The Barnard Bulletin

NOVEMBER 2014 **Vol. XXIX No. 11**

SELECTMEN'S NEWS

Congratulations to Barnard resident Phil Camp and his staff at the Vermont Standard on being named Newspaper of the Year by the New England Newspaper & Press Association for weeklies in their circulation category. That should make for a nice "Reflection from Silver Lake" for some time to come. The Standard's coverage of area news, events and the arts helps keep alive our sense of community in this day of electronic disassociation. I guess we should be honored they bother to cover our boring meetings rather than grouse about it. Congratulations!

And BarnArts founder, producer, director and do-it-all actor and singer Jarvis Green has, not surprisingly, moved on to bigger if not better things at ArtisTree, newly situated in beautifully renovated accommodations in South Pomfret. It's quite a jewel the New York quality theater Jarvis brought to Barnard and it's not going anywhere; BarnArts Directors assure us they will journey on and Jarvis will continue to assist with the youth theater productions. And we haven't exactly lost him next door in South Pomfret; we'll look forward to seeing what delights he cooks up down there at ArtisTree.

A heavy storm the end of July that cost us thousands in unexpected repairs was not, after all, declared a FEMA event; however, our AOT District 4 Transportation Advisors down in White River are assisting us in drafting an application for emergency aid from the State's Emergency Repair Fund. This grant will cover not only 90% of our repair costs but provide additional money to correct some of the structural deficiencies that exacerbated the damage, such as cleaning and stone lining ditches on hills. Road Foreman Webster has nearly completed similar work in South Barnard following a FEMA qualifying storm last summer.

We're looking for "a few good men (or women)" for a couple of necessary pre-winter repair projects:

1. Repair of compactor at Transfer Station. Requires steel/welding work & portable welder.
2. Repair of fence around tennis courts. Includes cement work/resetting of gate posts.

If you're interested in either of these jobs or know someone who might be, please contact me, Tom Morse, at darylthedog@aol.com or 234-5256 and we'll take a look and discuss.

Well, that "delightful lull between bass fishing and deer hunting" mentioned last month is certainly history; it's in the thirties and looks like a whole week of November type weather coming up. We squeezed in a pretty productive bass day over on Lake Champlain before it departed but now it's time to turn our attention to the woods; this time next month we'll be right out there on the stump wondering why we didn't spend more time scouting and stretching our legs.

Don't forget to VOTE Tuesday, November 4th, 10-7, Barnard Town Hall!

NOTICES

EARLY VOTING OR ABSENTEE BALLOTS

You can request early absentee ballots until 3:30 PM at the Town Clerk's office on November 3, 2014. You or a family member can request ballots in person, in writing or by telephone.

CHECKLIST REGISTRATION

If you are not currently a registered voter in the Town of Barnard, the last date to register is Wednesday, October 29th. The Barnard Town Clerk's office will be open until 5 PM that day.

2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR, BEES MEETINGS: FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

Upcoming dates & times, variations due to holidays:

11/4, 12/2 from 6:30 to 7:45 PM in the Barnard Academy library

Please contact Nicole Conte Stevens, BEES President, 234.9786, with questions or agenda items.

ECFIBER MEETS $200,000 CHALLENGE, POISED FOR SIGNIFICANT GROWTH IN 2015

By John Roy, ECFiber Treasurer - October 2, 2014

ECFiber continued its unique funding process by closing on the sale of $510,000 of privately placed promissory notes, purchased by 36 different individuals. This included $200,000 that ECFiber was asked to contribute to the 51 mile Business Broadband Improvement District (BBID) project the Vermont Telecommunications Authority (VTA) announced June 30, to connect BBIDs in Braintree, Brookfield, North Randolph, Pomfret and Sharon.

According to ECFiber CEO, Stan Williams, "The combination of the VTA's projects and our own planned expansion will allow us to have a presence in 19 of our 24 mem

Cont. next page - ECF

ECF - Cont. from prev page

ber towns, and will provide an excellent base on which to expand within these towns as well as our remaining uncovered member towns."

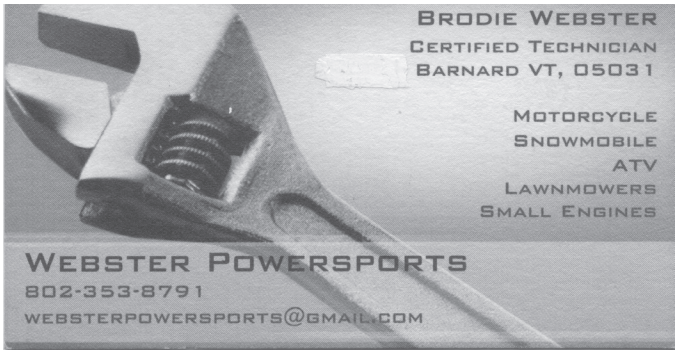
"We're pleased that ECFiber was able to meet the fundraising goal for these projects," said Chris Campbell, Executive Director of the VTA. "This is an important step in making it possible for many small business to have access to the improved broadband internet services that are vital to their success."

The September closing was the third of four that ECFiber is planning for 2014 and increases the total raised this year to $977,500 including the funds allocated to the VTA's BBID project. A fourth closing is planned for this December. Since it began funding and building in late 2010, ECFiber has raised in excess of $5.8 million in capital and connected 850 residential and business customers on close to 200 miles of network.

ECFiber is a consortium of 24 towns in East-Central Vermont. Step by step, we are building a community-owned fiber-optic network to deliver high-speed Internet to every home, business, or civic institution in our territory. ECFiber offers symmetrical internet access at speeds of up to 400 Mbps as well as phone service with unlimited USA and Canada calling.

For more information, please visit http://www.ecfiber.net/., or contact

Irv Thomae, Governing Board Chairman
415 Waterman Road, Royalton VT 05068
Office: (802) 763-2262, chairman@ecfiber.net



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BARNARTS EARNS 3 HOOT AWARDS

Every year The Complete Hoot hosts an Awards Dinner recognizing the Arts in the Upper Valley. This year BarnArts was nominated in 7 categories. The Awards Dinner was hosted on Sunday September 21st at VINS in Quechee and catered by Station Restaurant in Windsor, Simon Pearce in Quechee and Coventry Catering in White River Junction.

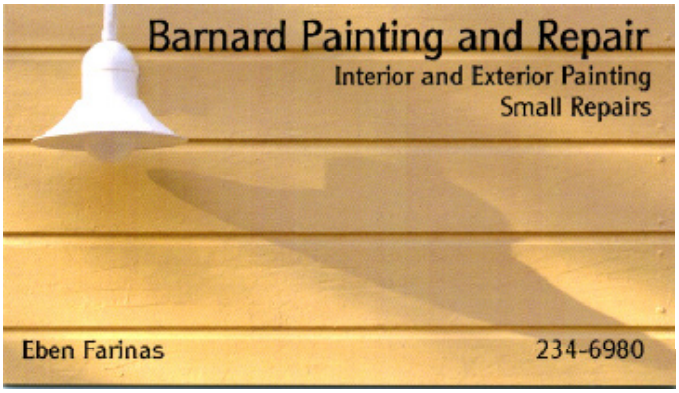
BarnArts is proud and honored to accept 3 Owl Awards.

1.) Best Winter Event: THE RED BLACK AND GREEN ECO-MUSIC TOUR

2.) Audience Choice Award: LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

3.) Best Arts Collaboration: THE 39 STEPS at King Farm in coordination with Sculpturefest.

A huge thank you to all of the voters and congratulations to the winners!



THOMPSON CENTER NEWS

Submitted by Pam Butler

We invite our Barnard neighbors to our annual Thanksgiving dinner celebration on Thursday, November 6th and you are encouraged to call early for your reservation for one seating only at 12pm. Transportation will be available from Barnard for those who need a ride. Our plans for our December 6th holiday bazaar are well underway and we are looking for crafters. If you knit, crochet, sew, bake or make delectable goodies that we can sell in a jar, or just about anything, please contact bazaar chair, Paula Audsley. Paula's mom, Janet Maxham, has donated a fabulous Winter Stars quilt, appraisal value of $1,000. Raffle tickets are available for $5.00 and include other items. The bazaar is one of our two big annual fund raisers and we appreciate Barnard's support of their senior center.

A free Chronic Pain Self-Management program offered by Mt. Ascutney Hospital is being held at The Thompson on Mondays, beginning November 3 – December 6, 1-3pm. For more information or to enroll please call 802-674-7089 or email CHO@mahhc.org.

Veterans Day is November 11th, and we thank our Barnard veterans for their service to our country. May every veteran know how deeply they are appreciated for their dedicated and loyal service, and for the sacrifices they have made in their lives to keep our country free.

The following are highlights of some of our November's programs. Please visit www.thompsonseniorcenter.org for a complete list of classes and programs for adults of all ages.

Foot Health: Presented by Gifford Medical Center podiatric surgeon, Dr. Samantha Harris, Tuesday, November 4, 1pm. Dr. Harris will discuss foot health, disorders of the feet and shoe gear. Podiatrists diagnose and treat disorders of the foot and ankle from ingrown toenails and diabetic foot care to reconstructive surgery. Dr. Harris is one of four Gifford podiatrists practicing in three locations – Sharon, Randolph and Berlin and provides all types of foot and ankle care.

Advance Directives: Monday afternoons, beginning November 10, 1-3pm. Would your loved ones know your wishes about medical care if you were unable to speak for yourself? There is a legal document called an Advance Directive that you can complete to give guidelines about your wishes and appoint someone to represent you if you are not able. We have arranged for a trained and caring volunteer to be at the Thompson Center every Monday from 1pm - 3pm. These volunteers will take the time to explain both the document and the simple process used to make your wishes known. The most important part of this process is talking to those you love about what matters most to you. For adults of all ages, please call 457-3277 to schedule an appointment.

Vermont Symphony Orchestra Holiday Pops at the historic Paramount Theater, Rutland: Sunday, December 14, 3pm. Two sleigh rides, a skating party, and a sojourn through the Twelve Days of Christmas (cleverly adapted to various music styles) are part of our joyful holiday journey with the VSO and VSO chorus. After the performance we will dine at Mountain Top Inn in the Killington region, a unique and rustically elegant venue overlooking a mountain lake and Green Mountain National Forest. We will depart from The Thompson on a Premier Coach bus at 1:45pm and return to Woodstock by 8pm.

In this upcoming season of gratitude, please take a moment to thank a veteran, and best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving from The Thompson staff, wherever your travels may take you.

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TO THE EDITOR:

Please join me in voting for Teo Zagar for another term in the Vermont House representing Windsor County 4-1, Barnard, Pomfret, West Hartford, and Quechee. Teo has capably filled the shoes of former Representative Mark Mitchell and brings the refreshing perspective and enthusiasm of a younger generation of Vermonters to our greying landscape. His Vermont upbringing, education and vocational pursuits engender a broad understanding of Vermont issues and priorities. In this era of self-defeating fractious national politics, Teo offers an open, bipartisan ear and puts the best interest of Vermonters above party plank.

Teo has been proactive on the Agriculture Committee bringing us the nation's first GMO labeling law. He has been responsive to individual and community needs which are included in his many accomplishments summarized on his website at www.teozagarforhouse.org. He introduced a bill at the behest of Barnard Selectmen to modify Act `78, the Ancient Roads Bill, to more easily allow retention of some class 4 town highways for public access to recreation areas.

Teo is aware of Vermonters' concerns with the out of control property tax burden imposed by the State's current laws to fund ever more costly education for a declining student population. He recently discussed with me an approach that would be more income tax based. Whatever the answer to this nearly inscrutable issue, Teo will work across the board to rework the education funding formula in the best interest of Vermonters.

Tom Morse, Barnard

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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 **U = N**. The solution is found by trial and error.

"B M B U F T C K V B I R F U J F C A B T I

G U Q K U B, B M B H X K U B V G C I I L O B

I F V B I K C F I C I F A A L U Q P L I S R I R B

A B L M B C I G H U."

- B A F Y L E B I R A L P H B U S B

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

The Bulletin Website, www.barnardbulletin.info, now has previous versions of the bulletin available in PDF format. More issues will be added as time allows. If you would like to read the bulletin as a PDF each month, please send an email to info@barrnardbulletin.info.

ARTICLES, STORIES WANTED

If you have an article or a story that you think would interest the readers of the Barnard Bulletin, please consider submitting them for publication. This is your community newsletter and it is sometimes difficult to fill the pages. Please consider writing something for the Bulletin.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

As one of the original ECFiber subscribers and a longtime satisfied customer (I'm quoted on the ECF website), I was hesitant to share a FairPoint press release announcing expanded "fiber" internet to parts of Barnard and Pomfret. Fairpoint's reputation for quality of service and customer service is notoriously substandard and I have in the past successfully advocated to the Public Service Board for refunds on behalf of customers who have received poor treatment. But I also know that some folks on these roads still might not have access to ECFiber and would maybe settle for Fairpoint service for the time being since it's better than nothing.

That said, Fairpoint's "fiber-based" description is deceptive. They run fiber to centralized transmission hubs and then carry the signal to your house via the old copper cables over which the speed degrades the farther it is from the hub. For some of you it may only reach speeds slightly faster than dial-up. Others are perfectly satisfied since they are close to the hub and have speeds that meet their needs. The delivery model for the big telecom companies is based more on providing the minimum for streaming entertainment rather than actually promoting economic activity, which is what rural Vermont needs. Big Telecom has been successful in stifling competition from upstarts like ECFiber, and Vermont's ability to regulate the national corporations is limited. They also receive millions of dollars in federal funds.

The state can still do more to promote real broadband and will hopefully make some progress in the near future. The draft telecom plan is currently under revision and there is an ongoing discussion in the legislature about creating a revolving loan fund to give providers like ECFiber the resources they need to expand without reliance on state subsidies.

Currently, for ECFiber to expand coverage they need a certain number of customers per mile to make it financially feasible. The quickest way to accomplish this is through investments in the form of promissory notes (http://ecfiber.net/invest/). The best way to get ECFiber on your road is to talk to your neighbors and find out how many prospective subscribers/investors there might be. Then contact ECFiber to continue the discussion. They are working to expand coverage in stretches of Pomfret and Barnard.

I live off-grid and off-road and when I signed up a few years ago they helped me run a spool of fiber more than 1000 feet up a hill and through the woods to splice into my neighbor's box. That winter a technician hiked up my mountain through the snow to hook up my service. He also happened to be the chairman of the town's "other" political committee. Big Telecom can't compete with that. Gotta love Vermont.

Teo Zagar, State Representative,
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NEWS FROM HELPING HANDS

What a beautiful leaf season and fall we are having, enhanced by a period of record breaking summer like weather. And now that the trees are almost bare, time is running out to finish stacking our wood, putting our garden to bed and finishing any other outdoor tasks. We will probably have snow flurries in the air before the next Barnard Bulletin finds its way into your mailbox.

Our September Firewood Fest was held on a beautiful early fall Saturday and was a huge success. Over 20 cords of wood, donated by Mark van Gulden, Timber Tender, Bill Cournoyer, the Town of Barnard and the Ward's, was cut, split and delivered to 17 different households. Thanks to Ralph, Justin, Jason, Jeannie, and Becky Ward for letting us use their log landing, their equipment and for their hard work. Thanks also to the many other volunteers who ran the splitters, loaded trucks, and made deliveries (including some hardworking kids), and to the people who brought food and drinks to refresh the workers. Many thanks to everyone who helped make this year's fest such a success!

We are already thinking about next year's Firewood Fest. We hope to work with our local loggers to insure that we will have enough wood for next year. If you are having logging or tree work done this winter and would be willing to donate wood, please let us know.

Thanksgiving and Christmas are right around the corner. We will be giving food gift cards for both holidays to families and individuals, as well as buying holiday gifts for some local children. Please contact one of us if you know of someone who could use a little extra help this holiday season.

We are happy to report that Vali Stuntz has joined our Helping Hands board. We are grateful to have a representative from East Barnard.

Last month I noted that our food shelf collection box was being under used. I would like to thank those of you who responded and helped keep the box filled. We were able to make more deliveries to our two local food shelves this past month. As winter approaches, and the available local produce declines, the food shelf depends even more on our community's generous donations. Please consider adding an item to the box each time you buy something at the BGS. They always need the following items: peanut butter, tuna fish, canned meat, stews or soups, pasta and pasta sauce, rice, any canned fruits and vegetables, hot or cold cereals, coffee, tea, sugar and personal care items such as shampoo, toothpaste and toilet paper. Thank you for supporting the food shelves!

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you or someone you know could use a helping hand. We have people ready and willing to help. If the job is too big for us to handle, we can refer you to other available resources.

Linda Beaumariage – 234-5624, letvt@mac.com;
Louie Ahlen – 457-2621, lahlen8920@aol.com;
Mary Blanton – 234-5541, marywbvt@gmail.com;
Patty Hasson – 457-3886, patty.hasson@wildapple.com;
Deb Rice – 234-5349, debarice@gmail.com;
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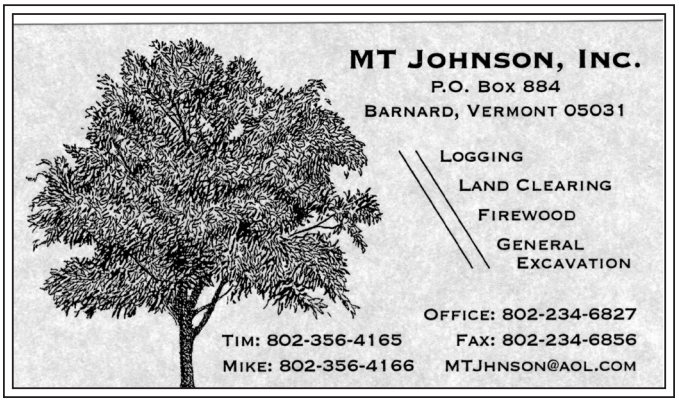

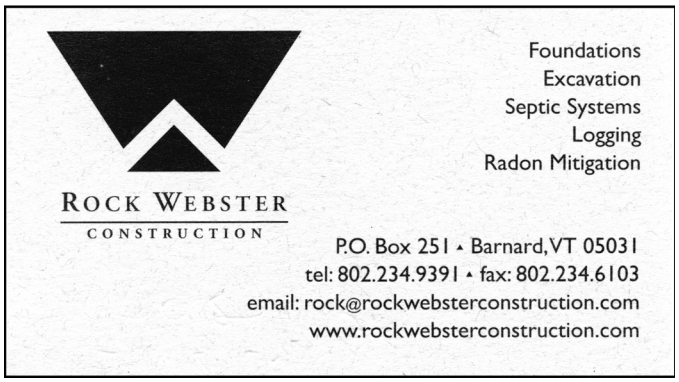

EAST BARNARD COMMUNITY CLUB ANNOUNCES ANNUAL MEETING

by Virginia Glass Schlabach

The East Barnard Community Club's Annual Meeting is scheduled for Thursday November 6, 7:00 p.m., at the Community Hall. The agenda items include election of officers and a vote on an earlier proposal regarding the Luna Moore Scholarship.

On October 18, with 57 years of experience behind them, the Broad Brook firemen and local friends served up another great Oyster Stew Supper to mark the fund-raiser's 58th year. Diners traveled from as far as Rochester and Bridgewater for the traditional oyster stew, baked beans, cole slaw, rolls, pickles, and homemade pie and apple cobbler. This was the first year in memory that there was no leftover stew at the end of the evening. Ticket sales for the raffle of local items and a 50-50 raffle added to the funds raised for the fire company. Mary Lee Camp won the top raffle prize, a Sabra Field print, and Marilyn Syme won the 50-50 raffle.

This month East Barnard is remembering the contributions to our community of two colorful long-time residents, Peggy Wesbrook and Puggy Potwin, who died a few weeks ago. Peggy's home was the "Little Brick" in the center of the village, and Puggy farmed his family homestead on East Barnard Road. Puggy's memorial service and burial took place in Barnard on October 8, and Peggy's service and burial will take place in East Barnard on October 25.

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BUTTON UP DAY IS NOVEMBER 1

Whether we have a mild winter or a cold one, and whether fuel prices remain high or go low, one thing is for certain: you will spend less and be more comfortable if you "button up" or weatherize your house this fall.

November 1 is Button Up Day in Vermont. Homeowners and renters are encouraged to take steps to insulate their living space. The benefits are immediate: you burn less fuel, spend less money, feel more comfortable, and benefit the planet that is our home.

The Button Up Vermont website (www.buttonupvermont.org/resources-3/) has some videos that provide basic information, including

- energy conservation tips
- how to identify places where heat escapes from your home
- step-by-step demonstrations of weatherization techniques that reduce heat loss, and
- technical and financial resources.

The Barnard Energy Committee has gathered some useful print information on weatherization. Look for the Button Up display at the Barnard General Store.

Elizabeth Ferry, Barnard Energy Committee (ferry@innevi.com), 802.763.2294

CRYPTOGRAM ANSWER

"Even if something is left undone, everyone must take time to sit still and watch the leaves turn."

- Elizabeth Lawrencet

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PLEASE VOTE TUESDAY NOVEMBER 4TH AT THE BARNARD TOWN HALL FROM 10:00 AM TO 7:00PM

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 8:30 am at the school on the first 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 Mondays, 9:00am - 12:00 noon.

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

TOWN CLERK office hours are Monday, Tuesday & 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.

SELECTMEN meet the second and forth Wednesday of the month at 7:00PM at the Town Clerk's office.

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

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

HISTORICAL SOCIETY meets the fourth Tuesday of the month. Call 457-3020 for location.

THE ENERGY COMMITTEE meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm at the Barnard Town Offices.

DANFORTH LIBRARY is open Saturdays 10:00 to noon, Wednesday evenings from 6:00 - 8:00. The Book Club meets the first Wednesday at 7:00pm. The Library Trustees meet on the second Wednesday of each month in the Danforth Library book room at 6:30pm. Winter hours, starting Nov. 1st, are Sat. 10:00 - 12:00am & Wed. 3:00 - 5:00pm.

SILVER LAKE CHAPEL will be holding Sunday worship services on Sunday evenings at 6:00pm. Please contact Marty Bascom at 802-728-5764 for more information.

YOGA CLASSES offered at Danforth Library, Mondays 9:00 am - 10:30 am and 6:15pm -7:45pm with Amanda Anderson. Classes are by donation; for more info, contact theonlymissamanda@yahoo.com.

THE BARNARD BULLETIN, Box 161, Barnard VT 05031-0161, info@barnardbulletin.info, is published the 20th of each month and is sent to the legal residents of Barnard. Subscriptions are $10.00 a year. Tel. 802/457-1792.