The Barnard Bulletin

FEBRUARY 2015 **Vol. XXX No. 2**

SELECTMEN'S NEWS

That storm back in December really did a number on the poor old trees all over Town, left our road sides and ditches littered and now the bent over leaners and limbs that didn't come down are right back down in the road with even a little ice or wet snow such as we just had. We're thinking a hundred thou or so to clean up what's on the ground and still overhanging! The Road Foreman and I spent a couple days riding around with FEMA assessment reps counting sticks and estimating yards of chips to see if maybe it will qualify as a declarable disaster. It appears that our county has enough damage to meet the dollar threshold but whether it gets to the President's desk and leaves with his signature remains to be seen.

For countervailing good news, we mostly escaped the equipment woes we reported last month: the new Peterbilt just needed a computer reset to sync its rear end ratio with rest of its "brain." The unexpected motor failure (rocker arms) with the one ton turned out to be still under warranty! It's back at work and running like a top. However, dear old Precious, our spare truck, will need an engine rebuild or replacement if it's ever going to be of service again. We're still evaluating the cost to value to loss factors hoping for some epiphany which never seems forthcoming when it's just a matter of dollars.

We have the proposed FY16 budget pretty well put to bed and the Warning and Town Report will be ready soon as well as the FY14 independent audit. As predicted in last year's Selectmen's Report in the Town Report, a large FY13 Highway surplus became a sizable FY14 deficit after the Irene/FEMA recovery loan was repaid. The $100,000 voters last year approved above anticipated Highway operating expenses to address the shortfall and some shuffling of the General Fund surplus may be enough to get us through. We'll wait and see how the current year audit looks. We'll make the 2015 Warning available on the Barnard List Serve as soon as it gets one more tweak and signatures and here in the BB next month.

General Fund and Highway budgets are both down a little but anticipated non-tax revenue is down a little more leaving the amount to be raised by taxes up but so is our CLA so it may turn out to be an approximate wash. I'm not sure my fellow Selectmen want to own that kind of seat-of-pants calculation so I better claim that somewhat educated guess.

Barnard Academy Directors and Selectmen will host an informational pre-Town Meeting on February 25th at 7pm at the Town Hall. You should have your Town Report studied up by then and we'll hope to be able to answer your questions. Town Meeting this year is Tuesday, March 3rd at 10am at the Town Hall. We look forward to seeing you there.

Income Tax Forms are not available at the Town Clerks office. Forms are available as noted below

3 Easy Ways to Get Your Vermont Income Tax Forms

1 **Download fillable PDF forms from the web**

Download, complete, and print forms at
www.tax.vermont.gov

2 **Order forms by email**

Email your request to
taxforms@state.vt.us

3 **Order forms by phone**

Call toll-free in the U.S.
(855) 297-5600

When ordering, please tell us:

1. Your name
2. Mailing address
3. Form number or form name
4. Daytime phone number

Quick Tips:
- **Order your paper forms early for timely delivery**
- **Use current year forms from the same source**
- **Do not use photocopied forms**

E-file your taxes for a faster refund!

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF TAXES

THANKS FROM THE EDITOR

I wish to thank all those that made the effort to send in the new subscription fee and my deepest gratitude to those that paid more than was due. The Bulletin has deposited $615.55 in subscription fees since the invoices went out. This goes a long way toward the projected $900.00 cost of production for this year.

At this time there are eighty-three paid subscriptions that will be sent by first class mail. There are fifty-five people that wish to have the link to the PDF version mailed to them. Thank you all for your support and I am looking forward to printing many more Bulletins for the friends and residents of Barnard.

FEBRUARY IN EAST BARNARD BEGINS WITH HOME CHURCH AND QUILTING BEES

by Virginia Glass Schlabach

Football fans may be looking forward to the Super Bowl at 6:30 on February 1, but the East Barnard Church is also offering a Home Church service that afternoon at 4:00. Carol Robbins will host at her house on Allen Hill Road. Pastor Kellyann Wolfe will lead the informal service and, for those who would like to linger longer (or eat quickly and still get home in time for kickoff), a potluck supper will follow at 5:00.

Winter months and quilt-making seem to go together. East Barnard women will gather soon to complete the Barnard Academy BEES raffle quilt in memory of Polly Leavitt. There will also be a February work meeting to prepare the fabrics for the East Barnard Community Club's 2015 raffle quilt. Marlene Rand and Linda Ward have chosen "Round the Corner" as the pattern for the queen-size quilt, which will be raffled at the Largely Local Dinner in September. Anyone interested in sewing a block or blocks for the quilt should contact Marlene at randbunnycat@aol.com. Tickets are already available for the BEES quilt, to be raffled in May.

Extremely cold snowy weather kept the numbers down at the Community Club card party on January 14, but host Randy Leavitt reports: "The card party was fun, only three tables, it was cold outside, and John Leavitt is king of whist." Watch for announcements of future club events via the East Barnard Village Crier and Marjorie VanAlstyne's newspaper column.

BARNARTS CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Presents a Green Mountain Players Production of Death and Taxes by Pat Cook Directed by Jo Oliver-Yeager

Performances will be held at the First Universalist Church in Barnard on January 30th and January 31st, at 7:00pm, and February 1st at 2:00pm. Tickets are available at www.barnarts.org and are $15.00 for adults and $10 for students.

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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 **I=O** The solution is found by trial and error.

J F B K R J B K Y B J E I M Q F B J E F I J Y

H I I E A B C C H B W J N F I E B R Y E F Y U K

J F U K E J I H H P M K U W Q Q B D Y J U W

L F U L B Q I U W S B W M B K V, I W C V

D I K Y U W E Y C C U Q Y W E.

- P B T Y A B K K V

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

TEN YEARS AGO

As Reported in the February 2005 Bulletin

- Homestead Declaration must be filed. It has been 10 years of act 60. We should have learned by now;

- A COD of 20.01% forces a town reappraisal. So far so good this year. Keep your fingers crossed.

- Doton Farm Fund, to assist in replacing a barn destroyed by fire. Not quite the same type of barn as had been there.

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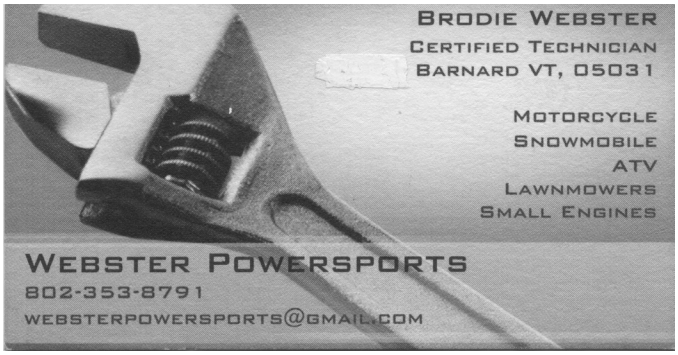

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LISTER NOTES

The Listers office has been working on the linking of the Grand List data to the online map. This has taken longer than expected as the conversion of the old mapping format to the new online map format was not as easy as we had hoped. Thus several days were spent in hooking up the map parcels to the correct Grand List data. There is a good chance that the on-line map will be available within a month.

We are also going through the files and moving the archival data to long term record storage. This is part of the process of moving the land record overflow that had been in a standard filing cabinet, into the new fire resistant safe that was recently purchased. We would like to thank the town stalwarts that manhandled the safe down the stairs and into the Listers office. Without them the safe would still be sitting outside on the porch.

Again we would like to remind everybody that now is a good time to review your property appraisal If you find a problem with the listed value, or think you have not been equitably appraised, please contact the listers office to have the appraisal reviewed prior to the setting of the new Grand List as of April first. Please remember that the school tax rate is set by State and that the municipal rate is based on the budget voted at Town Meeting in March.

And please remember to file your homestead declaration (HS-122) by April 15, 2015. This needs to be done regardless of when you file your final income tax return.

ECFIBER NEWS

ECFiber continues to expand into it's tewnty-four member towns. With 957 installed customers and 243 waiting to be hooked up, ECFiber is approaching the 1000 subscriber milestone. All of this has been paid for by private investors, some of which are not receiving the high speed fiber service that ECFiber supplies.

ECFiber now offers 400 Mbps, symmetrical service. This is 100 times faster than the 4Mbps that is sometimes achieved by those on rural DSL lines and 3,600 times faster than the 56K dial up of the 80's. To learn more about the services offered by ECFiber visit ECFiber.net.

If you wish to invest in ECFiber, there will be a closing for the purchase of promissory notes on February 16, 2015. Please e-mail John Roy, john@roy-vt.net, for more information about the closing. Remember this is an investment and your money will be returned with interest.

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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.

SECOND PROPERTY TAX PAYMENT DUE WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18, 2015

The second payment of the tax year is due on February 18, 2015 Any property taxes due after that date are subject to interest and penalties as allowed by law.

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BARNARD SNOWMOBILE CLUB NEWS

Reminder: The annual club poker ride will be held on Sunday, Jan 25th starting at 9:00 am at the Barnard town hall. There will be coffee and pastry available at the start and a hot lunch at the finish. Please plan to join us as it is always a really enjoyable family event.

Pay particular attention to all the new trail signs at the Barnard intersections this year. Trail routes for the most part have not changed but we took the opportunity this year to rename some of the trails to a designation that was more consistent and sensible.

Will Dodson at the Barnard Inn is willing to open for lunch or special event for your snowmobile group with a couple of days notice. Give him at a call at the inn for more information. Riders are always welcome to ride in for dinner – just follow the trail signs for parking your sled.

If you're a night rider or hiker and you see what looks like a close encounter of the fourth kind, it's probably our groomer coming through. Additional lights have been added for extra visibility and safety. Be sure to give a wave or a nod of thanks to our groomer guys out there at all hours.

For updates check us out at: www.barnardmountaninviewers.com or on our new face book page. Enjoy the trails and safe riding.

~ Architect ~
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CRYPTOGRAM ANSWER

Sharks are as tough as those football fans who take their shirts off during games in Chicago in January, only more intelligent.

- Dave Barry

CPR CLASS

The Barnard Fire Volunteer Fire Department will be offering Family and Friends CPR at the Barnard Academy on Monday, January 26, at 6:30PM. The Family & Friends CPR Course teaches the lifesaving skills of adult Hands-Only™ CPR, child CPR with breaths, adult AED use, infant CPR and relief of choking in an adult, child or infant. For pre-registration please contact Lynne Tracy at 234-9785 or email ltracy12761@gmail.com.

In collaboration with Bethel Fire Department and White River Valley Ambulance, the Barnard fireman and First Response Squad will be conducting a rescue drill on Saturday, February 7, 10am on the VAST trail on snowmobile rider rescue and transport. This drill is part of regular ongoing training and education for fireman and first responders.

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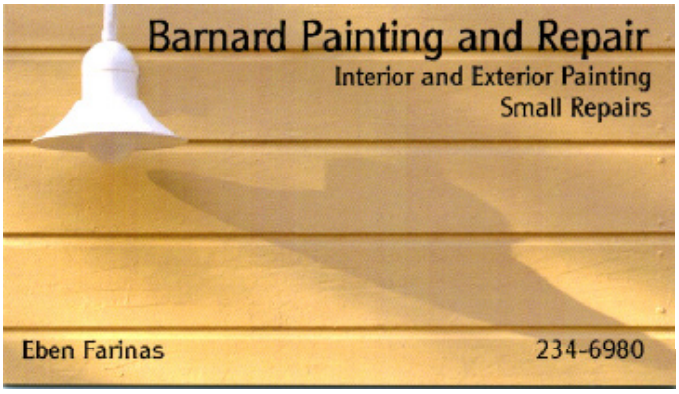

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FIBER ARTS BARNARD (FAB) - 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in the Barnard library community room, 3:30-5:30. Contact Janet Andersen, 234-5251, hywynds@aol.com, or Jenney Silva, 457-9000, hsilva86@yahoo.com.

THE BARNARD ACADEMY SCHOOL BOARD meets at 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 234-9183 or 234-9080 for meeting 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.

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