

Spring Newsletter 2019

April 2019



Upcoming Meeting Dates:

- ◆ **Select Board:**
- ◆ 4-16 at 7:00pm
- ◆ 5-21 at 7:00pm
- ◆ **T&G Board:**
- ◆ 4-24 at 6:00pm
- ◆ 5-22 at 6:00pm
- ◆ **Planning:**
- ◆ 5-7 at 7:00pm
- ◆ 6-4 at 7:00pm

Did you know?

To burn brush or wood debris on your property you need a burn permit. For burn permits contact:

East Dorset:

Doug Beebe

362-1950 or Howard

Towsley 375-5006

Dorset:

Shawn Hazelton

375-4233

- ◆ **THANKS JIM!**
- ◆ Longtime water operator Jim McGinnis will be retiring later this spring. He's worked on the Dorset Village Water System for over 20 years!

#mudseason

The fifth of Vermont's seasons has been memorable this year. Winter decided to arrive in November last year. That gave us an extra 4+ weeks of the freeze/thaw cycle that creates frost in the ground. If you haven't noticed, the frost is awfully stubborn, as such it puts up a rather dramatic fight. Warm weather and rain try and force it on it's merry way. During this time of year the top layer of soil is thawing out, the excess water that would normally filter downward remains trapped by the frost underneath.....the result:



Ok, it's not this bad any more. We now have roads built with geotextile and good gravel. In addition we have a very attentive road crew that spreads new gravel to help folks get home.



Check out the updated list of hiking and biking opportunities in and around Dorset. Be sure to get out there and enjoy the spring in Vermont!

Dorsetvt.org/hike



REMINDER: FIREWORKS

All fireworks, not including sparklers and novelty sparkling items, are illegal in Vermont except for permitted, supervised, public displays. If you plan to use fireworks for a public fireworks display you must obtain a permit **BEFORE** you purchase the fireworks. There are both civil and criminal penalties for violations of the fireworks laws. VT Towns require a permit for any fireworks display. A permit may be obtained from the Fire Chief (**Dorset FD: 375-4233/ East Dorset FD: 375-5006**) after it is determined by the Fire Chief that the fireworks display will be handled by a competent operator in a manner that will not be hazardous to people or property. After a permit has been granted it is only lawful for that one display. Application for a permit must be made at least 15 days in advance of the fireworks display.

Please be considerate of your friends, neighbors, and their pets when it comes to fireworks!

GREEN UP IN DORSET: Saturday May 4th

**DORSET MEET AT DORSET CHURCH AT
9AM**

- KIM RIZIO IS THE COORDINATOR 867-5717

**EAST DORSET MEET AT TOWN OFFICES AT
9AM**

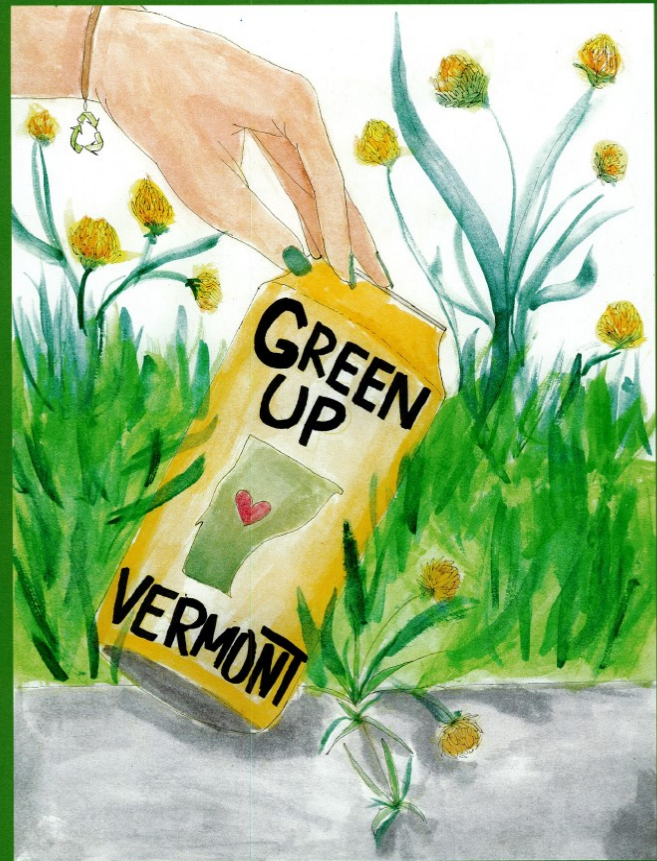
- JOHN LAREAU IS THE COORDINATOR

Green Up bags can be picked up at either location. Remember to report your activity to the coordinator.

Once finished the bags can be left on the roadside as they will be picked up by the Road Crew the following Monday.

Please don't handle sharp objects without gloves.

If you find hypodermic needles, please mark the location and report it to Sgt. Jesse Bravata 442-4900 or jesse.bravata@benningtonsheriff.org



Artwork: Chloe Jenkins, Chester, Grade 8



**GREEN UP DAY
MAY 4, 2019**
greenupvermont.org #greenupt



Green Up Vermont 501(c)(3) | (802) 229-4586



The Dorset Village Library

Library Hours: Mon to Friday 11am to 5pm
& Sat: 10am to 3pm

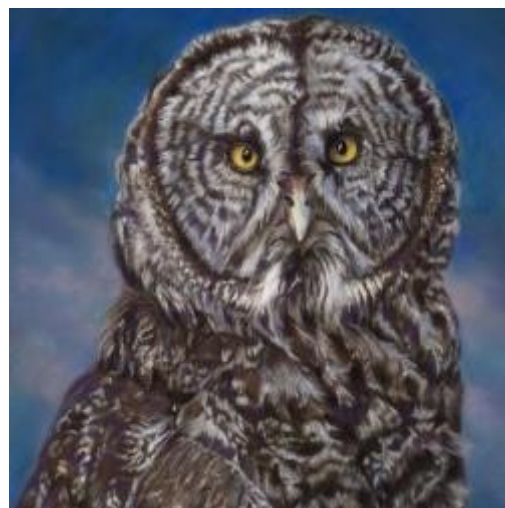
April Artist of the Month:

Lesley Heathcote



The featured artist at the Dorset Public Library during the month of April will be Lesley Heathcote. The public is invited to meet Lesley at the opening reception on Saturday, April 6 from 11-1pm. Refreshments will be served. All works are for sale, with a portion of the proceeds going to benefit the library.

Lesley's paintings are inspired by the beauty and intelligence found in the natural world. Growing up in New England and spending many hours in the woods of Vermont, she developed her deep love of nature. Giving form to this love through paintings of birds, animals and landscapes in the medium of soft pastel is a great joy. Lesley received a BFA from Rhode Island School of Design in 1980. She's been exhibiting my art nationally and regionally for over 30 years.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Soup and a Hero Movie Night: Soup, sandwiches and Aquaman!

April 5th, 6-9:30pm

It's a superhero kind of night at the Dorset Library on Friday April 5th. We will begin at 6pm with a social hour and dinner. Homemade soups (bring one to share if you're inspired!) and a marvelous hero sandwich will be served, along with chips and beverages. Then, at 7pm we will roll out the popcorn and candy and invite our guests to settle in to watch Aquaman! All ages are invited, however the movie is rated PG-13 (up to the discretion of the parent). We will have seating as well as a few cushions and beanbags so you can get comfy, but feel free to bring your own! You may join us for just the dinner, just the movie, or both!

Poetry!

April 12th, 6-8pm

April is National Poetry Month and the Dorset Library invites you to celebrate with us at a "Favorite Poem Project"! Please consider spending your Friday evening on April 12th at 6pm with us to read any of your favorite poems, by yourself or others, and listening to the work of other poets. Milla the library pug will be reading one of her original creations! Jon Mathewson, widely published poet and curator at the Dorset Historical Society is going to write the first line of our Community Poem. Everyone is invited to add a line or two, and the poem will be available at the library through the end of April. Light refreshments will follow the reading.

GAME NIGHT!

April 24th 6-8pm

The BYOB (Bring Your Own Book) Club is hosting a board game night for young adults in their 20s and 30s, (as well as the young at heart of any age!) Everyone is invited to attend on April 24th from 6 – 8 PM. This event is free, open to the public, and will take place at the Dorset Village Library, located at the corner of Church St. and VT Route 30 in Dorset. And there will be snacks!



3270 ROUTE 315 RUPERT, VT 05768

WWW.MERCKFOREST.ORG

SPRING EVENTS AT MERCK FOREST:

- SECOND SATURDAY HIKE: CURING CABIN FEVER
- APRIL 13TH FROM 2PM—4PM
- SOLO WILDERNESS FIRST AID & CPR COURSE
- MAY 4TH AT 8:30AM AND MAY 5TH AT 5:30PM
- SECOND SATURDAY HIKE: LOOKING FOR SPRING EPHEMERALS
- MAY 11TH FROM 2P- 4PM
- MEET THE LAMBS!
- MAY 18TH 9AM—2PM

VISIT MERCKFOREST.ORG

FOR MORE INFO!

SPRING on the Farm Vacation Camp



April 16, 17, 18; 9am - 3pm (Tues., Wed., Thurs.)

Spring on the farm brings all kinds of new life! Meet our new lambs, cuddle our chickens, and say hello to draft horses Fern and Arch. We'll get our hands dirty as we explore and create on the farm, planting seeds, working with sheep's wool, and discovering all the farm has to offer. A VT certified educator will be on the ground with the children.

\$50/day, \$125 for all three days; Grades 2 - 5. Space is limited - 10 campers per day. Register with Chris at Christine@merckforest.org

The legend of the Dorset West Road Monkupine

Anyone that lives in Vermont knows that story telling is practically a vocation for most people, especially during the long winters. Stories (good or bad) are how we share experiences, relate to each other and build community. The winter of 2018-19 will be noted for one such story that captivated the entire Town.

Around the time of Town Meeting, Dorset was abuzz with word of a strange creature that had been seen around Town. No, it wasn't Goliath the Great Dane who lives on Peace Street and likes to check in on his neighbors. It wasn't the most recent escapees from the Pheasant Farm on Route 30. It wasn't even a sheep or goat from the handsome place at the bottom of Danby Mountain Road. The creature in question was strongly described as a monkey! The first report came from an evening patrol on the Dorset West Road. Two motorists stopped to let an animal cross the road, and both noted to each other that they were certain they had just seen a monkey.

In what seemed like a few hours the lines of the maple tree telegraph (word of mouth for those unfamiliar with the phrase) lit up like a John Deere at our annual tractor parade. Pictures were shared of foot prints in the snow, and the story raged on like a partially controlled brush fire at The Pinnacle. As the rumors swirled, both skeptics and believers congregated to relay the story to every corner of Town.

Thankfully our local Game Warden Justin Turner came to the rescue and trailed the creature to a deck/patio area at house on the Dorset West Road.

The fellow, who had just finished his afternoon snacking on tree bark and cedar siding, was settling in for the night. What was curled up in the corner under the deck? Well, a porcupine of course. And so ended the 2 week reign of the monkupine in the hearts and minds of Dorset residents.

While this story was riveting, perhaps the better story is how the porcupine came to live at that section of the Dorset West Road to begin with.

But you'll have to catch that story with a have-a-heart trap!



COMMUNITY CHALLENGE TELL A FRIEND, BRING A FRIEND

**Electronic Recycling
at
The Dorset School
Saturday, April 27, 2019
9 am - 12 noon**

**Hosted by The Dorset Teachers' Association
and The Dorset Energy Committee
To raise money for The Dorset School**

A variety of electronics and accessories will be accepted including:

- Computers (laptops, desktops, and servers)
- Printers
- Ink Cartridges
- Toner Cartridges
- Televisions (all types and sizes)
- Monitors (all types)
- UPS Battery-ups
- Stereo Equipment
- Satellite Dishes (any size!)
- Game Consoles (Wii, Playstation, etc)
- Digital Cameras
- Cell Phones
- Mobile Devices
- MP3 Players
- Small Household Appliances

Anything with a power cord or wireless

There is no charge to drop-off items. Monetary donations will be accepted and proceeds will go to help the school.

Please contact Heather McGann at hmcgann@brsu.org or Diego Uribe at duribe@brsu.org or call the school at 802-362-2606 with questions.



Support the Dorset Players!



DORSET Players
Inaugural
Golf Outing

HOSTED BY THE

Dorset Field Club

Friday, May 10

Registration 8am

Tee-off 9am

Golf & Luncheon

\$150 Per Person – \$550 Foursome – \$45 Lunch Only

Prizes – Side Games – Silent Auction

Sponsorships Still Available

Space is Limited

Call Now to Get Tickets

802-867-5570



Fundraiser to Benefit the Dorset Playhouse Building Fund

Message from the Dorset Players:

March 27, 2019



Town of Dorset
112 Mad Tom Road
East Dorset, VT 05253

The Dorset Players, Inc.
P.O. Box 521, Dorset, VT 05251

Dear Friends:

The Dorset Players' Board of Trustees wishes to express its deepest thanks and appreciation to Dorset residents, town officials, and taxpayers for approving the special town appropriation for the Dorset Playhouse Building Fund.

We are not unmindful of the demands on town budgets today and wish all who voted in favor of this appropriation to know how grateful the Players' Board and its members are to have your support. It is support like this that enables us to keep the price of our tickets at a modest, affordable level.

The Dorset Playhouse has been an important regional venue for entertainment for over 90 years, as well as a year-round economic contributor to the community. We are committed to developing and expanding our outreach to other potential sources of donations and income to meet the rapidly growing costs of building repairs and maintenance, and to fulfill our mission of proving live theater for the purpose of enriching and entertaining our community, and to provide growth and educational opportunities to both children and adults through a variety of theatrical experiences.

Again, thank you for supporting our efforts to maintain and preserve the historic Dorset Playhouse as a vital landmark which contributes to the rich cultural environment of our community and its attraction to visitors.

Sincerely,

THE DORSET PLAYERS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Angie Merwin
President

Rehana Grip
Vice President

Kim Bina
Treasurer

Lily Van Haverbeke
Secretary

Patty Greene-Pawelczk

May Hayward

Don Hayward

Steven Schlussel

Dan Silver

(802) 867-5570 - info@dorsetplayers.com - www.dorsetplayers.org

The Dorset Players, Inc. is a non-profit community theater dedicated to fostering the arts in the Northshire since 1927.

Dorset in the news!



Vermont Climate Economy Initiative Model Communities Program

*Coming to Dorset
this summer!*

Dorset successfully submitted an application to participate in the Vermont Council on Rural Development's (VCRD) Climate Economy Model Communities Program in 2019. This program – a partnership of VCRD, Efficiency Vermont and local leaders – is designed to help communities identify and implement priority actions that increase economic vitality and affordability in a time of climate change. Examples of locally defined projects include energy efficiency, transportation system transformation, renewable energy generation, working lands development, and entrepreneurship and business incubation to spur economic progress. Key aspects of the program include:

- While this process is focused on the climate economy, transportation, and energy transformation, it is up to the citizens of Dorset to set specific directions.
- A key component of program success is the active leadership of local citizens who work with VCRD and other partners to move priorities forward.
- This program is focused on actions that fall within the power of participating communities rather than advocating for policy changes in Montpelier or Washington.
- A key aim of this program is to include a great mix of people from all parts of the community to be sure any focus of the program has benefits for all.

In May 2019 a planning committee of local leaders, stakeholders, and representatives from throughout the two communities will convene to guide the local Climate Economy effort and plan for the kick-off in June. Here's an overview of the process:



Step 1 - Community Forums and Dinner (June 2019)

In April, the project will kick-off with afternoon and evening brainstorming sessions for the full community with an expert Climate Economy Visiting Team. The kick-off includes a free community dinner.

Step 2 - Priority Setting (July 2019)

The full community will gather a month later to hear specific concepts for community climate economy initiatives built from ideas gathered at the kick-off forums. Community members will select 3 to 4 action ideas in areas including transportation efficiency and home and business energy opportunities. Interested community members will be asked to join task forces focused on planning and implementing projects.

Step 3 - Planning and Implementation (August and onward)

A final community gathering unites the task forces with Resource Team experts including the utilities to set work plans. Work will then begin to implement the chosen initiatives. Ongoing support, for up to one year, will be provided by VCRD staff.

To learn more: Visit www.vtrural.org or contact us at jon@vtrural.org or 802-225-6393.



Vermont Council on Rural Development

Unleashing the power of Vermonters to create a better future

The Climate Economy Model Communities Program is a community-driven process with local leaders, VCRD, Efficiency Vermont, and other partners to cultivate economic development, innovation, and affordability in the face of climate change. This event is produced by VCRD, a non-profit organization supporting the locally-defined progress of Vermont's rural communities.

Spring HHW is May 18th in Bennington:

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

For Residents & Small Businesses of

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



Saturday May 18, 2019

8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Bennington Transfer Station

904 Houghton Lane

Bennington, VT 05201

The collection is free for residents. Proof of residency will be required. Small businesses must pre-register and prepay for the amount delivered by May 3, 2019.

WHAT TO BRING: Any substance with labels that say CAUSTIC, TOXIC, CORROSIVE, POISON, FLAMMABLE, DANGER, WARNING, CAUTION, USE IN AN OPEN ENVIRONMENT. Examples include:

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Cleaners (Drain, Bathroom, Toilet, Oven, Carpet, Upholstery), Bleach, Disinfectants | Oil Based & Latex Paint, Lead Based Paint | Gasoline, Kerosene |
| Glues, Adhesives, Resins | Stains, Varnishes, Turpentine, Shellac | Antifreeze, Brake, Transmission, Radiator, Wiper Fluids |
| Floor, Metal, Furniture Polishes | Wood Preservatives, Fillers, Putty, Adhesives | Engine Degreaser, Cleaners |
| Hobby/Art Supplies, Photo Chemicals | Paint Stripper, Thinner, Solvents | Car Cleaners, Wax, Polishes |
| Mercury Items, Including Switches, Thermometers, Thermostats, Fluorescent Tubes And Compact Fluorescent Lamps | Acids, Alcohol, Lighter Fluid Pool chemicals | Pesticides, Insect Sprays, No-Pest Strips, Flea and Tick Control |
| Nail Polish or Remover, Perfume, Hairsprays and Aerosols, Air Fresheners | Roofing tar, Creosote | Herbicides, Fungicides, Fertilizers |
| Alkaline and Rechargeable Batteries, Auto And Mower Batteries | Creosote, Asphalt, Driveway Sealer | Muriatic Acid, Naphtha, Camphor, Mothballs |

WE WILL ALSO BE ACCEPTING BOTH PRESCRIPTION AND OVER-THE COUNTER DRUGS INCLUDING LIQUIDS UP TO 4 OUNCES.

Televisions and computers are accepted at the transfer station during normal hours free of charge. Other items such as used motor oil, propane tanks, bulky items, scrap metal, or appliances are accepted for a fee at the transfer station during regular hours.

WHAT NOT TO BRING: Sharps (i.e., needles), dried and hardened latex paint, radioactive materials, smoke & carbon monoxide detectors, or explosives (ammunition & fireworks).

Sponsored By the Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance, the Town of Bennington, Casella Waste Management, the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, the Bennington Police Department, Southwestern Vermont Medical Center

For more information or to pre-register a business contact Joe Gay at John.Gay@casella.com or (802) 236-5973



The Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance is selling two types of compost containers. This offer is for residents of the Towns of Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glastenbury, Manchester, Rupert, Pownal, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland and Woodford

Soil Saver Composters for \$35.00. These provide an easy way to convert common yard and food waste into fertilizer that you can use in your garden, flowerbeds or to fertilize trees. The Soil Saver is 28" wide by 28" deep by 32" high and can serve a household of up to five people. The locking lid helps to keep animals out of the compost. There are two sliding doors for easy removal of compost and a self-watering lid feature.

Busch Kitchen Composter (\$10.00), These can be used to store food scraps in the kitchen until you can take them to your back-yard composter. It has a filter for eliminating odors and a capacity of 1.3 gallons.

We are taking orders now for distribution at two locations:

1. The Bennington Highway Garage on Orchard St. in Bennington on May 8, 2019 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM

2. The Dorset Town Highway Garage on Village St. in Dorset on May 9, 2019 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM

We will hold a brief workshop and question and answer session at each site from 4:00 to 4:30 PM and a Vermont Master Composter will be available for questions.



DORSET FIRE DISTRICT UPDATE:

Dorset Fire District No. 1 has been working since 2017 to plan and execute a project to bring a new water source to the Dorset Village Water System. During much of 2018 the DFD worked to drill and test a bedrock well in the Village off Cheney Road. After much development effort the bedrock well water turned out to have elevated levels of iron and manganese, as well as high levels of turbidity (read: cloudy water). This would have required large scale water treatment that would have been very expensive to construct and maintain.

As a result, DFD has shifted efforts to a gravel pack well on the same site. The early test drilling, pumping, and quality testing have had positive results. The investment in the new water source will help the water system provide service to current customers and focus on other needed system improvements. While the process will span a 2nd summer of design and permitting, DFD is working toward a winter connection date of the new source to the water system.

In addition DFD has been working on hydraulic models of infrastructure improvement scenarios that will allow for the proposal of projects with the lowest cost and highest benefit and present them to the residents of the Fire District for review and discussion.

DORSET FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1 ANNUAL MEETING IS:

MONDAY MAY 13, 2019 AT 7PM AT THE DORSET FIREHOUSE.

Town Clerk's Corner

The Town Clerk's Office is responsible for the recording of all land records, maintaining all vital records, supervising elections, dog licenses, and renewal of motor vehicle registrations.

- ◆ Dog Licenses were due by **APRIL 1st**: Dog Licenses are \$11.00 for dogs that are spayed or neutered and \$15.00 if the dog is not spayed or neutered. Proof of a current rabies vaccine is required. After April 1st the fees increase to \$14.00 and \$20.00

Recent Property Transfers (Dec. 2018 to present)

| Seller | Buyer: | Address: | Price: | Assessed Value: |
|-----------|------------------|------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Marks | Breezy North LLC | 744 Black Rock Ln | \$335,000 | \$381,500 |
| Maggiotto | Daley | 2139 Morse Hill Rd | \$418,000 | \$405,000 |
| Foster | Daley | 3009 Morse Hill Rd | \$315,000 | \$386,000 |
| Dreyer | Epstein | 2491 Lower Hollow Rd | \$546,000 | \$556,000 |
| Landres | Fielding | 739 McNamara Rd | \$470,000 | \$449,000 |
| Soper | Goralink | 167 Green Peak Orch N. | \$335,000 | \$478,600 |
| Blakeney | Marion Trust | 96 Owls Head Hill Ln | \$255,000 | \$266,200 |
| McFall | Paladines | 1035 Route 30 | \$212,500 | \$234,200 |
| Moody | Tobin | 384 Barrows Heights | \$316,000 | \$310,800 |
| Binns | Zaia | o Dorset West Rd | \$190,000 | \$221,400 |

Questions? Call 362-4571 x 2 , Sandra Pinsonault, Town Clerk, MMC, CVC

Photos around Town.....



WHO'S READY FOR THE LAKE? We mailed 2019 EMERALD LAKE STATE PARK PASSES TO ALL PROPERTY OWNERS.

Thanks to Tara Schatz for allowing us to use this photo on the pass. Tara is a local freelance writer/photographer and blogger, be sure to stop by her site: www.backroadramblers.com



Town of Dorset

112 Mad Tom Road
PO Box 715
East Dorset, VT 05253

Phone: 802-362-4571
Fax: 802-362-5156
Email: townmanager@gmail.com
Website: www.dorsetvt.org

VERMONT Summer Festival



COMING SOON!

DORSET IS HOME TO THE
VERMONT SUMMER HORSE
FESTIVAL
LEARN MORE AT:
VT-SUMMERFESTIVAL.COM

Spring Events in and around Dorset

DORSET CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE



**SATURDAY
MAY 4, 2019**

9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

**Outside Sales Begin at 8:30 am
NO EARLY-BIRD SHOPPING!**

RECREATION INFO:

Dorset Residents:

Did you know the Town offers a discount on:
MPR Summer Programs

- Long Trail Summer Programs
- Free Entry at Emerald Lake State Park
- Recreation Scholarships
- Swim Lessons at Lawrence School

How to claim the discount:

Simply fill out the reimbursement form with proof of payment and residency and the Town will send you a check for the discount. Reimbursement forms can be found online at www.dorsetvt.org or can be picked up and dropped off at the Town Office or emailed to: townmanager@gmail.com



Third Thursday Lunchtime Lectures

All Lectures are Held at The Bley House Museum

April 18 — Terry Tyler/Judy Harwood —
Old Gas Stations in Dorset

May 16 — Judy Hayward — **Preservation of Old Houses**

June 20 — TBD

Events

June 1 — Bley House Museum — **New Exhibits Open House**

July 13 — Bley House Museum — **Ice Cream Social**

Hikes

June 15 — Art Gilbert & Jon Mathewson — **Gettysburg Quarry Meet** at DHS 9:00am

June 29 — Art Gilbert & Jon Mathewson — **Freedley Quarry Meet** at DHS 9:00am

July 13 — Art Gilbert & Jon Mathewson — **Folsom Quarry Meet** at DHS 9:00am

July 27 — Marilyn Kinney — **Mad Tom Trail Hike Meet** at the Town Offices 9:00am

PO Box 52 · Route 30 at Kent Hill Road
Dorset, VT 05251 USA · 802-867-0331

E-mail: info@dorsetvthistory.org

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday, 10-4 p.m. Saturday, 10-2 p.m.
www.dorsetvthistory.org