

Town of  
**Shaftsbury, Vermont**

Annual Report for Year Ending June 30, 2019



## 2020 Town Meeting and Election

School Business Meeting  
6:45 P.M., Monday, March 2nd, 2020  
Bennington Fire House

Town Business Meeting  
6:30 P.M., Monday, March 2nd, 2020

Balloting  
7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. Tuesday, March 3rd, 2020



Left to right: Mike Yannotti, DPW Foreman; Eric Sandquist; Cody Wilkins; Dave Worthington; Tim Gulley; Ron Jennings.

**This year's annual report is dedicated to our outstanding Road Crew. They are a hard working group of men who keep our roads safe. *We thank them for their dedication and service to our town.***

The Shaftsbury road crew, says foreman Mike Yanotti, "maintains the roads for the use of the general public." Sounds pretty humdrum, huh?

- Until a windstorm knocks down tens of trees, blocking roads all over town.
- Or an ice storm blows in and makes East Road look like a skating rink.
- Or mud season comes in mid-December, then again in mid-January, maybe even again in February, before finally arriving on schedule in March.

While the citizens of Shaftsbury lie safe and warm in their beds as twenty inches of snow falls, the road crew is out there "maintaining." They chained and loaded the trucks with sand before leaving that afternoon. When the guys report back to work at 2 a.m. for what turns out to be a twelve-hour shift, they are ready to go.

When necessary, they have worked on Christmas Day. When necessary, they have worked for fourteen days straight.

They fill the ruts and grade the roads as soon as they can get to them, trying to not make the situation worse. And they plow and plow and plow. All this while they maintain – ditch ditches, take down problem trees, replace culverts, or install drainage improvements.

For these reasons and many more, this FY 2019 Annual Report is dedicated to the Town of Shaftsbury Department of Public Works. Thank you gentlemen!



Town of

# **Shaftsbury, Vermont**

## ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year Ending June 30, 2019

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6:45 p.m. Monday, March 2, 2020  
Bennington Fire House

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Balloting  
7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, March 3, 2020



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This year's town report was produced by Town Clerk, Marlene Hall. Cover Photography and Design by Marlene Hall. A special thank you to Zoning Administrator Shelly Stiles for her help with writing and proofing. Also thanks to Gina Jenks and David Kiernan for proofing.

# HELPFUL NAMES AND NUMBERS

Emergency Dial 911    Fire — Medical — Police

## Town Officials

### BOARD OF AUDITORS

Michael Caslin, Chair ..... (Home) 802-442-3936  
Meetings ..... As needed

### BOARD OF LISTERS

Diana Mayer, Chair ..... (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 4  
Email ..... listers@shaftsburyvt.gov  
Hours ..... Monday and Wednesday – 9:30 am - Noon and by appointment

### CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Kathy Cardiff, Chair ..... (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 8  
Meetings ..... First Wednesday, 8:30 am, as needed

### CONSTABLES

Paul McGann, First Constable ..... (Home) 802-442-9699  
Bob Perry, Second Constable ..... (Home) 802-442-3071

### DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

Tom Hunchareck, Chair ..... (Home) 802-375-6928  
Meetings ..... First & Third Wednesdays of each month, 6:00 pm

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Art Whitman, Chair ..... (Home) 802-733-1186  
Meetings ..... Fourth Thursday, 8:00 am as needed

### FIRE DEPARTMENT (VOLUNTEER)

Joe Vadakin, Fire Chief ..... (Cell) 802-384-0061  
Fire Station #1: 166 Buck Hill Road (non-emergency) ..... 802-442-4226  
Fire Station #2: 364 Old Depot Road (non-emergency) ..... 802-375-9308

State Fire Warden (Burning Ordinance is in effect: please call 24 hours in advance to obtain permit)

Jerry Mattison ..... (Cell) 802-379-4487 (Home) 802-442-3032

### HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT / DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Mike Yannotti ..... (Office) 802-681-7240

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

Chris Williams, Chair..... (Home) 802-375-6355  
Meetings.....Second and Fourth Tuesdays of each month, 6:00 pm

**RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Deena Ruege, Chair..... (Home) 802-447-4741  
Meetings..... Fourth Friday of each month, 1:00 pm

**SELECTBOARD**

Tim Scoggins, Chair ..... (Cell) 530-330-5262  
Art Whitman, Vice Chair ..... (Home) 802-733-1186  
Ken Harrington ..... (Cell) 802-366-0015  
Tony Krulikowski..... (Home) 802-442-6423  
Joe Barber ..... (Home)  
Meetings..... First and third Monday of each month, 6:30pm

**TOWN ADMINISTRATION**

David Kiernan ..... (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 3  
Email.....administrator@shaftsburyvt.gov  
Hours ..... Monday-Friday 8am-4pm  
Joan Vargo, Bookkeeper..... (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 6  
Email.....accounting@shaftsburyvt.gov

**TOWN CLERK**

Marlene Hall, Town Clerk..... (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 1  
Email.....townclerk@shaftsburyvt.gov  
Hours ..... Mon. 9am-3pm and 5pm-7pm, Tues. - Thurs. 9am-4pm, Fri. 9am-Noon & by appointment

**TREASURER**

Melanie Dexter, Treasurer ..... (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 2  
Email.....treasurer@shaftsburyvt.gov  
Hours ..... Monday - Friday 9am - Noon & by appointment

**TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS**

Rob Steuer, Chair ..... (Home) 802-447-3137  
Barry Mayer..... (Home) 802-447-2614  
Bill Hession ..... (Home) 802-442-8919  
Meetings..... As needed

**VETERANS COMMITTEE**

Chair ..... (Home)  
Meetings..... As needed

**ZONING**

Shelly Stiles, Zoning Administrator ..... (Office) 802-442-4038, Ext. 5  
Email..... zoning@shaftsburyvt.gov  
Hours ..... Monday - Wednesday 9am-Noon

## STATE OFFICIALS

([www.vermont.gov](http://www.vermont.gov))

### BENNINGTON-3

Representative David Durfee ..... 802-491-7832  
Email ..... [ddurfee@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:ddurfee@leg.state.vt.us)

### BENNINGTON COUNTY

Senator Dick Sears ..... (Home) 802-442-9139  
Email ..... [rsears@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:rsears@leg.state.vt.us)  
Senator Brian Campion ..... (Cell) 802-375-4376  
Email ..... [bcampion@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:bcampion@leg.state.vt.us)

### VERMONT STATE CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Governor Phil Scott ..... 802-828-3333  
Lt. Governor David Zuckerman ..... 802-828-2226  
Attorney General TJ Donovan ..... 802-828-3171  
Treasurer Beth Pearce ..... 802-828-2301  
Secretary of State Jim Condos ..... 802-828-2363  
Auditor Doug Hoffer ..... 802-864-2281

## FEDERAL OFFICIALS

([www.usa.gov](http://www.usa.gov))

### UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS

Representative Peter Welch ..... 802-652-2450  
Senator Bernie Sanders ..... 802-862-0697  
Senator Patrick Leahy ..... 802-229-0569

### Additional Helpful Names and Numbers

Animal Control Officer, Traci Mulligan ..... (Home) 802-375-6121  
Arlington Rescue Squad - non emergency ..... 802-375-6589  
Bennington Area Chamber of Commerce ..... 802-447-3311  
Bennington County Clerk and Bennington County Superior Court, Bennington ..... 802-447-2700  
Bennington County Industrial Corporation (BCIC) ..... 802-442-0713  
Bennington County Probate Court ..... 802-447-2700  
Bennington County Regional Commission (BCRC) ..... 802-442-0713  
Bennington County Sheriff's Department ..... 802-442-4900  
Bennington Free Library ..... 802-442-9051  
Bennington Rescue Squad ..... 802-442-5817  
Delinquent Tax Collector, Merton Snow ..... (Home) 802-442-4526  
Emergency Service Director, Jerry Mattison ..... (Home) 802-442-3032  
Health Officer, Jackie Myers ..... (Cell) 802-688-9570  
John G. McCullough Free Library, North Bennington ..... 802-447-7121  
Mount Anthony Union High School, 301 Park Street, Bennington ..... 802-447-7511  
Mount Anthony Union Middle School, 747 East Road, Bennington ..... 802-447-7541

North Bennington Treasurer's Office .....	802-442-5547
Post Office, North Bennington (05257), 52 Main Street, North Bennington .....	802-442-4884
Post Office, Shaftsbury (05262), 56 Church Street, Shaftsbury .....	802-442-2142
Second Chance Animal Shelter .....	802-375-2898
Shaftsbury Elementary School, 150 Buck Hill Road, Shaftsbury.....	802-442-4373
Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union .....	802-447-7501
Southwest Vermont Career Development Center .....	802-447-0220
Town of Shaftsbury, Fax Number.....	802-442-0955
Town Service Officer, Jackie Myers .....	(Cell) 802-688-9570
Tree Warden, Jim White .....	(Home) 802-375-6454
Vermont Agency of Transportation, Bennington District #1 Office .....	802-447-2790
Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife, Game Warden (police barracks) .....	802-442-5421
Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) .....	802-229-9111
Vermont State Police Barracks, Shaftsbury Troop D (non-emergency).....	802-442-5421
Village School of North Bennington, 9 School Street, North Bennington .....	802-442-5955

**PUBLIC WORKS EMERGENCIES**

**Shaftsbury Highway**

Nights/weekends/holidays - notify State Police ..... 802-442-5421

**Shaftsbury Water System (for public water in Shaftsbury Village)**

Jim McGinnis, Water Superintendent ..... (Cell) 802-375-4021

Mike Yannotti, Department of Public Works Superintendent ..... (Cell) 802-379-1547

**North Bennington Water Systems (for public water outside Shaftsbury Village)**

Ted Fela..... (Cell) 802-375-9224

Truck Cell ..... 802-688-9005

**SOLID WASTE FACILITY**

**(Transfer Station) 510 North Road**

**Hours of Operation – Year-round**

Tuesday 7:00am - 12:00 Noon

Thursday 11:00am - 4:00pm

Saturday 7:00am - 4:00pm

Transfer Station Holiday Closings 2020 - Please check website at shaftsburyvt.gov

Electronics can be dropped off at the Bennington Transfer Station during their regular business hours.

Located on Houghton Lane in Bennington

**Visit our Website**

**[www.shaftsburyvt.gov](http://www.shaftsburyvt.gov)**

All meetings are held at the Town Office Building,  
Cole Hall (upstairs), 61 Buck Hill Road, unless otherwise posted

**TOWN OFFICERS - ELECTED**

**Selectboard**

Tim Scoggins, Chair ..... 3-year term expires 2021  
Art Whitman, Vice Chair ..... 2-year term expires 2020  
Joe Barber ..... 2-year term expires 2021  
Ken Harrington ..... 3-year term expires 2022  
Tony Krulikowski ..... 3-year term expires 2020

**Town Clerk**

Marlene Hall ..... 3-year term expires 2021

**Treasurer**

Melanie Dexter ..... 3-year term expires 2021

**Auditors**

Michael Caslin ..... 3-year term expires 2022  
Lisa Lent ..... 3-year term expires 2020  
Vacant ..... 3-year term expires 2021

**Listers**

Diana Mayer, Chair ..... 3-year term expires 2021  
Larry Johnson ..... 3-year term expires 2020  
Vacant ..... 3-year term expires 2022

**Trustees of Public Funds**

Rob Steuer, Chair ..... 3-year term expires 2021  
Barry Mayer ..... 3-year term expires 2022  
Bill Hession ..... 3-year term expires 2020

**One-year terms (expire 2020)**

**Town Moderator** ..... Thomas Dailey  
**Delinquent Tax Collector** ..... Merton J. Snow  
**First Constable** ..... Paul McGann  
**Second Constable** ..... Bob Perry  
**Town Agent** ..... Vacant

**JUSTICES OF THE PEACE (2-YEAR TERM EXPIRES 2021)**

Lon McClintock, Democrat.....	802-442-4426
Michael Caslin, Democrat .....	802-442-3936
Abigail Chaloux, Decocrat .....	802-430-0104
Joseph Coonradt, Independent.....	802-442-2243
Marna Whitman Dailey, Independent.....	802-442-6582
Carl Korman, Democrat .....	802-442-7959
Maureen Matthews McClintock, Democrat.....	802-442-4426
Anne Mele, Democrat.....	802-447-3859
Karen Mellinger, Democrat.....	802-447-1950
Alice Miller, Democrat.....	802-430-1615
Linda I. Morris, Democrat.....	802-442-3504
Joan Vargo, Democrat.....	802-442-5646

**BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY CONSISTS OF:**

Justices of the Peace – Selectboard – Town Clerk

**BOARD OF ABATEMENT CONSISTS OF:**

Justices of the Peace – Selectboard – Town Clerk – Town Treasurer – Listers

**TOWN OFFICERS - APPOINTED**

**CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT**

Ken Coonradt.....Term length at discretion of the Selectboard

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR**

Shelly Stiles .....3-year term expires 2020

**DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD**

Tom Huncharek, Chair.....	3-year term expires 2021
Chris Ponessi, Vice Chair.....	3-year term expires 2021
Lon McClintock.....	3-year term expires 2022
Michael Day.....	3-year term expires 2022

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

Chris Williams, Chair.....	3-year term expires 2020
Michael Foley .....	3-year term expires 2022
Michael Cichanowski.....	3-year term expires 2022
Naomi Miller.....	3-year term expires 2021

## **ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS**

Animal Control Officer .....	Traci Mulligan
Bennington County Regional Commissioner .....	Ken Harrington
Emergency Coordinator .....	Jerry Mattison
Energy Coordinator .....	Ben Hulett
Fire Chief .....	Joe Vadakin
1 <sup>st</sup> Asst. Chief .....	Mike Taylor
2 <sup>nd</sup> Asst. Chief .....	Ed Shewell
Fire Warden .....	Jerry Mattison
Deputy Fire Warden .....	Todd Sinclair
Health Officer .....	Jackie Myers
Deputy Health Officer .....	Traci Mulligan
Town Service Officer .....	Jackie Myers
Tree Warden .....	Jim White

### **CEMETERY COMMITTEE**

Kathy Cardiff, Chair | Neal Strong, Vice Chair | Ellie Hyjek  
Peggy Wilson | Joe Hermann | Ken Coonradt, Superintendent

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Art Whitman, Chair | Cinda Morse | Phylis Poirio

### **RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Deena Ruege, Chair | Helen Olney | Barb Marino

### **SHAFTSBURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

Ed Molloy, Chair | David Durfee, Vice Chair | Tony D'Onofrio  
Jeffrey Leake | Scott McEnaney

### **VETERANS COMMITTEE**

Mark Bollhardt | Lew Levin | Bob Loomis  
Glen Matunas | Philip Young

**TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES  
Monday, March 4, 2019, Shaftsbury Elementary School**

**Select Board Members Present:** Joe Barber; Ken Harrington; Tony Krulikowski; Tim Scoggins, Chair; Art Whitman, Vice-Chair.

**Moderator:** Thomas Dailey.

**Others Present:** Alan Baker; Richard Bump, Recording Secretary; Bill Christian; Jay Coonradt; John Dell'Anno; Melanie Dexter, Treasurer; Tony D'Onofrio; David Durfee, Shaftsbury State Representative; Bill Fisk; Marlene Hall, Town Clerk; Ben Hulett; Charlie Jenks; David Kiernan, Town Administrator; Michael Lilly; Barry Mayer; Scott McEnaney; Karen Mellinger; Lon McClintock; Alice Miller, Former Shaftsbury State Representative; Ed Molloy; Tyler Resch; Jennie Rozycki, Librarian, McCullough Free Library; Jennifer Scoggins; Merton Snow; Shelly Stiles; Chris Williams; and about 70 other Residents and Visitors.

**CAT-TV:** This meeting was filmed and broadcast live by Beq Lendvay.

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After calling the meeting to order at 7:30pm, Dailey led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and the country. Dailey then noted that citizens are active this night in "governing ourselves" at annual floor meetings across the state of Vermont and then asked all present to turn, and greet/introduce themselves to each other and to welcome everyone to this community meeting. After lots of movement, laughter and animation by everyone responding, Dailey then

- introduced Selectboard members as well as various town administrators
- named and thanked employees, committee members, listers, auditors, trustees and volunteers and everyone working to make Shaftsbury a better place to live.

And those present responded with an enthusiastic round of applause for all folks just mentioned.

Dailey then pointed out emergency exits from the room, reviewed speaking and voting procedures, and then asked for and received a motion which was made and seconded to dispense with the reading of the Annual Meeting Warning, and the motion carried by voice vote and with no discussion.

Scoggins then asked Alice Miller to stand beside him, and then read aloud a resolution by the Shaftsbury Selectboard on the occasion of Miller's retirement from the Vermont Legislature, and as follows:

*WHEREAS, Alice Miller has represented the Bennington-3 District, including the Town of Shaftsbury, in the Vermont House of Representatives for 22 years, and*

*WHEREAS, Alice also served for years on the Shaftsbury Select Board, sometimes concurrently with her legislative service, and*

*WHEREAS, Alice devoted her life to public service as an educator, working for the Red Brick School, the Brattleboro School District, the Vermont Department of Education and Bennington College; and*

*WHEREAS, during her public service career Alice was devoted to protecting our most vulnerable citizens, including children, the disabled, veterans and the elderly, and*

*WHEREAS, Alice proved herself a tireless advocate for children and adults in the fields of education and job training, working hard to support and obtain funding for the local Career Development Center and our local schools, and*

*WHEREAS, Alice has served with boundless energy, enthusiasm, integrity, dedication, and grace, and*

*WHEREAS, Alice always has a smile and kind word for everyone she meets, and  
WHEREAS, in the course of being elected eleven consecutive times, Alice knocked on every door in town more than once;*

*Therefore, be it resolved that the Shaftsbury Selectboard, on behalf of the people of Shaftsbury, expresses its deep appreciation to Alice Miller for her decades of service, and wishes her peace and happiness in her retirement and future endeavors.*

Miller was then given a plaque by Scoggins as well as a standing and long lasting ovation by all present. Mellinger then recounted her decades-long working relationship with Miller on her various campaigns (“Miller needed to talk with everybody”) and community projects (she “located over \$400,000 in state funding to help cap the landfill”) and then asked residents to stay for coffee and cake at the end of the meeting in honor of Miller. In response, in part, Miller noted that “she is not leaving” and that people “need simply to say instead ‘Welcome home’”. Miller then thanked by name all the people, residents and non-residents alike, who have assisted, encouraged, corrected, directed, and otherwise influenced her actions and decision-making over her years as State Representative. Miller closed her remarks stating that “My work was all about you, hearing your concerns, your issues and your problems. I loved every minute of it”. And after yet another round of applause, Miller then presented Durfee, the newly elected state representative, with a Vermont legislature T-shirt. Durfee, in response, thanked Miller noting that

- “following Alice is a tough task”
- “everyone in the state house misses her”
- and everyone there greets him by saying “You’re the new Alice.”

**State Representative Report:** Durfee then briefly reviewed his first 8 weeks working as state representative, noting that

- although there has not been a lot of legislation yet, there have been over 800 new bills filed thus far, which sets a record
- he is a member of the Health Care Committee which is trying to “shore up what’s being taken away at the federal level” in health care programs.

Durfee noted that other issues before the legislature or working their way throughout the state include

- state mandated mergers of school districts as part of Act 46, with the Shaftsbury school district merger with the other three elementary districts in the Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union scheduled for 7/1/19
- lead testing in water in all schools statewide, scheduling and funding
- ambitious climate change related goals to reduce carbon emissions state-wide via increased use of electric cars, improved home weatherization, etc
- imposition of a gasoline tax to help fund road maintenance
- broad band access to all areas of the state, albeit costs are becoming prohibitive to do this
- regulating and taxing the production, distribution and selling of cannabis.

Durfee closed his report noting that contact information for him is available in the newsletter and he encourages people to contact him with thoughts, concerns, and other issues.

**Selectboard Report:** Using a power-point format, Scoggins then reviewed the Selectboard Report (a copy of which was included in the Annual Report, page 41), noting that that the FY20 budget includes a “modest increase” over the current year, and that major accomplishments for the year include

- completion of the nearly 9-year effort to construct a new Public Works garage, replacement of the transfer station as well as significant renovations to Cole Hall, with thanks to Kiernan for diligent oversight of these projects

- hiring of a new, highly experienced Superintendent of Public Works who is in process of evaluating all roadways in Shaftsbury.

Scoggins also noted that

- further improvements to Cole Hall are being considered, including the entrance way, staircase and signage, as well as the removal of the old highway garage
- planning has begun for replacing the 75-year-old village water mains, a decades long project
- the establishment of the Windham and Bennington counties Southern Vermont Economic Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy is now complete, and applications for funding of various projects are now being accepted
- residents should be on the lookout for and respond to a Planning Commission survey regarding broadband access throughout the town (available at the entrance to the school gymnasium, at Cole Hall as well as on-line).

Scoggins briefly reviewed proposed amendments to the Zoning Bylaws to be voted 3/5/19 and as follows

- **Ballot Article 6:** defining short-term rentals as a Home Occupation and therefore subject to provisions governing Home Occupations
- **Ballot Article 7:** expanding definition of Rooming House to include multiple unit conversions of former motels
- **Ballot Article 8:** remove the Table of Uses from the Zoning bylaws, which has caused more confusion than helpful direction.

During a brief discussion, residents and board members noted that

- there is little payback for broadband companies to invest in infrastructure to provide services in a low density population area
- the zoning bylaws do not require an owner to live in a building being booked/reserved on-line
- the Highway department budget for gravel, salt and sand is lower than the current year, partly because there will be surplus funds in the current year budget (about 60%) and partly because the new Public Works Superintendent is implementing a new approach to roadway maintenance which should decrease the need for these materials
- the new salt shed should also result in the use of less salt
- nevertheless, the FY18 actual expenditure for gravel, salt and sand is higher than the FY20 budget amount
- the significant increase in the solid waste contract over the last two or so years is due to increased costs for disposal of solid waste as well as the need to replace some of the truck fleet
- there are no truck purchases included in the Highway budget, and the new Superintendent is planning on reducing the amount of in-house vehicle maintenance
- all other department, committee, commission reports are included in the annual report.

### **FY17 Town Warning:**

**Article 1:** A motion was made and seconded to waive the reading of and to accept the reports of the Town Officers as published. The motion carried by voice vote and with no discussion other than already noted.

**Article 2, A-D:** A motion was made and seconded to pay annual stipends/wages for the upcoming year and as follows

- Selectboard members: \$650 each
- Board of Auditors: \$14.00 per hour
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Constables: \$14.00 per hour
- Board of Listers: \$14.00 per hour

and the motion carried by voice vote, with no abstentions or opposition.

**Article 3:** A motion was made and seconded to authorize the collection of taxes on real and personal property by the Town Treasurer, which are due in hand on or before Friday, November 8, 2019 at 5:00pm or likewise postmarked no later than Friday, November 8, 2019 and the motion passed by voice vote, with no abstentions or opposition.

**Article 4:** A motion was made and seconded to appropriate the sum of \$1,960,862 to defray the Town's general and highway expenses for Fiscal Year 2020, the amount of such sum to be raised by property taxes and to be reduced by non-tax revenues and reserve funds as detailed in the *Town of Shaftsbury Annual Report for the Year ending June 30, 2018* (pages 23-39). After Scoggins noted that

- the \$1,960,862 budget does not include the Community Appropriations (see Annual Report, pages 16-17)
- the article to allow the town to borrow money in anticipation of taxes is no longer necessary as that is now an approved action within state statute.

A motion was then made and seconded to increase the town highway budget by \$40,000 to be used for sand, salt, gravel or other road-related expenses, and the motion carried by voice vote. A motion was then made and seconded to call the question and this motion, which is not debatable, passed by voice vote. Dailey then restated the motion on the floor to approve the adjusted FY20 budget at \$2,000,862 and the motion carried by voice vote, with no abstentions or oppositions.

**Article 5:** In response to Dailey's request to transact any other non-binding business as legally may come before said meeting:

- Whitman briefly reviewed the history and process by which Kiernan came to Shaftsbury and strongly commended Kiernan for his ability to "locate funding, write grants, have the town move successfully through annual audits, schedule and replace equipment, and successfully oversee the town garage and Cole Hall projects....they are all Dave's doing and his success" and in response, Kiernan received a standing and enthusiastic ovation from all present.
- Hewlett noted that the Vermont 350 newly formed Energy Committee has been named after Robert Healy Eastman III, a native of Shaftsbury and distinguished Commander in the US Navy, and who recently passed away at an early age. Christian further noted that this committee, which includes concerned residents of North Bennington as well as Shaftsbury, is just getting organized and would be interested in hearing thoughts, comments, recommendations, and any other ways Shaftsbury residents might support the committee.
- Rozycki thanked Shaftsbury residents for their support of a significant budget increase last year for the Park McCullough library, noting that the budget this year is level funded and that this has been a "record breaking year" for the library
- Lilley and Baker both spoke in support of Community Appropriation (Number 26) in the amount \$5,000 to support radio station WBTN, noting that this appropriation helps pay for heat and electricity and helps keep "the doors open", that no one at WBTN gets paid, the station itself is crucial in that it is part of the civil defense system, and allows local residents to "put on their own show" as Baker said that he himself is doing.

At 9:05pm, and after calling for but hearing no further comments, Daily reminded voters that the polls will be open at the Buck Hill Road Fire House 7am-7pm Tuesday March 5, 2019 for election of town officers and consideration of ballot articles. A motion was then made and seconded to adjourn the 2019 Town of Shaftsbury Annual Floor Meeting and, by voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Richard G. Bump

**OFFICIAL RESULTS OF OFFICERS  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING SHAFTSBURY, VERMONT  
413 VOTERS - MARCH 5, 2019**

**SELECTMAN**

**2 Years**

Joseph Barber ..... 306  
Write-In..... 5  
Blank ..... 102  
**TOTAL ..... 413**

**SELECTMAN**

**3 Years**

Ken Harrington ..... 294  
Write-In..... 6  
Blank ..... 113  
**TOTAL ..... 413**

**MODERATOR**

**1 Year**

Thomas J. Dailey, ESQ..... 356  
Write-In..... 1  
Blank ..... 56  
**TOTAL ..... 413**

**DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR**

**1 Year**

Merton Snow ..... 335  
Write-In..... 1  
Blank ..... 77  
**TOTAL ..... 413**

**LISTER**

**3 Year**

Write-In..... 8  
Blank ..... 405  
**TOTAL ..... 413**

**AUDITOR**

**3 Year**

Michael Caslin ..... 327  
Write-In..... 1  
Blank ..... 85  
**TOTAL ..... 413**

**TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS**

**3 Years**

(Write-In) Barry Mayer ..... 54  
Write-In (other) ..... 7  
Blank ..... 352  
**TOTAL ..... 413**

**GRAND JUROR**

**1 Year**

Write-In..... 8  
Blank ..... 405  
**TOTAL ..... 413**

**TOWN AGENT**

**1 Year**

Write-In..... 4  
Blank ..... 410  
**TOTAL ..... 413**

**OFFICIAL RESULTS OF ARTICLES AND COMMUNITY APPROPRIATIONS  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING SHAFTSBURY, VERMONT  
413 VOTERS - MARCH 5, 2019**

6. Shall the voters of the Town of Shaftsbury approve the following amendments to the Shaftsbury Zoning Bylaws:

To allow property owners in all zoning districts except Forest and Recreation to practice a home occupation consisting of offering for “short term rental” a furnished home or other dwelling room or unit to the transient public for a period of fewer than thirty consecutive days and for more than fourteen days per calendar year. Newly constructed short term rentals shall observe a two hundred foot setback from all property lines and other short term rental units. Two structures are allowed per parcel provided other requirements are met. Recreational vehicles shall not be used for short term rentals. “Short term rentals” as a home occupation are to be considered permitted uses requiring site plan approval.

**Yes...274                      No...106                      Blank...33**

7. Shall the voters of the Town of Shaftsbury approve the following amendments to the Shaftsbury Zoning Bylaws:

Motel to Housing Conversion: To create a “rooming house” lodging option to offer single room rentals, lacking full housekeeping facilities, and not catering to the traveling public. They may be situated only within existing lodging facilities constructed prior to the year 2000 and fronting on Route 7A. If the facility includes ten or more units, an on-site manager must live on the premises. The proposed bylaw requires that a communal kitchen and recreational area be provided. “Rooming houses” are to be considered conditional uses.

**Yes...267                      No...115                      Blank...31**

8. Shall the voters of the Town of Shaftsbury approve the following amendment to the Shaftsbury Zoning Bylaws:

Delete item 0.4, Table of Uses, from the Town of Shaftsbury Zoning Bylaws and Land Use Regulations.

**Yes...232                      No...95                      Blank...86**

9. Reserve Fund Appropriations To Determine:

1. Shall the Town appropriate \$15,000 to the Audit Reserve Fund?  
**Yes...275                      No...110                      Blank...28**

2. Shall the Town appropriate \$10,000 to the Cole Hall Reserve Fund?  
**Yes...319                      No...74                      Blank...20**

3. Shall the Town appropriate \$90,000 to the Equipment Reserve Fund?  
**Yes...317                      No...77                      Blank...19**

4. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,000 to the Fire Warden Truck Reserve Fund?  
**Yes...327                      No...67                      Blank...19**

5. Shall the Town appropriate \$55,000 to the Fire Truck Reserve Fund?  
**Yes...330                      No...69                      Blank...14**

6. Shall the Town appropriate \$3,000 to the Park Reserve Fund?  
**Yes...334                      No...65                      Blank...14**

- 7. Shall the Town appropriate \$35,000 to the Paving Reserve Fund?  
**Yes...316                      No...73                      Blank...24**
- 8. Shall the Town appropriate \$4,000 to the Cemetery Reserve Fund?  
**Yes...316                      No...73                      Blank...24**
- 9. Shall the Town appropriate \$5,000 to the Culvert Reserve Fund?  
**Yes...332                      No...61                      Blank...9**
- 10. Shall the Town appropriate \$3,000 to the Hooke Veterans' Memorial Reserve Fund?  
**Yes...291                      No...97                      Blank...25**
- 11. Shall the Town appropriate \$49,000 to the Class 3 Road Capital Improvement Fund?  
**Yes...329                      No...63                      Blank...21**
- 12. Shall the Town appropriate \$5,000 to the Reappraisal Reserve Fund?  
**Yes...254                      No...128                      Blank...31**

10. Community Appropriations to Determine:

- 1. Shall the Town appropriate \$7,000 to the Arlington Rescue Squad, Inc.?  
**Yes...311                      No...84                      Blank...18**
- 2. Shall the Town appropriate \$5,225 to Bennington Area Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice?  
**Yes...337                      No...57                      Blank...19**
- 3. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,000 to the Bennington Coalition for the Homeless?  
**Yes...318                      No...83                      Blank...12**
- 4. Shall the Town appropriate \$500 to the Bennington County Conservation District?  
**Yes...295                      No...100                      Blank...18**
- 5. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,000 to the Bennington Free Clinic?  
**Yes...324                      No...75                      Blank...14**
- 6. Shall the Town appropriate \$17,750 to the Bennington Free Library?  
**Yes...266                      No...136                      Blank...11**
- 7. Shall the Town appropriate \$600 to Bennington Little League?  
**Yes...307                      No...89                      Blank...17**
- 8. Shall the Town appropriate \$4,560 to the Bennington Project Independence, Inc.?  
**Yes...318                      No...76                      Blank...19**
- 9. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,700 to the Bennington Rutland Opportunity Council?  
**Yes...253                      No...141                      Blank...19**
- 10. Shall the Town appropriate \$600 to the Center for Restorative Justice?  
**Yes...274                      No...125                      Blank...14**
- 11. Shall the Town appropriate \$200 to the Green-Up Vermont?  
**Yes...354                      No...48                      Blank...11**
- 12. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,850 to the Habitat for Humanity?  
**Yes...306                      No...90                      Blank...17**

13. Shall the Town appropriate \$20,000 to the John G. McCullough Free Library?  
**Yes...270**                      **No...125**                      **Blank...18**
14. Shall the Town appropriate \$2,000 to the Martha Canfield Library?  
**Yes...232**                      **No...161**                      **Blank...20**
15. Shall the Town appropriate \$4,300 to the Paran Recreations, Inc.?  
**Yes...297**                      **No...101**                      **Blank...15**
16. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,500 to the Park McCullough House?  
**Yes...250**                      **No...147**                      **Blank...16**
17. Shall the Town appropriate \$450 to the Project Against Violent Encounters?  
**Yes...311**                      **No...93**                      **Blank...9**
18. Shall the Town appropriate \$950 to the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program?  
**Yes...332**                      **No...68**                      **Blank...13**
19. Shall the Town appropriate \$2,500 to the Shaftsbury Historical Society, Inc.?  
**Yes...302**                      **No...99**                      **Blank...12**
20. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,000 to the Sunrise Family Resource Center?  
**Yes...278**                      **No...119**                      **Blank...16**
21. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,100 to the SW Vermont Council on Aging?  
**Yes...332**                      **No...70**                      **Blank... 11**
22. Shall the Town appropriate \$900 to the Tutorial Center?  
**Yes...299**                      **No...100**                      **Blank...14**
23. Shall the Town appropriate \$300 to the VT Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired?  
**Yes...351**                      **No...55**                      **Blank...7**
24. Shall the Town appropriate \$1,000 to the VT Center for Independent Living?  
**Yes...331**                      **No...69**                      **Blank...13**
25. Shall the Town appropriate \$500 to the Bennington County Association Against Child Abuse?  
**Yes...342**                      **No...65**                      **Blank...6**
26. Shall the Town appropriate \$5,000 to WBTN?  
**Yes...248**                      **No...152**                      **Blank...13**

**STATE OF VERMONT  
Bennington County, SS:  
TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY**

**March 2020 Annual Meeting Warning**

Shaftsbury residents, qualified to vote at the Annual Town Meeting, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Shaftsbury Elementary School on **Monday, March 2, 2020, at 6:30 PM** to transact the business specified below. Upon completion of such business, the Meeting will stand adjourned until **Tuesday, March 3, 2020, from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM** when voting by Australian ballot will commence at the Buck Hill Road Fire House for the election of town officers and consideration of ballot articles.

Shaftsbury residents may submit an application to the Town Clerk to have their names added to the voter checklist no later than **12:00 PM on Monday, March 2, 2020** to be eligible to vote on Monday, March 2, 2020 during the Floor Meeting and/or Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at the polls. Any voter unable to come to the polls may apply for an early voter ballot with the Town Clerk until **12:00 PM on Monday, March 2, 2020**. Registration to vote can be done online by going to [olvr.sec.state.vt.us](http://olvr.sec.state.vt.us). Residents registering on Election Day must do so only at the polling place of their physical residence.

**BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED FROM THE FLOOR ON MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2020 AT 6:30 PM IN THE SHAFTSBURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 150 BUCK HILL ROAD.**

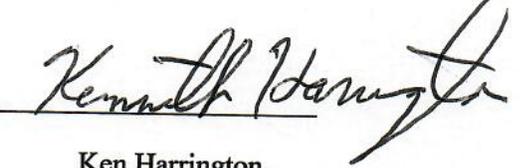
1. To hear reports of the Town Officers and take action thereon.
2. Shall the Town authorize collection of taxes on real or personal property by its Treasurer, which are due in hand on or before, **Friday, November 6, 2020** at 5:00 PM or likewise postmarked no later than **Friday, November 6, 2020**?
3. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$2,148,247 to defray the Town's general and highway expenses for Fiscal Year 2021, the amount of such sum to be raised by property taxes and to be reduced by non-tax revenues and reserve funds?
4. To transact any other non-binding business as legally may come before said meeting at this time.

**BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT**  
**TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020**  
**7:00 AM TO 7:00 PM**  
**FIRE STATION -166 BUCK HILL ROAD**

5. Shall the Town of Shaftsbury enter into a communications district (CUD) to be known as the Southern Vermont Communication Union District, under the provisions of 30 V.S.A. chapter 82?
6. Withdrawn
7. Shall the Town of Shaftsbury create a Cemetery Capital Improvement Reserve Fund and transfer all monies in the Cemetery Reserve Fund to the Cemetery Capital Improvement Reserve Fund?
8. Community Appropriations to Determine:
  1. Shall the Town appropriate **\$8,500** to the Arlington Rescue Squad, Inc.?
  2. Shall the Town appropriate **\$5,225** to Bennington Area Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice?
  3. Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,000** to the Bennington Coalition for the Homeless?
  4. Shall the Town appropriate **\$475** to the Bennington County Conservation District?
  5. Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,000** to the Bennington Free Clinic?
  6. Shall the Town appropriate **\$18,000** to the Bennington Free Library?
  7. Shall the Town appropriate **\$600** to Bennington Little League?
  8. Shall the Town appropriate **\$4,560** to the Bennington Project Independence, Inc.?
  9. Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,700** to the Bennington Rutland Opportunity Council?
  10. Shall the Town appropriate **\$600** to the Center for Restorative Justice?
  11. Shall the Town appropriate **\$200** to the Green-Up Vermont?
  12. Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,850** to the Habitat for Humanity?
  13. Shall the Town appropriate **\$24,000** to the John G. McCullough Free Library?
  14. Shall the Town appropriate **\$2,000** to the Martha Canfield Library?
  15. Shall the Town appropriate **\$2,800** to the Paran Recreations, Inc.?
  16. Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,500** to the Park McCullough House
  17. Shall the Town appropriate **\$450** to the Project Against Violent Encounters?
  18. Shall the Town appropriate **\$950** to the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program?
  19. Shall the Town appropriate **\$2,500** to the Shaftsbury Historical Society, Inc.?
  20. Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,000** to the Sunrise Family Resource Center?
  21. Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,100** to the SW Vermont Council on Aging?
  22. Shall the Town appropriate **\$900** to the Tutorial Center?
  23. Shall the Town appropriate **\$300** to the VT Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired?
  24. Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,000** to the VT Center for Independent Living?
  25. Shall the Town appropriate **\$500** to the Bennington County Association Against Child Abuse?
  26. Shall the Town appropriate **\$5,000** to Shires Media Partnership (WBTN)

DATED at Shaftsbury, Vermont this 20th day of **January, 2020.**

**TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY SELECTBOARD**

Tim Scoggins, Chair

Art Whitman, Vice Chair

Ken Harrington,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe Barber

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tony Krulikowski,

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Overview of the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2019 (FY2019):

The Town of Shaftsbury ended the year with a small unfavorable variance to the General Fund of (\$31,472).

Both revenue and expenditures came in almost exactly as budgeted. The submitted budget was almost flat between revenue and expenditure. We ended the year with a slightly greater decrease in the fund balance than budgeted, but seen as a percentage, the difference is negligible.

No single factor explains the variance, but the severe mud season did require an unusually large amount of gravel, resulting in a negative variance of (\$34,237). As a direct result of this, an increase to the FY2020 gravel budget was proposed and passed from the floor at last year's Town Meeting.

	Budget	Actual	Actual % of Budget	Variance Favorable/(Unfavorable)
Total Revenue	1,972,290	1,969,044	99.84%	(3,246)
Total Expenditures	1,976,710	2,004,936	100.01%	(28,226)
Total General Fund	-4,420	-35,892		-31,472

The auditing firm of Sullivan, Powers & Co. again undertook an external audit of the Town for FY2019. (It is now Town policy to have an external audit done annually.) Their complete final audit report will be available on the Town website and at the Town Offices.

We continue to work with our external and elected auditors to identify and address internal control issues as they arise. So far, thankfully, such issues have been minor, easily addressed, and generally attributable to the Town's having a very small staff. Our elected auditors are now performing a monthly cash reconciliation of not only the General Fund but also our reserve accounts and transfer station cash. They also review and sign off on all General Journal entries monthly.

For the convenience of Shaftsbury residents, the Town now accepts credit card and e-check payments through Municipay. We accept payment over the phone, in person, or through the Town website. This option is available for on-time tax and water payments, as well as fees paid to the Town Clerk and Zoning Administrator. It cannot be used for delinquent tax payments, as the Delinquent Tax Collector does not use the same system.

Melanie Dexter, Shaftsbury Town Treasurer

# AUDITORS REPORT

During fiscal year 2019, The Auditors met monthly to reconcile the town's bank statement, audit the Reserve Fund and review the General Journal Entries.

At the close of the fiscal year 2019 the Auditors' completed examinations of the Town Treasurer's Records including purchase orders, invoices and checks, comparing these items with the Selectboard Warrants and the Detailed Transaction Report. This examination was on the basis of an estimated 35% sample of records.

The Auditors' have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of the Town of Shaftsbury as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019. These financial statements are based on information supplied by the Town Treasurer and were prepared by the outside auditor, Sullivan and Powers. The Auditors' responsibility is to express an opinion concerning these financial statements based on our review. In our opinion the financial statements referred to above present the financial position and changes in financial position of the Town of Shaftsbury as of June 30, 2019, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Caslin, Lisa Lent

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## REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS

Year Ended June 30, 2019

This report summarizes the activity of the town funds for which the Trustees of Public Funds have responsibility. The Trustees manage these funds for the purpose of providing income for fund purposes while protecting the purchasing power of the funds through capital appreciation.

The town also received \$19,362 as a transfer of income from individual accounts, as follows:

Cemetery Perpetual Trust	6,912
Recreation	5,348
School	1,617
Library - Restricted	678
Library - Unrestricted	572
Grandview Cemetery	4,235
	<hr/>
	\$ 19,362

Transfers from the Hawkins Fund totaling \$25,500 toward Cole Hall renovations and furniture, \$15,000 from Grandview Cemetery for repairs and maintenance and \$35,000 from Howard Park for a new playground and other improvements were made throughout the year, as requested by the Selectboard.

Continued on next page

The funds were established for the benefit of the Town and local townsfolk. The trustees recognize the fund purposes as they strive to make certain the funds are used as they were intended.

Robert Steuer  
Barry Mayer  
William Hession

#### CEMETERY TRUST FUND

These funds, with accruing net income, are set aside by the Selectboard to acquire equipment needed for the care of our cemeteries or for the procurement of additional land if and when that becomes necessary.

#### CEMETERY PERPETUAL CARE

These funds result from payments made to the Town of Shaftsbury to provide for the perpetual care of cemetery lots. An amount for this purpose is included in the price of each lot sold. Monies received by the Town from this source become part of the principal of the fund and may not be used for any other purpose but to produce income for perpetual care. This income is used by the town for cemetery care under the supervision of the Selectboard. The annual net income from this fund is remitted to the Town of Shaftsbury after the close of the fiscal year.

#### HUNTINGTON CEMETERY FUND

An 1890 gift in trust by Calvin Huntington established the Huntington Cemetery Fund to provide income “to keep in repair the family grave stones of his relations in the town grave yard.” The Bennington Probate Court in 2000 appointed the Selectmen of the Town of Shaftsbury as successor trustees to the Huntington Cemetery Trust. The Select Board voted “to turn management of the Huntington Cemetery Fund over to the Trustees of Public Funds” at its June 20, 2005 meeting. The Trustees received the Huntington Fund in July 2005.

The Huntington Fund principal may not be expended for any purpose. Income from the Huntington Fund may only be used for the stated purpose of the Fund.

#### SCHOOL FUND

The School Fund, derived from any payments or bequests to the Town of Shaftsbury School District, provides that the net income from the fund be paid annually to the school district.

## LIBRARY FUND-RESTRICTED

All net income is paid annually upon request to the Mary Monroe Hawkins Memorial Library Association to purchase books for the library at the Shaftsbury Elementary School.

## LIBRARY FUND-UNRESTRICTED

In June 1994 the trustees received a check for \$10,000 from the estate of Tirzah J. Sweet as an unrestricted bequest to the Mary Monroe Hawkins Memorial Library, located in the Shaftsbury Elementary School. Net income is credited to the fund. Monies from this fund are requested and disbursed at the discretion of the Mary Monroe Hawkins Memorial Library Association.

## HEALTH FUND

All net income is to be credited to the Shaftsbury Health Fund. Income can be drawn from the Health Fund as needed for current activities related to community health.

## RECREATION FUND

The Selectboard established this fund to function as an endowment providing income for use in supporting recreation projects in the Town of Shaftsbury. Prior town recreation saving accounts together with Howard Park contributions were either transferred or deposited into this fund to make up its principal. The annual net income from this fund is remitted to the Town of Shaftsbury after the close of the fiscal year for use by the recreation committee.

## JULIA MATTISON FUND

A 1919 will of Julia E. Mattison, a Shaftsbury resident established this fund. The Bennington Probate Court distributed the funds to the Town in a 1926 order following Ms. Mattison's death. Fund income provides care, comfort and maintenance of any aged and needful women who are residents of the Town of Shaftsbury under the terms of Ms. Mattison's will. The Selectboard determines recipients of assistance from this fund at its discretion.

## GEORGE W. HAWKINS FUND

A generous legacy from a former resident, George W. Hawkins, established this fund in 1976. Net income is credited to the fund. The fund is unrestricted as to use and monies are disbursed at the discretion of the Selectboard. It has been the Selectboard's policy to maintain a minimum principal of \$80,000.

## HOWARD PARK FUND

Florence Howard kindly bequeathed half of her estate to the town in 2017. The funds are to be earmarked for any use relating to Howard Park. The funds are invested to protect the principle while net income is reinvested back into the fund. The Selectboard has discretion over the use of the funds as they relate to Howard Park.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS**  
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019

Fund	Raymond James Starting Balance 30-Jun-18	Income	Gains (Losses)	Additions	Withdrawals	Investment Fees	Rounding	RJ Ending Balance 30-Jun-19	People's Bank Ending Balance 30-Jun-19	RJ & People's Ending Balance 30-Jun-19	Allocation of Investment Fees				
											FY 2019 Income	FY 2019 Gains	Percent to Income	Fees to Income	Net Income
Cemetery Trust	28,393	1,635	(240)	-	-	(189)	-	29,599	11	29,610	1,635	(240)	-	387	6,912
Cemetery Perp Trust	130,411	7,299	(569)	9,750	(4,850)	(774)	-	141,267	50	141,317	7,299	(569)	50%	387	6,912
Huntington Cemetery	58,491	3,385	(316)	-	-	(368)	-	61,192	24	61,215	3,385	(316)	-	-	-
School	30,839	1,716	(241)	-	(1,127)	(198)	-	30,989	11	31,000	1,716	(241)	50%	99	1,617
Library - Restricted	13,192	726	(182)	-	(478)	(96)	-	13,162	5	13,167	726	(182)	50%	48	678
Library - Unrestricted	11,042	614	(115)	-	(397)	(84)	-	11,060	4	11,064	614	(115)	50%	42	572
Health	30,836	1,779	(232)	-	-	(203)	-	32,180	12	32,192	1,779	(232)	-	-	-
Recreation	101,163	5,651	(486)	-	(3,725)	(605)	-	101,998	39	102,037	5,651	(486)	50%	303	5,348
Julia Mattison	33,538	1,935	(240)	-	-	(219)	-	35,014	14	35,028	1,935	(240)	-	-	-
G.W. Hawkins	148,412	8,373	(2,401)	-	(30,800)	(872)	-	122,712	5,350	128,062	8,373	(2,401)	-	-	-
Howard Park	71,243	3,996	(993)	-	(35,000)	(443)	-	38,803	-	38,803	3,996	(993)	-	-	-
Grandview Cemetery	64,473	4,470	(833)	15,625	(15,674)	(469)	-	67,592	-	67,592	4,470	(833)	50%	235	4,235
Total Public Funds	722,032	41,579	(6,848)	25,375	(92,051)	(4,520)	-	685,567	5,521	691,088	41,579	(6,848)	50%	1,114	19,362

This report summarizes the activity of the town funds for which the Trustees of Public Funds have responsibility. The Trustees manage the funds for providing income while protecting the purchasing power of funds through capital investment. D.B. McKenna & Co., Inc. provides investment advice to the Trustees.

Shaftsbury Public Funds were invested as follows at June 30, 2019

	Distributions of FY 2019 Income
Money Market Funds and Bank Deposits	
Certificates of Deposit	
Bonds	
Equity Mutual Funds	
	\$ 89,335
	0
	0
	601,753
	<u>\$ 691,088</u>
Cemetery Perpetual Trust	6,912
Recreation	5,348
School	1,617
Library - Restricted	678
Library - Unrestricted	572
Grandview Cemetery	4,235
	<u>\$ 19,362</u>

Respectfully submitted

Robert Steuer  
Barry Mayer  
Bill Hession

## Budget FY2021

Revenues:	Actual FY18	Actual FY19	Budget FY20	Proposed FY21
<b>Tax Revenues</b>				
Current Tax Revenue	1,535,354	1,570,411	1,701,804	1,824,101
Taxpayer Prebates from State	0	26,477	24681	0
				<b>1,824,101</b>
<b>Other Tax Revenue</b>				
Late Homestead Penalty	3118	4,490	2051	2051
Delinquent Tax Revenue	0	0	0	0
Delinquent Tax Interest	11523	12,337	8635	10,000
Education Billing Fee retained	9049	9,137	0	9,000
Tax sale Fees	1264	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,560,308</b>	<b>1,622,852</b>	<b>1,737,171</b>	<b>21,051</b>
<b>Intergovernmental Revenue</b>				
Railroad Taxes	991	992	65	900
State Land Use	38145	38907	36530	39000
VT Forests and Parks	0	0	0	0
State PILOT Federal Land PILOT Program	16408	14008	18610	14500
Federal Land PILOT	3453	3529	6400	3600
Vermont State Highway Aid	158681	158687	158800	158800
Government Grants	3672	29,687	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>221,350</b>	<b>245,810</b>	<b>220,405</b>	<b>216,800</b>
<b>Charges for Services:</b>				
Water Charge for Labor	1838	0	5016	2500
Brush fees	148	79	125	125
Access Permits	9095	8355	10500	9000
PAYT Revenues	32881	31,083	32600	62000
Town Clerk Fees	33037	28,393	xxx	xxx
Zoning Permits	5505	7,854	5850	6000
<b>Total</b>	<b>82,504</b>	<b>75,764</b>	<b>54,091</b>	<b>79,625</b>

	Actual FY18	Actual FY19	Budget FY20	Proposed FY21
<b>Licenses:</b>				
Dog licenses	3854	2795	3750	3750
Beer and Liquor Licenses	185	0	130	130
Marriage Licenses	0	93	0	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,039</b>	<b>2,888</b>	<b>3,880</b>	<b>3,980</b>
<b>Fines and Forfeits:</b>				
Dog Fines	0	78	400	400
Civil fines	0	0	4500	2000
Sheriff Fines	0	0	xxxx	xxxx
State Police Fines	1961	1461	xxxx	xxxx
<b>Total</b>	<b>1961</b>	<b>1,539</b>	<b>4900</b>	<b>2400</b>
<b>Interest Income</b>	<b>2845</b>	<b>2768</b>	<b>1200</b>	<b>2700</b>
<b>Miscellaneous Income</b>	<b>3768</b>	<b>1,077</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Howard Park</b>				
Trustees of Public Funds	2497	3,725	2300	3000
Fees	200	150	100	100
Interest earnings	0	0	0	0
Misc. Income	0	0	0	0
Key Deposits	0	0	0	0
Town Rec Fund Transfer	0	0	1500	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2697</b>	<b>3,875</b>	<b>3,900</b>	<b>3,100</b>

	Actual FY18	Actual FY19	Budget FY20	Proposed FY21
<b>Cemetery Revenue</b>				
Burial fees	4610	1850	1500	1500
Burial Permits	0	0	0	0
Lot Fees	2450	0	3600	3600
Cemetery Trusts - perp	3216	5525	3000	3000
Grandview Lot Fees	0	0	0	0
Misc. Revenue	335	2000	0	0
Corner Markers	360	0	1800	1800
Grandview - Other rev.	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,971</b>	<b>9,375</b>	<b>9,900</b>	<b>9,900</b>
<b>Clerk Revenue</b>				
Recording fees		xxxx	41640	42000
Birth certificates		xxxx	0	0
Misc. revenue		xxxx	300	300
<b>Total</b>			<b>41,940</b>	<b>42,300</b>
<b>Other Income</b>				
Proceeds from long term debt	0	0	0	0
Insurance proceeds	12545	1,866	0	0
Trans surplus fund balance	0	0	0	0
Sale of Equipment	1000	1,230	0	30,000
Listers Copies	0	0	0	0
Other income	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,545</b>	<b>3,096</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>30,000</b>
Operating Transfers In				
Garage Transfer in	0	0	6935	0
Prior Fund Balance	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6935</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,903,988</b>	<b>1,962,223</b>	<b>2,084,322</b>	<b>2,235,957</b>

## Budget FY 2021

17-Jan-20

	FY18 Final	FY19 Final	FY20 Budget	FY21 Proposed
<b>General Government</b>				
<i>Administration</i>				
Select Board Stipend	2400	3250	3250	3250
Meeting Recording Clerk	0	0	0	0
Town Administrator Salary	60000	66000	70000	76000
Administrative Support Wages	224	336	0	0
Employee Health Premium*	0	0	0	0
Health Plan Administration	887	750	1000	1000
Employee Health Ins Deductable*	0	0	0	0
FICA	4609	5074	5075	5354
AFLAC Admin Short term Disability				900
Insurance and Bonds	54275	56287	56831	58536
Retirement Contribution	3300	3712	4025	4246
Unemployment Insurance	2982	270	1400	333
Professional Services	10180	9228	13000	15000
Postage	562	1035	1500	1200
Meetings & Training	716	1338	500	500
Staff Development	0	0	0	0
Video Website	2558	1889	3950	4800
Advertising and Legal Notices	3394	2795	2500	2500
Dues and Subscriptions	10068	10316	11000	12750
Office Supplies	1580	1524	1500	2000
Office Equipment	2688	3583	3000	2500
Bank Service Charges	0	n/a	0	0
North Street Property Expenses	0	n/a	0	0
Miscellaneous Expenses	2497	1691	1000	1200
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>162920</b>	<b>169078</b>	<b>179531</b>	<b>190,869</b>
<b>Cole Hall -Town Offices</b>				
Custodial Wages	0	1905	4345	5000
FICA	0	140	315	362

	18 Final	19 Final	20 Budget	FY21
Contract Services	3385	865	0	0
Repair and Maintenance	2175	3240	3000	3000
Operating Supplies	1374	2069	2300	2300
Utilities	4843	6261	5100	5100
Heating Fuel	2240	2684	5000	5000
<i>Total Cole Hall</i>	14017	17164	20060	20762
<b><i>Elections &amp; Vital Statistics</i></b>				
Town Clerk Salary	29,099	36,230	40,334	41,544
Assistant Town Clerk	6,146	5,961	8,419	10,672
Poll Worker Wages	912	3,345	2000	4000
TC Health Ins.	2,284	6,572	6,790	7,213
TC Health Deductable	0	1,022	2,000	2,000
AFLAC Admin Short Term Disability		140		600
FICA	2,720	3,277	3,535	3,640
Retirement Contributions	1,624	2,037	2,319	2,389
Travel & Meetings - Clerk	1,008	300	500	500
Travel & Meetings- Elections	0	892	500	500
Machine Equipment/Supplies - Elections	2,720	5,189	3,000	5,500
Operating Equipment Supplies Clerk	4,714	3,531	6,000	4,000
Total	51,227	68,496	75,397	82,558
<b><i>Finance:</i></b>				
Accounting/Payroll-				
Bookkeeping Wages	6,102	6,448	11,073	8,406
FICA	467	503	803	801
Bookkeeping Supplies		41		0
Payroll	2,275	2,433	2,750	3,000
Total	8,844	9,425	14,626	12,207

	18 Final	19 Final	20 Budget	FY21
Auditing				
Auditor Wages	475	461	1,700	1,700
FICA	36	82	130	130
Travel & Meetings	0	0	200	200
Town Report	2,824	2,368	3,000	3,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,335</b>	<b>2,911</b>	<b>5,030</b>	<b>5,530</b>
Delinquent Tax Collection				
FICA	1,270	1,495	1,300	1,300
Supplies	59	587	800	800
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,329</b>	<b>2,082</b>	<b>2,100</b>	<b>2,100</b>
Treasurer Services				
Treasurer Salary	18,000	19,999	22,000	24,000
Assistant Treasurer				0
Bank Service Charge	660	670	1320	660
Billing Supplies	1,623	3780	3000	3000
Other Services	102	31		250
FICA	1,377	1,529	1,595	1,740
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,762</b>	<b>26,009</b>	<b>27,915</b>	<b>29,650</b>
Listers				
Wages	17,461	24,234	13,104	13,498
FICA	1,332	1923	951	979
Professional Services	0	5,810	15,000	15,000
Tax Maps	0	3035	2500	2500
Computer Maintenance	1,249	215	500	500
Travel & Meetings	299	60	250	250
Dues & Subscriptions	0	671	300	300
Operating Supplies	264	219	400	400
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,605</b>	<b>35,399</b>	<b>33,005</b>	<b>33,427</b>

	18 Final	19 Final	20 Budget	FY21
<b>Public Safety</b>				
Animal Control:				
ACO Wages	456	0	600	600
Monthly Stipend	6,120	6,120	6,304	6,494
FICA	0	34	46	46
Veterinary Expense	0	401	750	750
Tags/Miscellaneous	451	252	450	450
Total	7,027	6,807	8,150	8,340
<b>Emergency Management</b>				
Equipment Maintenance	318	595	800	800
Travel & Meetings	0	0	200	200
Operating Supplies	0	0	400	400
Emergency Shelter Equipment	1,141	100	0	0
Total	1,459	695	1,400	1,400
<b>Fire Department</b>				
Chiefs Stipend	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600
FICA	0	0	189	189
Insurance & Bond	2,177	2,163	2,550	2,550
Fire House Maintenance	19,345	17,361	11,000	5,000
Fire Truck Maintenance	10,851	7,704	8,000	8,000
Communications	5,873	4,452	3,000	3,000
Training	1,534	395	2,000	2,000
Operating Supplies	56	46	750	750
Utilities	11,328	10,823	10,000	10,000
Firehouse Heating Fuel	7,264	7,733	11,016	11,016
Gas, Oil & Diesel	1,641	1,803	4,000	4,000
Extrication Equipment	1,314	385	2,000	2,000
Equipment Replacement	6,027	8,945	14,000	20,000
Total	70,010	64,410	71,105	71,105

	18 Final	19 Final	20 Budget	FY21
<i>Fire Warden</i>				
Operating Supplies	0	0	250	250
Vehicle and Equipment	823	509	1500	1500
Total	823	509	1750	1750
<i>Law Enforcement</i>				
Constable Wages	0	0	200	200
Sheriff Services	31,295	27,179	40,143	33,743
Total	31,295	27,179	40,343	33,943
<i>Emergency Medical</i>				
	7,500	15,000	25,000	25,000
<b>HIGHWAY</b>				
<i>Highway Administration:</i>				
Highway Wages - Regular	220,623	240,644	278,990	289,400
Highway Wages - Overtime	36,736	30,345	35,410	37,496
Employee Health Insurance - Premium	51,853	64,792	60,144	65,171
Employee Health Insurance- Deductable	5,708	9,021	16,000	16,000
Disability Insurance	949	1,081	2,162	0
AFLAC Short Term Disability		978		4,500
FICA	19,540	21,193	22,794	23,706
Retirement Contribution	13,842	14,897	18,078	17,162
Uniform Cleaning	8,991	9,899	8,000	10,000
Travel & Meetings	40	0	300	300
Steel Toe Footwear	400	300	600	600
CDL Physicals	587	144	800	800
Total	359,269	393,294	443,278	465,135

FY21

18 Final 19 Final 20 Budget

*Highway Construction & Maintenance*

Subcontract Costs	21,800	18,025	12,100	12,000
Signs	2,729	4,367	4,000	4,000
Tree Removal	3,180	0	15,000	17,500
Bridges and Guardrails	0	0	2,000	0
Paving	104	201	0	0
Operating Supplies	7,082	2,395	1,000	3,000
Gravel	70,579	107,737	90,000	90,000
Chloride (Dust Control)	32,433	25,365	50,000	60,000
Winter Salt	61,647	58,494	48,800	48,800
Winter Sand	70,051	21,359	52,000	52,000
Level & Sealing	89	0	5,000	5,000
Di-Cleaning			1,000	0
Rentals	2,100	6,600	4,000	15,000
Property Rental	1,800	3,600	0	0
Culverts	12,670	1,175	5,000	5,000
Capital Improvement Projects				0
Highway Vehicle Purchase				0
Sidewalk Construction Maintenance	4,811			0
State MRGP Fees		1946		2,043
<b>Total</b>	<b>291,075</b>	<b>251,264</b>	<b>289,900</b>	<b>314,343</b>

*Highway Equipment Maintenance*

Truck 1	16,920	9,216	1,000	2,050
Truck 2	13,466	11,925	2,000	2,050
Truck 3	21,083	5,742	1,000	2,050
Truck 4	9,240	5,330	1,000	2,050
Truck 5	5,548	5,147	2,000	2,050
Truck 6	4,505	590	1,000	2,050
Truck 7	6,105	8,113	2,000	2,050
Truck 8	2,156	12,146	2,000	2,050
Truck 9	0	272	1,000	2,050
<b>Total</b>	<b>97,263</b>	<b>81,224</b>	<b>14,000</b>	<b>20,050</b>

	18 Final	19 Final	20 Budget	FY21
#10 Dodge 3500	1,144	8,411	1,000	2,050
Backhoe	2,273	8,456	1,000	2,050
JD Loader	80	1,508	1,000	2,050
Volvo Excavator	2,789	177	2,000	2,050
Cat Grader	1,569	3,405	2,000	2,050
JD Grader	5,926	18,440	1,000	2,050
JD Tractor/Mower	1,138	1,161	1,000	2,050
Cat Traxcavator	756	0	1,500	2,050
Plows and Sanders	2,886		2,000	2,050
Sidewalk machine	4,108	2,153	1,500	2,050
JD Surplus Loader		807		0
Rentals	165	1,550		0
Communications	0	222	500	500
Gas, Diesel & Oil	42,862	44,015	58,650	58,650
Machinery & Equipment	6,102	8,398	6,000	10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>151,022</b>	<b>157,184</b>	<b>93,150</b>	<b>108,100</b>
<i>Highway Garage</i>				
Professional Services	197	2,916		1,500
Repair & Maintenance	115	1,469	500	1,000
Operating Supplies	2,618	3,127	4,000	4,000
Utilities	3,758	7,170	3,745	4,000
Heating Fuel	4,550	6,412	6,242	6,500
Machinery & Equipment	4,034	2,527	1,000	2,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,272</b>	<b>23,621</b>	<b>15,487</b>	<b>19,000</b>
<b>SOLID WASTE FACILITY</b>				
Attendant Wages	15,735	16,471	16,317	16,807
FICA	1182	1324	1182	1219
Professional Services	0	4637		2000
Management Contract	59,083	64,840	70,260	72,368

	18 Final	19 Final	20 Budget	FY21
Methane Well Monitoring	159	16	400	400
Solid Waste Implementation Plan	12,080	8418	18,000	19,000
Subcontract Costs		0		0
Groundwater Monitoring	18,780	29,025	18,000	26,000
Solid Waste Removal	22,720	24,869	24,000	25,000
Tire removal		0		0
Repairs & Maintenance	692	767	1,000	1,000
Operating Supplies	117	152	1,000	1,000
Sticker Costs	2,516	495	2,000	2,000
Transfer Station Utilities	747	302	500	500
Landfill Utilities	0	22	300	300
Gas, Diesel & Oil		0		0
Hazardous Waste Days		0		0
<b>Total</b>	<b>133,811</b>	<b>151,343</b>	<b>152,959</b>	<b>167,594</b>

**STREET LIGHTS**

Hawks Avenue	354	266	425	500
S. Shaftsbury Village	7,806	9,597	8,500	9,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,160</b>	<b>9,863</b>	<b>8,925</b>	<b>9,500</b>

**Park & Recreation**

Salaries & Wages	0			0
FICA	0			0
Professional Services	85	2846		2,000
Building Construction Maintenance Repair	859	3,626	2,000	2,000
Equipment Maintenance	422	35		0
Refund Key Deposit	0			0
Operating Supplies	198	248	500	500
Equipment	74	0		0
Utilities	584	560	500	500
Reimbursement Gas		0		0
Capital Improvements		0		0

	18 Final	19 Final	20 Budget	FY21
<b>CEMETERY EXPENDITURES</b>				
Superintendent Salary	5,218	5,100	7,000	7,500
Cemetery Committee Assistant	135	n/a		3120
FICA	415	390	508	770
Contract Services	26,025	30,217	25,000	26,000
Repairs & Maintenance	2,315	11,616	4,000	5,000
Travel & Meetings	357	439	400	400
Corner Marker Installation	250	50	200	200
Corner Markers	640	0	1,300	1,300
Transfer to Perpetual Care Fund	0	0	5,400	5,400
Miscellaneous	240	0		0
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,595</b>	<b>47,812</b>	<b>43,808</b>	<b>49,690</b>

	18 Final	19 Final	20 Budget	FY21
<b>PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT</b>				
<i>Development Review Board</i>				
Board Member Stipends	300	500	500	500
Meeting Recording clerk Wages	0			0
FICA	0			0
Professional Services	706	0	1820	1900
Travel & Meetings	0	0	500	500
Advertising & Legal	1,503	304	1000	1000
Operating Supplies	0		100	100
Town Clerk Recording Fees	0			0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,509</b>	<b>804</b>	<b>3,920</b>	<b>4,000</b>

	18 Final	19 Final	20 Budget	FY21
<i>Planning</i>				
Board Member Stipends	300	400	500	500
Meeting recording clerk	0			0
Zoning Administrator Wages	8,914	9,611	11,000	11,330

FICA	681	750	841	822
Professional Services	390	270	3500	500

	18 Final	19 Final	20 Budget	FY21
Travel & Meetings	0	0	250	250
Advertising & Legal	0	731	200	500
Printing	0			0
Operating Supplies	0		150	200
Transfer to Planning Grant Fund	0			0

Total 10,285 11,762 16,441 14,102

**COUNTY TAXES**

County of Bennington 28,624 29,485 29,500 30,200

**TRANSFERS TO RESERVES**

Cole Hall	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Equipment	50,000	63,000	90,000	110,000
Fire Warden truck	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Fire Truck	40,000	45,000	55,000	60,000
Garage reserve fund	118,552	75,000	0	0
Paving Reserve	35,000	35,000	35,000	45,000
Sidewalk Reserve	0	0	0	0
Cemetery Reserve	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Park reserve	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Culvert Reserve	5,000	5,000	5,000	10,000
Audit Reserve	14,000	14,500	15,000	15,000
Veterans Memorial	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Class 3 Road Fund	49,000	49,000	49,000	100,000
Reappraisal Reserve Fund	5,000	5000	5000	0

Total 337,552 312,500 275,000 361,000

	18 Final	19 Final	20 Budget	FY21
<b>DEBT SERVICE EXPENDITURES</b>				
Interest Expense	622	1,425	1,000	1,000
Lease Payment 2010 JD Grader				0
Lease Payment 2012 IH & 2011 JD Backhoe				0
Lease 2013 IH Tandem 2013 IH Fire Truck				0
Lease 2014 IH Tandem	37,147	37,146	37,147	0
Lease 2013 Dodge & 2013 Excavator	38,204	38,393		0
492 North Street	13,599			0
510 North Road	10,400	10201		0
Garage Bond Payment			81935	80942
Total	99,972	87,166	120,082	81,942

**COMMUNITY APPROPRIATIONS**

Arlington Rescue Squad			7000	8,500
Bennington Area VNA			5225	5,225
Bennington Coalition for the Homeless			1,000	1,000
BCCD			475	475
Bennington Free Clinic			1000	1,000
Bennington Free Library			17750	18,000
Bennington Little League			600	600
Bennington Project Independence			4560	4,560
BROC			1700	1,700
Center for Restorative Justice			600	600
Green -Up Vermont			200	200
Habitat for Humanity			1850	1,850
John C. McCullough Free Library			20000	24,000
Martha Canfield Library			2000	2,000
Paran Recreations			4300	2,800
Park McCullough House			1500	1,500
PAVE			450	450

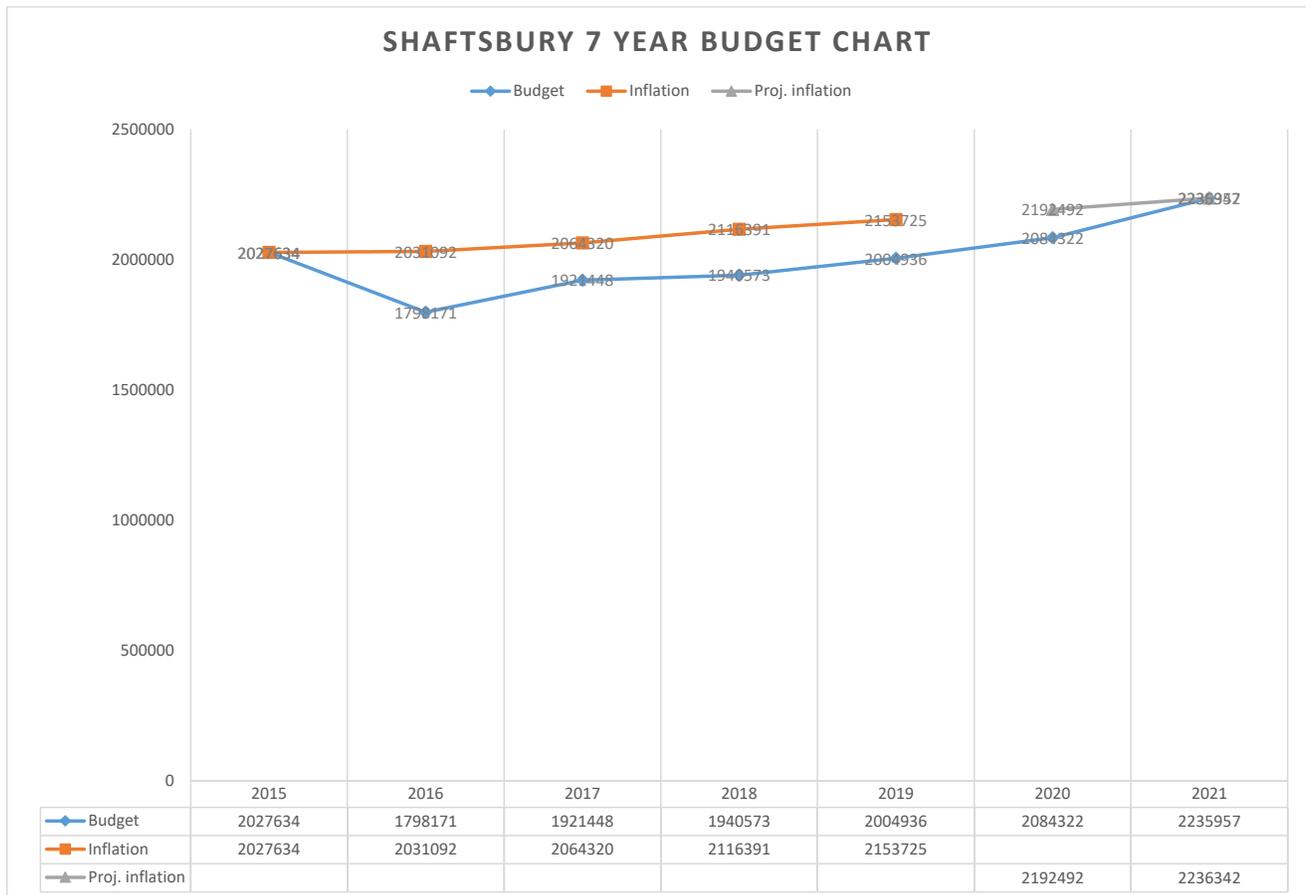
RSVP	950	
Shaftsbury Historical Society	2,500	
Sunrise Family Resource Center	1,000	
SW Vermont Council on Aging	1,100	
Tutorial Center	900	
VT Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired	300	
VT Center for Independent Living	1,000	
Bennington County Association Against Child Abuse	500	
Shires Media Partnership -WBTV	5,000	
	<b>83,460</b>	<b>87,710</b>
<b>FY Year Total</b>	<b>2,084,322</b>	<b>2,235,957</b>

# BUDGET NOTES

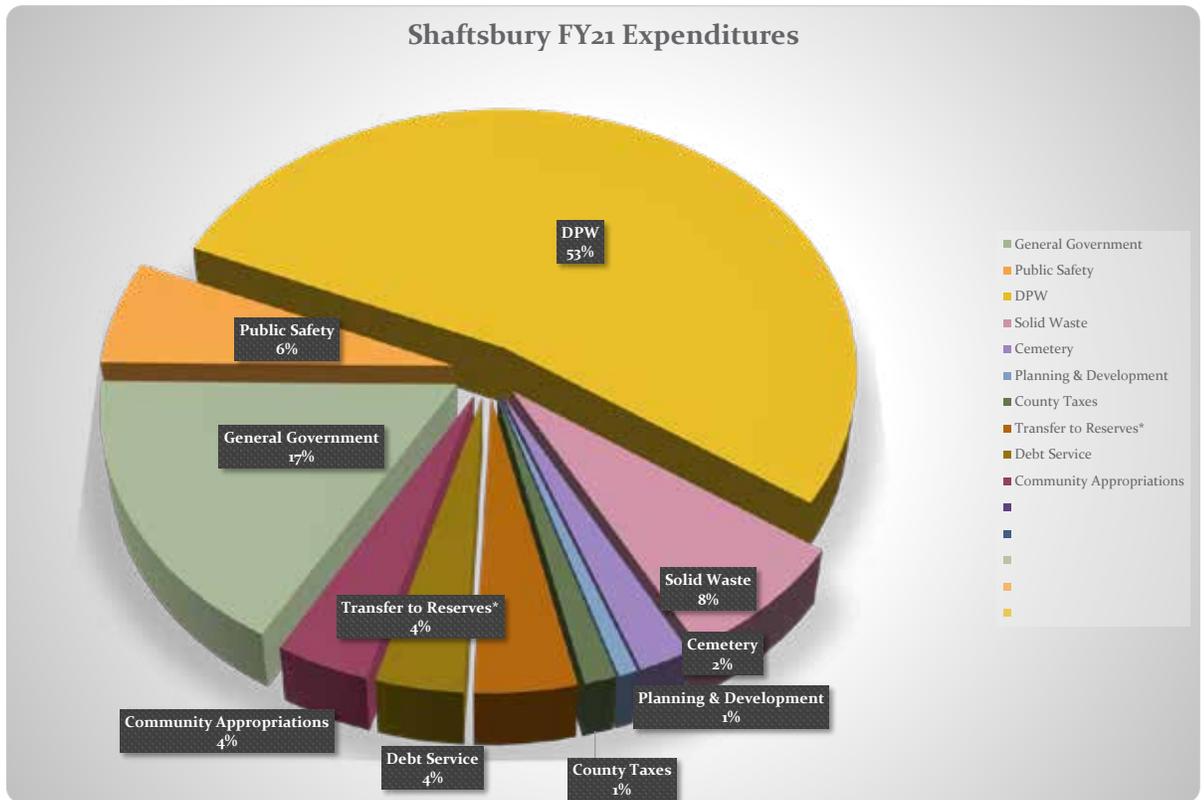
## FY21 Budget Notes

This year’s modest budget increase is going almost entirely into roads. The increase is spread over several areas including the Class 3 Roads Fund, Paving Reserve, tree removal, and vehicle maintenance. Even with the increase our overall budget continues to trend below inflation, meaning we continue to do more with less money.

The Selectboard budgeted a significant increase in the Class 3 Roads fund, from \$45,000 to \$100,000. We are anticipating the need to respond to another bad mud season. Last year was the worst we have seen in many years, and the frequent freeze/thaw cycles we are already seeing this winter are cause for concern. We were fortunate to receive several state grants in 2019 that allowed us to undertake several major drainage improvements on gravel roads, totally almost \$300,000. We may not be so lucky with grants in 2020 so we must be prepared to deal with what appears to be “the new normal” of severe weather.

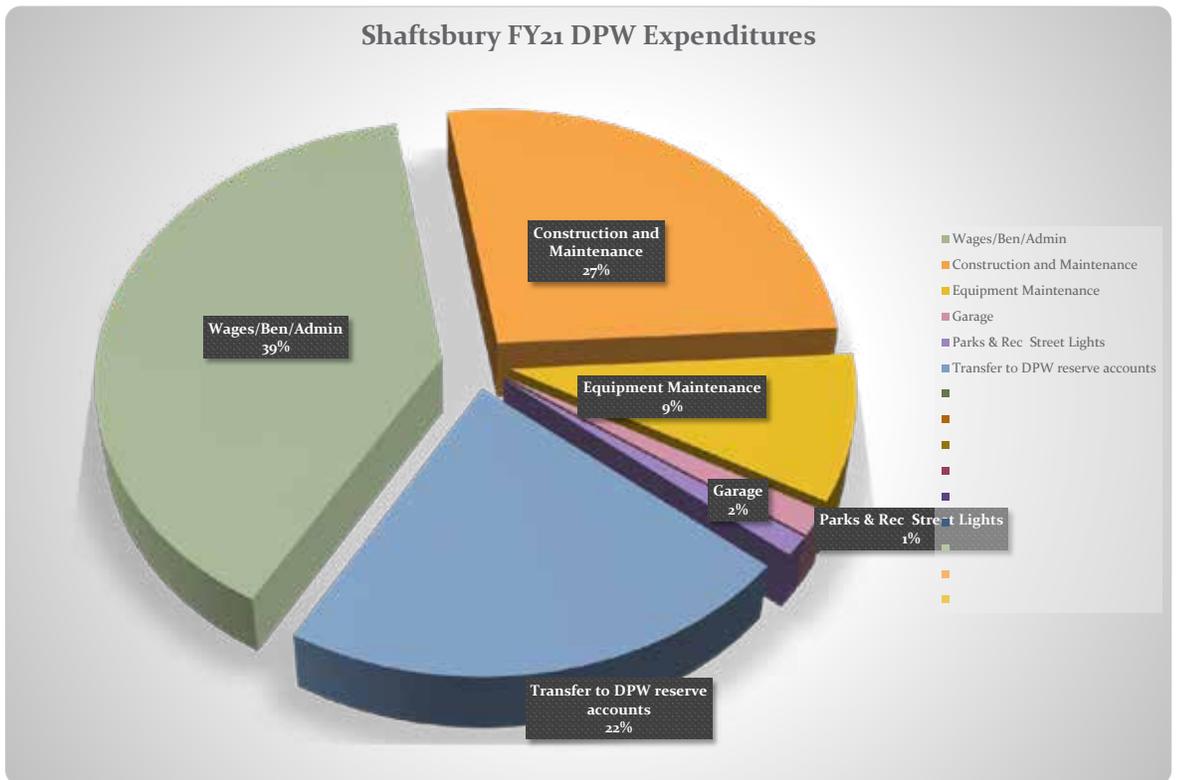


Asset Type	Amount
General Government	\$ 377,103
Public Safety	\$ 141,538
DPW	\$ 1,186,078
Solid Waste	\$ 167,594
Cemetery	\$ 49,690
Planning & Development	\$ 18,102
County Taxes	\$ 30,200
Transfer to Reserves*	\$ 96,000
Debt Service	\$ 81,942
Community Appropriations	\$ 88,010



DPW related transfers to reseve accounts included in DPW

Asset Type	Amount
Wages/Ben/Admin	\$ 465,135
Construction and Maintenance	\$ 314,343
Equipment Maintenance	\$ 108,100
Garage	\$ 19,000
Parks & Rec Street Lights	\$ 14,500
Transfer to DPW reserve accounts	\$ 265,000



DPW related transfers to reseve accounts included in DPW

# SELECTBOARD

## Year in Review

Major construction projects saw completion this year. The Public Works garage and transfer station are complete and operational. Both facilities are huge improvements in function and esthetics. We also completely remodeled the second floor of Cole Hall, creating proper offices for town officials and a meeting room we can be proud of. Town administrator David Kiernan did a masterful job overseeing these projects and deserves our thanks.

The Planning Commission rewrote the town plan. Representing a full year of work, this was not an update but a complete rewrite of format and content. Modeled after the Brattleboro town plan, goals, policies, and actions are clearly stated at the front of each section making this a working reference on where the Town is headed in the next eight years. Gratitude and congratulations go out to commissioners Mike Cichanowski, Mike Foley, Naomi Miller, chair Chris Williams, and Zoning Administrator Shelly Stiles.

Lack of workforce housing is a problem in our region and across Vermont. Shaftsbury became part of the solution by facilitating a \$7M workforce housing project on Paran Road. Built by Shires Housing, the project will provide 22 units of workforce housing, provide jobs for local contractors, and increase the tax base.

After two years of collaboration between Bennington and Windham counties, the Southern Vermont Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) was completed. The CEDS brings regional economic planning to the Southern Vermont Economic Development Zone. The CEDS working group is set to begin awarding Vital Projects Designation to projects that align with regional planning goals, a designation that can open doors to federal funding. Selectboard chair Tim Scoggins serves on the Regional Economic Development (RED) Group that created the CEDS with our Windham partners.

This year we welcome new Public Works director Mike Yannotti to our staff. Mike brings experience and expertise from his many years working for VTrans. We are delighted to bring him on board. Last year's mud season was the worst in recent memory. A foot of snowpack melted in warm rain in barely a week and the roads turned to soup. This year saw major drainage construction projects on Shaftsbury Hollow, West Mountain, Cross Hill, Myers, and Trumbull Hill. These should go a long way toward avoiding a repeat of last year.

## The Year Ahead

With the garage and transfer station taken care of, we will begin looking at improvements and maintenance for the exterior of Cole Hall. With the old garage going away we can begin to envision the entire Cole Hall site in terms of parking, green space, and access. Currently, handicap access is below par, the exterior staircase is deteriorating and is an eyesore, and the windows need maintenance. Work on Cole Hall has been pushed to a back burner for many years as we dealt with the garage. Now we have the opportunity to turn this beautiful historic building into a true town center for Shaftsbury.

## On the Ballot

Citizens will be asked to vote on three public questions by Australian ballot:

1) The Selectboard urges you to vote yes to the question:

**“Shall the Town of Shaftsbury enter into a communications union district (CUD) to be known as the Southern Vermont Communication Union District, under the provisions of 30 V.S.A. chapter 82?”**

Chair Tim Scoggins is leading a multi-town effort to create a CUD that can bring modern Internet service to under-served areas. By creating the Southern Vermont Communication Union District (SoVT CUD), we aim to take advantage of the recently passed “broadband bill”, Act 79. This bill encourages the formation of CUDs and provides money for feasibility studies to help them succeed.

**Key things to know about joining a CUD:**

1. Joining a CUD will not raise taxes, ever. By state law, tax money cannot be used to pay for communication infrastructure. The build-out will be paid for with grants, donations, and service fees. Most of the funding will come from the subscribers who buy the Internet service.
2. Your town’s only real responsibility to the CUD is to appoint a representative and an alternate to the governing board. The governing board will run the CUD, define its rules and policies, and contract an Internet company to provide service.
3. This is how the State wants us to solve this problem, and CUDs are forming all over the state, including Windham County, the Northeast Kingdom, and other areas.

More information is available on the town website.

- 2) Voters will be asked if they want to change how we vote on the town budget.

**“Shall the Town of Shaftsbury adopt all budget articles by Australian ballot?”**

We currently approve the budget by town meeting floor vote. Passage of this question would move the budget vote to the polls on Tuesday. Attendance at town meeting has declined steadily in recent years. On the other hand, floor voting allows the budget total to be changed, not just approved or rejected. Most towns in Vermont vote the budget by floor vote. The Selectboard is divided on the question and therefore not making a recommendation.

**3) Shall the Town of Shaftsbury create a Cemetery Capital Improvement Fund and transfer all monies in the Cemetery Reserve Fund to the Cemetery Capital Improvement Reserve Fund?**

The Cemetery Reserve Fund was established in 2010 to provide funds for Cemetery improvements. There were procedural errors in the creation of the fund. The voters are asked to approve creation of the Cemetery Capital Improvement Reserve Fund and transfer monies from the Cemetery Reserve Fund to the new fund allowing the funds to be used for Cemetery improvements.

# TOWN CLERK REPORT

This has been an exciting year with many changes in the Town Clerk's office. First, we have a new window! If you wonder why I'm excited about this, it's because this window doesn't leak or let cold air in the office. It's a beautiful thing. This year we will be expanding the work area for researchers as we tend to get more in at a time than we have room for. We have already rearranged the office and it looks much larger as a result.

Last year I earned my CVC, Certified Vermont Clerk distinction. I continue to work toward my Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) certification.

Last year I told you that I was no longer able to provide notary services at the office due to new State Laws. The laws have been revised and I am back in business. If you need something notarized, please remember to bring your drivers license with you and **do not sign** anything until you get to the office.

The changes to the Vital Records Law have taken effect. If you are in need of a birth or death certificate it will take a bit longer than in the past as you will need to fill out a request form, show proof of ID and I will need to enter all information into the VRIMS system (VITAL RECORDS ISSUANCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM) before printing the certified copies for you. I apologize for the inconvenience this may cause, but it is now the law.

Vermont recording fees increased by 50% as of July 1, 2019 (from \$10/page to \$15/page). This will mean a much larger income from fees for the town, although not all of the income will go into the general fund. There is now a mandatory \$4/page preservation fund that towns must set up to be used for preservation of records, digitizing records and improvements to the vault. This is very important to have for our historical town records. Our vault houses records going back to the 1700's. Every birth, death, marriage record, land transfer, grand list and much more is there and it all needs to be protected.

Last year, I had all of our mylar maps digitized and created a new index for them. Many weekends were put in for this project, but it was important to have it done.

This office continues to be a busy place with many attorneys, realtors, researchers and residents visiting daily. I enjoy seeing the familiar faces and meeting new people in my office. I again need to thank my Assistant Town Clerk, Gina Jenks, for doing such a wonderful job helping with the many tasks of the office and for covering for me when I can't be there.

Marlene Hall, CVC  
Town Clerk

## VITALS REPORT

Births  
16

Marriages  
23

Deaths  
23

## **LISTERS' REPORT**

As by now you should all know, we Listers are downstairs in Cole Hall, and the construction work upstairs is finished. If you haven't seen it yet you should stop in and have a look. The change is spectacular and makes for a very pleasant work environment for the folks who have offices up there. Dave Keirnan is to be commended for the planning and execution of the improvements.

We Listers are in the downstairs office where the Administrator, Treasurer and Bookkeeper used to be. Our space is much smaller but adequate for our needs and it's rather nice not to have to deal with the stairs, for a change.

We have signed on with NEMRC, our software company, for help with appraisals and the computer data and it is working out very well. Our new guru, Jeremiah Sund, is very knowledgeable and always glad to be of service so if you do need help with your property assessment besides just grieving, give us a call and we will arrange an appointment.

I would like to remind everyone again (I do this every year) that the Listers are involved with property assessments, not taxes. When you grieve in the summer you are grieving only the assessment of your property.

**If you wish to discuss or vent about your property taxes, I encourage you to talk to the folks in Montpelier, or write letters to them and to the Select Board and the School Board. They would value your thoughts on the matter and of course community input and participation is always recommended.**

Our hours are Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:30 am to 12:00 noon. We are often in the office other days and times as well but not dependably so call first if you plan to come in or need anything. We are also available by appointment.

Diana H Mayer  
Chair, Board of Listers

**DELINQUENT TAXES AS OF  
JUNE 30, 2019**

<b>2014 Taxes</b>		
Caton	Alan L. & Monajo	<b>3367.75 B</b>
<b>2015 Taxes</b>		
Caton	Alan L. & Monajo	<b>3481.02 B</b>
<b>2016 Taxes</b>		
Caton	Alan L. & Monajo	3501.40 B
Peacock Estate	George	40.06
<b>Total 2016 Taxes</b>		<b>3541.46</b>
<b>2017 Taxes</b>		
Caton	Alan L. & Monajo	3504.28 B
Dunn	Cheryl A.	827.71 *
Fox Estate	Mary C.	2506.03 *
Gardner	Mark A. & Noreen S.	1043.43 P
Harmon Jr.	Richard	200.87 P
Kozloski           x	Ronald & Robin	771.21 B
Ringwood	Fredrick	436.50
Statewide Corporation		40.09
Statewide Corporaton		20.05
Vanderwerken	David & Mary	2508.83 *
Vanderwerken	David & Mary	5299.25 *
<b>Total 2017 Taxes</b>		<b>17158.25</b>
<b>2018 Taxes</b>		
Atherton	Mark & Holly	792.96 *
Bendik	John S. & Lisa A	492.46 *
Benson	Lizzie M.	3229.53 *
Borden	Kevin P. & Jane M.	995.07 *
Bossong	Rose	489.04 *
Bouteiller	Alfred & Dorothy	212.80 *
Briggs Jr.	Harry	556.35 *
Burnham	Barbara J.	1255.91 P
Burns	Dr. Nancy L.	799.73 *
Caccamo	Clint E.	960.64 *
Caton	Alan L. & Monajo	3579.47 B
Charpentier	Ida M.	185.69 *
Cochran	Elaine	1234.10 *
Dalton	Elaine H.	178.46
Danville	Florence	3927.56 *
Dunn	Cheryl A.	693.67
Erb	Robert G. & Elizabeth H.	98.65
Flanders	Jean M.	217.79 *
Fox Estate	Mary C.	4700.04 P

Gardner	Mark A. & Noreen S.	2128.29
Green	John W.	2725.09 *
Harmon Jr.	Richard	556.56
Joly	Wendy	751.90
Kennedy	Kenneth M. & Mary A.	782.53 *
Kozloski x	Ronald & Robin	3446.46 B
Krause	Ryan S.	851.26 *
Krawczyk	George C.	3600.33 P
Lu	Carey H.	4000.00 *
Maitland	Paul D. & Kelly A.	391.07 *
Maser	Barbara	890.77 *
Mayer	Kimberly	789.96 *
Noble	Mark	710.19 P
Peters	Dan R. & Lynn M.	389.83 *
Ringwood	Fredrick	1781.36 P
Sarvis	Mary Jane	2621.87 *
Shores	Shane	55.85
Snyder	Benjamin J. & Barbara J.	538.27 *
Statewide Corporation		40.95
Statewide Corporaton		20.48
Strohmaier	Henry M.	1902.71 P
Val Erb and Son BU		68.88
Vanderwerken	David & Mary	5412.95 *
Vanderwerken	David & Mary	5649.35
Volpi	Jason A. & Noel M.	265.00
Wade	Brian D. & Judith Ann	1164.01 *
Walker	Jeff	474.65
<b>Total 2018 Taxes</b>		<b>66610.49</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL UNPAID TAXES</b>		<b>94158.97</b>

The year end balance is larger by 14,949.51. Most of this was caused by the fact that 2018 delinquent taxes increased by 39,055.47.

DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTIONS			
YEAR	AMOUNT DUE 6/30/2018	AMOUNT COLLECTED	DELINQUENT AMOUNT DUE 6/30/2019
2009	\$ 74.17	\$ 74.17	\$ -
2010	\$ 46.96	\$ 46.96	\$ -
2014	\$ 3,367.75	\$ -	\$ 3,367.75
2015	\$ 4,871.03	\$ 1,390.01	\$ 3,481.02
2016	\$ 10,548.94	\$ 7,007.48	\$ 3,541.46
2017	\$ <u>60,300.61</u>	\$ <u>43,142.36</u>	\$ <u>17,158.25</u>
SUB TOTAL	\$ 79,209.46	\$ 51,660.98	\$ 27,548.48
2018	\$ <u>301,468.51</u>	\$ <u>234,858.02</u>	\$ <u>66,610.49</u>
TOTAL	\$ 380,677.97	\$ 286,519.00	\$ 94,158.97

Respectfully Submitted  
  
Merton Snow  
Delinquent Tax Collector

\* Denotes paid in full as of Dec.31st, 2019  
P Denotes partially paid  
B Filed Bankruptcy

## **BENNINGTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE ALLIANCE**

Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glastenbury, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland, and Woodford

The Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance provides programs to reduce the amount of waste disposed in landfills by promoting recycling and reuse as well as resource conservation. The Alliance offers education, outreach and other assistance to businesses, schools, institutions and event organizers in 1) complying with the Universal Recycling Law and other solid waste management requirements, 2) increasing reuse and recycling, and 3) reducing the amount of solid waste disposed in landfills. These programs help residents, businesses, schools and institutions find solutions to recycling, food scrap diversion and the disposal of items such as electronic waste, fluorescent bulbs, paint and others that are banned from landfills.

The Alliance website at [www.bcswavt.org](http://www.bcswavt.org) and Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/solidwastealliance](https://www.facebook.com/solidwastealliance)) provide information on:

- battery recycling through the Call2Recycle program
- disposal of used motor oil at retail establishments and transfer stations that accept motor oil
- recycling of paint through the PaintCare program, including lists of retail stores that accept paint
- prescription drug disposal including drop-off locations
- recycling of textiles by the One World Center, Goodwill and others
- events for disposing household hazardous waste
- disposing of fluorescent bulbs, compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) and other mercury items at transfer stations, some retail establishments and at household hazardous waste collection events.
- disposal of E-Waste at area transfer stations, Goodwill and retail establishments
- diverting food scraps by composting and annual sales of compost bins and kitchen compost containers

This past year the Alliance provided technical assistance to over 40 businesses and three schools, as well as several major event organizers, held two household hazardous waste events, supported an E-Waste collection at the Dorset School and sold compost bins to residents. In 2020, we plan to hold two household hazardous waste events for residents and small businesses of all thirteen towns. The spring event will be held at the Bennington Transfer Station and the fall event at the Dorset School. Check the website above for updates and details. The Alliance receives most of its funding from the 13 towns, but this past year received grants from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources and the Agency of Agriculture and Markets.

## **ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER'S REPORT**

This report covers the fiscal year period from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

Because of the importance of and its direct impact on the work that I do, I am starting this year's report addressing an issue I've previously written of. The issue is the dramatic changes that have evolved in how lost/found animals are now reported on numerous Facebook sites while *neglecting* to immediately contact the important animal and law enforcement professionals; vets, ACOs, shelters and local & state police. My goal is in reuniting lost pets as quickly and safely as possible. Being able to match reports of sightings or requests to remove and impound 'strays' with an owner's lost reports is the ideal outcome. More seriously, knowing of an owner when responding to an injured pet report can be lifesaving if a veterinarian might need owner consent for critical care; the town does not cover these costs. Additionally, having a timely lost report assures me that any impounded dog's owners are monitoring their pet and not simply allowing it to run at large so no fine would be issued.

Your help is appreciated in promoting better visibility for the **Animal Control -VT & Luckydog Adoptions Facebook page** where I list local animal concerns including lost/found pets and dogs for adoption as well as educational and fun info. Please visit, like and share to help spread the word! If you have news to share please feel free to let me know to have it posted as well!

Wherever feasible I respond to filed complaints via documented phone calls and written warning letters. I'm more than willing to work with owners by sharing my extensive experience in raising, training and addressing a wide array of problems if a dialog can be established with the owner. Please feel free to contact me at the number listed below. If we can prevent a problem or address one in early stages it will benefit all involved parties, including the dog!

4 impounded dogs were returned to their owners this year with 4 related licenses resulting and a running at large fine being issued. 2 dogs were adopted through Luckydog Adoptions although a fishy story unfolded as I further researched history when a 'finder' who eventually adopted that dog turned out to be the boyfriend of the dog's owner! A sweet Hound girl was also adopted with SCAC's help. Only 1 dog was euthanized during the fiscal year after an unprovoked bite when being picked up for impoundment and this was one of a total of 7 dog bites handled this year. There were no other species reported bites filed during this period, as is most frequently the case.

As always I can be reached at 375-6121. A machine is always on due to both the huge number of robo calls as well as the fact that I am often in and out the door, sometimes on a moment's notice. Please leave the requested details so that I can best assist you as soon as is possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Traci Mulligan A.C.O.

## **Bennington County Regional Commission**

The Bennington County Regional Commission (BCRC) works with and on behalf of its member municipalities to build strong, resilient, and sustainable communities, to foster economic prosperity, and to promote a high quality of life for residents of the region. The BCRC plays an important role in coordinating work among local governments, state and federal agencies, regional public and nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and private interests.

In addition to its ongoing role in supporting the comprehensive planning work of municipal officials and volunteer boards and commissions, the BCRC serves as a regional center for work in community and economic development, transportation, energy, environmental conservation, water quality, solid waste management, and emergency management. The BCRC regularly conducts and sponsors public meetings and workshops on these topics throughout the region.

During the past year, the BCRC has worked to implement its comprehensive plan through a variety of programs and cooperative work with member municipalities. Economic development planning in the region has become one of the BCRC's main program areas. Economic development planning at the BCRC, including dedicated staff directed by a committee with representatives appointed by the regional development corporation, supports business retention, growth, and recruitment. An outgrowth of this economic development work involves a cooperative effort across the region and with Windham County to develop a US EDA approved Southern Vermont Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. The BCRC also has provided staff support for a major downtown redevelopment project in Bennington that grew from brownfields and community development work overseen by the Commission. Concern over the state's water quality has led the BCRC to identify and implement local projects that not only reduce stormwater runoff, but also protect roads, bridges, culverts, and private property. Other important accomplishments have included: assistance with updates to several municipal comprehensive plans and land use bylaws, development of municipal energy plans and support for local energy committees, village center and neighborhood development area designations, implementation of the regional solid waste management plan in cooperation with the Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance, and planning for transportation and other local infrastructure.

Some of the key projects to be undertaken by the BCRC in the coming year include: continued work on the Southern Vermont Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, energy plan implementation activities, workforce and business development initiatives, cooperative programs with the Lightning Jar entrepreneurial center, water quality management plans and projects, assessment of brownfield sites throughout the region, building redevelopment and reuse strategies, regional food systems planning, expanded education and outreach to support waste reduction and recycling goals, completion of municipal hazard mitigation plans, and management of intersection improvement and multi-use pathway projects.

The BCRC is governed by locally appointed commissioners from seventeen area municipalities and commissioners who represent interests ranging from public health to economic development. Our office, located at 111 South Street in Bennington, is open Monday through Friday. Regular meetings are held on the third Thursday of every other month, with frequent special meetings throughout the year (information at: [www.bcrvt.org](http://www.bcrvt.org)).

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Sullivan, Director

# **CEMETERY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

1 July, 2018 – 30 June, 2019

We have completed the ninth year of concentrating on the improvement in our care and appearance of our cemeteries. A tremendous amount of work has been done and continues toward bringing our cemeteries to optimum condition.

Two cemeteries, Elwell and Hollow which had been abandoned, were added to semi-annual care status. Members of the Elwell family came forward and funded a thorough clean-up and installation of a split rail fence. In the case of Hollow, a group of volunteers, committee members and folks from the Vermont Old Cemeteries Association (VOCA) went in and found several headstones under the sod or hidden in over growth. A number of headstones were erected and many repaired. The entire cemetery area was scrubbed out.

As planned, we contracted to have the entire east end of Grandview cleaned up. This had been used as a refuse area but now is landscaped and will provide new burial sites in the future. Also, about 100 headstones on the northwest old section were cleaned and repaired as necessary.

At Maple Hill, four old and dying maple trees were taken down. In recent years, large limbs were braking off and became a danger to nearby headstones. The north side old wire fence had to be taken down for this and will be replaced with split rail fence.

Center Cemetery required extensive fence line trimming and roadway filling and repair. As time permitted, headstone straightening, lot line trimming and roadway repairs took place in all five of our active cemeteries.

Mr. Redin who was a great help on cemetery work left the area. Mr. Austin Martinka began assisting this summer and has been a real help and asset.

All these efforts required a lot of help from the Shaftsbury Road Crew, both individuals and equipment. Needless to say, all this work could not have been accomplished without the support of the Shaftsbury Cemetery Committee, the Select Board, Town Administrator and the Town Clerk who also suggested a number of ideas to streamline the administrative process and lastly and most importantly, thanks to our citizens for their support and compliance with the cemetery regulations.

The undersigned will step aside as Cemetery Superintendent as of 30 June, 2020. It has been truly challenging but satisfying to see the overall improvement of our cemeteries. I will work with the incoming Superintendent to assure a smooth transition.

Ken Coonradt  
Cemetery Superintendent

## **DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD**

The Development Review Board, authorized under Vermont State Law (24 V.S.A. Chapter 117), is the quasi-judicial or decision-making zoning function for the town. The five members and two alternates of the Development Review Board are appointed by the Select Board for staggered three year terms and one year terms.

The Board's primary goal, in determining the matters that come before it, is to insure that all applications, of whatever nature, fully comply with the Zoning By-Laws and Subdivision Regulations.

Currently, the Board is engaged in filling 3 open positions, one being a 3 year full member position, the other two are 1 year alternate positions. Anyone interested should send a letter of interest to the Shaftsbury Town Administrator.

The Board would like to thank Mr. Michael Bidy for his service to the Town of Shaftsbury. Michael has faithfully served several terms as a full Board member. The Board wishes him well on his future endeavors.

We would also like to welcome Mr. Lon McClintock as the newest member of the Development Review Board. Lon having experience as a Select Board member/chairperson will be a valuable addition.

The Board normally meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month.

Respectfully submitted,  
Thomas Huncharek, Chair

# ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

The Zoning Administrator is responsible for impartially enforcing the Town’s Zoning Bylaw, issuing permits and violations, working with the Development Review Board and Planning Commission, as well as maintaining accurate and complete files of land use in the Town.

Zoning Administrator Shelly Stiles was appointed in September 2014.

**Office Hours:**

Monday-Wednesday 9 am-noon

Telephone : 802-442-4038 x 105

E-Mail: zoning@shaftsburyvt.gov

Permit Application Summary

Type of permit	2014-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
Houses	3	5	4	6	3	6
Mobile home	1	0	0	0	0	0
Additions	19	16	34	35	20	13
Pools	0	2	1	1	0	0
Subdivisions	4	3	5	6	3	6
Home occupations	0	0	1	1	3	3
Commercial buildings	4	0	2	0	0	0
Camps	1	3	1	1	0	0
Signs	0	3	2	1	1	2
Accessory structure	9	16	17	18	25	15
Other	21	6	2	10	4	6
Violation	0	3	0	0	0	0
Curb Cut	7	7	5	4	4	10
Zoning letters of compliance	19	31	39	60	50	55
Fence	1	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>117</b>

Respectfully Submitted  
 Shelly Stiles  
 Zoning Administrator

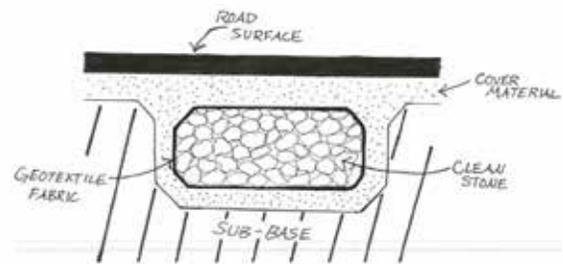
## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

2019 Completed road projects.

Many of the road projects completed in FY 2019 represented improvements required by the state's Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP). This statewide program was put in place to reduce the impacts of roads on water quality. (Runoff from roads accounts for a large percentage of the phosphorus entering our waterbodies. Phosphorus contributes greatly to algae blooms and die-offs of aquatic life.)

Most of these projects were completed with substantial assistance from the state-sponsored grant programs called Better Roads and Grants in Aid. They were put in place by contractors with assistance from the road crew, and included:

- Three sections on Shaftsbury Hollow Road, where under-road drainage structures called French mattresses were placed, and thirty-four trees were removed to allow more than 1700 feet of ditching. All ditches were either seeded or stone-lined.
- On Cider Mill Road, two stone mattresses were installed where the road crosses a wetland. The stone mattresses allow water to flow under the road without significant impact to its surface.
- On Cold Spring Road, crews ditched 1500 feet, and seeded or stone-lined the ditches. "Grader berms," which prevent runoff from leaving the road to enter the ditch, were removed.
- On Murphy Hill Road at and near Sally Gannon Road, twenty trees were removed, 250 feet of stone-lined ditch was constructed, and one French mattress was installed to capture water from a spring beneath the road and carry it to the downslope ditch.
- On West Mountain Road, a French mattress was installed at a low point, and ditches were excavated.
- On Horton Hill Road, trees were removed, ditches were excavated and seeded or stone-lined, grader berms were removed, and a new fifty-foot cross culvert was installed.



French Mattress diagram

### Other projects included:

- Tree and brush removal along White Creek Road to the state line.
- Roadside ditching on Cold Spring, Coulter, and Townline Roads.
- Regular grading of gravels roads throughout the Town.

Spring mowing was contracted out.

The fiscal year ended on an especially high note when the Department of Public Works officially moved into the new Town garage during the last two weeks of June. It became the official DPW headquarters on July 1.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Yannotti,  
Department of Public Works Foreman

## Shaftsbury Fire Department

In 2019 the Shaftsbury Fire Department responded to **95** calls; at the end of this report you will find a breakdown of those emergency responses.

This year we replaced the roof on our Station 2. We have decided that our next project will be refinishing the floors upstairs in Station 1. We will tear up the old carpeting (installed in the mid 70's) ourselves and have the floors sanded and refinished.

In May of this past year we formed a truck committee to begin the replacement process of Engine 2 (Truck 65). This unit was purchased in 2007 along with it's twin. It was the thought process of the Selectboard, Town Administrator and the Fire Department that we should split the two trucks up, buying one now and replacing the other in a few years. When these two apparatuses were bought together, one was purchased out right and the second one was leased. This was done because of the high expense we were incurring with one truck and its maintenance cost and the age of the second unit. The new truck should be arriving in Town at the end of the Summer or early Fall of 2020.

### Emergency Responses

Structure Fires – 6

Car Accidents/Extrication – 22

Vehicle Fires – 1

Haz Mat Responses – 1

Wildland Fires – 6

Chimney / Pellet Stove fires – 3

Good Intent - 24

Assist EMS – 5

Weather Related – 13

Mutual Aid – 14

Respectfully Submitted

Chief Joseph Vadakin

## 2018 Legislative Report

It has been an honor to begin serving as Shaftsbury's new elected representative in Montpelier. I've enjoyed working with constituents and bringing your perspectives to the State House.

The 2019 fiscal year ended with a surplus and revenue projections are up as of Dec. 31, 2019, in part due to expanded collection of taxes for online purchases. The state has retirement and pension obligations that were not sufficiently funded during the early 2000s, putting ongoing pressures on current and future budgets. The state Treasurer has designed a plan that has been put in place to fully fund state pensions going forward, but it does limit spending on other programs.

The 2019 session saw the Legislature pass several significant bills that were signed into law by the governor, including:

- Legislation prohibiting internet sales and imposing an excise tax on vaping products, as well as increasing the legal age for purchasing tobacco and vaping products to 21
- Increased funding for childcare programs
- Financial and technical assistance for communities seeking to expand broadband service to underserved parts of the state (see current efforts to form a local Communications Union District).
- Legislation to fund federally mandated clean water initiatives, and required lead testing of tap water in schools and daycare centers.

As a member of the Health Care Committee, I worked to maintain the protections of the Affordable Care Act, which is under attack at the federal level. State law now ensures that insurance must cover pre-existing conditions and children until they reach age 26.

One bill that cleared the House and Senate but not the governor's desk would establish medical monitoring rights for potential victims of PFOA poisoning. Given the potential health issues, the legislature is considering a veto override.

Two bills that did not advance last session focused on paid family leave and an increase in the minimum wage. At press time, the House and Senate are taking up both topics at the start of the 2020 session and expecting to send them to the governor.

Vermonters with input on pending legislation are always welcome to call the State House to register their opinion. Be assured that every message is read. If you'd like to contact me directly, I can be reached at 802-491-7832 or [ddurfee@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:ddurfee@leg.state.vt.us). I am also happy to help connect constituents with state or federal government officials as needed. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions, concerns or ideas—I'd be happy to meet with you.

Respectfully submitted,

David Durfee, State Representative, Bennington 3

## **PLANNING COMMISSION**

January 15, 2020

The past year was spent in the intensive process of rewriting the Town Plan from scratch. At the request of the Selectboard, a new more pointed format was adopted with clearly stated policies leading to specific action items. Of course the Selectboard had their own ideas which when incorporated into the document made it better. Thanks to all citizens and town officials who provided input. The Town Plan is posted on the Shaftsbury website. The life of this Plan is eight years so we encourage citizens to consult it as issues arise. We are proud of our editing skills for having considerably reduced the number of pages. The maps are excellent and provide a wealth of information. Our thanks to the Bennington County Regional Commission (BCRC) for providing them.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Williams  
Chair, Shaftsbury Planning Commission

# **SHAFTSBURY RECREATION COMMITTEE**

## **Town of Shaftsbury Update for 2019**

The mission of The Shaftsbury Recreation Committee is to revitalize our town parks. We are dedicated to developing them into true community parks, which can be enjoyed by all.

Howard Park is used by our local Little League, soccer enthusiasts, and local groups. The pavilion is ideal for birthdays, graduations, reunions and celebrating family events. Individuals come to our park who wish to have a day picnic, a pick-up game of basketball or practice their tennis/pickleball skills.

Cleveland Avenue Park is used mostly by the younger children in our town proper, who wish to spend an afternoon on our town's playground equipment. It provides age appropriate equipment for safe play.

Updates at Howard Park: colorful multiage play equipment, new trash and recycle containers, water fountain and story board created by Sarah Case, a Nationally Board Certified Teacher at Shaftsbury Elementary School. The storyboard is featured along the Linda Tilgner Trail.

The State Matching Grant that we received was used for improving the parks. A new Howard Park entrance sign will be installed in 2020. The endowment gifts plus the grant is allowing us to move forward with revitalizing the parks.

Our town participated in "Vermont Green Up Day," the first Saturday in May. It was a great time of community involvement and promoting civic pride in Shaftsbury. Green Up Day is an annual event. If you are interested in taking an active part, please give Dave Kiernan a call at the town office (442-4043).

The Shaftsbury web site is a source of information for sporting events and town activities. Interesting highlights are featured and a current calendar is posted. Our park pavilion and fields can be reserved by using the email address below.

The Recreation Committee meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month at 10 a.m. at Cole Hall. If you have questions, need information on reserving the facilities, or would like to join us, contact Deena Ruege at [gruege03@aol.com](mailto:gruege03@aol.com). New committee members are always welcome!

Shaftsbury town parks offer recreational opportunities for its residents.

Respectfully submitted,

Deena Ruege, Chairperson/Recording Secretary

# 2019 TOWN TREE WARDEN REPORT

## Trees in town road rights of way

### Facts

1. Emerald ash borer (EAB) is a destructive invasive insect that kills all species of ash trees.
2. EAB will be coming to Shaftsbury, if it is not already here.
3. Like it has, since its arrival from China in 2002, EAB will kill 99.9% of all ash species.
4. EAB spreads 1-2 miles per year.
5. Shaftsbury has many thousands of ash trees along its approximately 70 miles of town roads.
6. Dying ash trees become brittle and therefore an unacceptable safety hazard to manual chain saw felling.
7. Tree take down by buckets, cranes etc. is many times more expensive than manual felling.
8. The most expensive and least responsible action is to do nothing and let live trees die and become a hazard.
9. Electric and phone lines are common to many miles of town road rights of way.

### Suggestions

- A. To increase safety of town road crew and spread out costs over many years, start a program of preemptive removals. Start with the largest ash trees that are safe to cut manually irregardless of health.
- B. Keep road crew trained in chain saw safety and tree cutting. The GAME OF LOGGING is an excellent program.
- C. Have a location where wood can be taken and processed into usable products if landowners do not want it. Bennington College burns wood chips.
- D. Investigate equipment needed to accomplish extra workload. (chippers, saws, bucket truck etc.)

Further reading -[VTinvasives.org/eab](http://VTinvasives.org/eab)  
[VTcommunityforestry.org/ash-inventory](http://VTcommunityforestry.org/ash-inventory)

Individual ash trees can be saved with systemic trunk injections.

Respectively submitted,

Jim White  
Shaftsbury Tree Warden

## **2019 WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT**

The Shaftsbury Water Department has moved from a conex container in the town parking lot to the second story of the new Town Garage on North Rd. The facilities are a marked improvement over “Joe’s Garage”.

The Water Dept, with the assistance of a grant of the State, developed an Asset Management Plan for our system. This plan has recorded all of assets of the Water Dept to include all of the water mains, valves and pump station. This will be a big aid in developing long range planning goals to maintain our Water Dept.

Currently the Town is seeking to hire a Water Operator to replace me as I am retiring. There is a need to find someone who is younger to replace Joe & Jim.

Respectfully Submitted,

James McGinnis  
Water Superintendent



## SHAFTSBURY 2019 TOWN REPORT

Bennington County Coalition for the Homeless (BCCH) has continued to serve the needs of those experiencing homelessness in 2019.

BCCH gratefully acknowledges the Town of Shaftsbury's support for Bennington County families and individuals experiencing Homelessness. BCCH strives to prevent and end homelessness by providing emergency overnight shelter, short term emergency housing, and transitional housing. We are committed to providing more than just a bed. Our programming provides the building blocks necessary for people to become self-sufficient so that they may sustain permanent housing and remain independent. Because we strive for sustainable solutions, clients are required to participate in coordinated case management with our staff and partner agencies. Other offerings include workshops on budgeting, cooking and employability skills as well as individual support in seeking employment, housing, and services to meet their various needs. In Fall 2019, we added a Housing Navigator/Case Manager to offer focused support and services to meet the complex needs of those we serve that are often barriers to permanent housing.

BCCH currently houses each night, year-round, in our two shelter facilities: 966 Main Emergency Shelter for adults and the Thatcher House Family Shelter serving parents and children. In 2019, our beds were utilized 13,986 nights by both adults and children.

In addition to those we shelter, we serve many others experiencing homelessness. 966 Main Street also operates as a drop-in center where those in need can gain access to clothing, bedding, and personal care products. They are also able to utilize the kitchen, laundry, & bathroom facilities, meet with a case manager, and use the computers to search and apply for housing, employment and other services. BCCH provided over 1,000 of these drop-in services in 2019.

A portion of the BCCH annual budget is made up of state grants. The remainder of the budget is made up of town funding appropriations, foundation grants, fundraising, and donations from our community. Town participation is a crucial part of our annual budget and it is our hope that the Town of Shaftsbury will support BCCH for town funding. Thank you for your on-going support.

Sincerely,

Stephannie Peters,  
Executive Director  
*Bennington County Coalition for the Homeless*



**Rutland Office: 802-786-5990**  
**Bennington Office: 802-442-5436**  
**Helpline: 1-800-642-5119**

### **Report to the Citizens of Shaftsbury**

This report describes the services that the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging (SVCOA) provided to elders in Shaftsbury in 2019:

#### ***Senior Meals:***

The Council helped provide 1,154 meals that were delivered to the homes of 15 elders in your community. This service is often called “Meals on Wheels.” In addition, 30 Shaftsbury elders came together at a luncheon site in your area to enjoy a nutritious meal and the company of others; 1,080 meals were provided.

#### ***Case Management Assistance:***

SVCOA case management and outreach staff helped 42 elders in your community for a total of 232.75 hours. Case managers meet with an elder privately in the elder’s home or at another agreed upon location and assess the elder’s situation. They will work with the elder to identify needs and talk about possible services available to address those needs. If the elder desires, the case manager will link the client to appropriate services, coordinate and monitor services as necessary, and provide information and assistance to caregivers. Case managers also help elders connect with in-home assistance programs, including a program called Choices for Care. This program is especially helpful to frail elders facing long term care placement who still wish to remain at home.

#### ***Other Services and Support:***

1) “Senior HelpLine” assistance at 1-800-642-5119. Our Senior HelpLine staff provide telephone support to elders and others who need information on available programs and community resources; 2) Medicare and health benefit counseling information and assistance through our State Health Insurance Program; 3) Legal service assistance through the Vermont Senior Citizens Law Project; 4) Information about elder issues and opportunities via various agency articles and publications; 5) Nutrition education and counseling services provided by SVCOA’s Registered Dietician; 6) Senior Companion support for frail, homebound elders; 7) Outreach services to elders dealing with mental health issues through our Elder Care Clinician. This service is provided in cooperation with Rutland County Mental Health; 8) Transportation assistance; 9) Caregiver support, information and respite to family members and others who are providing much needed help to elders in need of assistance; 10) Money Management programs that offer either a volunteer bill payer or representative payee services to elders and younger disabled individuals.



*Proudly Sponsored by Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging*

An Invitation to Serve your Community

Serving Bennington, Windham and Windsor Counties  
160 Benmont Ave., Suite 90 Bennington, VT 05201  
802-772-7875 | [caliberti@svcoa.net](mailto:caliberti@svcoa.net) | [rsvpvt.org](http://rsvpvt.org)

## Shaftsbury Annual Town Report FY 2019

Green Mountain Retired Senior Volunteer Program (GMRSVP), a Senior Corps Program sponsored by SVCOA continued its work this year with recruiting and placing older Vermonters into volunteer opportunities where they used their skills and experience to address community needs. Across Bennington, Windham, and Windsor counties, 377 GMRSVP volunteers provided 46,278 hours to causes throughout southern Vermont. Key outcomes for the GMRSVP fiscal year include 892 tax returns submitted on behalf of those needing assistance; 741 food-insecure individuals served; 783 Bone Builder participants served; 230 Meals on Wheels recipients served; 493 rides provided by transportation volunteers; friendly visits to 12 older Vermonters; and 5 individuals assisted by money management volunteer. Additionally, many nonprofit organizations in the GMRSVP service area received support from volunteers, and include activities at museums, schools, hospitals, blood drives, senior centers and meal sites, libraries, and more. There are many benefits to volunteering, not only for the community, but for the volunteer as well.

GMRSVP trains volunteer instructors and provides weights, instruction materials and certification in order to offer the Bone Builders program in Shaftsbury twice a week, year-round. Yearly we sponsor a successful food drive in January, collecting and sharing hundreds of pounds of nonperishable foods, and a portion of the donations are delivered to the Food Pantry in Shaftsbury. Residents are also eligible for rides to medical appointments, companionship visits, tax prep help and meals on wheels deliveries.

All GMRSVP Volunteers enjoy the benefits of supplemental insurance, direct support from the volunteer coordinator, newsletters, volunteer recognition events, information and social gatherings, supplies and equipment. Nonprofit organizations benefit from GMRSVP recruitment and orientation of volunteers. DMV and Criminal Record Checks are done on all volunteers expected to work one on one with a child or senior which is a significant savings for organizations where volunteers are placed. We are seeking additional grants to support a new training program for older adults in our communities to educate them on financial exploitation.

Your Town's funds are essential for us to continue to support and develop programs for seniors who wish to volunteer. Our staff and administrative costs are covered by federal funds from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) – Senior Corps. Your partnership within the Shaftsbury community can truly make a difference for Bennington County with local volunteers helping their neighbors.

Contact Lenora Volkmer in our Bennington office at (802) 447-1546 for more information about volunteer opportunities in your community.

RSVP is  
Supported in part by The Corporation for National and Community Service  
Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging



# Bennington Little League

P.O. Box 4603, Bennington, Vermont 05201



To the Shaftsbury Community Appropriations Committee,

The Bennington Little League program has been in continuous operation since 1957 offering a quality youth sports opportunity to Bennington County. We pride ourselves in providing a safe and educational environment for all of the 280 plus children we serve. We provide opportunities for players ranging from age 5 through 12 to play on one of 4 different divisions to ensure both safety and progression for each child, customizing our approach for the success of the individual as well as the team.

In 2012 the Norshaft Little League and Bennington Little League merged and since that time we have enjoyed the use of the Howard Park facility, the former home of the Norshaft league. As many of you may know, Baseball fields require more maintenance than any other field type due to the variation in playing surfaces. We work diligently each season to ensure that the Howard Park field gets the attention needed for a safe playing surface for our players. We utilize this location for both practices and games from early April through mid July and sometimes beyond depending on post season needs.

On behalf of the board, I would like to thank Shaftsbury for their past and hopefully continued support. The money we receive goes directly to the maintenance and improvements necessary each season. We look forward to another great year in 2020!

Sincerely,

Geoffrey M. Metcalfe  
President  
Bennington Little League

# VNA & HOSPICE

of the Southwest Region  
Serving Bennington and Rutland Counties

*Our family caring for your family since 1946*

October 25, 2019

## Town of Shaftsbury

### TO THE OFFICERS AND CITIZENS OF SHAFTSBURY:

In 2018, the VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region, formerly known as Bennington Area Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice provided Bennington County residents with exceptional home care, hospice and community health services. From infants with hi-tech needs to our most senior population facing end-of-life care, we continued to bring medically necessary healthcare wherever it is needed, location of residence, or complexity of health issues.

In the face of shrinking government and state reimbursements and rising healthcare costs, VNAHSR has continued to identify community needs and provide essential cost-effective health care services to some of Bennington County's most vulnerable individuals.

In 2018, VNAHSR's dedicated staff made more than 149,978 visits to 3,158 patients. In the town of Shaftsbury, we provided 1,148 visits to 45 individuals.

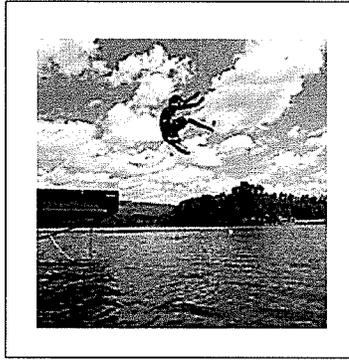
In closing, we wish to thank you for your past support. With your vote of confidence, we will continue to meet our mission to enhance the quality of life of all we serve through comprehensive home and community health services.

*Ronald J. Cioffi, Executive Director*

*Dan DiBattista, President of the Board of Directors*



*Lake Paran*



*Jump In*

## Summer 2019 Report

**Paran Recreations** strives to be an asset for everyone in our community. With protected land surrounding it, **Lake Paran** is one of the resources that makes southern Bennington County a great place to live. In addition, **Paran Recreations** focuses resources on being a steward of the Paran Watershed/natural resources. With over 5500 guests this past summer, **Paran Recreations** has provided children, their families, adults and visitors with an array of healthy, fun outdoor activities. Some of our achievements are:

**Playground:** We applied for and received a matching grant from the VT Recreational Facilities Grant program to build a playground. Through the generosity of our towns and residents we were able to raise the match and complete construction

**Free Swim Lessons:** Our goal is for every child in our community to learn how to swim! We received a special grant from RISE VT to support free swim lessons

**Summer Camps:** Each summer Paran has multiple camps on site. This allows children ages 5 and up to enjoy being outside, swimming, fishing, hiking and having a great time in a safe and supervised environment

**Special Events:** From our July 3<sup>rd</sup> Fireworks Display to Stone Skipping, Paran hosts multiple special community events

**Free Memberships:** There are many families in our region who cannot afford to pay for memberships at the lake. We raise funds to support free and lower cost memberships for families and older adults

**Attendance:** Between daily users and members, the breakdown amongst our towns is: Bennington 50%, North Bennington 29% and Shaftsbury 21%

## Vermont 2-1-1

Vermont 2-1-1 is an Information and Referral program of the United Ways of Vermont. By **dialing 2-1-1 or by texting your zip code to 898211**, you will receive up-to-date information and referrals on health and human services for your area and region. (Text between 8:00am-8:00pm, Monday-Friday.)

Our 2-1-1 system in Vermont is at the fingertips of every resident and every phone. 2-1-1 is cost-effective, high quality, personal, flexible and community-based.

**Can't find what you need?** You can always reach one of our trained professionals by phone or by text. Vermont 2-1-1 is here to offer help and to offer hope.

- One call or text gives you access to resources across your community. 2-1-1 is efficient, fast and easy to use.
- No more wrong numbers; no more wasted time trying to find the right resource(s).
- 2-1-1 is a private and confidential call or text; most often the name of the caller is not even taken. Language translation services are also available.
- 2-1-1 maintains the integrity of the 9-1-1 system; saving that vital community resource for life and death emergencies.
- 24-hour availability every day of the year by phone or by clicking on [vermont211.org](http://vermont211.org)
- 2-1-1 is an easy way to find or give help in your community.

In times of disaster, Vermont 2-1-1 plays a critical role in bringing information to the people most affected by the events and relaying the needs of callers back to the government officials and the first responders.

### **What are the needs in your community?**

Vermont 2-1-1 collects town, county and statewide data and feeds it back to communities to help make systemic change. Monthly reports showing the needs of your county are available on our website.

**Residents of Shaftsbury** made 30 contacts to Vermont 2-1-1 during 2018 for a range of needs, resulting in 27 referrals to services and resources. The top four requests were in the following categories of need:

- Legal Services - for representation and/or counseling and other forms of legal assistance;
- Basic Needs - for utility assistance and homeless shelter;
- Information Services - specialized information and referral, such as SW Vermont Council on Aging;
- Income Support – primarily for temporary financial assistance; and

Other needs resulted in referrals for Health Care Services, Public Health resources, tax materials and information, and veterinary care assistance.

[Overall, **Bennington County residents** made **1,442** contacts during that period, resulting in 1,267 referrals. Fifty five percent of referrals were for Basic Needs, most of which were for Housing and Shelter in the form of homeless shelters and other accommodations, and Housing Assistance, which can include rental resources; Other basic needs included Utility Assistance; Transportation, Food, and Material Goods. Sixteen percent of referrals were for Income Support and Employment, mostly for

# **BENNINGTON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT (BCCD)**

The mission of the BCCD is to promote rural livelihoods and protect natural resources in southwestern Vermont.

Our work in fiscal year 2019 included:

Hiring a new district manager, Katy Crumley, after Shelly Stiles' retirement. Katy brings experience in wildlife and land management, as well as experience working on small organic farms. She is excited to continue the district's mission and add value to our communities.

With help from the Bennington and N. Bennington public works and roads crews, completing the construction of a boardwalk for floater access in Greenberg Headwaters Park in Bennington. We also partnered with the Town of Bennington and Shelly Stiles (previous BCCD district manager) to research the possibility of connecting Headwaters Park with the old One World Conservation property.

Partnering with the Town of Shaftsbury to complete under road drainage and culvert replacement with ditching, on Trumble Hill. Additional culverts and ditches in need of replacement were identified on Kelly Stand Rd. with the assistance of the road foreman. Cost estimates and scope of work were created for this project.

Found funding for the Town of Rupert, to install best management practices and protect water quality at its garage site.

With the considerable help of an EcoAmericorps member, headquartered at BCCD, we implemented the work plan for the Batten Kill Watershed Comprehensive Invasive Species Management Association (CISMA). Projects included invasive species treatments on several public and privately owned parcels; workshops; newspaper articles; and much social media outreach.

Providing agriculture technical assistance to farmers in Bennington County, to develop nutrient management plans, conduct soil and water samples and direct farmers to applicable resources.

Completing a Trees for Streams planting at Merck Forest and Farmland Center, Rupert, to reduce sediment and nutrient run-off into Mill Brook/White Creek. Planting occurred with the partnership of Merck Forest staff and Burr and Burton Academy students. An additional planting was completed on private property along the Battenkill, in conjunction with our CISMA partners. Future buffer plantings are scheduled for Spring 2020, in conjunction with CISMA and the Battenkill Watershed Alliance.

Assisting with the development and review of the new 5-year Deerfield Basin 12 plan.

Secured funding for stormwater system improvements at the Arlington school and library complex. Deliverables include four, 100% designs detailing these improvements.

Aided Bennington College in the organization and hosting of an Emerald Ash Borer workshop.

Working closely with USFS Green Mountain National Forest, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, our regional planning commission, many municipalities, and several local and regional non-profit organizations to further our congruent missions.

Respectfully submitted by

Katy Crumley, District Manager



**ANNUAL REPORT November 2019**  
**Ellen Leeds – Board President**

Habitat for Humanity International (HfHI) is a global non-profit housing organization whose vision is a world where everyone has a decent place to live. Habitat works in all 50 of the United States and in 70 countries. Since its founding in 1976 by Linda and Millard Fuller, Habitat has helped more than 22 million people achieve strength, stability and self-reliance through safe, decent and affordable shelter.

Bennington County Habitat for Humanity (BCHfH) is an affiliate of HfHI. BCHfH works in partnership with Bennington County residents who cannot otherwise become homeowners or afford needed home repairs. Applicants must have a need for better housing, the ability to pay, and the willingness to partner with BCHfH. Once accepted into the homeownership program, each adult family member must complete 200 hours of sweat equity. Homebuyers pay an interest free mortgage thru monthly payments that include escrow for property taxes, insurance, and Homeowner Association fees, where applicable. Homebuyers' monthly payments never exceed more than 30% of their income. The monthly mortgage payments help build more homes.

BCHfH is locally run and funded. With the exception of some contract services, volunteers build Habitat houses. Businesses, subcontractors, and individuals help build, donate materials, and provide financial support. Town appropriations purchase building supplies and materials for our construction programs.

In Fiscal Year 2019 (July 1, 2018- June 30, 2019), BCHfH took on a tremendous task in order to meet conditions of a generous matching grant. We are pleased to report that we met our commitments pursuant to the terms of the Orton Matching Grant Award. Three houses, 10 home repair projects, three donor-related events, and \$100,000 in individual donations drove BCHfH to bring affordable housing to more people in Bennington County. This is a three-year grant award, so we are working hard to meet our commitments again in FY20! Right now we have three houses under construction, one in our North Branch Street neighborhood of Bennington and two in our Jennifer Lane neighborhood of Manchester Center. We are busy with home repair projects and have found the good work of building ramps to be particularly rewarding for the people who could not stay safely home without them. We are partnering with the students of the Building and Trades Division of the Southwest Vermont Career Development Center to build one of our FY20 houses. We have started a partnership with the Vermont Center for Independent Living to build ramps.

Our Resale Store in Manchester sells, at reasonable prices, new and gently used furniture, building supplies, appliances, housewares, tools, and home improvement products that have been donated to us. Not only does the store provide people with quality furnishings they can afford, it also keeps items out of the landfill. The proceeds from the store provide meaningful support for our construction programs.

Two Shaftsbury residents are homeowners through our Habitat program, and we have done home repairs for two others. Many Shaftsbury residents have helped with our construction projects. Three Shaftsbury residents serve on our Board of Directors. We encourage residents of Shaftsbury to apply for homes and home repair projects and to contact us about available land purchase opportunities. We are grateful for the Town of Shaftsbury's continued support and hope we can count on your assistance in the future. None of our projects would be possible without the support we receive from area towns, businesses, houses of worship, and individuals. Together, we do make a difference in the lives of hard-working, lower-income area residents. For more information about our work, please visit our website at [www.benningtoncountyhabitat.org](http://www.benningtoncountyhabitat.org).

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Leeds, President, Board of Directors

## **BENNINGTON FREE CLINIC**

(A Program of Greater Bennington Interfaith Community Services, Inc.)

Report for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019

The Bennington Free Clinic provides primary medical care to persons over the age of 18 who do not have health insurance or who cannot afford their health insurance premiums and co-pays. In addition to providing access to primary care practitioners, the Free Clinic provides laboratory and X-ray tests, pharmacy prescriptions, and referrals to medically necessary specialty care at no charge to patients. All patients are screened for eligibility for health insurance programs and assisted to apply as appropriate. Referrals are also made to local social service agencies as needed. Medical care at the Bennington Free Clinic is provided by volunteer physicians, nurse practitioners, and nurses, and lay-persons who live in the area. Off-site laboratory and X-ray services are provided on a contractual basis with Southwest Vermont Medical Center.

During the period from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, the Bennington Free Clinic provided 17 medical visits to 7 Shaftsbury residents. Of these, 4 were new patients to the clinic. Two patients were referred to consultants. Lab tests were ordered in 3 different instances. In 3 cases, patients were given stock medications or vouchers for free medications at local pharmacies. In addition, 6 Shaftsbury residents were enrolled in and received services from the Ladies First program, which performs cancer and cardiovascular screening and services for Vermont female residents. An additional 4 patients were screened and received interventions for alcohol or other substance use and co-occurring mental health conditions.

Also during this period, five Shaftsbury families met with an insurance Assister to learn about health insurance through Vermont Health Connect. Of these, three families signed up for health insurance. The State of Vermont has now centralized health insurance assistance and is no longer providing assistance at the community level. Shaftsbury residents are encouraged to call the Vermont Health Connect Helpdesk at (855) 899-9600 for assistance.

Residents seeking free medical care are encouraged to call the clinic between 9 AM and 1 PM, Monday through Friday at 802 447 3700. We are located at 121 Depot Street in Bennington.

## **BENNINGTON FREE LIBRARY**

Basic computing skills and the ability to navigate the Internet are necessary for citizens to succeed in our 21<sup>st</sup> Century society. As more and more government agencies, businesses and employers require online access and minimal computing skills, the library continues to bridge the “Information Divide” by providing access to timely and relevant information and technology resources. One-on-one assistance in the use of computing and internet resources and personal devices to access library resources are also services we provide to fulfill this need.

Use of library collections and facilities remains high. In the past year, 62 Shaftsbury residents registered for library cards, including 30 children. Over the last year 74,562 individuals, many from Shaftsbury, visited the library to borrow reading, video and audio materials; to receive research assistance; to use high speed computers; to participate in story hours and workshops; to attend meetings; or to take advantage of free 24/7 wi-fi service and online database access.

The library offered 197 adult and children’s programs, attended by 10,233 children and adults. Programs included Summer Reading Program, story hours, CLiF and 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten, VELI-STEM, (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) training for school aged children, Seedlings and much more. 216 deliveries to day care centers placed books and literacy materials in possession of day care providers, children and their families.

Circulation remains high with over 61,000 print, audio, video and downloadable titles circulated in the past year. Of that number, Shaftsbury residents borrowed 3,389 items, demonstrating the high level of return on the town’s investment. Training was provided to 4,194 individuals on the use of library computers and 31,972 hours of free computer/internet access logged. Our computing facilities are used for a wide variety of personal and professional reasons, including employment research and to apply for employment, military or other benefits via the Internet, to search for critical health information, homework support, or for recreation and personal enrichment.

The library’s Capital Improvement Plan is ahead of schedule: work to replace the library’s slate roof was completed in the fall of 2018. Plans to construct a dedicated children’s bathroom, replace and upgrade flooring and heating systems in the Main Street building are expected to commence in the spring of 2020.

The Bennington Free Library is a unique institution, supporting the life-long interests of a diverse community. Our success is due, in part, to the financial support received from the Town of Shaftsbury. Shaftsbury residents have been enthusiastic patrons of the library for many years, and with your support we will continue to provide the relevant and quality resources they deserve. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Respectfully submitted

Lynne Fonteneau McCann, Library Director

# **BENNINGTON PROJECT INDEPENDENCE**

Town of Shaftsbury Annual Report

Bennington Project Independence was honored to have the opportunity to celebrate over 40 years of providing exceptional Adult Day Services for older persons, younger adults with disabilities and their families from Shaftsbury.

BPI provides a safe, sensitive and supportive day program for adults age 18 and older. We serve people who feel isolated without the support of family and friends, persons dealing with bereavement or other emotional issues such as anxiety or depression, persons with delicate or chronic medical conditions that would benefit from personal care or health monitoring, persons facing end-of-life challenges, younger persons with acquired brain injury as well as serving persons in all stages of Alzheimer's Disease and other cognitive impairments who benefit from compassionate, specialized assistance. Our Members have the opportunity to receive care and support during the day and then return to the comfort of their own homes or their family's homes in the evening. Currently 3% of our Members live in Shaftsbury. We serve an average of 45 people a day at the Dr. Richard A. Sleeman Center on Harwood Hill.

We were also able to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> year of the Dr. Richard A. Sleeman Center on Harwood Hill. At our inviting, home-like facility, Bennington Project Independence was able to provide a wide range of individually-tailored services including meaningful, life-enriching adult activities, educational presentations and mentally stimulating activities, nursing, wellness and personal care, social work support, delicious and healthy meals, opportunities for socialization, intergenerational experiences, pet visits, fitness groups, art and music therapy, our nustep personal fitness training program, as well as community trips and tours. We are also a VA Adult Day Health Center dedicated to supporting our veterans and their families. The comprehensive services provided by BPI and the innovative Dr. Richard A. Sleeman Center facility are considered to be models for our State and the Nation.

BPI is committed to providing comprehensive services for our members and their families as well as our greater community. Bennington Project Independence offered free Basic Fall Prevention Tai Chi classes for the community. With a grant from the National Caregiver Initiative through the Southwestern VT Council on Aging, BPI was able to expand the Second Wind Dreams Virtual Dementia Tour program for the community. This experiential program is designed to raise sensitivity and understanding of how persons with dementia may be experiencing the challenges of daily living. BPI is pleased to make the Virtual Dementia Tour available free of charge to caregivers and interested community partners in Shaftsbury and throughout Bennington County.

Bennington Project Independence is honored to be of service to the residents of Shaftsbury. We are extremely grateful for the continued support and look forward to continuing to provide the highest caliber of care and range of Adult Day Services for the residents of Shaftsbury well into the future.

# BROC COMMUNITY ACTION

*In Southwestern Vermont*

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## BROC COMMUNITY ACTION

To the Citizens of the Town of Shaftsbury,

On behalf of BROC Community Action and the thousands of people with low income or living in poverty that we serve in Rutland and Bennington counties, I want to personally thank you for supporting us through the balloting process last year. BROC Community Action continues to experience many people seeking our programs and services each day.

Over the past year, BROC Community Action has demonstrated strong community impact in the Town of Shaftsbury.

- 67 individuals were assisted and had their needs met including food at our Community Food Shelf, senior USDA Commodities, housing counseling, heating and utility assistance, forms assistance for benefits such as 3SqVT, budget counseling, case management, resource and referral and income tax preparation through our Community Services department,
- 5 homes/units were weatherized or had energy efficiency measures performed reducing energy costs through our Weatherization assistance program,
- 1 daycare home providers were partially reimbursed through our Child & Adult Care Food Program for serving USDA recommended meals and snacks to approximately 10 children in their care, and
- 3 individuals worked on starting a small business with our business counselor through our Micro Business Development Program

Despite the significant outcomes BROC Community Action has achieved for the residents of the Town of Shaftsbury over the past year, there is still more work to do. People come to us cold, hungry, homeless, jobless or facing major health conditions every day. Your appropriation helps ease the struggle for more than 10,000 people who seek assistance from us each year as we meet the basic needs of their families and provide a path forward.

***Respectfully, our appropriation request for the upcoming year is \$1,700.00.***

We value our partnership with Shaftsbury to assist those most in need.

Sincerely,



Thomas L. Donahue, CEO  
[tdonahue@broc.org](mailto:tdonahue@broc.org)

45 Union Street, Rutland, VT 05701 Phone: 802-775-0878  
broc.org #BROCTALK

**Center for Restorative Justice  
2019 Annual Report**

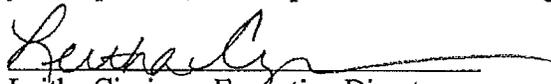
Serving all of Bennington County using restorative justice principles as our guide, the Center for Restorative Justice (CRJ) is a true community agency helping both young people as well as adults to take an active role to repair the harm they caused, give back to their community and learn new ways to be a positive, contributing community member. With your town's support, this past year:

- 45 community members volunteered their time and talents sitting on one of eight monthly restorative justice panels and CRJ's governing Board
- CRJ collected over \$6,500 in donations from clients and distributed funds out to various charities and non-profit groups throughout Bennington County
- Over \$10,000 in restitution was collected by CRJ and given back to victims of crime
- Over 1,400 individuals went through one of CRJ's many programs. Specific examples include:
  - o 74 students received truancy and restorative justice programming in schools
  - o 288 young people and adults participated in CRJ's Court Diversion Program and had their charges dismissed after making amends and repairing harm caused
  - o 196 individuals were assisted to get their driver's license reinstated and, in many cases, had their fines significantly reduced
  - o 213 youth were served through one of CRJ's Juvenile Restorative Programs such as Community Support and Supervision, Afterschool Programming and Mentoring.
  - o 32 individuals returning to the community from incarceration were served through one of CRJ's many Community Reentry Programs

CRJ was able to bring on several new programs this past year:

- CRJ's afterschool program evolved from only one day a week to everyday afterschool (except Fridays) giving at-risk teens a supervised, substance-free place to hang out after school.
- A weeklong summer program called the Youth Empowerment Program was offered to 10 at-risk youth allowing them to experience opportunities focused on building self-esteem, teamwork and leadership skills.
- CRJ's new Mediation Services assisted in resolving numerous neighbor disputes, helping keep these cases out of the court system.
- CRJ provided Expungement Petition Assistance to 23 people, helping to file petitions with the court to have their records expunged.
- CRJ's DRIVE (Driving Responsibly in Vermont) Program provided 102 people with victim impact classes focused on revealing how their criminal driving violations have impacted others and the community as a whole.

Town support is greatly appreciated and is invaluable in helping CRJ continue to expand its programming and to reach as many people as possible. Your continued support has helped individuals to get their lives on the right track, helped empower victims to have a voice in the justice process, and helped restore and strengthen our communities.



Leitha Cipriano, Executive Director  
Center for Restorative Justice

## Shaftsbury Historical Society

It seemed as though it was January 2019 yesterday and now I am writing the annual letter again. 2019 was another year of change. We would like to thank all members (past and present), volunteers, and the town for allowing us to be the stewards of Shaftsbury's History!

Our season started in April with an open house. This 2020's open house will be April 4, 2 to 4pm. Unfortunately we had to postpone another ordinary hero celebration in 2019. We are planning to have another one in 2020. Stay tuned. With big thanks to Ken Coonradt, the 'Heritage Service' was again held at the Baptist meeting house on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Thank you Ken! We were planning a monthly wine/pub night but after many conversations it was decided that we should shelve the idea for the time being. As we were preparing for the October tag sale a couple of our board members had some health issues. This necessitated that we delay the tag sale. They are on the mend and expect to be as good as new in 2020.

We have had some turnover on the board in 2019 and I'd like to thank Dave Rekas for his attention to detail as treasurer. He will be sorely missed. Abbie Lebatt Dansereau, key player in the 'Dear Jane Sewing Circle' has joined the board of the historical society. As part of her becoming a board member, we have opened the Galusha Homestead to the 'Dear Jane Sewing Circle', a non-profit looking for a place to meet. Welcome aboard Abbie and thank you for introducing us to the 'Dear Jane Sewing Circle'. We have engaged Vicki Dejnozka as a pseudo treasurer and book keeper. Thank you for your assistance keeping everything documented and recorded and providing a treasurer report monthly. We continue to look for an office assistant to assist in the office doing filing of paper work and much more. It has been over a year since we've had a board Secretary. Please contact the Historical Society if interested in helping.

As stated previously, the Galusha Homestead is in need of much more maintenance than our budget will allow. We were able to replace the furnace this year but more still needs to be done. This goes the same for the Baptist Meeting house. One plan to address this discrepancy is to sell the Baptist meeting house and use that money to preserve the Galusha Homestead. This is in the infancy of any formal decisions but is a valid idea. If anyone has any other ideas to save both properties we will entertain any and all proposals.

Our first event of 2020 will be a birthday celebration for Governor Jonas Galusha on February 8th, 2020, 2-4pm. We hope you all can make the birthday party to celebrate the most elected governor in Vermont's history. Word on the street, 'He may even show up'!

As we finalize the events for 2020 our goal is to make the Shaftsbury Historical Society and the Governor Galusha Homestead something the town will be proud of. We enjoy being the stewards of Shaftsbury's history and are always looking for new ideas and volunteers.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mitchell R. Race, President for the board

**John G. McCullough Free Library - Annual Report to the Town of Shaftsbury  
November 27, 2019**

The John G. McCullough Free Library is pleased to present this summary of operations and plans for the year ahead. We deeply appreciate the support and strive to use the funds we receive from the Town to benefit all Shaftsbury residents.

As it has for nearly 100 years, the John G. McCullough Free Library continues its mission to connect Shaftsbury residents with a wide variety of enriching and entertaining materials through our collections and interlibrary loan services. We also provide access to vital online information through high speed WiFi, public computers, one-on-one computing assistance and professional guidance from information literacy experts. High quality reference databases, digital books and audiobooks and self-guided online courses are also available to members. Perhaps most importantly, Shaftsbury residents of all ages are connecting with one another at free community events hosted by the Library.

Our schedule remains unchanged: The Library is open Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 1:00PM- 8:00PM, Thursdays and Fridays from 1:00PM- 6:00PM and Saturdays from 10:00AM- 2:00PM. Our website, [www.mcculloughlibrary.org](http://www.mcculloughlibrary.org) provides access to information about upcoming events and a way to subscribe to our monthly e-newsletter, our online catalog, our research databases and online courses, library policies and contact information.

Lifelong local resident Katrina Driscoll-Hastings joined the McCullough Library's staff in early July of 2019 as our Youth Services Librarian.

Shaftsbury residents continue to make good use of the McCullough Library's collections and services. Well over one third of the McCullough Library's 3,700 accounts are held by Shaftsbury residents, with a dramatic increase in this proportion in recent years. The McCullough Library welcomed nearly 11,000 visitors in 2018, and loaned 22,365 items. These statistics will likely be surpassed by the end of 2019. These increases can be attributed to an improved online catalog which makes securing holds on items in 19 other Vermont libraries easy, and increased outreach and marketing efforts.

The McCullough Library was the runner-up for the prestigious Innovation Through Adversity Award, earning this national recognition from the American Library Association for its ability to deliver high quality free public events on a budget through creative and economical partnerships. We offered 240 programs in 2018, which were attended by 2,540 people. Our popular Summer Reading Club encouraged children to keep their reading skills sharp over their summer break. Storytime events for students attending Bennington County Head Start and Hiland Hall have continued. We were excited to again participate in Shaftsbury Elementary School's Open House event again this year. Other highlights from the past year's events schedule included four Vermont Humanities Council Speakers' Bureau talks, our incredibly popular Polar Express Night, poetry readings, documentary screenings and crafting sessions. A robust events schedule is planned for the year ahead.

All of our programs and some new materials were funded by our dedicated Friends of the Library, which raised nearly \$14,500 in 2018. Membership in this fundraising and advocacy group is open to all.

Much work was done on the McCullough Library's historic building this year. Large pine bushes were removed from the Library's perimeter, improving visibility for drivers and enabling better care of the building's beautiful marble foundation. A new roadside sign replaced a damaged older sign and contains a letterbox for promoting events. An emergency replacement of the Library's boiler was needed in November. This \$25,000 project was funded entirely by grants and donations and did not impact the Library's operating budget and will make the building much more fuel efficient. A grant to fund the installation of a heat pump system is in process for 2020.

## **Martha Canfield Library Annual Report**

The Martha Canfield Library Board of Trustees thanks you for your continued support as we strive to serve anyone in need of information, education and pleasure reading and viewing. We have had a busy year, participating in the Memorial Day parade in celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the American Legion, giving away children's books at the Summer Farmer's Market, coordinating an exhibit about Norman Rockwell's Arlington: America's Home Town at the Vermont History Museum in Montpelier, participating in Vermont Reads 2019 and starting a Young Writer's group. All this in addition to our usual books, periodicals, DVDs, interlibrary loan, information services, museum passes, and much more. In addition, we were very pleased to receive a donation from Mack Molding of \$10,000 to purchase a new copier/scanner and several new computers.

We accepted with regret the retirement of our library assistant and children's program coordinator, Peggy Hanson, but are very pleased to announce our new staff person, Holly Dix. Holly has some volunteer experience in a library and has been a Boy Scout leader. She is excited to be working with you and your family.

The Russell Vermontiana Collection served more than 71 researchers in 2019. Thirty-nine of the researchers were local residents, and the others were from Massachusetts to Oregon and California. The major project was preparation and installation of the Rockwell exhibit at the Vermont Historical Society Museum. We also received thirteen major donations and many smaller donations of photographs, books, and ephemera. The oldest included a collection of newspapers from the 1850s-1880s, and a local account book that was started ca. 1797.

2020 is the year for the United States Census, which is very important for equitable allocation of federal funds and for accurate legislative representation. Most people will be able fill out your census form online. If you need assistance, the library staff will be ready to help at any time. If you would like to find out more about the Library, visit us online at [marthacanfieldlibrary.org](http://marthacanfieldlibrary.org) or on our Facebook page. We look forward to your continued support.

Phyllis Skidmore, Director

Sheila Kearns, President of the Board of Trustees



**GREEN UP VERMONT**  
P.O. Box 1191  
Montpelier, Vermont 05601-1191  
(802) 229-4586 • [greenup@greenupvermont.org](mailto:greenup@greenupvermont.org)  
[www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org)

Green Up Day marked its 49th Anniversary on May 4, 2019 with 22,000+ volunteers participating and over 43 tons of litter collected statewide. Always the first Saturday in May, Green Up Vermont is a nonprofit private organization that relies on your town's support to execute the tradition of cleaning up our roadways and waterways, while promoting civic pride. The tradition of Green Up Day began in 1970 by Governor Deane C. Davis and will celebrate its 50th Anniversary in May 2020.

Green Up Vermont offers a statewide educational component for grades K-2 by providing free activity booklets to schools and hosts its annual student poster design and writing contests for grades K-12. Please visit [www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org) for full details.

Support from cities and town's is essential to our budget, enabling us to cover fourteen percent of our annual operating costs. Funds help pay for administrative and program support, which includes over 65,000 Green Up trash bags, education, and promotional outreach.

Seventy-five percent of Green Up Vermont's budget comes from corporate sponsors and individual donors. Individuals can donate to Green Up Vermont on Line 23 of the Vermont State Income Tax Form or anytime online at [www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org).

Keep up-to-date with Green Up Vermont by joining our newsletter, liking us on Facebook (@greenupvermont), following us on Instagram (greenupvermont), and by visiting our website.

**Join us:** Green Up Day, May 2, 2020 and help Celebrate our 50th Anniversary.

## Project Against Violent Encounters

Project Against Violent Encounters (PAVE) is a non-profit agency located in the heart of Bennington that works to serve all members of the community. We are committed to providing compassionate support, practical services, and the pathway to healing and safety for countless victims of domestic and sexual violence and stalking.

PAVE has grown tremendously over the years in order to meet the needs of countless victims in Bennington County. PAVE operates a 24-hour crisis hotline, as well as comprehensive support services, including court and social service advocacy, case management, emergency financial assistance, access to legal services, access to emergency shelter, supervised visitation programming, parenting classes, community awareness, school-based violence prevention education and more.

In the past year, we provided 32 Shaftsbury residents with comprehensive services; 7 making initial contact with us via the hotline. These residents received advocacy services ranging from emotional support & safety planning to emergency shelter, transportation, and civil and legal advocacy. Through PAVE's Family Time Supervised Visitation program 5 Shaftsbury families with 6 children received services, which is a significant increase from the year prior. Family Time also provides Nurturing Parenting Classes and other workshops throughout the year.

For many victims, the crisis hotline is their lifeline to PAVE. Staff and volunteer advocates remain the backbone of the support we offer, but staffing this hotline 24 hours/day continues to be one of our biggest challenges. Working a crisis hotline might mean providing emotional support via phone, but it often means responding in the middle of the night to the hospital for someone who has been sexually assaulted; sometimes that person is a child.

Domestic violence is a major cause of homelessness. Our emergency shelter program met the needs of **89 adults and 58 children with 3,745 nights of shelter services**, providing families a safe place to stay until permanent housing could be obtained. Funding from the Town of Shaftsbury would assist us in providing these much needed services for families in crisis.

PAVE has worked with over 3,400 individuals in the Bennington County schools to offer prevention workshops for children and teachers throughout the school year to discuss bullying and strategies that promote healthy relationships. PAVE also offers an outreach program that provides information and training to medical and mental health professionals around the issues of domestic and sexual violence.

On behalf of PAVE staff, Board of Directors, and families, we would like to thank the residents of Shaftsbury for their continued support of PAVE, without which we couldn't do the work we do.

Warmest regards,

Nadia Lucchin, Executive Director  
P.O. Box 227 Bennington, VT 05201  
[pave@pavebennington.com](mailto:pave@pavebennington.com)  
802-442-2370



Personal.  
Motivating.  
Transforming.

**THE TUTORIAL CENTER, Inc.**

Founded in Bennington in 1971, 2020 marks the Tutorial Center’s 49<sup>th</sup> year of helping the region’s children and adults achieve educational, career, and life success! Please accept our thank you for the many years of support for our work. Your support enables us to help EVERY child or adult who comes to us for help.

The Tutorial Center has long-established learning centers in both Bennington and Manchester, enabling Bennington County residents to easily access our services where they live or where they work. Education is an ever-evolving art and The Tutorial Center seeks to model our services to respond to contemporary demand. I take pride in our welcoming and flexible approach.

Our educational support services include tutoring for all ages, adult literacy, dropout prevention, alternative high school education, English language classes for non-English speakers, the High School Completion program, GED preparation and testing, job readiness training, workplace literacy for employees, software and technology training for business, enrichment classes, SAT preparation, and our innovative and nationally-recognized YAP experience for at-risk young adults.

Another highlight of our work involves our partnership with Seedlings, which continues to provide high-quality after-school tutoring at Bennington Elementary and Molly Stark.

Town of Shaftsbury appropriation funds support our tutoring work, enabling us to offer tutoring to any student who needs our assistance to succeed in school or to avoid becoming a dropout. This past year we served 3 residents of Shaftsbury. All students who come to us for academic support receive support, regardless of a family’s ability to pay.

This past year we provided tutoring for 160 students, in subjects ranging from beginning reading to algebra, calculus, technology, and foreign languages. Most were from low-income families. Over 90% of these students made measured educational progress under our guidance. These results show up in the local schools as increase standardized test scores, and in local businesses as more productive employees.

Another 139 adults were enrolled in our free adult education services, including 9 Shaftsbury residents benefitting from 358 hours of instruction. In all over 9000 hours of free instruction was provided to our students.

High-quality educational activities that respond to community needs – and produce lasting community impacts – that is what your Town funding supports. We thank you, and we look forward to your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter Fish, Executive Director

[www.tutorialcenter.org](http://www.tutorialcenter.org)

In Manchester: PO Box 1434 • 3511 Richville Rd • Manchester Center, VT 05255 • 802-362-0222 • 802-362-0707 fax

In Bennington: 208 Pleasant Street • Bennington, VT 05201 • 802-447-0111 • 802-447-7607 fax

**THE VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING  
TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY  
SUMMARY REPORT**

**Request Amount: \$1000.00**

For the past 40 years, The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) has been teaching people with disabilities and the Deaf how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services to live more independently. VCIL employees (85% of whom have a disability) conduct public education, outreach, individual advocacy and systems change advocacy to help promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities into community life.

In FY'19 (10/2018-9/2019) VCIL responded to thousands of requests from individuals, agencies and community groups for information, referral and assistance and program services for individuals living with a disability. VCIL Peer Advocate Counselors (PACs) provided one-on-one peer counseling to **250** individuals to help increase their independent living skills and **6** peers were served by the AgrAbility program. VCIL's Home Access Program (HAP) assisted **163** households with information on technical assistance and/or alternative funding for modifications; **122** of these received financial assistance to make their bathrooms and/or entrances accessible. Our Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF) provided **86** individuals with information on assistive technology; **46** of these individuals received funding to obtain adaptive equipment. **499** individuals had meals delivered through our Meals on Wheels (MOW) program for individuals with disabilities under the age of 60. We are also home to the Vermont Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (VTEDP) which served **40** people and provided **31** peers with adaptive telecommunications enabling low-income Deaf, Deaf-blind, Hard of Hearing and individuals with disabilities to communicate by telephone.

VCIL's central office is located in downtown Montpelier and we have five branch offices in Bennington, Chittenden, Lamoille, Rutland and Windham Counties. Our Peer Advocate Counselors (PACs) and services are available to people with disabilities throughout Vermont. Our Montpelier office also houses the Vermont Interpreter Referral Service (VIRS) (previously under the VT Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing) and provides statewide interpreter referral services for sign language, spoken English and CART services for assignments in medical, legal, mental health, employment, educational, civil and recreational settings.

During FY'19, **9** residents of **Shaftsbury** received services from the following programs:

- Home Access Program (HAP)  
(\$**5,085.00** spent on modifications)
- Peer Advocate Counseling Program (PAC)
- Information Referral and Assistance (I,R&A)

To learn more about VCIL, please call VCIL's toll-free I-Line at:  
**1-800-639-1522**, or, visit our web site at **www.vcil.org**.



## **Report of Services for Town of Shaftsbury**

The Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired's 2019 Fiscal Year was an exciting one. The number of clients we serve has continued to increase annually, and we have made significant updates to our SMART Device Training Program (formerly known as the iOS Training program) for adult clients.

It's clear to us at VABVI that our mission and services will continue to play a critical role in the lives of many Vermonters well into the future. We are working harder than ever to support anyone living in Vermont who is experiencing vision loss.

**SMART Device Training Program (formerly known as the iOS Training Program):** The program served 116 clients in its first year. After the launch of this program, several updates were made to reflect lessons learned, advances in technology, and additional client needs. Initially, the program only utilized tablet and smartphone devices with iOS capabilities. Our Teachers of the Visually Impaired underwent additional training and now have the capability to show clients how to use smart devices and speakers of several makes and models: Android, Google, Apple, and Amazon.

**PALS (Peer Assisted Learning and Support) Groups:** PALS Groups, held throughout Vermont, are monthly meetings where members share coping strategies and to discuss the practical, social and emotional challenges of vision loss.

**HAPI (Helping Adolescents Prepare for Independence):** The HAPI program enables Teachers of the Visually Impaired and Certified Vision Rehabilitation Therapists to work one-on-one with students to practice daily living skills.

**IRLE Summer Camp (Intensive Residential Life Experience):** IRLE camp helps VABVI students develop social skills, meet fellow visually impaired peers, meet adult mentors, learn independent living skills, and improve self-advocacy skills.

During Fiscal Year 2019, we served 1,431 clients from all 14 counties in Vermont. This included 3 adult clients and 1 student in Shaftsbury, and 21 students and 45 adult clients in Bennington County.

For more information about VABVI's services or to volunteer, please contact Shannon Turgeon at (802) 863-1358 ext. 217, or at [sturgeon@vabvi.org](mailto:sturgeon@vabvi.org). Visit us our website at [www.vabvi.org](http://www.vabvi.org) and feel free to "like" us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/vabvi802/>.

## **Bennington County Association Against Child Abuse**

To the Citizens of the Town of Shaftsbury,

On behalf of the Bennington County Association Against Child Abuse (dba Bennington County Child Advocacy Center), I would like to thank you for supporting our organization again this year. The support you give our organization allows us to continue to provide support to victims living in the Shaftsbury community.

In October, we were awarded re-accreditation by National Children's Alliance following an extensive application and site review process. Accredited Child Advocacy Centers must undergo a re-accreditation process every five years to ensure that best practices are continually applied.

We support the Town of Shaftsbury by:

- Providing direct services to children and families upon the commencement of an alleged child abuse case, for as long as needed, regardless of the judicial outcome. For victims and their non-offending family, we provide support for up to three years, or sometimes longer, depending on the judicial process and the needs of the family.
- Providing direct services to adult victims of sexual abuse, for as long as needed, regardless of the judicial outcome.
- Housing a child-friendly interview room and a private family waiting room.
- Providing prevention education to local schools, preschools, and childcare centers. We have provided this outreach to all schools within the SVSU, as well as local childcare and preschool providers. This involves training new teachers/ staff, modeling lessons, and serving as a mentor when concerns arise.
- Serving as a resource to any adult working with children.
- Holding several community awareness events during the month of April. We have continued the #Benningtongoesblue campaign, Clothesline Project, Candlelight Vigil, and our pinwheel garden. We co-sponsored with Southern Vermont College, the showing of "I Am Evidence" for the college and the community.
- Hosting Just Bike! Justice for kids. In late September we host this event to bring families together for a walk/bike event.
- Collecting and repairing bikes through our Bike Drive for kids in foster care/ kinship care.

We respectfully ask for your continued support this year in the amount of \$500.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joy Kitchell, Executive Director



*Serving Our Community Since 1968*

## **ARLINGTON RESCUE SQUAD INC**

66 Chittenden Drive / PO Box 295, Arlington, VT 05250  
802-375-6589 Office - 802-375-2716 Fax  
ArlingtonRescueSquad.org

12<sup>th</sup> December 2019

The Arlington Rescue Squad would like to thank the residents of Shaftsbury for their continued financial support through the Town appropriations process. This year, we will be requesting an increase in town funding to help offset the ever increasing costs of running our organization. We are asking for \$8,500.00.

This year, we responded to a total of 510 calls, a 20% decrease from last year. Every year the number of calls is unpredictable. Not only does Arlington Rescue respond to medical emergencies and auto accidents in the Arlington area, but we are there to assist the Arlington and Shaftsbury Fire Department with stand-by assistance for structure and/or brush fires, and our community members needing assistance from falls and medical needs.

This last year, we've continued to making some long overdue building repairs. In the next few years, our building will need to be reroofed and continuously maintained. The cost of new required EMS equipment and supplies keeps increasing and there is no way would be able to continue providing our services without community financial support.

Arlington Rescue Squad is not only looking to provide emergency medical services to the communities that we serve, but are looking to becoming more pro-active in our community. Our Explorers Post program (the first EMS Explorers post in the state) is doing very well. We have a great group and have started training them to become better first responders. This youth program is designed to teach important life and career skills to young people from all backgrounds through immersive career experiences and mentorships provided by ARSI, our community, and business leaders. This program will help equip young people with character, leadership and life skills that can be used both today and in their future careers. Please visit our website for more information on our Explorer Post. *(Photo below is our Explorer Post Officers)*

We are also providing more training opportunities for the general public and our local work force to include CPR/AED and Basic First Aid. Contact us to set up a training for your group.

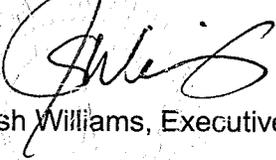
Arlington Rescue has a dedicated mix of paid and volunteer staff that provide emergency medical coverage **24 hour per day, 7 days a week**. We have a staff of 2 full time employees working 7 days a week from 6am – 6pm , and our volunteers provide coverage weeknights from

6pm to 6 am. All staff and volunteers continually train and update their skills to provide the highest quality care available and they are dedicated to maintaining a high level of proficiency in the field of emergency medicine.

Unfortunately, it is getting harder and harder to build and even maintain our volunteer ranks. The decline in volunteers is tied to changing work patterns and other obligations —To help offset the need for volunteer man hours, incorporating the paid staff to cover the weekend peak times, and lessen the burden to our volunteers has increase our cost by about \$45,000.00.

We encourage anyone interested in volunteering in any capacity to contact us. There is nothing more rewarding then helping your neighbour in a time of need.

Respectfully submitted:



Josh Williams, Executive Director

***Public Service Announcement:***

*Please remember that in order for emergency agencies to find you and your residence, house numbers must be clearly posted. If you have a long driveway, please have your numbers by the road. Number signs are still available at the rescue squad building.*





# Every town is an important part of the American story.

Make sure your town's story is told by responding to the 2020 Census—the count of everyone living in the United States. When you do, you'll also help your town get the most out of the American dream.

## Responding Is Important for Your Community

Census responses provide data that can attract new businesses and the jobs that come with them. The data also informs where over \$675 billion in federal funding is spent each year in states and communities. That includes money for things like:

- Medicare Part B
- Special education
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- Cooperative Extension Service
- Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant
- Water and waste disposal systems for rural communities

## Responding Is Safe

Your personal information is kept confidential by law.

## Responding Is Easy

To complete the census, answer a handful of questions online, by phone, or by mail. Choose the option that works best for you.

## Every Person Counts

Whether it's funding in communities across your state or helping determine the number of seats your state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives—every count makes an equal impact.

For more information, visit:

**2020CENSUS.GOV**

**Shape  
your future  
START HERE >**

United States®  
**Census  
2020**



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

**White River Junction VA Medical Center**  
215 North Main Street  
White River Junction, VT 05009  
866-687-8387 (Toll Free)  
802-295-9363 (Commercial)

In Reply Refer to: 405/00

December 23rd, 2019

Dear Veteran,

The White River Junction VA Medical Center is attempting to contact all Veterans in our catchment area of Vermont and New Hampshire who are not enrolled or are enrolled and no longer utilizing our services. If you currently receive our services, please pass this note on to a Veteran who may benefit.

We offer a wide variety of services including assistance to Veterans who are homeless or unemployed to providing primary and specialty care. We have a robust mental health department offering one-on-one counseling, peer support, group sessions, and more. There is a designated treatment area for our women Veterans at the Women’s Comprehensive Care Clinic; a safe space.

The White River Junction VA Medical Center has seven community-based outpatient clinics. They are located in Bennington, Rutland, Brattleboro, Newport and Burlington, Vermont; in New Hampshire we offer services in Keene and Littleton. We are here to serve all Veterans, please do not hesitate to contact us, if for no other reason than to register/enroll with us in case of future need.

Our eligibility office in White River Junction can be reached at 802-295-9363 extension 5118. A single form - VA form 10-10EZ – and a copy of the DD214 is all that is needed.

The American Legion, Disabled American Veterans and the Veterans of Foreign Wars have full time service officers that are knowledgeable about our programs. These independent organizations serve all Veterans including nonmembers in processing disability and pension claims. They can be reached in White River Junction at:

American Legion	802-296-5166
Disabled American Veterans	802-296-5167
Veterans of Foreign Wars	802-296-5168

Thank you for your service to our nation. On behalf of the White River Junction VA Medical Center team, we look forward to serving you.

Respectfully;

Becky Rhoads, Au.D.  
Associate Medical Center Director



# Hometown Hero

**Commander Robert H. Eastman III, USN**

Commander Robert H. Eastman III, USN, passed away of natural causes on February 2, 2019. Born on April 29, 1977 to Bob and Sally Eastman of Shaftsbury, Rob graduated from Mount Anthony Union High School. Upon graduation from the United States Merchant Marine Academy, he was commissioned and began his service in the United States Navy. He became a Naval Flight Officer, a flight instructor, and eventually, the commander of an electronic attack squadron.

He was a man with varied interests and hobbies. Rob was a marathoner, a skier, a boater, a chef, a student, and a teacher.

Rob is survived by his wife Sarah of Anacortes, Washington, his parents, Bob and Sally Eastman of Shaftsbury, Vermont, his brother Christopher and his wife Jillian and their children, and aunts, uncles and cousins. His funeral service was held in August 2019 at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors. Shaftsbury family and friends gathered on November 30, 2019 at Howard Park, Rob's favorite childhood playground in Shaftsbury, to plant a scarlet oak in his honor.



**Back row** left to right Jeromy Gardner, Matt Dowgiewicz, Brian Burke, Sarah Eastman, Bob Eastman, Christopher Eastman, Jill Eastman, Sally Eastman **Front row** Abigail Eastman, Alexander Eastman

**FROM:**

**TOWN OF SHAFTSBURY**

Municipal Offices at Cole Hall  
61 Buck Hill Road, P.O. Box 409  
Shaftsbury, VT 05262

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