scheduled to begin on August 15.

A year ago our community focused on restoration of the church steeple. Now we anticipate that the same kind of support and energy will result in restoration of our Hall. As our village is small, we welcome help from others. Checks made out to East Barnard Community Club, earmarked Hall Project, may be sent to EBCC Fundraising Committee, PO Box 968, South Royalton, VT 05068.

We are skipping Fireman's Fun Day this year. Everyone is busy so, for the first time in 30 years, the Broad Brook Volunteer Fire Department won't be offering Fun Day. We could use some help; if you want to make it happen next year, feel free to contact Elizabeth Ferry, clerk: 763-2294 or ferry@innevi.com.

East Barnard Church: Summer worship services began on June 16. Please note two special church-sponsored events in July: On Saturday, July 13, 4:00 p.m., Sam King will hold a workshop, Nurture in Nature, at Carol Robbins' house, followed by a 6:30 potluck. On Monday July 29, 6:00 p.m., at the East Barnard Community Hall a potluck will be followed by Rabbi Dov Taylor speaking on Adam and Eve.

Call 763-8780 for additional information on these events.



Roads led into rather than away from East Barnard on May 18 as many people visited the Community Hall and surrounding homes for yard sale bargains to support the fund drive for new siding for the Hall.

With the successful restoration of the church steeple completed last summer, East Barnard now focuses on replacing the siding on another village landmark, the Community Hall. The May 18 yard sale outside and inside the Hall and at area homes raised around $2,800 for the siding project.

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WHOM DO YOU TRUST?

I recently heard a commentator (or was it a politician?) talking about how the American people have lost their trust of government, and that made me think.

Have we ever trusted politicians or government institutions? Or is it that there are parts of the bureaucracy that we trust and other parts we do not. Is an inherent distrust of those that wield power a part of human nature or do we learn from experience that "absolute power corrupts absolutely"?

I have heard it said that "vigilance is the price of liberty" and have wondered if vigilance is enough. Why is it that as a nation we are not talking to, advising, directing, our legislators? Why are we stepping aside and letting lobbyists and special interests have the ear of government without ever writing or speaking to those that we elected to represent us?

Even if we did not vote for the people that represent us we should be talking to them. They need to know that we are having difficulty with this or that law or action of the government. If we have a problem with the property tax, how it is administered, or how the money is spent, we should start the conversation with our local representative Tao Zagar. I am sure that he wants to know what is on the minds of the townspeople.

Our constitution places a lot of power in the hands of the people. If we, the people, do not partake in government, are we not breaking the trust that our founding fathers put in us?

The fathers of our country trusted that we would do our duty. Maybe it is we who are not trustworthy.

Richard Lancaster

CRYPTOGRAM ANSWER

The fourth of July, fireworks in the sky, flags on poles flying tall. We should think why, and like our forefathers try, for liberty and justice for all.

Barnard Academy Dates to Remember

Jul 2 Bees Meeting, 6:00pm

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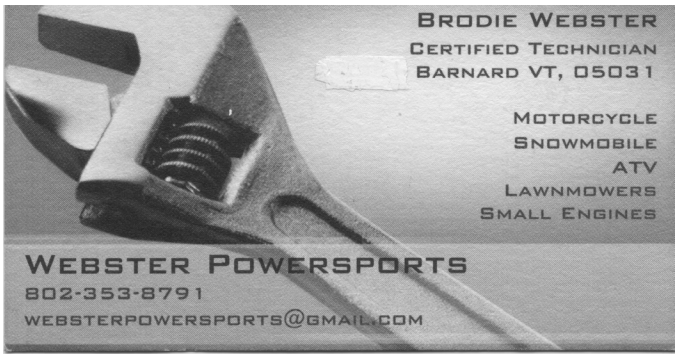

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The Barnard Bulletin

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FIBER ARTS BARNARD (FAB) - 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in the Barnard library community room, 3:30-5:30. Contact Janet Andersen, 234-5251, hywynds@aol.com, or Jenney Silva, 457-9000, hsilva86@yahoo.com.

THE BARNARD ACADEMY SCHOOL BOARD meets at 5:00pm at the school on the last Tuesday of each month.

THE PLANNING COMMISSION meets at 7:00pm in the Town Clerk's office on the following dates. 2013: June 3; August 5; October 7; November 4; December 2. 2014: January 6; February 3; March 10.

BARNARD LISTERS listers@barnardvt.us, 234-9576. Office hours, except holidays, Wednesday 9:00am - 11:00am, by appointment, or anytime we are in the office.

BARNARD ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S office hours are 9am – 12:00 noon, Tuesdays, until further notice.

BARNARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION meets the second Monday of the month, 7:00 PM, Town Hall.

BEES MEETINGS First Tuesday of each month allowing for school vacations, 6:00pm - 7:30pm, at the school library.

TOWN CLERK office hours are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:00am - 3:30pm.

THE DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD meets the third Thursday of the month at 7:00pm at the Barnard Town Hall as necessary.

RECYCLING HOURS: Saturdays, 8:00am to 4:00pm, and Wednesday, 4pm - 8pm.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY meets the last Tuesday of the month. Call 457-3020 for location. YOGA CLASSES offered at Danforth Library, Mondays 9:00am-10:30am with Suzanne Lacey, Tuesday 6:00pm-7:30pm with Amanda Anderson. For more information contact suzannelacey60@yahoo.com

DANFORTH LIBRARY is open Saturdays 10:00 to noon, Wednesday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00. Story hour is the first Saturday of the month. The Book Club meets the first Wednesday at 7:00pm.

SILVER LAKE CHAPEL 10:00AM Sunday Worship Service. The Chapel is located at 156 North Rd., Barnard-SELECTMEN meet the second and forth Wednesday of the month at 7:00PM at the Town Clerk's office

THE BARNARD BULLETIN, Box 161, Barnard VT 05031-0161, info@barnardbulletin.info, is published the 20th of each month. It is sent to the legal residents of Barnard. Non-resident subscriptions are $10.00 a year.

ADVERTISING RATES: Classified ads - 20 cents a word. Camera ready display ad - 3.5" wide by 2" high - $8.00. Special make-up work will be charged by the hour or part thereof - $10.00 minimum. Deadline for receiving ads will be the 10th of every month. Tel. 802/457-1792.