

Benson Bulletin

Benson, Vermont's Community Newsletter

November 2011



HAYRIDE HAVOC

The Fire Department has almost finished clearing up the ghosts, ghouls and goblins who wandered the roads of Benson during their annual Haunted Hayride. The Pirate Ship that washed up on Munger's shore lawn was quite a challenge...and let's not even discuss the sharks... or the "accident" on the corner of Lake and North Lake Roads.

...more inside...

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS

Set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night, November 5th. Daylight Savings ends at 2 a.m. on Sunday, November 6th.

MEETINGS/EVENTS THIS MONTH

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION/EVENT</u>
November 2	Wednesday	7:00 pm	Over the Hill Farm	Lucky Clovers 4-H
November 8	Tuesday	6:30-8 pm	Community Hall	Benson Busy Buddies
November 8	Tuesday	7:00 pm	School	School Board
November 9	Wednesday	7:00 pm	Town Office	Planning Commission
November 10	Thursday	6:30 pm	Town Office	Energy Committee
November 10	Thursday	7:00 pm	Library	Verd Mont FCE
November 11	Friday	All Day	Town Office	CLOSED
November 14	Monday	11:30 am	Community Hall	Senior Luncheon
November 14	Monday	7:00 pm	Town Office	Selectboard
November 16	Wednesday	6:00 pm	Library	Reading Group
November 16	Wednesday	7:00 pm	Over the Hill Farm	Lucky Clovers 4-H
November 19	Saturday	10am-4 pm	School	1 st Response Craft Fair
November 22	Tuesday	6:30-8 pm	Community Hall	Benson Busy Buddies
November 24	Thursday	All Day	Town Office	CLOSED
November 27	Sunday	4:30 pm	Town Office	Memory Tree Lighting
November 28	Monday	7:00 pm	Town Office	Selectboard
November 29	Tuesday	6:30 pm	Town Office	History Project

Monthly Senior Luncheon: November 14th

Come and share your favorite Thanksgiving recipes and traditions with your friends while you enjoy a scrumptious meal prepared by The Wheel Inn: roast turkey, stuffing, gravy, cranberry sauce, mashed sweet potatoes, corn, salad, pumpkin pie, coffee, tea, milk.

Suggested donation: \$3.50.

For reservations, please call Deanna Britton by Friday, November 11th : 537-2971.

From the Benson School Board

The Benson School Board congratulates our 5th and 6th graders who placed second in the District Spelling Bee. Special congratulations go out to our 7th and 8th graders who annihilated the competition and brought the first place trophy home to BVS. In these times when the world is speaking "Textinese", it's refreshing to see that our students still speak English and can spell it also. Nicely done, Coach Gunn. Good luck in the Regionals!

Just a reminder, the Benson School Board meets the second Tuesday of every month at BVS and we welcome the public to attend. The meetings start at 7:00 and there is always plenty of seating. Parking is free. We will soon be preparing next year's budget and this is an ideal time for citizens to have input and be part of the process. See you there.

Bobbi Bean, Mike Ellis, Jodie Goodhue, Eric Hults, Amy Munger

REMINDER

The TOWN OFFICE will be CLOSED on
Friday, November 11th and Thursday, November 24th

WHERE'S YOUR TURKEY PLATTER?

We can't help you remember where you stored it, but we can help you improve your balance and make getting it down from that top shelf a safer task. Come and try us out - you'll have a good time while you improve your bones and your balance, and we can help you remember that our program is free and local. We meet from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. in the Community Hall every Monday and Thursday

If you want more information – minutes of meetings, schedules, opportunities in Town - please remember to visit our Town's website: <http://www.benson-vt.com>

And the Benson Village School's website:

<http://www.benson.arsu.org>.



BENSON PUBLIC LIBRARY



Open Wednesdays 3 - 7 p.m. and Saturdays 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Benson Village School News

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

Benson and Orwell have combined for school sports. This means our school should no longer will have to worry about having enough students to play on a team! This change will begin with basketball season which will start in late November. We look forward to this new partnership.

Our 8th graders would like to thank all those involved in making fundraising for our calendar and at the haunted hayride such a success! We raised a lot of money which will help send students to Washington. We appreciate such great community support! We can't do it without you!

Congratulations to our Spelling Bee participants! Our 5/6 team landed in 2nd place and our 7/8 team took the win at the district competition! If you see Sydney Bennett, Elyza Bird, Doug Hendee, Benjamin Lannon, Emily Lucie, Marcus McCollum, McKenzie Apjohn, Kelsi Bean, Alexis Beauregard, Kaitlyn Pellerin, Keilani Pellerin, or Zane Tenzer, please congratulate them! We are so proud.

Dates for November:

- 11/7: Picture Retakes
- 11/8: 7:00 pm School Board Meeting
- 11/11: No School, Veterans Day
- 11/23-11/25: No School, Thanksgiving Break

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS

Colleen Hoard is still accepting registration forms for the annual Benson First Response Craft Fair which will be held on Saturday, November 19, 2011. You can use the application form in this issue of the Benson Bulletin – or call Colleen (537-3521) if you have questions.

CHURCH NEWS

9:30 a.m. Choir Practice

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

POT LUCK AND ANNUAL MEETING

On **Friday, November 11**, we will be having a Pot Luck Supper in the Fellowship Hall of the church, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Our Annual Meeting will follow – as we review the accomplishments of the past year and make plans for the year ahead, electing our officers, and envisioning the mission and ministry of the church for years to come. Come join us!

MITTEN TREE

During Advent we will be collecting new mittens, hats, and scarves to be distributed to children in the Benson area. The mitten tree will be in the narthex throughout Advent, so you can bring in mittens, etc. at any time.

BOOK STUDY

On Wednesday, **November 16**, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the classroom downstairs in the church, we will start a three week study based on the book, **Hurry Less, Worry Less at Christmas** by **Judy Christie**. Our discussions are made that much more interesting by the diversity of those to come to the study – so why not join us?

CASTLETON THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The Federated Church of Castleton invites everyone to their Thanksgiving service on **Tuesday, November 22 at 6 p.m.** If you would like to sing in the choir at this special service, speak to Holly; she will have the choir practice schedule. This is an inter-faith service and everyone is asked to bring a non-perishable food item as your offering for this service. A light supper will be served, following the service.

YOUTH GROUP TO SELL GREETING CARDS

Looking for a great Christmas gift idea? The Youth Group will be selling greeting cards. There will be 12 cards in a pack for \$6.00. If interested in purchasing one, please speak to one of the youths or to their leader, Sarah Hathaway!

CHURCH CHRISTMAS TREE

On Sunday, November 27, the first Sunday in Advent, we will be decorating the Christmas tree in the sanctuary of the church during our worship service. The theme of the service will be **“Preparing for Christmas.”** This Sunday is Family Sunday, where the service is geared toward ALL members of the family – and is followed by Coffee Hour! Come join us as we usher in the Christmas season!

CHOIR

The choir is planning music for Advent and Christmas, so now is a great time to join the choir! We always have a good time – and we are open to everyone! So, if you ever thought about **joining the choir** - or if you sang in the past, but have been “on vacation” for a while, why not join our ranks now? We are always looking for some new voices! There are no requirements to join; just be willing to come and make a joyful noise to the Lord! The choir practices at 9:30 Sunday mornings. We practice several pieces each week, but only sing one selection during the worship service. Why not come join our ranks!

Questions? Please contact Holly Noble: 802-446-3575 or hollyberry530@yahoo.com

FROM THE PAST

Benson in 1900

The population had dropped to 880 and the availability of some services in Town had decreased or declined but the Town was still a vibrant community.

Walton's Vermont Register is the source of the following: Benson is located 54 miles Southwest of Montpelier and 26 miles Northwest of Rutland. Rail travel was available at Fair Haven, ten miles distant and at Putnam Station, N.Y. four miles from Benson Village. Telephones were available at both stations.

Travel to Fair Haven was available by stage leaving at 7:30 am and returning at 7:00 pm. The Putnam stage left at 10:30 am and returned at 1:30 pm. This trip would include the ferry from Benson Landing to Putnam.

Town officers included Clerk – F.W. Kellogg, Treasurer – W.S. Bascom, Selectmen - Jasper Root, R.K. Walker and W.B. Noble, Constable – Darwin Belden, Overseer – A. J. Dickenson, School Directors- J.H. Aiken, M.E. Wilcox and Frank Bump. The Town Superintendent was Julia Sherman and the Road Commissioner - Dennis O. Brien . Postmasters were A.J. Dickenson in the village and A.L. Hale at Benson Landing.

C.E. Hitchcock was at the Congregational Church and G.E Cady at the Methodist Church.

Blacksmiths in town included Wm. Jones, W. J. Cummings, F.H. Bishop, E.H. Sherman and J.J. Faukenburg. The mills of L.B. Cook, N. O' Donald, and Jerry Fowler were sources of lumber. N. O' Donald provided grain and feed at his grist mill. Wagons, carriages and sleighs were made by Strong Brothers. Black Slate was available from the Vermont Black Slate Company. Joe Leaux was a barber, Wm. Jones a photographer and Mrs. W. J. Cummings, Miss Ida J. Belden, Miss. H. K. Walker and Mrs. C. M. Williamson dressmakers. Harvey Bishop, Albert Coats, Marvin Coats and Fred Barlow were carpenters and C. C. Belden, J. H. Strong and L. D. Belden were painters. Paper hangers were A. Gibbs, Mrs. L. D. Belden and L. D. Belden.

E. A. Gibbs and Ray and Jones were the merchants with agricultural implements available from O. H. Bump, Gilbert Root, and Nelson O, Donald. E. C. Maranville provided harnesses.

Physicians were H. R. Jones, H. R. Jones Jr., J. P. Newton, and H.J. Stevens.

LEONARD'S MOST RECENT FIRST

If you happen to see Leonard Lussier, ask him how he liked turning 85 for the first time!

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS

Set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night, November 5th. Daylight Savings ends at 2 a.m. on Sunday, November 6th.

VERD MONT FCE CLUB

Verd Mont members held their monthly meeting on October 13th. Dale Sweet presented the "Being Green" program on steps to take to help conserve the environment.

Members have been selling tickets for a raffle basket that contains a quilted table runner, wreath, Nana's Stuff-a-Friend dog kit, 2# block of Cabot cheese, hand knitted scarf and Christmas ornament. Tickets may be purchased from Dale Sweet or Rita Charlton. The last chance to see the basket and buy your tickets will be at the Holiday Craft Fair on November 19th at the Benson Village School. Drawing will be at the end of the day.

The next meeting will be held on November 10th at 7:00 PM in the Benson Library. The program will be "Paper, Plastic or Neither".

Verd Mont FCE is part of the National Family Community Education Association with the following mission: "Strengthening individuals, families and communities through continuing education, developing leadership and community action."

Grief Workshops Offered by RAVNAH

Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice (RAVNAH) is offering the following grief workshops in November. Workshops are free and open to the public.

Wednesday, **November 9** from 12 to 1:30 p.m., the workshop "A Child's Grief", offers an understanding of how children grieve, the differences in age-specific grief, and tools to help your child cope with losses in their early life. This workshop will be held at the Dorset Nursing office at 909 Route 30 in Dorset.

Wednesday, **November 16** from 6-7:30 p.m., the workshop, "No Goodbyes – Understanding Loss after Suicide" will explore the unique nature of loss through suicide, the journey of grief itself and the importance of self-care. This workshop will be held at RAVNAH, 7 Albert Cree Drive, Rutland.

Wednesday, **November 30** from 12 to 1:30 p.m., the workshop "Coping with Grief during the Holidays" presents coping strategies and helpful suggestions for those grieving on how to make it through the holidays and even enjoy them. This workshop will be held at the Dorset Nursing office at 909 Route 30 in Dorset.

Registration is required for all workshops. Additional grief counseling is available for anyone in the community who has experienced a loss through death and is having difficulty adjusting to this change. To register, or to schedule an appointment, call Ann LaRocque at 770-1516.

BUDGET IDEAS/REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS

If you have any input for the Selectboard or School budgets, **NOW** is the time to speak up! Come to a meeting, call a Board member, write a note – get involved!

RAVNAH FOOT CLINIC SCHEDULE NOVEMBER 2011

The Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice offers our community a valuable service by providing numerous Blood Pressure and Foot Care clinics throughout the county each month. There is a suggested donation of **\$2.00 for blood pressure screenings** and **\$5.00 for foot care**. The following calendar lists the blood pressure and foot care clinics for **November 2011**.

Day	Date	Town	Site	Time
Wednesday	11/2/11	Wallingford	Wallingford House	10:30 am
Thursday	11/3/11	Rutland	Parker House	10:00 am
Friday	11/4/11	Poultney	Young at Heart	9:30 am
Monday	11/7/11	Brandon	Forestdale Senior Center	1:00 pm
Thursday	11/10/11	Benson	Benson Heights	10:00 am
Thursday	11/10/11	Castleton	Castleton Meadows	12:30 pm
Wednesday	11/16/11	Rutland	Sheldon Towers	9:30 am
Wednesday	11/16/11	Rutland	Linden Terrace	11:00 am
Wednesday	11/16/11	Dorset	Dorset Nursing Office	9:00 am
Thursday	11/17/11	N.Clarendon	Community Center	12:30 pm
Thursday	11/17/11	Rutland	Maple Village	10:00 am
Wednesday	11/30/11	Rutland	Godnick Center	12:30 pm

Got Cholesterol?

The Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice (RAVNAH) offers a total lipid profile along with a comprehensive cholesterol and glucose screening on the first Wednesday of each month. Screenings will be held at the RAVNAH office on 7 Albert Cree Drive, in Rutland on **Wednesday, November 2 at 8:30am**. Please call **in advance** for an appointment at 775-0568. The total lipid profile is a group of tests to determine risk of coronary heart disease. The blood glucose test screens for diabetes. The complete lipid profile requires an 8-12 hour fast prior to the test to ensure accurate results. The cost for a Complete Lipid Profile and Glucose is \$30.00.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

For the **December 1st** newsletter, please submit your news and ads no later than **November 25th**. Drop off your information at the Town Office or e-mail what you would like included in the newsletter to benso news@shoreham.net or suejanssen@shoreham.net or call Sue Janssen at 537-3111.

FIRE TRUCK FOR SALE

Bids are now being accepted for the Benson Fire Department's 1979 Chevrolet Middlesex Pumper – C70 gas, 5 speed with a 454. Sealed bids – minimum bid \$1,000 - should be submitted to the Town Office by November 30, 2011. For information, contact Ben Bartholomew: 855-1656.

SPECIAL THANKS FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

There are MANY people who make our Haunted Hayride possible. Among them are the Drivers and the people who donate their tractors and hay wagons. Please join us in thanking: **Drivers**: Ben Bartholomew, Brian Book, Gerald Hathaway, Greg Hathaway, Paul Lussier, Reggie Lussier, Jim Richards, Josh Richards, Cody Wilbur; **Tractors donated by**: Bartholomew Brothers, Book Brothers, Hathaway Farm, Paul Lussier, Bob Shaw, Dave Tyler; **Wagons donated by**: Book Brothers, John Capen, Tim Charron, Dr. Clifford, Hathaway Farm, Mike and Larry Wilbur.

And a big “thank you” to all who helped get the people onto the wagons: **Tickets**: Daphne Bartholomew, Sarah Hahn, Sue Janssen; **Loaders/Unloaders**: Dick Bowen, Lenny Simmes, Evan Wooster; **Loading Site Management**: Daphne Bartholomew, Tim Bird, Tanya Bowen, John Hill, Ed Peltier, Norma Phillips.

We also thank – but dare not name – all those who staged sites which, once again, successfully scared more than 1200 visitors!

Did you survive the Benson Haunted Hay Ride?

Did you forget to purchase your souvenir shirt the night of the hay ride? We still have plenty left. It's not too late to purchase your shirt, please contact Gina Cull at 537-2063. T-Shirts are \$10.00 each, Sweatshirts are \$15.00 each and Hoodies are \$25.00 each.

MEMORY TREE LIGHTING

This year this event is being sponsored by the Benson Fundraising Committee for the benefit of the Scholarship Fund. It will take place in front of the Benson Town Office on Sunday, November 27, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. Bulbs are \$1/bulb for each name. Checks should be made payable to the Benson Fundraising Committee. You can purchase your bulbs at G & L or the Benson Village Store or at our table at the Benson First Response Craft Fair on November 19th or by mail: PO Box 163, Benson, VT 05731. The deadline for purchasing your bulbs is November 25, 2011. Questions? Call Gina Cull: 537-2063.

Coloring Contest

Thank you to all the participants we had in the coloring contest, it was a good addition to our festivities. We look forward to bringing this back next year.

The winners from our coloring contest held the 2 nights of the hay ride are:

0-3 – Ezabella Book from West Haven, age 3

3-5 – Tyler, age 5

5-7 – Marah Cain from West Rutland, age 6

7-10 – Evan LaRouche from Rutland, age 9

Each of them will receive a free ice cream cone to Stewarts, Congratulations to our winners & Enjoy!

A very big thanks to our Vendors & Nicole our face painter – We hope to see you all back next year!

BAKE SALE

Please stop by our table at the Craft Fair on November 19th at the Benson Village School and check out our baked goods, hay ride shirts and purchase your memory bulb or bulbs for the memory tree. If you are interested in donating some baked goods please contact Gina Cull at 537-2063. All proceeds to benefit the Benson Fundraising Committee.

Jeanne Bartholomew Realty

East Road Jeannebrealty@aol.com 802-537-4938

- Orwell Village home with 4 bedrooms, new Bedarus heating system, drilled well, town sewer, open front porch, large enclosed back porch, nice lot!
This is an older colonial style home in a great location. Home needs some remodeling and upgrading . Come take a look! offered at \$ 139,000 (this is \$18,000 BELOW recent town assessment!) taxes \$2703.85
- Benson 2 bedroom country home on the East Road. This is the former "Bump School". Home has lovely hardwood flooring, new windows, slate roof, drilled well and septic. There is an enclosed front porch with nice Vt. slate flooring and plenty of windows for terrific views! Comes with a barn/garage and nice lot.
Available immediately! offered at \$100,000
- Lake Champlain camp with 100ft of nice frontage. This is a great older camp with nice fireplace, loft, porches and plenty of privacy! offered at \$270,000
- Perch Pond building site with pond frontage \$75,000
- Lake Bomoseen building lot with creek frontage \$100,000