

SMALL BUSINESS
Spotlight
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THE Vermont Journal

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National parks and forests are great deals for fourth graders

BY MARY ELLEN CANNON
The Vermont Journal

WOODSTOCK, Vt. – Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park is in Woodstock and features a farm section, a mansion to tour with artwork, glorious gardens, and trails to walk.

Winter workshops scheduled at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park include Winter Tree ID on Jan. 7 from 10 a.m. to noon, and Animal Tracking on Jan. 21 from 9 a.m. to noon.

George Perkins Marsh is considered a pioneering conservationist. Check www.nps.gov and look under the park name for more information.

Under a special program, fourth

grade students, including 10-year-old homeschoolers, can apply for free passes to take themselves and their families to America's national parks and forests. The pass is good till Aug. 31, 2017.

The concept is for every kid to get to a park. Fourth grade is considered prime time for openness to new adventures.

The pass covers entrance fees to parks and forests for the child and family, but not camping fees. No concessionaire fees are waived. The website www.everykidinapark.gov gives directions on how a child completes an adventure diary to obtain a paper pass.

The Saint-Gauden National Historic Site is in Cornish, NH. Au-

gustus Saint-Gauden was a famous American sculptor. His elegant home, gardens with bronze sculptures, and trails for walking are now a historic site.

The buildings at Saint-Gauden are closed for the season. The grounds are open during daylight for walking for free.

The pass will work for visiting Saint-Gauden in the summer for the museum, tours, and the Sunday music.

Active military and their families can apply for a free pass to national parks and forests also.

For those age 62 or older the best deal around is the \$10 lifetime pass to national parks and forests. People can purchase the pass online or at a

national park or national forest office.

The White Mountain National Forest main office is in Campton, NH. The Green Mountain National Forest main office is in Rutland, Vt. The Bureau of Land Management monuments and land are also covered by the passes.

An annual pass to National Parks, Forests, and Bureau of Land Management Land Monuments can be purchased for \$80. Go to www.nps.gov for information on the passes.

"The National Parks: America's Best Idea," a documentary directed by Ken Burns of Walpole, NH highlights the struggle to create national parks from the mid 1800s and modern concerns for the park system.



Connor Jacob at Rocky Mountain National Park getting his Junior Ranger badge. PHOTO BY BRIDGET JACOB

Shumlin sets record for most pardons issued by a Vermont Governor

REGION – Gov. Peter Shumlin has pardoned 192 individuals convicted of possessing small amounts of marijuana. In December, the Governor announced that he would consider pardons for those with minor marijuana possession charges who did not have violent criminal histories.

"A minor marijuana possession charge should not be an anchor that holds back an individual from getting a good job or going about their life," Gov. Shumlin said. "While attitudes and laws about marijuana use are rapidly changing, there is still a harmful stigma associated with it. My hope was to help as many individuals as I could overcome that stigma and the very real struggles that too often go along with it. Vermont should follow the many states that are legalizing and regulating the use

of marijuana and put to an end the incredible failure that is the War on Drugs."

In 2013, Gov. Shumlin signed a law



Gov. Peter Shumlin.

decriminalizing possession of less than one ounce of marijuana. Before the law was changed, thousands of Vermonters were charged with the misdemeanor offense of possessing up to two ounces of marijuana. For many of those individuals, that misdemeanor offense presented lasting challenges, including difficulty finding employment, working in federal buildings, applying to college, chaperoning their children on school trips, becoming a caretaker for a partner, traveling internationally, or obtaining a professional license.

About 450 individuals applied for a pardon by the Governor. After pro-

cessing all of those applications, conducting background checks, and reviewing criminal histories, the Governor decided to pardon 192 individuals. The Governor did not pardon those with violent criminal histories or those also convicted of driving under the influence or reckless driving. All pardons were for the conviction of misdemeanor possession of marijuana.

Under the 2013 decriminalization law, individuals convicted of minor marijuana possession may request to have a qualifying offense expunged from their record through the court process. More information from the Judiciary about how to file a request for expungement is available www.vermontjudiciary.org. Individuals convicted of marijuana or any other offense can also apply for a pardon under the next governor.

During his six years in office, Gov. Shumlin has issued 208 pardons, more than any governor in the history of Vermont.

This January, consider mentoring a child

SPM Wire - If you have surplus of time, patience and dedication, consider mentoring a child. January, which is National Mentoring Month, is an ideal time of year to look into mentoring opportunities.

While many young people have positive role models at home, school or in their communities, others are not so fortunate and need basic adult guidance and encouragement. Others may have

great role models, but lack a mentor who shares their specific skills or interests.

Remember, there are many programs out there with different levels of commitment. So even if you only have limited time to offer, there is likely an opportunity that would work for your schedule. To learn more, visit mentoring.org.

This January, consider how you can best use your talents and time to encourage a child to succeed.



Volunteer to be a mentor to a child in need.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Joshua Parker receives recognition for World Class Technician

LUDLOW, Vt. - Joshua Parker has recently earned his World Class Technician Certification. Parker has been an employee of Benson's Chevrolet since 2010 and recently received his accreditation from Chevrolet representatives Peter Delvecchio and Charity Spears-Harris. Delvecchio and Spears-Harris shared Parker's accomplishment with the Parker's family and employees of Benson's Chevrolet.

Parker was praised for his time and dedication to the Service Technical College program that very few in the



L to R: George Benson Sr., George Benson Jr., Charity Spears-Harris, Paul Orzechowski, Joshua Parker, Peter Delvecchio.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Northeast Region accomplish. Currently there are only 11 World Class Technician's in Vermont and Benson's Chevrolet's is proud to have 2 on their team.

Fellow employee Paul Orzechowski, also in the photo, is a World Class Technician. Tradition is passed from one fellow WCT to another and Orzechowski was proud to present Parker with his plaque.

Congratulations to Josh Parker on a job well done!

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GFWC Okemo Valley Trees of Remembrance

LUDLOW / PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. - The GFWC Okemo Valley Women's Club annual Trees of Remembrance are lit for the holiday season once again. The two trees are located in Veteran's Memorial Park in Ludlow and the second on the Common in Proctorsville. These are community trees which honor and remember friends, relatives and loved ones during the holidays. A combination holiday symbol, personal memorial and fundraiser, the trees will be illuminated during December and January. GFWC Okemo Valley Women's Club is accepting donations in any amount to remember your loved ones. The entirety of this fundraiser will benefit Black River High School and Cavendish Town Elementary School students.

Your generous donations make up the greatest part of this fund raising effort. Please help us to light a young student's smile by remembering someone through the Trees

of Remembrance. Please send your donation to: Roxie Davis, 126 Newton Rd., Proctorsville, Vt. 05153 OR

Pam Bruno, 25 Tepper Drive, Ludlow, Vt. 05149.

Please make checks payable to GFWC Okemo Valley Women's Club.

We wish to remember and honor: The Walter Ahers, Mary and Ed Augustaskas, Helen Bailard, Roger Bidgood, Harley and Ida Bragg, Harold and Mary Bragg, Marvin Brammen, Oscar and Nellie Beckman, Peter Connor, Laine Dan-yow, Ellsworth and Dorothy Davis, Roy Davis, Leta Davis, Ralph and Elva Davis, Deluca family, Frances Dempse, Thomas Demp-sie, Derlinga family, Suzette Dur-gin, Merton Goodell, Nick Gulli, Ida Farrar, Russell Farmer, Steven Farmer, Stanley Grandfield, Russell Haskell, Maynard and Elise Hen-drickson, Brian Hodgeman, Leta Hudgings, Charlie Hughes, Kathy

Ingham, Norman Jackson, Fred Jelley, Jack Kemp, Reverend Sid-ney Lambert, Elsie Langlois, Joe and Irene Lorraine, Rhonda M. Pitts Macheski, George and Vi-olet Matulonis, Ernest and Melba Noll, Pete Noyes, Mary and Frank Owen, Frank and Lena Phillips, Theresa Phillips, Richard and Jo-sephine Pitts, Dud Pluta, The Leo Plutas, Mike Pluta, Bert Preston, Bruab Priestley, Sandra Prokop, Helen Remy, Laval "Jim" Remy, Gardner and Laura Ripley, Nor-ma Rlau, Kelley Sanderson, Al-lyn and Helen Seward, Leon and Mary Shabbott, George Shaw, Bernard and Shirley Snow, Da-vid Stearns, Erin Paige Stinson, Deryl Stowell, Annie Struch, Craig Sudhadule, Trina Sullivan, Rolf and Virginia Swanson, Betty Sweeney, George and Rose Tap-fer, Marilyn Trick, William and Helen Tucker, Herbert M. and Bernice VanGuilder, Hal and Ruth Whitman, Zachman family

Wantastiquet Rotary to host membership reception

LONDONDERRY, Vt. - The Wantastiquet Rotary Club will host a membership reception on January 12, 2017 at the Upper Pass Lodge on the Magic Mountain access road from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Anyone wishing to

learn more about Rotary and what the local club is involved with in the community is welcome and will receive a drink plus hors d'oeuvre.

The Wantastiquet Rotary Club serves the mountain communities

of Londonderry, Weston, Land-grove, Jamaica, Windham, Peru and Winhall. During this holiday season the Rotary club held a Food Drive at Clark's IGA and produc-es 40 boxes of food for the Lon-donderry Neighbor's Pantry. Spon-sored the Annual Tree Lighting & Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus visit in the Londonderry Market Place and distributed gift packages of a plant & cookies to 30 shut ins; cook-ies were prepared by the Weston Women's Club and the plants were made by the Green Mountain Gard-eners.

The Wantastiquet Rotary Club meets on Tuesday's at 8:00 a.m. at the Second Congregational Church and meeting last just one hour.

Wilder Library receives donation from VCS

WESTON, Vt. - The Wilder Memorial Library is thrilled to announce that the Vermont Country Store has matched our fundraising efforts with a generous donation of \$2,500.00! This brings us that much closer to our goal of raising \$10,000.00. The money will be used to renovate the Jeremy R. Orton children's room as well as do other renovations on our historic building.

Thanks to the generosity of the Vermont Country Store, the hard work of Jack & Corby and the whole Coughlin family and all of our donors we have raised \$5,545.00! Let's keep the momentum going and reach our goal of \$10,000.00. Donate today! Visit our online fundraiser <https://www.gofundme.com/Jack-Corby> or send a check to the Wilder Memorial Library at PO Box 38, Weston, VT 05161. All donations are tax deductible and will go to help us renovate and care for our beautiful historic library.



Amanda Merk, Library Director and library supporters, John, Christine, Jack & Corby Coughlin received a donation to the Wilder Memorial Library from Ann Warrell of the Vermont Country Store.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Chester-Andover Family Center

truly blessed by community support

CHESTER, Vt. - The Chester-Andover Family Center Board and volunteers wish to thank businesses, organizations, families, and individuals who supported the Center this past year through fundraisers, generous donations of time and talent, food, and money. The Center runs well due to its great team and that team includes community supporters. Thank you one and all!

Thinking of becoming a volunteer? Here are some good reasons to consider volunteering at CAFC: You can make a difference, it's a chance to give back to your

community, volunteering strengthens the community, it promotes personal growth, and last but not least, it is satisfying! Do you enjoy working outside? Gardening? Harvesting fresh veggies? Yard work? Shoveling snow? Receiving deliveries? Do you prefer inside work? Stocking shelves? Housekeeping? Meeting and greeting? Creating displays, bulletin boards? Record keeping? Building repair and maintenance? And the list goes on!

Do you have a skill or interest not mentioned that you would like to share? Volunteers are needed in all areas of the Center: Food Shelf, Thrift Shop, and Building Commit-

tee. Stop by during regular Thrift Shop hours and have a tour of the facility. Then you can see how you can become a part of that great team.

Thrift Shop hours are: Tuesday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Food Shelf hours are 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. every Thursday and Friday 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. for Produce Pickup. To reach the Center: 908 VT Route 103 South (P. O. Box 302), Chester, Vt. 05143, (802) 875-3236, email: cafc302@gmail.com, and website www.chester-andoverfamilycenter.org Please "like us" on Facebook.

40th Army Band to perform at the State House

MONTPELIER, Vt. - The Vermont National Guard and the Office of the Adjutant General are proud to present "Vermont's Own" 40th Army Band Concert Band perform-

ing a free concert on Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in the House Chamber at the Vermont State House in Montpelier, Vermont. The program will feature traditional

patriotic American tunes, as well as musical selections from David Holsinger and Gustav Holst.

Members of the 40th Army Band serve one weekend a month and two weeks of Annual Training each year in the Vermont Army National Guard. As civilians the rest of the year, they are engaged in such diverse occupations as education, law, security, technology, medical, and sales.

This concert is free, open to the public, and part of the annual "Farmer's Night" series of concerts and entertainment at the State House during the legislative session.

For further information about the 40th Army Band, call the unit's office in Colchester, weekdays, at (802) 338-3480, or you can find them on Facebook and Twitter at 40th Army Band.

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Handicap ramp approved

BY BRANDY TODT
The Vermont Journal

WESTON, Vt. - The Little School on Lawrence Hill Road applied for a Zoning Permit in August 2016 for the construction of an ADA compliant ramp for the front entrance of the building.

The purpose of the ramp was to provide handicap access to the building and for better public access through redesign of the existing steps and landing. The ramp would supplement the existing walkway to the building.

The Little School property, where the proposed ramp is to be built, is located within the Village of Weston Zoning District.

At the September 13, 2016 se-

lectboard meeting discussion on whether the location of the ramp was in the floodway or not, and whether the Little School could build in the upstream conveyance shadow of the existing building.

A conveyance shadow as defined by the National Flood Insurance Program as an area where the flood flows are not impacted by addition-

al development in close proximity to an existing structure.

At the public hearing on October 13, 2016 a Site Plan was submitted showing that the majority of the ramp is within the conveyance shadow, while a small corner was not within the shadow.

Director of The Little School, Meghan Meszkat, received the notice of decision on November 8, 2016 notifying her that after deliberation the Zoning Board of Adjustment approved the application.

The proposed ramp measures approximately 20 feet long by 5 feet wide and will be made of concrete.



The Little School approved a handicap ramp.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Petco Foundation invests in lifesaving work of Springfield Humane Society

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Springfield Humane Society of the greater Springfield area today announced it has been awarded a \$3,000 grant from the Petco Foundation to sup-

port it's construction of a new community room.

Springfield Humane Society is a nonprofit organization that has been working to improve the quality of life for animals by providing protection, compassionate care, and adoption services for homeless animals since 1941. We rescue and rehome approximately 400 animals per year, hold low cost spay/neuter clinics for the public, respond to cruelty calls in the 11 towns we service, and host educational talks for both

school children and adults.

The Petco Foundation investment will help us expand our dedicated service through the continuation of our low cost spay/neuter clinics, low cost vaccination clinics, dog obedience classes, and formal educational offerings.

"I am so very pleased and grateful to receive this grant from Petco which will help us help the many animals and people in our service area. Petco has always been there for us, and their support will help us be there for those who need us," said Anne Eddy, Executive Director of Springfield Humane Society.

For more information about Springfield Humane Society or the Petco Foundation, visit www.spfld-humane.org or www.petcofoundation.org. Join the conversation on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram or by using the hashtag #PetcoFoundation.



SHS received a donation from Petco. Adopt a family pet today! PHOTO PROVIDED BY SPRINGFIELD HUMANE SOCIETY FACEBOOK PAGE

A winter retreat for adventurous women

FAIRLEE, Vt. - Announcing a Winter Retreat for Adventurous Women! Vermont Outdoors Woman has begun accepting deposits for its Annual Winter Doe Camp to be held at the Hulbert Outdoor Center in Fairlee, Vt. on March 3-5, 2017. Winter Doe Camp is a women's weekend retreat for outdoor skill development, adventure, education and just plain fun.

Participants will make new friends while staying with like minded women in heated cabins and play in the outdoors all day. Spend the weekend learning winter outdoor skills while staying near the shores of Lake Morey! Delicious, hearty and well balanced meals are served buffet style in Hulbert's sunny dining hall.

Beginning with an optional dog sledding class on Friday morning, campers can select their own classes in 4 sessions starting on Friday afternoon and ending at noon on Sunday. Thanks to an incredible lineup of volunteer outdoor educators, we are offering nearly 40 educational classes. Recreation activities include: winter camping, basket weaving, handgun, muzzleloader and rifle classes, ice fishing, Nordic skating, snowshoeing, survival skills, archery, forest management, ax skills, campfire cooking, wildlife photography, deer and spring turkey hunting, tracking, backpacking and more. Classes fill up quickly so sign up soon.

There will be spare time for socializing by the fireplace and thanks to our many generous sponsors, we will be holding our popular raffle on

Sunday after lunch.

The minimum age is 15 and minors must be accompanied by an adult. Cost for the all inclusive weekend program. Mother/daughter discounts, group discounts for 3 or more and day rates are available. Don't miss the opportunity to receive an affordable outdoor education in a stress-free, supportive environment.

For class descriptions, schedule and registration form, visit: www.voga.org/winter_doe_camp.htm

To learn more about Vermont Outdoors Woman, visit: www.outdoorswoman.org Sponsored in part by Hulbert Outdoor Center, Vermont Outdoors Woman, Vermont Outdoor Guide Association and Vermont Fish & Wildlife.



Are you an adventurous woman? Sign up for the Annual Winter Doe Camp in Fairlee, Vt.

PHOTO PROVIDED

TAI CHI IN CAVENDISH, VT

Free Introduction Class:
Wed., Feb. 1, 5:45 - 6:45 pm
Weekly classes:
Wednesdays 5:45-6:45pm

Tuition: \$65/month, 1st month \$50. Registration open thru Feb. at DG Bodyworks 7 Depot Street, Proctorsville/Cavendish Corner of Rte. 131 & Depot St.



Djemila Cavanaugh is a long time student in the Cheng Man-ching tradition. Passionate about sharing this art, she quickly became a teaching assistant, then a teacher in France before moving to VT, where she's been studying closely with Wolfe Lowenthal, direct student of Cheng Man-ching.

Djemila Cavanaugh (802) 490-0225 djem.translator@gmail.com Facebook: Djem's Tai Chi Classes

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State Board approves Taconic and Green merger proposal

REGION - On December 20, the Vermont State Board of Education unanimously approved the Northshire Merger Study Committee's proposal to merge the school districts of the towns of Londonderry, Weston, Landgrove, Peru, Danby, Mt. Tabor, Sunderland, Dorset and Manchester into the new Taconic and Green Regional School District. Chairman Jon Wilson, Vice-Chair Richard Grip, and committee consultant Dan French presented the merger proposal to the Board at their meeting at U-32 Mid-

dle & High School.

With this vote, the State Board of Education followed the guidance of the Secretary of Education's recommendations and determined that the proposed merger is "in the best interests of the State, the students, and the school districts." The board also provided "preliminary support for a waiver regarding supervisory union board composition" if the merger is passed by the voters. After the meeting, Chairman Jon Wilson said, "We are very pleased with how things

went today. Not only was the board very complementary of the report we put together, but they also indicated that they would work in good faith to grant us adequate representation on a future supervisory union board." Because the proposed merged district would represent over 60% of the Bennington-Rutland Supervisory Union population, the merger committee had requested a waiver to the statutory supervisory union board composition rules. Vice-Chair Richard Grip said after the meeting, "We were very clear with the state board that this proposed merger would lose a lot of popular support in our electorates if the proposed merged district did not receive at least half of the representation on a future SU Board. They listened, responded, and capped off the end of a very pleasant meeting."

Secretary of Education Rebecca Holcombe was also pleased with the hard work of the Northshire committee. Before the board approved her recommended actions, the Secretary said "I want to say a special thank you for taking such a regional approach because we do need regional solutions. I appreciate your willingness to take a long view, and have a broad vision because I think that is going to be critical to getting good solutions in your area."

While Wilson breathed a sigh of relief once the meeting was over, he acknowledged some of the hardest work is yet to come and urges voters to begin educating themselves by reading the report presented to State Board of Ed. It can be found at <https://sites.google.com/site/northshirermergerstudy/>.

I-91 Rockingham bridges update

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. - The following is the anticipated schedule of the construction to take place on the I-91 Rockingham Bridges #24S & 24N over the Williams River beginning January 3.

Weather permitting, motorists should expect the I-91 southbound travel lane only over the bridge to be closed from January 3 until approximately January 12 to allow crews to drill test borings. The left (passing) lane will be open to thru traffic and motorists should have little to no delays.

It is anticipated that from January 12 to 24 the northbound travel lane will be closed along with the northbound Exit 6 on-ramp. Traffic will be detoured to Route 5 north to I-91 Exit 7 on-ramp.

Please note that these dates are subject to change due to weather/road conditions.

Motorists please use extreme caution as the safety of the workers along with themselves is of the



I-91 bridge over the Williams River near Rockingham.

PHOTO PROVIDED

utmost importance.

The Public Relations telephone number to call with any questions or concerns regarding this project is

802-862-6085 or 866-602-6868.

Find updates/changes at <http://countonitinc.com/road-construction-updates/>

Alzheimer's Association presents: Effective Communications Strategies

WINDSOR, Vt. - On Wednesday, January 18 at 10 a.m. The Village at Cedar Hill located at 92 Cedar Hill Dr. is pleased to host the next free seminar in their popular Speaker Series: Alzheimer's Association presents: Effective Communications Strategies presented by Pamela Beidler, MSHCA, Director of Programs and Outreach at the Vermont Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association.

Communication is more than just talking and listening - it's also about sending and receiving messages through attitude, tone of voice, facial expressions and body language. As people with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias progress in their journey and the ability to use words is lost, families need new ways to connect. Join us for this free program to explore how communication takes place when someone has Alzheimer's.

Topics covered include:

Identify the communication changes that happen due to Alzheimer's disease.

Learn how to decode verbal and

behavioral messages delivered by someone with dementia.

Identify strategies to help you connect and communicate at each stage of the disease.

Pamela Beidler MSHCA, is the Director of Programs and Outreach at the Vermont Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. She is a Certified Dementia Practitioner with a passion for working with our community's most vulnerable populations and finding ways to empower individuals through health education.

Following the presentation there will be time for questions or comments. Refreshments will be served.

History of mining

WALPOLE, N.H. - Join Jim Pecora, the Southwestern New Hampshire Mines and Mining Historian for a fascinating and informative look at

over 200 years of mining history. Pecora's "Show and Tell" multimedia presentation will open doors to a world full of hard work, often by crews of immigrants, who mined within some massive subterranean tunnels beneath our region.

Learn about mica's many ordinary and WWI and II top-secret uses. In addition, the audience will learn some amazing information about South Acworth's famous Beryl Mountain and the world renowned Big Mine in Alstead.

Pecora will have his show and tell on Friday, Jan. 13 at 7:00 p.m. at the Walpole Town Hall. This event is free.



Two Neanderthals BBQ

In the midst of the huge snow storm we received on Thursday, Dec. 29, Two Neanderthals Smokin BBQ in Springfield were smokin in the snow! Check them out at 361 River St. Like them on Facebook @TwoNeanderthalsSmokinBBQ.

PHOTO BY VINCE WEST



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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

Nobody's used car sales —

Ernest (Ernie) Nobody ran a used car lot on the upper end of Main Street in 1957 Chester. When his lot was full he usually had about 30 used cars on hand.

Nobody always had a good inventory of Chevy's, Ford's, Chrysler's and Studebaker's on hand. Herbie Randall lived on High Street and loved Studebakers and always bought his cars at Nobody's.

Herbie was deaf as a stone. One day Herbie was test-driving a used Studebaker at Ernie's. Mr. Nobody was out in the car lot with a customer when he heard a horn blowing way down Main Street below the Baptist church. The horn grew louder as it came closer to Nobody's Used Cars.

Soon Ernie saw his Studebaker coming into his yard with Herbie behind the wheel and the horn loudly blowing. Herbie had no idea that the horn had stuck all the while he was driving. He never heard it. After Nobody fixed the horn, Herbie bought the Studebaker.

Edgar LaDuke was a diehard Ford man. He stopped at Ernie's looking for a new Ford. The rear end on his 1946 Ford was on its last legs and making a loud grinding noise. To quiet the rear end Edgar drained the rear end of oil and put in heavier weight gear oil. To that he added some sawdust. This mixture while not solving the rear end problem did quiet it down some.

Well Edgar picked out a 1955 Ford Fairlane he liked and asked Mr. Nobody how he'd trade. Nobody said he'd have to test drive Edgar's rig before he made a trade. Nobody took Edgar's Ford for a test drive and when he returned he said, "I guess I don't want your Ford. She smells like she's burning wood." You had to get up real early to beat Nobody.

Ernest Nobody had an excellent reputation as an honest and reputable person to deal with. He had been in business for 25 years and had never advertised anywhere. He didn't have to advertise. All of his competitors advertised for him.

His competitors claimed to have the best cars at the best prices. In any newspaper ad his competitors always boasted, "Nobody sells for less."

The above story about Ernie Nobody is a fictional story I wrote that will be included in my book "1957 Chester." It is a collection of short stories that take place in 1957 Ches-



Part of Nadeau's Circe Game Call Collection.

PHOTO PROVIDED

ter. Comprised of many short stories, it is not intended as a history but a humorous approach to characters that may have lived in Chester at that time. It is intertwined with old Yankee wit and humor.

Most stories revolve around working men and women, the hardships they endured with both their successes and failures. You'll meet 'Double Clutch' the Chief of the Fire Department, 'Mordecai Mason' a lawyer in town, 'Roadkill', 'Charlie the Town Liar' and many other colorful characters.

The book will be published in the spring. I will be looking for sales outlets so if you're interested please contact me.

January 15th is the first Antiques Roundtable. The theme for this roundtable is vintage outdoors. Exhibitors will show wooden snowshoes, traps, backpacks, fishing equipment and hunting items. Bud Nadeau will show his collection of game calls. Included will be his important collection of Circe game calls. Bill Austin will show part of his extensive collection of animal mounts. Bill has everything for mounts.

You are invited to show items you collect. There is no charge to exhibitors or visitors; just contact me at the number next to my photo to reserve space. The date is Sunday, January 15 at 2 p.m. upstairs at Chester Town Hall.

One of my favorite poems is "The Cremation of Sam McGee." For the January 15th Roundtable we will have a special guest recite this poem for you. If you've never heard you

should. We always end the day with a vintage movie. The movie for January will be "Working the Land" a 1930s black & white film about logging with horses and early trucks. It shows men harvesting lumber in the Maine woods in winter. Later in the film horses are used for plowing fields and cutting hay. It's a great film that accurately illustrates the hardships these men faced on a daily basis and the relationship between man and horse.

This week's old saying is from Thomas Jefferson. "I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past."

Are you a Bellows Falls history buff?

REGION - I'm looking for names of women who owned hotels/boarding houses in Bellows Falls during the 1940s. The clerk's office in Bellows Falls possibly has these records, but they are not online, and I live in Tuscon, Arizona.

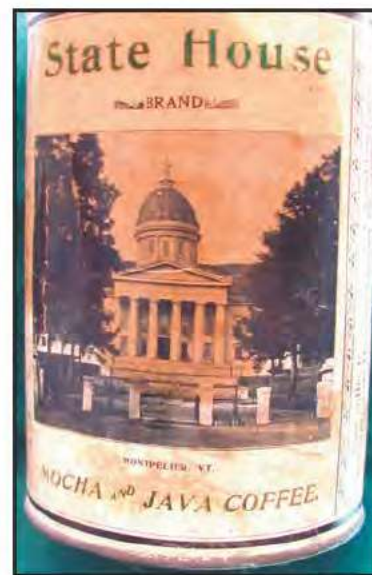
My relative and I found some other relatives via Ancestry.com. One of them, a single woman, owned a hotel or boarding house in Bellows Falls Vermont in the 1940's. I have the names of some of those places, but am looking for the actual owners, one who would have been female.

With that information then we can possibly see what offspring, if any, they had.

If you have any information, please contact Holly Blake at 520-322-6259 or via email at heb0313@cox.net.

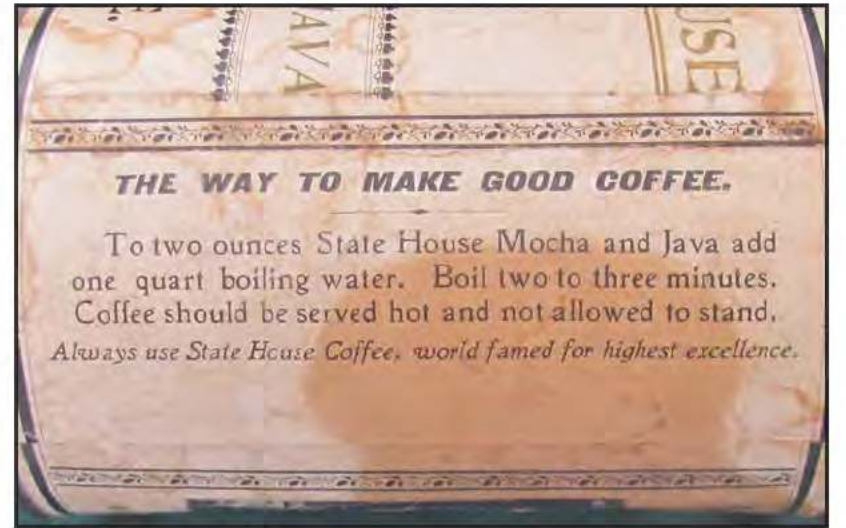
Does anyone know anything about this company?

The State House coffee can, dated 1900, has a tin bottom and top. The sides are a thin cardboard and a little stained. The cardboard sides would deteriorate long before the tin. This may be part of the rarity. Ron Patch has only seen a couple of these in 40 years. He is looking for information about this company; if you have information to give him please contact him at knotz69@gmail.com



State House brand Mocha and Java Coffee label.

PHOTO PROVIDED



"Always use State House Coffee..."

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editorial

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Top news stories of 2016

So what were the top news stories of 2016 in our region?

We can think of quite a few, but the sale of Okemo Mountain Ski Resort in Ludlow was certainly one, even though the place's longtime managers said nothing would change.

The purchase and opening of Magic Mountain by Ski Magic LLC; a group of investors committed to realizing the full potential of a legendary ski area.

Then there's the Chroma Technologies expansion in Bellows Falls, a multimillion-dollar project that will add a dozen jobs.

And don't forget the proposed Stiles Brook Wind Project. The debate over what would have been Vermont's biggest wind turbine site came to a vote in 2016 and failed.

Activists and some town officials in Windham and Grafton fought the project, citing environmental, financial and health concerns. Spanish developer Iberdrola Renewables said Stiles Brook's renewable energy potential and financial benefits would help both towns.

Iberdrola reduced the 28-turbine proposal and offered money to residents about a month before a Nov. 8 vote, but that did not stop voters in both towns from rejecting the project.

Iberdrola kept its promise to abandon development based on that vote. But then it said it might sell its research to another company to build a wind project there.

TransCanada announced it would sell hydroelectric dams on the Connecticut and Deerfield rivers. That included the company's Bellows Falls and Vernon dams that are big taxpayers.

Vermont officials undertook a drawn-out study of whether the state should go after ownership of the dams.

Not long after that, TransCanada announced that the dams had been sold to a Boston-based private equity outfit.

School officials statewide have been working to comply with State Act 46, the 2015 law that pushes for larger districts in an effort to increase educational equality and cut costs.

Windham Southeast Supervisory Union officials were in the public eye due to a controversial merger process. There was lots of opposition from those who feared a loss of local control.

Vernon residents voted to leave the regional union district in order to pursue their own Act 46 options, but Dummerston, another town in the union, voted against Vernon's withdrawal. Nothing has happened yet.

Those issues occupied a lot of space in the local media in 2016. We wonder what it will be for 2017?

-BM-

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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Op-Ed: Top tips for understanding and paying back your student loans

StatePoint - With an estimated \$1.3 trillion in student loans outstanding, it's safe to say student loan debt is a reality for millions of Americans. While this figure may sound daunting, experts say that greater financial literacy can help students and graduates better understand their loans and pay them back.

"The reality is, people out there are hungry for information. They want to understand the facts when it comes to paying back student loans and the best way to do it," says the educator turned hip hop artist Dee-1, who celebrated paying off his student loans by writing the song "Sallie Mae Back."

To help students get on the right track, Dee-1 has teamed up with Sallie Mae to educate students on financing college, paying back loans, and managing finances. They are offering the following tips from the top of Dee-1's paying back student loans playlist:

Know who you owe and how much. Understand if your loan is from the federal government—about 93 percent of all loans are—or a private lender like Sallie Mae. If you are unsure, call your lender or check your credit report. Be responsible. Know your monthly payment amounts and due dates.

Separate wants from needs. Man-

aging your money means managing your lifestyle. Prioritize payments you must make every month, and make sure your student loan is one of them.

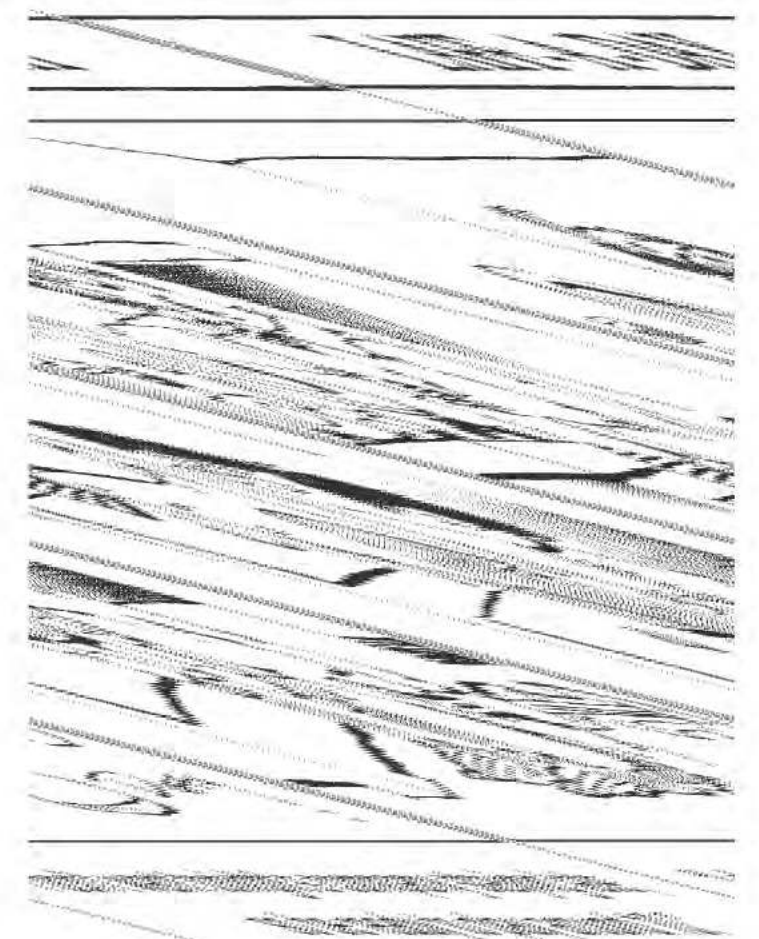
Exceed your own expectations. Pay more than the minimum amount due each month. If you get a raise or tax refund, use part or all of it to increase your monthly loan payment. The faster you pay off your loan, the less you'll spend in the long run.

Confront reality. If you run into trouble, don't hide from it, don't be embarrassed by it, and don't give up. Stay positive, focused, and look for solutions. Call your lender or touch base with your cosigner, if you have one.

Get excited about your future! Be passionate about managing your money wisely and effectively. You can't make your student loans disappear magically overnight, but you can make a plan for paying them back.

"The exhilaration Dee-1 expresses in paying off his student loans is contagious," says Martha Holler, senior vice president, Sallie Mae. "We hope his excitement and his direct, doable tips help newly minted graduates get into the rhythm of repayment."

For more information, visit SallieMae.com, a one-stop resource



Greater financial literacy can help students and graduates understand their loans and pay them back.

PHOTO BY POINTIMAGES FROM FOTOLIA.COM

that includes monthly budget worksheets, loan repayment calculators, and information about payment options -- including the company's Graduated Repayment Period, which allows graduates in good standing to make 12 months of interest-only payments before transitioning into full principal and interest payments.

New tech tools also are making managing loans easier than ever.

For example, Sallie Mae recently unveiled a new mobile app -- available for Apple and Android -- to help customers manage their accounts, access loan information, and make payments from smartphones.

Don't let the prospect of paying back student loans overwhelm you. Financial literacy is a game changer and can position you to move up in the workforce on good financial footing.

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



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Robert Miller, Publisher / Advertising Director
publisher@vermontjournal.com

Vince West, Ad Consultant / Website Ad Manager
vwest@vermontjournal.com

Shawntae Stillwell, Graphic Director
ads@vermontjournal.com

Brandy Todt, Editor / Graphic Designer
editor@vermontjournal.com
btodt@vermontjournal.com

Don Weiss
dweiss@vermontjournal.com

Corporate & Production Office:
8 High Street • Ludlow, VT 05149
Office: 802-228-3600 • Fax: 802-228-3464

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

There is a problem with the ski industry and it is the way they pay their snow sports instructors. They only pay them for when they are interacting with a student. So what that boils down to is they require you to be at work at a certain time and if no one shows up they do not pay you or at some mountains they pay you only 30 minutes for showing up to line up.

Then they expect you to be back

an hour to two hours later for another line up and will not pay for your time that you had to wait to see if there is another lesson. There is a new law in New Hampshire that says you have to get paid two hours for showing up to work but the mountains are sprinkling that two hours of "work" over the whole day. This is unfair. This needs to change, I asked the mountains I worked at to address this issue and they were

sympathetic about it but the end result of it all was they brushed me aside.

So I believe we can change this as a community and as instructors, but we need to do this as a whole. So if you teach any type of snow sports and you get paid like this bring it up to your manager and see if they will do the right thing and change this abusive system or if you're in the situation that can allow you to just

quit, do so and send that message. If you're a skiing or snowboarding enthusiast please write to the mountains you go to say you want your snow sports instructors paid fairly and compensated for their time. Things need to change and if we just stand by and do nothing, nothing will change.

Adam Sayre
Wilder, Vt.

Dear Editor,

Dear Okemo Valley Business Owners,

Ludlow is a town of tremendous riches. We are blessed with an abundance of natural resources and a beautiful landscape that has been home to numerous families for generations. Many of us relocated here and/or started a business here because Ludlow represented a better quality of life.

Behind the scenes, there are a number of non-profit organizations working to effect positive change by strengthening and improving our community. Whether it is creating enrichment programs in our schools, providing low cost food and fuel assistance for people with limited means, or working to revitalize and beautify our downtown, these organizations are helping to make the Ludlow community stronger, smarter, more vibrant...a better place to live work and play.

Every January, the Okemo Com-

munity Challenge hosts Flannel with Flair, an evening of dinner and dancing with silent and live auctions, to help support these worthy non-profits in Ludlow.

One component of Flannel with Flair is a challenge called Fund-a-Need. Attendees pledge monetary support for a specific project. Money pledged at January's Flannel with Flair Fund-a-Need will be used to ensure that the town of Ludlow is able to host a fabulous fireworks display on July 2, 2017 at West Hill. We missed having fireworks this past July. The fireworks display is a great event for Ludlow residents and visitors. It also brings a lot of traffic/commerce to the town.

We are asking you to help us make this January's Flannel with Flair our best event yet. Please consider making a donation of money or an item for the auctions.

The deadline for monetary and auction donations is January 10,

2017. If you would prefer, we can make up a gift certificate for you with your specific details included.

If you have any questions about your donation, contact Joyce Washburn at 228-1965, or email at jwashburn@okemo.com or call Kathy Burns at 228-8877.

Please join us to continue the OCC's

tradition of community building.

Thank you

The Committee for Okemo Community Challenge
Diane Mueller, Kathy Burns, Lisa Schmidt, Joyce Washburn, Leslie Stuart, Kevin Barnes

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sports



THIS AND THAT

BY BILL MURPHY

Happy New Year! Another year is in the books and the Patriots win on New Year's Day and a Rose Bowl Game for the ages, have most local sports fans already looking forward for a lot more of the same throughout 2017. Just think, 2016 concluded with four area state titles in the closing weeks and the Celtics and Bruins getting hot, just after the Red Sox took part in a Sale transaction, so just keep the snowball rolling. I will pretend I didn't notice that the Bruins really laid a stink bomb the night before I wrote this piece to open their 2017 cause. Space here has been at a premium in recent weeks, because we have been doing those well-earned local championship salutes, thus some catching up to do.

One team, which did not earn a title in 2016, should not be forgotten during the magnificent fall, is the Bellows Falls Cross Country team. Bellows Falls Union High School earned two of the four fall area sports titles and the truth is, they almost had one more to raise a banner for. Coach Tim Eno has been there and done that, when it comes to putting title banners up on the walls of Holland Gym; there are ten titles in track and field and cross country combined, mostly track and field. From a local standpoint, one this year if it had been captured, might have ended up among the most appreciated ever.

In the dog days of August, the Terriers were among a number of hopefuls to be in the mix for the state crown. They had talent enough, yet when things were said and done, they fell short because they didn't have Tallent enough. This is a particular reference to Terrier senior Cody Tallent.

It was a strange season because Tallent was on again off again. Putting together a championship team, means all the essential parts need to blend just right and this group of Purple and White runners were at times right on pace. Then one has to factor that Tallent effect into the equation.

The excellent veteran Terrier Harrier finished fifth individually, in the Vermont Division III State Meet a year ago. He had worked hard to be ready to lead his team into the mix this time around. Athletes at Rice, Northfield, Stowe, Oxbow and Peoples had the same dreams and in many ways, 2016 could turn out to be a wide open meet with many teams still holding title hopes on the last day of the season. Everything was progressing well in the Falls and then it happened. Tallent went down with an ankle injury and his overall condition would take the Terriers athletes, coaches and fans on a journey that had as many ups and downs as your typical roller coaster ride.

The team went a long stretch of the season without Tallent and the hope was, the senior could get back for the state meet. The Terriers went through

their schedule and daily practices working to get better individually, in hopes it would all come together in the end. Eno's job was to drive them each day, knowing full well that a mere seconds by any of the performers, could make the difference come November 5th as to whether the 2016 team would put in a bid for the state title.

Eventually there was more sun in Bellows Falls. The rest of the squad was showing progress and Tallent started running again. Eno knew the competition was going through their paces too; with each passing day, it looked like the Terriers were lining up for the big day. Tallent ran quite well in the last regular meet of the season and then...

Tallent went down again a couple of days later. Exactly five days before the race. He had been doing so well, but now things really looked bleak. There was a strong possibility that he would not be able to run in the state meet at all. Time was the answer and the Purple and White did not have much of it remaining on their side. Each day proved to be both long and short. Hours and minutes went by so quickly and then eventually, the time came and Tallent would give it his best and that is what he did.

The stars aligned on November 5th at the starting line and eventually in the holders of fate. What no one knew at the time was, the Vermont Division III State Title Cross Country run would be historical. Four schools would create the closest competition ever seen. When the dust settled, Rice would win a run off, which would shake the annals of the sport. Only five points would separate the top four teams. Four teams actually rose to the occasion, however only one could and would win. Actually it was so close, that initially the wrong score was announced. The wrong champion might have walked away the winner. When the t's were eventually crossed and all the i's were dotted, the final numbers were Rice 60, BF 62, Northfield 63 and Stowe 65. Amazing, remarkable, unbelievable! Four teams achieved highly, yet only one won.

How did Tallent do? He did both remarkable and unbelievable and maybe even amazing. He did better than you could ever imagine. He was running five days after he had reinjured his ankle and almost pulled it out.

For the record, Tallent finished 11th. However, who could of asked for more. Just running was a gutsy triumph in reality.

The rest of Tallent's team did their job as well. Their performance was good enough to defeat all, except Rice. Jackson Purdy was not far behind Tallent in 14th and then quickly came Tim Salter-Roy in 18th and then Nick Potter

completed the scoring in 23rd. What a showing! Although only four runners are counted for the team score in the Division III competition, there was more of a team effort. You see Eno's team has seven members and all of them are of top-notch caliber. They are Neil Diamond good that they were all within 13 seconds of the fourth runner of two of the three teams in the running for the title. Cam Joy, who Eno says, "ran an awesome race," finished 28th followed by youngsters Ian Wallace 38th and Gabriel Hakimoglu 39th. There were 109 runners, who finished the race and all seven Terriers were in the Top 39. What a performance!

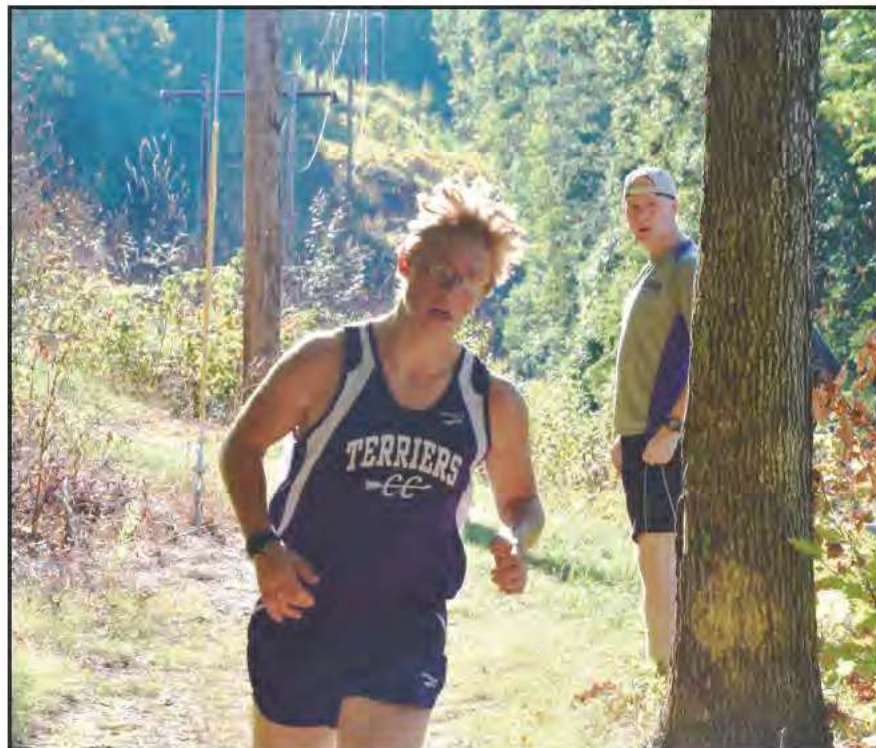
Eno certainly had an impact on the success of his team. He had a very special story to tell about how he thinks this team reach such heights on this day. The team was going through their pre race warm-ups, putting in their time loosening up in the woods when Senior Purdy took over. He pulled the team aside at a remote alone spot in the middle of the woods and laid it all on the line.

Eno remembers, "I didn't see this coming. All of a sudden, he gave this great speech, which moved all of us. He talked about the pride he had, running with his teammates and how he was determined that this team would put it all together on this day. He said more than once how proud he was to be a part of this and of the team going out now and making it happen." Eno's story was a very special one. Purdy's speech was equally as impressive and sturdy. It inspired everyone and they responded as he asked.

The BF Terriers including the injured Tallent doing everything his body would allow, went out and ran a tremendous race. They proved they were loaded with character. Unfortunately, the race results said they performed well, but Rice was the champion. We are still looking for the moral of this tremendous story. It's hard to pick up, surrounded by the disappointment. What would have happened if Tallent had not been injured a second time? That answer is easy, BF would have won.

Until I think of something better, I am left with it is better to have run, than to not have run at all. The experience is the thing. In the end, the brotherhood these athletes have formed, which was highlighted by Purdy's speech in the woods, underlines the real success on this day and season. Is there anything greater than friendships, that bond people together, to allow them to achieve more than one would expect.

Long live every banner on any wall, but Eno's team should never be forgotten. Chances are they won't be.



BF senior CODY TALLENT finished 11th at the Vermont Division III State Title Cross Country. PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE

Green Mountain versus Long Trail Friday

BY BILL MURPHY

The Vermont Journal

CHESTER, Vt. - Terry Farrell's Green Mountain Girls Basketball team is off to a 3-1 start. Although it is much too early to get excited about any teams standing, there are signs that the Lady Chieftains will enjoy at least a winning season. The biggest signal sent early this winter, is that the team has a number of players, who have shown the ability to score. This is always a good thing.

Green Mountain will be at home this Friday evening to host Long Trail and the game marks the one-quarter mark of the 2016-17 season. The only puzzle Farrell's team has not been able to solve to date is Mount Saint Joseph. The Mounties turned back the Chieftains 48-32 in the championship game of the Green Mountain Holiday Tourney. The veteran Mounties start five seniors, have plenty of experience as they play seven seniors, and are the defending Division IV state champions. Ann Lamson led GM in scoring in the lone loss. She tallied 14.

The ladies based in Chester played their lone road game to date, opening the campaign in Arlington and won a hard fought 35-25 victory.



GM #11 HANNA VEYSEY.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE

Kassidy Cumming led the locals in scoring at Arlington with 9, with strong support from Rachel Guerra and Hanna Veysey (pictured throw-

ing a pass), who each had 8. In the opening round of the Holiday Tourney, GM downed Twin Valley 55-26. Veysey led the point brigade with 9 in that one with a host of helpers pitching in. Paige Karle, Sarah Rogers and Lamson each scored 8, while Reilly Merrill (shown dribbling) and Meade Pollard both added 7.

The most recent contest played and the third victory was a one sided affair versus Black River, a 73-9 triumph in which the Chieftains shutout the opposition in the first half. Cummings and Merrill paced the effort with 14 points apiece, while Pollard contributed 12 and Maya Lewis had 10, all in the first quarter of play.



GM #25 REILLY MERRILL.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE

Fall Mountain girls off to good start

BY BILL MURPHY

The Shopper

LANGDON, N.H. - If it is winter, there must be a good basketball team in Langdon, New Hampshire. Most every winter, the Fall Mountain girls hoopsters are in the picture, contending for a State Division III title.

Fall Mountain is off to a 7-1 overall start. In the Granite State, games played in in season tournaments, do not count for state seeding purposes. Thus, in games that do count, the Lady Wildcats of Boomer Aumand are 4-1 and know they have a ways to go before they will challenge power Monadnock, who handed them their lone defeat 50-33. Coach Aumand said, we had some trouble matching their physicality, but it is still early." Ella Stewart's 8 points led FM in scoring versus the Huskies and Zoe Loupa and Maddie DiBernardo both contributed 6.

If one eliminates the Monadnock game, the Lady Wildcats are undefeated. The season began with a 66-35 triumph at Campbell. Stewart and Loupa combined for 30 in that one, 17 and 13 respectively. Brooke Aumand added 10. FM also had very little trouble in the home opener, a 55-14 blasting of Hillsboro-Deering. The same trio paced the scoring parade in the same order as Stewart had 14, Loupa 10 and Aumand 9.

The ladies from Langdon have

defeated Conant already twice this season, but one didn't count, because it was in the Elm City Festival. The victories were by scores of 49-43 and 50-31. Aumand's 12 paced the effort in the closer win with support from Stewart 11 and Alli Stoddart (number 4 in picture) 10, while in the breather contest, Loupa had 19 and Stewart 17. In the only other road game to date, the Cats defeated Franklin 52-28. DiBernardo led the way with 11, Stewart (number 5 in picture) had 10 and Laura Dunbar had 8 in that win.

Hinsdale was Fall Mountain's vic-

tim in the semi-finals of the holiday event 48-44. Aumand labeled the Pacers a likeness to their name, "pretty good and quick" and once again, it was Loupa (number 11 in picture) with 18 and Stewart with 16, who led the team offensively. Aumand aided the effort with 10. The title was captured with a 52-39 conquest of Newport in an encounter, which saw Stewart with 17, Aumand 13 and Loupa 7 pacing the attack.

Fall Mountain has had a two-week plus lay-off since that victory and open the 2017 portion of their schedule at Hillsboro-Deering Friday.



FM #5 ELLA STEWART.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE



FM #11 ZOE LUOPA.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE



FM #4 ALLIE STODDART.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE

arts & entertainment

Ice Age 2 starts Ludlow 2017 movie season

LUDLOW, Vt. - FOLA (Friends of Ludlow Auditorium) begins its 2017 movie series with the fun-oriented, animated tale, "Ice Age 2", on Saturday, January 7 at 7 p.m. in the Ludlow Town Hall Auditorium.

"Ice Age: The Meltdown" is a 2006 American computer-animated comedy adventure film produced by Blue Sky Studios and released by 20th Century Fox. It is the first sequel to the 2002 computer-animated film Ice Age. The plot focuses on the herd escaping an upcoming flood, during which Manny finds love.

Manny (Ray Romano), Sid (John Leguizamo), and Diego (Denis Leary) may have made it through the big freeze, but when the ice begins to melt, the heroic trio must warn the other inhabitants of their peaceful valley of the coming flood. As the ice age winds to an end, the animals of the Earth have taken warmly to the melting paradise that surrounds them. Despite the



Ice Age 2 to play at FOLA.

PHOTO PROVIDED

false comfort of a lush valley teeming with vegetation, however, great danger looms just over the horizon.

As with all FOLA movies, it is open to everyone and free; dona-

tions are appreciated. Popcorn is provided by Berkshire Bank while FOLA provides water. For information, call (802) 228-7239 or visit www.fola.us.

Snowscapes in pastel

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Master pastel artist and instructor, Robert Carsten will be giving a workshop on painting Snowscapes at Gallery at the VAULT on Saturday, January 14 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Working from photos, you will explore composition, color, value, color temperature and more. Robert will do a demonstration, followed by plenty of painting time for you. A critique and discussion will be held at the end of the session. All levels welcome. A materials list will be provided at registration. There is a fee for attending the class. For more information please call or come into Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main Street, Springfield. We are open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Contact: 802-885-7111, gallervault@vermontel.net or visit our web page: www.gallervault.org



Robert Carsten's Snowscape in pastel workshop is a great way to keep the winter blues away.

PHOTO PROVIDED

OLLI announces its new semester programs

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, OLLI new semester begins soon. The programs are held Tuesday afternoons at 2 p.m. and last about an hour and a half. The meeting location is the Nolin Murray Center on Pleasant Street, next to St. Mary's Catholic Church.

There is a membership fee for each semester and include entrance to all 9 programs in the semester as well as admittance to the seven other Osher Institute programs throughout Vermont. Non-members are welcome and encouraged to attend individual programs for a small program fee.

Memberships and individual day program fees may be paid at the program. Following is the listing of upcoming programs:

January 31 - The Secret Life of NH Beryl - Jim Pecora, Mines & Mining Historian, Author, "Eduainer." Hear the story about the most precious and dangerous metal on earth. An entertaining perspective on the secret life of beryl, obscured from history because of the U.S. Government's intentional deception of its production.

February 14 - Discovering New England Stone Walls - Kevin Gardner, Author, Stone Mason. Discover how and why New England came to acquire its thousands of miles of stone walls, the ways in which they and other dry stone structures were built, how their

styles emerged and changed over time, and their significance to the New England landscape.

February 28 - Slow Psychiatry: Rethinking the Role of Psychiatric Drugs - Sandra Steingard, M.D. Chief Medical Officer, Howard Center, Burlington, VT.

Examine alternative ways of treating schizophrenia and bipolar disorder rather than using drugs to target these specific conditions. Hear about need-adapted approaches.

March 21 - The Vermont Way: A Republican Governor Leads America's Most Liberal State - Jim Douglas, Former Governor of Vermont. Vermont is a deep-blue state, yet the voters have frequently elected Republican governors. Jim Douglas served four terms and found ways to work across the aisle. Hear our speaker's perspective from decades in public service.

March 28 - A History of Rock & Roll: Part 2 - Bill Cotte, Professor Performing & Fine Arts, Lyndon State College. Professor Cotte will be introducing us to the new sounds of the black artists in the 1950s, then the following craze of Elvis Presley and the Beatles.

April 11 - Foodscaping - Charlie Nardozzi, Garden Consultant will speak on foodscaping, or edible landscaping. Explore the many ways and places you can integrate edibles into your yard and learn about the beauty of edibles.

April 25 - Vermont Gypsies and Pirates: Who They Really Were - Judy Dow, Educator, Basket maker.

Labeling traveling basket makers as "gypsies" and people living in house boats as "pirates" caused old traditions, language and history to move underground or even totally disappear. Learn about the University of Vermont science program from 1925 to 1936 used to identify thousands whom they thought were defective, delinquent and dependent Vermonters.

May 2 - Spies, Lies and Alibis: Spying During the American Revolution - Damien Cregeau, Independent Historian. A presentation will bring to light the various spy rings and independent spies in and around New York City who worked for General George Washington and the patriot cause, including the famous Culper spy ring led by Major Benjamin Tallmadge. Examine the spy tradecraft of the era, including the use of aliases or cover names, dead drops, invisible inks, as well as codes and ciphers.

May 9 - Vermont Airplane Crashes - Brian Lindner, Historian, Researcher, Author. In this program we'll explore the history of the more unusual side of aviation in Vermont. Learn about famous as well as forgotten crashes, including some Springfield area crashes such as the 1947 bomber crash on Hawks Mountain which remains as Vermont's worst air disaster.

Sponsored by the University of Vermont, OLLI is run by local volunteer members and is geared mainly towards seniors who are 50 years of age and over who enjoy learning for the fun of it!

Bookbinding classes

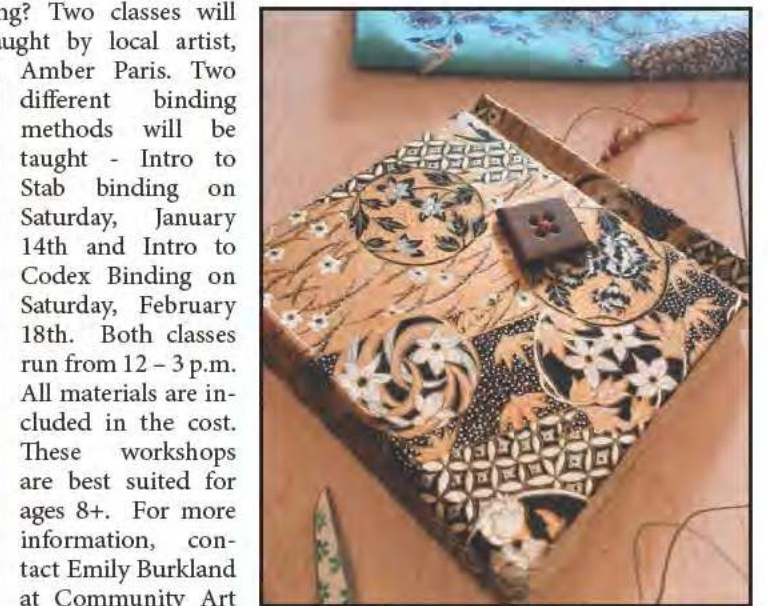
CHESTER, Vt. - Have you ever wanted to learn the art of Book-

making? Two classes will be taught by local artist,



Learn the art of bookmaking at the Community Art Garden in Chester.

PHOTO PROVIDED



Two book binding methods will be taught.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Amber Paris. Two different binding methods will be taught - Intro to Stab binding on Saturday, January 14th and Intro to Codex Binding on Saturday, February 18th. Both classes run from 12 - 3 p.m. All materials are included in the cost. These workshops are best suited for ages 8+.

For more information, contact Emily Burkland at Community Art Garden theartgardenvt@gmail.com or (802) 289-3071 or check their website to enroll in one of the classes or get more information about

Chester, VT's own little community ART studio! www.communityart-garden.com

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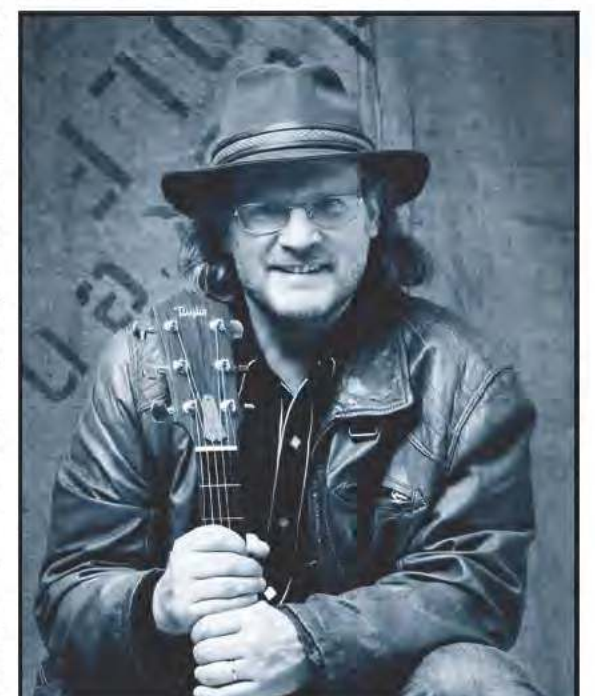
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Five Corners Pub & Brewhouse hosts Jay Ottaway concert

PLYMOUTH, Vt. - Live concert at the Five Corners Pub & Brewhouse, located at 4758 Route 100A, on Saturday, January 14, at 7 p.m. is an award-winning songwriter/producer Jay Ottaway.

Ottaway concerts feature his own original music combined with classics from rock legends such as Bob Dylan and the Grateful Dead. In 2014 Jay Ottaway released his seventh studio CD, entitled "Carry On", with the German label Cactus Rock Records which music critic Steve Braun of Rocktimes.de called his white-hot contender for Album of the Year. In 2016 he released "Jay Ottaway Band: Live in Europe" and "Winter's Journey" also to rave reviews in the European



Jay Ottaway live at the Five Corners Pub & Brewhouse located in Plymouth, Vt.

PHOTO PROVIDED

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arts & entertainment

Music and comedy show comes to Bellows Falls

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Looking for a family fun night of comedy and music? Rusty DeWees - Logger and The Fiddler will be coming to the Bellows Falls Middle School on Friday January 13th at 7:30 p.m. Show is rated as SC for some cussin'.

Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Village Square Book-sellers in Bellows Falls, Vermont - 802-463-9404

Rusty DeWees: Entertainer, comedic artist, actor, producer, writer, musician, master of duct tape...and the Logger of course! Rusty does it all and keeps his fans and audiences laughing, as he puts it, "till their backs get better." Rusty grew up in Stowe, Vermont where he was actively involved in theatre throughout high school and college. As a young adult, he performed with the award winning Vermont Repertory Theatre, before moving to New York City



Rusty Dewees.

PHOTO PROVIDED

where he trained at the George Lorin Actors Theatre School and the Lee Strasberg Institute. This professional training was followed by scores of notable roles off-Broadway, and in television, film, and national commercials. Missing his home state, Rusty moved back to Vermont where he continued his acting career and developed the Logger character.

Proceeds will benefit the Bellows Falls Middle School advanced band students trip to Washington, D.C. in April 2017 where the students will have the opportunity to perform an hour long concert in front of the Lincoln Memorial. The event on the whole will cost the band program in excess of \$26,000. All monies that are raised will go directly to lowering the cost of the trip for the band.

The 8-week memoir workshop with Pam Bernard

WALPOLE, N.H. - Award-winning author Pam Bernard announces the beginning the second year of her ongoing 8-week sessions of writing and reading memoir workshops, to begin the week of January 9, at her home in Walpole, NH.

Folks are coming together who have never before considered their lives worthy of exploration, finding new meaning in the act of harnessing memory and imagination. Unlike other modes of writing, memoir demands an emotional honesty that cannot be faked. A good narrative rises from raw experience, but transcends that experience by virtue of our willingness to honor our lives.

"One need not be working on a full-length memoir," Bernard says. "Rather, the work generally involves drafting short narratives begun in class, which may or may not be woven together at some future time. Each moment or event brought to the page becomes material to better understand your



L to R: Pam Bernard, workshop leader; Bill Reed, Sarah Franklin, Christine Cole, Yvette Yeager, Rutherford Witthus, Sabrina Lee. Not present: Kim Hamilton Bobrow, and Prudence Baird.

PHOTO PROVIDED

past and make of it a story that conveys your deepest humanity?"

Pam Bernard, author of four books, is a poet, memoirist, painter, editor, and adjunct professor at

Franklin Pierce University. Please email pam@pambernard.com, or visit www.pambernard.com or call for more information, including days and times, 603.756.4177.

Exhibiting pencil sketches of women authors

CHESTER, Vt. - Whiting Library, located on Main Street is pleased to offer the sketches of Bob Birbeck through the months of January and February. Twenty pencil sketches of women authors will be on display at the library and may be enjoyed during all open hours.

Mr Birbeck, of Wells, Vermont offers this artists statement:

"After years of working as both a painter and sculptor, I reached a point where I felt I was repeating myself and decided to take a break, and began reading. I had come across Classic Book Reader's "20 Most Influential Women Authors of All Time" and decided to start reading from that list. After finishing several of the books, I began doing pencil sketches of the authors, which turned out to be the start of a series of portraits. What began as a rest period from creating new sculpture



Charlotte Bronte is one of the pencil sketches that Bob Birbeck created

PHOTO PROVIDED

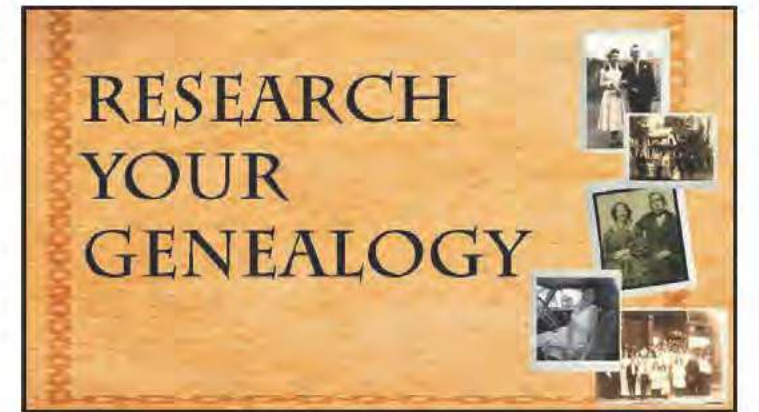
became a wonderful new experience in itself."

The twenty authors lived and wrote from the 1700s to present times. Among the portraits are Edith Wharton, Ayn Rand, Mary Shelley, Harper Lee. How many other notable women authors can you name? Challenge yourself to read these wonderful authors, and to learn more about the influences and lives of these remarkable women.

Whiting Library is open Monday and Friday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. 802-875-2277, visit www.whitinglibrary.org.

Discover your roots

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. - Join genealogy enthusiast Wayne Blanchard on a quest to discover your family roots, every Thursday from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Rockingham Library. If you own a laptop, please bring it along. With the many free databases available at the library, it's hard to tell what you might find. Both beginners and seasoned genealogists are welcome. This program is free. For more information, call 802-463-4270, email programming@rockinghamlibrary.org or go to www.rockinghamlibrary.org.



Discover your roots with Wayne Blanchard.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Attica prison riot uprising topic

LONDONDERRY, Vt. - The 1971 Attica prison riot gained lasting prominence mainly from the rampage of police gunfire that ended it. Though the inmates had no guns, the state police and a few prison guards killed 29 inmates and 10 hostages and wounded 89 others. Law officers then tortured more than a thousand inmates who had surrendered. Racism fueled much of this violence.

Malcolm Bell, who was the chief assistant to the Attica special prosecutor, was assigned to prosecute the law officers who committed these crimes, then blocked from continuing when he looked likely to succeed. Skyhorse Publishing is scheduled to publish this March a revised and updated edition to his 1985 book on his Attica experience, now titled The Attica Turkey Shoot: Carnage, Cover-Up and the Pursuit of Justice.

On Thursday, January 12th at 5:30 p.m., Mr. Bell will discuss the Attica uprising and the fallout which resonates today at The Meeting Place at Neighborhood

Connections. There is no charge to attend but call 824-4343 or e-mail schwartzmary02@gmail.com to register.

Neighborhood Connections is located in Londonderry's Mountain Marketplace, next to the post office.

10th annual Northern Roots Festival

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. - The 10th annual Northern Roots Festival is sure to be a musical milestone, bringing together the largest, most impressive array of traditional music since the festival's founding.

Presented by the Brattleboro Music Center Saturday, Jan. 28, and drawing on both Brattleboro's rich local scene as well as colleagues from across New England, Northern Roots presents the highest caliber of Irish, Scottish, Scandinavian and French Canadian music in intimate settings. Few other events of this size offer the opportunity to experience this range of music through teaching workshops, performances and jam sessions.

The festival is based at the New England Youth Theater with McNeill's Brewery hosting a pub sing and Irish and French Canadian jam sessions throughout the afternoon.

Among the featured performers: The Gawler Family -- A fun loving, folk singing, fiddle-playing family band from Maine, and the

group has a long history of keeping the traditions of Maine dance tunes and old songs alive.

The Vox Hunters -- Armand Aromin and Benedict Gagliardi are musically bound by a shared love of traditional Irish music, which originally brought them together, as well as an eclectic and ever-growing amalgam of songs both inside and far outside the realm of 'folk music.'

Shannon and Matt Heaton, a husband and wife duo that have been Northern Roots favorites, bringing their consummate musicianship to a mix of flute based traditional Irish music and song.

Also performing will be Anna Patton, Mary Lea, and Kate Barnes.

The tenth Northern Roots Festival brings yet another incarnation of 'Traddleboro', an annual project bringing together a new grouping of local musicians each year for a festival collaboration. This year's grouping features traditional musicians who have all been associated with the BMC teaching program.

Becky Tracy, Keith Murphy, Lissa Schneckenburger, Andy Davis, Carol Compton and Steve Rice will come together to recreate the classic sound of the Irish Ceili band.

Daytime events are scheduled from 12 to 5:30 p.m., at the New England Youth Theater, 100 Flat Street in Brattleboro, with some afternoon sessions at McNeill's Brewery. An evening concert featuring the best of Northern Musical Traditions will be presented at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are available for the daytime program, evening concert or in combination. For ticket information and a complete schedule, contact the BMC at 802-257-4523 or visit www.bmcvt.org

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Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017

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7:30am - TRX at Studio Momentum
8:30am - Spinning at Studio Momentum
9:00am - Chronic Pain Aqua Exercises with Kim in Therapy Pool
10:00am - New Year, New Workout in the Fitness Center
10:00am - Youth Swim Practice
10:00am - Open Play for Kids at Studio Momentum
11:30am - Turbo Kick with Krista at Studio Momentum
1:00pm - Total Body Tone with Kim at Studio Momentum
1:00pm - New Year, New Workout in the Fitness Center
2:30pm - Open Play for Kids at Studio Momentum
4:00pm - Zumba with Alysia at Studio Momentum

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outdoor news

Magic Mountain named winner in the 2016-2017 Best in Snow awards

LONDONDERRY, Vt. - Magic Mountain has been recognized as one of the Overall Best in Snow,

Most Challenging, Least Crowded and Best Value ski areas in the North East, winning a 2016-17 Best in

Snow Award, Powered by Liftopia.

All of us at Magic are excited about receiving this award," said Geoff Hatheway, President of SKI MAGIC LLC, which recently closed on the purchase of Magic in late November. "We really owe this award to our enthusiastic fan base who is excited to see Magic become an even better throwback ski experience for generations to come."

The 2016-17 Best in Snow Awards, Powered By Liftopia, are the pre-eminent rankings of the best and most beloved ski areas in North America. Unlike other rankings, this list is the only one that incorporates the largest dataset in the industry combined with feedback from thousands of skiers and snowboarders to determine ski areas they are most passionate about.

To compile the awards, Liftopia surveyed their customers to measure their enthusiasm on specific aspects

of their favorite resorts such as family friendliness, challenging terrain, crowds, and snow consistency and quality.

SKI MAGIC is a Vermont-based LLC with a group of investors committed to realizing the full potential of a legendary, independent ski area. SKI MAGIC will stay true to what has made Magic Mountain special: its unmatched challenging ski terrain in southern Vermont; a "throwback" experience without soul-crushing crowds; and a laid-back, welcoming ski community culture. New capital will be targeted to fix what has held it back: more efficient snow-making coverage and more accessible, reliable lifts for all skier types, including learn-to-ski. SKI MAGIC has an initial 5-year plan to bring Magic to ongoing operating profitability which will help employees, local home owners, local businesses, and most importantly, its growing family



Magic Mountain has been recognized as one of the Overall Best in Snow, Most Challenging, Least Crowded, and Best Value ski areas in the North East.

PHOTO PROVIDED



Black Line Pow Cote.

PHOTO PROVIDED

of skiers and riders who want Magic to succeed and be their mountain adventure for generations to come.

More information on the new, still retro, Magic Mountain can be found at www.magicmtn.com

Unique open-air adventures for kids

GRAFTON, Vt. - The Nature Museum is offering unique, open-air adventures for youth during February winter school vacation. The Nature Museum's natural science camps are instructive, hands-on experiences that get youngsters outdoors and exercising their minds and bodies.

Brave Bears Camp for ages 6-9 is slated for Tuesday, February 21, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Wild Walkers Camp, for ages 10-14, will be held on Wednesday, February 22, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Both camps offer adventure for kids eager to get outside and go exploring.

Older children will enjoy Wild Walkers Camp that offers daylong outdoor adventures suited for youth ages 10 to 14. Skilled instructors from the Vermont Wilderness School and The Nature Museum will guide Wild Walkers in a safe, fun, and respectful experience.

Registration is now open at www.nature-museum.org. In case of inclement weather,

these programs will be rescheduled for Friday, February 24th. Call (802) 843-2111. Scholarships are available. Please inquire for multiple day or sibling discounts. Kids should bring a hearty bagged snack, lunch, and a water bottle carried in a backpack and wear appropriate win-



Little ones snowshoeing.

PHOTO PROVIDED



Get ready for outdoor adventures!

PHOTO PROVIDED

ter clothing and gear to winter camps.

Upon request, The Nature Museum can loan snowshoes for participants who do not have their own. Located at 186 Townshend Road in Grafton.

Winter wildlife celebration

QUECHEE, Vt. - The Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS) will celebrate the wildlife of winter at the VINS Nature Center with a fun-filled day of family activities. In the morning, join our Birds and Art program with VINS naturalists and raptors in the classroom for family-friendly crafts and drawing. For inspiration, an art exhibit will be on display with wildlife photographs and paintings by two VINS volunteers.

At 12p.m., take a break from the cold and warm up over lunch-time; bring a picnic and enjoy a nature film including complimen-

tary popcorn and hot chocolate. At the same time join our educators as they demonstrate how to build nest boxes, which you can take home to provide a safe place for songbirds to nest this spring. Later in the day, participate in a guided snowshoe walk, led by one of VINS' naturalists, through the winter landscape on one of our several nature trails.

Following the walk, raptor feeding time will take place; discover what we feed our raptors and how we care for these unique and wonderful creatures. Complete the day by a warm campfire, enjoying hot chocolate and facts about some arctic raptors that only make their

way this far south during the winter. With or without snow, the Winter Wildlife Celebration is a great way to discover the wonders of wildlife in winter! All activities are included with general admission to the Nature Center.

VINS Nature Center and Nature Store are open to the public daily from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., with live bird programs on weekends and holidays at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. throughout the winter season. For a detailed nature center schedule and the most up-to-date information about upcoming events and programs at VINS, please visit www.vinsweb.org.



Join VINS for a celebration of wildlife of winter.

PHOTO COLLAGE PROVIDED BY VINSWEB.ORG

Elongate hemlock scale

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. - On Tuesday, Jan. 17 from 4 - 5:30 p.m. at the Rockingham Library, VT State Biologist Jim Esden from the Springfield office will lead a program on the elongate hemlock scale.

For the past five winters, Alma Beals has coordinated a survey of hemlock trees in 5 southern Vermont towns; Rockingham, Westminster, Chester, Springfield & Grafton, for signs of the woolly hemlock adelgid beetle. This year, her group of volunteers will examine the underside of hemlock branches for signs of both the adelgid beetle and the elongate hemlock scale. Surveys are conducted 5 times each winter in each of the 5 towns.

New volunteers are always welcome. This program is free. For more information, call (802) 463-4270, visit rockinghamlibrary.org or stop by at 65 Westminster St., Bellows Falls.



Examine the undersides of a hemlock to find signs of the adelgid beetle and the elongate hemlock scale.

PHOTO PROVIDED

On the Snow provides The Vermont Journal & Shopper with daily snow reports online!

Visit us online at www.VermontJournal.com to get daily snow reports for all the local mountains and resorts! Reports include how many lifts are open, snow depth, and amount of snowfall.

If you click on a mountain, a more detailed report will open in a new tab, providing ticket prices, trail details & maps, temperatures, web cams, and more!

Here is our report from Monday, January 2nd, 2017:

	Lifts	Snow Depth	Snowfall
Killington Resort	16 / 21	24"	0" (1/1)
Magic Mountain	2 / 4	11"	0" (1/2)
Okemo Mountain Resort	13 / 20	34"	0" (1/2)
Stratton Mountain	11 / 11	24"	0" (1/2)
Sugarbush	11 / 16	36"	0" (1/2)

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vermontjournal.com
802-228-3600

calendar

LEGAL NOTICES

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

THURSDAY, JAN. 5 - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Have you been wondering what all the hype is about over essential oils? Are you looking for less toxic alternatives to maintain a healthy lifestyle and live a life of wellness? Join Morriah Signor at the Springfield Town library at 6:30 p.m. to learn all the essentials on Essential Oils. What they are, how they are made and most importantly how to use them! This event is free, accessible to people with disabilities. Please call 885-3108 for more information.

SATURDAY, JAN. 7 - BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Fun and relaxing, Zentangle Intro class helps increase focus and creativity, provides artistic satisfaction and an increased sense of personal well being

and calm. 10 a.m. -12:30 p.m. at Currier Hall on 12 Church Street. Registrar online at <https://sca-irc.wildapricot.org/Art> Fee for the workshop

MONDAY, JAN. 9 - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - This program focuses on giving athletes the extra time and training. 6-week program that includes individualized workouts, group workouts, testing, and focus on areas of weakness including Speed, Agility, Muscular Endurance, Power, Mobility and Flexibility. The next session begins on January 9 call 802-885-2568 or visit www.myreccenter.org

SATURDAY, JAN. 14 - CHESTER, Vt. - Have you ever wanted to learn the art of Bookmaking? Two classes will be taught by local artist, Amber Paris. Two different binding methods will be taught - Intro to Stab binding on Saturday,

January 14th and Intro to Codex Binding on Saturday, February 18th. Both classes run from 12 - 3 p.m. All materials are included in the cost. These workshops are best suited for ages 8+. For more information, contact Emily Burkland at Community Art Garden theartgardenvt@gmail.com or (802) 289-3071 or check their website to enroll in one of the classes or get more information about Chester, VT's own little community ART studio! www.communityartgarden.com

MONDAY, JAN. 23 - BRATTLEBORO, Vt. - The Sustainable Energy Outreach Network (SEON) will host a panel presentation for the public on "What to Know Before you Build: Expert Tips for Homeowners Planning Renovation or New Construction Projects" 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. at the Marlboro Graduate Center in Brattleboro. Topics will include:

Choosing an Architect or Designer; Selecting a Contractor; Project Delivery Methods and Contract Types; The Design and Planning Process; Construction Loans and Financing; State-wide Energy Efficiency Incentives and Savings, Construction Budgets and Estimating, Contractor Best Practices, and more. Pre-registration is recommended because of space limitations. Please contact admin@seon.info or 802-376-9262 to register. Light refreshments will be served. Admission is by donation.

MONDAYS SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - 9 - 10:30 a.m. play group at the Springfield Area Parent Child Center. Come to play and meet new friends. All parents with young children are welcomed. Contact Celeste at 886-5242 or email at celestem@vermontel.net.

MONDAY & WEDNESDAY - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Back to Basics Boot Camp is a three-week program, starting Dec. 26 that will teach you an effective workout program in our Edgar May Fitness Center that you can continue on your own after the class ends on January 11. The class will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:00 - 6:45 a.m. and focus on cardio, core, and strength exercisers and take place in the Fitness Center. Call 802-885-2568 or visit www.myreccenter.org

WALPOLE, N.H. - Pam Bernard announces the beginning 8-week sessions of writing and reading memoir workshops at her home in Walpole, NH. Folks are coming together who have never before considered their lives worthy of exploration, finding new meaning in the act of harnessing memory and imagination. Please email pam@pambernard.com, or

visit www.pambernard.com or call for more information. 603.756.4177. Mondays: January 9 - February 27, 12 - 3 p.m. Wednesdays: January 11 - March 1, 1 - 4 p.m.

TUESDAYS - BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - River Voices Poetry meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Flat Iron Exchange Building on the Square. All poets welcome. Discussion of all aspects of the poem. 802-463-22074

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. - 8 week series of Kundalini yoga with Liza Eaton KRI at 89 Depot Street from 9:30 - 11 a.m. is a safe & empowering practice. This is a gentle yoga class suitable for beginners with no previous yoga experience. Yoga mats, blankets, pillows & chairs provided. Part 2: February 7, 14, 21, 28 Sign up by Jan. 31 for Part 2. Liza Eaton (802) 875-2868 eaton.liza@gmail.com. For full details, prices

and to sign up online visit www.buddhafulyoga.com

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. - Crafts, Stories and Play Time toddlers and preschoolers. Enjoy stories, songs, crafts, and activities. Rockingham Free Public Library 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Contact 463-4270

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. - 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Play Group at Saxtons River Elementary School. Come on over for crafts, activities and to play! Call Molly 802-376-6204

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - EdgarMay Open Play Group 10 - 11:30 a.m. at Studio Momentum. 71 Main Street. An active playtime specifically designed for children aged 6 months through 5 years! Free to member families. Call (802) 885-2568 or info@myreccenter.org

WEDNESDAYS - BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Play Group at First Baptist Church of Bellows Falls/Rockingham Recreation Center. 9:30 a.m. -11:00 a.m. Come join the fun! Healthy snack served. Call Molly 802-376-6204.

THURSDAYS - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - EdgarMay Open Play Group 10 - 11:30 a.m. at Studio Momentum. 71 Main Street. An active playtime specifically designed for children aged 6 months through 5 years! Free to member families. Call (802) 885-2568 or info@myreccenter.org

WINDSOR, Vt. - Play Group 9:30 - 11 a.m. Come and enjoy an open gym, ball games and sometimes even a bounce house! Call Windsor Recreation Center (802) 674-6783.

FRIDAYS - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - 9 - 11 a.m. creative movement activities and playgroup held in the gym of the Community Center. All parents with young children are welcomed. Contact Parks and Recreation Dept. at (802) 885-2727

SATURDAYS - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - EdgarMay Open Play Group 10 - 11:30 a.m. at Studio Momentum. 71 Main Street. An active playtime specifically designed for children aged 6 months through 5 years! Free to member families. Call (802) 885-2568 or info@myreccenter.org

WEEKLY - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. Come swim with a great group of adults in our Masters Swim Group at the Edgar May Center. The group, beginning Jan. 2, meets twice per week on Mondays at 7:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 8:00 a.m. The group is comprised of a wide range of abilities including new swimmers. Call 802-885-2568 or www.myreccenter.org

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Swimming lessons will begin on January 8. Youth swim lessons are offered on Saturday and Sunday mornings and Tuesday afternoons. Parent and Toddler classes are in our warm water therapy pool as well as levels 1, 2, and 3. Adult swim lessons are on Thursday mornings and feature three levels: Stroke Development, Stroke Improvement, and Stroke Refinement. We also offer a special class, Swimming for the petrified by appointment call 802-885-2568 or visit www.myreccenter.org

REGION - "Bone Builder" to combat osteoporosis. Free and open to 55+. Call 802-674-4547. Monday and Wednesday: Brownsville Town Hall 9 -10 a.m.; Martin Memorial Hall in Acutney 10 -11 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday: Cavendish Baptist Church 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday: Andover Community Church 3 - 4 p.m.

CLUBS

THURSDAYS, JAN. 5 - FEB. 16 LUDLOW, Vt. - Join Bedtime Math's Crazy 8s, a totally new kind of math club where you'll build stuff, toss beach balls, make amazing mazes and more! You'll have a blast with mischief-making activities like Beach Ball Party, Funny Money and Glow-in-the-Dark City. Grades 3 - 5 Fletcher Memorial Library, 3 - 4 p.m.

TOWN OF LUDLOW NOTICE OF TAX SALE

Parcel No. 220377.100

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Ludlow, in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont are hereby notified that the taxes assessed by the Town of Ludlow for the 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 years remain, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described land in Town to wit:

Being those same lands and premises described in a deed to Michelle L. Shaw from James J. Alimena and Marie Alimena dated August 30, 2007 and recorded in Book 315 Page 66 of the Ludlow Land Records. Consisting of land and buildings located at 8 Pond Street.

So much of said lands will be sold at public auction at the Town Office in Ludlow, Vermont, a public place in said Town on the 24th day of January, 2017 at 10 o'clock a.m., as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs and fees, unless previously paid.

You have the right to request in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the tax sale date set forth above, that only a portion of the property be sold to satisfy the delinquent tax bill. Should you wish to proceed with this request, you must follow the procedure set forth in 32 V.S.A. §5254; clearly identify the portion of the property to be sold; and include a certification from the Act 250 district coordinator and the town zoning administrator that the portion identified may be legally subdivided.

If you qualify under 24 V.S.A. §1535, you may be able to receive an abatement of the property taxes, interest and collection fees you owe to the town. Abatement means that your taxes could be reduced or eliminated. You have the right to appear before the Board of Abatement and explain why you think your taxes should be abated. To apply for an abatement, you must write to Ulla Cook, Town Clerk, PO Box 307, Ludlow, VT 05149.

Dated at Ludlow, in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont this ____ day of December, 2016.

Attest: Frank Heald
Collector of Delinquent Taxes for the
Town of Ludlow and the Town of Ludlow School District.

TOWN OF LUDLOW NOTICE OF TAX SALE

Parcel No. 020215.000

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Ludlow, in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont are hereby notified that the taxes assessed by the Town of Ludlow for the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 fiscal years remain, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described land in Town to wit:

Being those same lands and premises described in a deed to David J. Bush and Barbara L. Bush from Joseph B. Palmer dated May 17, 2002 and recorded in Book 219, Page 462 of the Ludlow Land Records. Consisting of land located at 0 North Pent Hill Road.

So much of said lands will be sold at public auction at the Town Office in Ludlow, Vermont, a public place in said Town on the 24th day of January, 2017 at 10 o'clock a.m., as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs and fees, unless previously paid.

You have the right to request in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the tax sale date set forth above, that only a portion of the property be sold to satisfy the delinquent tax bill. Should you wish to proceed with this request, you must follow the procedure set forth in 32 V.S.A. §5254; clearly identify the portion of the property to be sold; and include a certification from the Act 250 district coordinator and the town zoning administrator that the portion identified may be legally subdivided.

If you qualify under 24 V.S.A. §1535, you may be able to receive an abatement of the property taxes, interest and collection fees you owe to the town. Abatement means that your taxes could be reduced or eliminated. You have the right to appear before the Board of Abatement and explain why you think your taxes should be abated. To apply for an abatement, you must write to Ulla Cook, Town Clerk, PO Box 307, Ludlow, VT 05149.

Dated at Ludlow, in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont this ____ day of December, 2016.

Attest: Frank Heald
Collector of Delinquent Taxes for the
Town of Ludlow and the Town of Ludlow School District.

TOWN OF LUDLOW NOTICE OF TAX SALE

Parcel No. 220473.000

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Ludlow, in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont are hereby notified that the taxes assessed by the Town of Ludlow for the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 fiscal years remain, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described land in Town to wit:

Being those same lands and premises described in a deed to Joseph Sutowski from Richard E. Bauries dated December 30, 1981 and recorded in Book 78 Page 581 of the Ludlow Land Records and additional deed to Joseph Sutowski from Richard E. Bauries dated December 27, 1982 and recorded in Book 80 Page 598 of the Ludlow Land Records. Consisting of land and buildings located at 62 Andover Street.

So much of said lands will be sold at public auction at the Town Office in Ludlow, Vermont, a public place in said Town on the 24th day of January, 2017 at 10 o'clock a.m., as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs and fees, unless previously paid.

You have the right to request in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the tax sale date set forth above, that only a portion of the property be sold to satisfy the delinquent tax bill. Should you wish to proceed with this request, you must follow the procedure set forth in 32 V.S.A. §5254; clearly identify the portion of the property to be sold; and include a certification from the Act 250 district coordinator and the town zoning administrator that the portion identified may be legally subdivided.

If you qualify under 24 V.S.A. §1535, you may be able to receive an abatement of the property taxes, interest and collection fees you owe to the town. Abatement means that your taxes could be reduced or eliminated. You have the right to appear before the Board of Abatement and explain why you think your taxes should be abated. To apply for an abatement, you must write to Ulla Cook, Town Clerk, PO Box 307, Ludlow, VT 05149.

Dated at Ludlow, in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont this ____ day of December, 2016.

Attest: Frank Heald
Collector of Delinquent Taxes for the
Town of Ludlow and the Town of Ludlow School District.

TOWN OF LUDLOW NOTICE OF TAX SALE

Parcel No. 030329.000

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Ludlow, in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont are hereby notified that the taxes assessed by the Town of Ludlow for the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 fiscal years remain, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described land in Town to wit:

Being those same lands and premises described in a deed to Karen J. Hammond from Wayne L. Hammond and Raymond H. Webb dated July 24, 2003 and recorded in Book 245, Page 432 of the Ludlow Land Records. Consisting of land located at Route 103 North.

So much of said lands will be sold at public auction at the Town Office in Ludlow, Vermont, a public place in said Town on the 24th day of January, 2017 at 10 o'clock a.m., as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs and fees, unless previously paid.

You have the right to request in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the tax sale date set forth above, that only a portion of the property be sold to satisfy the delinquent tax bill. Should you wish to proceed with this request, you must follow the procedure set forth in 32 V.S.A. §5254; clearly identify the portion of the property to be sold; and include a certification from the Act 250 district coordinator and the town zoning administrator that the portion identified may be legally subdivided.

If you qualify under 24 V.S.A. §1535, you may be able to receive an abatement of the property taxes, interest and collection fees you owe to the town. Abatement means that your taxes could be reduced or eliminated. You have the right to appear before the Board of Abatement and explain why you think your taxes should be abated. To apply for an abatement, you must write to Ulla Cook, Town Clerk, PO Box 307, Ludlow, VT 05149.

Dated at Ludlow, in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont this ____ day of December, 2016.

Attest: Frank Heald
Collector of Delinquent Taxes for the
Town of Ludlow and the Town of Ludlow School District.

TOWN OF LUDLOW NOTICE OF TAX SALE

Parcel No. 090236.000

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Ludlow, in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont are hereby notified that the taxes assessed by the Town of Ludlow for the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 fiscal years remain, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described land in Town to wit:

Being those same lands and premises described in a Quit Claim Deed from Paul Burns to Paul Burns, Kevin Romano and Jerome Rodriguez dated December 4, 2002 and recorded in Book 228, Page 590 of the Ludlow Land Records. Consisting of 12.43 acres, more or less, of land located at 0 Evergreen Acres, Ludlow, VT.

So much of said lands will be sold at public auction at the Town Office in Ludlow, Vermont, a public place in said Town on the 24th day of January, 2017 at 10 o'clock a.m., as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs and fees, unless previously paid.

You have the right to request in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the tax sale date set forth above, that only a portion of the property be sold to satisfy the delinquent tax bill. Should you wish to proceed with this request, you must follow the procedure set forth in 32 V.S.A. §5254; clearly identify the portion of the property to be sold; and include a certification from the Act 250 district coordinator and the town zoning administrator that the portion identified may be legally subdivided.

If you qualify under 24 V.S.A. §1535, you may be able to receive an abatement of the property taxes, interest and collection fees you owe to the town. Abatement means that your taxes could be reduced or eliminated. You have the right to appear before the Board of Abatement and explain why you think your taxes should be abated. To apply for an abatement, you must write to Ulla Cook, Town Clerk, PO Box 307, Ludlow, VT 05149.

Dated at Ludlow, in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont this ____ day of December, 2016.

Attest: Frank Heald
Collector of Delinquent Taxes for the
Town of Ludlow and the Town of Ludlow School District.

TOWN OF LUDLOW NOTICE OF TAX SALE

Parcel No. 230345.000

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Ludlow, in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont are hereby notified that the taxes assessed by the Town of Ludlow for the 2015-2016 fiscal year remains, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described land in Town to wit:

Being those same lands and premises described in a deed to Miachel Kawesch and Yuko Iwade from William, Kennedy, Shelia Kawesch and Francine Kawesch dated July 22, 1999 and recorded in Book 188, Page 238 of the Ludlow Land Records. Consisting of land and buildings located at 29 Main Street.

So much of said lands will be sold at public auction at the Town Office in Ludlow, Vermont, a public place in said Town on the 24th day of January, 2017 at 10 o'clock a.m., as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs and fees, unless previously paid.

You have the right to request in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the tax sale date set forth above, that only a portion of the property be sold to satisfy the delinquent tax bill. Should you wish to proceed with this request, you must follow the procedure set forth in 32 V.S.A. §5254; clearly identify the portion of the property to be sold; and include a certification from the Act 250 district coordinator and the town zoning administrator that the portion identified may be legally subdivided.

If you qualify under 24 V.S.A. §1535, you may be able to receive an abatement of the property taxes, interest and collection fees you owe to the town. Abatement means that your taxes could be reduced or eliminated. You have the right to appear before the Board of Abatement and explain why you think your taxes should be abated. To apply for an abatement, you must write to Ulla Cook, Town Clerk, PO Box 307, Ludlow, VT 05149.

Dated at Ludlow, in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont this ____ day of December, 2016.

Attest: Frank Heald
Collector of Delinquent Taxes for the
Town of Ludlow and the Town of Ludlow School District.

calendar

LEGAL NOTICES

EVENTS CONT.

THURSDAYS CONT. - GASSETTS, Vt. - Bingo will be held every Thursday night at the Gassetts Grange. Starts at 6:30 p.m., doors open at 5 p.m.

Supper, Raffle and 50/50 tickets are on sale. Come and join in. Any info. needed call Donna at 802-591-4290 or you can call the hall at 802-875-1051.

WEEKLY - CHESTER, Vt. - Beginning

on December 30, Whiting Library, will host a new pop-up exhibition from the National Archives, The Bill of Rights and You, commemorating the 225th anniversary of the ratification of this landmark document. The Bill of Rights and You invites visitors to connect directly with the people, places, and events that mark this historic document's evolution. This exhibit runs through March 2017. Please call the Library for

more information at 802-875-2277, whitinglibrary@yahoo.com and visit us Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The Rockingham Free Public Library will host a new pop-up exhibition from the National Archives, The Bill of Rights and You, commemorating the 225th anniversary of the ratification of this landmark document. The

Bill of Rights and You invites visitors to connect directly with the people, places, and events that mark this historic document's evolution. This exhibit runs through February 28, 2017.

LIBRARIES

TUESDAY, JAN. 17- ROCKINGHAM, Vt. - From 4 - 5:30 p.m. at the Rockingham Library, VT State Biologist Jim Esden from the Springfield office will lead a program on the elongate hemlock scale. Alma Beals has coordinated a survey of hemlock trees in 5 southern Vermont towns for signs of the wooly hemlock adelgid beetle. This year, her volunteers will examine the underside of hemlock branches for signs of the adelgid beetle and the elongate hemlock scale. Surveys are conducted 5 times each winter. This program is free. For more information, call (802) 463-4270, visit rockinghamlibrary.org or stop by at 65 Westminster St., Bellows Falls.

MONDAY, JAN. 23- ROCKINGHAM, Vt. - Join the discussion on Pushing the Limits of Nature at 6:30 p.m. in the Rockingham Library's top floor Meeting Room. A four-part reading, viewing and discussion program funded by the National Science Foundation. January's topic is developed in T. C. Boyle's novel "When the Killing's Done" and explored in video clips with the author and everyday people. A light meal will be provided

by Lisal's Deli. Space is limited and registration is encouraged. These events are free. To register or more information, please go to rockinghamlibrary.org, call (802)463-4270, email programming@rockinghamlibrary.org or stop by the Library at 65 Westminster St., Bellows Falls Vt.

MEETINGS

TUESDAY, JAN. 10- BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Members of the Bellows Falls Woman's Club will meet on at the United Church of Bellows Falls, School St., beginning at 1:30 p.m. They will be entertained by the children's chorus from Westminster Center School. Women interested in joining the club and helping with its projects may contact Barbara Comtois, 802-344-0025.

FRIDAY, JAN. 20- BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The monthly coalition meetings for Greater Falls Connections provide informative presentations on issues related to substance abuse prevention and updates on our work. Come learn, share, and be part of community-oriented solutions. Meetings are open to everyone, beginning at 5 - 7:30 p.m. located at Parks Place.

SUPPORT GROUPS

FRIDAY, MARCH 10- BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The

Connecticut Valley, Ostomy & Ibd, support Group (COG) aims to bring people together who are managing with inflammatory bowel disease or who have had an ostomy of any type. The support group is affiliated with the United Ostomy Association of America but has little formal structure and no cost. It is run by Margaret Heale (802-376-8249) a local certified Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurse Specialist. Meetings are at 5 p.m. in the Fireplace Community meeting room at Rockingham Medical Group, 1 Hospital Court. *Spring season- Friday, May 12 at 5 p.m. Summer BBQ- Sunday, July 16 at 12:30 p.m. Fall season- Friday, Sept 8, at 5 p.m. Winter potluck - Sunday Dec 8, at 12:30 p.m.*

MONDAYS - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - NAMI Vermont Connection Recovery Support Group is a mental illness support group. It provides a forum to share experiences and learn about opportunities and challenges regardless of diagnostics. HCRS, CRT Room, 390 River St. Meets every Monday from 1 - 2 p.m. Info: call 800-639-6480 or visit www.namivt.org.

TUESDAYS- SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Breast Feeding Support Group 2nd and 4th Tuesday at the Springfield Hospital Library Level D. 12 - 2 p.m. It is free and no registration is required. For more information call Erin at 885-7511.

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Just Us Moms Program (JUMP). Come with your children. Have dinner with other moms in the area, learn about resources, and have fun while your children play, and eat dinner. 5 - 7 p.m. at Cherry Hill School Contact Michelle 275-7871

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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TOWN OF LUDLOW NOTICE OF TAX SALE

Parcel No. 230649.100

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Ludlow, in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont are hereby notified that the taxes assessed by the Town of Ludlow for the 2015-2016 fiscal year remains, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described land in Town to wit:

Being those same lands and premises described in a Warranty Deed from Joseph A. Josselyn and Jamie M. Josselyn to William C. Dolan and Brett E. Fish dated February 4, 20015 and recorded in Book 282, Page 62 of the Ludlow Land Records and Warranty Deed from William C. Dolan and Brett E. Fish to Carole O'Leary dated December 15, 2006 and recorded in Book 306, Page 419 of the Ludlow Land Records. Consisting of 2.45 acres, more or less, of land located at 79 Pleasant Street, Ludlow, VT.

So much of said lands will be sold at public auction at the Town Office in Ludlow, Vermont, a public place in said Town on the 24th day of January, 2017 at 10 o'clock a.m., as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs and fees, unless previously paid.

You have the right to request in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the tax sale date set forth above, that only a portion of the property be sold to satisfy the delinquent tax bill. Should you wish to proceed with this request, you must follow the procedure set forth in 32 V.S.A. §5254; clearly identify the portion of the property to be sold; and include a certification from the Act 250 district coordinator and the town zoning administrator that the portion identified may be legally subdivided.

If you qualify under 24 V.S.A. §1535, you may be able to receive an abatement of the property taxes, interest and collection fees you owe to the town. Abatement means that your taxes could be reduced or eliminated. You have the right to appear before the Board of Abatement and explain why you think your taxes should be abated. To apply for an abatement, you must write to Ulla Cook, Town Clerk, PO Box 307, Ludlow, VT 05149.

Dated at Ludlow, in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont this ____ day of December, 2016.

Attest: Frank Heald
Collector of Delinquent Taxes for the
Town of Ludlow and the Town of Ludlow School District.

TOWN OF LUDLOW NOTICE OF TAX SALE

Parcel No. 070357.000

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Ludlow, in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont are hereby notified that the taxes assessed by the Town of Ludlow for the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 fiscal years remain, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described land in Town to wit:

Being those same lands and premises described in a deed to Sandra Colman Lerner, Trustee of the Rainbow Realty Trust Dated January 25, 1999 from Sandra Lerner dated December 11, 1998 and recorded in Book 181, Page 311 of the Ludlow Land Records and subject to Warranty Deed from Sandra Colman Lerner, Trustee of the Rainbow Realty Trust Dated January 25, 1999, to Richard and Lorraine Ippolito dated May 7, 2003 and recoded in Book 237 Page 245 of the Ludlow Land Records (13.01 acres conveyed out). Consisting of land located at South Hill Road.

So much of said lands will be sold at public auction at the Town Office in Ludlow, Vermont, a public place in said Town on the 24th day of January, 2017 at 10 o'clock a.m., as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs and fees, unless previously paid.

You have the right to request in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the tax sale date set forth above, that only a portion of the property be sold to satisfy the delinquent tax bill. Should you wish to proceed with this request, you must follow the procedure set forth in 32 V.S.A. §5254; clearly identify the portion of the property to be sold; and include a certification from the Act 250 district coordinator and the town zoning administrator that the portion identified may be legally subdivided.

If you qualify under 24 V.S.A. §1535, you may be able to receive an abatement of the property taxes, interest and collection fees you owe to the town. Abatement means that your taxes could be reduced or eliminated. You have the right to appear before the Board of Abatement and explain why you think your taxes should be abated. To apply for an abatement, you must write to Ulla Cook, Town Clerk, PO Box 307, Ludlow, VT 05149.

Dated at Ludlow, in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont this ____ day of December, 2016.

Attest: Frank Heald
Collector of Delinquent Taxes for the
Town of Ludlow and the Town of Ludlow School District.

TOWN OF LUDLOW NOTICE OF TAX SALE

Parcel No. 230335.000

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Ludlow, in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont are hereby notified that the taxes assessed by the Town of Ludlow for the 2015-2016 fiscal year remains, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described land in Town to wit:

Being those same lands and premises described in a deed to Christopher and Tracy M. Martin from Earle H. Levenstein and Mary K. Levenstein and recorded in Book 257, Page 201 of the Ludlow Land Records. Consisting of land located at Lots #8 and 9, Pine Hill Road.

So much of said lands will be sold at public auction at the Town Office in Ludlow, Vermont, a public place in said Town on the 24th day of January, 2017 at 10 o'clock a.m., as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs and fees, unless previously paid.

You have the right to request in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the tax sale date set forth above, that only a portion of the property be sold to satisfy the delinquent tax bill. Should you wish to proceed with this request, you must follow the procedure set forth in 32 V.S.A. §5254; clearly identify the portion of the property to be sold; and include a certification from the Act 250 district coordinator and the town zoning administrator that the portion identified may be legally subdivided.

If you qualify under 24 V.S.A. §1535, you may be able to receive an abatement of the property taxes, interest and collection fees you owe to the town. Abatement means that your taxes could be reduced or eliminated. You have the right to appear before the Board of Abatement and explain why you think your taxes should be abated. To apply for an abatement, you must write to Ulla Cook, Town Clerk, PO Box 307, Ludlow, VT 05149.

Dated at Ludlow, in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont this ____ day of December, 2016.

Attest:
Frank Heald
Collector of Delinquent Taxes for the
Town of Ludlow and the Town of Ludlow School District.

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pet-friendly winter tips

REGION - Now that Old Man winter has arrived just a reminder to everyone that pets feel the cold as easily as humans despite their fur coats. Reduce outdoor activities when temperatures dip low, and keep them inside during severe weather.

Here's a few pet-friendly tips to help keep your furry friends warm and safe this winter season:

- Forgo pet haircuts and let winter coats protect them against the elements.

- Check ears, paws and tails for signs of frost-bite or getting raw from ice and snow.

- Wipe down your pet's belly, legs and paws

to remove ice-melting chemicals, which can irritate and cause serious illness if licked or swallowed.

- Change your antifreeze. Due to the sweet smell and taste, pets will lick or drink antifreeze if found puddled on sidewalks or garage floors. But anti-freeze is toxic to

cats and dogs. Clean up spills and consider using a brand made from propylene glycol instead.

- Keep the water flowing. Dry winter weather can be dehydrating, not to mention freezing. Break up ice in your pet's water bowl and be sure they have regular access to clean, fresh water.

Tips provided by Turfmutt



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safe winter driving

StatePoint - While winter can be a beautiful time of year, it can also be a treacherous season on the roads. Winter driving conditions require increased attention and an ability to adapt quickly.

In 2015, 8,010 people nationwide were killed in car crashes between December and March, resulting in an average seven percent per month increase from 2014, according to the National Safety Council (NSC). These numbers are a warning to everyone on the roads about how dangerous winter driving can be.

"Winter looks more idyllic outside our house windows than outside our windshield," said Deborah A.P. Hersman, president and CEO of the National Safety Council. "The good news is many cars are equipped with life-saving technologies. It is important that drivers understand how the technologies work in order to drive safely in winter conditions."

In an effort to prevent crashes on the road this winter, MyCarDoesWhat, an NSC and University of Iowa initiative, is offering some major pieces of advice for driving in winter conditions.

• Slow down. Drivers frequently underestimate how long it takes to brake and how difficult it can be to steer on

slippery roads.

• Don't use cruise control on slippery surfaces like ice and snow. It will diminish your control and reduce your reaction time in the event of a skid.

• Remember, bridges and overpasses freeze before roadways, so be alert in cold weather when approaching one.

• Many new safety technologies (like back-up cameras) have outside sensors that can freeze or fog up. Always make sure they are clear so they work their best.

MyCarDoesWhat also reminds drivers of the safety technologies that can help vehicles adapt in slippery and changing conditions.

• Anti-lock braking systems (ABS) help drivers maintain control by preventing wheels from locking up. ABS works differently than traditional brakes, delivering and releasing

precise braking pressure to each wheel as needed. So, don't pump the brakes if you have ABS. Just hold them down firmly and look and steer in the direction you want to go. The brakes may buzz and vibrate when the ABS has activated.



Drive safe this winter season. PHOTO PROVIDED BY VAIDAS BUCYS - FOTOLIA.COM

• Traction control helps you accelerate without spinning out on slippery surfaces like snow and ice.

road.

• Adaptive headlights adjust to changing roadway conditions -- such as curves -- to provide optimum illumination along the roadway during long winter nights and periods of low daytime visibility.

• The temperature warning feature provides updates about upcoming roadway conditions such as black ice.

"When there is snow and ice on the road, antilock brakes can improve the stability of

your braking so you can steer better," said Dan McGehee, director of the University of Iowa National Advanced Driver Simulator. "Remember to hold the brakes down even when they pulse and vibrate."

For more information, visit MyCarDoesWhat.org and follow MyCarDoesWhat on Twitter and Facebook.

Stay safe this winter. Learn how your car works and drive slowly in dangerous conditions.

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2015 TOYOTA TACOMA DOUBLE CAB, 4X4, V6, AUTO, TRD OFF ROAD PACKAGE SALE PRICE \$28,995	2016 CHEVY SUBURBAN LT PACKAGE, SUNROOF, HEATED LEATHER SEATS, REAR ENTERTAINMENT CENTER, ONLY 13,000 MILES SALE PRICE \$48,995	2010 FORD F-550 4X4, POWER STROKE DIESEL, ONE OWNER, ONLY 46 SALE PRICE \$24,995

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2015 FORD T-250 CARGO VAN Fully Loaded, Only 8,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$22,995	2014 TOYOTA CAMRY LE Model, Fully Loaded SALE PRICE \$15,995	2012 CHEVY SONIC HATCHBACK 5 Door, LT Package, Only 50,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$7,995	2009 SUBARU FORESTER 5 Speed, Only 95,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$7,995
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2015 GMC 1500 DBL CAB 4x4, 2.7l Off Road Package, Only 15,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$32,995	2014 CHEVY CRUISE LT Package, Auto, Fully Loaded, Only 31,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$10,995	2012 CHEVY 1500 EXT CAB 4x4, 6.2 Liter V8, Fully Loaded, One Owner SALE PRICE \$22,995	2009 SUBARU LEGACY 4 Door Sedan, AWD, 5-Speed, Only 93,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$6,995
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2015 CHEVY MALIBU LT Package, Sun Roof SALE PRICE \$15,995	2014 CHEVY MALIBU LT Package, Fully Loaded, Only 23,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$12,995	2012 SUBARU FORESTER Auto, Fully Loaded, One Owner, Extra Clean SALE PRICE \$9,995	2007 HONDA ACCORD EXL Package, Fully Loaded SALE PRICE \$8,995
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2014 CHEVY TRAVERSE LT Package, AWD, One Owner, Only 24,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$24,995	2013 CHEVY SPARK LS Package, 5-Speed, Only 16,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$8,995	2011 CHEVY 1500 REG CAB 4x4, 5.3 Liter V8, One Owner SALE PRICE \$14,995	2004 HONDA PILOT LX Package, AWD, Extra Clean SALE PRICE \$6,995
2014 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO 4x4, Fully Loaded, Only 37,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$22,995	2013 CHEVY 1500 CREW CAB 4x4, 2.7l Off Road Package, Loaded, Like New Condition SALE PRICE \$27,995	2011 HYUNDAI ACCENT GLS 4 Door, 5 Speed, Only 63,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$4,995	2004 FORD F-150 SUPER CAB 4x4, SXT Package SALE PRICE \$2,995

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Handling Market Volatility

REGION - Conventional wisdom says that what goes up must come down. But even if you view market volatility as a normal occurrence, it can be tough to handle when your money is at stake. Though there's no foolproof way to handle the ups and downs of the stock market, the following common-sense tips can help.

Don't put your eggs all in one basket

Diversifying your investment portfolio is one of the key tools for trying to manage market volatility. Because asset classes often perform differently under different market conditions, spreading your assets across a variety of investments such as stocks, bonds, and cash alternatives has the potential to help reduce your overall risk. Ideally, a decline in one type of asset will be balanced out by a gain in another, though diversification can't eliminate the possibility of market loss.

One way to diversify your portfolio is through asset allocation. Asset allocation involves identifying the asset classes that are appropriate for you and allocating a certain percentage of your investment dollars to each class (e.g., 70% to stocks, 20% to bonds, 10% to cash alternatives). A worksheet

or an interactive tool may suggest a model or sample allocation based on your investment objectives, risk tolerance level, and investment time horizon, but that shouldn't be a substitute for expert advice.

Focus on the forest, not on the trees

As the market goes up and down, it's easy to become too focused on day-to-day returns. Instead, keep your eyes on your long-term investing goals and your overall portfolio. Although only you can decide how much investment risk you can handle, if you still have years to invest, don't overestimate the effect of short-term price fluctuations on your portfolio.

Look before you leap

When the market goes down and investment losses pile up, you may be tempted to pull out of the stock market altogether and look for less volatile investments. The modest returns that typically accompany low-risk investments may seem attractive when more risky investments are posting negative returns.

But before you leap into a different investment strategy, make sure you're doing it for the right reasons. How you choose to invest your money

should be consistent with your goals and time horizon.

For instance, putting a larger percentage of your investment dollars into vehicles that offer asset preservation and liquidity (the opportunity to easily access your funds) may be the right strategy for you if your investment goals are short term and you'll need the money soon, or if you're growing close to reaching a long-term goal such as retirement. But if you still have years to invest, keep in mind that stocks have historically outperformed stable-value investments over time, although past performance is no guarantee of future results. If you move most or all of your investment dollars into conservative investments, you're not only locked in any losses you might have, but you've also sacrificed the potential for higher returns. Investments seeking to achieve higher rates of return also involve a higher degree of risk.

Look for the silver lining

A down market, like every cloud, has a silver lining. The silver lining of a down market is the opportunity to buy shares of stock at lower prices.

One of the ways you can do this is by using dollar-cost averaging. With dollar-cost av-

eraging, you don't try to "time the market" by buying shares at the moment when the price is lowest. In fact, you don't worry about price at all. Instead, you invest a specific amount of money at regular intervals over time. When the price is higher, your investment dollars buy fewer shares of an investment, but when the price is lower, the same dollar amount will buy you more shares. A workplace savings plan, such as a 401(k) plan in which the same amount is deducted from each paycheck and invested through the plan, is one of the most well-known examples of dollar cost averaging in action.

For example, let's say that you decided to invest \$300 each month. Your regular monthly investment of \$300 would buy more shares when the price is low and fewer shares when the price is high.

Although dollar-cost averaging can't guarantee you a profit or avoid a loss, a regular fixed dollar investment may result in a lower average price per share over time, assuming you continue to invest through all types of market conditions.

(This hypothetical example is for illustrative purposes only and does not represent the performance of any particular

investment. Actual results will vary.)

Making dollar-cost averaging work for you

Get started as soon as possible. The longer you have to ride out the ups and downs of the market, the more opportunity you have to build a sizable investment account over time.

Stick with it. Dollar-cost averaging is a long-term investment strategy. Make sure you have the financial resources and the discipline to invest continuously through all types of market conditions, regardless of price fluctuations.

Take advantage of automatic deductions. Having your investment contributions deducted and invested automatically makes the process easy and convenient.

Don't stick your head in the sand

While focusing too much on short-term gains or losses is unwise, so is ignoring your investments. You should check your portfolio at least once a year—more frequently if the market is particularly volatile or when there have been significant changes in your life. You may need to rebalance your portfolio to bring it back in line with your investment goals and risk tolerance. Rebalancing



The ups and downs of the stock market.

PHOTO PROVIDED

involves selling some investments in order to buy others. Investors should keep in mind that selling investments could result in a tax liability. Don't hesitate to get expert help if you need it to decide which investment options are right for you.

Don't count your chickens before they hatch

As the market recovers from a down cycle, elation quickly sets in. If the upswing lasts long enough, it's easy to believe that investing in the stock market is a sure thing. But, of

course, it never is. As many investors have learned the hard way, becoming overly optimistic about investing during the good times can be as detrimental as worrying too much during the bad times. The right approach during all kinds of markets is to be realistic. Have a plan, stick with it, and strike a comfortable balance between risk and return.

This article was written by your Registered Investment Advisor Representative MARK HUNTLEY of Huntley Financial Services, Inc.

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The screenshot shows the Vermont Journal website interface. At the top, there are logos for 'The Vermont Journal' and 'THE SHOPPER'. Below the navigation bar, there are several ad spots: a pet photo with text about prices and singing, a weather widget for Ludlow, VT, and a list of upcoming events and legal notices. A mouse cursor points to different parts of the page, indicating where ads can be placed.

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