

# Benson Bulletin

Benson, Vermont's Community Newsletter

October 2011

## PREPARE TO BE SCARED!



On Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, we recommend that you take great care when taking your evening stroll through downtown Benson. It's that time of the year when strange things – strange even for Benson – seem to be lurking in the shadows. Perhaps you will see those neighbors who seem so nice and normal in a new light...or should we say a new dark? But don't worry – come out and enjoy the **HAUNTED HAYRIDE** from 7 –10 pm. You'll be perfectly safe...at least most of you will be... For information about sites, call

Dave Bartholomew (537-3315); tickets, call Sue Janssen (537-3111); indoor vendors, call Gina Cull (537-2063); outdoor vendors, call Tom Neumann (558-1122). Boo!

## MEETINGS/EVENTS THIS MONTH

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION/EVENT</u>
October 3	Monday	7:00 pm	Town Office	Selectboard
October 10	Monday	All Day	Town Office	Closed
October 10	Monday	11:30 am	Community Hall	Senior Luncheon
October 11	Tuesday	6:30-8 pm	Community Hall	Benson Busy Buddies
October 11	Tuesday	7:00 pm	School	School Board
October 13	Thursday	6:30 pm	Town Office	Energy Committee
October 14-15	Fri.-Sat.	7 – 10 pm	Scary Places	Haunted Hayride
October 17	Monday	7:00 pm	Town Office	Selectboard
October 19	Wednesday	6:00 pm	Library	Reading Group
October 20	Thursday	7:00 pm	Community Hall	Verd Mont FCE
October 25	Tuesday	6:30-8 pm	Community Hall	Benson Busy Buddies
October 25	Tuesday	6:30 pm	Town Office	History Project
October 31	Monday	7:00 pm	Town Office	Selectboard
<b>LOOKING AHEAD</b>				
November 19	Saturday	10 am-4 pm	School	1 <sup>st</sup> Response Craft Fair

## **Monthly Senior Luncheon: October 10<sup>th</sup>**

Columbus certainly never had it this good: a famous Wheel Inn chicken and biscuits meal – and it's not even Wednesday! Come and enjoy our most celebrated local treat while you visit with your friends and plan your site for the Haunted Hayride. The meal includes: chicken, gravy, biscuits, mashed potatoes, peas, cranberry sauce, pudding, coffee, tea, milk. Suggested donation: \$3.50.

**For reservations, please call Deanna Britton by Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup> : 537-2971.**

## **HAUNTED HAYRIDE TICKET INFORMATION**

Advance tickets are now on sale for the hayride. Advance tickets are \$10 and you may purchase them by contacting Sue Janssen: 537-3111. The big difference this year is that you can purchase tickets in advance for the wagon of your choice, not just the first wagon.

On the nights of the hayride, the tickets will cost \$7.50. Just like last year, however, your ticket will be for a specific wagon at a specific time. That way, once you purchase your ticket, you will be free to enjoy all the other activities that are going on that evening! Tickets will go on sale at 6 p.m. each evening and the first wagon will leave at 7 p.m.

## ***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, October 5** beginning at 8:30 a.m. 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.

## **THANK YOU**

The Memorial Committee would like to thank everyone for their help at the Hat Auction, with special thanks to all who donated, purchased, provided entertainment as well as the location. We raised over \$850 and now have enough money to add all the names.

## **THANK YOU**

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.

This month the reading group will be discussing Life of Ebenezer Le Page by G. B. Edwards.

The book is available now at the library and the reading group will meet on Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. All are welcome to come join us.

### *Benson Village School News*

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

Thanks to everyone who attended Open House last month. It was very well-attended, as it always is, and the dancing really ended the night on a high note.

Parent/Teacher conferences are at the end of this month. If you haven't already scheduled yours with your child's teacher, please give the school a call.

State NECAP testing for grades 3-8 begins October 10<sup>th</sup>. It is important for your child to eat a good breakfast and get a good night's sleep during this testing period. If you have any questions about the NECAPs, please give us a call.

Soccer is underway! Check our website and weekly newsletter for the soccer schedule.

8<sup>th</sup> grade fundraising efforts for Washington continue to roll along. Look for our 8<sup>th</sup> graders selling pizza this fall. Also, the first dance of the year is this month.

#### Dates for October:

10/7:	School Pictures
10/11:	Spelling Bee
10/11:7:00 pm	School Board Meeting
10/24-10/31:	Parent/Teacher Conferences
10/28:7:00 pm	Costume Dance

## ARE FALLING LEAVES LEADING YOU ON A MERRY CHASE?

Before you decide to give up your rake, why not come try out our Bone Builders program? We meet from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. in the Community Hall every Monday and Thursday – please leave your rake home. We guarantee that you'll have a lot of fun while you improve your bones and your balance. And remember, it's free and it's local.

SCOTT PERRON

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**Donald Parker (802) 537-3322**

## THE WHEEL INN

Corner of Lake Road and Stage Road  
Benson, VT



WEEKLY SPECIALS

*Monday: Mexican*

Wednesday: Chicken and Biscuits

Thursday: Sirloin

Friday: Fish and Chips



**Will Stevens**

State Representative  
Benson-Orwell-Shoreham-Whiting

State House  
115 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05635-5201  
Tel: 800 322-5616 (VT only)

Home  
1129 Lapham Bay Road  
Shoreham, VT 05770  
Tel: 802 897-7031

Email: [wstevens@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:wstevens@leg.state.vt.us)



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### WHEN YOUR DOCTOR RECOMMENDS HOME HEALTH CARE...

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Since 1946, the Rutland Area Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice has brought quality health care home to thousands of our neighbors in Rutland County.

Our nurses are as welcome in homes today as they were years ago.

Proud of our past, yet prepared for the future, we offer state-of-the-art technology to provide the best care available.

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*We'll keep you safe and independent  
in the comfort of home*



**Our family caring for your family since 1946**

## CHURCH NEWS

9:30 a.m. Choir Practice

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

### WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY – OCTOBER 3<sup>rd</sup>

On Sunday, October 2, we will be celebrating communion - along with all Christians around the world. To remind us of our connection with our Christian brothers and sisters in other countries, the breads on the communion plates will be of different colors, symbolizing those of different ethnicities. Please join us for this special communion service.

### YOUTH GROUP

Our Youth Group (grades 5 through 8) has started up again, under the leadership of Sarah Hathaway (537-3830). Contact Sarah for more information about time and place for the next gathering!

### BOOK STUDY

In September we started studying the book, *Surprised by Hope* by N. T. Wright. The study includes watching a DVD each Wednesday, so you don't need a copy of the book to participate in the study! The subtitle of the book says it all: rethinking heaven, the resurrection, and the mission of the church. Come and join in the discussion!

### POTLUCK AND ANNUAL MEETING

Save the date! The church will be holding a Pot Luck and Annual Meeting on **Friday, November 11 at 6:30 p.m.** Come have a great meal, fellowship with others, and review the mission and ministry of the church over the past year - and plan and dream for the next year!

### HAUNTED HAYRIDE TAG SALE

The Church will be holding a Tag Sale from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. each night of the hayride. Contact Jan Ladd if you need more information.

### CHURCH WINDOWS

The Trustees of the United Church of Benson recently voted to start raising money to replace the broken colored windows of the church. Anyone who would like to donate to our window fund can send a check or cash to Fran Bowen, Treasurer, PO Box 186, Benson, VT 05731 and designate that the money is for the windows. Any and all donations are gratefully accepted! If anyone would like to sponsor a window for \$100, a plaque will be placed under that window in memory of or in honor of....given by.... (If you look at the church you might think there are twelve windows, but actually there are two "panels" side by side in each of those twelve windows, so we are calling one "panel" a "window" for purposes of donations - for a total of 24 "windows.") If you have any questions, you can talk to one of the Trustees (John Hill, Jan Ladd, Karen Barber, Cal Sheldrick, and Leonard Lussier) or the Pastor, Holly Ross Noble (446-3575). Thank you.

Questions? Please contact Holly Noble: 802-446-3575 or [hollyberry530@yahoo.com](mailto:hollyberry530@yahoo.com)

**C.A.T.S. ATV CLUB would like to remind everyone that all trails in Benson are CLOSED as of October 1<sup>st</sup>.**

### **Furniture Repair**

**Traditional chair caning – press in  
Reconstruction of broken parts  
Re-glue, stain or paint**

**Les Burleson  
802 537-4481**

**1015 Carter Street  
Benson, VT 05743**

### **WHY NOT SAVE ON LIFE INSURANCE ?**

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IF BUSY, PLEASE LEAVE MESSAGE

SELF-EMPLOYED ?? ASK ABOUT OUR ROTH IRA, TAX-SHELTERED IRA & OTHER ANNUITY PROGRAMS, OR DISABILITY AND ANY OTHER NEEDS  
BENSON, VERMONT

## **PARENTS FOR POSITIVE CHANGE**

### **AN AFFILIATION OF PARENTS WORKING FOR THE EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS OF OUR CHILDREN**

Open to all Parents, Grandparents, Family and Friends, of students and children in the ARSU district.

### **Our goal**

To unite, inform, educate, support and advocate for the children and families in our district.

For information, contact  
Marcel or Veronica Cyr  
802-278-2032

Thundervalleyfrm@netzero.com



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## **FROM THE PAST**

### **Town Business, Industry and Development**

### **Final Installment**

The Gazetteer indicates that about 170 individuals considered themselves to be at least part time farmers. Landowner with more than 300 acres were Amasa Briggs - 22A, Brown Brothers - 22A, Hilon Bump - East Road, Chauncey Fay - East Road, Rollin Gleason - East Road, Joseph Griswold - Lake Road, Anna Howard - Stage Road, Mosley King - Parkhill Road, Stephen Root - East Road, Arunah Walker - Hunt Lot Road, Daniel Wait - Crandall Road and Philo Wilcox - Lake Road.

Some of the farmers specialized in a certain type of animal or breed. Martin Bosworth – Merino Sheep – Sunset Lake Road, Rollin Gleason – Merino Sheep and pure bred Devon Cattle – East Road, Joseph Griswold – Merino Sheep and Lambert and Patchen Horses – Mill Pond Road, Zebina Husbrook – Merino Sheep – Carter Street, Lemuel Jakeway – Merino Sheep and Blooded Horses – Herrick Road, Orson C. Martin – Merino Sheep and Pure bred Jersey Cattle – Carter Street, and Moses Stickney – Hambletonian Horses – Frasier Hill Road.

Some other items of interest to the 1880 Benson residents might be: (1) William Bosworth was the agent for patent wagon axle cutters and giant riding saws, (2) Royal C. King was a house painter and kalsominer, (3) Woodward N. Ladd manufactured Ladd's Celebrated Union Salve, (4) Eugene McDonald was a lime burner and manufacturer of quicklime, (5) James McGuire was a harness maker, carriage trimmer, and leader of the orchestra band, (6) Chauncey Naramore was a tin peddler, (7) Aaron L. Pitts was an Insurance agent and dealer in fruit trees, (8) Edwin Reed was post master, harness maker and agent for all kinds of periodicals, books and papers and (9) Isa Wilcox was a teacher of piano, organ and vocal music.

The Gazetteer paints a picture of a self contained farming community with all the goods and services necessary for daily life. This appears to be the case for the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the first part of the 20<sup>th</sup> for the Town of Benson

## **CALLING ALL CRAFTERS**

There are TWO upcoming opportunities for crafters to sell their products in Benson. Gina Cull is organizing vendors for the evenings of the Hayride, October 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> and Colleen Hoard is now accepting registration forms for the annual Benson First Response Craft Fair which will be held on Saturday, November 15, 2011. See applications in this issue of the Benson Bulletin – or call Gina (537-2063) or Colleen (537-3521) if you have questions.

## **To all who contributed to the Shane Bowen Fundraiser:**

We would like to thank everyone who supported the event to benefit Shane Bowen that was held at the Community Hall on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011. The amount of donations, whether it be in the form of time, money or merchandise greatly exceeded our expectations.

We could not have hoped for this kind of success without the support of the community. As there are far too many individuals and businesses, we simply cannot name them all. Please know that you are all greatly appreciated.

Donations are appreciated and continue to be accepted made out to Friends of Shane Bowen, 2000 Stage Road Benson Vermont 05743.

Thank You To All,  
The Friends of Shane Bowen Committee

## **FUNDRAISING NEWS**

On Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup> & Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> from 6 -10 pm there will be Craft Fair Vendors inside the community hall. After you purchase your Haunted Hayride ticket come on in and do a little shopping (beat the Christmas Rush)! Haunted Hayride Shirts and Sweatshirts will also be available for purchase!

For the kids, we have a pumpkin coloring contest; prizes awarded per category. Categories yet to be determined. Face Painting and more..... Come check us out!

**Craft Vendors wanted:** 10x10 spot, \$20 for both nights contact Gina Cull 537-2063

From October 10<sup>th</sup> – October 28<sup>th</sup> The Benson Fundraising Committee is participating in a **Red Barn Fundraiser**, featuring superior products from Vermont Companies! We'll earn \$5.00 profit from each item sold. Products from King Arthur flour, Rhino Foods, Lake Champlain Chocolates, Butternut Mountain Farm and Zachary's Pizza will be available. For more information please contact Gina Cull @ 537-2063.

The **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Basket Party** is in the planning stages; however, we will be moving our Basket Party from November to a later date, a date yet to be determined. At this time we are looking for baskets, raffle items and donations of any sort. For more information contact Gina Cull @ 537-2063

See next month's newsletter for more information.

## **NEWSLETTER DEADLINES**

For the **November 1<sup>st</sup>** newsletter, please submit your news and ads no later than **October 25<sup>th</sup>**. Drop off your information at the Town Office or e-mail what you would like included in the newsletter to [benzonews@shoreham.net](mailto:benzonews@shoreham.net) or [suejanssen@shoreham.net](mailto:suejanssen@shoreham.net) or call Sue Janssen at 537-3111.

## **A RARE OPPORTUNITY IS AVAILABLE**

If you believe you are capable of scaring people, the Benson Fire Department will be happy to provide a socially acceptable time and place – and even props – for you to see just how frightening you can be. Although the competition is stiff (burning heads, run-away trains, chain saws on the loose, Big Foot), we believe the possibilities still exist for someone to come up with a super scary scene. If you think you may be up to the challenge (actually we really just need bodies willing to hang out in the woods – any frightening features will be a bonus), please contact Dave Bartholomew : 537-3315. Dave will find you the perfect site to haunt.

## **PRAISE FROM THE VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**

The Selectboard would like to share with you part of a letter recently received from Ethan Swift, the Watershed Coordinator for the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources.

*“The Town of Benson, VT has just completed the final phase of their project to control erosion and reduce silting into Sunset Lake. Over the period of several years...the Town has installed a stone retaining wall along the west side of Sunset Lake Road. In addition, a failed spillway which connects Sunset Lake and Sunrise Lake was replaced.*

*With recent funding and technical support through the Better Backroads Program, Benson received funding to ditch and stone line 350 yards of the east bank of this road. This work has served to stabilize the bank and reduce future erosion. This Program also funded the replacement of several old culverts with new ones. This will significantly improve the drainage of stormwater and reduce silting into this very clear lake...*

*Please consider this a letter of support for the good work that the Town of Benson has under-taken on a town-wide approach in addressing back road run-off and preventing subsequent ditch erosion that would otherwise have impacts to water quality. In addition, it is important to note that long-term cost savings that can be identified as a result of reduced road maintenance simply by rock-lining ditches on back roads and replacing undersized culverts.”*

## **REMINDER**

**The TOWN OFFICE will be CLOSED on  
Monday, October 10, 2011**

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### APARTMENT AVAILABLE

If you are 62 or are any age and handicapped or disabled, now is a good time to apply. Rent is based upon 30% of the household monthly income less any out of pocket medical expenses.

Please call THM Property Management at 802-367-5252 for more information.

## Jeanne Bartholomew Realty

East Road [Jeannebrealty@aol.com](mailto:Jeannebrealty@aol.com) 802-537-4938

**New listing in Benson!** The former "Bump School" located on East road is a cute 2 bedroom country home with garage and nice lot. Home has an oil furnace, drilled well and septic. Owners have had some recent renovation/repairs done including roof work and new windows. You can do the finish up work including painting and some kitchen/bath upgrading but you can move right in! Owners have outgrown the property and are now offering it for \$100,000. Come take a look!

**Perch Pond building lot** 1.8 acre surveyed lot with pond frontage. This lot has an engineered approved septic design and is ready for your building plans! Power runs right by. Offered at \$75,000 with possible owner financing. Builder available to discuss options.

A beautiful wooded lot with views of Sunset Lake!

**Lake Bomoseen building lot** This lot has an old cellar hole, drilled well, town sewer, electricity/telephone, driveway, dock and frontage on the "Creek". Owner may consider some terms. Offered at \$105,000 Come take a look!

## HAUNTED HAYRIDE ROAD CLOSURES

On Friday night, October 14<sup>h</sup> and Saturday night, October 15<sup>th</sup>, from 6 p.m. until midnight, **Stage Road** will be one way, north, from the intersection of Lake Road to Hulett Hill Road. **Lake Road** will be closed – except to residents in the closed section– from the intersection of Stage Road west to the intersection of Park Hill and Lake Road North. **North Lake Road** will be closed– except to residents in the closed section – from Old North Lake Road to the intersection of North Lake Road and Lake Road.

## THANK YOU, THERESA!

On behalf of the Addison Rutland Supervisory Union and most particularly the Town of Benson, ARSU Superintendent Ron Ryan would like everyone to join him in thanking Theresa Lussier for her dedication to our children and many years of service to our community.

When the Fair Haven Union High School District #16 was established in 1962, Theresa was nominated and appointed Clerk. At Town Meeting in March 1979, she was elected to represent the Town of Benson and served as a Board member for Fair Haven Union High School for over 30 years. At five separate times, Theresa chaired that Board and she also served as Chair of the Personnel Committee of the High School Board many times. Theresa also served as Benson's representative on the ARSU District Board.

Theresa's tireless work to represent her Town, as she ensured that all our children have the best possible opportunities to become well-educated, will be sorely missed. We wish her well in her retirement and we will miss her participation in our schools.

Thank you, Theresa, for all you have done.

## FIRST TO FUEL

Yes, Leonard Lussier was the very first Benson resident to fuel up at the new pumps the Benson Village Store had installed this summer. And isn't it nice to see that the price has fallen a bit since the pumps went into operation!

The new paving is now finished and Loretta would be thrilled to accept any donated bulbs so that, when spring comes, the rain garden will look beautiful.

Be sure not to miss the November issue where we will let you know about another first for Leonard!



## RAVNAH FOOT CLINIC SCHEDULE OCTOBER 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 **October 2011**.

Day	Date	Town	Site	Time
Monday	10/3/11	Pittsford	Village Manor	11:30 am
Wednesday	10/5/11	Wallingford	Wallingford House	10:30 am
Thursday	10/6/11	Rutland	Parker House	10:00 am
Thursday	10/6/11	Rutland	Bardwell House	12:30 pm
Friday	10/7/11	Poultney	Young at Heart Sr. Ctr.	9:30 am
Friday	10/7/11	Ira	Ira Town Hall	12:30 pm
Thursday	10/13/11	Castleton	Castleton Meadows	12:30 am
Friday	10/14/11	Rupert	Rupert Fire House	10:00 am
Wednesday	10/19/11	Rutland	Meadows – Residents	1:15 pm
Wednesday	10/19/11	Rutland	The Gables – Residents	3:15 pm
Wednesday	10/19/11	Dorset	Dorset Nursing Office	9:30 am
Wednesday	10/26/11	Rutland	Godnick Center	12:30 pm
Thursday	10/27/11	Fairhaven	Appletree Apartments	9:30 am

## HEALTH CARE INFORMATION FORUM COMING TO ORWELL

Do you have questions or concerns about the delivery of health care in Vermont? Act 48 was signed into law this summer with the goal of making health care more accessible and affordable, and this change brings with it a lot of “unknowns.” Representative Will Stevens is bringing a panel of experts to the district who will be able to address these “unknowns.” The event is meant to be an exchange of information, thoughts, and ideas; there will be plenty of time for concerns to be heard and questions to be answered.

The event will be on **Wednesday, October 12 from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.** at the Orwell Town Hall, which is on Main Street, between the church and the school. The evening’s panelists include Senator Kevin Mullin, Senator Claire Ayer, and Mark Larson, Commissioner of the Department of Vermont Health Access.

The Community Discussion is part of a larger effort among legislators to update and engage their communities on Vermont’s health reform efforts. Working in partnership with Vermont Public Interest Research Group, Vermont Health Care for All, and Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility, the initiative hopes to bring a wide variety of stakeholders into the fold, including consumers, providers, and business owners, among others – particularly among those with lingering questions or are skeptical of reform.

For more information, call Rep. Stevens at 897-7031, or email him at [wstevens@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:wstevens@leg.state.vt.us). Hope to see you there!