



A PLACE TO SHARE YOUR NEWS

Clarendon Messenger

It's Your Turn: Consider Running for local office

A strong democracy depends upon engaged citizens willing to step forward and serve in public offices. Clarendon has many public offices that could benefit and become stronger when interested candidates offer voters choices as to who will represent them. By running for public office, you insure that the representative democracy envisioned by our country founders will prevail. Let's not jeopardize our unique system of governing by the people. Our system works because people like you have the courage and determination to run for public office. Your skills, talents and experiences may be an important contribution for effective change in the Clarendon community.

Some positions have a one year term, others have a two or three year term. If you are going to seek elective office, you need to have a partition submitted to the town clerk by Jan 28th. You can pick up the partition forms from the town clerk. A valid partition must contain signatures from registered voters that support you candidacy. In the town of Clarendon, you need a few more than 20 signatures to be sure that you have the required amount to have your name on the ballot.

Often in Vermont small towns like Clarendon, incumbents are reelected without challenge. As long as citizens believe that they are doing a competent job, they will get re-elected easily. However, if a democracy is to remain vibrant

and effective there ought to be choices in elections. Running for an office and losing, should not be considered a disgrace. Many national, state and local politicians have lost their first election, only to win the next time. Feel free to ask questions of any town official about any town elected offices.

Offices open for election 2012:

Town Moderator **

1yr term

Selectmen

3yr term

Selectmen

2yr term

Second Constable **

2yr term

Auditor

3yr term

School District Moderator **

1yr term

Elementary School Director

3yr term

Elementary School Director

2yr term

Mill River Union #40 School Director

3yr term

Town Grand Juror

1yr term

Town Agent **

1yr term

Collector of Delinquent Taxes

1yr term

** As of this publication, no one has petitioned to be a candidate for this position.

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Busy Year for our New Road Commissioner

Daryl Tripp, our Road Commissioner elected to office last March, has had an exciting first year. He and his crew have done a great job in both handling the harsh winter of last year, and solving the problems presented to the town from hurricane Irene. He should be congratulated for such great work. The hope remains that he will remain our Road Commissioner for many years to come.

The Select Board members of Clarendon from time to time hear from citizens that have concerns over road conditions in some areas. Now I am sure that we would all like perfect roads at all times in our town. That could happen if we were to double the size of the road crew as well as spend more money on materials and equipment. Unfortunately, that would probably triple that portion of the town budget. Citizens should continue to keep the select board and the road commissioner informed of road problems.

Last year, the town of Clarendon was fortunate to have four candidates running for the office of Road Commissioner. All four were experienced, capable individuals. To keep the cost of road maintenance low, historically, the town of Clarendon has elected a working Road Commissioner instead of an individual that would just supervise a road crew. The concern that citizens should be thinking about is that under our system, a registered Clarendon voter could be elected as Road Commissioner with absolutely no ability or experience to be working on the road crew operating all of the heavy equipment. One way to avoid that problem would be to have the Road Commissioner appointed by the Select Board rather than elected by the people. The process for the appointment should include a town committee consisting of interested citizens and Select Board members that would hold interviews, check references, and make a recommendation to the Select Board. An added benefit would be that the well qualified, experience person hired to the position would not be required to be a registered voter of Clarendon. Town citizens must vote on the question of elected verses Select Board appointed Road Commissioner. No appointment for Road Commissioner would be possible until an elected Road Commissioner completes his term.

The following information was published by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns:

Roles and Responsibilities

The road commissioner plays an important but limited role in many Vermont towns as the individual charged by the selectboard to maintain the town's highways. The road commissioner has no independent authority to act, and can only carry out the orders of the selectboard. This is true whether the road commissioner is elected by the voters or is appointed by the selectboard.

History. The office of the road commissioner has had a long and interesting history. Beginning in 1799, the General Assembly gave the selectboard in each town the responsibility "to lay out and alter highways." These first highway laws provided for a kind of draft of all male inhabitants from the ages of 16 to 60 (with the exception of ministers) to work on the roads of their own towns under the direction of a town surveyor (the precursor to the modern road commissioner), for a four-day period each year. The individuals on the road crews were credited with 18 shillings a day, to be paid at the end of the four-day period. To keep absenteeism to a minimum, each worker was fined 30 shillings for each lost work day. In the event that the fine amounted to more than the work credit, the town was empowered to collect the difference by selling off enough personal property of the "draft dodger" to pay the debt! This same work crew could also be summoned by the surveyor to repair highways damaged during a natural disaster.

By 1850, changes in highway law enabled selectboards to present candidates for the post of town sur-

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veyor of the several local highway districts established in the town. The town could elect either surveyors or road commissioners; a choice that remained with the electorate until 1892, when the post of surveyor was abolished and the office of road commissioner permanently substituted. In that year, responding to shrill criticism, the General Assembly put the roads under the supervision of a state highway commission to oversee local roads, and provided for the election of a local road commissioner in each town with specific statutory duties and the financial wherewithal from local taxes to do the job. In fact, the Vermont Supreme Court recognized the independent authority of the road commissioner and held that the selectboard could not interfere with the road commissioner or dictate how he did his job (they were all men back then). *Couture v. Selectmen of Berkshire*, 121 Vt. 359 (1960).

In 1973, the General Assembly removed the independent authority of the road commissioner and gave the selectboard responsibility for maintaining local roads and for supervising and guiding the work of the road commissioner. In addition, shortly after this change in law, the General Assembly abolished the position of road commissioner as an elective office and gave to the selectboard the power of appointment of a road commissioner, with all its attendant powers, duties and responsibilities, including the power of removal for just cause after a legally-warned hearing. However, this change was not popular, so in 1976 the General Assembly returned to voters the option of electing a road commissioner if they so chose. **Nevertheless, the selectboard continues to oversee the work of the road commissioner, whether he or she is appointed by the board or elected by the people.**

Note that a elected commissioner must be a legally qualified voter of the town. However, there is no requirement that an appointed road commissioner be a resident of the town. 17 V.S.A. § 2646, 2651.

Small Town Humor

To repair a broken tuba use a tuba glue.

A duck grows down as it grows up.

If you want to stop a skunk from smelling, hold it's nose.



Community Events

Monthly Coupon Swap, North Clarendon.

The Bailey Memorial Library will hold its free monthly coupon swap, to help teach people how to save money on their grocery bill. The library is located in the Clarendon Community Center, 111 Moulton Ave. Bring scissors, any unexpired coupons and a non-perishable food item to be donated to the Rutland Community Cupboard.

Senior Citizen Lunch every Thursday at Noon at the Clarendon Community Center.

Call Eileen Brough at 775-3736 for a reservation.



Clarendon Fire Association
P.O. Box 168
North Clarendon, Vermont 05759
Serving Proudly Since 1963

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Alternate emergency phone number will be changing from 775 – 0534 to 773 – 6292 effective Jan 1, 2012.

Please make note of this new number where needed.

NEW PHONE NUMBER NOTIFICATION

TO: Town of Clarendon Residents & Businesses
REF: New Phone Number & Your Fire Alarm System

Date: Jan. 3, 2012

Dear Resident & Businesses,

This notification is to inform you that the Clarendon Fire Association will be changing our alternate emergency phone number here in 2012. This change may affect you if your fire alarm reporting system is on an automatic dialer. If it is, you must contact us regarding this and may have to re-route your system to an answering service.

This is being done as an additional means to save money, the Clarendon Fire Associations changing our alternate Emergency phone number **from 775 – 0534 to 773 – 6292**. This new number is part of our dispatching service and we want to utilize it and save money.

Thank you for your support and cooperation. If you have any questions please call me at 775-5852.

Sincerely,

Emergency Dial 911

Stephen Hill, President
Clarendon Vol. Fire Association

WELCOME 2012, HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Thank you Clarendon Community, your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Wood Fire Safety: Recent fires in the news could have been prevented. These fires were started because of improperly discarded ashes from a wood stove or fireplace. Year after year this same scenario happens over and over. Sadly many homes have been burned or destroyed and in some cases people burned and/or lives have been lost.

If you heat with or burn wood in a fireplace always think fire safety when in use or discarding of your ash debris. Always insure the ash debris is total out, meaning cold to the touch and stored in a metal container with a lid. Safely store this container outside and away from your home. Never store this container in a garage, shed, on the porch/deck or near any flammable material.

BEFORE and DURING the heating season inspect your chimney for creosote buildup, blockages and cracks/broken tiles, etc. If you have any questions contact an expert and have them inspect your chimney. **REMEMBER: FIRE SAFETY BEGINS WITH YOU AND THE PRECAUTIONS YOU TAKE.**

This Past Year: As we look back on 2011 and all that was presented, it was a wild year. We encountered a severe winter with record deep snowfall, a June wind storm that hit Airport Road hard and then it was Tropic Storm Irene. These storms wrecked grave havoc with and tasked our community unlike anything we've seen before. The fire department and the town road crew were put to great tasks and challenges.

Our community, rivers, streams, brooks and Otter Creek were changed forever. Our roads and culverts took an extreme beating and heavy hit. For a few days/months movement in and around Clarendon was a challenge and you couldn't get there from here. Yet we prevailed, came together as a community, helped one another and moved ahead.

A big THANK YOU goes out to the AOT, town road crew and all in the community who came together to help our friends, neighbors and those in need. There are too many members of the community to individually list for all they did and the tasks they undertook. Your outstanding willingness to help those in need is greatly appreciated.

Booster Club 2012: The Fire Association is again working on offering another booster club raffle as a way to raise funds. More raffle and prize news to follow as the program is finalized. The price will again be \$10.00 a ticket. If you'd like to be placed on an advance reserve ticket listing, call Norman Flanders @ 775 – 3626 or Stephen Hill @ 775 – 5852.

Emergency Response News: Since the last messenger we've responded to numerous motor vehicle accidents around town, to a possible propane leak, smoke filled house, house explosion, fuel leak and a carbon monoxide alarm. We've provided assistance with mutual aid for the Shrewsbury FD & Wallingford FD. We received mutual aid from many area FD's, from Chittenden to East Dorset at a recent wild land fire. Thanks to them for a quick response and their help.

THANK YOU CLARENDON FIREFIGHTERS: For your outstanding, unselfish and tireless efforts put forth during this past year, during the storms and dealing with its aftermath and emergencies. Many in the community have expressed their sincere thank you for a job well done. Your continued dedication, devotion and willingness to volunteer are greatly appreciated.

Courage, Honor, Duty,

*Norman Flanders, Chief
Clarendon Fire Association.*

Clarendon Fire Association Booster Club Raffle 2011 Weekly Winners:

Wk1: \$10 — Saundra Walker, Clarendon	\$25 — Bev Fredette, Rutland
Wk2: \$10 — BJ Lewis, Clarendon	\$25 — Richard Start, Clarendon
Wk3: \$10 — Stephen Hughes, Wallingford	\$25 — Ed Patch, Chippenhook
Wk4: \$10 — George Costello, Rutland	\$25 — Joanne Marshall, Rutland
Wk5: \$10 — Terry Boynton, Clarendon	\$25 — John Colvin, Clarendon
Wk6: \$10 — Myah Flanders, Clarendon	\$25 — Sharon Rupe, Rutland
Wk7: \$10 — Shirley Burr, Clarendon	\$25 — Irloin Feigenbauuun, Clarendon
Wk8: \$10 — Sue Osgood, W.Rutland	\$25 — Larry Traverse, Poultney
Wk9: \$10 — Mark Reardon, Clarendon	\$25 — Darlene Merrill, Clarendon
Wk10: \$10 — Jim McGinnis, Rutland	\$25 — Ed Patch, Clarendon

Big Prize Winners:

\$500 — Jim McGinness, Clarendon	\$25 — Saundra Walker, Clarendon
\$500 — Jessica Smith, Cuttingsville	\$25 — Albert Abdelnour, Clarendon
\$500 — Marion Baird, E.Dorset	\$25 — Paula Page, Clarendon
\$400 — Roxanne Klafehn, Clarendon	\$25 — Mike Stanowski, Clarendon
\$300 — Marge LaFrancis, Clarendon	\$25 — Sylvia (No Last Name), Wallingford
\$250 — Maurice Roy, Clarendon	\$25 — Ginger Moore, Clarendon
\$200 — Cash Ruane, Clarendon	\$25 — Joan-Lee Bruce, Clarendon
\$150 — Ed Loree, Wallingford	\$25 — Helen Carpenter, Rutland
\$100 — Gary Parker, Clarendon	\$25 — Lauren Hart, Castleton
\$100 — Rebecca Mandolare, Clarendon	\$20 — Linda Berry, Brandon
\$50 — Lisa Walker, Clarendon	\$20 — Rebecca Wilson, Clarendon
\$50 — Jules Peteani, Rutland	\$20 — Mike Conway, Benson
\$50 — Daryl Tripp, Clarendon	\$20 — Saundra Walker, Clarendon
\$50 — Vince Elkey, W.Rutland	\$20 — Jennifer Smith, Rutland
\$50 — Emma Stefurah, W.Rutland	\$20 — Blaine Russell, Clarendon
\$50 — Carol Buterfoss, Clarendon	\$20 — Donna Ryan, Chippenhook
\$50 — Karen Howard, Clarendon	\$20 — Barb Smith, Clarendon
\$50 — Raymond Minard, Clarendon	\$20 — Jim Byne, Clarendon
\$25 — ProCycle, Clarendon	\$20 — Mike Tyminski, W.Rutland

Congratulations to all the winners.

The Members of the Clarendon Fire Association want to thank all the people who purchased a ticket and supported this booster club raffle. Your support and donations of winnings are greatly appreciated. We look forward to your support during our next booster club raffle.

The Clarendon Fire Association would like to wish everyone a safe and joyous Holiday Season and a Happier New Year.

Note: Sorry for any misspellings, names were copied as written on the Booster club Tickets.

The Whistle Stop Corner Restaurant

Located on the corner of 103 and East Road in Clarendon Vermont. — (802)747-7070

The Whistle Stop is probably the most unique dining establishment in the state of Vermont. You can enjoy homemade daily specials including incredible pizza. Owners Karen Webster and Bonnie Wood offer home cooked meals and club memberships.

Hours: Tuesday	6:30 am to 3:00 pm
Wednesday	6:30 am to 3:00 pm
Thursday	6:30 am to 8:30 pm
Friday	6:30 am to 8:30 pm
Saturday	6:30 am to 8:30 pm
Sunday	7:00 am to 3:00 pm
Closed on Monday	



Clarendon Springs Spa Grocery, 4472 Walker Mt. Rd., (802)-438-5153

Here at the Clarendon Springs Spa Grocery, we have an **excellent** array of products for your shopping needs. We **strive** to carry items that you may have forgotten on your shopping trip in town or inadvertently ran out of between shopping trips. If you haven't tried the **Balti Burger** from Anderson Farm, you should stop by and pick some up. It's **delicious** and 100% all natural with no hormones or preservatives.

For the morning crowd we have **fresh** donuts and Pastries along with delicious sausage or bacon breakfast sandwiches delivered on Mondays and Fridays from Tastee Bakery. Shortly we will be **expanding** our coffee selection to include decaf and flavored coffee along with Hot Chocolate and of course regular coffee.

We have a wide variety of alcoholic beverages ranging from **beer** to **wine**. If we don't have what you prefer to drink let us know and we will do our **best** to get it in stock as soon as possible.

So Stop in and see us and check out our store with over 150 movies to rent. We look forward to seeing you and appreciate your business!

Store Hours: Mon-Sat 7am-7pm Sun 7am-6pm



Do you need a new septic system or driveway?

Contact: **C.N. Webster Excavating**
47 Railroad Drive
N. Clarendon, VT 05759
(802)558-3275

Webster offers full service excavating work. With over 30 years of experience, he has earned an excellent reputation in providing: complete site work, driveways, and septic systems for both commercial and residential projects.



Open Daily 8 to 5
Saturday 8 to 12

John Blanchard, Owner

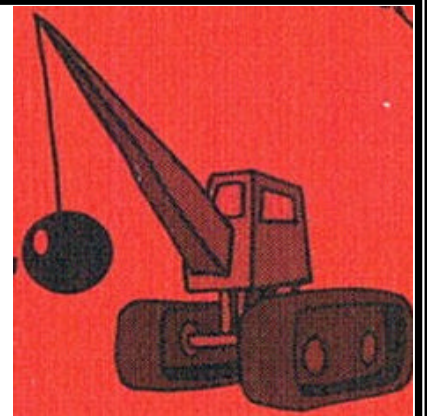
NORTHERN METAL RECYCLERS INC.

Rt 7B PO Box 26
N.Clarendon, VT 05759
(802)773-3583 or (865)719-3861 Cell

“Roll Off Service Available”

We Buy:

Copper, Brass, Aluminum, Bronze, Radiators, Wire, Etc.



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www.clarendonvt.org

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brary.

If you would like to submit articles to be published in this newsletter you may do so in one of three ways: First you may mail it to my address at the left, Second you may e-mail it to my e-mail address at the left, or Third you may drop off your article at the town hall. For articles to be published, they must include your name, address and telephone number. Your address and phone number will only be published at your request. I reserve the right to edit submitted articles. Letters to the editor will be published as written providing space is available. All inappropriate language will not be printed. Again, a letter to the editor must contain your name, address and telephone number. Your address and phone number will only be published at your request. Your telephone number will provide me a means to verify that you did indeed send in the article.

Your submissions must be received one week prior to the first Friday of the following months: January, March, May, July, September, and November

Town Meeting Schedule

Board of Selectmen:

2nd and 4th Mondays of each month Clarendon Elementary School Board:
6:00 PM at Clarendon Town Hall

1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month
6:30 PM at Clarendon Elementary School

Clarendon Planning Commission:

1st and 3rd Monday of each month Mill River Union High School Board:
7:00 PM Clarendon Town Hall

1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month
7:00 PM at Mill River Union High School



Clarendon Grange Community Center

Rent this historic building for your event

Ron Abare, Coordinator

111 Moulton Ave.

PO Box 322

Clarendon, VT 05759

Tel (802)773-8409