

ONE TOWN

A local celebration of those who serve



AMY GILLESPIE

I met Amy almost four years ago. She is a compassionate person that speaks up and reaches out to connect with and bring our community together. She came to Jay to meet me after our daughter died by suicide, to acknowledge and encourage me. She is openly vulnerable about her personal journey, and since the day I met her, I have been in awe watching her growth and connection.

As I have gotten to know Amy, I see how passionately involved she is in our community. She is a mother and partner, an advocate for growth and opportunities for our community, and a safe keeper and shepherd for raising Monarch Butterflies (NEK Monarchs) to help our pollinator populations. She is a supporter of local businesses, of our school systems, and a champion of serving the community and speaking out vulnerably about topics like mental health and addiction.

As I became acquainted with Amy, I first watched her share her craft of sculpting, through creating a public ongoing scavenger hunt in 2022, where she hid little polymer clay creations throughout our parks, walking paths, and public spaces, encouraging the community to get out and discover, explore, and engage with one another. Her craft grew into creating a small business called the Witches Brew, which after just a couple of years, has grown into a brick and mortar shop on Main Street in Newport, that hosts dozens of other local artists and craftsmen from around the NEK.

She has organized a Children's art show and craft fair for kids (13 and under from around the NEK) to sell and display their artistic creations, baked goods and more. The event included a kid's yoga demo, crafts and activities, and live local music. She has also organized events at her space in Newport to bring the community together by offering retreats and workshops that include natural healing, meditation and connection.

Amy also started the Psychic and Holistic Fairs, which are held around Newport several times a year. These Fairs bring small businesses, artists, organizations, craftsmen, and natural healers together to share with our community and the surrounding areas. Through each of these events, she has supported local charities and organizations, donating proceeds to NorahBeads, The Vermont Chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, Arnolds Rescue Center, Aurora Fundraiser (supporting a local child born with Cystic Fibrosis), Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter, NCCC Community Care Closet, as well as supporting Local Recovery Programs.

Annually, for the past five years, Amy has been a champion for Overdose Awareness Day on August 31st in Newport, creating a touching display to reflect on loved ones lost to overdose, to encourage sobriety, and to shatter the stigma around substance abuse that affects our community.

This is some of the work I have witnessed from Amy that brings our community together. Community is all about connection, and I admire and appreciate Amy's spirit.

Submitted by Susan Jones



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BOB PRIMEAU

Dr. Primeau is stepping back from active clinical practice as the only physician in Essex County this year. His active clinical role with the Island Pond Health Center has benefited many residents in that community for years. His energy, dedication to his patients and clinical expertise will be impossible to replace or even come close to reproducing.

In addition to his clinical practice and impact through both Island Pond and the greater Newport area Dr. Bob also works in a second job as cheerleader and prime mover behind the Memphremagog Ski Touring Foundation. This non profit organization provides low cost cross country ski rentals, exposure to skiing for Newport students after school, Bill Koch learn to ski/race for elementary age students and access to groomed trails from Bluff Farms all the way to the Barn at the Top of the World in Newport/Derby.

In times past this has included trails and grooming at Willoughby State Forrest/Mt. Hor area including putting on NENSA races at that location. The trails continue to require ongoing maintenance, coordination of grooming and work days and have been markedly upgraded over the years. Additionally single track mountain bike trails have been added and greatly expanded, often by Bob himself with an expanding energetic group of volunteers. This now includes fat bike trails in the winter with snow dog groomer.

Hundreds of children have learned the first lessons of cross country skiing from Bob including his classic how to fall and get up and to never point your pole at another person. I often will run into Bob when skiing or riding as he is working on something or building a bridge which frequently makes me feel guilty enjoying my access and leads me to stop and try to help out.

The Jay community has seen Bob playing with his band at the Bullwheel and often will encounter him in the spring riding his bike up 242 with skis on his back for a human powered trip to the mountain.

The Kingdom has been and continues to be blessed by Bob choosing to serve our neighbors and friends with his medical expertise and his passion for the outdoors and creating and maintaining accessible places and spaces for all to enjoy.

- **John Lippmann**



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BOBBY JACOBS

Bobby is the Chief of the Troy Volunteer Fire Dept. He has held this position for 12 years which is a testament of his commitment to Troy Fire Dept. and the community. The Chief's position is voted on annually by the members of Troy Fire Dept., therefore shows that the members believe in his leadership.

Bobby has worked his way up through the ranks of Troy Fire Dept. and developed his firefighting skills with the assistance of several veteran firefighters on the Dept. It was noticed early on, that he had and maintained leadership skills to progress forward in the Dept. Bobby has developed a positive rapport with the community leaders and members in each town to work together in the event of any emergent situation. Bobby is a believer in training. Knowledge on how to utilize the equipment that we have and do it efficiently is extremely important to him to better serve our communities.

Bobby is also President of "NEIMA". (North East International Mutual Aid) which is a group of local Fire Departments who work together and hold trainings to work with each other to benefit our communities during any crisis situation that may be endured.

And last but not least, Bobby is also an "AEMT" (Advanced Emergency Medical Technician) for Newport Ambulance Service. This career requires many hours of training in various situations where immediate medical attention is needed and where knowledge, professionalism and compassion is foremost.

Bobby is a well respected individual in the area, and his commitment to the safety and well being to our community is very much appreciated by all who know him.

Thank you Bobby for what you do!

- **Michael Jacobs**



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DAVE LAFORCE

Dave Laforce is a Board Member for Newport City Renaissance Corporation dba Newport Downtown Development (NDD) and he also owns and operates Built by Newport. NDD is a non-profit organization that partners with the City of Newport and businesses and residents to build economic and social vitality in our downtown. He joined the board in 2023 and has been instrumental in spearheading economic development for the organization.

In late 2023, Dave revitalized the Economic Development Task Force for NDD. The Task Force offers a roadmap to guide community stakeholders as they work together on the shared goal to make Newport a great place to live, work, and play. With Dave's long-standing ties to Newport and ability to work collaboratively, he recruited individuals that had business experience in Newport and had a commitment to a proactive approach to meet long-standing challenges that inhibited Newport's ability to prosper. The mission of the Economic Development Task Force is to collaboratively seek local and regional opportunities for economic growth, provide adequate housing opportunities, grow local businesses, and generate new employment opportunities and tax revenue for the City of Newport.

With help from the Economic Development Task Force and the NDD Board, several of Dave's ideas were put into motion including:

Recognizing the need for easier access for boaters crossing internationally and creating a comprehensive guide and video showing how to cross the border using the ROAM application all while working with Customs & Border Protection.

Beginning the conversation and executing a Master Plan for the City of Newport. This required approval from the City of Newport and was completed in December 2024. Dave worked with the plan contractor and facilitated discussions. He was also instrumental in putting together a survey that was released to the public to give feedback regarding what individuals would like to see in the City.

The completion of the Master Plan laid the groundwork for applying for a Tax Increment Financing District (TIF) which was spearheaded by Dave. The application is currently in process with the hope to be completed in the Fall of 2025 and submitted in early 2026. TIF financing is a tool that local governments use to fund economic development and public improvements by capturing the future increase in property taxes within a defined district.

Seeing the need and advocating for an Economic Development Director within the organization to keep the initiatives above moving forward.

- Sarah Chadburn



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ELIZABETH CHADWICK

Elizabeth runs the kitchens at Sterling College. She instills the values of local eating and sustainability among the students and staff.

Most importantly, Elizabeth has created a weekly community dinner where anyone can go to Sterling College and receive a free meal (or donate) of local food that has been gleaned from area farms and grown on the Sterling campus.

The community dinner serves up to 150 meals a week to many food-insecure people. The dinners also provide an outlet for area farms and food producers to capture value from products not quite up to retail quality standards.

In addition to the community dinners, Elizabeth has assisted many nonprofits and churches in the area with event planning, meals, and labor—for example, the Craftsbury Block Party. Shared food creates community, and in the NEK, Elizabeth is leading the way.

Elizabeth Chadwick's statewide and NEK-wide influence extends through her role as one of the agriculture representatives on the VT Working Lands Enterprise Board. The Working Lands Enterprise Board is a legislative board of industry, agriculture, and state agencies including Agriculture, Forests and Parks, and Commerce, whose charge is to enhance and maintain our working landscape. The Working Lands Board has typically invested 10–25% of its available funds (\$1–3 million annually) in NEK-based farm, food, and forest businesses. Elizabeth is uniquely qualified to serve on this board and to grant funds that enhance the working landscape of the NEK.

Thank you for creating this award.

- **Bob Lesnikoski**



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JEFF JOHANSEN

As both a member of Jay Peak Ski Patrol and Newport Ambulance Service, I've been able to experience Jeff Johansen's, the chief of Newport Ambulance Service, dedication to both his staff and the people he serves.

Jeff is a unique EMS leader, not only because of his humility, but also his ability to see both the big picture and the details. Whether it's moving staff around or adding providers in response to busy weekends in a given town or on the mountain so that he can serve the greatest number of people as efficiently as possible, to taking the time to meet with patrollers to help coordinate our efforts, to committing to training the next generation of EMS providers, Jeff is always thinking one step ahead.

He is very open and engaging with his employees, and clearly cares not only about filling his shifts but also about knowing more about the lives of his providers and each person's individual needs and goals, which is rare and refreshing in an EMS chief!

Finally, it's evident that Jeff enjoys his work and his staff - it's fun to see him excited about spending a Sunday at Rider Hill or staffing an ambulance for a town parade and taking the time to detail an ambulance for a procession to honor a fallen colleague.

- Johanna Polsenberg



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JORDAN & MOMO ANTONUCCI

Jordan and Momo participate in a number of amazing community projects. Their giving and generous spirits, not only personally but also through their Miso Hungry business, have left a lasting impression on surrounding towns.

Hope on the Slopes – American Cancer Society

Hope on the Slopes was created 11 years ago to benefit the American Cancer Society and cancer patients in the Northeast Kingdom. Held at Jay Peak, it brings together several hundred participants each year and has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars. Jordan and Momo have donated Miso Hungry gift certificates for many raffles and have fielded a Miso Hungry team every year since 2019. They provide T-shirts, meals, and snacks for team members. Their fundraising totals: 2019 - \$620, 2020 - \$1,117.06, 2021 - \$7,566.18, 2022 - \$5,991.96, 2023 - \$6,750.62, 2024 - \$6,282.46, 2025 - \$4,228.58.

Total raised: \$32,556.86, helping local cancer patients meet expenses, get transportation to treatment, and provide respite care for loved ones.

Susan G. Komen – 3 Day for the Cure

I am the captain of a team that participates in the 60-mile, 3-day walk for Susan G. Komen to fight cancer. Our team, The Road Warriors, raises \$12,000 each year through raffles. Jordan and Momo have donated Miso Hungry gift certificates and swag for five consecutive years. Their ramen prize packs are so popular we return to them annually, and their generosity has helped us meet our goal each year while supporting cancer research and treatment nationwide.

Jay Peak Green Up Day

I have participated in Jay Peak's Green Up Day for 10 years. My fears about turnout disappeared when Jordan and Momo agreed to support the cause by offering Miso Hungry ramen for volunteers. Every year since, they've sustained our group—typically 55–65 people—with ramen, curry, and gift certificates. We've cleaned under lifts, along Route 242, and throughout resort roads, keeping Jay cleaner and inspiring the next generation of "Raised Jay" kids who protect the mountain as their own.

Local Employee Housing

After Covid, housing shortages made it difficult for Jay Peak employees to find homes. Jordan and Momo purchased a rectory in North Troy to provide housing for their employees and later made rooms available to Jay Peak staff. This welcoming home has built support networks and friendships, helping revitalize that section of Main Street. Their efforts ensure employees of Miso Hungry and the mountain have a true home away from home.

Jordan and Momo have nourished this community since their arrival. We are better for it, and the ripple effect of their generosity has strengthened the culture of philanthropy in our region. Thank you to this amazing couple and to Miso Hungry for all they have done, do, and will continue to do for our mountain family.

- **Mimi Magyar**



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JUDY BRYCE

The Fairfield Community Center would like to nominate our volunteer, Judy Bryce for your One Town Volunteer Award. Judy, is our super senior, who is turning 80 in a couple of weeks. She is a tireless volunteer who comes every week to our center early to set up for the community meals that are served every Tuesday. She often arrives before 9:00am to help with getting the room ready for the meals, (tables in place, tablecloths, table setting, etc.) assists in the kitchen with cooking, and serving. Judy visits the tables with senior citizens engaging them in conversation and socialization. She often introduces them to others and keeps the room humming with happy conversations. Judy is happy to answer questions and puts everyone at ease. Judy keeps everyone updated on town happenings and events. She has a keen sense of humor and keeps us all smiling!

Being almost 80 does not slow her down, over the years she has helped out in different ways with special projects at the center. Some examples are:

- Thanksgiving Food Basket program for those in need. (Everyone should have a Thanksgiving meal!)
- Fund raisers and community events
- Mentors new volunteers helping them to learn the "ropes" and feel a part of the community meals team.

Judy is also involved with the East Fairfield Fire Department. She is a women with many activities!

Judy has been volunteering for years since she retired from being the East Fairfield US Post Office staff. She worked at the post office for many years. She really does know everyone!

Judy has had some hospitalizations over the past 4 years. She is always back at the Center as soon as she is able. She does all her volunteering carrying her portable O2 machine over her shoulder. Judy comes in utilizing a cane and she rests only long enough to plug in the oxygen machine to recharge.

The Fairfield Community Center is a rural non-profit that supports its community with essential food access, youth and senior programs, community gardens and meals, and hosts community events. We cannot operate or provide for our community without our volunteers. Judy is one of our oldest and most dedicated volunteers. We are so grateful for her and her service at the Fairfield Community Center. We do not know what we would do without her.

Her dedication and support to the people in our "village" make her much loved and appreciated. Please consider her for this award.

- **Sunni Tipper**



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LISA DAIGLE-FARNEY

Lisa is everywhere. Although technically retired from her day job, she appears to have taken on several more. She connects with everyone. It is a real skill.

Lisa always goes out of her way for people. Ask Alma Marsh, the Queen of Yard Sales for charities—she'll tell you she has stuff put aside for Lisa's "people," because Lisa called her and said what a particular person needed. She always gets the survival needs met but then adds the roses too, because life is so much better with something beautiful as well as covering basic needs (yes, a reference to bread and roses).

Part of my background is music as part of social change and justice. I think of people often in terms of power songs that exemplify who they are. Sometimes a song conveys something so much better than mere words.) "Bread and Roses" originated from a textile workers' strike in the early 1900s, conveying economic justice and the need/right to opportunities beyond basic necessities. Lisa recognizes the importance of beauty in life and inspiration/aspiration.

She is at yard sales harvesting and scavenging great items for those she knows are moving into a new home after time on the streets or in substandard housing. She collects vases to deliver flowers from her garden to those living in nursing homes and long-term care facilities. She grows extra veggies for those who need them. She is the go-to person for anyone needing resources—my first email if someone needs help.

She is the consummate volunteer. At any community event, she is there—working, not lounging around. A mentor for young people. Always helping, never judging. Willing to go to bat for those whose urgent need for assistance is being bureaucratized into oblivion. I have seen her challenge dragons—and win.

She is the person I always expect to see at any local event, one where showing up is important for the person or organization. If she wasn't there, that lovely positive energy would be missing. She is ski patrol at Jay—an athlete as well as a guardian angel.

But those are all "things." It is the intangible that makes Lisa special—her ability to connect, be there, support, and gently push. If you need me to clarify anything I will be happy to do so. She really deserves this recognition, and it would never occur to her to ask for it.

- Pam Ladds



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MARK BROUILLETTE

Mark has been a selfless member of the Montgomery Community for ages. He has been a member of the Selectboard for over 20 years. He runs the Water Department and is also the Road Commissioner.

Though he still is a very busy farmer, as he and his wife run Breezy Acres Farm, he has always been available to help his community through troubled times and new projects as the town grows.

During floods, ice storms or huge snow storms and the building of the Town Safety Building or planning for a new septic system Mark is always seen helping in anyway he can.

He even drives the school bus watching over many years of young Montgomery Students.

Mark is quiet, calm and solid and I think deserves recognition for devoting so much of his life to the town of Montgomery.

- **Peg Doheny**



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MEGHAN WAYLAND

Meg Wayland's impact on the NEK cannot be understated. Meg (they/them) is the Campaign Director at Northeast Kingdom Organizing (NEKO). They led the NEK's response to the 2023 and 2024 floods, helped organize hundreds of volunteers and muck-and-gut crews, and were key in establishing kuRRve (Kingdom United Recovery and Resilience, the NEK's Long-Term Disaster Recovery Org). Their hard work has helped many NEK communities become more connected and prepared for future disasters.

They were key in establishing the Barton Hub, a community resilience hub (community meal site, giving pantry, and more) built through years of organizing and listening in the Barton community, and in direct response to the 2023 flood. The Hub has become a critical incubator for relationship building, leadership development, and community organizing.

Before coming to NEKO, Meg has been a cook, caterer, farmer, reporter, farm-to-school educator, food sovereignty organizer, and has held posts at Green Mountain Farm to School, the Barton Chronicle, Albany Elementary School, and the Center for an Agricultural Economy.

Meg is currently collaborating with CROS (Community Resilience Org) and others to teach communities across the Kingdom how to establish their own resilience hubs and prepare for future disasters. They are also working with Barton-area residents on co-designing a microtransit route and still find time to cook lunch on Tuesdays with neighbors at the Barton Hub—and so much more.

Organizing is in Meg's bones. Their brand of compassionate, courageous, and sage leadership mixed with hard, hands-on work is unique. Meg's commitment to the NEK and to justice is evident, and we're all the luckier for it.

- Allyson Howell



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PAT SANDERS

Pat Sanders is an incredibly community-minded individual, and we are lucky to have her in our town. Not only is she a fixture on Town Boards, but she is also a regular volunteer at events and activities that support the community. I love seeing her at the annual tire recycling day, spearheading the holiday lights activities, and taking notes at any town-related meeting (an important but always underrated task!). Pat is an integral part of our town functions and helps make Jay a wonderful place to call home.

I met Pat through friends and got to know her after purchasing a home in Jay in 2022. In the fall of 2024, I decided to join the volunteer board of the Jay Focus Group. That is where I witnessed Pat's dedication to the Jay Focus Group, which benefits both the town of Jay and Orleans County as a whole. She works tirelessly and devotes a great deal of her personal time to support the group's fundraising efforts.

Just a few examples of Pat's efforts—I think those who truly know her would agree that her commitment goes well beyond these—include seeking contributions from local businesses for the Jay Focus Group's fundraising events and chairing the committee that ran the Bingo portion of our 2025 event, ensuring every detail was covered.

As a retired Visual Arts teacher from North Country Union High School, Pat uses her artistic and creative talents for the group's fundraising efforts, spending many hours painting large themed boards and creating the backdrops for the photo booths at the 2024 and 2025 events. She also works tirelessly on the Jay Focus Group's annual holiday and tree-decorating event, where local children come to Jay Town Hall, join in the holiday fun, and receive a gift from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Pat also serves the town of Jay directly through her work on various committees. What sets her apart is that she is a quiet force behind the success of the Jay Focus Group—doing all she does out of the goodness of her heart and a sincere willingness to help others, not to seek recognition.

Pat Sanders' commitment, creativity, and countless hours of service make her an invaluable part of the Jay community. She truly deserves this recognition.

- **Lindsey Wight & Diane Canning**



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PATRICK HURLEY

Upon his move to Newport, Patrick (and his awesome wife Carter) quickly dove into helping his new community become a better place. As the Watershed Project Manager for the Memphremagog Watershed Association, Patrick's day-to-day work helps to protect and improve the physical landscape of the watershed surrounding Lake Memphremagog. In addition to his great understanding of hydrology and ecosystem functions, his communication skills help get many beneficial projects implemented.

These communication skills also serve the community in many other ways, as Patrick has helped make Newport a more fun place to be through entertainment programs like 'Winter Saturdays' and other Newport City Downtown Development efforts. Patrick also started the 'Tipsy Talks' series: bringing people together through storytelling and highlighting the numerous cool people who live in our communities - and some of the adventures their lives have led them on.

In short: Patrick lives and breathes community improvement; he wants his chosen home to be enjoyable and enjoyed by all, and he pours his time into having lasting impacts on both the physical and social environment.

- **Lindsey Wight**



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IN MEMORY OF RICHARD BLAIS

It is with great admiration and gratitude that I nominate, Rick Blais, for recognition as a true community hero. His dedication to our local youth sports programs went far beyond the typical volunteer commitment. He was a role model, a mentor and an encouraging presence in the lives of countless children.

As both a coach and referee, Rick consistently volunteered his time, energy, and heart to support young athletes, regardless of their age or skill level. He didn't just show up to run practices or officiate games, but to uplift every child who steps on to the field or court. His thoughtful and kind demeanor made every player feel seen, valued, and inspired to do their best.

What set Rick apart is not just the knowledge of the game, but his unwavering patience, fairness, and compassion. He made it clear that in his eyes, every child matters. He celebrated their progress, encouraged their effort, and always lead with integrity and kindness.

In a time when positive role models are more important than ever, Rick exemplified what it meant to serve a community with heart. His selfless contributions have left a lasting impact on our youth, and we are truly fortunate to have had him as part of our community.

Though you are gone Rick, you will never be forgotten.

- **Justin Leyva**



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RYAN ANDERSON

It is with great enthusiasm that I am nominating my former colleague, Ryan Anderson. Ryan has been helping serve the community through his tireless work with North Country High School for over the last fifteen years. He has coached, mentored, taught and continues to go above the call of duty in hopes of improving our community.

During his coaching tenure he led the golf and snowboard programs to state titles. As a teacher he has helped our brightest students in the AP English setting achieve their college aspirations and receive college credit.

Additionally, he started and is the program director for The Kingdom Course. This program provides students regardless of economic background to access practical lifelong recreation. From downhill skiing, snowboarding, hiking, fishing, hunter safety, water safety, canoeing, and whitewater kayaking. His facilitation of this program also enables students to engage in practical community service and career exploration.

He also started the Castle Cup. A great local extreme ski event for all the foundation program schools to help kids push their skiing, celebrate the outdoors and our community.

I know there are a lot of people worthy of this recognition, but I would be hard pressed to think of someone more worthy of it than Ryan. He is truly a generational talent in the world of education and has brought world class education to one of the poorest schools in the state.

- **Don Turner**



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SALLY RIVARD

Sally Rivard is an extraordinary woman whose impact radiates across every corner of our community. Whether she's volunteering with the Jay Focus Group, serving as a trustee on the Jay Land Trust, teaching yoga through the Newport Country Outreach Program, or leading American Red Cross swim classes for our children, Sally's dedication is both wide-reaching and deeply personal. She touches lives from the youngest to the oldest among us, embodying the true spirit of service, compassion, and community. And while I know of many of her contributions, I'm certain there are even more that go unseen—because that's who Sally is: someone who gives selflessly, humbly, and wholeheartedly. We are lucky to have her, and our community is stronger, kinder, and more connected because of her.

Sally has served the Jay area community her entire adult life, starting as an educator at Lake Region for over 30 years. She has also been involved with the Jay Community Recreation Centre (JCRC) since its inception. She is the co-chair of the JCRC, overseeing the responsible and sustainable development and maintenance of four-season trails in the town of Jay dedicated to the mission of "No Child Left Inside." For the JCRC, she has helped to plan and create the trail system, worked with the youth conservation corps to build the bridge, and continues to maintain the trail system by improving trails, cleaning up trash, developing the meadow area, and overseeing the construction of the privy. Being passionate about education, she worked with Julie Ste. Marie on creating the outside classroom at JCRC.

She has been a member of the Jay Focus Group (JFG) for 15 years, recently serving as President. The Focus Group is a 501(c) charitable foundation dedicated to helping those in need in Orleans County. Sally has been instrumental in coordinating the JCRC/Focus Group OktoberFest, as well as the Leprechaun Scamper, Easter Egg Hunt in the spring, and the Pumpkin Pie Run in the fall.

She is also the Chair of the North Country Friends of the Vermont Symphony Orchestra, which supports the VSO's educational and artistic programs in the NEK. She is passionate about the environment and has rallied the troops in the Jay area for Green Up Day for 20 years. In addition, when needed in the winter, Sally helps with the Westfield Meals Site.

In addition to all of the above, Sally has provided and continues to provide swimming lessons to hundreds of children in Orleans County and continues to teach yoga, Zumba, and Tai Chi through the North Country Hospital Wellness Center. She accomplishes all of this while still finding time to travel, ski, snowshoe, and bike.

Sally is humble, tireless, and compassionate. We know of no one more deserving of this recognition.

- Janet Butler, Donna McAllister, Catharine Miller, Colleen Lenssing



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SUZANNE DOLLOIS

Suzanne was one of the founders of the Montgomery Center for the Arts located at the former Baptist Church at the end of Main Street in Montgomery Center about 8 years ago. She helped put on exhibits, obtained grants for the painting of the building and getting the railings on the stairs installed, and obtained financial support from Jay Peak to replace the furnace. She was also instrumental in getting the windows restored and installed and took an active role in getting the legal status of the organization sorted out and brought up to date. She was also the treasurer for all those years. She stepped down from the MCA Board last year but continues as treasurer of the MCC, the governing board of the MCA.

She has been a town select board member for the past 5 years and is an active participant. She obtained a grant to install the electric charging station at the Town Hall on Main Street. She has prepared the monthly town calendar listing events and programs for several years.

Ever since her return from college to Montgomery she has worked on the waitstaff of various town restaurants including every year as bartender at Jay Peak.

Currently she works in the administration of the Non-Profit conservation group "Cold Hollow to Canada" in charge of communication and support for programming and events. She also works as chef at The Black Lantern Inn and in the winter bartending at the Jay Peak Tower Bar.

Suzanne and her partner and two daughters, 14 and 7, live in Montgomery with 2 dogs, a cat, 2 horses, chickens and maintains a large vegetable garden.

- **Peg Doheny**

