



SMALL TOWNS big HEART

Volume 34
February 2017

Keeping business connected in the White River Valley Region

Welcome to the New Year!

First, we again want to thank our members for your feedback during our membership survey this past year. The results were clear... our members believe in the Chamber and wish for us to continue encouraging local trade and tourism in the businesses and communities throughout our eleven town area.

In response to the biggest request of our members, we commit to providing our members with more personal contact. We will be reaching out to you both by phone and in person to ensure the Chamber is meeting your needs, as we work to promote the resources and opportunities that each of you offers to our communities.

Just like 2016, membership continues to be key to our success. We thank you for your continued support. We also encourage you to promote membership among your neighbors and peers.

We wish you a prosperous and successful New Year!

White River Valley
Chamber of Commerce
31 VT Route 66, Suite #1
Randolph, Vermont 05060
802-728-9027

Towns We Serve:

Bethel, Braintree, Brookfield,
Chelsea, Hancock,
Randolph, Royalton,
Rochester, Sharon,
Stockbridge, & Tunbridge

Board of Directors

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Ashley Lincoln, Vice President
Paul Rea, Secretary
Bill Bohnyak, Treasurer
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Donna Bryan
Joe Boyd
Mary Jeanne Taylor
Pam Caron
Rob Niebling



**WE
NEED
YOU!**

WE ARE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE
FROM EACH OF THE TOWNS WITHIN
OUR AREA TO SERVE ON OUR BOARD
OF DIRECTORS.

PLEASE CONSIDER BEING THE EYES,
EARS, AND VOICE OF YOUR
COMMUNITY.

Contact Sherry at 728.9027 for more
information.

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NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING
Of the White River Valley Chamber of Commerce

The members of the White River Valley Chamber of Commerce invited to attend the annual meeting to be held on Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at the office of the Chamber of Commerce, 31 VT Route 66, suite 1, Randolph, VT at 8:30am as in accordance with our bylaws.

**On the agenda will be a change of the bylaws.
The change :**

ARTICLE IV. – MEETINGS:

Section 1. – Annual Meeting: An annual meeting of the members shall be held in the month of ~~February~~ May in each year at the time and place selected by the Board of Directors, the purpose of which shall be for the election of Directors and for the transaction of such other business as may come before the meeting. If the election of Directors shall not be held on the day designated for any annual meeting or at any adjournment thereof, the Board of Directors shall cause the election to be held at a special meeting of the members as soon as may be convenient.

This meeting will then be adjourned to May 5, 2017 for completion of elections and presentation of awards.



KEEP WATCHING YOUR MAIL...
information regarding our first Chamber Mixer of the year
will be coming soon.



Holiday Shopping Card program a success!

We thank all of our participants in the WRVCC 2016 Holiday Shopping Program.

We are excited to report that we had over 1,100 cards that were submitted to the various drop boxes throughout the Bethel, South Royalton, Stockbridge, and Randolph areas. Those cards alone represent more than \$105,740.00 that remained in our areas during the program!! This is a wonderful testament to our communities and their support of shopping local!!

Prize Winners

Each winner received a \$10 gift certificate from the business listed, unless otherwise indicated.

Gail Maraget – Bethel Sandwich Shop
Ryan Matheson -- Blue Moon Boutique
Cristen Brooks – Randolph Village Pizza
Peter Klink – Chef's Market (donated to RAFS)
Mary Orticari – Sidewalk Florist
Christine Rua – South Royalton Market
Nancy Hutchinson – Ted Green Ford
Emily Webster – Corner Frame Shop
M. Sacca – Beacon Printing
Babo Harrison – Bob's M&M gas card (\$10)
Ann Bridges – Clara Martin concert tickets
Jenell Lyford – Main Street Crafters gift basket
Claudia Sherwin – Lyons Den (\$50 gift certificate)
Brian & Theresa Harrington – Chandler (\$100 gift certificate)
Cristine Maloney – Ted Green Ford (\$100 gift certificate)

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE WINNERS!!

Friends of Girl Scout Troop 40126
Annual Spring Fling Home Show & Business Expo
April 8, 2017
At Whitcomb High School

This event gives local businesses and vendors a chance to put themselves front and center with the hundreds of potential customers who visit the exhibition.

All proceeds from the event will go to the GS Troop, so that they may attend the 2017 National Convention and other programs.

For more information or to reserve your spot at the event, please contact Pam Lyman at 234-5640 or Laina Robinson 802-299-8349 or email Pam at pamela.m.lyman@dartmouth.edu or Laina at sugarbaby1832@aol.com. The deadline to reserve your spot at the event is February 20, 2017.

Vermont Tourism 2017 Summit

April 5 & 6

Stoweflake Resort & Spa in Stowe, Vermont.

Highlights of the 2017 Summit include:

- Over 20 **workshops** on pertinent industry topics including marketing, guest experience, partnerships, brand, new markets, PR and media, and more!
- Engaging **panel discussions** and **keynote presentations** by Jason Dunkel and Mara Gorman
- **Social events** including the Bartender of the Year competition, and a farm-to-table dinner
- **Awards presentation** of the Governor's SMART Award for Creative Marketing in Tourism, the Christiane Skinner Vermont Tourism Champion of the Year, Chef of the Year, Restaurateur of the Year, Allied Member of the Year, and the Borden E. Avery Innkeeper of the Year
- Silent **Auction** to benefit the Ted Bridges Hospitality Scholarship fund
- Post-conference **Guest Service Excellence training** and American Hotel & Lodging Educational Institute (AHLEI) Certification

Review the schedule, session details, and more at www.vttourismsummit.org. Thank you in advance for helping to make the 2017 Vermont Tourism Summit a success!



WEATHERIZE Upper Valley

VitalCommunities.org/Weatherize

or call Gary Dir from the volunteer team: 728-9840

Randolph, Brookfield, and Braintree are teaming up with Vital Communities, Efficiency Vermont, and local home energy contractors **to help YOU save money and stay warm** by weatherizing your home.

Weatherize Open House

Saturday, February 25

Drop by between 1 & 3 pm

*At the Weatherized Home of Marty Strange & Annette Higby
51 South Pleasant Street, Randolph*

What is Weatherize?

Local Volunteer Team – supported by Vital Communities & Efficiency Vermont

Qualified Local Contractors – 5 Star Energy Tech & Montpelier Construction

FREE Professional Consults & Quotes – Can otherwise cost \$400 or more

Great PRIZES – Sign up by May 31 and win up to \$2,500 (in addition to rebates) toward the cost of your project.

DID YOU KNOW? According to Efficiency Vermont, the average cost of weatherization improvements (typically focused on air sealing and insulation) is **\$7,800** (before rebates, averaging \$1,500), resulting in increased comfort and **26% average energy savings**.

Made possible with
support from:

Efficiency
Vermont





71-73 Main Street, Randolph, VT 05060

Box Office Hours: 12-5 pm Monday through Friday
1.5 hours before the show on the day of a performance.
Box Office Phone: 802-728-6464

Upcoming on the main stage...

- February 25, 7:30pm Musicians from Marlboro
Classical music from the Marlboro Music Festival. \$10-\$35
- March 11, 7:30pm Vishten
Contemporary Acadian traditional group. \$10-\$35
- March 25, 7:00pm 10th annual Mini Mud Variety Show
*Diverse performers, ages 6-18, from across the region. \$15,
students \$5*

Upper Gallery...

- March 4, 6-10pm DuPont Brothers. *Folk-Americana brother duo*
- March 19, 6:30pm Film Society presents: Shane

The Gallery...

- March 18-April 23 Questions and Answers. *Student Art Exhibit.*

**For more information or to purchase tickets,
please visit chandler-arts.org**

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 9am -12noon
Wed 9am – 4pm
(additional times available by appointment)

Email: info@whiterivervalleychamber.com

Telephone: 802-728-9027

Website: whiterivervalleychamber.com

Member Consultant: Linda Runnion

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Small Towns, BIG Heart is distributed to members of the WRV Chamber of Commerce and key leaders in the community (electronically).

All Chamber members are encouraged to submit information for the newsletter.

Information for consideration should be submitted to info@whiterivervalleychamber.com

The publisher retains the right to edit submissions for content and space considerations.

Printed copies are available on request. If you would like printed copies for your waiting room, lobby, staff lounge, etc., please call us (or email us at the same address listed) and let us know.