



Vermont's North Country Chamber of Commerce

"Where the Mountains Meet the Lakes"

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHAMBER CANCELS CHILIFEST & FALL FESTIVAL

Vermont's North Country Chamber of Commerce in Newport has cancelled its annual Chilifest and Fall Festival traditionally held on the last weekend of September. "With the closing of the border and the continued health risk to visitors and local residents alike, the chamber's board of directors felt it was best to cancel this year's event and come back with it next year," according to chamber president Bruce James.

The chamber felt that the safety requirements for social distancing, face masks and accountable food preparation would be hard to be met. "It would be like playing Russian roulette and not be a responsible action to invite people to congregate during these Covid 19 times," the chamber president went on to say. "While the contest is fun, the health and safety of all local and visiting people is of paramount concern. We believe we will all be in a better, safer place to hold the festival and Chilifest in 2021, and invite all contestants to work on their recipes over the year."

The chamber says it will still hold its annual Scarecrow Contest in October, where businesses, organizations and residents make scarecrows to be seen along the street and in store windows over the course of a week. Prizes are awarded in several categories for this fun, community event.

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