

Visitors from Montpellier, France!

Our neighbors from our City's namesake, Montpellier, paid a visit to City Hall. Jean-Luc Cousquer, President of the Montpellier office of Tourism, and his Deputy Director, Marie-Dominique Bellamy-Clauzel flew into Boston and drove up to Montpellier today. They are looking forward to touring our downtown. Mr. Cousquer and Ms. Bellamy-Clauzel brought gifts from Montpellier, including maps, their city magazine, key chains and French wine! Jamie greeted them this afternoon.



City of Montpellier Help Wanted

View the latest job opportunities at <https://vt-montpelier.civicplus.com/Jobs.aspx>

View the latest City committee vacancies at <http://www.montpelier-vt.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?CID=22>

WEEKLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS ...

Community Justice Center

The Montpellier Community Justice Center is excited to announce that filmmaker Bess O'Brien is bringing her new film "Coming Home" to Montpellier. The movie provides an in-depth look at the work of Circles of Support and Accountability (COSAs) in Vermont and features a Montpellier COSA.

"Coming Home" focuses on five core members as they navigate the challenges of reentering their communities after incarceration. The film highlights volunteers, staff and core members of the Barre, Montpellier, St. Johnsbury and Hartford CJsCs. Bess O'Brien is an award-winning documentary filmmaker and theater producer whose work focuses on pressing social issues. Her films shed light on the human stories behind opiate addiction, foster care, domestic violence, eating disorders, incarceration, and bullying.

The film will be shown at the Savoy Theater in Montpellier on October 18 at 7:00 pm. The presentation is free, and donations are accepted. Watch the trailer at <https://vimeo.com/288447403>. See Press Release attached to this report.

Public Works

Shared Use Path Project Granite St – Gallison Hill Road:

Currently awaiting approval of material & product submittals. Soil borings for the retaining wall geotechnical design is complete as originally planned but additional borings may be needed because of poor soil conditions encountered in one location where the structural support design will need to be modified. Work planned for the week of October 8th includes the installation of erosion control devices and check dams, tree protection systems, and some of the project definition fencing.

First Ave Sidewalk Reconstruction:

The main work force from the streets division will be continuing work on the sidewalk reconstruction project. Excavation of the old sidewalk and curb will be complete today. Paving of a base for the new curb will be completed and, hopefully, the new curb. Preparation of the subbase & then paving the new sidewalk will follow immediately after the curb is in place.

Street Paving:

Driveway & side street approach paving was completed this week. The projects are now substantially complete and an inspection will be performed to identify any remaining work needed before closing out the projects.

Lague Drive Reconstruction:

Water system work is now nearly complete. The contractor has been making good progress on reconstructing the road subbase which we expect to be completed by Friday, October 12th (work will take place on Columbus Day). The paving contractor is prepared to mobilize as soon as the road base is ready for paving.

One Taylor Street Transit Center:

The utility work within the street is being wrapped up today.

Northfield Street:

Curbing behind the sidewalk at #146 is now complete. The City will schedule a time to pave the section of sidewalk at #146. Exact dates unknown at this time. There are some driveways that still need to be finished. Hopefully everything with Dubois will be completed next week. There are 1-2 gravel drives that need to be touched up and 2-3 paved driveways.

VTRANS:

The contractor on the project working for VTrans was required to remove a section of defective pavement near Prospect Street. It is not yet known when the new pavement will be applied. Other work to be performed by the VTrans contractor is also not yet scheduled consisting of gravel shoulders and the remaining signs. We expect all work will be completed over the next couple of weeks.

Community Services

Enchanted Forest Pumpkin Donations:

If you've ever been to the Parks' Department Enchanted Forest event, you know how magical the evening is – featuring beautiful storytelling, dancing, and music; sharing in nature with your friends and family; and enjoying beautiful pumpkins and candles throughout the park. We are currently seeking donations of pumpkins that we can then carve and then turn into jack-o-lanterns to illuminate Hubbard Park on October 13th. If you're interested in making a donation of a pumpkin, or want more information, please email or call Becky at rjohnston@montpelier-vt.org, or 802-225-8694.

Enchanted Forest:

On October 13th, we are inviting the community of Montpelier to join the City of Montpelier Parks and Trees

Department for a night of magic, storytelling, and nature. Throughout Hubbard Park, we will host five to seven stages of storytellers, musicians, and dancers to entertain the general community of Montpelier. We need volunteers to help us create this magical atmosphere for our guests, from making food to accepting tickets. If you love nature and storytelling, help share that love with others by volunteering at Enchanted Forest! For more information or to sign up, please call or email Becky at rjohnston@montpelier-vt.org or 802-225-8694.

Ski & Skate Sale:

Winter is coming...and so are winter sports! Get ready for your favorite winter activities by shopping the Recreation Department's Ski and Skate sale at Montpelier High School on October 20th. Volunteers at the sale get access to a special preview sale on Friday, October 19th! Please consider volunteering as either a check in volunteer on Friday, October 19th or at the sale the morning and afternoon of October 20th. For more information or to sign up today, please call or email Becky at rjohnston@montpelier-vt.org or 802-225-8694.

Spooktacular Halloween Party:

Children in grades six and below are invited to join us for a not-so-scary Halloween party with games, prizes, and a magic show! We are seeking a team of volunteers to join us from Montpelier High School on October 27th from 1:00-2:30pm. These volunteers will help decorate the space, organize the games, and hand out prizes. If you're interested in joining us for the party, please call or email Becky at rjohnston@montpelier-vt.org or 802-225-8694.

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UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS...

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|-----------------------|---|---------------|--|
| Oct 10 | Housing Authority appointments ATCM Budget workshop - Finance Adopt community indicators - CM Parklet Ordinance – 2 nd reading - CM Strategic Plan/Envisio Progress report - CM | Oct 24 | Art Synergy Master Plan – P&D Investment Committee appts. - ATCM MTIC appointments – ATCM Energy Advisory Committee appts. – ATCM Design Review Committee appts. - ATCM Budget workshop w/survey Finance Body Cam Policy (budget) – MPD DID Budget – MA Energy Efficiency Update - Facilities |
| Oct 29 | Special Meeting – Public Information session for special election items CM | Nov 14 | Budget Guidelines Finance Budget Schedule Finance Community Profile ACM CVPSA Board Presentation – joint w/Barre CC |
| Nov 28 | Report on PCI Targets DPW Main/Barre Corridor Study DPW Personnel Plan Revision – CM/Finance Master Plan Update – P&D Zoning Fixes – P&D Student Ex-Officio appointments | Dec 12 | Budget Finance/CM Plastic Bag Ban charter change CM Official Map P&D Complete Streets Plan DPW |
| Dec 19 | Budget Finance/CM Economic Development Summary P&D MDC goals/measures CM/MDC Housing Strategy (Purchasing land?) P&D Sabins Pasture Plan CM/P&D Tax Stabilization Policy CM/P&D/MDC Storefront Incentives CM/P&D Livable Wage/Min wage ordinances CM Ex-Officio Committee Appts ATCM | Jan 2 | Budget if needed Finance/CM |
| Jan 9 | Budget Finance/CM Voluntary rental inspection program P&D | Jan 16 | Budget public hearing CM Warning Public hearing CM Riverfront Access plan P&D District heat summer operations plan ACM |
| Jan 24 (Thurs) | Budget public hearing CM Warning Public hearing CM Charter Public hearing CM Bond public hearing/necessity res. CM Approve warning CM Audit Report - Finance | Feb 13 | Restructure revolving loan funds P&D Complete Ordinance review – 1 st reading ATCM Manager Review CM |
| Feb 27 | Main/Barre Implementation Plan DPW Ordinance review – 2 nd reading ATCM | | |

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Not calendared as agenda items:

- Utilize TIF for applicable projects
- Reinstigate council budget survey **CM done**
- Implement municipal facility best practices for stormwater **DPW**
- Ensure any new facility or renovation meets net zero goals **Facilities**
- Publish and Post resources for landlords and tenants **ACM/P&D done**
- Conduct public outreach about housing rights and issues **ACM/P&D done**
- Add public dashboard from Envisio (October) **ATCM**
- Community workshops on social justice if approved by council
- Continue W/S master plan **DPW**
- Continue planning for CSO elimination **DPW**
- Seek grants for EV Charging stations **P&D**
- Employee parking incentive (possibly with Oct 24 parking plan) **ACM/P&D**
- Substance Abuse prevention program with schools **CS**

For Budget:

- Upgrade street lights to LED **DPW**
- Consider Net Zero fund/benefit charge **CM/MEAC**
- Seek funding to expand COSA to work with DCF families **CJC**
- Prioritize non-fossil fuel based vehicles in equipment plan **DPW/Finance**
- One Taylor Street – develop & Fund maintenance plan **DPW**
- Evaluate compatible fuel match **DPW**
- Police staffing and training **MPD**
- Replace aging fire vehicles **MFD**
- Facility Management **CM/Facilities**
- Community Services integration and staffing **ACM/CS**

Pending Meeting items:

- Parks tour and meeting with Parks Commission - **done**
- Open Meeting/Public records briefing



William Fraser
City Manager

Press Release

Contact Bess O'Brien

Kingdom County Productions

bobrien@pshift.com

802-274-2422 cell

**Documentary film on prisoners returning to their Vermont Communities
will Tour this fall!**



A new documentary film ***Coming Home*** directed by Bess O'Brien will tour Vermont this fall. The movie will kick off a 13 town tour with a premiere on October 6th 7pm at Main Street Landing in Burlington. Special VIP guests will be in attendance.

Coming Home is a documentary film focused on five people returning back to their Vermont communities from prison. The film focuses on the innovative COSA program (Circle of Support and Accountability) that helps reintegrate folks back into their daily lives. The COSA program is run through Vermont's Community Justice Centers and is part of the restorative justice model.

COSA's are made up of community volunteers who meet once a week with offenders enabling those coming out of prison to create strong bonds of support, friendship and accountability as they work to become healthy members of society. Prisoners that are often placed in COSA's include sex offenders, drug related criminals, and felons. The rate of recidivism drops when folks are involved with a COSA team.

Coming Home is a film that takes an intimate and powerful look at this COSA process, the struggles and challenges of folks coming out of prison and the successes of the restorative justice model.

The film follows five people from St. Johnsbury, Montpelier, Barre and White River Junction who are trying to turn their lives around after returning back to their communities from prison. We see these folks create new bonds, make amends with old friends and family, work on their recovery from addiction, get new jobs, housing and start their lives from scratch. The film follows the ups and downs of these five individuals and the powerful relationships that they build with their COSA team volunteers.

The **Coming Home** screenings are free to the public (donations are greatly appreciated to help offset the costs of the tour). No reserved tickets in advance except for the premiere on Oct 6th. Email for premiere reservation to: bobrien@pshift.com.

Director Bess O'Brien and members from the film will be present at most screenings. For information on where the film will be touring go to www.kingdomcounty.org.

CATCH A FILM SCREENING IN A TOWN NEAR YOU!

ALL SHOWS 7PM. No advance sales or reservations for rest of tour dates. Admission is free. Donations are greatly appreciated.

MEET THE FILM DIRECTOR AND MEMBERS FROM THE MOVIE!

October 117pm, **BURLINGTON**, Burlington City Arts, 135 Church St.
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October 137pm, **ST. ALBANS**, Congregational Church, 27 Church St.
October 167pm, **ESSEX**, Essex Cinemas 21 Essex Way
October 187pm, **MONTPELIER**, Savoy Theatre, 26 Main St.
October 237pm, **HARDWICK**, Hazen Union High School, 126 Hazen Union Drive
October 257pm, **ST. JOHNSBURY**, Break Out Bakery Space, 446 Railroad St.
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October 287pm, **NEWPORT**, Goodrich Library, 202 Main St.
November 17pm, **BRATTLEBORO**, Latchis Theatre, 50 Main St.
November 27pm, **NORWICH**, UCC Church, 15 Church St.
November 47pm, **RANDOLPH**, Bethany Church UCC, 30 N. Main St.
November 87pm, **BENNINGTON**, VT Vets Home 325 North St.
November 10 ..7pm, **RUTLAND**, Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St.
November 11 ..7pm, **MIDDLEBURY**, Congregational Church, 3 Main St.

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The idea of the COSA model is to "walk with a core member as he or she transitions from prison to community."

Coming Home is a film that takes an intimate and powerful look at this COSA process, the struggles and challenges of folks coming out of prison and the successes of the restorative justice model.

FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO WWW.KINGDOMCOUNTY.ORG
OR EMAIL BOBRIEN@PSHIFT.COM

Underwriting
sponsors for the
tour include:



SEVEN DAYS
sevendaysvt.com



WATCH THE FILM TRAILER AT:

<https://vimeo.com/288447403>