

Catamount Arts 2017

The residents and voters of Lyndon played a very important role in the success of Catamount Arts during 2017. Through the support at Town Meeting and by attending many of the films and performances offered throughout the year, the citizens of Lyndon helped to keep the Arts vital and available to all of the residents of the Northeast Kingdom.

In the past year, Catamount has invited and encouraged the residents of Lyndon to participate in many of its community offerings, including the Community Film Series, Independent Lens, the free Children's Summer Film Festival and gallery exhibits and receptions. In the Summer of 2017, thousands of residents found themselves on top of Dog Mountain each Sunday where Catamount Arts offered 10 free concerts in a music series. These free events were funded in large measure through appropriations from communities in our area.

During 2017, Catamount Arts was able to present more than 200 films and 100 live performances, in large measure due to the generosity of the voters of Lyndon. Your appropriations helped to underwrite the costs of these presentations as well as helping Catamount pay for such general operating expenses as heating and electricity.

As part of our mission to promote lifelong community engagement in the arts, Catamount Arts offers a wide range of classes, workshops and camps for people of all ages. Learning opportunities at Catamount range from conga drumming, Claymation, and bookbinding, to tango, French and filmmaking. Catamount Arts partners with local elementary, middle and high schools to provide in-school and out-of-school creative learning activities. This year, inspired by El Sistema, Catamount Arts partnered with Northeast Kingdom Community Orchestra, Northeast Kingdom Classical Series, and the St. Johnsbury School District to pilot our EPIC Music program, which provides free music instruction (currently violin) to students in grades 1-5. We also partner with local Head Start programs to provide arts integration activities and professional development for teachers. In addition, more than 4,500 students and teachers enjoy shows by professional performers in our School-Time Performance series.

With the continuing growth of its many cultural offerings and Arts Education program, Catamount and its patrons also directly and indirectly contribute more than \$1,500,000 each year to the local economy while also securing a meeting space for local Masons for generations to come.

**LYNDON AREA MEAL SITE
AT THE DARLING INN
76 DEPOT STREET
LYNDONVILLE, VT 05851
TEL: 802-626-8700**

darlingsmeals@myfairpoint.net

2017 report to the Town of Lyndon:

The Lyndon Area Meal Site is a non-profit organization governed by a board of twelve members. The mission of the Meal Site is to provide hot nutritionally balanced meals to eligible seniors, persons with disabilities and residents in need at a dramatically subsidized, affordable cost to them. We also serve the general public noontime meals reasonably priced. The dining room at the Darling Inn offers patrons a congenial area for socialization, entertainment (with several local individuals volunteering their musical talents), and special events. It is staffed by two part-time employees who serve Monday through Friday noontime meals.

Anyone is welcome, regardless of age or need. The Meal Site serves between 500-600 meals a month in the dining room. A larger part of the service that Lyndon Area Meal Site provides is the Meals-On-Wheels program. Between 1700-1800 hot, nutritious meals are delivered monthly to homebound community members. Many volunteers contribute to keep the programs and services going, but we continue to rely heavily on donations, fundraising and appropriations.

Some of our funding comes from AAA (46%), meal reimbursements (20%) and VCIL (18%). Diners contribute what they can afford, but to balance our budget we need support through our annual appeal letters, coin drop, and local friends and citizens. Town appropriations provide crucial funds necessary to allow us to continue our mission. As always, the cost of food and supplies are rising every year.

So in appreciation for the services of our senior citizens and all other clients who rely on this meal service, the Lyndon Area Meal Site and Meals-On-Wheels respectfully requests an appropriation of \$4000 from the Town of Lyndon for FY 2018. Thank you in advance for your continued consideration.

Respectfully,

Pamela Kvam
Board President



December 14, 2017

Lisa Barrett, Town Clerk
Town of Lyndon
PO Box 167
Lyndonville VT 05851

Dear Ms. Barrett:

The Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium respectfully requests that the following special appropriation article appear on the 2018 warning for Lyndon Town Meeting:

"Shall the Town vote the sum of \$5,981 to support the operation of the Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium during the ensuing year, in exchange for free unlimited general admission to the Museum for all Lyndon residents?"

We understand that we must petition to have this special appropriation request appear on your Town Meeting Warning, and we will forward the necessary signatures as required.

The Fairbanks Museum invites Lyndon residents to take full advantage of their unlimited free general admission to the Museum to explore the nature, beauty, and wonders of our world. Your municipal appropriation provides essential support for the care of the Museum's historic building and the maintenance and exhibition of the most extraordinary educational collections in northern New England. These are among our region's most prized assets. Each year the Museum offers new opportunities for exploration and discovery, so do come for a visit. In 2018, the Museum will be powered with 90% renewables, energized with new hands-on science exhibits, and will once again open our exquisite native butterfly house for visitors to enjoy. As you know, the Museum also is fully engaged in community economic, educational, and cultural development initiatives and contributes significantly to the attraction of visitors to our region.

The Board of Trustees, staff, and volunteers of the Museum are tremendously grateful for the support, encouragement, and collaborative planning that have marked the Northeast Kingdom's relationship with the Museum. We hope that the Museum, in turn, delivers services, programs, and a commitment to community development that benefit Lyndon's residents and visitors of all ages and contribute to Lyndon's remarkable quality of life.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Kane".

Adam Kane, Executive Director

1302 Main Street • St. Johnsbury VT • 05819-2224
tel 802-748-2372 • fax 802-748-1893 • www.fairbanksmuseum.org



Lyndon Area Chamber of Commerce Report for 2017

Dear Lyndon Voters:

“The mission of the Lyndon Area Chamber of Commerce is to promote, support and enhance existing business, encourage new business to migrate to the Lyndon area and enhance quality of life through active support of commerce, community, employment and education.”

The Lyndon Chamber is a non-profit, all volunteer organization with an Executive Board and a Board of Directors. This year, I became the third generation in my family to serve as President. The roots of this organization run deep in the Lyndon community.

In addition to operating the Lyndon Information Booth to welcome visitors from Memorial Day to Columbus Day, the Lyndon Chamber provides businesses, residents and travelers with information and resources for relocation, activities and events, educational opportunities, grants. The Lyndon Chamber website and Facebook page help residents connect with information they need and help promote our little corner of the Northeast Kingdom to the world.

The Lyndon Chamber sponsors and provides community events throughout the year such as the Stars and Stripes Festival and Parade, Halloween Trunk or Treat in October, Santa Comes to Lyndon in December and the Lyndon/Burke Snowflake Festival in February. The Lyndon Chamber works closely with Burke and other area Chambers on events that make the community a growing, vibrant place to live, work and play.

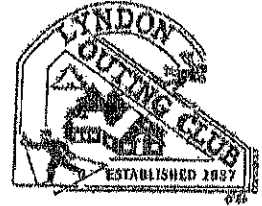
The Lyndon Chamber takes an active role in participating in the task forces formed after the Lyndon Community Forum process. We are active in Economic Development, Downtown Revitalization, Recreation and Trails and School/Town partnerships. We are committed to furthering opportunities for business and residents alike to thrive in Lyndon.

We thank you for your continued support for the Lyndon Information booth. The booth had significant repair work this summer with very generous donations of materials from Lyndonville Hardware and Wheeler Building Materials. Working with and for the community is what the Lyndon Area Chamber of Commerce is all about!

Sincerely,

Sarah Lafferty, President
Lyndon Area Chamber of Commerce

December 15, 2017



Dear Friends of the Lyndon Outing Club,

The Board of Directors of the Lyndon Outing Club (LOC) extends its thanks for the ongoing support shown by our town and surrounding communities. During 2017, our board has accomplished the following:

❁ **Lodge and Lifts** – This year, as his Eagle Scout project, Will Huntington refinished all of the tables and benches inside the lodge. This has greatly enhanced the overall look of the lodge and made it more appealing for potential renters. A new switch was installed on the top bull wheel and all safety equipment checked. We installed a new drainage ditch between the garage and tee shack to prevent the build-up of damaging water and ice in the tee shack that has been occurring for the past several years. With the help of Lyndon State College student and rugby team the rotting fence has been torn down and all road side trees trimmed to offer better visibility. Local resident Mike Flynn has gotten us started on replacing board on the fence and supplying paint, a project that we intend to finish in the spring. We have begun to upgrade hill lighting but this project will be costly and take more than one season.

❁ **Partnership with Lyndon State College** – Our ongoing partnership with Lyndon State College continues to bring new and exciting offerings for the community. Ben Rush, faculty member at LSC and new board member taught our first ever Wilderness First Aid course. In 2018, we intend to offer this course multiple times along with another course called Leave No Trace. Both courses offer nationally recognized certification intended to prepare people to be more prepared in the outdoors and to be better stewards of our environment.

❁ **Four Seasons Use** – Our board is in the initial phases of discussion about adding an interactive nature trail to the park. This is in the preliminary stages only and it is our intention to bring our ideas to the town in early spring and to include local students and community members in the planning if the project is given a green light and generates community interest. Local fitness groups and hikers continue to utilize the park year round.

❁ **Fund Raisers** – Our fund raisers continue to be a success, however, costs continue to rise. We would like to increase efforts to recruit new board members who have an interest in fund raising to help us raise new revenue sources. Increased worker's compensation, payroll, and maintenance expenses mean that we have to double our efforts to continue to repair and maintain the buildings and grounds.

❁ **Blue Cross/Blue Shield** – This year, we secured funding from Blue Cross/Blue Shield to offer multiple free ski and ride nights as a pilot project to see how this affects participation. It is hoped that those who would otherwise be unable to afford even our lowest priced tickets would be able to try out this fun sport. The funds are dedicated and can only be spent on advertising, and operating costs for those free nights. This is a one-time grant and will not be ongoing but should offer a unique opportunity to assess the impact of this grant. Blue Cross/Blue Shield will again be offering their free community sledding day, which drew more than 150 people.

After a great 2016-2017 season, we look forward to an even better 2017-2018 ski/ride operation. We are getting closer to achieving our goal of increased year round use of Shonyo Park and all it has to offer. The dedication of our small board and the continued participation and support of our community make it possible. Thank you to everyone who has supported us.

On behalf of the LOC Board of Directors,
Susan M. Teske, Board President

2017-2018 Board of Directors

Joe Peters	Bob Poulin	Jeff Helms	Dick Tomasko	RJ Tomasko
Taylor Reed	Annie Guyer	Benjamin Rush	Tom Frackleton	Paul Cranmer
Sam Damon	Michelle Clark	Johnna Daignault	Shannon Burke	



Lyndon Youth Baseball/Softball
PO Box 1146
Lyndonville, VT 05851-1146

Lyndon Youth Baseball/Softball (LYBS) is a non-profit organization serving over 425 children ages five to 16 every spring and summer. Last year, we had 232 Lyndon children joining us. We have a strong 50 year history embedded into the fabric of our community, making us the largest local youth sports program. A typical season includes seven Babe Ruth teams, 11 Little League Majors teams, 10 Minor League teams, nine Coach Pitch teams, and five Tee Ball teams. In addition to our regular season, we also host and attend district, state and regional tournaments in all of our major divisions. Our program operates in vast majority by the work of more than 150 selfless individuals who volunteer countless hours. We give thanks to the many devoted parents, families and friends who are actively involved in our program. Without each and every volunteer, we wouldn't be able to operate this great program.

In recent years, the price of operation and maintenance has continued to rise. Mowing expenses, equipment costs, and tournament and charter fees are all examples of escalating expenses. In 2018, USA Little League requires a change in bat regulations, forcing our program to buy new bats for every team. New bats are, on average, \$150 apiece and are expected to constrict our operating budget significantly. In addition, the cost of properly maintaining the playing fields are enormous. In previous years, the LYBS Directors have opted to hamper field work due to budget restrictions. However, we have reached appalling field conditions that are in desperate need of attention. Back stops are falling apart, base paths are full of grass, field mix is hard packed making sliding and running conditions dangerous, and field transition lips are jagged and uneven injuring players from unpredictable ball hops. Unfortunately, recent quotes have estimated each field as needing approximately \$12,000 worth of work to bring them back to standard.

To help alleviate expenditures and offset the cost to families and townsfolk, LYBS has taken a more active role in fundraising. We put a much larger emphasis onto tag day participation, reached out to the Lyndonville Rotary, applied for an equipment grant, solicited local business donations, and most importantly reformed our concessions operations into a 100% volunteer service. Because of these determinations, LYBS finished the 2017 season with a higher net gain than ever before. However, it is imperative to remember the upcoming costs of our crucial improvement projects, which are not yet underway. We have always pride ourselves on the ability to bring the game to players and families at an affordable cost. To continue to do so, we would greatly appreciate Lyndon's support in the amount \$3000 for the 2018 season. Lyndon has always showed generous support of our program for which we are endlessly grateful and appreciative. Thank you for your careful consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly McKeon
LYBS President

NORTHEAST KINGDOM
Council on Aging 
New directions for living well.

For over 35 years, the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging has been a trusted resource for older Vermonters to age in place. The Council on Aging is the go-to place for older Vermonters to gain assistance for aging well in their communities. We offer a Senior Helpline, health insurance counseling, staff specially trained to help people develop long range planning as they age, caregiver support programs and grants, case management for those who need a bit more support in aging in place, as well as assistance applying for fuel, food, and pharmacy programs. Our nutrition programs partially fund meal sites and home delivered meals under the guidance of our registered dietitian. Working with RCT and Legal aid we provide solutions for the complex challenges people face while living in a rural community. In addition, our work is supplemented by 300 volunteers who serve as Senior Companions, Meals on Wheels drivers, lead wellness programs and assist people in their homes.

During this past year **420** residents of Lyndon used the services of our organization to meet their needs. People called our Helpline for assistance with caregiving, programs like 3SqVt, Medicaid and Medicare, fuel assistance, transportation and many other topics.

We sincerely thank the residents of Lyndon for their continued support to make a difference in the lives of the residents who are often the most vulnerable. As a private non-profit we are able to remain independent and put the focus on the consumers who need unbiased assistance.

We're just a call away... 800-642-5119



Meg Burmeister
Executive Director

181 Crawford Road - Derby
PO Box 724 Newport VT 05856
Phone 802-334-6744 Fax 802-334-7455
Toll free 800-696-4979

2225 Portland Street
PO Box 368 St. Johnsbury VT 05819
Phone 802-748-3181 Fax 802-748-0704
Toll free 800-649-0118

www.nkhs.org



NORTHEAST
KINGDOM
HUMAN
SERVICES

Serving the NEK
since 1960

Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc. (NKHS)

Annual Fiscal Year Summary: July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017

The mission of NKHS is to enrich communities and enhance the ability of individuals and families to improve their lives.

Emergency/crisis intervention care at NKHS is utilized 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Thank you, **Town of Lyndon** voters, for your **\$6280.00** appropriation support last year toward our emergency/crisis services to residents in need in the NEK. The Emergency Services team responded to serve **506** individuals in fiscal year 2017. Family and friends of these individuals benefited from the support as well. Some of those responses were provided by the Embedded Emergency Crisis Services team dedicated to work alongside law enforcement responding to crisis situations at homes, businesses, barracks, and/or hospitals. Law enforcement and community members agree the positive impact embedded mental health crisis workers provide while responding directly to a scene or situation is invaluable. When unexpected tragic events occurred, our Specialty Team provided support at schools and businesses about how to deal with sudden grief and loss in the community.

NKHS served **326** individuals last year from the **Town of Lyndon** out of a total of **3580**. Individuals utilized supports and programs in homes, schools, NKHS offices, and in the communities of the NEK. We could not do this without our 500+ dedicated employees, 74 of these from your town. As a 501(c)(3) private not-for-profit organization, our volunteer Board of Directors and Program Standing Committees provided oversight to support the agency's belief that human services should be cost effective, available to all no matter their age or ability to pay, and responsive to the needs of our local communities.

Please visit our website at www.nkhs.org for more information about our agency and services. NKHS bases our appropriation request on \$1.05 per person in your community according to the 2010 census, the same amount as last year. We greatly appreciate your interest, your help in letting people know about the services we provide, and your financial support.

Sincerely,

Carol Boucher
Interim Executive Director

Mark Whitworth
President, Board of Directors

We're all about being human.

*NEKYS has been offering vital supportive services for youth and families since 1975
In 2017 NEKYS served 3160 individuals throughout Caledonia and Essex Counties*

NEKYS Family Programs Provide:

- Staff is available 24 hours/7days a week to support youth, families, and individuals.
- Supportive counseling for youth and families, case management, support for youth and families within their schools, and family mediation.
- Outdoor adventure opportunities that include kayaking, canoeing, hiking, swimming, and mountain climbing. The group works on learning coping skills and self-care strategies.
- Adult mentors once a week in the school for at-risk students in the 1st-8th grade. Adult mentors establish supportive relationships that result in improved academic performance and positive life choices.
- Summer Central Scholarship program offering scholarships for children to attend summer activities they otherwise could not afford.

NEKYS Youth Program Include:

- Staff is available 24 hours/7days a week to support youth, families, and individuals.
- Support to local young people ages 15-22 that are homeless or at risk of homelessness; have current or past involvement with foster care; are pregnant and/or parenting; experiencing mental health issues; struggling with substance abuse; have current or past involvement with the criminal justice system.
- Programs that utilize a positive youth development, trauma-informed approach that is tailored to meet the needs of young people. Encouragement for each young person is to identify their strengths and achieve goals related to housing, education, employment, and life skills.
- Access to short-term and long-term housing support that addresses the complex needs of young adults who are 18-22 years old. Young adults receive support which include in-home case management, rental assistance, landlord mediation, job skill development, and educational advancement support.

NEKYS Restorative Justice Programs Include:

- A voluntary and confidential alternative to court proceedings for individuals ages 10 through adult.
- Programs based on restorative justice practices that give the person who violates the law the opportunity to identify and repair the harm done to the victim, the community, and themselves.
- Opportunity for the individual who completes the requirements of the program to have his or her case closed in the legal system.
- Help for individuals to regain their driver's license while they pay off their fines and fees.
- Support for 16 to 21 year old youth who are referred to the program after receiving a notice to report from a police officer for possession and/or consumption of alcohol or marijuana.
- Assistance for youth ages 10 through 22 who have been adjudicated in Family Court, are on probation and require additional support by the Department for Children and Families.
- Pretrial Services – a new program involving risk assessment and needs screening.
- Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) – works with adjudicated youth to reduce/eliminate repeat offenses; works with at-risk youth using prevention techniques to keep them out of the juvenile justice system; truancy work with school systems.

Northeast Kingdom Youth Services is a private, non-profit agency governed by a community-based, volunteer Board of Directors. We rely on grants, contracts, and appropriations from the towns we serve to continue our mission. Thank you for supporting families in our community. Please call our office at 748-8732 if you have any questions or concerns.

Rural Community Transportation, Inc.

1677 Industrial Parkway
Lyndonville, VT 05851
Phone: 802-748-8170, Fax 751-8349

October 19, 2016

Re: Town Appropriation

Voters of Lyndonville:

RCT is a nonprofit corporation providing transportation to the elderly and disabled, Medicaid and general public through a van, bus or volunteer driver service. Last Year between all of our programs, RCT provided over 229,570 rides.

RCT transports people to, adult-day service facilities, senior meal sites and necessary medical treatments such as, dialysis, radiation therapy, chemotherapy, physical therapy, special medical needs and other appointments. In Lyndon/Lyndonville RCT also provides regular bus service Monday through Friday five times per day between Lyndonville and St. Johnsbury. Twice per day connections on the bus can be made to get to Montpelier or Burlington.

RCT has been providing service in your community for over twenty five years and must reach out again for community support in order to maintain the quality of service that is needed for the members of our community.

Last fiscal year RCT provided 147 Lyndon/Lyndonville residents with 9,950 trips travelling 148,515 miles and a cost of \$178,408.76. These trips do not include riders on the Jay Lyn or Express Shuttle.

We hope you will be able to assist us with this request and we look forward to continuing our service that is needed by the members in your community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Mary Grant

Mary Grant
Executive Director



Report of 2017 Activity for Lyndon
Town Appropriation Request: \$ 7500

Umbrella exists to ensure that communities in Caledonia, Orleans and Essex counties offer safety, support and options for self-determination to women and families. To this end, we provide the following services:

The Advocacy Program is the essential safety net for people affected by intimate partner violence and sexual abuse. We meet the needs of victims in crisis while also offering preventative programming to local schools and youth groups with a focus on gender respect, consent, and healthy relationships. **In 2017 we:**

- supported at least 683 individuals with direct advocacy
- housed 29 adults and 23 children in our shelter for a total of 2427 bed-nights
- reached 500 adults and 1,000 youth with our prevention programming

Kingdom Child Care Connection is the community-based child care resource and referral center for Caledonia and Southern Essex counties. We are responsible for helping families find and pay for high-quality child care services while also increasing the availability and quality of child development services through professional development opportunities and targeted programmatic supports. **In 2017 we:**

- connected 479 families with the Child Care Financial Assistance Program
- offered 25 professional development opportunities to 77+ child care providers to ensure the people responsible for taking care of our youngest citizens have the tools and resources they need to do their best.

The Family Room is a supervised visitation and monitored exchange center offering child-centered support for parents seeking to establish or rebuild relationships with their children. **Last year we helped 75 children develop safe, healthy relationships with their non-residential parent.** Additional services such as therapeutic visitation, parenting education, and mediation can also be arranged in order to help families address their unique goals and needs.

Cornucopia is geared towards helping women-in-transition achieve economic self-sufficiency. This 17-week job-skills training program introduces women to the culinary arts as they prepare Meals-on-Wheels for Newport-area seniors. After completing the program women are assisted with securing employment with a local business, in a position that fits their individual strengths and interests. **To date, Cornucopia has provided over 31,000 nutritionally-balanced meals to Newport-area seniors and empowered 10 women through hands-on culinary and hospitality training.**

Given that some of our services are provided anonymously, it can be difficult to provide precise usage figures for towns. **At least 244 households in Lyndon and 20 child care providers were served directly by Umbrella in 2017,** and the community as a whole benefited from prevention and outreach programs at schools, as well as training and consultation for human service and law enforcement professionals. Community support is critical to sustaining our programming and discovering innovative new approaches to the work we do. We are deeply grateful for Lyndon's support.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee A.K. Swain
Executive Director

Powers Park

PO BOX 715 Lyndonville, VT 05851 powersparkvt@gmail.com

Town of Lyndon, Selectboard
119 Park Ave.
Lyndon, VT 05851
dawn@lyndonvt.org

December 30, 2017

Dear Sir/Madame,

On behalf of Powers Park and the Village Improvement Society, I submit this appropriations request to the voters of the Town of Lyndon. We are again requesting the sum of \$7,500.

Since 1985, Powers Park has provided a fun, affordable summer program that provides swim instruction to over 400 children from Lyndon/Lyndonville and the surrounding communities. In addition, we have offered tennis lessons along with arts and crafts. For the past two years, Powers Park has partnered with local youth to offer dance and ballet lessons as well.

The children that participate come from over 13 towns to participate and work their way through six levels of Red Cross swimming certifications. While at Powers Park, the children enjoy a free bag lunch program and books from the Cobleigh Library Bookmobile. Families are able to come together to have fun during our afternoon and night open swim and community pool parties.

The operation of the park is done by an all-volunteer board and we rely on funding from others to continue our programs. While we seek grants on both the national and state level, our largest supporters are our partners in local municipalities and businesses who graciously offer support to Powers Park. The voters in your Town have been steadfast in their support of Powers Park. We again ask for this support to continue our programs in the summer of 2018.

Thank you for your consideration and the town of Lyndon's continued support.

Sincerely,

Donna Smith
President, Powers Park (Village Improvement Society)