



Winter Newsletter

February 2010

Volume 1 Edition 1

Introduction:

Thank you for picking up the inaugural edition of the Dorset Newsletter. Our vision is to offer a quarterly publication that will put a hand on the pulse of the community; this information is produced by and for all the great people that live, work, and play in Dorset.

We encourage those interested to submit information & advertising for future editions. *(Business card size \$10 one edition/ \$40 full year)*

Next Issue; submit info to the **Town Offices** prior to:
Friday April 16, 2010

Property Taxes Due:

Tuesday March 9th 2010

Payments by mail:
PO Box 715
East Dorset, VT 05253

Payments in person:
Town Offices
112 Mad Tom Road
East Dorset, VT 05253

The Town Offices will be open until **7:00pm** on March 9th to accept tax payments.

Please Note:

- Late payments will be subject to **8%** delinquent penalty and **1%** interest.
- Payments postmarked **March 9th** will be accepted as timely.
- For Tax related questions call **362-4571 ext. 4**

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FORM HS -122:

TIMELY FILING IS IMPORTANT!

Vermont residents, who own and occupy a principal residence in Vermont, must file the Declaration of Homestead, **FORM HS-122**, by **APRIL 15** each year. *(you must file HS-122 even if you do not file a VT income tax return or do not participate in the prebate or rebate programs.)*

Forms are available online at the Vermont Department of Taxes www.state.vt.us/tax

- Upcoming Meeting Dates:

- **Selectboard:** 3/26 & 4/20 @ 7:00pm
- **Schoolboard:** 3/23 & 4/27 @ 7:00pm
- **Annual Town Meeting:** Mon. Mar. 1st @ 7:00pm
- **Planning Commission:** 3/9 & 4/6 @ 7:00pm
- **Energy Committee:** 3/1 & 4/5 @ 8:30am
- **Remember to pick up your 2009 Town Report, available at:**

- **Town Offices**
- **Dorset School**
- **Dorset Village Library**
- **H.N. Williams Store**
- **East Dorset General Store**

Can be viewed online at WWW.DORSETVT.ORG

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Town Clerk's Corner:

- The Town Clerk's Office is responsible for the recording of all land records, maintaining all vital records, supervising elections, issuing Fish & Wildlife licenses, Dog licenses, and renewal of Motor Vehicle registrations.
- Remember to register Dogs by **April 1st 2010**,
Dog Licenses are **\$10.00** for spayed/ neutered dogs and **\$14.00** if not spayed/ neutered.
- Proof of a current rabies vaccine is required.
- After deadline the fees increase to **\$12.00** and **\$18.00**
 - For questions/ concerns call **362-4571 ext. 2**

Town Clerk: Sandy Pinsonault CMC, CVC

Dorset Energy Committee

"Energy Saving Tip of the month"

-Lower the thermostat when you are not home, whether you are away for the day or on vacation. Also, turn down the thermostat at night when going to sleep. It costs less to reheat your home than to keep it warm constantly. Make it easier: get a programmable thermostat to adjust the temperature for you. For each degree you turn the thermostat down in the winter (around the clock) you save about 2% on your bill.



Remember to Recycle!

- **Did you know that recycling can help to save Dorset residents money?**
- Dorset partners with Manchester, Sunderland, Sandgate, and Arlington for landfill and recycling.
- The Towns pay to have regular trash hauled away, while recyclables taken to the transfer stations are packaged and the Towns collect a payment for the recyclable materials.
- By recycling more.....**
- The town helps the environment; less material ends up in the landfill, costing us less in trash costs
- The town will gain more \$, by increasing the amount of goods recycled.

Look for updated recycling information at the Northshire Transfer Station & Town website
www.dorsetvt.org, see page 6 for useful information about Composting.

BRSU Notice:

The BRSU Education Team along with The Bennington County Head Start Program, will host the annual Developmental Screening for 0-5 year olds at the Manchester Elementary & Middle School.

Each spring the early education program offers a free child development screening for young children living in all towns within the Bennington Rutland Supervisory Union. We encourage all 0-5 year olds to participate in the screening, regardless of potential eligibility for early education services.

The play based screening will take place in the early childhood classroom at the **Manchester Elementary & Middle School: Thursday March 25th and Friday March 26th.**

Please call **Kathy 362-1597 ext. 1128 at MEMS** to schedule your child's screening.

Other Screening sites and dates offered through the BRSU:

- **Mettawee Community School, March 12th & March 15th**
- **Mount Tabor Early Education Center, March 23rd & March 24th**

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The Dorset School:

Upcoming Events:

PARENT WORKSHOP: GETTING THROUGH THE TRICKY YEARS --- A Conversation with Carol Weston

Date: Monday, March 01, 2010

Time: 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Location: Maple Street School, Manchester

Fee: \$5

This workshop will address problems shared by both girls and boys. Carol Weston believes that the goal is to raise kind, smart, confident young adults who will be able to navigate our ever-changing and sometimes toxic world

SAVE YOUR STUFF!!
DPV's 3rd annual Tag Sale is
Saturday, APRIL 24th
8:00 am – 1:00 pm
Bag Sale 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

All donations will go to support enrichment programs and class trips.

Want to sell your own stuff – buy a table for \$30

Bikes	Cookbooks	Garden supplies	Sporting Goods	Toys
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Call Valerie McMorrow to reserve your table 325-2056



Long Trail School:

Long Trail School now offers outside skating to Dorset residents for free!

The new skating rink is located at the tennis courts on Kirby Hollow Road in Dorset



Upcoming LTS Events:

- LTS Social March 7 at 2:00pm at Tinmouth Comm. Center
- Arts from the Schools Opening Celebration, March 13 at 2:00pm at the Southern Vermont Art Center
 - Long Trail School “Comedy Show”, March 13 at 7:00pm in the Theatre at LTS
 - March Madness – Community Bowl Making Event, March 18 at 6:00pm at LTS
 - Vermont Regional Act One Festival March 20 at 8:00a at LTS

Zoning Administrator Notes:

Zoning Office General Info

Location: 112 Mad Tom Rd East Dorset, VT

Address: PO Box 715 East Dorset, VT 05253

Zoning Administrator: Christopher Schmelzenbach, P.E.

Phone: 802-362-4571 x5 / Fax: 802-362-5156 /

Email: dorsetza@gmail.com

Office Hours: Tuesday-Wednesday 11:00am-4:00pm

Thursday 1:00pm-4:00pm or by appointment

- Planning a new project?
- Not sure if you need a building permit?

Land Use Boards meet once per month; if you're project is time sensitive, be sure to contact the Zoning Office immediately.

General Rule of Thumb: Anyone building a new build or adding to an existing building should contact the Zoning Administrator.

Riley Rink:

Upcoming Events: "Turf Season"

- Youth Soccer Academy March 20 – May 8
- Youth Futsal League March 22 – May 7
- Adult Futsal League March 22 – May 14
- Ladies Open Pick-Up Soccer March 27 – May 8 (Saturdays)
- High School Field Hockey March 22 – May 2

Call 802-362-0150 or visit www.rileyrink.com

Riley Rink at Hunter Park

Hunter Park Road | Manchester, Vermont 05255

802-362-0150 | Toll Free: 866-866-2086

info@hunterpark.com

The Dorset Player Present:

"Almost Maine"

The Dorset Players' will present John Cariani's whimsical play "Almost Maine", on March 5, 6, 12, & 13 @ 7:30pm and March 7 & 14 @ 2:00pm at the Dorset Playhouse on Cheney Rd in Dorset, VT. Critics have called this play "a snowy charmer... These nine tales of love in the time of frostbite have a winning glow that proves surprisingly contagious." Under the northern lights in the mythical town of Almost, Maine the residents fall in and out of love in unexpected and often hilarious ways. Please join us for for this light-hearted, yet poignant, look at relationships and love.

"The 7th Annual One Act Play Festival"

The Dorset Players' will present two evenings of One Act Plays on April 2 & 3 @ 7:30pm at the Dorset Playhouse on Cheney Rd in Dorset, VT.

"Guys and Dolls"

The Dorset Players' will present their spring musical production, "Guys and Dolls", on May 20-22 and May 27-29 @ 7:30pm and May 23 & 30 @ 2:00pm at the Dorset Playhouse on Cheney Rd in Dorset, VT. Based on a story and characters by Damon Runyon, music and lyrics by Frank Loesser, and book by Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows, "Guys and Dolls" is a classic from the golden age of musical comedy, set on the colorful and tawdry Broadway neighborhood of the 1940s made famous in many of Runyon's short stories. This show boasts a cast full of colorful characters such as: Nathan Detroit, trying to find yet another new location for his floating dice game, keeping just one short step ahead of the law; his girlfriend, Adelaide, the showgirl, desperate to leave behind her brassy, grueling lifestyle for a white picket fence and roses round her front door; the coolest high roller of them all, Sky Masterson, who would bet on anything that would turn him a profit; and Sarah Brown, a Salvation Army officer vainly trying to spread The Word in the face of the sin and depravity in streets full of tipsters, gamblers, and con men. "Guys and Dolls" is one of the greatest successes that Broadway has known. It ran for 1,200 performances and became a major motion picture starring Marlon Brando and Frank Sinatra.

More information can be found by visiting the Dorset Players' website, www.dorsetplayers.org, including ticket prices and box office hours.

The Dorset Players • PO Box 521 • Dorset, VT 05251

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DORSET HISTORICAL SOCIETY DORSET, VERMONT

Peltier/Hathaway Desk to Bley House Museum

A desk that is of the very essence of Dorset has been donated to the Dorset Historical Society by James Hathaway Jr. within two months of his father's sudden death in September. Known to be presided over by at least two Peltier's owners, Perry Peltier and Jay Hathaway, the piece is a large, heavy, oak, roll-top kneehole design with four copious drawers on each side, two beveled pullout trays, and twelve cubbies along with a central drawer above the writing surface. The drawer still holds another Hathaway Family gift to DHS: Jay's reading glasses, intended to remain in their customary safe place. Made by the B. & G. Furniture Company, the desk sports a metal label showing its 1898 patent date.

The desk served Dorset Village's longest-running general store from perhaps as early as 1926, when Perry Peltier and Kimball Tifft became partners in running the business (then known as Peltier & Tifft). It may even have been used earlier, when Perry Peltier's father, John, was the store's owner (with a series of partners) beginning in 1913. In 1955 Perry Peltier bought out Tifft and the double name of the business was shortened simply to Peltier's. In Perry's time, the desk sat in a cubby in the middle of the store where the coolers are today. Terri Hathaway recently explained the noticeable evidence of charring to the left of the writing area: Perry's ever-present cigar once started a fire at the desk.

In a DHS presentation on the store's history given by Jay Hathaway in 1981 and again in 1999, he told a story of the desk that demonstrates "the ties that bind." For some time after his sale to the Hathaways, Perry Peltier would come into the store every day and sit at his desk.

Under its newest proprietors, Cindy Loudenslage and Gretchen Schmidt, the perennial business on the Green, which first opened its doors in 1816 as Blackmer and Holley, has resumed one of its earliest identities. Now in its sixteenth round of ownership, Peltier's is again known as the Dorset Union Store—its second banner (1833-39) and its seventh (1851-58).

Jay and Terri Hathaway became owners of Peltier's in 1977 and ran the business for 27 years. "When I was a kid," said their son, "the desk was in the middle of the store. My father was always working there, and somebody was talking to him. It was at the heart of the store." Later still, Jay created an office for himself at the back of the store, and the desk was relocated there. Eventually, ensconced in the Hathaways' home above the store, it housed the bookkeeping end of the business, presided over by Terri. After the Hathaways sold Peltier's, the desk did honorable service in the Dorset office of Clear Path International, the mine-victims aid organization that Hathaway Family members were centrally involved with for years.

The Peltier/Hathaway desk with its long-running attachment to Dorset history now moves to a place of honor in the Main Gallery of DHS's Bley House. A drawing of the Dorset Hardware Store by Jay Hathaway hangs above the desk.



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Dorset Fire Info:

East Dorset Fire District # 1
341 Village Street,
East Dorset, VT 05253

Phone: 362-1144 **Email:** edvfd@comcast.net

Fire Chief: John Niles **1st Assistant:** Doug Beebe

2nd Assistant: Howard Towsley

Rescue Captain: Mike Thompson

Captain: Gene Saunders **Captain:** Cameron Perham **Members:**

Jay King, Dana Hart, Samantha Stone, Eugene Saunders,

Nick Schu, Chuck Galante, Tom Beebe, Mike Healy **Junior**

Members: Ian Dressler, Justin Bowen, Dana Hart Jr.

Dorset Fire District # 1

2788 Route 30,

Dorset, VT 05251

Phone: 867-5133 **Email:** dorsetfire@comcast.net

Fire Chief: Shawn Hazelton **1st Assistant:** Josh Brooks

2nd Assistant: Joe Clark **Captain:** Colin Stabile

Members: Rusty Kelly, Alan Casey, David Green,
Travis Winchell, Abe Rumney, Jamie Nichols, Paul Perry,
Zachary Thurrott, Jason Green, Billy Brice, Dustin Tobin,
Sheena Stomski, Jim Hunt

The Dorset Fire Departments hold weekly meetings Tuesdays at 7:00pm (at the fire stations) anyone interested in becoming a Volunteer Firefighter is invited to attend.

Composting 101:

Food scraps can be about 20% or more of the average household's waste. The best way to save money on trash fees is to compost waste right at home. Composting is easy and can be set up with very little effort.

Every ton of food waste kept out of the landfill through composting eliminates the release of about 6 tons of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere!

Compost is a great soil amendment. It improves the structure and fertility of garden soil, adds nutrients and helps to prevent plant diseases. Once you build or buy a bin all you have to do is add food scraps and leaves, grass clippings, hay or other organics to make a great soil additive that you can use instead of chemical fertilizers.



For more info go to www.bcrsolidwaste.com

Dorset Water Info:

Dorset is home to two districts that control fire and water services for the East and West sides of Town. Each location has a Prudential Committee and Volunteer Fire Department that service the area.

East Dorset Prudential Committee:

For many years the East Dorset Fire District #1 Water System has operated with a Temporary Permit, due to numerous deficiencies. On January 8, 2010, the VT Dept. of Environmental Conservation – Water Supply Division issued a violation-free three-year regular Public Water System Operations Permit to us. The members of the Prudential Committee have worked very hard over the past 2 ½ years to successfully rectify all of the 13 long standing deficiencies. It is the first time in many years that the Water System has been issue a “clean” permit to operate. We have been told that there are not many other water systems in Vermont which have achieved this. The Water System currently serves 81 properties in the East Dorset Fire District #1.

Steve Bodenhiemer, *Chair*, Meg Canavan
Howard Towsley, Judy Collins, Tim Burke

Phone: 362-4091 **Email:**
stuffman@comcast.net

The East Dorset Prudential Committee meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month; meetings are held at the East Dorset Fire Station @ 7:00pm

Dorset Prudential Committee:

Jack Towsley, *Chair*, Mona Whiteman
Randy Dapron, Bill Childs, Dan Mosheim

Phone: 867-0158
Email: jack@towsleyappraisal.com

The Dorset Prudential Committee meets on the 2nd Monday of the month; meetings are held at the Dorset Fire Station @ 7:30pm

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Library Hours Mon, Wed & Fri 11am – 5pm/ Tues & Thursday 11am – 6pm/ Saturday 10am-1pm/ Closed Sunday

The Dorset Village Library Community

All permanent residents of Dorset may become members of the Dorset Library by filling out an application at the Library. This includes persons who winter elsewhere and own houses in Dorset. Children, six years of age and older, may have their own library membership. Applicants must give a street address, a mailing address, and an email address if possible.

Come See!

Children will be delighted to discover stimulating hands-on materials to help them explore the world of books. A wide variety of materials are available for the children of Dorset to borrow. Beginning with board books for the very youngest to reference materials for high school students, the Library offers up-to-date materials for all ages. The Children's Rooms at the Dorset Library are a great place to spend an afternoon. There are games to play, puppets to perform with, and a relaxing place to browse and read or even listen to a book. **Visit us at www.dorsetlibrary.org**

P.O. Box 38, Route 30 Dorset, VT 05251 (802)-867-5774/ email info@dorsetlibrary.org

“Spotlight: Cutler Memorial Forest”

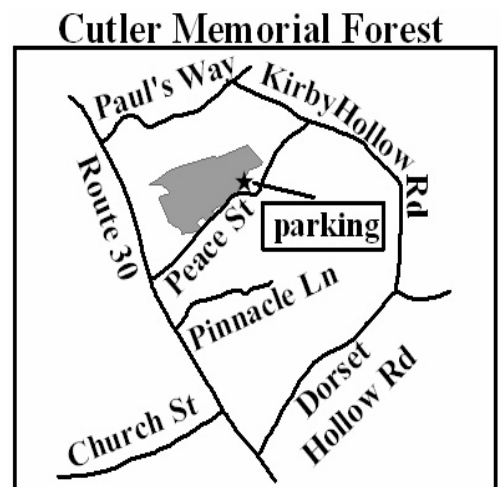
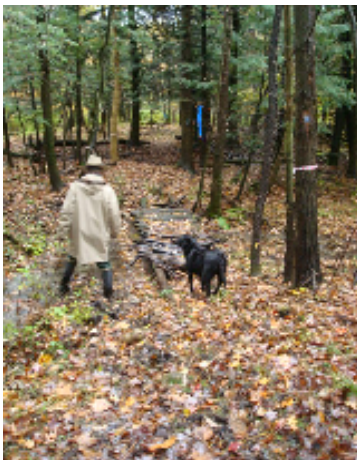
Everyone knows that Southern Vermont is home to great year round scenery and a wide variety of opportunities to enjoy the outdoors. With many walking/ hiking trails leading to mountain and river vistas, Dorset is perhaps one of the finest examples of this.

Cutler Memorial Forest, located off Peace Street near the Dorset Village, is one such location available for the public to explore. The property was given to the town in 1976 by Mrs. Isabella Cutler. In the early years walking trails were forged and a bridge was built over the Mettawee River.

In recent years the Dorset Conservation Commission has made great improvements to the property: marking trails, creating a parking area, and building a new bridge over the river. This past fall the Conservation Commission designed a network of small puncheon bridges, and enlisted Rick Wilkins to build the structures. This effort now links the trail network together, allowing hikers to traverse over wet areas. A hike around the entire property takes from 35-45 minutes and the trails cover both flat ground and hills.

Parking for Cutler Forest is provided at the 393 Peace Street area, and the entire property is easily accessed from this entrance point. We hope shedding light on the property will encourage residents to visit Cutler Forest and enjoy the tranquil experience it offers.

The Town would like to express its gratitude to Malcolm Cooper, Alan Calfee, and all Conservation volunteers; their stewardship allows the public to enjoy places like Cutler Forest.



See Page # 8 for a Trail Map of Cutler Memorial Forest

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