

**Fayston**

# Voters invited to forum on Conservation Reserve Fund

The Fayston Natural Resources Committee will host a public forum for town residents to learn more about a proposed Conservation Reserve Fund for the town.

The forum takes place at the Fayston Town Office on November 5 at 6 p.m. The Natural Resources Committee will be asking the town Select Board to make a Conservation Reserve Fund a line item in Fayston's annual town budget. That would mean that funds for conservation could be voted with the budget versus as a separate article at Town Meeting each year.

According to a 2006 survey of Fayston residents, the town's best assets are its rural character, scenic beauty, natural resources and recreational opportunities. Respondents strongly believed in the need to protect and preserve these assets. The Fayston Town plan, adopted

by voters in 2008, recommended the creation of a conservation fund to help ensure "the responsible use, careful stewardship, maintenance, preservation and enhancement of Fayston's natural resources, rural character, natural heritage and environmental quality for the benefit of current and future generations." In a time of rapid growth and development in Fayston, a critical tool for achieving this goal is our ability to conserve our land. In 2012, Fayston voters approved the creation of the Fayston Conservation Reserve Fund.

The purpose of the fund is to conserve Fayston land and waters for forestry, wildlife, scenic, agricultural, recreational, and natural area uses. These are more particularly defined as follows:

- To minimize conversion of Fayston's best forest and farmland to non-forestry and

non-agricultural uses:

- To maintain Fayston's rural character, aesthetics, and scenic values
- To enhance wildlife habitat, water quality, and recreational uses of Fayston's natural landscape
- To preserve open space
- To promote a working landscape by encouraging local forestry and farming
- To educate the public on the value of conserving our natural resources and our rural heritage

At the November 5 meeting there will be an opportunity to discuss the Fayston Conservation Reserve Fund's purpose, priorities and uses, and review process. The fund's guidelines are available at the Fayston Town Office and on the Fayston town website. Contact Lisa Koltzsch at 802-496-9419 or losborn@madriver.com for further information.

## Holiday season approaches

# Mad River Valley Interfaith Council is preparing!

Mad River Valley Interfaith Council, consisting of members from the eight Valley faith groups, works to fill in the gap in services from state and federal programs. This group, with the mission of neighbors helping neighbors, continues to help those in need with emergency assistance with housing, transportation, utilities and the operation of the Mad River Valley Food Shelf. Donations for the traditional year-end seasonal programs and ongoing community support programs will be greatly appreciated.

Mad River Valley Interfaith Council will once again sponsor the Turkey Basket Project to provide turkey and the fixings to anyone in Waitsfield, Moretown, Fayston and Warren who needs help in celebrating this day.

This project has been very successful in the past due to individuals and businesses donating turkeys, vegetables, potatoes, fruit, stuffing and much more to complete the meals. Last year the group helped 62 families.

The council would like to identify those that need a dinner basket this year. Members invite anyone wishing to receive a basket or a neighbor knowing that a family is in need to stop by the food

shelf to complete a form or call Arlie at 496-3346 or email arlie1376@gmail.com.

Baskets will be distributed on Tuesday, November 26. It would be appreciated if all donations could be received by Sunday, November 24, for the youth to sort all food donations in preparation of the final packing day. Call Arlie to help pack and/or deliver the baskets on Tuesday, Novem-

ber 26.

Food donations can be dropped off at the local churches, The Valley Reporter, or by calling Arlie (496-3346) to make arrangements. Financial donations should be payable to Mad River Valley Interfaith Council, P.O. Box 342, Waitsfield, VT 05673 or dropped off at the offices of The Valley Reporter at Mad River Green, Waitsfield.

### Food items needed

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| Canned turkey gravy, 10 1/2 oz. can             | Biscuit mix, Betty Crocker |
| Stuffing  | Tuna, 12 oz. can           |
| Cranberry sauce, 16 oz. can                     | Peanut butter, 18 oz. jar  |
| Canned corn, peas, or green beans, 14.5 oz. can | Brownie mix, 20 oz. box    |
| Canned fruit, 15 oz. can                        | Crackers, 8 oz. box        |
| Apple sauce, 23 oz. can                         | Brown in bags (large size) |
|   | Potatoes                   |
|   | Fruit (apples and oranges) |

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### WARREN SELECT BOARD WARNING PUBLIC HEARING

Revisions to the Warren Land Use and Development Regulations

The Warren Select Board will be holding a public hearing to approve a proposed bylaw amendment to the Town's Land Use and Development Regulations on November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 7:00 pm, at the Warren Municipal Building Conference Room (old library) located at 42 Cemetery Rd, in Warren Village.

The purpose of this public hearing is to approve administratively the adoption of a Fluvial Erosion Hazard Overlay District as a bylaw amendment to the Warren Land Use and Development Regulations. The description and purpose of the proposed bylaw amendment is the following:

Description & Purpose of the proposed bylaw amendment:

The purpose of this amendment is to create a new Fluvial Erosion Hazard Overlay District. The purposes of this overlay district (FEH) are to: 1) Implement related goals, policies, and recommendations of the current municipal plan, hazard mitigation plan, and supporting river corridor management plans; 2) Avoid and minimize the loss of life and property, the disruption of commerce, the impairment of the tax base, and the extraordinary public expenditures that result from flood-related erosion; 3) Avoid and minimize the undue adverse effect on public services and events; 4) Protect mapped fluvial erosion hazard areas that are highly subject to erosion due to naturally occurring stream channel migration and adjustment; 5) Limit new development within fluvial erosion hazard areas to protect public safety and to minimize property loss and damage due to fluvial erosion; and 6) Allow rivers and streams to maintain or re-establish their natural equilibrium, thereby avoid the need for costly and environmentally degrading stream channelization and bank stabilization measures. These revisions will also bring Warren's regulations into compliance with advanced state regulations related to stream hazard mitigation, including fluvial erosion hazards.

The Warren Planning Commission has determined that the proposed amendment:

1. Conforms with or furthers the goals and policies contained in the municipal plan, including the effect of the proposal on the availability of safe and affordable housing.

The proposed amendment furthers the goals and policies contained in the Town Plan, including the following:

- o [Page 3-23] Objective 3.2, Implementation Strategy f: Limit development in designated floodplains (except that which is related to the maintenance and continued use of existing structures) to recreation and other non-commercial and non-residential uses.
- o [Page 10-16] Other safety considerations could be included in the Special Flood Hazard Overlay District standards, including review of fluvial erosion standards.
- o [Page 10-16] Consider establishing Fluvial Erosion Hazard Zones restricting development adjacent to the Mad River.
- o [Page 10-23] Objective 10.6, Implementation Strategy a)i: Strengthen standards, as necessary, related to erosion control and stormwater management.

2. Conforms with or furthers the goals and policies contained in the municipal plan, including the effect of the proposal on the availability of safe and affordable housing:

- o The proposed amendment encourages protection of life, safety, and property in the overlay district zone. It does not encourage or permit development of safe or affordable housing in the mapped areas of the district where such development would be subject to destruction by river erosion.

3. Is compatible with the proposed future land uses and densities of the municipal plan:

- o The proposed amendment does not substantially alter the allowed uses and densities of development as set forth in the currently adopted regulations, which are compatible with the proposed future land uses and densities of the Town Plan. It does, however, deny development in mapped areas, which are subject to destruction by river erosion.

4. Carries out, as applicable, any specific proposals for any planned community facilities.

- o The proposed amendment does not carry out any specific proposal for any planned community facilities.

The Town of Warren Land Use and Development Regulations were previously amended and adopted on October 8, 2010. This amendment was approved by the Warren Planning Commission at a warned public hearing on Monday, November 12, 2012.

Dated this 22<sup>nd</sup>, day of August 2013.

By the Warren Select Board

- Andrew Cunningham, Chair
- Robert Ackland
- Mathew C. Groom
- Anson Montgomery
- Colleen Mays