

Partners in Education (PIE), Heather Freeman: PIE hopes to use Front Porch Forum to announce and give updates. They are planning a Pie For Breakfast fundraiser for February 2nd and a Variety Show fundraiser in April. They will need volunteers and concessions for that event. Their unofficial motto is to bring the school into the community and the community into the school.

Hyde Park Elementary School, Dan Regan: The School Board is exploring the next steps for the building restoration and will be interviewing approximately 7 architectural firms this week.

Lamoille Family Center, Dan Regan: The holiday project was successful; the Polar Splash is coming up. The Lamoille Family Center purchased land on Bridge Street and is facing the excitement and challenges of starting a Capital Campaign.

Johnson State College, Dan Regan: Spring Semester starts January 22nd. Dibden Center for the Arts has many free programs and has great sight lines and acoustics for audiences. <http://www.jsc.edu/dibdencenterforthearts/>

Board of Trustees of the Village of Hyde Park: Jack Anderson, The sidewalk down to Depot Street will be built in 2013! Green Mountain Power is selling electricity from North Hyde Park to Hyde Park Water and Light. Don Waterhouse is retiring. The plan is to hire a General Manager with electric and CPA experience and to coordinate with Morrisville.

Kudos to the Village employees for their hard work keeping the lines maintained, updated and providing excellent service. The joint Village and Town plan is written and posted in the paper. The village is now working with the Town on a joint zoning plan.

BOTVOHP, Charlie Aronovici: Garfield, The North Village and the Hyde Park Village are commercial areas. There will be a vote at Town Meeting to put a tax stabilization program in place as an incentive to business owners to come to Hyde Park. The Board of Trustees is looking for a legitimate restaurant for Hyde Park and is thinking about parking and zoning.

Congregational Church, Mike Ford: Phase 2 of the Bell Tower construction is finished. Phase 3 will happen in the spring with a gutter that will redirect the water that is currently moves toward the building. At the Annual Meeting it was decided to have a strategic plan constructed by the congregation and will brain storm and create goals toward objectives. Using Front Porch Forum has helped get information to the Community about what is happening at the Church as they want to go “beyond the walls”.

Lamoille Prevention Partnership, Mike Ford: Lamoille County is eligible for additional funds for prevention programs. The LPP is focusing not only on drug and alcohol abuse prevention, but also suicide prevention and methods to stay healthy. There are 2 medical

marijuana dispensaries in Vermont, one in Waterbury and 2 more opening. There is a possibility that Vermont will pass less strict laws for possession of marijuana.

Congregational Church, Dan Young: Lucy Hankinson will speak at the Church on Friday, January 11th at 6:00 about her experiences in the Peace Corps in Panama. Refreshments served.

Saturday, January 19th is the next Soup and Bread Lunch from 12-1 by donation.

Planning Commission, Dan Young: The combined Town and Village Plan is finished and both groups worked well together to make it happen.

Friends of Lamoille Valley Rail Trail, Dan Young: Act 250 barriers have been pushed aside and construction will begin this summer. There is a grant for each town to build a Trail Head for access to the Rail Trail.

Hyde Park Community Circle, Dan Young: Next event is Think Spring on Saturday, March 16th at Hyde Park Elementary School with No Strings Marionette Company, seedlings to plant and snacks.

Laraway, Jim Heath: The school is very busy with 151 employees and phenomenal staff with lots of exciting programs in the works including the possibility of satellite offices. The solar panels are up and the students are able to explore with all of the new technologies. Laraway does a lot of teaming with JSC.

Rotary, Jim Heath: The Rotary is a sponsor of the Polar Splash to raise money for hunger relief and other community needs on February 9th at Lake Elmore "Freezin' for a Reason"

North Village, Jim Heath: Not sure where the construction of the base will be. Is excited about the possibility of new businesses in the North Village.

Lanpher Memorial Library, Amy Olsen: Amy did invite youth members to the Collaborative Group meeting, but they were unable to attend. The library got a bike rack and will have it put in during the spring/summer season when the new sidewalk cement can be used for a platform. The library Trustees had an energy audit done of the building and have made some improvements based on the recommendations, including storm window inserts. They have cleaned the basement out and are in the process of beginning a long term plan. The next book discussion group will meet on Tuesday, January 29th at 6:30 to discuss the Pilot's Wife. Plans are going for a Community Storywalk on Saturday, February 23rd for the book "Me...Jane", by Patrick McDonnell....and is hoping to connect with the Church and PIE to help!

Lamoille County Mental Health, Marie Olsen: The organization has officially changed their name back to Lamoille County Mental Health as they are proud to provide mental health services to the Community.

Next Meeting, TUESDAY, APRIL 9TH 6:30.

The format of the next meeting might include a brief talk from a guest speaker
I am open to suggestions for ways to keep the Collaborative Group meetings interesting!