

July 2024
Halifax News

– Laurel Copeland, Halifax, Vermont

CHAPELS IN THE WOODS



I was walking in the woods a year and a half ago, in January, admiring the otter tracks that suggested a slippery otter-y party (see photo). A bit later, I spied something unexpected: a chapel up on a hill in the middle of the woods!



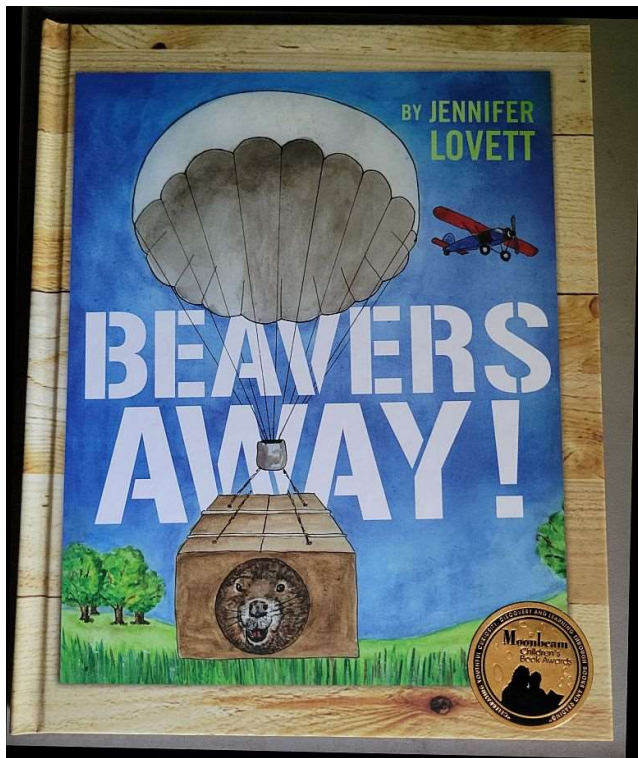
Oddly, this was the second chapel in the woods I had come across in Halifax. In September 2022, while participating in a hike to the Otis homestead on the impassable part of Perry Road, I was surprised by the appearance of a wooden chapel in the woods. It is in the style of the medieval Norwegian Stave church, built using Viking shipbuilding skills as Scandinavians converted to Christianity. Some time later I was told it was built for a wedding.

A third chapel in Halifax is not in the woods but on a hilltop overlooking the valleys and mountains. It is David Brewster's beautiful stone chapel in Halifax Center.

One finds lovely things in Halifax.



VERMONT AUTHOR DONATES BOOK ABOUT BEAVERS

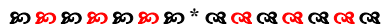


Beavers Away! is a 2016 Moonbeam Awards Winner in the Environmental Issues Category. *Beavers Away!* tells the true story of a game warden named Elmo Heter, who solved a complicated problem in a very novel way. He devised a method to safely reintroduce beavers into a remote wilderness—by parachuting them from the sky! The relocated beavers were able to quickly restore the eroded and barren landscape and create lush habitat that provided food and shelter for many other types of animals. This remarkable story of Elmo and a beaver named Geronimo is significant today as we confront the effects of climate change and try to protect and conserve wetlands and the wildlife that depend on them.

Author Jennifer Lovett has donated copies of her book for distribution to local schools and libraries. Linda Huebner took one to the Jacksonville Library and brought another to the Halifax School Library.

Lovett also sent a copy for Bonnyvale Environmental Education Center which has been donated to the Marlboro School/Library, as BEEC had already obtained a copy.

Thank you, Jennifer Lovett, for writing this book and providing it to us to read!



MINDFUL MINUTE COLUMNIST COMING TO HALIFAX CAFÉ ON JULY 13 AND 20 - David Jones

Do you read the Mindful Minute column in the Brattleboro Reformer? Jon Heydenreich has been writing this column for over 2 years. Jon will lead two discussions at the Halifax Café on July 13 and 20 starting at 11AM.

On each day, Jon will speak briefly and then lead the discussion. The planned topics are:

July 13: “Those Orange Lillies are Not Just Pretty.”

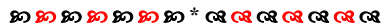
July 20: “The Wrong Side of Comfort”

Café-goers can enjoy coffee, tea, and baked treats and join in or just listen in.



Heydenreich’s columns bring a mindful perspective into matters of daily life. Recent topics have included overcoming obstacles, taking on new challenges, seeing things differently, breaking the routine, gaining a new understanding, finding others who are trying to improve, balancing hope with realism, and being mindful of how we move and live. In addition to writing the column, Jon says he eats a bit too much ice cream while trying to live with a semblance of serenity.

The Café is open from 10AM to 1PM on most Thursdays and Saturdays. See the back page for details of special events. The Café is located inside Community Hall at 20 Brook Road in West Halifax.



UNION SOCIETY RESUMES SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES IN HALIFAX CENTER

- David Jones

On June 23, the Halifax Union Society resumed inter-denominational Sunday evening services in Halifax Center. The next bi-weekly services are scheduled for July 7 and 21. All services begin at 5PM. The location is 44 Stowe Mountain Road in Halifax Center, two miles south of the town office.

This is the first year of services following the retirement of long-time pastor Marcia Dorey. Guest ministers who are comfortable in the group's non-denominational heritage and informal style will lead each service. Doug LaPlante, pastor of Jacksonville Community Church and Wilmington Baptist Church led on June 23 and will lead on July 7. Jon Heydenreich, "Mindful Minute" columnist for the *Brattleboro Reformer* and part-time Lutheran pastor in Brattleboro, will lead on July 21, August 4 and 18, and September 1.

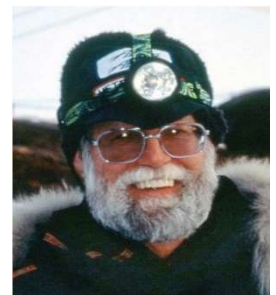
The Union Society was formed in 1891 by neighbors who wanted to worship together but lacked enough members to form a congregation of any one denomination. The group took ownership of its church building from the Baptist congregation that moved from Halifax Center to West Halifax. In 1933, the Society formalized a broadly inclusive statement of purpose: "...to uplift all to a practical, useful life, and inspire them to improve their opportunities and natural faculties for better living and better understanding of worthwhile purposes of life..." Over the decades, attendance has fluctuated but has consistently included a diverse mix of local and regional residents and seasonal visitors. A small group of trustees maintains the church property and arranges the program. The Union Society is open and welcoming to all.

For further information, write to HalifaxUnionSociety@gmail.com or go to Facebook and Google Maps.

☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ * ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

SENIOR MEAL IN HALIFAX – Friday July 19 is the next Senior Meal serving at noon at the Halifax Community Hall located at 20 Brook Road in West Halifax. Menu: our yearly indoor picnic...hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs, rolls, macaroni salad, homemade baked beans, chips, and a dessert. Seniors over age 60 free-will donation of \$3.00, under 60 \$4.00. All seniors are welcome. A call to Joan is appreciated (802-368.7733). PLEASE REMEMBER....there is NO Senior Meal in Halifax in August. Joan hopes to be sitting on the beach at the Jersey Shore with family.
– Joan Courser

SORROW – I mourn the sudden death of (Edward) Turner Lewis from the Thomas Hill area of Halifax. Turner was a wonderful caring friendly man. Our thoughts and prayers go to his wife Kathryn. She is a good friend and made desserts every other month for the Senior Meal. May knowing in the days, weeks, and months ahead that friends and neighbors think of you and pray for comfort for you and the family ease some of your sorrow.
– Joan Courser



JOAN'S SIGHTINGS. Oh so many beautiful birds...not any new ones but love seeing them each day.....A couple of Chickadees, three or four Orioles male and female, a male Evening Grosbeak and a female, a Bluejay or two, a couple of Blackbirds, a Rose-Breasted Grosbeak, Sparrows, Mourning Doves, a couple of Humming Birds (I am using lots of sugar making hummer food...that so many birds drink it makes me smile to see all the different birds drinking out of the 'hummer' feeder and so many eating grape jelly put out for the Orioles. (I am thinking many birds have a 'sweet tooth'!!!) Even the red squirrels like grape jelly!
- Joan Courser

☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ * ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺

JACKSONVILLE BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL FRI. JUL. 26, 4-7 PM

The Halifax ice cream trailer will be at the Blueberry festival in Jacksonville at the municipal building parking lot on July 26. Come on over....this is always a fun special evening (4:00-7:00 pm) with lots of things going on. We will be in the Municipal parking lot at 2948 VT Route 100 in Jacksonville.

**Fire Safety: Want to burn brush? Call for a Burn Permit before you burn.
Call: Dennis (802) 368-7809 or Malcolm (802) 368-2484**

FIREMEN’S CLAM BAKE

The Firemen’s Clam Bake is the first Saturday in August, **August 3, 2024, serving 12:30-3:00 pm**. Tickets are available from any fireman and from our Town Clerk. Advance purchase required. \$20 for chicken dinner (half chicken, corn on the cob, potato salad, cole slaw, watermelon; \$10 for ages 6-12; under 6 free), \$50 for lobster dinner (lobster, clams, half chicken, corn on the cob, potato salad, cole slaw, watermelon).

No dogs allowed.

Check out their facebook page, [Halifax Fire Company Inc.](#)

The Halifax ice cream trailer will be there.

See you up on Old County Road!



☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ * ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺



Up on Hanson Road and hereabout we are seeing geese, a grouse, and turkeys, crows and ravens, robins and blue jays, and a wealth of songbirds: indigo buntings, goldfinches, catbirds, chickadees, cardinals, tree swallows, bluebirds (pic), chipping sparrows, song sparrows, winter wrens, phoebes, yellow-bellied sapsuckers, common yellowthroat (photographed in a lilac, right), tufted titmouses, and eastern wood pee-wees. Day and night we hear the red-eyed vireos and veeries. Larger denizens include deer, porcupine, raccoon, grey fox (with kits!), and bobcat (glimpsed in the gloaming). The yellow swallowtails and other butterflies dance around in the sunshine.



In West Halifax, a dead tree contrasted with the leafed-out tree against a stormy sky the other day. And down in the disc golf course below the school, an old beaver lodge can be seen beyond a dried-out beaver channel.



SALAD SATURDAY AT THE CAFÉ. On Saturday, July 6, the Halifax Café will feature a wide variety of salads. Will you join us for lunch? We will have tuna salad, egg salad, veggie salads, potato salad, pasta salad, fruit salad—as well as fresh bread, coffee/tea, and sweet treats.

Your donations maintain the historic Hall. Thank you for your support.

*** * ***

SEEN AROUND THESE PARTS...



Calista the Cat keeps watch for bobcats and other intruders into her domain.

Below, a family of ducks swims on a shimmering Gates Pond just over the border in Whitingham. Can you spot them in the upper left quadrant? A closer shot revealed a mom and 5 ducklings.



Halifax News

JULY 2024

CALENDAR

- June 29, 2024** (Saturday): Halifax Café **CLOSED** for community event
- July 4, 2024** (Thursday): Halifax Café open 10:00 am-1:00 pm, Ice Cream Wagon open!
- July 6, 2024** (Saturday): Halifax Café open 10:00 am – 1:00 pm, Ice Cream Wagon open!
" **Salad Day at the Café – join us for a summer lunch, 10-1**
- July 11, 2024** (Thursday): Halifax Café open 10:00 am – 1:00 pm, Ice Cream Wagon open!
- July 13, 2024** (Saturday): Halifax Café open 10:00 am – 1:00 pm, Jon Heydenreich at 11:00
- July 18, 2024** (Thursday): Halifax Café open 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
- July 20, 2024** (Saturday): Halifax Café open 10:00 am – 1:00 pm, Jon Heydenreich at 11:00
- July 25, 2024** (Thursday): Halifax Café open 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
- July 27, 2024** (Saturday): Halifax Café open 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
- August 1, 2024** (Thursday): Halifax Café open 10:00 am - 1:00 pm, Ice Cream Wagon open!
- August 3, 2024** (Saturday): Halifax Café **CLOSED** for **FIREMEN’S CLAM BAKE**



Flagpole Renewed!

A crew comprised of Pete Silverberg, David Jones, Gary Rand, and Mark Halverson took down our Community Hall flagpole, tested it for lead in the peeling paint (negative), sanded it down, repainted it, replaced the eagle on top, added a downward-facing solar light to illuminate the flag at night and maintain dark skies, and reset it. Thank you very much!!

Check your address label for your expiration date. Send \$7.00 for postage for your mailed paper copy.

Send a check made out to “Newsletter” to: Joan Courser, P O Box 27, West Halifax VT 05358.

NEWSLETTER STORIES – Got a Halifax story?

Send to Laurel LaurelACopeland@gmail.com, 1513 Hanson Road, Brattleboro VT 05301-9227.

Editor: LaurelACopeland@gmail.com. Email me for free color e-version.

Archives: <https://czresearch.com/newsletter>