## LOIS WITH THE MONTGOMERY NEWS, MAY 21, 2023

5/21..Our Sunday Service was completed by Merle Van Gieson bringing us the message "How Many Times Does God Forgive Us." It has been a wonderful day to be outside but sure hope you had some bug spray on as the little monsters were terrible making life miserable for us to enjoy the outside. Penny worked on the garden to get it ready for some seeds and Plants to go in SOON, with a little help from her Mother.

Thanks to all those that participated in our Montgomery Cornhole project to raise money for the Montgomery Elementary School 8th grade trip to Washington, D.C. In the eleven sessions, We raised around \$2100. The finale tournament held on May 6 was the highlight of the project. This was a fun way for us to contribute. We had a fun time playing Cornhole from November 2022-May 2023. The Champions were Ethan White and Anthony Pelkey from St. Albans and Colchester. They were undefeated in the tournament. In the Championship Game, they defeated Mark Roberts and Fabyan Snider from Richford in a very close game. Mark and Fey were trying to force them to play another game but came up just short. They were awarded the second place trophy. What a great tournament and a generous crowd. Thanks To All.

Montgomery now has a Town Orchard thanks to the efforts of our amazing Community! The 34 acre parcel of land located at 251 Fuller Bridge Road was donated to the Town in 2001 by the Jewett family and included a restrictive covenant that the land be specifically used for, recreational, agricultural and community use only. Recently, thanks to the collective effort of the Montgomery Conservation Commission, a plan was adopted and initiated to utilize this land for the collective benefit of that covenant when it was bequeathed to Montgomery over the course of the week, community members assisted with the site preparation and flagging of the layout for planting. On May 11th the enthusiastic, hard working crew of about 30 students, teachers and one instrumental bus driver from MES joined the effort and planted 35 pear and plum trees. On Saturday, May 13th, many community members joined the effort to dig, dip and plant an additional 155 trees, including pear, plums, cherries, apples, peaches, paw-paw, hazelnuts, chestnuts, hickories, hazelburts, resulting in 190 plants within the four acres orchard. By 2 p.m. on the 13th trees were in the ground, watered and ready to thrive. In addition to the planting on the 13th, information on "knowing Knotweed" was available and Sarita Khan from the Vermont Salt Cave contributed to informing folks to the benefits of J.Knotweed from cultures who have utilized the plant medicinally. Mark Your Calendars!! In five to ten years time, Montgomery will be looking forward to harvesting from these beautiful cultivars. In the meantime, it's a lovely spot to walk, reflect, and showing them some love till they can produce abundantly! It's also a reminder of what a great community we have and what can be accomplished when we all work together and tend to this special place we all call home. This effort was generously supported by: Montgomery Conservation Commission, Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation, Urban & Community Forestry Program, and the U.S. Forest Service and our local Watershed Supporters, the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers Wild and Scenic Committee. Thank You Montgomery.

Happy Birthday to: George Locher 5/31; Silas Mullin 6/2; Marty Vallender 6/3.

Anniversary wishes to: Mark & Wendy Brouilette 5/30; Mike & June Abramowitz 6/2. Isaiah & Kristen Fletcher 6/2.

\*\*Why is the letter A like a flower? Because a B comes after it. \*\* Why couldn't the little flower ride a Bike? Because it had no petals.\*\*\* That's all folks..enjoy this week..

Reminder that this Saturday, May 27, The Committal Service for Sonny and Frankie Lumbra begins at 11 a.m. at the Village Cemetery. Then following this service there will be a" Celebration Of Their Life" at the Center Recreational Center Pavilion with our Families and Friends.