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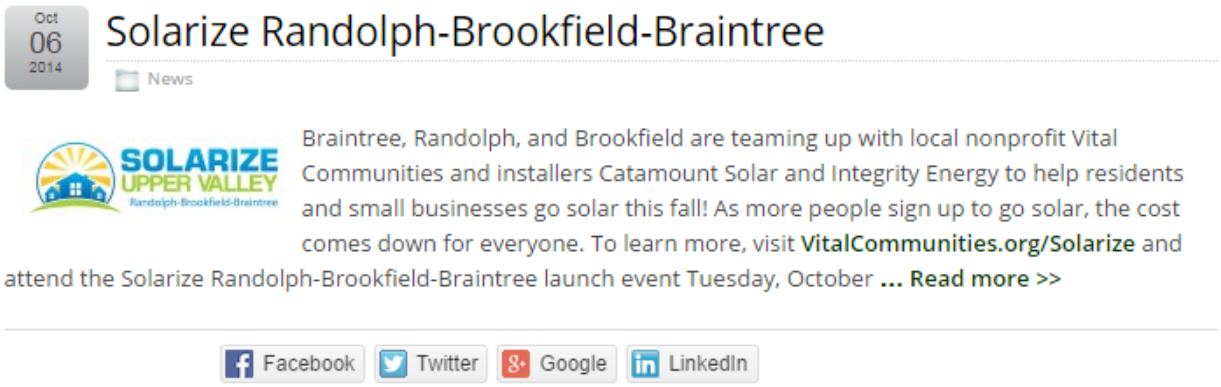

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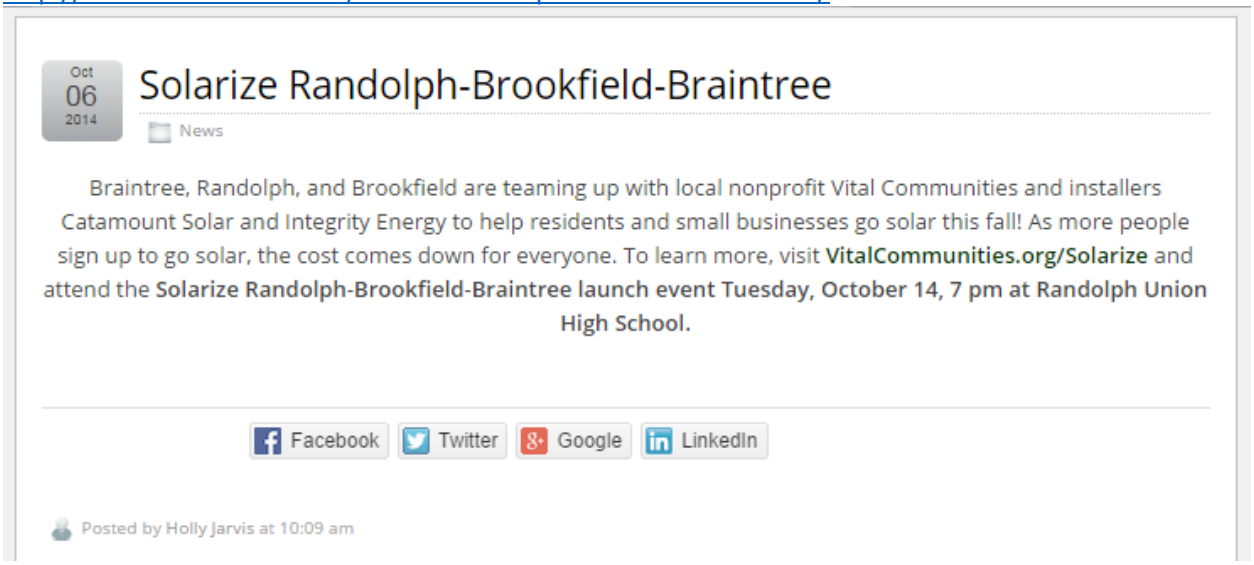

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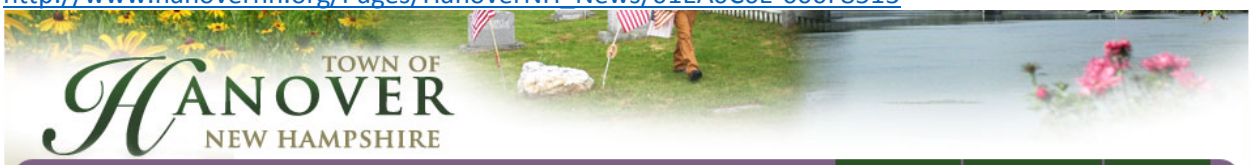

Hanover Launches Solar-Electric Incentive Initiative

Printer-Friendly Version

September 26th, 2014 – A team of Hanover residents this fall will undertake an effort aimed at significantly increasing the number of solar-electric (or photovoltaic) residential and small-business installations in Hanover. The project, called **Solarize Hanover**, offers a group purchasing plan to obtain volume based price reductions and unique networking opportunities to simplify the process of installing a solar system. Solarize Hanover is part of a larger Solarize Upper Valley effort coordinated by local nonprofit Vital Communities.
Hanover residents are encouraged to learn more at the project's launch event on **Thursday, October 23rd at 6:30 pm in the Hanover High School Auditorium.**

Round One of Solarize Upper Valley yielded 120 new solar homes in five towns in the region. In Round Two, the Sustainable Hanover team will launch a 15-week campaign (running mid-October through the end of January) to help Hanover residents and small businesses go solar. They join nine other towns across the Upper Valley in both New Hampshire and Vermont that are Solarizing this fall.

Asked why Vital Communities is behind the project, Sarah Simonds, its energy and transportation manager, replies: "We're committed to moving our region toward energy independence. With advances in solar technology finally leveling out, and incentives available at the state and federal level, now is the perfect time for New Hampshire residents to be looking into solar."

Team leaders for Solarize Hanover include David McManus, Yolanda Baumgartner, Chris Kennedy, Larry Litten and Marjorie Rogalski of Sustainable Hanover, along with Amanda Charland of the Co-op Foodstores and Jenna Musco of Dartmouth College, Public Works Director Peter Kulbacki and Town Manager Julia Griffin.
Here's how the project works:

1. A team of volunteers and Town staff from Hanover will be working this September to competitively select a partner solar installer.

2. Between mid-October and the end of January, the volunteer team and the selected partner installer will host events, sign residents up for free site evaluations and provide online resources to help local property owners understand where to begin, what to expect and the costs and benefits of going solar.
3. The selected installer offers a tiered pricing structure which lowers prices according to the volume of systems installed. The more residents who decide to go solar by January 31st, the lower the price for everyone participating in the Solarize Hanover project.

If you are even the slightest bit curious about solar, you'll want to be at the Solarize Hanover launch event on October 23rd. In the meantime, for additional information and to be kept in the loop about more coming events, send your name and e-mail address to **Solarize@HanoverNH.org**.

The team would also like to hear from anyone interesting in helping with the volunteer effort.

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Vital Communities, a nonprofit organization based in White River Junction, Vt., brings together citizens, organizations, and municipalities to take on issues where an independent voice and regional approach are essential. Working together, we make our region a better place to live, work, and play. Vital Communities' Energy Program works to move the Upper Valley toward energy independence by catalyzing local efforts in energy efficiency and renewable energy. Learn more at vitalcommunities.org.