

Carrabassett Valley Connections

Published annually by the town of Carrabassett Valley, Maine



Board of Selectmen: Robert Luce, Chair • John Beaupre • Lloyd Cuttler • Tom Butler • Jay Reynolds

Carrabassett Valley History Project Taking Shape

Submitted by Dave Cota, Town Manager

A citizens committee initiated and being headed up by Carrabassett Valley resident Jean Luce is in the formative stages of completing a "history project" depicting the Town's origins and history. Jean who is the mother of long-time Chair of the Board of Selectmen, Bob Luce, was one of the thirteen voters in what was Crocker Township (essentially the northern half of the Town including Sugarloaf) who voted 7-6 in favor to become "annexed" to what was then the new Town of Carrabassett Valley in 1973. Prior to that vote (1971) the same folks had voted 7-6 against annexation with their neighbors to the south. In the 1971 vote Jean voted for annexation and her husband Norton voted against it. However, at the 1973 meeting vote in the base lodge at Sugarloaf Norton got up at the meeting and said that he thought that the leaders of Carrabassett Valley (incorporated in 1972) "were doing a pretty good job" and he became the swing vote that incorporated Crocker Town into Carrabassett Valley (and we are very happy he did!). Immediately after the annexation vote Norton was appointed Chairman of the Planning Board and Jean was appointed to the School Committee. The Luce family bought land on the Brackett Brook Road in 1960 and built a home shortly thereafter. In 1963, Norton then built the gas station that was located on the corner of the Sugarloaf Access Road for many years.



Jean Luce

Although in the very early stage of this project, it appears there are five time periods that best describe the history of the town as follows:

- The early history prior to the 1880's
- The "Railroad Era" from 1880 to the 1920's (The Spring Farm Health Resort, much like the famous Poland Spring Resort flourished during this time.)
- The "Sporting" Era from the 1920's to 1950 (Hunting & Fishing and related services)
- The "Sugarloaf Era" from 1950 to 1972
- The "Town Era" from 1972 to present

There are many interesting and fascinating people, historical events and developments in Carrabassett Valley's history. Some of this history was researched by prominent Carrabassett Valley resident Richard "Dick" Crommett who passed away in 2004. The new history project committee led by Jean Luce's remarkable energy and interest intends to pick up where Dick left off and continue over the next several years to complete and bring to life our Town's history and see where that leads us.



It's important to note that the Committee is not looking to obtain historical artifacts at this time (we have no resources or place to catalog them yet). However, if you have historical information or interest in this project you may contact Jean at 237-2263 or snowflower@tds.net.

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Visit us online at:
www.carrabassettvalley.org

Dear Carrabassett Valley Citizens & Taxpayers:

Hope the summer and fall have treated you well and we hope you've had a chance to spend some time here in our so called "off-season". As you may know, it's not so "off-season" any more. Many of you now spend time here enjoying our natural beauty, hiking, mountain biking, playing golf, boating or just hanging out. Some great area events are being held and more restaurants are remaining open in the summer and fall. Thank you to Sugarloaf, the mountain bike club and others for staging these events.

As always, we have been very busy with a number of projects, initiatives and issues. Significant airport and golf course projects lead the list. We (the Town) have also been busy with economic development initiatives, continued mountain bike trail development, forestry implementation on the Town's public lot and a number of smaller but important projects and bigger potential projects to come.

The Airport Fuel Farm project is completed. In addition to providing fuel for airplanes



(AVGAS), non-ethanol gas (MOgas) is also available for anyone to purchase. Under a separate grant, we were also successful in completing a runway repair and crack sealing project. In 2018, we will be required to complete a runway obstruction removal project that will consist of removing all trees that encroach within required thresholds (20:1 from the both ends of the runway and 7:1 within runway side transition areas).

Working with Sugarloaf, in 2017 we completed a \$200,000 golf course improvement project that consisted of rebuilding the practice

range, repairing cart paths and purchasing winter covers for the greens (see related golf course article). Also this past year, we completed four Micro-Enterprise Business Grants and we are in the process of completing a fifth project involving Winterstick Snowboards. These are Federal Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) ranging up to \$50,000 each that the State awards to municipalities on a competitive basis. We are very excited to assist Winterstick Snowboards, a Carrabassett Valley manufacturing business, with the purchase of new equipment and making improvements to their facility located in the old golf course clubhouse. As part of grant requirements, Winterstick has hired the equivalent of two new full time employees. They plan to be open to the public this winter (call them at 237-5555 for more information).

Trail development continues in Carrabassett. Although we did not construct as much mileage of new mountain bike trail as in recent years, the program, guided by a committee representing the Town, the Mountain Bike Club, Maine Huts and Trails and Sugarloaf, continues (see Outdoor Center and Mountain Bike Club articles). Peter Smith recently stepped down as President of the Mountain Bike Club (CRNEM-BA) and much was accomplished under his leadership. The ATV Club has also been active with continued trail development and maintenance (see ATV Club Article) and this past year was a successful year for the J.V. Wing Snowmobile Club (also see related article).

In addition to continued mountain bike development on the Town's 2100 acre public lot (Outdoor Center) we are involved with a new 3-year wood harvesting plan under the guid-



ance of the Town's Forestry Committee working with our Forest Consultant, American Forest Management (see Outdoor Center article). Also, the Town approved funding the installation of a new dock at the Outdoor Center Pond which occurred this summer (CVOA and the Town jointly fund stocking the pond with trout).

We continue to work closely with Sugarloaf with regard to a potential dam project on Caribou Pond. The main objective of the project would be to supply needed water in early winter for the mountain to substantially increase snowmaking capabilities. This would be a major capital project for Sugarloaf including building new pumping capacity and installing additional snowmaking equipment. It remains to be seen if this project moves forward and what role the Town may play. In addition to snowmaking there are other tangible benefits associated with this project such as improved access to Caribou Pond and the Appalachian Trail, improved fishing opportunities, and some erosion control benefits downstream during big storm events.

Another issue going forward is how the Town will manage potential Marijuana businesses (growing, retail sales). The Town voted 279 to 196 or 58.4% for and 41.6% against allowing legalization in the State referendum held last November. The State legislature is working on legislation that will provide the legal framework for potential retail sales and growing operations should the Town decide to allow these types of operations. We anticipate that the Selectmen and Planning Board will be involved in making recommendations to be acted upon by the voters of the Town.

Please take the time to read the articles in this newsletter. We are fortunate to have so many dedicated and creative people working to sustain and improve our wonderful community and everything we have to offer. I hope you had a chance to enjoy Homecoming and I hope to see you on the slopes this winter. Please feel free to contact me (towncvtm@roadrunner.com) with any questions or comments you may have regarding your Town government.

Bill Gilmore Awarded State of Maine Code Enforcement Officer of the Year

*Submitted by Dave Cota,
Town Manager*

Many of you at one time or another may have had contact with Bill as he has worked for



The Town of Carrabasset Valley for the past thirty years. We are pleased to say that Bill was awarded the 2017 'Code Enforcement Officer of the Year' award by the Maine Building Officials Inspectors Association (MBOIA). The

MBOIA association is recognized as an affiliate group of the Maine Municipal Association. The award was presented by MBOIA President Paul Demers at their July training session. This association is made up of Code Enforcement Officers and Zoning Administrators throughout the State of Maine.

In attendance for the presentation from Carrabasset Valley were: Selectman Chair Bob Luce and his wife Jane, Selectman John Beaupre, former Planning Board Chairman Bruce Miles and Town Manager Dave Cota.

We were told by a Selection Committee representative that while there were several impressive nomination applications sent in, Bill's record of achievement, his ongoing involvement and community commitment to both Carrabasset Valley and his hometown of Kingfield stood out among all applicants. Bill's dedication, knowledge, helpfulness and the respect he receives from contractors and citizens makes this award so very deserving. Bill is an important asset for our community. We are delighted that he has received this award.

News from the Code Enforcement Officer and Assessor

Submitted by Bill Gilmore

Eighty degree weather in late September is certainly a plus, and that's exactly what we have going on today. The 25th day of September is not always this pleasant but we've had a great stretch weather this year that's been very pleasant. Let's hope it stays that way until the first week in November and then have it drop off the table.

Although new construction has been down this year from its normal levels, we have seen a considerable amount of building upgrades, compared to past years. These are equally important as it keeps our older homes and camps up to more modern day standards. It

also enhances taxable value to some degree.

We do have several new single family dwellings under construction and with this new added value; we should be able to keep the property tax rate at a reasonable level going forward.

I am pleased to announce that Brian Demshar has joined our Planning Board in the past year and he is one of a very few citizens that actually grew up as a Carrabasset Valley Resident. Brian's love of the area brought him back to the valley a couple of years ago and he has been a huge asset to our Planning Board. Additionally, he serves as our building consultant for necessary upgrades and repairs

to our fleet of municipal buildings. We have grown considerably over the past forth five plus years and having Brian's engineering background has been important to assisting us in maintaining and upgrading our municipal building assets to today's standards.

Our Tax Base continues to grow as we become more of a Four Season Resort. Our 2018 State Valuation is currently over \$600,000,000 which speaks very well for a small Town that's only been in existence for forty-five years.

I look forward to seeing you at Homecoming and throughout the winter.

News from the Carrabasset Valley School Department

Submitted by George Joseph, Superintendent of Schools

Greetings from the School Department! The following is a summary of the Carrabasset Valley student enrollment as of September 15, 2017: Kingfield Elementary School, thirteen students; Stratton Elementary School, nine students; Mt. Abram High School, five students; Carrabasset Valley Academy, eight students. Three students attend schools out of state, with two at Waterville Valley Academy in New Hampshire and one at Burke Mountain Academy in Vermont. This is a total of 38 students K-12, a decrease of nine students from last year's fall enrollments of 47 students K-12. This is the third year in a row that our total

student enrollment has declined from a high of 66 students three years ago to the present 38 students. Carrabasset Valley continues to follow the State's demographic trend of a decreasing student enrollment K-12.

I am pleased to report again that we have had no staff changes this year. Brian Foster is our special education consultant. Wendy Russell is the school department's administrative assistant. Karen Campbell is our bus driver and she will be driving the Carrabasset bus to the Stratton elementary school. We also contract with the Stratton bus driver, who will

be picking up the Carrabasset Valley students going to SAD # 58 schools as they go south through town, as we did last year. If for any reason you need to speak with any of us, we can be contacted by calling Wendy Russell at the Town Office at 235-2645.

The School Committee meetings are usually held the third Thursday of each month at the town office. School committee members are Earle Morse, Danielle London, Jennifer McCormack, Kim Kearing, and Stephen Arner. Please check the Town web site for the monthly agenda and meeting date. All are welcome to attend.

Wendy Russell, Town Clerk, Tax Collector, Registrar of Voters, School Secretary • Lori Hocking, Town Treasurer

Town Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. We are closed on all State Holidays.

Check the Town’s website for updates on Office hours, meeting schedules and other Town Government Information. www.carrabassetvalley.org

The Town Office provides Motor Vehicle Registrations, Hunting & Fishing Licenses, ATV, Snowmobile, Boat Registrations and Dog Licenses to our residents. If you find it more convenient, please try out Rapid Renewal for your vehicle re-registrations. It’s free if you use a check. If you can also use your debit or credit card but there is an approximate 3% fee added. That State website address is: <https://www1.maine.gov/online/bmv/rapid-renewal/>. If you have a new vehicle, or are a new Resident you will need to come into the Town Office during regular business hours to register your vehicle.

Dog licenses expire each year on December 31st, and must be renewed by January 31st of that year to avoid a fine. Dog registrations are now available in the Town Office usually by the middle of October. Please bring your proof of Rabies in order to register your dog.

Real estate taxes were due September 30,

2017. If you are paying your taxes after October 1st it’s important for you to call the Town Office (207-235-2645) for a correct amount due. Any unpaid interest on your account leaves an account balance that needs to be cleared up. Please contact us with any mailing address changes you may have as soon as possible. All tax accounts that remain unpaid by noon on December 31st will be listed in the 2017 Town Report.

The Town accepts Credit & Debit cards. Master-Card, Visa & Discover. There is a convenience fee charged to you by the credit card service we use. The fee is 2.65% of your total transaction, or a \$3.00 minimum.

Tuesday, November 7, 2017 is the State of Maine Referendum Election. If you are interested in the results of the Election, or would like to volunteer in the future as an Election Clerk, please give us a call at the number at the bottom of this article. We need your help!

Details of this election are available on the Secretary State’s webpage. <http://www.state.me.us/sos/cec/elec/index.html>

Locally, our Town Meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 14, 2018. Election of Town Officers will take place from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm. at the Town Office. All remaining Warrant Articles will be presented to the voters after reconvening at the Outdoor Center at 7:30 p.m. Nomination papers will be available for Selectmen, School Committee and Sanitary District offices on December 21, 2017 and are due back by January 29, 2018 4:00 pm. Absentee ballots will be available February 12, 2018 for the election of officers only.

If you are interested in serving on a Town Committee the application is available at our website below. There are several Committees that have vacancies at this time, please check it out at <http://www.carrabassetvalley.org/committees>

Don’t forget to “Like” our Facebook page! Contact the Town Clerk at 207-235-2645 or at townofcv@road-runner.com with any questions or comments on this article.



Cemetery Improvements thanks to Sally Allard

NorthStar EMS – Regionally Strong, Locally Active

Submitted by Mike Senecal, NorthStar Director

I always like to start the newsletter by reminding everyone who and what NorthStar is about. **NorthStar** is a regional Emergency Medical Service and one of the largest ambulance services in Maine. NorthStar operates five strategically located bases, including Carrabasset Valley (located adjacent to the Town Office and Fire Department). With this great

regional strength, we respond not only to local emergencies and medical calls but also provide support and backup to the entire 2,800 square-mile coverage area. This assures that no matter where one ambulance is, there will always be another available for the next call. NorthStar provides a one-paramedic am-

bulance 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. During the ski season NorthStar provides an additional ambulance from 9am to 5pm during weekends and vacation weeks. These two ambulances respond to over 500 requests for service during the year. We also increase our staffing during special events in our area to help maintain appropriate ambulance

coverage. We also have several EMS providers who monitor the radio waves and respond from home as needed.

We are again pleased to announce that due to a higher than budgeted call volume and strong management of our expenses we were able to issue all towns, plantations and unorganized territories an overall reduction of subsidies in the amount of \$303,324 or 34% of the last year's total subsidy (2017). The net savings for Carrabasset Valley in FY2018 will be \$34,495. We will continue to work to keep quality high and the cost low for the communities we serve.

In 2014 NorthStar started promoting important health initiatives that impact our area. We have ambulances that educated the public on domestic violence, Martha Webber Breast Care

Centers, and 5210 Let's Go (healthy kids). The newest addition to the NorthStar fleet is an ambulance dedicated to Autism Awareness. The ambulance has special meaning as it was brought forward and designed by employees of NorthStar. Be sure to stop by and check it out in person as always we are located at 1002 Carriage road in Carrabasset Valley.

Autism is a developmental disability that typically appears during the first three years of life. It is the result of a neurological disorder that affects the functioning of the brain, and occurs in approximately 1 out of every 68 births. Autism is five times more prevalent in boys (1 in 42) than girls (1 in 89) and knows no racial, ethnic or social boundaries. Family income, lifestyle and educational levels do not affect the chance of autism's occurrence. For



more information go to the Autism Society of America website: <http://www.autism-society.org/http://www.autism-society.org/>

Thank you for making us a part of your community. We'd love to hear from you (other than through 911, of course!). If you have any questions please call my office at 779-2400 as always, NorthStar is proud to be your ambulance service.

Notes from the Carrabasset Valley Police Department

Submitted by Mark Lopez, Chief

Hello from the Carrabasset Valley Police Department. We are extremely proud of our role in the community and strive to provide professional and courteous Police and Security services to our residents and guests. We are excited to start the 2017-2018 winter ski season.

We continue to install and monitor fire, intrusion, low temperature and water alarms. We are happy to announce a new cellular option that will eliminate the need for a land line telephone to monitor alarms. This option arrived last year and is working very nicely

and is saving our customers money. So if any customers are looking to rid themselves of a land line please call to inquire.

We offer lock and unlock services for homes and vehicles. We will store keys at our Department for homeowners in case of lock outs or to allow access to repairmen when the homeowner is away. We have a ski registration program so please come in to register your skis. The Department also takes care of most lost and found items. We routinely return cell phones, wallets, credit cards and just about

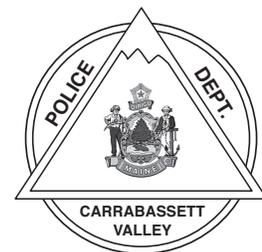
anything else that can be lost. So please call if you have lost or misplaced an item.

We do have some new faces at the Department so please come in and say "Hello" and see what our Department can do for you. Our newest officer is Corrado "Corey" Ceccarelli. Corey has 22 years' experience as a police officer and were excited to add him to our team. Rick Billian was recently promoted to Assistant Chief which with his leadership experience has been a great addition to our team.

We are located in the Village West building with the big clock.



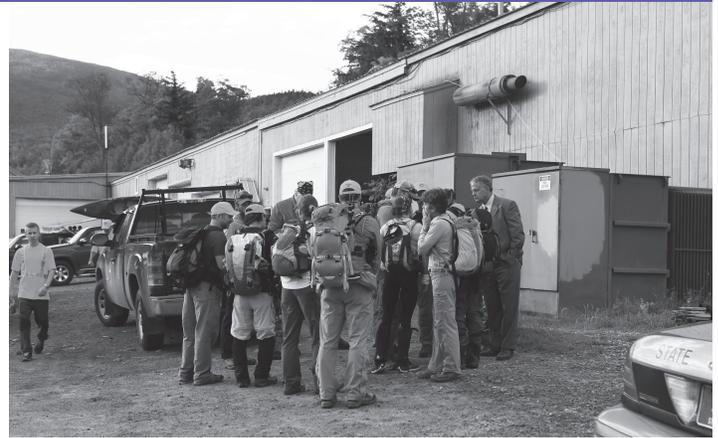
Left to Right: Assistant Chief Rick Billian and Officer Corey Ceccarelli

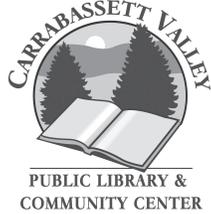


CARRABASSETT VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT
9000 Main St. Village West
Carrabasset Valley, Maine 04947
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In memory to our dear friend and fellow Carrabasset Valley Fire Fighter who passed away this past summer. Jamie photographed many training exercises and emergency operations over several years. Below are a select few photos that make up a huge library documenting this department's activities.
JAMIE WILL BE GREATLY MISSED.





The Carrabasset Valley Public Library offers a wide variety of services for residents as well as guests, and your

public library offers free memberships for everyone! Our cozy environment is stocked with books, audiobooks, CDs, public computers, DVDs, magazines, newspapers and a variety of children's materials. Any time the building is open, you are welcome to use the lobby with access to the Internet... even if the library is closed. Search the town website for more information at www.carrabassetvalley.org. The Library Facebook page shares current information on a daily basis.

The CV Library attendance in 2016 reached close to 6,000 visitors, with approximately 2,400 additional people using the Lobby and Begin Family Community Room facilities. Total attendance to date is estimated at over 50,000 visitors! The library has also registered over 3,900 patrons. All registered library patrons can download free audio books and eBooks through the Maine State Library; search download.maineinfonet.org. Stop by for your library membership number to access this free service. Additionally, we have three Kindles for lending, and an iPad for in-house patron use. The lobby provides a very nice venue for local artists to display their work in a gallery setting. Please contact us if you are interested in receiving an application to display your art. Artists exhibiting during the summer of 2017 include: Betsy Bass, Peggy Bishop, Joe Gambino, Danielle London, Katie Maloney, Sue Murphy, Joanne Noyes, John Orcutt, John Pease, Marguerite Robichaux, Barbara

Stewart, Lucia Swallow, Carol Tanner, Patty & Greg Thomas, Barry White, and Waylon Wolfe. Featured artists scheduled for 2017-18: Doug Archer, Uncle AL Fund exhibit participants TBA, Joe Gambino and Peggy Bishop.

The Begin Family Community Room is regularly used for dozens of town and selectmen's meetings, association and committee meetings, clubs, AARP tax help, First Aid classes, Girls Talk & Teen Voices, parties, memorials and celebrations, as well as serving as a meeting space for many special groups & organizations. Wine & cheese receptions were hosted for each exhibiting artist and free movies were also shown on the *big screen*. Other community room uses include programs and events for the public. This year's special events so far include: Storyteller Michael Parent, *Chewonki's Bats in the World! Program*, Rob Duquette Family Music, Organizational Zen, Peak Oil Film, Ski Museum of Maine, *Digital Security Presentation* by Tim Flight, Ski Museum of Maine Talk, Western Maine Law free clinic on Advance Directives, and Russian Doll Talk & Workshop. Maine author book talks include Crime Writers: Jen Blood, Vaughn C. Hardacker, Bruce Robert Coffin and Maureen Milliken, Ron Chase, Lew-Elyn Hughes, Kevin

OPEN HOURS

WINTER: Tue-Sat: 10-5; Sun: 12-3
SPRING & FALL: Tue-Fri: 10-5 & Sat: 10-3
SUMMER: Wed-Fri: 10-5 & Sat: 10-3

Mannix, Annie Twitchell, Paul Betit, and most recently, Cathie Pelletier. The 2017 **Summer Reading Program** theme: *Build a Better World* brought 24 children into the library to sign up and several programs entertained area children to celebrate. The library co-hosted a **MAD SCIENCE** program enjoyed by over 70 children including **Outdoor Adventure Campers**.

The library continues to be a wonderful place to gather. Attendance has grown steadily, the fireplace beckons on cold winter mornings and families gather in the children's area; the self-employed have a place to work, internet users enjoy up to 100 Mbps high speed bandwidth, Readers lounge while others enjoy Wi-Fi, coffee and the newspaper in the living room area or on the patio. Volunteers provide time and talent inside the library and in the Carrabasset Library Community Garden, planting and watering a multitude of crops in raised beds; vegetables are harvested

and feed those in need through the Stratton Food Pantry and in CV. There is something for everyone in our library. Please contact Library Director, Andrea DeBiase, at 237-3535 or email: adebiase@carrabasset.lib.me.us for information about accessing our online public catalog, volunteering, donating to the library (we are a 501(c)3 non-profit organization) or purchasing a Forever Stone for the patio. Thank you for your support and we hope to see you soon.



Acceptance of a check from Clem and Rolande Begin representing the last year of their incredible 10-year financial commitment to the Town that made the Library/Community Center a reality. Pictured (left to right) are former Library Board Chair Jean Keith, Rolande and Clem Begin, Librarian Andie DeBiase and current Library Board Chair Pinky Slagle. We are forever grateful for their generosity.

**Antigravity Complex, 3207 Carrabassett Drive
Business Hours - November 6, 2017 - April 22, 2018**

Monday-Thursday: 6-10am & 3-9pm

Friday: 6-10am & 5:30-9pm

Friday's beginning on Jan 5th: 4-9pm

Saturdays: 6am-1pm & 4-9pm

Sundays: 7am-9pm

Extended hours School Vacation Weeks

Our summer recreation programs included Red Cross Swim Lessons for infants & adults, Outdoor Adventure Day Camp Swim Lessons, Lap Swim and Water Aerobics. In addition, we were busy with Outdoor Adventure Camp, The Alden MacDonald Junior Golf Program, Travel Golf, Mountain Bike Camp, Paddle Programs, and other special events such as The Fourth of July and Summerfest.

schools. Kory Jacques and Pam Morse will offer After School Programs for grades youth K-8 throughout the week.

Antigravity Complex Fitness: We are pleased to welcome back Certified Fitness Instructors Stacey Keene, Jen Small, Frank Bianco & Sarah Plummer. Pilate's, Yoga, Spinning Cardio/Core & Body Blast & TRX Classes will be offered throughout the winter months.

Antigravity Complex winter program offerings will include co-ed volleyball, Pickle ball & Youth Gymnastics for children grades K-10. Seth Thomas and Tor Tooker will be available to instruct skateboard lessons while Sugarloaf Golf Pro Zack Zondlo will introduce Snag Golf to our local

Why not commit to be fit? Stop by and visit us and our Cardio-Fitness Mezzanine or our first floor yoga/spin room.

If you are looking for any type of specialized Trampoline or Climbing Wall training we can accommodate your personal or group needs!



Just call us anytime at 207-237-5566. Visit our Town website at www.carrabassettvalley.org

We are thrilled that together we have the opportunity to expand and enrich services, programming, and infrastructure through effective partnering. Play and recreation are essential for healthy communities!

AGC Annual Membership Rates

Memberships include access to the gymnasium, locker room skate park and fitness mezzanine.

Individual Taxpayer: \$90 for one year

Family Taxpayer Membership: Includes 2 Adults and 3 children, \$225 for one year. Each additional child \$25 per child.

Access to the Olympic Trampolines, Climbing Wall and Fitness classes are an additional cost.



**Adult Pick Up Ice Hockey
The Sugarloaf Outdoor Center**
Start Date: Tuesday January 9, 2018
6:30-8:00pm - Tuesday and Thursdays
Helmets are Mandatory
Protective gear is strongly suggested.

We are thrilled to work with **The Outdoor Adaptive Center and Enock Glidden of Paradox Sports** to introduce an Adaptive Climbing Program to the region.

The heart of a volunteer is not measured in size, but by the depth of the commitment to make a difference in the lives of others...

A few moments ago, while clearing the accumulated clutter from my desk; which included random files, trade journals and a stack of documents ten reams tall pertaining to the construction of the new pump station; I found two items. The first was a tattered dictionary that within a few moments came in very handy for the correct spelling of the word "ream." The second was my Swingline Stapler. Attached to the bottom of the stapler was a Post-it note, reminding me of the September 15th deadline for this newsletter. Yup, here I go again, today is the 15th; I'd better hurry up and write something... and forget about taking the afternoon off, employee performance evaluations need to be done as well.

The moment I sat down to begin this task, I was interrupted by my employees, they being Brendan Quigley and Hunter Lander. By interrupted, I don't mean a quiet knock on the door followed by an, "excuse me Sir, do you have a moment?" By interrupted I mean, having two highly animated, tall and gangly men (like those air dancer things that look like spastic cactus), storm into your office and immediately start a verbal status report of tasks recently completed; both having the uncanny ability to either start or finish the other's sentences and during which their voices become louder and louder with each passing breath and word; reminiscent of the Dr. Seuss characters Thing 1 & Thing 2. I've come to realize, this is not done



Thing 1 and Thing 2

The Big Dig: construction of the new sewer system pumping station



in an effort of one-upmanship; it is done as a form of celebration riddled with laughter and a few pokes in the ribs for good measure. On this particular morning, they had completed some repairs and a modification to the Lagoon Aeration System. The modification was in an area of a sewage lagoon; where time and design have allowed organic matter and sediment from sewage, to settle out and accumulate; much like paperwork that covers my desk. Without going into further detail, I will only add, this task required chest-waders as hip-waders would have been a poor choice. As for the rib poking, well, let's just say it's too bad someone hasn't invented neck-waders.

Regardless of the tasks, Hunter and Brendan apply a positive and can-do attitude to the job. Every day is a great day when you have a workforce that gets the job done with a shared sense of accomplishment, humor and respect for each other.

As for other points of interest at the Sanitary District, the new sewage pump station on Rte. 27 is well into construction. This facility will replace the original pump station installed in 1983.

A considerable amount of strategic planning has taken place to assure that community activities and resort activities will not be impacted by the new construction. The new pump station is being constructed in parallel with the old. Once the new pump station is put into service, the old pump station will be demolished to approximately 5 feet below grade and the remaining underground vessels entombed in concrete. The timeline for construction puts substantial completion in April of 2018, with landscaping completed by the end of May.

Well, look at that, a Newsletter and the Annual Performance Evaluations all-in-one. I'll just copy this to their personnel files and then the remainder of the afternoon is mine...

As would be expected, and appropriately so, I shared this Newsletter/Evaluation with Brendan and Hunter. This action immediately became a debate regarding which of them is Thing 1 or Thing 2. Apparently, the #1 and #2 designations in the human waste business is an important issue to clarify. The debate continued with verbal sparring and voices escalating and as they left my office and proceeded on to the next task.



The Value of Tap Water



Tap water is the best deal around. Water is essential to

our daily lives, yet few people stop to consider its value and importance, especially when compared to other everyday products and household services like electricity, cell phone, cable TV, internet service, trash pick-up, and especially bottled water.

At about a penny per gallon, our water is a true bargain considering the energy and expertise it takes to treat and deliver safe and reliable water to homes and businesses day in and day out.

Our customers get more than just a product for their money. They are getting reliable service that includes ongoing maintenance, sophisticated water quality testing and treatment, and highly trained licensed professionals. Simply put, our customers are getting one of the best deals around.

TEAMWORK

makes the dream work...

In 2012 the Water Association restructured its workforce and embarked on a mission to cultivate and retain a passionate team of water professionals that would excel as guardians of public health, and responsible water resource stewardship; and to command a public water utility efficient at satisfying the present and future water demands of

the Sugarloaf Resort area. As a member of team SWA I have to say that I am extremely proud of our teams continued development. Our 4 man team continues to strengthen every season, and is now well positioned to execute our shared vision that is: To gain the admiration of our customers, stakeholders, and the greater Sugarloaf Resort Community through our uncompromising devotion to provide exceptional water services.

New Water Storage

Additional storage is a high priority short term goal of the Sugarloaf Water Association, and was designated as such in our Capital Improvement Plan prepared by Wright Pierce in 2014.

The Water Association applied for and was recently granted nearly 1.3 million dollars of Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) money for providing additional storage to address storage deficit and to improve system reliability to meet peak ski season demands.

The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program is a federal-state partnership to help ensure safe drinking water. Created by the 1996 Amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) the program provides financial support to water systems and to state safe water programs with nearly unbeatable terms.

The Water Association is working with Wright Pierce to complete this project as outlined in our 2014 Capital Improvement Plan.

New Garage Facility



As the Water Association has strived to decrease our reliance on outside vendors and other resort departments; the Association has purchased a



number of tools and equipment to that end.

To accommodate the storage, proper maintenance, and safe operation of the added assets, the Association has begun the construction of a 24' x 36' Garage that will be attached to the existing Office Building.

Water Quality and Security



This spring 2017, the Water Association and Wright

Pierce completed a Source Water Protection Plan for the Carrabassett River South Branch and Brackett Brook. Team SWA added several wellhead surveillance cameras, as well as upgraded several aging cameras this spring. Both projects were paid for in part, with Source Water and Wellhead Protection Grant monies from the Maine Drinking Water Program.

As of this spring, SWA has rehabilitated 5 of the 8 deep bedrock wells.

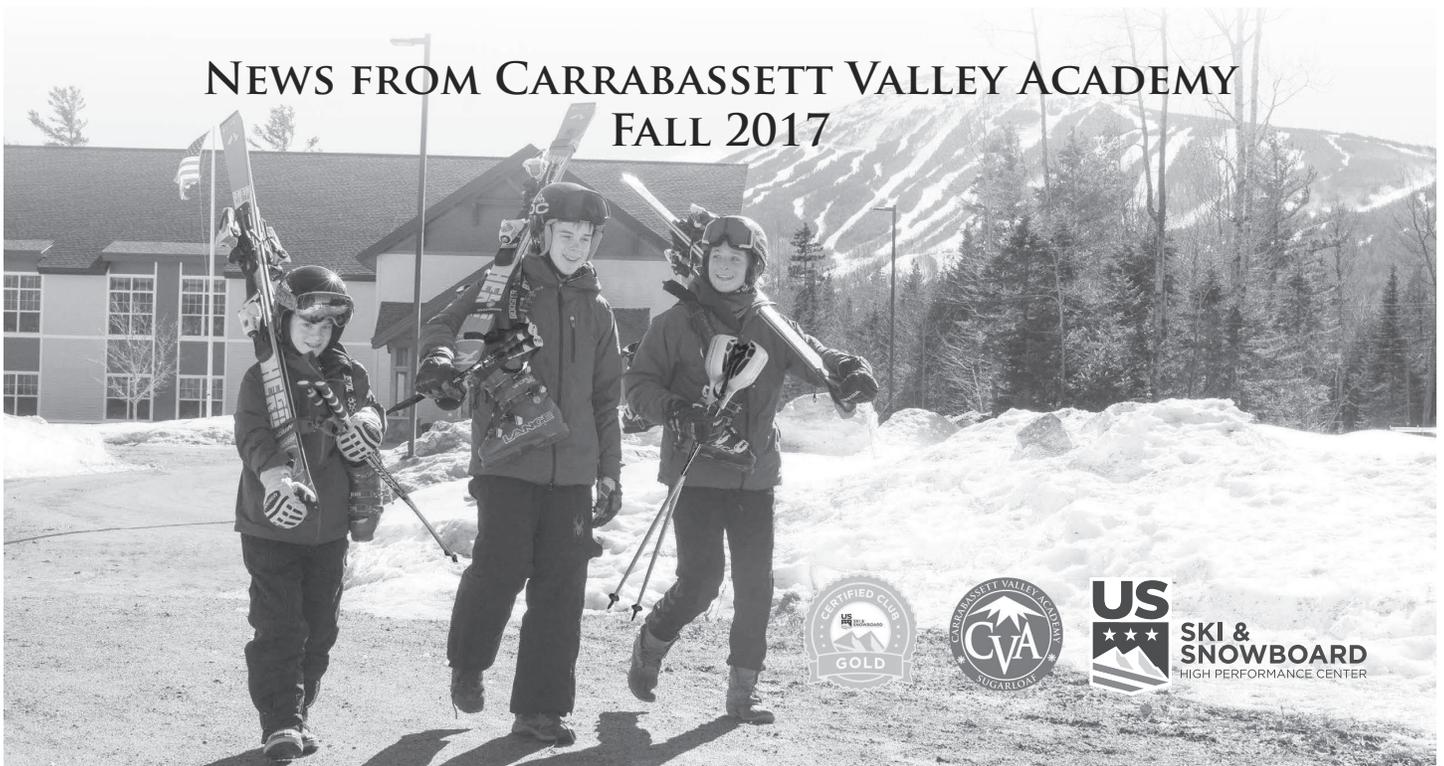
Take Back the Tap



In our continuing efforts to reduce the mountain of

wasted resources associated with bottled water, the Water Association has donated a total of five bottle filling stations to facilities throughout the resort. To date, the use of these bottle filling stations has help eliminate the waste from over 118,000 disposable bottles. Thank you Sugarloafers, for helping our team help our Environment.

NEWS FROM CARRABASSETT VALLEY ACADEMY FALL 2017



To carry out our guiding mission, CVA has refined a *Value Proposition*, a statement specific to the service that our school provides, which summarizes how and why a CVA education presents unique and unmatched opportunity for our students-athletes.

The CVA Value Proposition: CVA is dedicated to supporting every student-athlete's commitment to achieving a unique set of goals, dreams and ambitions through an encouraging, safe and engaging experience. CVA coaches, faculty and administration support these diverse goals and recognize that the path to success will be individualized for each student-athlete.

To support this endeavor, CVA met many exciting and important milestones throughout 2017, and is incredibly grateful for the support of our friends, families and neighbors.

- The Bill and Joan Alford Competition Center had a banner first year and together with Sugarloaf we look forward to season two of developing and supporting junior programs and competitions.
- Phase 2 of the New Campus Campaign was completed with the naming of the Peter and Martha Webber Academic Center.
- In late spring, CVA was designated as a U.S. Ski & Snowboard High Performance Center. This collaboration, with the ongoing support of the Sugarloaf Ski Club and the Town of Carrabasset Valley, marks the beginning of a new era for the winter sports academy and Sugarloaf resort, which also received a designation as a U.S. Ski & Snowboard Development Site. Athletes will have access to exceptional on-hill and dryland training at Sugarloaf, CVA and the Anti-Gravity Complex.

“This begins an exciting new chapter in the school’s storied evolution. The partnership lays the foundation for providing our student-athletes with an unmatched level of training support and opportunity for success within their disciplines,” said Head of School, Kate Punderson

The CVA Mission:

The intent and purpose of Carrabasset Valley Academy is to foster focused individual student-athlete development by providing the optimum balance between outstanding college preparatory academics, responsible community living and world-class athletic training in competitive skiing and snowboarding.

News from Sugarloaf

Sugarloaf to launch Maine's first cat-skiing operation on Burnt Mountain this winter

For years, Burnt Mountain was only accessible to those willing to hike or skin, but this winter that's all about to change.

After making the dream of skiing and riding on Burnt Mountain a reality in 2010, Sugarloaf announced this summer that it would make that experience even more accessible to guests this winter with the launch of Maine's first cat skiing operation. Now from the comfort of a passenger snow cat, skiers and snowboarders will be able to climb more than 1400 vertical feet in just minutes, to access 100+ acres of the resort's newly developed terrain on the eastern flank of Burnt Mountain.

The new winter offering is a cornerstone of Sugarloaf's new "sidecountry" skiing development that has been a signature piece of the resort's "Sugarloaf 2020" development plan.

The resort has purchased a new 12 passenger snow cat, which it will use in tandem with an existing 12-passenger cat to transport skiers to the top of the Androscoggin Glade from the Log Yard, located below the bottom terminal of the King Pine chairlift.

Glade cutting crews have worked this summer to develop a designated cat road along the eastern boundary of Burnt Mountain, as well as clear a new, still-to-be-named glade west of the Androscoggin Glade, and erect a new Ski Patrol building, at the top of the cat road, that will be manned every day of cat skiing operation.

For the 2017/18 season, cat rides will be offered on weekends and vacation weeks only, from 9:00am – 3:30pm. The two passenger cats will rotate shuttling skiers and riders up Burnt Mountain every 20 minutes, and guests will be able to reserve their seat online in advance. All passengers will need a ticket for the cat ride in addition to a valid lift ticket or season pass.

While the new cat skiing operation headlines the list of off-season upgrades and investments, the resort has also continued various resort enhancement projects including snowmaking and lift system upgrades, an all-new HVAC system at the Sugarloaf Mountain Hotel, courtesy of the Owners association, and a newly-renovated driving range at the Sugarloaf golf club.

The primary snowmaking pump house received a new electric motor, that will improve efficiency and increase production during key early season time frames, and the

operating system in the snowmaking control room was completely upgraded this summer to better track production and improve network communication.

Elsewhere on the mountain, hundreds of feet of snowmaking pipe was relocated to Lower Skidder in an effort to improve efficiency and early-season coverage.

Sugarloaf's lift maintenance department was also busy throughout the summer once again, tackling numerous projects on various lifts around the resort. The Sawduster lift saw the installation of new 1300' haul rope, as well as a new counter weight configuration, replaced bearings in the return bull wheel, and rebuilt sheave assemblies.

The resort's lift maintenance department continued with its rigorous inspection schedule throughout the summer, continuing its work to ensure all of Sugarloaf's lifts maintain the highest possible standard for safety.

In addition to a new passenger cat for the Burnt Mountain cat skiing operation, Sugarloaf also upgraded its grooming fleet with the purchase of a new Prinoth BR 350 Sherpa winch cat to bolster its existing fleet of 15 grooming machines.

The Sugarloaf village will also see the addition of a new restaurant this season, as the Nosh Group of Portland Maine opens a new location – Hunker Down – in Village west.

The new Kuhl Signature Store, which opened last season, is expanding this year to fill the entire first floor of Village South. The space was completely renovated during the summer, allowing the resort's newest retail location to expand its offerings of Kuhl merchandise.

Thanks to an investment by the Town of Carrabassett Valley this summer, the Sugarloaf Golf Club benefitted from a complete renovation of the driving range enhancing the guest experience with improved irrigation and elevated target greens.

For more information on what's new at Sugarloaf this year, visit sugarloaf.com





The Outdoor Center facilities, related trails and forest are all part of the diversity and multi-use aspects of the Town's 2100 public lot; a true "jewel". The Outdoor Center is now busy most of the year with winter Nordic skiing and summer and Fall Mountain biking. Some of "news" is as follows:

Nordic Skiing: The 16/17 Winter Season brought plenty of snow that kept the groomers busy packing the trails but skiers were always smiling From December right up to Reggae Weekend. Last summer we reworked Trail 22 and welcomed it back into the groomed network that pleased many long timers and new comers; it had several wet spots but we had plenty of snow to fill in the wet areas and will assess if further work is needed over the next few years. We continued maintenance on the snowshoe trails and relocated a few confusing sections. The Ice Skating Rink was enjoyed, despite all the snow, until the February heat



wave occurred and the unfrozen ground took the ice away in 3 days' time. This summer we have brushed out Trail 21 and opened up some of the blind corners to improve visibility. The brush was chipped to avoid unsightly piles left behind. We have also widened and redecked the twin bridges on Trail 1 West near the Snowbrook Condo Development, rebuilt a large bridge, a medium sized bridge & a smaller bridge on Trail 21, and provided a heavy brush trim on the Redington Loop and Highland Connectors (Trails 8 & 9) along with providing routine mowing on many central trails with more mowing expected this fall. We also will be moving winter "Fat Tire Biking" to the Sugarloaf Golf Course this winter; last winter was a good trial though we hope the users will better enjoy distinct trail usage.

To check out upcoming events and trail conditions during the season check our website (Sugarloaf.com/Outdoor Center) or call the Outdoor Center at 237-6830. Carrabassett Valley residents and property taxpayers are reminded that you are entitled to discounted season pass rates for Nordic Skiing and for use of the skating rink.

Mountain Bike Trail Development: We are in the seventh year of a trail development partnership between the Town, the mountain bike club (CRNEMBA), Maine Huts and Trails and Sugarloaf. This partnership is guided by a Trail Committee. For the first six years, we developed approximately twenty-three miles of trail and expended \$568,000 for development, maintenance and other related costs. We will only develop less than a mile of new trail in 2017 while we concentrate on a longer range plan for development and trail maintenance. New trail development to date this year included finishing work on the 'Hurricane' and 'Newton's Revenge' trails. Additional trail maintenance will take place this fall along with additional trail survey work to develop a work plan for 2018 and beyond. We continue to see increased mountain biking activity and the result is a good uptick for local businesses and added excitement in the Valley. Thank you

to the trail crew, the club and the volunteers who continue to make this all happen. We anticipate a very productive trail development and maintenance program in 2018. As always we welcome your comments and suggestions.

Forest Management: The objective of the ongoing forest management program has always been sustainable timber harvesting based on sound forestry science and practices in addition to maintaining the integrity of the trail systems located on the public lot. A new 3-year timber harvesting plan was initiated in 2017 following a July public hearing. This plan is a little different in that we are harvesting approximately 50 one-acre "patch cuts" on 150 acres to eliminate poor quality and value species (beech and stripped maple) to enhance the growth of more valuable species (sugar maple and yellow birch) and to create wildlife habitat diversity. A "wood yard" was created across from the Adaptive Outdoor Education Center AOEC which eventually will be used for additional parking for the AOEC and the Outdoor Center. While wood harvesting is occurring caution signs will be posted at all appropriate trail crossings.

Other Activity: The Disc Golf Course that was previously located at the Outdoor Center was moved to the Sugarloaf Village area where it has flourished. A new fishing dock was installed at the Outdoor Center Pond (see



photo). Also, we are currently undertaking a survey of all of the many trail bridges and culverts involved within the trail systems to assess current conditions and future repair and replacement. This will be a valuable tool for our trail maintenance program going forward.

Maine's High Peaks — Mountains of Possibilities . . . Come Play In Our Backyard!

Thank You, the Carrabasset Valley Taxpayers and your Board of Selectmen, for investing \$6,000 and the use of and upkeep at the Carrabasset Valley Regional Information Center. During the past 12 months, we have had over 2,000 visitors at the Information Center and over 1,500 people have contacted us (Maine High Peaks) by phone or email to request our 3rd Official Maine's High Peaks Guide Book. We have given out over 22,000 Guide Books in the last year at many locations.

We now have approximately two hundred businesses and entities that are members of our organization and we represent much of Northern Franklin County (and beyond!).

We invite you to stop by the Information Center. Joni Blanchard, Tammy Goldfrank, Doug Archer and Richard Fotter will be happy to welcome you and explain how Maine's High Peaks is supporting the entire region. You may also contact us at 207-235-6008 or visit us at www.mainehighpeaks.com

Our Carrabasset Valley Summer 2017

Beth & Brad Herder

Arriving on the 16th of June for the summer my family and I did enter A place in Carrabasset Valley called "Maine's High Peaks Visitor Center" "Where's the best places to hike, bike, paddle & watch for moose?" we did ask Questions flowed from our mouths and the eager employees were up for the task Ready to greet, guide, assist, and send us on a new adventure

"Go climb the ten 4000 footers", they said
"Drink some Carrabasset Coffee & eat banana bread"
They told us about Sugarloaf, Redington & Crocker
"Oh My!" we'll need some aspirin and a beta blocker
"Their trying to kill us" so we went home instead

We hiked Cranberry Peak, Avery and West
Every couple miles we needed to rest
These mountains in Maine are really tough to climb
Over boulders, rocks, moss, dirt and grime
They surely put our fitness level to a new test

We backpacked across the Bigelow Range
Carrying less than 25 pounds and change
Noted as one of the top 10 hardest hikes
At times wishing we had some motorbikes
Most people would think we're derange "d"

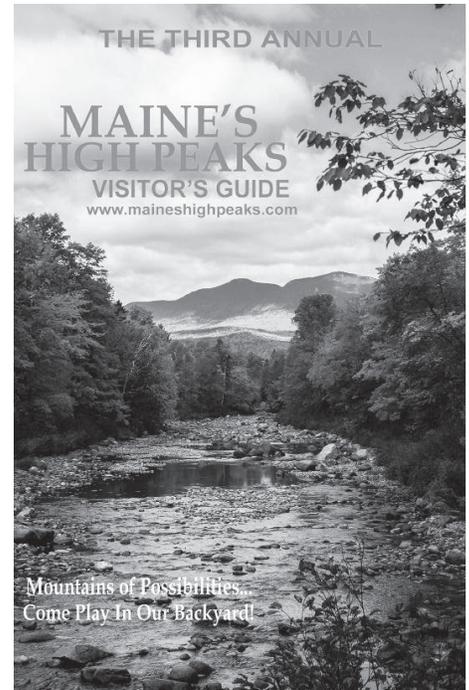
We have seen Huston Brook, Poplar Stream, West, Smalls and Reed Falls
We have ridden Sandy River R&R Railroad and climbed the Antigravity Rock Walls
We shopped Fotter's Market, Tranten's, Jordan Lumber and Country Mutt
We have eaten at Longfellow's, Tea Pond, SugarBowl and Poplar Hut
BUT We haven't seen MacDonald's, Wendy's, Burger King or any city sprawls



We volunteered our time raking and shoveling the trails
We took photographs & videos of moose and white tails
The Sugarloaf Golf Course we did drive and putt
We walked the Narrow Gauge Pathway with our mutt
We met many labs, poodles and airedales

August is almost over and it is the end of the summer
It's time to leave our new friends, such a bummer
Doug, Tom, Jackie, Bos, Joni and Lucy
Forever memories etched in our minds, you see
Thank you from our hearts. . . the newcomer "s"

You'll just have to wait
'til next year we celebrate
Not a month too soon
We'll be back next June
Cuz we are buying real estate



News from the Greater Franklin Development Council

Submitted by Charlie Woodworth, Executive Director

Our goal at GFDC is to be a catalyst for entrepreneurship, business attraction and business retention within our communities. It all starts with "quality of place" and in order to succeed with these goals our communities need to be attractive places to live and work.

To that end, we have been involved with four other economic development non-profits in leading an initiative to assess our county-wide broadband needs and to develop a high-level implementation plan for every town in the county to benefit from reliable high-speed internet connectivity. By the end of December our consultant J.W. Sewall will deliver data to support a choice of speeds with corresponding implementation costs for each town. For the first time, towns will have the information that will help them prioritize these infrastructure investments. The end goal being a county where students can do their online homework

from their homes; a county where businesses can market themselves to the rest of the world; a county where senior citizens can age in place via the advances in telehealth communications. The strength of this application and the engagement are due to our funding process. This study is being funded by our success with a competitive application to the state's ConnectMe Authority, the county and all twenty-two towns pitching in.

Recent Events:

This September BikeMaine brought 400 bike riders through Franklin County with overnight stops in Kingfield, Rangeley, Weld and Farmington. With ideal weather and two-thirds of the riders being from out-of-state, our county experience significant exposure.

Looking forward:

- A redesigned website www.greaterfranklin.com

will help us to convey the ongoing and evolving opportunities occurring in Franklin County.

- Our website will be providing up to date listings of commercial real estate in Franklin County.
- We will be hosting our seventh edition of the very popular bi-annual *Entrepreneurs Connect* in early May. www.entrepreneursconnect-fall2017.eventbrite.com

A personal goal for me going forward is to strengthen county-wide engagement. The Franklin County Broadband Initiative has been a good start. We look forward to meeting with businesses, organizations and leadership throughout the county to develop a plan for growth with measurable goals. Please stop by and share your thoughts!



News from J.V. Wing Snowmobile Club

Submitted by Brenda Robbins, Club Secretary

The J.V. Wing Snowmobile Club was formed in 1987 and has over 55+ miles of well-groomed maintained trails as well as being part of the "Black Fly Loop" a vast network of more than 134 miles of trails considered to be the widest variety of riding in the East. The Club is located in the hub of snowmobiling. You start in Carrabassett Valley and ride to Eustis and then on to Rangeley and Canada or ride to Greenville, Farmington or New Hampshire! We are a 100% M.S.A. affiliated Snowmobile Club and are very proud to promote safe snowmobiling in our area. We offer a designated parking lot for our members behind the snowmobile club and you can get fuel and food just up the road as well as connect to the trails using the multipurpose bridge that crosses the Carrabassett River.

Throughout the year, club members volunteer their time to build/repair bridges, cut trees, clear brush, and install signs to prepare for the snowmobile season. Just as important, our volunteers maintain the club house and outbuildings (snowmobile and trailer storage sheds) as well as keep the driveway plowed

for member's accessibility. The club has grown to 96 members and because of their support, friendliness and desire to have fun we have much to offer. We have regular monthly meetings at the club house during the winter months, organized club rides, and host an annual End of Season Dinner.

The J.V. Wing Snowmobile Club will kick off this year's 2017/2018 season with our Annual Homecoming Weekend BBQ on Saturday, October 7th from 11 to 3PM. Club Officers will be serving hamburgers and hotdogs as well as the Club Secretary will be on site to accept membership renewals and welcome any new members!

Club President Travis Roderick has a list of trail and club improvement projects the club will undertake this fall. Bigelow Trail will see excavating work on the last four miles, rock removal and trail widening and rebuilding of the bridge. Lexington Trail has a bridge that will be rebuilt along with needed brush work. The Kingfield trail looks good with bridge repairs being completed thanks to the Kingfield Quad

Runners ATV Club. At the Club, a few trees will be cut along the trailer parking area to allow additional room to push back the snow.

The J.V. Wing Snowmobile Club would like to thank our landowners, our business sponsors, the Town of Carrabassett Valley, and our Club Members and Officers. If it wasn't for all of you, we wouldn't have a club!



To learn more about the J.V. Wing Snowmobile Club, stop on your way through Carrabassett

Valley. The club house is located next to the Sugarbowl and we have a supply of membership cards, trail maps and most likely you will meet one of our loyal club members who continuously work year-round. Or you may contact the club's secretary, Brenda Robbins at brobbin3@gmail.com, 207-592-3579. Club's address: J.V. Wing Snowmobile Club, Valley Crossing #11, Carrabassett Valley, ME 04947.

News from the Western Maine Center for Children

*Submitted by Marcia White, WMCFC Board Chair,
Volunteer Director*

It has been a very busy year at WMCFC with many days operating at our 20-child license capacity, and waitlists in place. We have experienced some staffing challenges with finding qualified staff that live close enough to Carrabassett Valley for a reasonable commute. We are also in need of substitute care providers to cover sick or personal days for regular staff. If you have any leads or interest yourself, give us a call!

We are grateful to have the support from the Town of Carrabassett Valley residents who have voted the last three years to provide our classroom and play space rent-free, enabling us to keep our parent fees affordable and our fundraising needs to \$12,000-\$15,000. We also received support funding from the Town of Eustis, where many of our families reside.

Our two main fundraisers are The Annual Homecoming Auction in October, and Pedal for Preschoolers in the early summer. If you ride a bike (road or mountain) please plan on joining us Sunday morning July 1, 2018 as we ride varying distances on scenic Route 27 between Eustis and the Canadian border, fully supported with Sheriff Patrol, rescue personnel, and manned rest stops. We hope locals and visitors alike will make this ride a regular part of their Kingfield POPS and Stratton Family Fun Days weekend.

WMCFC received a grant in 2017 from The Sugarloaf Region Charitable Trust which enabled us to offer wages more comparable with other centers in the county. We are always open to new grant opportunities and private donations with the hope of offering wages and

benefits more reflective of the commitment and importance of this work. We are excited to know that the Maine Community Foundation has chosen improving Early Childhood Education and Care as a strategic goal, and hope that this will enhance program quality statewide, and particularly in rural areas.

We look forward to many more years of guiding our youngest Sugarloafers on their individual paths to greatness!



News from the Carrabassett Valley ATV Club

Submitted by John McCatherin, Secretary-Treasurer

It started downhill, quickly turned the corner and has been making good progress ever since. That probably best describes the story of the CV ATV Club so far for the season of 2017.

The services of trail master Pete Boucher were lost right after the start of the season because of health issues. Pete for the last several years has been the cornerstone of the ATV trail maintenance/construction program and we're looking forward to his return next year.

Fortunately, we were able to obtain the services of Rich MacDonald of Stratton as assistant trail master. Rich is a talented outdoorsman, all-around handy-man and hard worker who tackled the job with little or no training and soon had it under control. With the results of Pete's earlier trail review in hand, we were able to tackle dozens of jobs ranging from getting the network ready for the season, rebuilding and repairing about a dozen bridges, upgrading trail signs throughout the 27 miles of the club's network, repairing a number of erosion projects and overseeing several contract jobs that included fixing a major washout near Owl's Head Overlook, a culvert washout on the

new Kingfield loop road, widening and smoothing out that same loop road and extending the Poplar Mountain trail closer to the Highland Plantation line. There are still several bridges that will require attention before the end of the season. Most of the trails and bridges in our network are used jointly with the J.V. Wing Snowmobile Club and the two clubs collaborate on trail maintenance and construction.

Perhaps the most exciting undertaking of the year was getting a start on the long-dreamed of connection between Carrabassett Valley and the Highland/Lexington area, a new trail that will connect with clubs providing a huge network of trails reaching north to Bingham, the Forks, Rockwood and Greenville on Moosehead Lake and connecting from there into the north Maine woods. We obtained permits from three major landowners this side of the Long Falls Dam Road that when linked together will provide several potential ways of connecting up. To date, we have a temporary layout covering well over three quarters of the proposed new route. Our plan is to finish the routing portion of the project this fall and, if time permits, get the trail construction started.

It's a major project that has been spread out among the multitude of other club projects this year. The team working on the routing of the new trail has included MacDonald, Club President Neal Trask, GPS consultant Tom Lapointe of Skowhegan and myself. It's involved several days of searching out skidder and logging roads, frequently on very tough terrain, as we try to put together the various segments that will provide about a five-mile trail and access to a network that will open hundreds of miles of new riding.

Meanwhile, some of the best riding days of the season lie ahead of us so get out there and enjoy the fall and the efforts of your ATV Club team. If you're interested in joining the Carrabassett Valley ATV Club, please e-mail johnmccatherin@tds.net or call 235-2121 for an application.



Mountain biking continues to grow in popularity in the area. This is evidenced by increasing number of events and increased participation in those events, coupled with the general increase of MTB riding activity. Registrations in the Carrabassett Backcountry Cycle Challenge (CBCC) again saw record registrations with well over 400 competitors, while the Baxter Outdoors Duathlon held in early August also experienced record registrations (a 60 percent increase from 2016) for that event. CRNEMBA (Carrabassett Region of the New England Mountain Bike Association) membership continues to grow, and is currently over 170. Visitors to Carrabassett Valley during the riding season (late May through late October) will witness mountain bikes on cars, filled parking lots, and riders on the trails.

CRNEMBA is pleased to see area businesses experiencing more visitors and paying guests as a result of MTB related activities. We believe continued growth and popularity of mountain biking will continue to fuel further economic development of the area, resulting in a more economic sustainability that benefits homeowners, residents, local and regional businesses.

Trail System/Chapter Membership/ Trail Ridership

The Carrabassett Valley Trails is the new name of the mountain bike trail network. The trail system offers trails for riders of all levels of skill and interest. The trail system is rated on a system of Green (beginning/entry), Blue

(intermediate) and Black (advanced/expert). The trail system is managed by a cooperative committee known as Carrabassett Valley Trail Committee (CVTC) and includes representation from the Town of Carrabassett Valley, Maine Huts & Trails, as well as CRNEMBA. The CVTC has completed a new Logo for the Trail System, has created a protocol for opening and closing the trail system, and is in the initial stages of updating a master plan for further MTB trail development.

The mountain bike club is known as **"CRNEMBA"** and membership is open to all levels of mountain bike riding enthusiasts. We are focused on attracting those new to the sport and serving individuals and families with home and condo ownership in the Carrabassett area.

While there is no user fee to ride these trails, and all trails are open to the public, we encourage you to support the mountain bike trail system and building of new trails by joining the local chapter of NEMBA. Memberships are available at very affordable rates for Individuals (\$35) and family (\$45). Please visit <http://carrabassett.nemba.org/join-carrabassett-region-nemba/> for information on membership.

Events

In addition to the events noted earlier, other events include the annual NEMBA trailfest, and the second annual Sugarloaf Mountain Bike Festival, both held in August. In September, we held the return of the Kona Adventure Series, a NEMBA sponsored event designed to offer

guided rides to all rider levels, provide an end of season celebration while serving as a membership recruiting event.

Trail Network and New Construction

The trail crew continues to build the highest quality of single track MTB trail. During 2017, new trail sections added this year include two new sections on the lower part of Newton's Revenge, and the completion of Hurricane Knoll which offers some fabulous riding along with very special vistas. Thanks to the crew for adding to the range of trails available to riders. In addition, volunteers completed two re-routes of Newton's Revenge on the upper part of the trail that adds to the single track experience on Newton's Revenge.

Projects that remain pending include the proposed Sugarloaf Connector and the Poplar Hut single track. The Carrabassett Valley Trail Committee (CVTC) continues to work with our colleagues and landowners to secure permission to build these, and other, trails.

CRNEMBA is very appreciative of the continued support of the taxpayers of Carrabassett Valley who provide matching funds, dedicated funding and land use permission for MTB trail construction. In addition, the continued involvement and support from our colleagues on the CVTC (the Town, Maine Huts & Trails, and Sugarloaf) provide the opportunity to further develop the world class mountain bike trail system and community that provides a special reason for people to visit our area.



Twenty years ago I accepted the challenge not only "to stretch my mind and body in new directions, to build friendships, to respect and improve the environment, and to live in the outside safely and happily ever after" but to devote my summers to local and visiting children here in our unique corner of Maine. It continues to be a most rewarding experience for everyone involved, and we are thankful for the diverse venues and outdoor opportunities all around us.

The Town of Carrabassett Valley's support has kept the Outdoor Adventure Camp experience affordable and growing with the times. The Town of Kingfield also provides transportation for their resident children to and from Riverside Park. This summer, CVA and Sugarloaf helped with bus needs to get campers to paddling, golfing, hiking, AGC and overnight destinations. Unfortunately, this summer we needed the buses more to escape the numerous storm threats that necessitated finding

solid shelter more often than in a "normal" summer, but this opened the discussions and learning opportunities around the effects of global climate change. This topic is concerning to our youth, and needs to be addressed with more urgency by all the planet's adults and governments.

Our Rough Riders Mountain Bike program led by Kimberly Truskowski was more popular than ever with a couple dozen campers participating on long challenging rides twice a week. We will look to expand biking even more next summer. Thank you to Tom Andrl for loaning us his trailer to transport all the bikes! Our two hiking offerings, Peak Baggers and Gadabouts, were as popular as ever. Overnights were full and we even did two dates at Students Island in Mooselookmaguntic Lake to accommodate the demand.

The pool staff coached campers to a record number of deep-end test awards and was always available to help with river swim

adventures whenever we could fit them in.

Six weeks sounds like a long time, but our fun-loving, professional counselors never have enough time to fit in all that we would like to. This summer's crew was top shelf and hated to see the end of week #6 as much as the campers did. We are still getting photos up on our Facebook page: CV Outdoor Adventure Camp and feeling the warmth of summer camp memories and friendships.

The countdown is on for OAC 2018!



News from the Carrabassett Valley Outdoor Association

Submitted by Cindy Foster, Secretary

CVOA is an active club with diverse interests, but we share our love of the outdoors. For the past 17 years, our mission has been simple and straight-forward:

To foster and promote the conservation of our natural resources and the creation of recreational opportunities in our region.

With over 900 members, CVOA offers a full

calendar of events, and nearly half of our members are also members of our range. During the past year, popular events included: skiing at Telluride, Colorado; a fall weekend in Bar Harbor; weekend camping at Schoodic Point; and a 4-night cruise on the Victory Chimes. Day events included dancing to the Delta Knights, bowling at the SugarBowl, hikes and social events. At our annual dinner meet-

ing in March, we filled the dining room at the Sugarloaf Inn; members Alan Burnell and Kenny Wing entertained us with their presentation of "The Lost Villages of Flagstaff Lake".

Coming up in the next year are our annual Winter Dance Social, ski trips to Copper

Mountain in Colorado, and Banff-Lake Louise in British Columbia, a weekend at Sky Lodge of Moose River, and a biking event in Quebec City. We are always looking for ideas and leaders for day and overnight trips.

CVOA contributes to our community when the opportunities arise. Members participate in the annual Route 27 cleanup in May, and we stock a trout pond at the Outdoor Center for catch and release fishing. The Adaptive Outdoor Education Center was one of the beneficiaries of our charitable donation policy, enabling them to purchase many pairs of snowshoes. Our donation policy, available on our web site, includes an application form, guidelines and criteria; foremost, the request must reflect our mission statement.

The CVOA Range is one of the premier shooting ranges in Western Maine and arguably the most beautiful! Overlooking the majestic Bigelows, our range now offers rifle and



CVOA Trip to Telluride in February



New five stand trap shooting range

pistol ranges, trap and five stand fields, and a 3D archery course. The range is open to the

public during scheduled events. Our newest project, the covered five stand, offers rain or shine shooting fun and is the only one like it in the state. As well, it is handicap-accessible. This significant project has been accomplished through the generous support and tireless efforts of CVOA members in coordination with the State of Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife, the Town of Carrabassett Valley, and local suppliers. We are grateful for all the support we received, making this project possible.

CVOA has managed to keep the annual dues at \$10 for individuals and \$15 for families, in part because we are entirely volunteer-run. Membership to the range is just an additional \$20 per range member. Our monthly newsletter is always full of information and photographs. If you are not already a member of CVOA, we welcome you to join us. And we are always looking for more volunteer talent. Check us out at: www.cvoutdoors.com

Sugarloaf Golf Course News

Submitted by Zack Zondlo, Sugarloaf Golf Pro

Despite the rainy start to the season, Sugarloaf Golf Club was in immaculate shape all season long. We received many comments that this may be the best the course has ever been. The fairways are perfect, greens roll true, and every minor detail goes unnoticed. Shaun Osborne and his crew have raised the bar once again. Everyone at Sugarloaf Golf Club is truly appreciative to have such an amazing maintenance crew.

Sugarloaf Golf Club once again had a successful season and a main factor in that success is our outings that we host. We were able to add one more event, Maine State Bar Association, to our event calendar this year. The Maine Celebrity Classic was once again a huge success and we know that John Beaupre will have some new tricks up his sleeve for next year. For all of our event sponsors that continue to

support the golf course, we are truly grateful.

For the sixth consecutive year, Sugarloaf Golf Club was able to host some of the best national and international junior golfers during the American Junior Golf Association (AJGA) Coca-Cola Junior Championship. We saw the women's course record get shattered during the first round. Nao Obhayashi shot a 66 in route to winning the Girl's division. We also saw the first Mainer win the Boy's division. Cole Anderson carded a 2 over par 218 over three rounds to take home the trophy. Other exciting news coming from AJGA is that they will be coming back for one more year. Our volunteers are the reason they want to keep coming back. For everyone that helped during the event, thank you.

With the purchase of eight sets of US Kids Golf clubs with funding from the Town's Alden



MacDonald Junior Golf Fund, the golf course has added even more to help grow the game. We are constantly trying to improve our program to help create athletes out of our juniors. For information on junior programs next year please stop by the golf shop or follow our Sugarloaf Golf Club Facebook Page.

The golf course has continued to benefit from our support of our members. Their active participation and support of the club are one of the many reasons we take pride in hanging our clubs here. We would like to congratulate this year's Member-Member Champions: Joel Osgood and Bob Peruffo.

Significant capital improvements were also made to the golf course this year through the very unique relationship between Sugarloaf and the Town. A \$200,000 capital project consisted of a complete make-over of the practice range, repairs to cart paths and the purchase of a new green cover system that we believe will enhance the ability for "the greens" to make it through our tough winter environment. Thank you to the Town for our continued great working relationship. We look forward to another successful season next year.



MAINE HUTS & TRAILS

In 2018 we will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of the opening of the first hut. Poplar Stream Hut opened its doors in February 2008. 10 years later, thanks to all the support of the community and our over 2000 members and volunteers, funders, our guests, and dedicated board and staff, we now maintain 80 miles of multi-use trails, open year-round, free of charge with groomed trails in the winter for Nordic, snowshoeing and fat tire biking and single track trails for mountain biking in summer and fall, and operate 4 remote eco-lodges that are full-service during peak season and self-service during off-peak. We have booked over 50,000 bed nights since opening Poplar Stream Hut 10 years ago welcoming visitors are from 45 states, 6 provinces and more than a dozen overseas countries.

Working with our partners and local community, one of our long-term goals is to create an outdoor recreation resource of national significance and we have been thrilled with some of the recent press that has included: Forbes.com featured MH&T in "Where to Go to Have an Awesome & Sustainable Outdoor Adventure" in 2017; Named a world top "Hut Trek" by *Backpacker*; *singletracks.com* lists the area as the #1 place to ride in Maine.

The *singletracks.com* recognition is a direct result of the work of the Carrabassett Valley Trails Initiative. We are honored to be at the table working to expand mountain biking opportunities in partnership with Town of Carrabassett Valley, Carrabassett Region NEMBA and Sugarloaf.

The MH&T trail crew has been working hard to improve the ski trails for the 2017-18 winter season. For example, many of the trail's large bridges that hold grooming equipment are being re-decked with sturdy hemlock sourced from local mills and funded in part by the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund. Additionally the 50-mile Maine Hut Trail ski corridor is getting



a "haircut." Translated, the crew is widening the trail corridor and mowing encroaching woody vegetation to make grooming safer and easier, and help groomers extend our ski season to get skis gliding earlier and keep the snow cover later.

MH&T is gearing up for an official launch of the New England-based trail conditions app, TrailHUB. This free app, compatible with iOS and Android, will function as a live trail conditions feed for skiers, snowshoers, and fat bikers visiting the hut-to-hut trail network. TrailHUB comes built in with a navigational map that works offline and an alerts banner for pertinent info, while also connecting the user to participating local restaurants, shops, and overnight accommodations in the area.

We continue to focus on building strategic partnerships and in 2017 three unique alliances were established. The first is with Chewonki Foundation in which we can share strengths, competencies & cross-training to enhance & extend mission impact in Maine and beyond; the second is with Colby College in which we are the eco-tourism, environmental stewardship education and conservation partner for expanded educational and research opportunities for student and faculty in Maine's High Peaks region; and the third is with L.L.Bean where we were recently selected as a non-profit Community Partner as part of their brand refresh and repositioning.

Our Youth & Education Program continues to grow with over 130 school and youth groups hosted since 2013, thanks to the support of our business sponsors, funders and a dedicated team here. Most of the students and youth

are from Maine and over a third are from Franklin and Somerset Counties.

One of the areas guests most often compliment is the food at the Huts. We source locally from a variety of area farms and businesses. It is important to us to continue to work with and support our local business community more broadly from materials purchasing to equipment maintenance and contract work.

Every season is a great time to experience the outdoors! We have had a great Summer; the Fall is looking beautiful; and we are hoping the snowfalls this season create the winter wonderland we all love. We invite you to stop by a hut anytime to refill your water bottle, enjoy some Carrabassett Coffee, grab a bite to eat and a Maine beer, or just take a break. To spend the night, you'll need to make reservations by calling or stopping by the Kingfield office — 207-265-2400. Overnight stays include all meals during full-service season, and locals stay half-price every Tuesday night, all year. Check out www.mainehuts.org for more information.

Please consider membership to Maine Huts & Trails. It's easy to join with some great benefits, and the membership dollars are what help support the trails, and keeping the access free to the public.

Maine Huts & Trails is a non-profit organization whose mission is to create and operate a world-class system of backcountry trails and eco-lodges for people-powered recreation to enhance the economy, communities and environment of Maine's Western Mountain region, for the benefit of current and future generations.



ADAPTIVE OUTDOOR
EDUCATION CENTER

Kellan, at just 5 years old, comes blazing into the Adaptive Outdoor Education Center as fast as his little green wheelchair can take him. He is energetic, enthusiastic, and has just finished an awesome day on the slopes. The day is a special one for both Kellan and his family. It is his birthday, and having been diagnosed with cancer just 20 hours into his life, each year calls for a memorable celebration. As he blows out the candles on his cake, he makes one big wish, “I wish to have all my birthdays spent here!” His family agrees and describes the Center as a magical place, filled with beautiful energy; a place that is truly changing lives. The Adaptive Outdoor Education Center has become Kellan’s Home Away from Home and the feeling is shared by so many that have found their way to our front door.

It is stories like Kellan’s that allow us to reflect on the incredible experiences we have had here at the AOEC! Apart from all the new faces and guests we’ve hosted, the AOEC has also developed fun-filled programs including an adaptive sailing program at SailMaine in Portland, an annual adaptive water sports camp at Pine Tree Camp, and outdoor recreation and nature education programs with a local group from Farmington. We continue to work with Maine Audubon on our interactive nature trail. A tree house filled with musical instruments is now at the AOEC for all to enjoy. We are also excited to announce that we will be expanding our winter sports programs and have collaborated with the Anti-Gravity Complex and two other gyms in the state to offer adaptive climbing.

With so many new and exciting things happening we can’t forget to mention our 6th Annual Andre R. Hemond Aphasia Retreat Weekend scheduled for October 13 -15, 2017! Aphasia- Loss of Language, Not Intellect.

Don’t forget, the Center’s tree house and playground are open to the general public! We also offer low-cost, fully accessible lodging for all people with disabilities, and their families and friends!



For additional information on the Center, programs, events, and volunteer opportunities check out our website at www.adaptiveoutdooreducationcenter.org, call 207-237-2676 or email infoAOEC@gmail.com.

Sugarloaf Christian Ministry has been providing on-slope, seasonal spiritual service known as Downhill Worship, from Christmas to Easter, since initiated by the Rev. Skip Schwartz circa 1982. That tradition, along with additional year-round 9:00 A.M. worship services every Sunday at the Bell Chapel, has continued since the fall of 1990 when Pam and Earle Morse joined our ministry as co-pastors, when Skip moved on to Loon Mountain.

Last year at Homecoming, we celebrated the grand opening of the Sugarloaf Community Amphitheatre, also known as THE AMP, with live music and worship. Perched at an elevation of 3530 feet to the right of the Super Quad, we are presented with the panorama of Bigelow and beyond. To many in attendance, the topography and music brought to mind the lyrics of the 1965 musical drama, "The Sound of Music" imagining to hear the voice of Julie Andrews in her role as Maria singing "The hills are alive with the sound of music" and "My

heart wants to sigh like a chime that flies from a church on a breeze." Oh what a sensation filling sight, sound and spirit! Our hill does come alive at The AMP and oh boy how Life Looks Different From THE AMP!

This summer, in partnership with Sugarloaf Mountain, the Ministry hosted 10 Sunday services at 11:00 A.M. at THE AMP from July 2nd through Labor Day. The weather cooperated for most Sundays, with occasional light rain showers, but nothing to dissuade the more than 280 friends and visitors who attended, or cause any cancellations. A great and encouraging inaugural season! Thanks to all who attended and special thanks to the local musicians who volunteered their talents to supplement and/or stand-in for Pam and Earle as needed. Could not have pulled it off without those very special people!

The Ministry will resume the Sunday 9:00 A.M. services at the Bell Chapel on September

10th, and will have two services Homecoming Sunday, October 8th. The first worship service will be at 9:00 A.M. at the chapel, followed by an 11:00 A.M. outdoor service at THE AMP. Browse our websites www.sugarloafministry.com, or www.cvalleynetwork.org or like us on Facebook for the latest news.

Donations for the memorial plaque sign displayed near the entrance to The AMP, to the right of the Super Quad trail map sign, where Sugarloafers can remember loved ones with a personalized message, help with expenses for the Ministry owned state-of-the art audio system servicing THE AMP. The memorial plaques are available through Sugarloaf Christian Ministry for a donation of \$300.

The Ministry is active year-round and provides support and encouragement to all ages and community outreach volunteer services.

Come when you can, come as you are, all are welcome at God's house.



Hello Carrabassett Valley residents and property owners.

Know Before You Go with WSKI

Thank you for supporting Snowfields Productions through the 25% of the franchise fees the Town receives from Spectrum Cable. In return, WSKI specifically promotes the Town's Anti-Gravity Complex, Library, Pool, Mountain Bike Trails, events, CVOA and other groups. WSKI-TV 17 and wskitv.com continue to let viewers know about all there is to see and do throughout the Maine High Peaks with our exclusive ability to provide local information that is not available anywhere else, including our time lapse camera at the Base of the Mountain, seen at wskitv.com/quadcam.

Thousands of viewers on Spectrum Cable, and of our website wskitv.com, continue to add value to their time in the Maine High Peaks through information we impart year round. WSKI-TV 17 remains the most watched television station from Kingfield to Eustis as a product of our concerted efforts. Our #1 rating in our market means we get results for our sponsors. A Big Thank You to the area's businesses who keep us on the air.

Stay Another Day

Our job is to create awareness which ensures the best possible experience for our visitors so they will want to return and choose our region as a regular 'get-away', maybe even become a permanent part of our community. Videos of local swimming spots, hikes and ATV trails are among some of our latest ideas of things to do and places to go; FREE adventures for any and



all ages! Whether it is local weather, an activity, or a special spot to explore, our unique ability to communicate with visitors, including on mobile devices, is super effective.

We have taken it upon ourselves to inform viewers about the investment CV has made in developing mountain bike trails to assist in a more sustainable year round economy, because we believe visitors are more apt to choose to visit if they know there are additional activities such as mountain biking at all levels for the entire family to enjoy.

Turning Guests into Locals since 1979

Do you know anyone who has a story our viewers would like to hear, who would like to be a guest on our live show, the Mountain Report? Someone who has skied here since they were 2 years old, or worked on the Mountain at any time over the decades? Or climbed all the local 4000+ footers, or the AT's 100 miles from here to Katahdin? Or paddled the North-

ern Forest Canoe Trail, or swam across Flagstaff Lake? Someone with expertise on local history or geology, or who has chronicled the story of the area's Native Americans or lumber trade? Please give us your ideas or contacts.

New businesses and anyone with products or services to sell are also welcome to be our guests to gain preliminary exposure and garner feedback from our viewers that will encourage them to use WSKI's power to deliver their message effectively. Whether through Channel 17 or the internet, we get results for our sponsors. Thanks for the support that enables us to make WSKI a truly Local TV Station that viewers watch more than the rest! Snowfields Productions is also a full service video production company, with drone capabilities by the time you read this, so give us a call if we can help YOU.

Thank you, Carrabassett, from the whole WSKI crew. Stay tuned!



Connections

1001 Carriage Road • Carrabassett Valley, ME 04947

Presort Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Farmington, ME
Permit No. 30

www.carrabassettvalley.org

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e-mail: towncvtm@roadrunner.com

Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Wendy Russell
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e-mail: townofcv@roadrunner.com

Code Enforcement/Assessing

Bill Gilmore
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Police Chief

Mark Lopez
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e-mail: mlopez@sugarloaf.com

For Emergencies Call: 237-3200 or 911

Annual Newsletter

from the town of Carrabassett Valley

Sugarloaf Explorer Transportation System — www.sugarloafexplorer.com

Come Ride with Us

The 2017/2018 season will see few schedule changes. Changes that will occur are as follows:

- Based on ridership trends we are adding two buses and shifting some of our resources from night service to more early morning services. The two additional buses will primarily be used in the mornings to eliminate overcrowding and delays.
- During non-holiday weeks we will be closing night service at 9:00 p.m. versus 11:00 p.m.
- Service to Bigelow Station and the Outdoor Center will now be on call on schedule.
- We are adding security cameras to the buses.



You can follow the Explorer bus schedule on Twitter: SugarloafBus or on the Explorer website: www.sugarloafexplorer.com. If you have any questions or require any **additional information please call the Explorer dispatch office at 237-6853.**