

MOUNTAIN GAZETTE

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April 3, 2025

Stevensville Cabin restoration update and workshop April 6



Miles Jenness (Vermont Heavy Timber) will demonstrate traditional building and restoration techniques on one of the last frontier-era log cabins in Vermont, at his workshop in Huntington on Sunday, April 6, 1:00 – 3:30 PM.

In 2017 Sara Lourie purchased the cabin near the Nebraska Notch trailhead at the end of Stevensville Road in Underhill. Although it was dilapidated and slated to be torn down, she set out on a project to restore the historic building. Seeking advice from Devin Colman (Vermont State Architectural Historian) and historical building restoration specialists, it became clear that the only way to save it was to take it down.

Jenness, who specializes in historical log construction, was the one to do this — carefully labelling each of the logs and noting how the cabin was put together — and is now starting to put it back together, from the ground up. In the fall of 2024



In 2017 Sara Lourie purchased the cabin, pictured above, near the Nebraska Notch trailhead at the end of Stevensville Road in Underhill, and set out to restore the historic building. Miles Jenness of Vermont Heavy Timber, pictured left at work, will demonstrate traditional building and restoration techniques on one of the last frontier-era log cabins in Vermont, at his workshop in Huntington on Sunday, April 6, 1:00 – 3:30 PM. The workshop is open to the public; please register at stevensville.cabin.info@gmail.com.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Dave Okalita, a restoration mason, rebuilt the foundation. The neighbors donated logs, and students from the Forestry Program at the Essex Center for Technology processed them and cut and processed additional logs from the Essex Tree Farm. Since then, Jenness has been repairing the logs, and hewing new ones where necessary, in his workshop in Huntington. Now he is ready to share his journey so far. He will be joined in speaking about the project by Sara Lourie.

The workshop is open to the public, but please register in advance by emailing Sara at stevensville.cabin.info@gmail.com as space is limited. In lieu of a fee for the workshop, donations towards this project to save an important piece of Vermont's history are appreciated.

For more information see: www.stevensville-cabin.org.

Cambridge town-wide reappraisal, VT Rts. 15W, 104

By Dale Copping, Cambridge Lister

Beginning April 1, Jordan Matte of Vermont Appraisal Company will start assessing residential properties located on VT Rt. 15 West from the roundabout and VT Rt. 104 and side roads. Jordan will be in the area from 9:00 AM to approximately 2:00 PM daily until complete.

We will try to schedule times with property owners. If you have not provided contact information it would be helpful if you responded to listeners@cambridgevt.org or call 802-644-2251 ext. 3. Our office hours are 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Monday-Wednesday.

For those that do not provide contact information, Jordan will stop and measure and photograph the exterior of your home and ask for permission to inspect the interior.

Green Up Day is only four weeks away

Green Up Day is Saturday, May 3, and all in Jericho are welcome to a Green Up Day Breakfast at the Community Center in Jericho, 329 Browns Trace, Jericho Center, from 8:30 – 10:00 AM.

Volunteers are needed to join the planning team, help set up the day before (Friday, May 2 time TBD), and to help clean up on Saturday, May 3, 10:00 – 11:00 AM. Please reply to Jen, jen.lawson1972@gmail.com, or to ccjvermont@gmail.com if you can help!

Mud season in Bolton

By Brian Roberge, Bolton Town Administrator

It seems like we may be experiencing our first taste of mud season (March 17) here in the next few days. Please be mindful that in Vermont mud season makes road conditions vary with the day, and often times they can be safe one day and treacherous the next. Please travel with this in mind and use caution, drive attentively, and with your safety and others' in mind.

Our road crew are monitoring conditions and responding to them as best as they can.

To help us, please share mud season road condition updates with the Town Administrator at townadmin@boltonvt.com with a date, time, and rough location/photo to help us keep pace with the possibility of some muddy dirt roads.

Cambridge Historical Society March