

The Phillips Area Vitalizer

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November Busy Month for Area Friends and Neighbors

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A Fire Department bean supper, a hunters' breakfast, a Lions Club auction, installation of storm windows at the Phillips Library, some statewide publicity for the Phillips Farmers' Market, work started at PACC on a skating rink upgrade – and much more to come this month – makes November a busy season.

Farmers Market manager Dick Stovall attended a conference in Bangor to learn about online markets, while the Phillips Market itself got a photo and front-page story in the fall newsletter of the Maine Community Foundation. Nancy Morgan and Dick and Pam Matthews attended a meeting of the Franklin County Tourism Network at the Skye Theatre, town officials met with the Deputy Director of the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development, and a light pole was put up at PACC's skating rink on Depot Street.

The Phillips-Strong Lions, together with the Conservation Commission and the Phillips Area Community Center, are sharing the cost of installing a liner inside the skating rink berm on Depot Street, thus upgrading that facility. Additionally, a light pole was donated by Hector Trembley and erected on the site by George and Eric Berry, all in support of creating a smooth-surfaced, well-lighted ice rink for use this winter.

The Phillips Library and the library annex got a little energy assistance from the Community Energy Challenge, a group working with Franklin County's United Way, who built and installed window panels in the library buildings this past Saturday, November 19. More than a dozen volunteers turned out to assist in the project, which included providing window panels for several area homes as well. Information about the program – including who is eligible for free help – is available at the library.

With the Christmas season on the horizon, a number of organizations are sponsoring various shopping and craft fairs (see listings below for upcoming events), so November has shaped up to be a busy month.

News Briefs & Updates . . .

A Holiday Craft Fair & Auction will be held at the Phillips School on Saturday, November 26, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Folks can holiday shop and have lunch too. The event includes raffles, door prizes, food, and Santa Claus. Vendors are welcome; anyone who would like to participate should call Michelle at 639-4810. The fair and auction benefit the 8th Grade class trip to Quebec.

A Cut-A-Thon will be hosted by Persnickity Snips from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, November 26. The new business on Main Street will charge \$5 a haircut for men, women, and children.

A Thanksgiving worship service will be held at Reeds Mill Church on Reeds Mill Road in Madrid at 10:00 on Thanksgiving morning to celebrate the holiday in a way that truly reflects our thanks; all are invited. For directions or more information call Ginni at 639-2713.

A Movie, *Voices of Spirit* about the gift of mediumship, a story by Elwood Babbitt, will show at the Phillips Library on Wednesday, November 30, at 5:30 p.m. Some young people enlist Babbitt's help in solving a missing person case. Admission is free.

The Phillips Area Children's Christmas Shopping Day will be held Saturday, December 10, at the Avon Town Hall, a change of location from its former place in the Phillips Community House. The event, a chance for kids to shop for family members, will run from 10 to 2. The program is currently accepting donated gift items for men, women and children. For information, call Nana Haines at 639-4226 or e-mail grammanan@tds.net.

Need help starting a new enterprise or expanding an existing one? Interested in a Micro-Loan, even a very small ("mini-micro") loan? Are you a resident of Phillips, Avon or Madrid? Call the Phillips Town Office, 639-3561, for more information.

Belly Dancing Classes are being held every Tuesday at 5 p.m. in the Phillips Library Annex. The first class is free and a fee is charged for subsequent classes. The class is taught by Nova Wagg; for more information, call her at 431-4951.

The Sandy River Women's Club meets the first Thursday of every month. The next meeting is December 1 at 1 p.m. at the Phillips Water District Office. All welcome; bring your own lunch.

An Open House at Star Barn Uniques on Reeds Mill Road in Madrid will take place Sunday, December 4, from 11 to 3. Uniques, housed in Star Barn B&B, is a gift shop selling exclusively Maine-made items, most of which are locally made. The Open House will not only showcase local crafters' wares, but several of the vendors will be present working their craft. One hundred percent of the sale price goes directly to the craftsperson; Star Barn does not take a commission on any of the items sold. Complimentary refreshments will be available the day of the Open House.

Meetings and Event Schedule . . .

Dec. 1 - Phillips Revitalization Steering Committee, Thursday, 6 p.m., Town Office.

Dec. 6 - Phillips Historical Society meeting, Tuesday, 6 p.m., Society building.

Dec. 7 - Phillips Area Community Center Meeting, Wednesday, 4:30 p.m., Phillips School

Dec. 13 - Circle for the Arts, Tuesday, 7 p.m., Morning Bridge Center

*Get The Vitalizer by e-mail. Write dickm4242@aol.com
or call 639-2630 to be put on our e-list or to alert us to an event.*