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Promoting the businesses and organizations of the Souhegan Valley

Mark Bender, Town Administrator
Town of Milford
1 Union Square
Milford NH 03055

January 18, 2018

Dear Mark,

From 2000 until 2016, the Milford Improvement Team coordinated the Milford Pumpkin Festival on behalf of the Town of Milford and its citizens. When the executive director of the Milford Improvement Team left the organization in June 2017, the Milford Improvement Team did not hire a replacement.

Not wanting to put the festival at risk for cancellation in 2017, MIT's former executive director agreed to continue coordinating the event from her new position as the Executive Director of the Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce.

The Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce was pleased it was able to step up in 2017 under these extraordinary circumstances to act as the festival's organizer. The Chamber did so to ensure that the Town of Milford's long-standing tradition would not be canceled, and that so many of the groups that rely on the festival each year for their own fundraising endeavors would not be disappointed.

As a non-profit organization charged with serving the needs of our 11-member towns and businesses, it is strikingly clear that leveraging significant amounts of time and resources is outside the scope of the Chamber's mission.

In consideration thereof, the Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors has concluded that we will not organize the Milford Pumpkin Festival going forward.

We believe the Milford Pumpkin Festival to be a huge asset to the Town of Milford, its businesses, and citizens, and hope this tradition will continue.

Sincerely,

Tina Smith, Chairman
Board of Directors
Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce
69 Route 101A Amherst NH 03031
603-673-4360