



Montgomery Historical Society
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Hello friends,

December 2020

I just returned from hanging our traditional wreaths and trinity window lights at Pratt Hall and wanted to pass on our Season's Greeting and update you on a few things. While our events have been cancelled we've still been busy. The repairs from the accident last summer are done, the outside of the entire Hall was painted, and we are having a few electrical and heating system updates completed. We will be raring to go next spring.

Speaking of next Spring, we have been working with the State Division for Historic Places to have several Historic Roadside Markers installed. They were approved in November and have been ordered. We will be working with the Dept. of Transportation (VTrans) on final installation. They will be at Pratt Hall (Union Church), Fuller, Comstock and Longley Bridges. We will attempt signs for the Creamery and Hutchins bridges, and possibly the Hectorville site later.

We've also been researching and advising the Town and Montgomery Center for the Arts (MCA) on historic preservation grant applications. The MCA (formerly the Baptist Church) and the Town Hall (formerly the Congregational Church and Crescent Theater, and Grange Hall) are the subjects of interest.

In the process we learned that in May of 1994 there were three Historic Districts in Montgomery placed on the State Register of Historic Places by the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation. While largely honorific designations with no requirements for owners, the Historic District designation can help open doors for preservation-related grant funding if owners agree to certain conditions.

I'm happy to announce Pat Calecas has joined our Board. A longtime MHS member, he brings a wealth of experience in Montgomery and Franklin County to our team. Welcome aboard!

The Board and I want to thank you for sticking with us in this trying time, and wish you the safest holiday season with all the love and kindness with families and friends as in any other year. Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and see you all in 2021.

Scott