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Roadways to be reclassified

BY LARRY WILFONG
The Vermont Journal

LUDLOW, Vt. – In a joint effort between the towns of Ludlow and Cavendish, a significant connecting thoroughfare may soon be upgraded. Three roads are in the process of being reclassified from Class III to Class II: Commonwealth Avenue, Barker Road and Quent Phelan Road. These roads are known to many of the two town's locals as the way to go to avoid traffic during the height of the busy season. As a connecting corridor they link Vermont Route 103 in Ludlow with the Class II road Twenty Mile Stream in Cavendish. This route opens up the options for reaching the far ends of the two towns, and would become an alter-

nate route in the event that an emergency caused blockage of Route 103. More than just a back route from the office to the home, this corridor also holds a major component of local infrastructure. The Coolidge Power Substation is located directly on the crossroads of Barker Road and Quent Phelan Road. This substation has already seen many upgrades and is expected to receive several more as alternative energy projects pour in to fill the void left behind from the closing of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant. Among these projects are a proposed 89-acre solar farm, the largest installation in the state, developed by Ranger Solar, which is expected to generate 20 megawatts of electricity. There will also be the 6-inch hydro-

electric power line, which was proposed last year, to bring electricity from a hydroelectric facility in Canada under Lake Champlain, through a portion of Ludlow, and ultimately terminating at the Coolidge Substation. Both of these projects bring along the need for their own buildings and ease of access, especially during an emergency. The reclassification of these roadways will have little noticeable effect on the general public. There is some basic redrawing of maps and slight reworking of the words in each of the town's annual highway inventories. The upgrading in classification of these roadways will increase the availability for financial aid and paving grants from the state. As simple as it may seem to final-

ize this bit of bureaucracy, it is a little more complex. In order for either of these towns to have chance for a successful application, both towns have to apply. There is a public hearing processes involved. There is a timeline for the calendar year, in which these applications and reviews must be submitted to the Vermont Agency of Transportation mapping unit by Dec. 1 or risk having to wait an additional year before the approval process. Both towns are working closely with the Regional Planning Commission, and communicating with one another, which is helping to make sure all of the paperwork is covered. In a recent Town of Cavendish Selectboard meeting, a motion was approved to submit the application and hold a public hearing.



Three roads in the Ludlow and Cavendish areas are in the process of being reclassified. PHOTO PROVIDED

The Vermont Journal & Shopper participates in Festival of Trees

KILLINGTON, Vt. – The Vermont Holiday Festival returns on Friday and Saturday December 2 and 3 with its glittering Festival of Trees, the magic of Santa's Workshop, and a bustling schedule of activities and musical performances. The festival hours are Friday 4 p.m. – 8 p.m., and Saturday 12 p.m. – 8 p.m. The Grand Ballroom at the Killington Grand Resort Hotel will be transformed into a winter wonderland as 100 uniquely decorated holiday trees fill the venue with the sights, sounds and scents of the season. The centerpiece of the Vermont Holiday Festival is the Festival of Trees, featuring a unique collection of one-of-a-kind Christmas trees decorated by local

businesses and raffled off at the conclusion of the festival. The Vermont Journal & The Shopper will be one of the local businesses there decorating a tree for the event! Festival attendees may purchase raffle tickets throughout the weekend for a chance to win their favorite tree. Winners are drawn during the Festival Finale Saturday night beginning at 7:30 p.m. Live musical performances from area school groups and by locally renowned bands. Other features of the festival include the Jack Frost Marketplace, a holiday shopping component featuring Vermont specialty products and free horse-drawn sleigh rides.



Arts & crafts in Santa's Workshop. PHOTO BY ROBIN ALBERTI

Bring a non-perishable food item to benefit the Vermont Food Bank Friday night and admission is free! Children are invited to attend Santa's Workshop, which will be hosted multiple times each day of the festival. Each workshop is one-hour long and includes a handcrafted toy, a Christmas story reading and a visit from Santa and his elves. Admission to Santa's Workshop is an additional cost per child. For more information, a detailed schedule of events or to buy advanced tickets, visit www.killingtonpico.org or call (802) 773-4181



Take a ride in a horse drawn sleigh. PHOTO BY SUZY BAILEY

Cavendish Municipal Building to install heat pumps

BY LARRY WILFONG
The Vermont Journal

CAVENDISH, Vt. – Many say that one of the big contributors to the sustained success of small towns like Cavendish is the ability to see poten-

tial obstacles before they come near and then plan for them. The Town of Cavendish Energy Committee has been diligently working on just that thing. Members know that we live in a world that is overly dependent upon

electricity and its by-product of technology. They know that changes have come and will continue to come as we progress towards a more globalized society. For a few years now, this committee reports it has been looking for ways to enhance the lives of the town's citizenry through solar power. This is not to discount their efforts to educate and provide resources for the town in several other areas, such as composting, weatherization, and more.

When the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant shut down its 620 megawatt facility in 2014, a major power void was left behind. One which the residents of Cavendish and the rest of Vermont wanted to see filled in as clean and renewable a way as possible. The shift was towards a less fossil fuel dependent infrastructure. Even before the closure, there were ideas and backup plans forming at the state level. Suddenly solar was everywhere. From residential rooftop units to

full scale solar farms, harvesting this unlimited resource became a huge financial sector all on its own. Companies large and small took advantage of the multiple benefits of this power source. Things like incentives, rebates and "free electricity" buzzed through public hearings on a regular basis, as third-party contractors and financiers came though to help communities start up their own facilities. This is still an everybody-wins scenario, just with a few extra participants. Fortunately, while the Town of Cavendish was working with just such a third-party group, the process broke down and the town self-financed its solar array. The upfront costs involved can seem daunting at first, but as the Town of Cavendish is experiencing, the positives make the negatives seem silly. Output from the 576 300-watt panel array has produced a surplus of energy credits, this after supplying the needs of several town buildings. Credits are produced by Green

Mountain Power Company when net metering is used to transfer electricity back into the grid. This is as opposed to storing the generated electricity in a costly infrastructure of battery banks. The output is used to calculate the offset on the customer's power bill. The downside of this is that these excess credits expire on Dec. 31. Now faced with how to best utilize these credits, the Energy Committee and the Cavendish Selectboard have been weighing their options. During a previous Selectboard meeting, a vote to purchase and install three heat pump units in the Municipal Building, for a cost not to exceed \$13,000, was passed. The math and expectations cause this to be a near no-brainer for those with foresight, the committee believes. These high-efficiency units will obviously be run on electricity, which would be covered under the surplus of solar credits, which places their operational costs at zero. While keeping the current fuel heating system in place as a backup,

it can be expected that the consumption of fuel will be driven down. For the Municipal Building, that comes to around \$2,000 a year. There are already ideas on the table over what to do with this cascade of savings. The expected payback on this system is near six years. With a life expectancy of around 20 years, the town is then looking at 14 years of free heat for the building. This will likely result in a continued building of credit surpluses, which will again cause the town to consider how best to distribute the rewards from the solar array. The system bid was awarded to HB Energy Solutions of Springfield, which is currently offering a rebate of \$1,800 on the \$14,660 system. There were other options, including a leased type contract with Green Mountain Power, but the Energy Committee weighed the facts and chose what it believes will likely have been the best option. It is expected that these units will be installed before the end of the calendar year.



The Cavendish Municipal Building will install new heat pumps. PHOTO PROVIDED

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Okemo Cares and Shares Food Drive

LUDLOW, Vt. - During this holiday season, Okemo Mountain Resort invites skiers and snowboarders to consider the needs of those less fortunate. On Sunday, December 4, Okemo will host its annual Cares and Shares Food Drive. When guests donate at least five non-perishable food items, a new child's toy or new clothing item, their generosity will be rewarded with a discounted day of skiing and riding at Okemo. Okemo Mountain Ambassadors will be accepting donations in the Clock Tower base area between 7 a.m. and 1 p.m. Volunteers from the Black River Good Neighbor Services Christmas Basket Program will help distribute

the donated items to needy families in time for the holidays. In addition to gathering donations for the Cares and Shares Food Drive, Okemo is donating 100 frozen turkeys to the Holiday Basket Program. "This is a great way for our guests to share the holiday spirit with their winter-season community," said Okemo Vice President and General Manager Bruce Schmidt. "And it's a pleasure for Okemo to reward its guests with discounted lift access for assisting local families in need this holiday season." For more information about Okemo Mountain Resort, please call (802) 228-1600 or visit okemo.com.

Cavendish Abundance Swap

CAVENDISH, Vt. - Cavendish Connects is pleased to sponsor the third annual Abundance Swap on Saturday December 3 at the Cavendish Town Elementary School in Proctorsville. Celebrate the bounty of the holiday season by giving and receiving in three easy steps: **Step 1:** Pick 3-5 items in your home, shop or office that someone would enjoy as a gift. These should be in really good shape and of quality, meaning it's well made and likely

to be valued by someone. Children are encouraged to bring gently used toys they may have outgrown or no longer use. Do not bring items that are damaged, broken or do not work. **Step 2:** Bring them to the Cavendish Town Elementary School on Saturday morning, December 3, starting at 9:30 a.m. Drop off your items, enjoy a visit with your neighbors and the Cavendish Connects team, as well as share the stories of what you are bringing to the swap. **Step 3:** From 10 - 11:30 a.m., select presents for someone on your holiday giving list (it can be you). This event is open to the public and is free of charge. For more information call 802-226-7807.

Russ Hurlburt Photography



Marji Graf, CEO of Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce welcomes Russ Hurlburt Photography to his new location at 136 Main Street, Ludlow. Russ got his start as a ski photographer and has been a local photographer for years, specializing in weddings, family photos, special events and skiing photos. He will also be selling his framed fine art work at his gallery. He will be open Thursday-Monday and by appointment. Stop in, or check out his website: russhurlburtphotography.com. 802-236-2888. Pictured l-r Abigail Lechthaler Hurlburt, Russ Hurlburt & Marji Graf.

PHOTO BY DONALD DILL

Senior luncheon at Flood Brook School

LONDONDERRY, Vt. - On Thursday, November 17, Flood Brook School hosted a luncheon for local senior citizens. Middle school students helped to greet and serve lunch to 45 guests, while students in grades K-2 performed festive songs including "Over the River & Through The Woods", and students in grades 3-5 contributed their artwork for table decor. The menu included, butternut & sweet potato soup, turkey potpie (complete with Flood Brook grown and

harvested potatoes), fresh rolls, peas, blueberry & raspberry buckle, and gingerbread cake! Flood Brook School would like to thank the Londonderry Congregational Church for helping to organize this wonderful event. The Flood Brook School is a K-8, 300-capacity school located in the heart of ski country in Southwestern Vermont. At Flood Brook School we challenge ourselves to be lifelong learners, to practice respect, and to value community.



Flood Brook Middle Schoolers served lunch to local senior citizens. PHOTO PROVIDED



Grades 3-5 helped with table decor. PHOTO PROVIDED



Grades k-2 performed festive songs during the luncheon. PHOTO PROVIDED

Successful CAFC Election Day bake sale

CHESTER / ANDOVER, Vt. - The Chester-Andover Family Center Election Day Bake Sale was a great success. The Sale began with three tables full of delicious baked goods, baked beans, etc., prepared by Center volunteers and ended with a

few items left which were given to GMUHS students for their sale in the afternoon. The Center bakers are to be commended for raising over \$1,000.00 with the three sales held this year. Those funds will help keep Chester and Andover families warm this winter by providing heating fuel assistance. A huge thank you to everyone who helped with the sale and to all whom so generously donated by purchasing items and also by just making a donation. Thank you from the Center Board and volunteers!

Even though the temps have been on the warm side, those snowy, winter days will be here soon. The Thrift Shop is well stocked with warm outerwear, winter shoes and boots, beautiful scarves, decorative holiday items, glassware, kitchenware, clothing for men, women, children and infants, and much more. Get on our email list so you will know when the next Bag Sale is scheduled; a bag of items for \$1 and all priced items are half price!

The Democratic Committees of Andover and Chester are holding the Annual Share Heat Fund Raiser on December 5, at Baba-a-Louis at 6 p.m. They will be raising funds for the benefit of the Chester Andover Family Center and the winter heating fund. Please join in for good fun, sharing of thoughts and joy as we begin this wonderful Christmas season. Here's how to reach the Center: 908 Vt. Route 103 South (P. O. Box 302), Chester, Vt. 05143. Call: (802) 875-3236, email: cafc302@gmail.com, and website www.chester-andoverfamily-center.org Please "like us" on Facebook.

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Various festive events to fill your weekend

WEST WINDSOR / BROWNSVILLE, Vt. - Kick off your holiday season in Brownsville at the events taking place on December 3 at the West Windsor Town Hall. Various festive holiday events include: Christmas shopping at the famous

Brownsville Christmas Bazaar on Saturday from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the West Windsor Town Hall (Route 44 & Brownsville Hartland Rd.) The ladies of the United Methodist Women's group have, once again, pulled together a fine gathering of artisans

and crafters who will be selling their wares at the Christmas Bazaar. There will also be fresh foods for sale and a white elephant table.

Recharge with a lunch starting at 11 a.m., when the ladies will be offering an array of delicacies including

homemade soups and sandwiches as well as freshly baked cookies.

Also at the West Windsor Town Hall, you can participate in the Holiday Tree Lighting at 4 p.m. There will be caroling, a fire pit to warm you outside and holiday cookies and

hot chocolate to warm you inside.

This year's free Christmas & Advent Concert & Carol Sing will be held at the Brownsville Community Church on Sunday, December 18 at 5 p.m. Refreshments will follow the

concert. The concert will feature a collection of choral, brass, organ and piano musical offerings. Admission is free for the events. Enjoy the festivities and bring your friends, neighbors and family!



The Christmas Bazaar will be on Sunday, Dec. 3.

PHOTO PROVIDED



A tree lighting and caroling will take place at the West Windsor Town Hall.

PHOTO PROVIDED

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Vermont Ranks eighth for volunteerism

REGION - A recent report from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) confirms volunteerism as a powerful form of civic engagement. According to CNCS 25 percent of Americans participated in their communities through volunteering last year. That's 62.6 million people in volunteer programs like Retired and Senior Volunteers (RSVP) with another 138 million engaged in "informal" volunteering like watching

each other's children, house sitting or helping seniors with shopping. One of the best features of the report is a listing of the top ten states for volunteering. Vermont is number eight in the nation!

Wendy Spence, CEO of CNCS, writes, "Giving back to our community is something we can all agree on - and taking this action is a powerful way to bring together Americans from all walks of life to build stronger, more equitable com-

munities." Windsor County's Green Mountain RSVP (GMRSVP) program offers many opportunities for people 55 and over to give their time and talents in service to their communities. We work closely with food pantries, health care providers, transportation agencies and schools. GMRSVP volunteers deliver meals on wheels, help elders stay in their homes safely, take homebound seniors and disabled adults to ap-

pointments, and mentor children in grades k-12.

Partnerships with over 35 non-profits in the county create many interesting and much needed volunteer opportunities. A complete list is available by calling GMRSVP at 802-674-4547 or online at rsvpvt.org. Let's keep pushing Vermont up the list. Your community is calling. Will you accept the challenge? Contact RSVP today and register as a volunteer. We need your help.

Black River Honor Roll for the first quarter

LUDLOW, Vt. - Congratulations to those students who worked and studied hard to earn the achievement of getting onto the Honors or High Honors Lists.

Black River Middle School
Grade 7: Honors:
Emma Kirdzik

Sadie Kobak
Haley Racicot
Caleb Roby

Grade 8: Honors:
Travis Blake
Michael Kautz
Aislynn Kelley
Hope Kelley

Sarah McHugh
Jonathan Oakes
Hailey Pierce

Black River High School
Grade 9: High Honors:
Emily Benson

Honors:
Juliana Comstock
Alexander Kirdzik
Christina LeTourneau
Joshua Noble
Ashlynn Rumrill

Grade 10: High Honors:
Ryleigh Corrigan
Lukas DeArruda

Honors:
Ryan Boyle
Heather Graham
Caleb Green
Aaron Merrill
Kendra Richards
Halley Riley-Elliott

Grade 11: Honors:
Jordyn Demers
Jonathan LeTourneau
Dakota Pachla
Austin Turco

Grade 12: High Honors:
Jakob DeArruda
Aiyana Fortin
Holly Goodman

Dayne Greineder

Honors:
Alexandra Barton
Cynthia Briggs
Oliva Murray
Madison Dean
Mary Faenza
Dillon Murray
Jason Peters
Eliza Tarbell
Madeline Veysey

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Elf on the Shelf



Jack, our Elf on the Shelf has made his way to our office fridge to make us a shopping list!

Stay tuned! We will publish a picture of Jack every week through December!

Visit us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @VermontJournal for our daily posts of Jack bringing Christmas spirit, and mischief, to our office throughout December!

PHOTO BY BRANDY TODT

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Stone Village Farmers Market

Anna and Squatty, owners of the Stone Village Farmers Market, prepare for their 26th holiday season by decorating the store with lots of Christmas ornaments. Stop by and pick out a tree, wreath, garland, or any of the other great decorations they have to offer!

PHOTO BY ROBERT MILLER



Weston Island Cemetery

TOP: A unique Maple tree surrounded with grave stones. BOTTOM: The Weston Island Cemetery cows roaming around.

PHOTOS BY RON PATCH

Making charitable gifts —

REGION - Now that we are in the heart of the holiday season, you may be thinking about ways you can put your money where your heart is. Specifically, you might be pondering which groups you should support with charitable gifts. And as long as you choose groups that meet the right criteria, your generosity can also be rewarding to you, in the form of tax benefits.

To begin with, you'll want to make sure you are giving to a reputable charity. That means you'll need to ask some questions. How does a group measure its effectiveness? Is it devoting as much of its contributions as possible to the actual work of the organization, or is it spending too much money on administrative costs? Generally, a worthwhile charity should spend at least 75% of its income on programs. You may be able to find this type of information on a charitable group's annual report and its website. You can also go to the website of one of the agencies that evaluates charitable groups. On these sites, you can get a lot of information dealing with a charity's effectiveness, income, spending and other topics.

After you've identified a charity, or charities, you can decide how much you want to give and how you want to give it. If the charity has 501(c)(3) status (named after the section of the Internal Revenue Code that governs such groups), your gift can offer you a tax deduction. So, for example, if you are in the 25% tax bracket, and you give \$1,000 to a qualified charity, you can subtract the \$1,000 from your adjusted gross income, which will result in tax savings of \$250. Upon making your

gift, make sure you get a receipt that lists the name of the organization and the date and amount of your contribution. (Your maximum deduction will be limited to a percentage of your adjusted gross income.) You can do more than simply write a check, however. If you have stocks that have grown significantly in value, you may want to donate them to a charitable group. You will be allowed a charitable deduction for the full fair market value of the gift on the date of the transfer, even if your original cost was only a fraction of today's value. Furthermore, you will avoid the capital gains taxes you'd have to pay if you sold the stock, provided you've held the stock for at least a year.

If you do contribute appreciated stocks, you will want to be cognizant of the effect of your donation on your portfolio. If you were to give a sizable amount of growth-oriented stocks, would it affect your overall growth potential? Conversely, if you are primarily giving away relatively conservative, income-producing stocks, would it end up moving your portfolio in a riskier direction? When donating stocks, if at all possible try to do so in a way that does not harm your portfolio's balance.

In any case, whether you give cash or appreciated assets, you'll need to make your gift by Dec. 31 if you're going to deduct it on your 2016 taxes. So be as generous as you can afford, think about the effect of your gift on your own financial situation — and be prepared to act soon.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor

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New savings plan for disabled individuals —

REGION - Vermont State Treasurer Beth Pearce announced that Vermonters who experience a disability will soon be able to save money in a federally tax-advantaged VT-ABLE savings plan, making Vermont one of only a handful of states to offer a plan since President Obama signed

the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act into law in December 2014.

"I am excited to announce that we have reached an agreement to launch Vermont's ABLE savings plan for Vermonters who experience a disability," said Treasurer Pearce. "Once launched in early 2017, these accounts will allow eligible Vermonters to save adequate money for future needs in federal tax-deferred accounts. Previously, individuals with a disability were often precluded from saving by federal benefit cliffs. This federally tax-deferred plan will permit individuals to save for their future needs."

VT-ABLE will allow eligible Vermonters to receive preferred federal tax treatment as they save for disability related expenses like housing, transportation, employment training, and other important needs. VT-ABLE participants will be able to contribute up to \$14,000 annually — greatly improving the savings options for Vermonters who experience a disability.

"ABLE programs meet several needs. Parents and other relatives want a flexible, low cost way to put

See VT-ABLE on Page 5A

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<p>AWARD WINNING WINGS SPECIALS</p>	<p>HOPS IN THE HILLS 2014 CHICKEN WING CHAMPION</p>	<p>HOPS IN THE HILLS 2015 CHICKEN WING CHAMPION</p>	<p>HOPS IN THE HILLS 2016 CHICKEN WING CHAMPION</p>	<p>Open 7 Days a Week</p> <p>Pub Hours Mon-Thurs: 3pm-2am Fri-Sat: Noon-10pm Sun: Noon-9pm</p> <p>Serving Food Mon-Thurs: 5-9pm Fri-Sat: Noon-10pm Sun: Noon-9pm</p>	<p>VT draughts \$6</p>	<p>Come check out and join our MUG CLUB!</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>3 YEARS IN A ROW</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>

Trivia Tuesday: Come try your knowledge on trivia from 7-9PM on Tuesday. There are prizes for reach round. Come try our Hops in the Hills Award Winning Wings (3 years in a row). Wings Specials on Sunday. Come watch your favorite sports on our 60 inch TVs. Space available for private parties, please call Mark Verespy at 802-376-4282

American Legion

Post #37
42 Rockingham Street
Bellows Falls, VT

FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER
5:30 PM TO 7:00 PM

December 2nd
Baked Haddock

Hosted by the
American Legion Color Guard

All dinners are \$11/person
which includes coffee/tea & dessert

Reservations are accepted and
held until 6:30 pm
802-463-9700

*The Friday Night Dinner
Committee wishes to thank
all those who support our
dinners and programs*



LOCAL HISTORY

BY RON PATCH

Ron Patch is a Chester native, Chester Historical Society president, Historian at Olive Branch Lodge #64 and a lifelong antiques dealer. He can be reached at 802-374-0119 or email knotz69@gmail.com

Adams & Davis History —

In the last quarter of the 19th century on into the early 20th century, Adams & Davis was the largest store in Chester. Today this location is Newsbank Conference Center.

Their store was originally 40 feet x 40 feet. In 1888 Frank Adams added on to the original store making it 140 feet by 40 feet. The store boasted over 16,000 square feet of goods from the basement to the second floor.

This amount of floor space allowed them to offer Chester residents a vast assortment of goods. They sold: dry goods, ladies & men's apparel, carpets, and a full line of groceries. The rear of the store offered a large line of paints and farm implements.

The second floor was stocked with flour and all types of animal feed. Counting Mr. Adams and Mr. Davis there were five full time employees.

Frank Adams was born in Chester in 1863 and owned the Buttonwood Farm where he bought and sold prize cattle. Many will remember Frank's son, Paul Adams.

Frank's partner, Dan Davis was a Civil War veteran and had fought at Gettysburg. Davis was a Londonderry native and moved to Chester about 1870 working as a clerk in Adams & Johnson store. In 1890 he became a partner in Adams & Davis.

He represented the town of Chester in Montpelier and was commander of the Henry GAR post in town. Davis was a Master Mason and treasurer of Olive Branch Lodge #64.

Adams & Davis continued in business into the 1900's. Several different businesses have occupied the store since.

In the 1940s-1950s this building became the freeze locker. In those days almost everyone had a wooden icebox to keep food cold so a freeze locker was needed. The iceman delivered ice to most houses in town. Larry Wright told me he was the last man to deliver ice in Chester. The year was 1951 and people were changing to electric refrigerators.

A freeze locker was similar to how a storage locker works today. You could rent space to keep your food frozen long before electric freezers were in homes. Larry told me Harold Weeks ran the freeze locker in those days.

After the freeze locker closed in the early 1950s, other businesses occupied the building. The building was a long building that was divided down the middle with a separate business on each side. Larry could remember several of those businesses.

There was an IGA grocery store, Lawton's clothing store, an army surplus store and two different restaurants. Larry said one restaurant was run by Bob Leary.

In my earliest memories Ardis Clark ran a novelty shop on School Street. She then moved her business to the freeze locker building. Her



Adams and Davis store in April.

PHOTO PROVIDED

shop was a popular store in town selling all kinds of novelties, gifts and sewing needs. I was a regular at her coin shop.

One of the two photos with this article is a photo of Adams & Davis store. Tom Bock's house is seen next door. The other photo is a load of grain headed to Adams & Davis. Bill Cilley is seen delivering the grain in front of the Donniss house next to what is now Chester Elementary School. That load would probably weigh a couple tons. This grain most likely was ground at the gristmill down in the Depot. Both of these

photos are in the 2017 Chester Historical Society calendar and would date to about 1910.

These calendars are for sale at: Lisai's Market, Salon 2000, Erskine's Feed Store, Chester Town Hall, Chester Hardware, Vintage Vermont Antiques, The Framery of Vermont, Misty Valley Books and Stone House Antiques.

December 10 from 6-9 p.m. is the Chester Historical Society Christmas party. This year it's being held at the American Legion in Chester. Everyone

brings a dish of some sort and we have live entertainment. Drinks can be purchased and friends can be made.

We are also having a membership drive that evening. Bring a dish, not your 'neighbor's wife', and we'll sign you up. You'll be kept up to date will all our events and programs and become part of one of the most active historical societies in Vermont and you don't have to live in Chester. If you like history you qualify.

This week's old saying. "A woman's mind is cleaner than a man's. She changes it more often."



Load of grain headed to Adams & Davis. Bill Cilley is seen delivering the grain in front of the Donniss house next to what is now Chester Elementary School. That load would probably weigh a couple tons. This grain most likely was ground at the gristmill down in the Depot. Circa 1910.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY THE CHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Changing the way students learn history

REGION - The Grateful American Book Prize was established in part to incite a shift in the way students learn history, and the notion seems to be catching on, says David Bruce Smith, an author, publisher and co-founder of the Prize.

"If we, as a nation, lose our passion for the past we will ultimately lose our passion for who we are and what we are capable of doing with our lives. The study of history teaches us how to become better citizens," he says.

Inspiration for the new award which made its debut last year, came from co-founder Dr. Bruce Cole, the former Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, who has described the U.S. as "a country of historical amnesiacs."

Cole cites surveys and statistics, which reveal how little America's school children know about the fundamentals of U.S. history. Many don't know the roles George Washington, Benjamin Franklin or Thomas Jefferson played in the founding of America, he notes.

The Prize is awarded for historically accurate children's books of fic-

tion and nonfiction. It is designed to encourage established and new authors to produce good, readable books about American history. And, says Smith, "our efforts seem to be paying off. We've noticed that authors and publishers are turning out more historical fiction and nonfiction for young readers."

The 2016 Grateful American Book Prize was awarded last month to Chris Stevenson, a first time novelist, for his book about the War of Independence, *The Drum of Destiny*.

The Prize comes with a cash award of \$13,000 representing the original 13 colonies. In addition, winners receive a medal created for the occasion by Mr. Smith's mother, the noted artist, Clarice Smith.

The Grateful American Book Prize will begin accepting qualifying submissions on January 1 for its 2017 competition.

VT-ABLE

From Page 4A

aside money for the future of a family member with a disability. Working adults with disabilities want to keep what they earn without frequent adjustments to benefits like Social Security. We should all learn the importance of saving," said Kirsten Murphy, Executive Director of the Vermont Developmental Disabilities Council.

VT-ABLE will be administered through a partnership with the Ohio State Treasurer's Office.

Tim Lueders-Dumont, Policy Director for the Vermont Treasurer's Office noted the hard work that stakeholders put into making the best decision for Vermonters in need: "We looked at a range of options before entering into a partnership with the Ohio State Treasurer's Office."

"I'd like to thank Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel and his staff for the collaborative spirit they have brought to developing VT-ABLE," said Treasurer Pearce. "We are confident we are building a savings product that will allow Vermonters to save more dollars and take control of their lives."

VT-ABLE will allow Vermonters to enroll in a savings plan through a secure web portal. A range of saving plans will be available to eligible Vermonters, with user-friendly functionality to allow online electronic funds transfers, easy withdrawals, and a debit card. The goal of the system is to maximize ease of use for VT-ABLE plan participants.

It is expected that VT-ABLE will be launched and made available to Vermonters in the first quarter of 2017. With any questions regarding the program please contact Tim Lueders-Dumont, Policy Director in the Treasurer's Office at 802-828-1451 or at treasurers.office@vermont.gov.

Kids Christmas Party



Sunday, December 11th
1:00 - 3:00 pm

Open to All Children of the Community 10 & Younger

Food, Present, Meet Santa,
& Enjoy the celebration of the Holiday spirit

American Legion Post #37
42 Rockingham Street, Bellows Falls • 802-463-9700

Buying:

- Antiques
- Early Photographs
- Military Artifacts
- Antique Clocks & Parts
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- Coins
- Etc.

Ron Patch 802-374-0119

Early Bird Dinner Specials

\$14⁰⁰ FILET MIGNON 8 OZ // \$11⁰⁰ HADDOCK BROILED OR FRIED

4:00 pm - 5:30 pm Monday - Friday
Excludes Holidays



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Gift Certificates Available

SUNDAY BREAKFAST BUFFET

8 A.M. TO 11:30 A.M.

Includes: Omelet Station • Scrambled Eggs • Bacon • Sausage Pancakes • French Toast • Home Fries Brunch Potatoes
Fresh Fruit • Juice & More

\$10⁰⁰

Kids under age 12 for half price!

SUNDAY LUNCH SPECIALS

12 P.M. NOON TO 4 P.M.

Roast Turkey with Stuffing • Prime Rib • Baked or Fried Haddock
Pot Roast • Fried Whole Clams • Grilled Salmon
Fried or Broiled Bay Scallops

\$11⁰⁰

Includes Potato & Veggie of the Day

BELLOWS FALLS OPERA HOUSE

..... Dec 2nd - Dec 6

"FANTASTIC BEASTS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM"
(Rated PG-13)

Friday: 7:00p.m.
Saturday: 5:00p.m., 8:00p.m.
Sunday: 3:00p.m., 6:00p.m.
Monday: 7:15 p.m. Tuesday: 7:15 p.m.

"KUNG FU PANDA 3"
(Rated PG)

Saturday: 2:00p.m. Sunday: 3:00p.m.
BF History Film Community Movie 8:00p.m.

CLASSIC MOVIE WEDNESDAYS

Wednesday, December 7th @ 7:30 p.m.

"NATIONAL LAMPION'S CHRISTMAS VACATION"
(1989) Underwritten by Quaker's Planting & Property Services, LLC

ALL TICKETS: \$5.00
Small Popcorn 50¢ on Monday
Medium Popcorn, Soda & Any Candy \$5.00

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AVEDA

editorial

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Let's conserve this winter

Winter weather is here, but it may have one bright spot this year. Prices for heating fuels – fuel oil, propane, kerosene – are all down 5 to 7 percent over last year.

Warmer regional temperatures, technological advances in furnaces, and home weatherization have all resulted in consumers using less fuel.

That may be a break-even deal if this is a colder winter than last year, and experts are predicting it might be.

The greater efficiency means that, although 40 years ago homes in the Northeast used 1,500 gallons of heating oil per winter, it's now 700 gallons a home and falling.

Last year's unusually mild winter led to trickle-down effects on the region's economy: municipal salt purchases were minimal, snow plow drivers got less overtime, and homeowners saved big on heating bills.

Gov. Peter Shumlin announced that the average benefit for the 21,500 low-income Vermont households who utilize the federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program will increase from \$699 to \$865 this winter.

Then there's heating with wood, which may be the cheapest way to go.

A cord of green wood, sold at an average of \$277 a cord, comes out to \$17.21 per million BTUs.

That's slightly less than natural gas (\$17.67 per million BTUs), or fuel oil (\$18.85 per million BTUs), but a lot below propane (\$30.96 per million BTUs) and electricity (\$43.46 per million BTUs).

And many homeowners enter this winter in a better position than normal, because last year's winter left them with more firewood or oil left over.

The truth is that no one is exactly sure what this winter will bring. Some meteorologists say there will be more snow, others believe it will be warmer.

Winter 2016-17 may bring colder-than-average temperatures to the Northeast early on, but the winter may be warmer than average overall, according to an outlook by The Weather Company, an IBM business.

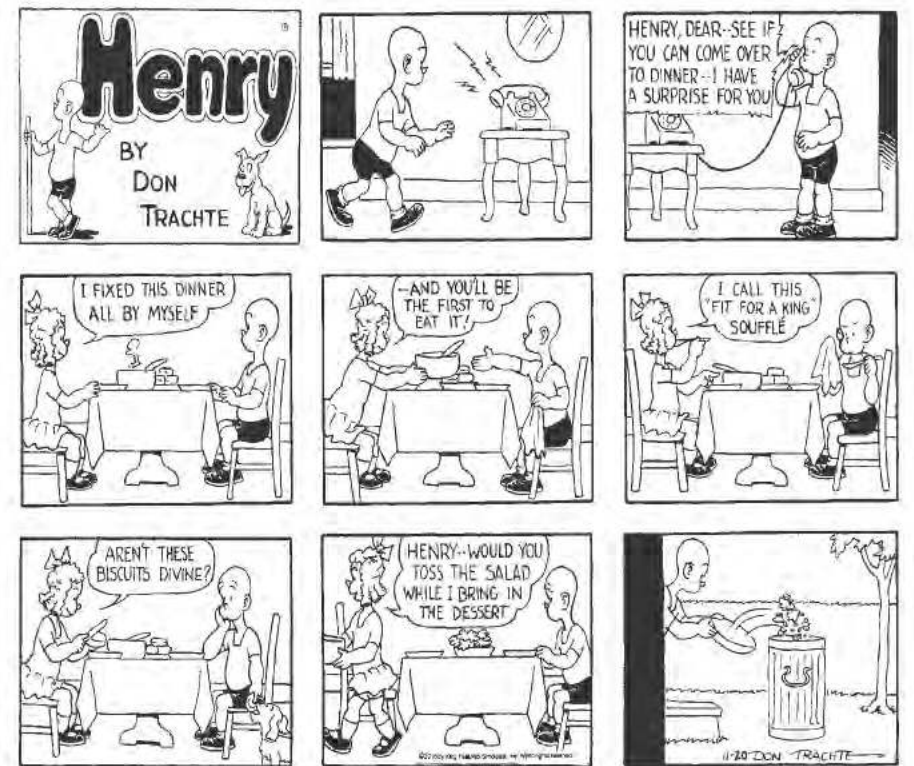
Last winter was the warmest December-February period in the 121 years on record, according to the NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information.

A weak La Niña is expected to develop, which would result in colder temperatures early in the season, and warmer ones later, said Dr. Todd Crawford, chief meteorologist with The Weather Company.

With all that in mind, we'd like to encourage everyone to conserve fuel. Instead of setting that thermostat at 70 or 72 degrees, try it a little cooler. And with it your heating bills could be a little lower.

-BM-

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



Op-Ed: Helping children stay off the naughty list year round

It's that time of year again when beleaguered parents constantly remind disobedient children that it's more important than ever to do the right thing.

Otherwise, they could end up on Santa's notorious naughty list. While banishment to the naughty list has long been a handy tool in the disciplinary arsenal, any responsible parent wants their children to be good the rest of the year, too, when the threat of empty stockings holds less sway over those impressionable minds.

"I suspect most children deep down want to do the right thing, but they struggle with temptation," says K.J. Hales, author of *It's Hard to Be Good*, the first volume in se-

ries of educational picture books for children.

Hales, who creates teachers' guides and educational activities to go along with the lessons in her books, says the earlier parents start teaching children to do the right thing, the better.

She says some of the ways they can reinforce good behavior and discourage bad behavior include:

- **Be generous with praise.** Don't underestimate the importance of your words. It's easy to notice when children do the wrong thing and to chastise them about it. But take note when they do the right thing, too, and praise their good choices or good behavior. "Everyone loves words of approval and children

will want to please you as a result," Hales says.

- **Make good choices a fun activity.** One way to encourage good decisions could be to set aside one week in which each day you ask your children to write or draw about a good decision they made or they saw someone else make. Hales says this is an activity she suggests for classroom teachers, but it can work in the home as well. Be sure to discuss those good decisions with the children.
- **Reward them.** Discipline so often focuses on punishments for bad behavior, but children should also be rewarded for good behavior. This doesn't have to be anything elaborate or expensive. A reward

could be a picnic in the park or a favorite dessert after dinner.

"I'm sure every parent wants their child to gain independence, grow emotionally and learn to make good decisions about their own behavior," Hales says. "And this is important 365 days a year, not just in the weeks before Santa Claus comes to town."

About K.J. Hales
K.J. Hales (www.ellietheweinerdog.com) is author of the *Ellie the Weinerdog* series of educational children's books for children. The first volume in the series is *It's Hard to Be Good*. The *Ellie* character is based on Hales' own dachshund also named *Ellie*.



Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

On Sunday, November 20, I stopped to get gas at the Chester Citgo. On the back window of the pickup truck parked in front of me were large letters in the shape of a map of the United States that spelled out: "F**k off/We're full!"

I immediately thought of my immigrant great-grandparents, of how hard they worked and how much

discrimination they faced. Their story has been played out from generation to generation, right up to today. I wondered if the truck owner was 100 percent Native American, because otherwise his family came to this country as immigrants too. I also thought of how disrespectful this message is to this great nation, which is nothing if not a nation of

immigrants. There is a reason why the Statue of Liberty is a symbol of our country.

I have nothing against someone expressing his or her opinion, even if it is a hateful one, as this one is. But hate must be answered back.

I find the message on this truck an insult to the sacrifices of my great-grandparents, an insult to the sacri-

fices made by the immigrants of today, and insult to our nation. Loving this wonderful country means cherishing the diversity it contains.

I don't know how we, as a community, can answer hate speech like this, but I hope we will.

Madeline Bodin
Andover

Dear Editor,

I wanted to thank everyone who attended last Wednesday's Act 46 study committee meeting in Mount Holly. The large, vocal turnout surprised me at first but maybe it shouldn't have. I am continually encountering instances of vibrant and insightful local democracy, though never before at such a scale. I left

the meeting feeling both hope and dread.

Our committee has yet to reach consensus on the best move forward and the path to consensus is still not obvious. In my opinion, now is the time for us to listen to the concerns, complaints, dreams and demands of the people. I trust that each com-

mittee member is paying close attention to your words and feelings not only because you will have the last word (when our work comes to a popular vote) but because only through your engagement can we justly deliberate on the definition of educational opportunity, the location of our schools, the structure

of local democracy, and the price we are willing to pay for these things.

I hope to see you at the next meeting.

Sebastian Frank
Mount Holly School Board
Chair, TRSU Act 46 Study Committee

Dear Editor,

Something to write home about

Deer season is wrapping up and Thanksgiving with family is a fond memory. The campaign seems like a distant memory but the election was a mere 3 weeks ago. On this lazy weekend post-Thanksgiving, I am taking time to reflect.

I'm filled with gratitude towards so many people who worked to help me in my reelection bid: my wife and campaign manager Cindy Metcalf, my electoral team-mates Alison Clarkson and Alice Nitka, campaign workers like Sarah Callander and Alex Kelly, Windsor County Democratic Chair Bill Kuch, the Windsor County Democratic Committee and the many dozens of volunteers who gave their time, money and front yards. Thanks to the Upper Valley Young Liberals who work hard and give old folks reason for hope in the future, and to the Progressive Party for unity in our common progressive goals.

I thank my Independent and Republican opponents for a mutually respectful campaign, so different from the ugliness at the national level. Above all I thank the people of Windsor County for again making me the gift of their trust, challenging me to be worthy.

I was proud to support Sue Mintner for Governor and I'm sorry she wasn't elected. That said, I'm looking forward to working with Governor-elect Scott, a colleague of long standing and a friend. Since the days when I was his first committee chair, I've appreciated how he works to develop bipartisan legislation in a Democratic Senate while remaining true to his Republican principles. Similarly, I appreciate the mutual good will within the Senate.

I'm appalled by the outcome of the national election. Racism, religious bigotry, misogyny, and contempt for the Constitution are not mere differences of opinion, about which we can politely agree to disagree.

They are fundamental issues with a serious moral dimension. Obviously, the Legislature of a small rural state cannot redirect national policy by itself. But no doubt, unless President Trump completely betrays the people who elected him, Vermonters will frequently find themselves at odds with national policy.

Tom Wolfe has said, "The dark night of fascism is always descending on America, but it always lands in Europe."

The hideous impulses unleashed on November 8 have always been present in our country, but so has the decency and will of the people to combat those impulses.

I will contribute whatever energy and talents I have. I have always tried to be a voice of reason (I am told I have a good command of the language) but I need your ideas and encouragement. With a national government so hostile to our shared values, we need one another more than ever. Vermont will strive to be

an island of responsibility, reason, and decency.

Please stay in touch. Call, write or let's get together for a cup of coffee so you can let me know what's on your mind.

My number is 802-793-6417. My email is dmccormack127@gmail.com. You can also follow along by going to my Facebook Page: VT State Senator Dick McCormack.

Thank you
Senator Dick McCormack

THE Vermont Journal

THE SHOPPER

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Include town & daytime phone (not for publication)

The viewpoints expressed in the editorial section do not necessarily reflect the views of The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

OBITUARIES

church services

Carmine Archimede Socrati Guica 1921 - 2016

CAVENDISH, Vt. - Carmine Archimede Socrati Guica, 95 one of the oldest surviving WWII Veterans of Cavendish passed away Wednesday Nov. 23, 2016. He was born in East Providence, RI the son of Filippo and Giovannina (Folco) Guica and moved to Cavendish with his family in August 1922. He received his education at Tarbell Hill School in Cavendish.

Carmine was married to Carmela Batista in Philadelphia, PA on July 7, 1948. Carmine entered the United States Army on June 10, 1942 and served with Battery B7 Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion until his honorable discharge on Jan. 1, 1946. He received the Asiatic Pacific Theater Campaign Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, Philippine Liberation Ribbon with 1 Bronze Star Victory Medal. He also served with the Vermont National Guard both before and after his time in the Army, first enlisting at age 19. Altogether his service totaled more than 21 years.

Carmine worked as a Heat Treat Operator for 29 Years for G.E in Ludlow and later in Rutland retiring in 1984. Prior to this, Carmine worked at the Gay Brothers Woolen Mill and Kenwood Mills in Cavendish. Carmine was one of the

founders and former president of the Cavendish Historical Society. He was active in the Grange and the Crown Point Road Association. He was chairman of the Cavendish Bicentennial, involved in Tarbell Hill School reunions and served on the town's Ancient Road Committee. He faithfully donated food to the Black River Good Neighbor services every month for 15 years. Up until a few years ago, he visited the Cavendish cemeteries putting flags on the Veterans' graves. Carmine spent his life serving and helping others and never asked for anything in return.

He is survived by his brother Vincent Guica, of Colchester. Many nieces, nephews and cousins. He was predeceased by his wife Carmela in 2000, his brother Frank and his sisters Ora Spaulding, Emma Robinson and Julia Blake.

Calling hours will be held on Friday Dec. 2, 2016 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Adams Funeral Home, 12 Meadow St. Ludlow. The Funeral Service will be held on Saturday Dec. 3, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. at the Cavendish Baptist Church.

Graveside Committal Services and Interment with Military Honors will follow in the Cavendish Village Cemetery

Mary Elizabeth "Beth" Miller Campbell, 1924 - 2016

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. - Mary Elizabeth (Beth) Miller Campbell, age 92, passed away November 21, 2016 of complications associated with her long battle with Alzheimer's disease. Born June 16, 1924 in Lorain, Ohio, she was the daughter of Otto Miller, Jr. and Irene (Duffy) Miller. She had a brother, Otto Miller III, and a sister, Joan Irene (Miller) Saunders.

When Beth was ten she and her siblings spent much time with relatives; especially with her Aunt Marie, and her Grammy Tyler, and she later revealed in telling stories of the love she felt and the good memories she had of being under their wings.

Beth's mother, known to the family as Ahben, was a Broadway show singer and dancer and her travels caused Beth to attend schools in New York City and

Westport, Connecticut. She attended Staples High School in Westport.

Beth had intended to go to Smith College before the onset of World War II.

She was, as a very young woman, the chairperson in raising funds for an ambulance that was successfully bought and shipped toward Britain before the United States entered the war. She went to work for a defense contractor in Bridgeport, CT. She was also active in the USO during the war.

As the war effort started to subside she became a dance instructor for Arthur Murray Studios- her dexterity continued to amaze her children well into her eighties. It was during this time she met her future husband, Robert Mosher Campbell. They had moved to New York City and married in March of 1945. She worked at Saks Fifth Avenue and loved the city.

In 1948 Beth's husband Bob was offered a job at Vermont Academy in Saxtons

River Vermont and they decided to move to this small Vermont village with their two small children. Two children became four, and then even more as Beth eventually gave birth to eleven children; Robert Campbell, Jr., Saxtons River, Elizabeth Campbell Chromec, Saxtons River, Averill Campbell Larsen, Saxtons River, Michael Campbell (Erin O'Hearn), Boston MA, Sean Campbell (Joan), Saxtons River, Peter Campbell, Washington D.C., Margaret Campbell LaCoste, (Don) Northport, ME, Charles Campbell (Julie), Arlington, VA, William Campbell (Gina), Greenfield MA, Sarah Campbell, Saxtons River, and Matthew Campbell, Greenfield, MA.

Beth was always active, gracious and caring. Even while tending to her own large brood she was known for her generosity in taking care of neighbors and involving herself in community issues she felt strongly about. She was an advocate for good schools and for improving the appearance of Saxtons River. She was a talented cook and hostess. She had

a great many friends in Saxtons River, Bellows Falls, Walpole and surrounding communities.

Beth had a knack for decorating and her skill was abundantly clear throughout the historical home she and her family restored in 1957. In 1973 Beth, with her husband and daughter, bought and restored the Saxtons River Inn. Beth put endless energy into bringing a bright and colorful, but totally eclectic style to the Inn where each room had its own truly original look. Family lore is thick with stories of her exploring the Northeast looking for just the "right thing". The result was a notable building attracting attention nationwide and bringing customers from around the world.

The Inn was eventually sold and Bob and Beth began to spend several months a year in Honolulu, HI. Beth loved the warmth, the sun, and being in a city again. She spent much time volunteering and making friends at the Honolulu Art Museum. She loved to travel and visited many European cities and countries. Unfortunately Alzheimer's was to begin to take its toll and the long trips to Hawaii and other destinations were no longer possible.

Beth is survived by her husband, Bob, all of her children, and 12 grandchildren: Christopher Campbell, Missoula, Montana; Matteo Campbell, Cambridge, VT; Meghan Campbell, Portland OR; Molly Campbell, Golden CO; Silas Campbell, Golden CO; Rachel Chromec, Springfield, OH; Caitlyn Campbell, Washington, DC; Luke Campbell, Denver CO; Laura Campbell, Boston MA; Tyler Campbell, Burlington VT; Sylvia Campbell and Desmond Campbell, Boston MA; and five great-grandchildren: DiDi Campbell, Portland OR; Ila and Rueben Campbell, Cambridge VT; Rhett and Otis Campbell, Golden CO. She is also survived by her nieces and nephews; Pamela Miller, Fairbanks AK, Paul Miller, Chardon, OH, Peter Miller, Burbank, CA, and Elizabeth Miller, Nashville, TN.

She was predeceased by her parents and her brother and sister.

A memorial gathering for family and friends will be held at the Saxtons River Inn in Saxtons River, December 3, at 5:00 p.m. to celebrate her long and busy life.

The family is particularly grateful for the loving care she received over the past five and a half years at Woodstock Terrace.

Memorial donations can be made to the American Alzheimer's Association 300 Cornerstone Drive, Suite 130, Williston, VT 05495 or the Bob and Beth Art fund, Vermont Academy, P. O. Box 500, Saxtons River VT, 05154

ASCUTNEY, VT

OPEN BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH, 168 CEMETERY RD.
Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. Morning service at 11 a.m. Fellowship meal at 12 p.m. Afternoon service at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday at 7 p.m. Visit: obbcvt.org. 603-293-3265

BELLOWS FALLS, VT

CURRIER HALL, 12 CHURCH ST.
Celtic worship service at 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays. The service may include: song, chant, instrumental music; verbal and silent prayer; readings from the Old and New Testament; stories of Celtic saints; a brief meditation; social time follows the service.

CHESTER, VT

ST. LUKES EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 313 MAIN ST.

Services are held Sundays at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Wednesday mid-week worship service and study beginning at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome.

FIRST UNIVERSALIST PARISH OF CHESTER, RTE. 103. 211 NORTH ST.

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. between Sept. and June. Fellowship with refreshments follows the service. www.chestertvu.org or 802-875-3257.

GRAFTON, VT

THE GRAFTON CHURCH (UCC AND ABC), 55 MAIN ST.
Worship begins at 10:00 a.m. Reverend Christine Dyke welcomes everyone!

LUDLOW, VT

THE UNITED CHURCH OF LUDLOW (UCC AND METHODIST), 48

PLEASANT ST.

Sundays starting at 10:15 a.m. followed by a time of fellowship and refreshments. 802-228-4211 (Sandra Russo), Email: unitedchurch@tds.net. www.unitedchurch.us.

LUDLOW BAPTIST CHURCH, ON THE GREEN, 99 MAIN ST.

Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. Fellowship at 10:30 a.m., Singing at 10:45 a.m. Morning service at 11 a.m. Sunday evenings at 6:30 p.m. Prayer meeting on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. www.ludlowbaptist.org or Pastor Tom Deibler at 802-228-2631

TYSON, VT

TYSON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
Annual Service of Remembrance on Sunday, December 4 at 4 p.m. This is the time we light candles for those who remain in our hearts even though they are no longer here to celebrate the Holidays with us. Call 802-228-4770

NORTH SPRINGFIELD, VT

NORTH SPRINGFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH, 69 MAIN ST.

Worship and Praise Service on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. followed by a fellowship time and classes. 802-886-8107 or www.nsbctv.org. Call Pastor George Keeler at 802-886-2672.

PRECISION VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH, 69 RTE. 106

Sunday at 10 a.m. Adult Bible study Sunday from 9:45 a.m. We are located right next to Cota & Cota.

SPRINGFIELD, VT

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH, 90 PARK STREET

Visitors welcome to our beautiful, historic church. Services: Vespers on Saturdays at 5 pm and Liturgy on Sunday at 9:30am More info: 802-885-2615, www.htocvt.org.

Betty L. Mack, 1936 - 2016

WALPOLE, NH - Betty L. Mack, 80, of County Road, died Thursday, Nov. 17, 2016 at her residence. She was born September 13, 1936 in Fairfax, Vt., the son of Richard and Stella (Greenwood) Hoose. She worked at the Walpole Village Store and was a member of the American Legion. She was an avid gardener; she enjoyed crocheting and knitting, and loved to watch the birds at her feeders.

Betty is survived by her son Frank Flanders & Terry Duval of Westminster, Vt., her daughter Sheila Fredericks & husband Douglas from Idaho,

her son Richard Flanders of Walpole, NH, her brother James Hoose & wife Joyce of Highgate, Vt., her sister in law Elaine of Bellows Falls, Vt., her grandchildren Holly and Tyler, great grandchildren Brayden and Alexa, her step children Susan, Melissa, David, and Debbie, and many nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her husband Reginald Mack, her brother Sonny

A celebration of life is planned for the springtime, at the convenience of the family. Fenton & Hennessey Funeral Home, Bellows Falls, VT is handling the arrangements.

Patricia Ann Noble (Buzzell), 1959 - 2016

CAMBRIDGEPORT, Vt. - Patricia Ann Noble (Buzzell), 75, passed away November 21, 2016 following a long battle with pancreatic cancer. The daughter of Ward Buzzell and Geraldine Willard, and also raised by her stepfather O. Richard Severance, she lived her entire life in the Grafton and Bellows Falls area. Pat graduated from Bellows Falls High School in 1959 and went on to enroll in many courses, but her highest achievement was a "PHT" degree (Putting Hubby Through).

Pat worked in various businesses: Unified Data, Sam's Army & Navy, and owned a realty company. She retired as Executive Director of the Bellows Falls Senior Center. She also volunteered much time at the Rockingham Memorial Hospital Auxiliary and the Women of the Moose. She was fondly known to friends and family as "Mother Nature" for her love of gardening - Plants can be found in every rock and crevice along her property.

Music was also a large part of Pat's life. She played the organ routinely at several churches in the area, played and sang for hundreds of weddings over the last fifty years, and was a member of the Springfield Community Players for several years. A baby grand piano has been part of her life for forty or more years.

Pat was preceded in death by her parents. Survivors include her husband of fifty-seven years, Paul; daughter Darcy & significant other Brian Sheldon; her son Gregg & wife Sarah; her grandson William; and best pals Riley & Midnight who watched guard over her at home.

There will be no calling hours at the request of the deceased. A graveside service will be held in the spring, date to be announced.

In lieu of flowers donations may be sent to the Bellows Falls Senior Center or the Windham County Humane Society.

"Skip" Raymond S. Downing Jr., 2016

ATHENS, Vt. - "Skip" Raymond S. Downing, Jr., 54, of Butson Circle died Tuesday, November 22, 2016. He was the son of Raymond and Marilyn (Emerson) Downing and

worked as a handyman. He made his home with Annette Douglass.

Per Mr. Downing's wishes, there will be no services.

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Answer

8	5	6	9	3	1	4	7	2
3	4	7	2	6	8	9	5	1
9	2	1	5	7	4	8	3	6
4	6	2	1	8	3	7	9	5
5	3	8	7	2	9	6	1	4
1	7	9	6	4	5	2	8	3
2	9	4	3	1	7	5	6	8
6	1	5	8	9	2	3	4	7
7	8	3	4	5	6	1	2	9

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

L	O	B	O	B	B	C	S	E	G	O	
A	G	I	N	E	E	R	A	P	E	D	
G	R	O	W	H	E	A	D	L	I	N	E
S	E	S	A	M	E	G	U	I	D	E	S
R	I	M	S	E	V	E					
H	E	A	D	L	O	N	G	A	M	O	S
O	R	B	O	T	E	R	I	O	I	O	U
P	R	O	M	H	E	A	D	A	C	H	E
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S	C	E	N	I	C	D	O	P	I	N	G
H	E	A	D	R	O	O	M	E	S	A	U
I	D	L	E	D	N	A	A	L	P	S	
M	E	L	D	Y	E	S	L	E	S	T	

arts & entertainment

It's About Believing

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. - A holiday program for everyone. Some of your favorite songs, readings, skits, and other surprises from iconic holiday movies and other surprises. Come join us on Sunday, December

11 at 4:00 p.m. at the Gethsemane Church (next to Crows Bakery) on Depot Street, Proctorsville. FREE ADMISSION. All donations received will be given to the church. FMI call 226-7398.

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Free Christmas music special

CHESTER, Vt. - Come enjoy a special set of Christmas music performed by the band Dwelling in a cozy coffeehouse! Dwelling is a talented contemporary Christian band from upstate Vermont comprised of three musician songwriters: Patrick and Alison McHugh, and Micah Dudash. The evening promises to be full of quality and meaningful Christmas music, so come on in to get into the spirit of the holiday and be warmed outside

and in! The event will be held at Grounded4Life, a coffeehouse in the lower level of the Chester Baptist Church across from "the green" at 162 Main St, Chester, Vt. on Friday, December 2. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with food, coffee, fellowship and conversation. The program begins at 7:00 p.m. with free admission. Check out the Grounded4Life Facebook page. You can also contact us through the grounded4lifevt.org



Dwelling will perform a Christmas music special at Grounded4Life.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Coolidge Open House - The perfect remedy for the holiday rush!

PLYMOUTH NOTCH, Vt. - Celebrate the traditions of the season at one of Vermont's most picturesque villages - on Saturday, December 10 when the President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site hosts the "Coolidge Holiday Open House." Most of the museum buildings, including the homestead will be open 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. The event is free and features special presentations and a wide variety of family activities. An open house highlight will be a reading by Willem Lange of "Favor Johnson: A Christmas Story,"

11:00 am. Lange is a frequent commentator on Vermont Public Radio and received an Emmy as host of the award-winning "Windows to the Wild" on New Hampshire Public Television. At 12:30 p.m., poet Carol Johnson Collins of South Duxbury will read poems based on her life growing up on Vermont farms, with Louli Zeichner of Northfield accompanying her on the banjo. Steve Morse of Montpelier will perform holiday organ and piano music throughout the day and lead caroling in the village church at 1:30 pm.

Other activities include:

- Tours of the Coolidge Homestead with site administrator Bill Jenney at 1 p.m. & 2 p.m.
- Check out our big end-of-season sale at the museum stores
- Vintage Hat Fashion Show 3 p.m.
- Horse-drawn sleigh rides
- Festive holiday tunes by old-time fiddler Adam Boyce
- Traditional gifts, treats, and samples of award-winning raw milk Cheddar, Blue, and Original Recipe cheeses at the Plymouth Cheese Factory
- Paper lantern-making using the

earliest known photograph of Plymouth Notch and hands-on history activities and exhibits in the Museum & Education Center's classroom

- Wreath-making with Terry Gullick.
- Traditional craft demonstrations: quilting, theorem painting, hand-painted ornaments. Make a paper-quilled angel ornament to take home for your tree!
- Lunch will be provided at the Wilder House Restaurant

For further information, call 802-672-3773, or visit www.HistoricSites.Vermont.gov/Coolidge

A cornucopia of songs from many lands

PUTNEY, Vt. - The River Singers Community Chorus led by Mary Cay Brass is celebrating their 25th anniversary of joyous singing together with two special holiday concerts Saturday, December 10 at 7:30pm and Sunday, December 11 at 4pm at Next Stage in Putney.



William and Enathe perform with the River Singers. PHOTO PROVIDED

The choir celebrates with a cornucopia of songs from many lands - South Africa, the Balkans, the Republic of Georgia, the British Isles, American folk hymns and gospel. The 95-voice River Singers is a multi-generational chorus known for its eclectic mix of community-based music from many cultural and musical traditions.

The admission fee will be donated to further musical diplomacy between the US and the Bosnia and Herzegovina by helping to bring three teenage girls over to a New England-based Village Harmony singing camp next summer as well as a renowned Bosnian choir director to teach at that camp. For info see marycaybrass.com

Chat with artists at Open House

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. - Saxtons River Artisans Cooperative announces they will be holding an Open House on Sunday, December 4 during the Christmas Tree Lighting Festivities being held in Saxtons River. The Open House is being held from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. During that time refreshments will be served and there will be local artists on hand to chat with visitors while demonstrating their craft. The store offers many unique gifts by local artists. It is located at 26B Main Street in Saxtons River - and store hours have been extended from 10:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. that day. For more information you may call 869-2099 or visit river-artisans.com.

Springfield High School Alumni Association, Inc. Invites you to Attend Our

38th Annual Beyond the Unicorn II Christmas Craft Fair

Saturday, December 3rd from 9am - 4pm at Riverside Middle School - Springfield, VT

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arts & entertainment

The Speckers band to perform Revolutionary and Civil War era hits

ANDOVER, Vt. - Sunday, December 4 from 2 - 4 p.m. Andover's very own famous fiddling family "The Speckers" presents a Concert of Acoustic Fiddle and Banjo Music, including Revolutionary and Civil War era hits. The band consists of Papa John Specker, "Father of the Ithaca Sound," his daughters Lila and Ida Mae and two grandchildren, who have already stolen the family show! Whether you fancy 'Boil 'em Cabbage Down,' 'Old Molly Hare' or trekking through the 'Cumberland Gap,' the afternoon's repertory preserves the challenges, triumphs and joys of early American life. Admission is free.



The Speckers.

PHOTO PROVIDED

I'll See You in My Dreams

LUDLOW, Vt. - FOLA (Friends of Ludlow Auditorium) ends its 2016 movie season with "I'll See You in My Dreams", a comedy, and drama that will be featured on December 3 at 7 p.m. at the Ludlow Town Hall Auditorium.

In this vibrant, funny, and heart-felt film, a widow and former songstress discovers that life can begin anew at any age. With the support of three loyal girlfriends, Carol (Blythe Danner) decides to embrace the world, embarking on an unlikely friendship with her pool maintenance man (Martin Starr), pursu-

ing a new love interest (Sam Elliott), and reconnecting with her daughter (Malin Akerman).

The movie is rated PG. The movie is free but donations are appreciated. Popcorn is offered courtesy of Berkshire Bank while FOLA provides water.

For more information, call (802) 228-7239 or visit our web site at www.fola.us.



'I'll See You in My Dreams' will be playing at FOLA.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Sean Altman's Jewmongous

PUTNEY, Vt. - Next Stage Arts Project presents Sean Altman's un-kosher comedy song concert Jewmongous, at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, December 23. Tickets are available in advance, at the door, or on-line, through the Next Stage website (www.nextstagearts.org) or at the Putney Coop or Turn It Up in Brattleboro.

Jewmongous is not appropriate for kids under sixteen unless you're training them to be sailors. www.jewmongous.com



Jewmongous to be performed at Next Stage.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Take your child to a bookstore day

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Village Square Booksellers is participating in Take Your Child to A Book-

store Day with children's author Charles Norris-Brown visiting the store at 1 p.m. Call 802-463-9404 to reserve a book

- Mrs. Claus will read aloud during the day.
- Book-centered Children's activities - 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.
- Children's author Charles Norris-Brown at 1pm
- Refreshments

"Bookstores hold a place in the

hearts and times of our community. They are places to discover an author, a story, a life. Nothing affords the conversation and interaction among books and book lovers that a bookstore does.

On December 3, take a child in your life to a bookstore. Watch his face light up as you give him free access, not just to a new book, but to tomorrow," says founder Jenny Milchman.

The Puzzling, Promising, Peculiar... Pluto

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The following OLLI program on Tuesday December 6 at 2 p.m. is "The Puzzling, Promising, Peculiar... Pluto" one of the members' favorite presenters, Mark Breen of the Fairbanks Museum Planetarium, will present stunning photographs and information gained when the New Horizons' spacecraft passed by Pluto. A small fee for admittance.

The complete Springfield program list is available on the Internet at www.learn.uvm.edu/olli

This is the final program of the Fall 2016 series.

The Winter/Spring 2017 semester will begin January 31 with an interesting program on the mineral Beryl that was abundant in Acworth, NH.

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arts & ent.

BF Area Senior Center to hold Holiday Bazaar

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The Senior Center, located at 18 Tuttle Street, will hold its annual Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, December 3 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. The Bazaar features knitted and hand-sewn items, arts & crafts, white elephant sale, jewelry, holiday decorations and ornaments, all available on our second floor. The first floor will feature homemade

baked goods, raffles and the Elf Café. The Elf Café is open from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. and will feature corn chowder, sandwich rolls and homemade pie. A beautiful autumn themed quilt made by the Center's quilting group and quilted by Julie Patrick will be raffled off. The Christmas Cash raffle will also be happening. All raffles will be

drawn the day of the event. Tickets are still available at the Center's office, open Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. The Center is handicap accessible and we have a lift available to take you to the second floor. Ample parking is available. Watch for signs next to the Fire Station on Rockingham Street.

The GrooveBarbers return

PUTNEY, Vt. - Legendary acapella titans The GrooveBarbers return to NextStage in Putney on Friday, Dec 16 at 7 p.m. for the Acapella Holiday Concert Extravaganza Featuring The GrooveBarbers, joined by soprano diva Inna Dukach of the Metropolitan Opera roster. GrooveBarbers Steve Keyes, Charlie Evett and Sean Altman are founding alums of Rockapella, and wily baritone (and arranger) Kevin Weist composed the acapella cockroach showstoppers from the MTV cult film "Joe's Apartment."



The GrooveBarbers coming to Next Stage.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Shop for a cause at Marimekko

LONDONDERRY, Vt. - Come in any time Saturday, December 10 from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. and enjoy 15 percent off* storewide with 10 percent of proceeds from the day going back to Neighborhood Con-

nections. *15% off in-store merchandise only and may not be applied to previous purchases. Cannot be combined with any other sale, promotion or coupon. Excludes children's collection, stationary,

paper napkins and clearance items. Valid all day Saturday, December 10, 2016. Get a little, give a little this holiday! Check out our website at www.neighborhoodconnectionsvt.org.

Thomas Christopher Greene rescheduled

CHESTER, Vt. - Author Thomas Christopher Greene will be at Phoenix Books Misty Valley as the final author in the 2016 Vermont Voices series. Greene was originally scheduled for November 20, but inclement weather cancelled the event.

Returning to Phoenix Misty Valley - he has been both a Vermont Voice and a New Voice at author events there - Greene will talk about his fifth novel, *If I Forget You*, in which, twenty-one years after they were driven apart by circumstances

beyond their control, two former lovers have a chance encounter on a Manhattan street. A discussion and book signing will follow the event, which is at the Bookstore on the Green in Chester next to the Fullerton Inn and is free.

Vermont Holiday FESTIVAL

**Friday, December 2nd
Saturday, December 3rd**

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* Study conducted at the University of Northern Colorado, 2015, examined the effectiveness of the new features of primax by collecting and analyzing ongoing EEG data while subjects performed speech testing. For both primax features SpeechMaster and EchoShield, the objective brain behavior measures revealed a significant reduction in listening effort when the feature was activated.
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sports



THIS AND THAT

BY BILL MURPHY

Championships are very special. For most communities and athletic endeavors, they are few and far between. For Springfield High School lately, and field hockey in particular, the pace has been slow, BUT, for Cosmos Field Hockey tri-captain Ericka Schoff, there is a bigger picture. She says, have faith in us. Have faith in all of us Springfield athletes. Support us and we will find a way to have our own successes, when we are ready.

Schoff's exact words were "to anyone who doubts that Springfield is capable of winning a championship or that we don't have the best athletes, I want them to know that we are all fully capable of being successful. We all want to be successful and with time, everyone will be successful. Have a little faith in the Springfield athletes, go to their games, support them because without the support we received this season, I don't think we would have gone as far as we did. I just want to thank all our friends and families. They were all great."

The senior midfielder, who her coaches Lyndsie Perkins and Kelly DeAngelis say is "always reliable" appreciates the Vermont Division II title her team has won, BUT, she cares about the community as a whole. Again the coaches say "she has great endurance and delivers amazing hits and leads on offensive corners." She appears to speak in the same manner as well.

How did this championship arrive in Springfield? The coaches didn't even see it coming. Lyndsie Perkins knew "if there was a season for us to perform better than we had in years past, this would be the season. We had high hopes, we knew we would be better, but my definition of better was kind of fuzzy." Kelly DeAngelis told us, "I went into it with an attitude that I wanted to push them as far as they could go. We had eleven seniors so I was really pushing them for a home play-off game, but, I can tell you, a championship was not on my radar, although it is always your goal."

The players have turning points they can identify. Tri-captain Aunna Parker, the team's outstanding goalie, looks all the way back to the pre-season for some takes on the title. She tells us, "before we played any games, we knew we had eleven seniors, we knew we had some girls from Windsor and we had some freshmen up, who were good, so we knew we were capable of doing well in general. Then how well we played in the BF game, the light went on. That game shocked us. I went in hoping we weren't going to lose 8-0, like the last two years and we didn't."

No, they didn't. They lost 1-0 to a team that has accumulated a 58-5-3 mark over the past four years and captured their own Division III State Championship. Springfield didn't just survive in that game, they showed themselves, they were possibly a very strong team in the making. They had not impressed themselves in their 11-0 season opening victory over Fair Haven because they fully expected to win against a team without a feeder program. Then, they were shutout versus Woodstock 3-0 and questioning how good they could be, when the BF effort exalted them forward. First, a third straight loss went down, BUT, it was against DI Top Four Hartford 3-0, so they could still find a way.

This was true, especially with Parker in net. Her coaches say, "Aunna has an amazing read on the ball. She is strong with both feet and her stick and is always willing to give whatever it takes for each stop. She is the calm force in the circle that the team rallies behind. Fellow captains Maddi Macie and Schoff praised Parker for her steadfast hard work and saw her as the "last line of all successful defense," according to Macie, who played both half/fullback as well as midfielder during the campaign. The coaches looked to Macie as someone, "who is able to get her stick very low and stop many of the balls that come her way. She is also great at changing direction on the field."

Following the win over Fair Haven and the three consecutive losses to the DII, III and I powers respectively, these Cosmos ran off eight consecutive games without a loss, with the first seven being outright triumphs. The first five contests were all shutouts as the claimed victories over Montpelier 5-0, Fair Haven 7-0, Brattleboro and Burr + Burton 1-0 and then St. Johnsbury 2-0. The last two games of the straight win streak were Fair Haven again 7-1 and Brattleboro 2-0. They ended up facing Brattleboro back to back with the second of the games ending in a 0-0 tie. THEN, came the final game of the season and the beginning of the end. The end doesn't sound good and the season finale had some rocky moments, BUT, it may have been a catalyst of things to come. The regular season finale was a second match-up with Burr and Burton, a team they had defeated 1-0 in the middle of their streak and was also something traditionally known as Senior Day for the Cosmos.

The deep thinking Schoff took a deep look at that loss. "That was a very emotional day. Eleven of us, the majority of us, knew we might never play on our field again. It was a very overwhelming day. We lost to them two or three times last year 1-0. Since we beat them 1-0 earlier this year, we knew that they were going to come out and be aggressive, which they did. I just don't think with everything going on, we were ready for it and they beat us."

The captains think the next few days defined their championship season. The coaches had Macie to insert, who has returning from a long time nagging leg injury and they moved her permanently to the back line and they put in some new twists and turns, some specifically for the first round play-off game against Mount Abraham and some, which would make them a different team for the rest of the journey. A journey defined by their longtime friend named defense through three straight 1-0 shutout wins.

There were eight more seniors on this title winner. Ashley Wilcox, had been an important member of a successful Windsor program before a serious leg injury made her one more number on the sideline a year ago, when Windsor needed numbers and was struggling to field a team. In the end, that heartbreaking moment in that sports crazed town, added a couple of important pieces to the Cosmo championship effort. The coaches said, that Wilcox "can control play easily. She has the ability to use her stick skills to dodge past some of the toughest defenders. Her great crosses in front of the goal helped us score. She is our leader in offensive corners." Wilcox was a right forward.

The left forward position was manned by senior Makenna Goodrich. The coaches mentioned, "she can read the field very well and anticipate plays before they happen. She puts herself in the right place at the right time and scored many goals off the post." As Macie returned, Goodrich unfortunately departed, with an injury of her own for the rest of the campaign. Another senior, forward/midfielder Emilia Battista scored the lone goal in



The Springfield tri-captains from the left, Aunna Parker, Ericka Schoff and Maddi Macie with the championship plaque.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE



Springfield's Alli Worster gets off a shot in the Cosmos 1-0 title game triumph.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE



Cosmo Angelina Bigwood (7) has a nose on the ball and led Springfield in goal scoring this season. The freshman sees an opportunity in the title game against Woodstock and tries to take advantage of it in the eventual 1-0 title victory.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE



The Cosmos control the ball in the title game victory over Woodstock. Ashley Wilcox (2) has control with Ericka Schoff ready to help.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE



Cosmo Madee Stagner (9) in green on the move during Springfield's 1-0 title game win over Woodstock.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE



Springfield's Aunna Parker (77) is a big figure in goal for any opposition team, as she had eleven shutouts on the season, including throwing three 1-0 tournament victories in the mix on the way to a Cosmos state championship.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE



Springfield's Emily Therrien, who her coaches say "has solid stickwork that allows her to carry the ball up the alley, looks to do just that here in title game action versus Woodstock.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE

Overture to

Grinch kicks off food drive at Phoenix Books

CHESTER/RUTLAND, Vt. – Meet Dr. Seuss's meanest and greenest creation when the Grinch himself visits two Phoenix Books locations in early December. All ages are welcome to bring a camera and get a photo taken with the Grinch. The event will also launch Phoenix Books' annual food drive, and attendees are invited to grow their hearts three sizes by bringing a nonperishable donation for the local food shelf.

Phoenix's 2016 "Meet the Grinch" events will take place on:

- Friday, December 2 at 4 p.m. at



Grinch launches Food Drive at Phoenix Books Essex.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Phoenix Books Misty Valley, 58 Common Street, Chester, Vt.

• Saturday, December 3 at 10 a.m. at Phoenix Books Rutland, 2 Center Street, Rutland, Vt.

These events are free and open to the public. For more information,

please call 802-872-7111 in Essex, 802-855-8078 in Rutland, 802-875-3400 in Chester, or visit www.phoenixbooks.biz

About Phoenix Books:

Phoenix Books was established in 2007 on the principles of social responsibility, community, and sustainability, and is a proud member of Local First Vermont and Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility. Phoenix Books are Vermont-owned, independent bookstores. Whenever possible, Phoenix Books sources eco-friendly products from Fair Trade/Green Certified companies.



Phoenix Books' Burlington staff with the January 2015 Food Shelf donation check.

PHOTO PROVIDED

St. Luke's sale and Christmas Tea

CHESTER, Vt. - St. Luke's Christmas Tea will be held on Saturday December 3 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Willard Hall at St. Luke's at 313 Main Street in Chester.

In addition there are plenty of handcrafted items, jams, jellies, relishes, custom chocolates and other baked holiday foods to be purchased for gift-giving. Grandma's Attic is a favorite shopping experience. The buffet table will include a varied selection of tasty sandwiches, deviled eggs, finger foods, holiday cookies, dessert bars and much more. Guests may also choose coffee or mulled cider instead of tea. A fee for admittance.



An arrangement of goods at the bake sale.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Sew an ornament



Learn to sew and make a holiday ornament.

PHOTO PROVIDED

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. -

Learn sewing and quilting basics by making a "magical" Holiday ornament at the Springfield Town Library on Tuesday, Dec. 6 from 3:45 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Local seamstress/quilter Mari Csizer will lead this workshop. Seating is limited. Materials and tools will be provided by the instructor. Participants are encouraged to bring some supplies. This program is free. Please call the Springfield Town Library at 885-3108 to sign up.

Holiday party & raffle

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. - The Friends of the Rockingham Library are hosting a Community Holiday Party at the Library on Saturday, December 3 from 11:00 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The public is invited to this free family-friendly event. The Springfield Springers of Saxtons River will be performing live. Light refreshments will be served. Winning tickets for the Friends' Holiday raffle will be drawn. A Silent Auction will be

ongoing until December 17 (closing at noon on that day.)

Stop by the Library anytime to see all the prizes on display. All proceeds from the silent auction and raffle will benefit the Friends of the Rockingham Free Public Library. For more information, email programming@rockinghamlibrary.org, call 802-463-4270, visit the Library at 65 Westminster St. in Bellows Falls or go to rockinghamlibrary.org.

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Christmas

Chester's 31st "Overture to Christmas"

CHESTER, Vt. - Saturday, December 3 - everyone is invited to the Overture to Christmas events. The town will be decorated for the season and we hope everyone will drop by, share in the events and help boost the Christmas spirit.

Saturday, December 3 kicks off with the Holiday Crafts Fair at the Chester Andover Elementary School from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

At 3:45 p.m. Santa and Mrs. Claus make their way down Main Street, beginning at the Chester Andover

Elementary School. Santa and Mrs. Claus ride upon Santa's sleigh and are accompanied by a parade of children in the Parade of Presents. Santa and Mrs. Claus stop by the town tree at 4 p.m. for the Lighting of the Chester Town Christmas Tree. After that Santa and Mrs. Claus retire to the lobby of the Fullerton Inn in the center of Chester to hold court for the children who wish to visit with Santa. Cookies, cocoa, books and candy canes are provided for all the children on Santa's "Nice" list.

From 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. luminaries will light up the main street of Chester.

At 7:30 p.m. the Springfield Community Chorus will provide a free concert at the First Baptist Church. All are free to attend.

On Saturday, December 10 at noon, the Annual senior Citizens Christmas dinner will be held at the Chester Andover Elementary School.

And, at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, December 10, the Saxtons River Handbell Chorus will perform.



Santa with gifts!

PHOTO PROVIDED

Festival of Trees and auction

RUTLAND, Vt. - The Paramount Theatre will present their annual benefit auction, Festival of Trees, on Saturday, December 3. Doors open

at 5:15 p.m. and the auction, under the direction of Auctioneer Bob Prozzo, will begin at 6:45 p.m. This festive, high-octane party has be-

come the area's premiere not-for-profit benefit auction. The 2016 Festival of Trees will include both a silent and a live auction featuring more than \$100,000 in goods, services, vacation home getaways, gift certificates and one-of-a-kind experiences.

Admission includes a variety of delectable hors d'oeuvres expertly prepared by Roots the Restaurant along with a sea of sweets and pastries from A Dozen Eggs Bake Shoppe. A cash bar will be available. The Paramount Theatre is currently in its 18th season of bringing live entertainment to central Vermont. The Box Office ((802) 775-0903) is open Thurs. and Fri 11 a.m.- 6 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. and from 12 p.m. through curtain time on all show days.

More information is available at www.ParamountVT.org



The Festival of Trees.

PHOTO PROVIDED

50 years of joyful singing

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Springfield Community Chorus is presenting their Holiday Concert the first weekend in December. The December 3 concert will be in Chester at the first Baptist Church at 7:30 pm. The concert in Springfield will be Sunday December 4 at 3:00 p.m. in the First Congregational Church UCC on Main Street. As part of the 50th year celebration the former director of the chorus, Deirdre Hiltley, will share the podium with the current director, Ken Olsson.

The admission cost is by donation. For more details and directions to the concert venues, go to the chorus's web site www.springfieldcommunitychorus.org. We hope while you are

at the web site you will consider a donation to the "Golden Circle." This is a way the community can support the chorus's effort to raise the money needed to produce the Spring 2017 extravaganza.



Springfield Community Chorus Holiday Concert.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Santa is coming to town

WINDSOR, Vt. - Santa is coming to the Windsor House located on 54 Main Street on Saturday, Dec 3 and Sunday, Dec. 4. Hot chocolate,

cookies and candy canes will be handed out.

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Santa Sunday

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. - The arrival of Santa Sunday, Dec. 4 at 5:30 p.m. will signal the start of the holiday celebrations when the village Christmas tree is lit in front of the historical society. After the lighting, Santa will

visit with the children and hear Christmas wishes at Main Street Arts, with hot chocolate and cookies provided by the members of the Nature Club. There will also be a tractor-drawn wagon ride around the village.

Rotary Club tree lighting

LONDONDERRY, Vt. - On December 9 beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Londonderry Welcome Center in the Market Place Plaza the Wantastiquet Rotary Club along with Neighborhood Connections will light the 2 large pine trees. Nordic Harmoni will lead those gathered in caroling and Santa will arrive on his Taylor Farms sleigh along with Mrs. Claus/Elf and they will greet the children and give out candy canes. There will be an open house following at Neighborhood Connections with hot drinks and goodies served.

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Hoop Shoot winners announced



Shown are the 1st and 2nd place winners in the recent Hoop Shoot conducted by Springfield Elks Lodge #1560. Front L to R: Caden Benson, Calan Morrie, Ava Anderson and James Gultekin. 2nd row, Braden Morrie, Daevon Albanese, Ariana Cioffi, Eliza Burbela and Noah Simino. In back- Hoop Shoot Chairman Victor Baskevich and Exalted Ruler Vicki Siliski.

PHOTO PROVIDED

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Saturday, Nov. 18, Springfield Elks Lodge #1560 held their annual Hoop Shoot for kids ages 8 to 14. Trophies were given out to the following winners for 1st & 2nd place.

Girls age 8-9 winner was Ava Anderson. For the boys, Calan Morrie won 1st place and James Gultekin took 2nd. Boys ages 10-11 the winner was Noah Simino and Caden Benson was a 2nd place winner. No girls entered in the 10-11 age group. For the 12-13 girls results, Eliza Burbela was a 1st place winner with Ariana Cioffi placing 2nd. For boys, Daevon Albanese was a 1st place winner and Braden Morrie finished in 2nd place.

All first place winners will represent Springfield Elks Lodge #1560 at the Elks Southern District Hoop Shoot in Springfield on January 10th. If for some reason a first place winner cannot attend the second place winner in will compete their place.

THIS & THAT

From Page 1B

the quarterfinal victory over Mt. Abe. The coaches labeled her "aggressive and always puts pressure on the players she is up against, whether that is the goalie or a general opposing team member. She makes great stops and carries the ball up the field."

That Mt. Abe game gets a lot of credit for being the focal point of the run to glory. Macie told us, "that was a very scary game for us. We went into that one knowing that in previous years, we had lost to them like 4-0. We kind of went into that one thinking that we were going to lose. That's when we started to see what a phenomenal team we could be. We just all came together and realized we can do this."

Rounding out the senior portion of the team, starts with Alli Webster, a sweeper, who the coaches note, "makes great stops and communicates in the circle. She is reliable and will put pressure on opposing offenses." Senior Katie Worth is a halfback and coaches note "she gives great support on the field and stops offensive plays." Another Katie, senior Katie Worth is a fullback, who the coaches see, "makes good defensive stops in the circle." Two more seniors round out this special group and they both spend time as midfielders. Emily Therrien they say "has solid stick work that allows her to carry the ball up the alley and is able to place herself in good position on the field to receive a pass or to pass it off to a teammate." The other is Karlee Brown, a combination midfielder/halfback, who they remark has "a strong voice on the field, which helps her teammates around her.

Additionally they say, "she has a great stop and can carry the ball out of the circle well."

A single junior and three each from the sophomore and freshmen classes round out the title team roster. Madee Stagner, who toiled as a fullback, is the lone junior and the coaches find her to be able "to get very low on the field and is able to take control of a play, carry the ball up the field, and then pass off to another player," to advance the ball. From the sophomore class are midfielder/halfback Paige Congdon, halfback Sofia Gulick and fullback Miranda Keough, one of the Windsor additions. The coaches remarked that Congdon "is a fast player, who has great endurance, that allows her to keep a quick pace throughout an entire game", that Gulick "is in her first year playing, but is both a fast and a smart player, who is strong on defense and placement on the field," and Keough the coaches tell us, "can stop many balls that come her way and she is also able to control the ball and make great passes."

Parker remarked earlier that she had known from the seasons start that there would be freshmen contributing to the cause and that turned out being the case. Lucy Cutermarsh was a fullback/sweeper, Angelina Bigwood was the teams leading scorer at center forward and Hailey Perham was another forward. The coaches commented that Cutermarsh "makes good defensive stops and can carry the ball out of the circle, that Bigwood had "strong stick skills, which gives her the ability to get past many defenders and she also has a natural talent to get a touch on the ball and is able

to put herself in many scoring opportunities," and Perham plays as a forward and "has strong stick skills and has improved upon her ability to read the field and anticipate the pass." Bigwood came up big in both the semi and the final tallying the lone goal in each game over Harwood and Woodstock respectively. Bigwood's tally in the semi-final just happened to come on her birthday.

This season has only furthered the field hockey culture in Springfield. The team has won three titles in all and the last one came in 1986. Perkins played on a strong Cosmos team ten years ago (2006), which reached the finals and lost 2-0 to none other than Mount Abe. She enjoyed her playing days under coach Joy Benson and credits Benson and recent place holding coach Bindy Hathorn, as fostering a culture, which puts the game first and foremost. Perkins proudly said "you have to credit Joy and Bindy for establishing a family tradition in Springfield Field Hockey, going back thirty years. It was an expectation, that the girls get along and that there is no drama. That expectation has been within the field hockey community in Springfield for a long time. It is something we inherited, yet we have worked very hard to make sure it continues."

This year's team might have created a little drama (what else do you label three tournament 1-0 games in succession), BUT, they can be excused for that. As coach DeAngelis has told her team often, "any day is any ones game. So make sure you make it your day." In the tournament, they literally took those words to heart and captured a championship. And one might add, the spirit of an entire as well.

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Record numbers of fans attend the Women's World Cup

KILLINGTON, Vt. - Over 1000 VARA Club members arrived at Killington the morning of Nov. 26 to participate in the VARA Athlete Parade at the Killington Women's



Thousands of fans were able to cheer on their athlete.

PHOTO PROVIDED



Mikaela Chiffrin wins her sixth World Cup at Killington.

PHOTO BY REESE BROWN

World Cup. Record numbers of fans followed. The VARA Athlete Parade was a spectacle like none other, impressing the crowds with participants Swix VARA World Cup hats and the sheer numbers involved.

A sea of white hats bobbed down from the staging area into the finish area where thousands were able to witness the overwhelming sense of community and pride which is the essence of VT ski racing and the Vermont Alpine Racing Association. The scene was emotional for some and exciting for all. What a way to kick off the 2017 season!

Attendance was record setting with 30,000 fans, making the Killington World Cup the biggest weekend crowds in women's World Cup history, according to the USSA News Bureau. Way to go Eastern ski racing enthusiasts!

The action was amazing and exciting as fans could see most of the course from the viewing areas. Cheering could be heard by the competitors at the top of the course. The venue was user friendly and spectator traffic flowed with ease.

Fans were able to witness Mikaela Shiffrin finish the weekend with her sixth straight Audi FIS Ski World Cup win, winning the slalom. A fantastic job by Killington, The Organizing Committee, Local Organizing Committee and all the volunteers!

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LEGAL NOTICES

LIBRARIES CONT.

WED., DEC. 7 CONT. - call (802) 463-4270, go to www.rockinghamlibrary.org or stop by the library at 65 Westminster St. in Bellows Falls.

TUESDAY, DEC. 13 - LUDLOW, Vt. - Fletcher Memorial library will allow participants hands on opportunities to contribute to Lucy McKenzie Humane Society. From 3 - 4 p.m. children in grades K and up are invited to the library to make one of a kind dog and cat toys that will be donated to the shelter animals. Youth Services Librarian Sacha Krawczyk at 228-3517.

TUESDAYS - LUDLOW, Vt. - Fletcher Memorial Library off Main St. for "Crafty Tuesdays," from 3 to 4 p.m. for kindergarten through grade six age children.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - 10 a.m. Story Time. Stories, songs, and activities for the youngest readers. Springfield Library.

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. - Story time for Toddlers and PreK, at the Silsby Free Library, from 10:30 a.m. Children and parents are invited for stories, songs and finger plays. Session includes play time, an activity and a story time. Free and open to all.

WEDNESDAYS - ASCUTNEY, Vt. - Preschoolers join Jordan for stories, fun and a simple craft. Contact wplyouthservices@gmail.com or 802-674-2863. Weathersfield Proctor Library 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. and Saturdays: 10 - 11 a.m.

LUDLOW, Vt. - Preschool and Toddler Story Time, at 10:30-11:30 a.m. Fletcher Memorial Library. Each week features a theme, music stories and a craft. Please call Sacha, at 802-228-3517 to register for a program or for more information. Fall session runs through Dec. 15

LUDLOW, Vt. - DCF Book Club meets Wednesday from 4 - 4:30 p.m. at the Fletcher Memorial Library. For grades four through eight. Join us each week as the librarian reads aloud from this month's book club selection

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Discovery Time for kids ages 5 and up on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. This program is free and open to all thanks to the generosity of the Friends of the Springfield Town Library. For more information, call the Springfield Town Library at 802-885-3108.

WESTON, Vt. - Come and enjoy a story hour with friends at the Wilder Memorial Library! 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Call (802) 824-4307

WINDSOR, Vt. - Preschool and Toddler Story Time every

Wednesday from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Windsor Public Library, 43 State Street. Each week features a theme, music stories and a craft. 802-674-2556. www.windsorlibrary.org (802) 674-2556

WINDSOR, Vt. - This event only occurs when school is in session. 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. Children in grades K-4. Join for a book, a snack and a project. Please contact the Windsor Public Library (802) 674-2556

EVERY OTHER THURSDAY - CHARLESTOWN, N.H. - The Silsby Library, 226 Main St. will host the Roaming Readers at 9 a.m. In an effort to be active before the winter months, the library is starting a book club that meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. Join us in front of the library as we walk our beautiful stretch of town and discuss the latest books we have been reading. Make sure to wear comfortable sneakers!

FRIDAYS - CHESTER, Vt. - Story Time at Whiting Library from 10:30 - 11 a.m. Come and listen to a story every Friday with your children. Call 802-875-2277.

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. - Minecraft Club at the Rockingham Library every Friday from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. A limited number of Library computers are available. Registration is recommended if you will need to use a Library computer. If you are joining the club with your own laptop and Minecraft account, you do not need to sign up.

EVERY OTHER FRIDAY - WINDSOR, Vt. - The Yo-Yo Club meets at 2:45 p.m. at Windsor Public Library, 43 State Street. All ages are welcome. Bring your own yo-yo, or let us help you purchase a yo-yo, also available to borrow for classes and to check out through the library. Call 802-674-2556, www.windsorlibrary.org.

MEETINGS

TUESDAY, DEC. 6 - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The Springfield Prevention Coalition will be hosting a Town Hall Parent Forum and Dialogue Night to engage parents in our community around the topics of underage drinking, drug use, risk factors and perceptions. Food and childcare will be available on site. Located at the Springfield High School

Cafeteria, 303 South Street. Registration begins at 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Courtney Hillhouse/802-674-2900 x 23/ Courtney.Hillhouse@mahhc.org

MONDAYS - BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Overeaters Anonymous Meeting from 7 - 8 p.m., 44 School Street, Bellows Falls 05101 Please call 802-376-3507.

FIRST TUESDAY - ROCKINGHAM, Vt. - The Abenaki Snowmobile Club is holding our regular business meetings on the first Tuesday of each month (September through May) at 7 p.m. at the Bellows Falls Fire Department. For more information, you can contact George Berube, Trails Master at 802-869-2593.

TUESDAYS - LONDONDERRY, Vt. - Smoking Cessation class to be held at Neighborhood Connections, 5700 Route 100, from 6 - 7 p.m.

THURSDAYS - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) at Huber Building, 80 Main St. Weigh-in starts at 8 a.m. and the meeting begins at 9 a.m.

fun while your children play, and eat dinner. 5 - 7 p.m. at Cherry Hill School Contact Michelle 275-7871

FIRST TUESDAY - WINDSOR, Vt. - Cedar Hill is Proud to Announce our New Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group. Meet fellow caregivers who really understand because they've been there, too, when things are difficult or isolating. From 3:30-5 p.m. at 92 Cedar Hill Dr. (off Rte. 5).

SECOND TUESDAY - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Wellness/Lifestyle Change Support Group, meets the second Tuesday of each month from 5:45-7 p.m. at the Springfield Health Center, 100 River St. FREE. Register by calling 802-886-8946 or email cht@springfieldmed.org

SECOND AND FOURTH TUESDAY - LUDLOW, Vt. - Wit's End Support Group for family members of a person struggling with addiction. Fletcher Memorial Library at 6 p.m. For more info

call BRACC 802-228-7878.

WEDNESDAYS - LONDONDERRY, Vt. - Weekly clean and sober 12-Step Meeting. Support Group meets at Neighborhood Connections next to the Londonderry Post Office at 5:30 p.m. every Wednesday.

THURSDAYS - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Mental health peer support group from 2 - 3:30 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 77 Main St. The group's goal will be to provide a safe and healthy environment for people to give and receive support around mental health issues. The group is free and open to the public. Call Diana Slade at: 802-289-1982.

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ACROSS

1 Timber wolf

5 U.K. television option

8 Lily variety

12 Opposed to, slangily

13 Always, in verse

14 Mimicked

15 Get bigger

16 Banner

18 " - Street"

20 Leads

21 Edges

23 Adam's mate

24 Recklessly

28 Book after Joel

31 Sphere

32 "SNL" alumna Cheri

34 Debt notice

35 Seniors' dance

37 Vexing situation

39 By way of

41 Use scissors

42 Offering a nice view

45 Illegal steroid use, e.g.

49 Vertical space

51 Birthright barter

52 Not working

53 Genetic stuff (Abbr.)

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DOWN

1 Trails behind

2 Shrek is one

3 Life stories, for short

4 Ahead

5 Huge monster

6 Spelling contest

7 Rugged cliff

8 Digestive aid

9 Widespread illness

10 Kelly or Hackman

11 Rhyming tributes

17 Payable

19 Venus de -

22 Old daggers

24 Bounce

25 Blunder

26 Especially

27 Baby-sitters, often

29 Partner of aah

30 Take to court

33 Personal (Pref.)

36 Paid heed to

38 Attraction

40 Atmosphere

42 Thin wedge

43 Relinquish

44 Buffalo Bill's last name

46 Capri, e.g.

47 Siestas

48 Sudden rush of wind

50 Individual

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LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Holiday plans get back on track after some confusion about the direction you expected to take. A potentially troublesome money matter needs your immediate attention.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your holiday preparations are on track. But you need to confront a personal situation while you can still keep it from overwhelming everything else.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Tight financial matters ease a bit during this holiday season. But the sagacious Sagittarian is well-advised to keep a tight hold on the reins while shopping for gifts.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Don't put off making decisions about this year's holiday celebrations, despite the negative comments you've been getting from several quarters. Do it NOW!

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) The holidays will bring new friends and new opportunities. Meanwhile, be careful to use your energy wisely as you go about making holiday preparations.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) There's good news coming from a most unlikely source. And it could turn out to be one of the best holiday gifts you have had in years. Remember to stay positive.

BORN THIS WEEK: You are respected for your honesty and loyalty. You make friends slowly — but with rare exceptions, they're in your life forever.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Make your holiday preparations one step at a time in order to avoid being overwhelmed and leaving things undone. That confusing family situation continues to work itself out.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Ease this year's holiday money pressures by letting your thrifty side guide you as you look for those perfect gifts that typically reflect your good taste and love of beauty.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You'll have a good handle on potential holiday problems if you delegate tasks to family members, friends or co-workers — most of whom will be more than happy to help out.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Right now you are especially vulnerable to holiday scams that seek to take advantage of your generosity. Best advice: Check them out before you send out your checks.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) The upcoming holiday season gives the Big Cat much to purr about. Relationships grow stronger, and new opportunities loom on the horizon, just waiting to be pounced on.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A changing situation brings conflicting advice about how to go forward with your holiday plans. Your best bet: Make the decision you feel most comfortable with.

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outdoor news

The new but still retro, Magic Mountain will be opening

BY BRANDY TODT
The Vermont Journal

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – Magic Mountain, a ski resort located on Glebe Mountain was recently acquired by Ski Magic, a Vermont based, LLC on November 21. Realizing Magic's potential, a group of investors committed to keeping the resort operational, independent and legendary for future generations have a bit of catching up to do in order to be ready for opening day on December 17.

Ski Magic LLC goal is to make skiing affordable again,

instead of just a luxury few can enjoy. Focusing on making Magic a fun-filled location yet with throwback experiences that is accessible to everyone.

One step closer to accessibility is Magic's recent joining of the Freedom Pass. Two seasons ago this pass was created with the purpose of flexibility and adding value to pass holders.

This year 13 partner mountains have joined Freedom Pass, spanning from Alaska to Maine. That is a worthwhile perk!

Here's how it works: every pass holder gets 3 complimentary lift tickets to each moun-

tain that participates in the Freedom Pass. These tickets are at no extra cost. To view the list of partnering mountains and pass limits, be sure to check full details on Magic Mountains website.

Snow has begun to fall and season passes, tickets, and discount cards are available for purchase on magicmtn.com

In the first year of operation, Ski Magic LLC's 5-year plan will be an emphasis on lift and snowmaking. With the upcoming season quickly approaching all efforts are focused on preparing the mountain for its December opening.

"While the late closing of the purchase puts us a bit behind the 8-ball prepping for the new season," Geoff Hatheway, President of SKI MAGIC LLC continued, "we've already made significant progress on lift repairs, snowmaking upgrades, and trail and glade clearing. Along with our large volunteer corps and soon-to-be employees pitching in, Magic will be open come December 17, better than ever."

Magic is special because it has the easy-going and wel-

coming attitude. There aren't the soul-crushing crowds like those found at mega-ski resorts. Magic's brand it to provide an affordable ski product and environment that people will enjoy and return to every year.

Magic Mountain is southern Vermont's most challenging mountain. Always testing the skills of the best skiers, the 709 acre terrain is steep and not for the faint of heart. Keep an eye on their website and their Facebook page for updates.



Ski Magic Mountain.

PHOTO BY BRANDY TODT

Okemo is open for skiing & riding

LUDLOW, Vt. – Okemo Mountain Resort opened for the 2016/2017 winter season on Wednesday, November 23. Okemo opened with top-to-bottom skiing and snowboarding on seven trails with three lifts operating – including the Resort's Sunburst Six high-speed bubble chair with retractable orange domes and heated seats for six passengers at a time.

"In spite of varying temperatures this year, our snowmakers have made the most of every opportunity and we

opened with top-to-bottom skiing and riding for the fourth year running," said Okemo Vice President and General Manager Bruce Schmidt. "This achievement is a testimony to the hard work of our operations team and to the Mueller family's commitment to its loyal guests."

Snowmaking started at Okemo on November 5, but warm temperatures prevented Okemo's snowmakers from working consecutive days and nights until a recent cold snap. Okemo has also received nearly



Okemo is open for the 2016/2017 season!

PHOTO BY SHAWNTAE STILLWELL

two feet of natural snow since the arrival of winter. Snowmaking efforts are ongoing and continuing whenever the temperatures allow. Okemo anticipates having more terrain open in the days ahead and will add more trails to its open lineup as soon as conditions allow.

Several terrain park fea-

tures have been installed on Nor'easter temporarily until Okemo's nine terrain park trails can be covered with snow.

More information may be obtained by calling (802) 228-1600 or by visiting okemo.com. Conditions updates are posted daily.

GMNF Christmas trees available

RUTLAND, Vt. – U.S. Forest Service officials in Vermont are encouraging the public to purchase Christmas tree removal permits should they be interested in a five-dollar tree for the holidays. This year, all fourth

graders can take advantage of the Every Kid in a Park Initiative and get a free Christmas tree voucher found here: www.everykidinapark.gov. Fourth graders that present a printed copy of the voucher may redeem it for an EKIP Pass and a Christmas tree removal permit at one of the U.S. Forest offices listed below. This is a one-time opportunity to cut down a Christmas tree on national forest land during the 2016 holiday season. Christmas trees for personal use may be cut on the Green Mountain National Forest, subject to the following conditions:

- A "Christmas Tree Removal" permit must be purchased (\$5.00) at one of the Forest Service offices located in Rutland, Middlebury, Manchester Center, or Rochester, Vermont.
- The permit must be attached to the tree before transporting it from the site where it was cut.
- The permit holder is responsible for knowing that the tree comes from Forest Service land. Maps are available when you purchase your permit.
- Trees over 20 feet tall are not designated for cutting by the Christmas tree permit.
- The height of the tree stump left after a tree has been cut should be six inches or less above the soil.
- Christmas trees shall not be cut in active timber sales, wilderness areas, campgrounds, picnic areas, or within 25 feet of any Forest Service, town, or state maintained road.
- Only one Christmas tree permit will be issued per household per year.
- Permits are not refundable.
- Trees obtained under the Christmas tree permit may not be resold.





U.S. FOREST SERVICE OFFICES IN VERMONT:
Rutland -- Forest Supervisor's Office -- 231 North Main Street, Rutland, VT -- 802-747-6700
Manchester Ranger Station -- 2538 Depot Street, Manchester Center, VT -- 802-362-2307

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vt. farm's maple syrup

Brooke Shields picks century-old Vermont family farm's maple syrup as perfect gift

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. - Several weeks ago an editor of People Magazine contacted Helen Robb, co-owner of Robb Family Farm, to send samples of maple syrup for photography purposes to include in the magazine's celebrity "Holiday Gift Guide." But the celebrity's identity could not be revealed

until the magazine hit the news stands this week.

"The suspense is finally over!" said Helen.

Brooke Shields, known for her role in the movie "Blue Lagoon" and television series "Lipstick Jungle" picked Robb Family Farm Maple Syrup as the perfect holiday gift for women in the magazine's celebrity "Holiday Gift Guide."

Brooke is quoted in the full-page feature: "We go through a lot of maple syrup in our house."

"We are so blessed that Brooke loves our syrup!" said Helen, who added the national attention is overwhelming. "We have no idea how she found our small operation, but we sure are thankful for our lucky break and her good taste in gifts! We take a lot of pride in what we do on our farm. Orders have already started to come in."

The Robb Family Farm recently ended its century-old dairy business due to erratic milk pricing set by the Federal government and steeply rising costs of grain. Their last Holstein herd was last milked on the farm in 2011 and efforts to

expand and improve their maple sugaring operation began.

Today they tap over 3500 taps and made 800 gallons of maple syrup in 2016. They use a traditional wood-fired arch to process their sustainably made maple syrup using trees

harvested from their property to fuel the arch. It takes 40 gallons of sap to make one gallon of syrup.

In addition to the expansion of the maple sugaring operation the Robb family began raising their own beef cattle

and now sell a brand-new line of beef products containing no preservatives, antibiotics or hormones. Now the family can control its own destiny without worrying about milk prices.

Learn more about the farm at www.robbfamilyfarm.com

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Between a travel essentials kit and fine-point colored pens, Robb Family Farm's Maple Syrup is on the Holiday Gift Guide in People Magazine. PHOTO PROVIDED

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<p>2007 CHEVY 3500 DURAMAX DIESEL RACK BODY DUMP</p> <p>ONLY 15,000 MI</p>	<p>2005 FORD E-450 14 PASSENGER BUS, WHEEL CHAIR RAMP, POWER STROKE DIESEL, ONLY 65,000 MILES</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$14,995</p>	<p>2012 GMC 3500 2-3 YARD DUMP BODY, V8, AUTO, 4X4, ONLY 25,000 MI</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$28,995</p>
<p>2008 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER 4X4, LT PACKAGE, LEATHER INTERIOR, SUN ROOF, EXTRA CLEAN</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$7,995</p>	<p>2011 HONDA CRV EXL PACKAGE, LEATHER, SUN ROOF, EXTRA CLEAN, ALL WHEEL DRIVE</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$15,995</p>	<p>2009 TOYOTA TACOMA ACCESS CAB, 4X4, SR-5 PACKAGE, SUPER CLEAN</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$15,995</p>

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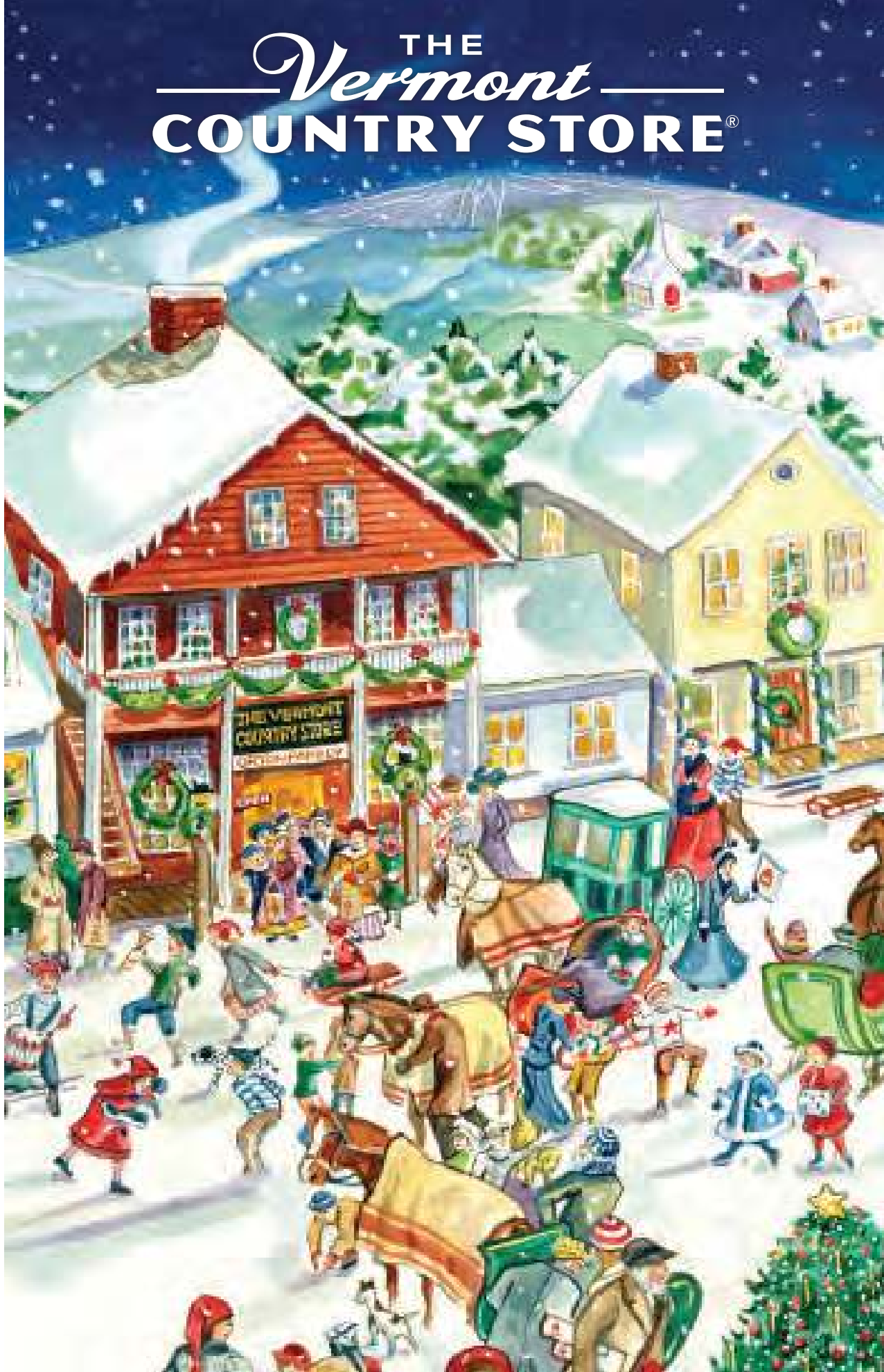
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<p>2015 GMC 1500 DBL CAB Only 500 Miles, 4x4 SALE PRICE \$29,995 (was \$28,995)</p>	<p>2014 CHEVY CRUISE LT Package, Auto, Fully Loaded, Only 31,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$10,995</p>	<p>2012 CHEVY TRAVERSE LS Package, All Wheel Drive, One Owner, Extra Clean SALE PRICE \$11,995</p>	<p>2009 CHEVY 2500 HD 4 DOOR CREW CAB 4x4, Duramax Diesel, One Owner SALE PRICE \$16,995 (was \$15,995)</p>
<p>2015 FORD MUSTANG 2 Door Coupe, Leather, Navigation, One Owner, Only 8,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$23,995 (was \$23,495)</p>	<p>2014 CHEVY SPARK LS Package, Auto, One Owner, Only 19,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$10,995 (was \$9,995)</p>	<p>2012 BUICK LACROSSE Premium Package, Leather, Sun Roof, One Owner, Only 22,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$15,995</p>	<p>2008 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER 4x4, Leather SALE PRICE \$4,995</p>
<p>2015 GMC 1500 DBL CAB 4x4, 2-71 Off Road Package, Only 15,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$34,995 (was \$32,995)</p>	<p>2014 TOYOTA PRIUS PLUG-IN Navigation, Super Economy, Only 28,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$14,995</p>	<p>2012 TOYOTA TACOMA DBL CAB 4x4, SR5 Package, One Owner SALE PRICE \$22,995 (was \$21,995)</p>	<p>2008 FORD F-350 REG CAB with Plow, 4x4, Utility Body, with Crane, Only 59,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$10,995</p>
<p>2015 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY Touring Passenger Van, Auto, Fully Loaded SALE PRICE \$19,995 (was \$18,995)</p>	<p>2014 CHEVY 1500 HIGH COUNTRY CREW CAB 6.2 Liter V8, 4x4, Totally Loaded SALE PRICE \$36,995 (was \$35,995)</p>	<p>2012 SUBARU FORESTER Auto, Fully Loaded, One Owner, Extra Clean SALE PRICE \$10,995 (was \$9,995)</p>	<p>2008 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER 4x4, LT Package, Sunroof SALE PRICE \$9,995 (was \$7,995)</p>
<p>2015 FORD TRANSIT CONNECT XLT Package, 7 Passenger Seating, Fully Loaded SALE PRICE \$17,995 (was \$16,995)</p>	<p>2014 CHEVY MALIBU LT Package, Fully Loaded, Only 23,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$14,995 (was \$12,995)</p>	<p>2012 CHEVY 1500 EXT CAB LT Package, 4x4, Like New, Only 13,000 Miles JUST ARRIVED</p>	<p>2007 HONDA ACCORD EXL Package, Fully Loaded SALE PRICE \$8,995</p>
<p>2015 CHEVY CRUZE LT Package, One Owner, Only 16,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$15,995 (was \$13,995)</p>	<p>2014 NISSAN ALTIMA Fully Loaded, Only 10,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$13,995 (was \$12,995)</p>	<p>2011 CHEVY EQUINOX LT Package, Fully Loaded, Power Lift Gate, One Owner SALE PRICE \$13,995</p>	<p>2006 CHEVY 1500 CREW CAB Leather Interior, Fully Loaded SALE PRICE \$8,495</p>
<p>2015 CHEVY MALIBU LT Package, Sun Roof SALE PRICE \$16,995 (was \$15,995)</p>	<p>2014 CHEVY EQUINOX AWD LT Package, Sunroof, Only 34,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$19,995 (was \$18,995)</p>	<p>2011 CHEVY 1500 REG CAB 4x4, 5.3 Liter V8, One Owner SALE PRICE \$14,995</p>	<p>2004 HONDA PILOT LX Package, AWD, Extra Clean SALE PRICE \$7,995 (was \$6,995)</p>
<p>2015 CHEVY SONIC HATCHBACK 5 Door, LTZ Package, Auto, Fully Loaded, Only 10,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$12,995 (was \$12,995)</p>	<p>2013 CHEVY 1500 EXT CAB LT Package, 271 Off Road, One Owner SALE PRICE \$24,995</p>	<p>2011 HYUNDAI ACCENT GLS 4 Door, 5 Speed, Only 63,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$5,995</p>	<p>HAPPY HOLIDAYS!</p>

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COME VISIT OUR TOWN FOR

Christmas in Weston

SATURDAY • DECEMBER 3RD

There's Fun For All!

* **Carolers In The Green** *

* **Tree Lighting** *

11AM-2:30PM

* **Visit With Santa & Mrs. Claus** *

11AM-3:30PM

* **Petting Zoo From Taylor Farm** *

11AM-3:30PM

* **Horse-Drawn Wagon Rides** *

\$1 donation goes to Weston Volunteer Fire Department

1-3PM

* **Vermont Cheese Tasting** *

Featuring Cheeses From Taylor Farm



Enjoy Special Holiday Menus

Lunch 11am-3:30pm • Dinner 4-7:30pm

SHOP OUR STORE • 9AM-6PM

WESTON • 657 MAIN ST • ROUTE 100

Saturday, December 3rd • 11a to 5pm • Family fun & festivities all day long!

Dickens' A Christmas Carol • Magic Show • Mill & Museum Tour • Food & much more!

Events proceeds to benefit Weston Volunteer Fire Department • See complete schedule at westonvt.com

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Delight in our 15 themed Christmas trees, Dept. 56, Byers Choice, Christmas puzzles, and so much more!

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Join us for a special reading of

A CHRISTMAS CAROL



Old Parish Church, Sat., Dec. 3rd • 2-3pm

Actors from the Playhouse, joined by community members, bring the Dickens classic to life! Free of charge.

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