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Vilas Bridge joint resolution referred to committee

BY JOEL SLUTSKY

The Shopper

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - A joint resolution dated Feb. 7 offered by representatives Partridge of Windham, Trieber of Rockingham, Deen of Westminster, and Mrowicki of Putney urging the prompt rehabilitation of the Vilas Bridge has gone to committee. Ironically, the Vilas Bridge was constructed around 1930 as a "symbol of friendship" between Vermont and New Hampshire. The bridge was closed to vehicular traffic in 2009 following a semi-annual inspection that found continued deterioration of the reinforced bridge deck. Efforts to repair the bridge have been delayed due to lack of funds. The efforts over many years to resurrect the bridge have not reached fruition. The wastewater line that runs under the decaying bridge between Bellows Falls and Walpole has been a cause of concern. The Town of Walpole had explored an initiative last year that would move the line to the Arch Bridge.

According to the resolution, the 635-foot bridge that spans the Connecticut River was initially financed with \$30,000 in grants from each of the connected towns of Rockingham, Vermont, and Walpole, New Hampshire.



Vilas Bridge entrance.

PHOTO BY JOEL SLUTSKY

Additional information in the resolution includes: "Whereas, in 2009, the New Hampshire Department of Transportation closed the span to all vehicular and pedestrian traffic due to its poor condition, and Whereas, the approximately 4,600 cars that crossed the bridge daily must now use alternative routes, and Whereas, the bridge has now been removed from the 10-year Highway Plan although the New Hampshire Transportation Advisory Committee supposedly still discusses the bridge's future, and

Whereas, the town of Rockingham has requested the Vermont Attorney General to serve as an intermediary in the town's request to New Hampshire state officials to assist in repairing the bridge, and Whereas, the State of New Hampshire's wanton neglect of the Vilas Bridge continues to cause significant economic and traffic problems in Bellows Falls, now therefore be it Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives: That the General Assembly implores New Hampshire state officials

and its Congressional Delegation to make every possible effort, on a timely basis, to seek state or federal funding for the rehabilitation of the Vilas Bridge and be it further Resolved that the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to New Hampshire Governor Chris Sununu, the New Hampshire Executive Council, New Hampshire Commissioner of Transportation Victoria Sheehan, the chairs of the New Hampshire House and Senate transportation committees, the New Hampshire Congressional Delegation, Vermont Secretary of Transportation Joe Flynn, Vermont Attorney General T. J. Donovan, and the Vermont Congressional Delegation. This was read and, in the Speaker's discretion, treated as a bill and referred to the Committee on Transportation."

When contacted about the resolution, Representative Partridge stated, "We offered it because we would like to keep the issue alive. It is an important bridge for downtown Bellows Falls from an economic standpoint and it has historic significance. It is New Hampshire's responsibility to maintain it and they have let it

See **BRIDGE** on Page 2A

Two RVTC students earned multiple medals at DECA conference



Whitney Greene left, and Kaylee Norton right, with their hard earned medals at the DECA Competition.

PHOTO PROVIDED

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - River Valley Technical Center's Business and Financial Services students, Whitney Greene and Kaylee Norton have earned multiple medals at the annual conference for the Vermont Chapter of the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) held in Burlington on February 10. The two Springfield High students placed third in role-play for hospitality and marketing and won second place overall for that event.

Whitney Greene also won a first place gold medal in the written exam for Hospitality Services. The RVTC students brought home a combined total of \$3,000 in scholarships.

"This was a great experience for us. We had to create a business plan for a new resort hotel and then pitch the plan to the judges. It was all done in a short period of time, but we were able to research the market and come up with a multi level marketing campaign to pitch," said Kaylee.

She said nerves were not much of an issue for them as they felt they were well prepared for the event. Medaling in these events have earned them a spot at the

National DECA Conference in Disneyland, in Anaheim, Calif. this spring. The two will travel with their RVTC instructor, Sue Dana, who also won an award at the Vermont Chapter DECA competition. Ms. Dana earned the "Outstanding New Chapter Advisor" award.

"We are going to have to do quite a bit of fundraising in the upcoming months in order to make this trip happen," Norton said.

Adding that she and Greene are hoping to get corporate sponsors to help with the transportation and lodging costs. Contact Sue Dana at the River Valley Technical Center at 802-885-8337 to make a contribution to this exciting opportunity for these Business and Financial Services students.

DECA is a student run non-profit organization that prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management. For more information about the River Valley Technical Center, visit our website at www.rvrtc.org. RVTC is now enrolling students for the fall of 2017 for the Business and Financial Services program as well as all of their technical education programs. An on-line application is available on the website.

Sustainable Fair packs the day with activities



Sam Jaffe of Caterpillar Lab showing Estrella and Kaia Cannon a tomato horn worm larvae.

PHOTO PROVIDED

BY MARY ELLEN CANNON

The Shopper

ALSTEAD, N.H. - Seeds of tall climbing nasturtium, cosmos Sensation mix, Bloomsdale open pollinated spinach and giant snow peas sold for a buck a pack at the 12th annual Seed Celebration and Sustainable Community Fair. Orchard Hill Community on Old Settler's Road in Alstead, N.H., hosted the full day event on Feb. 11, 2017.

Seeds of change in ideas and hope for better ways to grow and live came from fifteen speakers, four musicians, and nurturing food with great bread, of course, to enjoy.

Marty Castriotta of Orchard Hill gave an introduction to permaculture. This March he leads a 90-hour course at Orchard Hill on permaculture design that will lead to an internationally recognized certificate.

Valerie Piedmont, founder of the Sustainability Project that sponsors the fair, plotted how to become our most alive, happiest, intelligent selves. Practical thoughts on why and how to save rain drew people to a session by Jan Lambert of The Valley Green Journal. Lambert authored "Water, Land, and Climate - The Critical Connection." She brings Dr. Michal Kravcik to Orchard Hill on March 11 for a 7 p.m. program on restoring rainfall to the land.

Students from the ecology club at Keene State University entertained children with art projects in the morning and hopes of sliding if the day warmed. Sam Jaffe of the Caterpillar Lab wowed people with hornworms. Caterpillar Lab seeks a home. Its Keene Colony

See **FAIR** on Page 2A

Hiring of 10th police officer shelved

BY JOEL SLUTSKY

The Shopper

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The pursuit to add an additional police officer to the Rockingham Police Department was derailed due to budgetary concerns by the Trustee Board. Municipal Manager Shaun O'Keefe stated that this was a board decision but in light of the financial situation it is his recommendation to not hire a 10th officer at this time. O'Keefe stated that he and Police Chief Ron Lake have been going over the budget and he has, at this time, suspended the search for the officer. At a Jan. 10 Trustees' meeting chair Myles Mickle stated that the hope was that in hiring a police officer, overtime in the department would be reduced. When asked about this shift in direction Mickle said, "What changed was that the initial cost of hiring a 10th officer, though it

would pay off eventually, is too much for the village to bear at this time. It will be pursued in the future." The board concurred with O'Keefe's recommendation.

Lake commented, "I made adjustments and realignment in scheduling and I support the manager's decision. He continued that, given the budget numbers, "most of the time two officers are on at all times and I make every effort to use part-time officers to help reduce overtime."

Public comment, not on the agenda: Laura Schairbaum, director of Greater Falls Connections (GFC), updated the board on the Drug-Free Communities Support Program. Schairbaum noted that the GFC was awarded a FY2016 Drug-Free Communities Support Program grant in the amount of \$125,000 which will be used for "education, convening of community partners, reducing substance abuse in our community, and

promoting what's good in our community."

Villager Deborah Wright read a letter she wrote to the Trustees of the Bellows Falls Corporation which in part stated, "After hearing from the professional auditor at the Jan. 31 Joint Board Meeting on the State of the Village, I, and many others, are very troubled by the 'mismanagement by neglect' of the village resources, particularly the village fund balance, now under \$10,000. You have not exercised your fiduciary responsibilities as elected officials for some time and have allowed the actions of the town Select Board to drive the finances of the village into the ground." The entire letter was entered into the minutes and can be read at www.rockbf.org. Mickle suggested that trustee members be present when issues affecting the village are discussed.

Finance Office report on FY2017

YTD budget status: O'Keefe noted that the Village would be \$70,600 over budget as it stands now with the main amounts being \$20,000 over with the change in the municipal manager position, \$7,500 in the part-time firefighters line item, \$27,000 over in the part-time police officers line and \$14,600 in police department overtime. O'Keefe stated that he and Chief Lake have been going over the budget in detail and have come up with approximately \$30,000 in savings including vehicle maintenance and using part-time officers.

Discuss FY2018 budget goals: O'Keefe noted that budget meetings should be scheduled and recommended that the Board seriously consider budgeting a \$100,000 surplus each year for three years that would get to the recommended fund balance of \$300,000. Wright stated that budgeting for this surplus would

result in a 4-cent tax increase. Trustee member Stefan Golec added that with the amounts needed to repay the town for TransCanada and a full-time finance director, "This looks more like a 7-cent tax increase." The Board scheduled its next meeting for

Feb. 28 to begin at 6 p.m. with a budget meeting included.

Minutes of this meeting can be found at www.rockbf.org and by going to the Trustee tab and scrolling to minutes. The entire meeting can also be watched at www.fact8.com.



Village of Bellows Falls fire and police sign.

PHOTO BY JOEL SLUTSKY

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Make the Great River Co-op dream a reality by submitting your ideas

WALPOLE, N.H. - You may have noticed an increase in activity around the Great River Co-op project. Recently, they've been asked where the Great River Co-op project stands, if it's still viable, and why it's taking so long. These inquiries show there is continued interest in a co-operative grocery store!

The Co-op is currently in a position to move forward with the project, but they need their members, future members and community voices to be behind them in this effort. That means proving to lenders and those working with them

and stock the building. The co-op's board is developing additional opportunities with the Cooperative Fund of New England to act as a fiscal agent for potential grants and tax-deductible donations; and with Antioch University New England and Keene State College to create internship opportunities. They are also working with Keene State's architecture students to create a site plan and preliminary building design.

This organization was started a while ago and has survived because it embodies so many good ideas:

- Creating a convenient, year-round market where our community can have access to fresh, healthy, locally grown, locally produced products
- Creating jobs
- Investing in our local economy
- Encouraging farmers to keep farming and keeping our existing farmland open and in production

• Connecting our community with our local producers and improving its health through access and education

• Promoting our local producers

But regardless of how good these ideas are, getting them to take root and grow takes time, energy, and opportunity.

The co-op's agreements are still in place with MEDC and Bensonwood to build

and stock the building. The co-op's board is developing additional opportunities with the Cooperative Fund of New England to act as a fiscal agent for potential grants and tax-deductible donations; and with Antioch University New England and Keene State College to create internship opportunities. They are also working with Keene State's architecture students to create a site plan and preliminary building design.

The next steps include bringing on a project manager who can guide our project and creating a development team to carry out a member loan and donation campaign. Once the store is open, you won't need to work there but everyone needs to work together to get those doors open!

They need reinforcements—more of their Owner/Members to join the board of directors, volunteer at events and generally spread the word. Remember, the Co-op will be your store. It's not Shaw's or Staples where you might have a "member card." It's a co-op and co-ops are organized and run by its Owners/Members.

So how can you help?

- Engage in conversations about the benefits of a cooperative store
- Spend an hour joining in the fun at an event promoting the co-op
- Display membership brochures in your place of business or a poster in the window.
- Join on a committee or help plan an event
- If you're already a member, consider purchasing more shares so your co-op has operating capital and so other members can see your commitment

They need the community to commit to the project financially, with expertise, with time, and at the very least, or perhaps, at the very most, with your voice.

Please go online to www.Greatriverfoodcoop.com and complete the supporter survey where you can make your voice heard. Also like them on Facebook. You can email them at info@greatriverfoodcoop.com

Wholistic Wellness Center turns 15

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The Wholistic Wellness Center is celebrating 15 years in Springfield. Back in 2002, a group of like-minded healthcare practitioners got together to discuss working under the same roof. Although a few of the names and faces have changed, the underlying premise of providing quality, affordable, complementary healthcare has continued.

The center offers a variety of healing modalities addressing the physical, emotional, and spiritual aspects of all its clients. Currently, practitioners skilled in physical therapy, acupuncture, aromatherapy, several types of massage therapy, mental health counseling, integrative energy work, Reiki, somatic therapy, and equine-facilitated life coaching are all part of the wellness team.

There are many paths to better health, personal growth, and inner peace. Although all practitioners at the Wellness Center are independent, they come together to provide the best choices of treatment for each individual case. This



Wholistic Wellness staff celebrate year #15.

PHOTO PROVIDED

community of healers is dedicated to serving Springfield and the surrounding communities with integrity, compassion, responsibility, and commitment.

The Wholistic Wellness Center is a relaxing, stimulating, inspiring, and nurturing place to be. Clients are

greeted with a warm, sunny space, the sound of joyful laughter, and a calm, peaceful atmosphere. For further information, stop by the Center at 160 Wall Street in Springfield; check out the website at www.wvcvt.com; or the Facebook page, www.facebook.com/wholisticwellnesscenter.

Springfield Winter Carnival was a rockin' success



A winter carnival is fun for the whole family.

PHOTO BY DENISE E. PHOTOGRAPHY

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The third annual Springfield Winter Carnival at Crown Point Country Club was a snowy success! Luck was on our side this year when it came to the weather - sledding was fast and the sky was clear with plenty of snow to accommodate all the outdoor adventures.

Hockey teams hit the ice for a rousing and entertaining broom-ball tournament. With so many great entries in the snowman competition, it was hard to choose the winners. The rock-n-roll themed cardboard sleds were a sight to behold! The newest event, downhill snow kayaking races, was a laugh and a half! There were 10 competi-

tors in the Sunday blizzard with father-and-son finalists.

The food and drink were flowing in the Crown Point Pub - a great place to take a break from the cold and share a meal among friends.

The indoor kids' activities were also a huge hit this year. Troy Wunderle dazzled the crowd with his juggling skills, gave lessons on devil sticks, and pulled plenty of other fun tricks out of his sleeves. Other indoor highlights included snow cones, a luminary craft table, and face painting with Mona Frye and Abbie Garrett.

And let's not forget the spectacular fireworks show, courtesy of Atlas Fireworks and Kelley Sales and Service. Folks were cozied up by the giant bonfire, front and center for the fireworks action. The Springfield Winter Carnival is brought to you by Springfield Parks and Recreation, the Edgar May Health and Recreation Center, Crown Point Country Club, and local volunteers.

See **CARNIVAL** on Page 3A

The Great River Co-op.

PHOTO PROVIDED

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16-2201

FAIR

From Page 1A

Mill space will turn into condos.) Carl Majeski of UNH Extension shared how to garden. A fruit tree pruning demo by Antoine Elbers and Jenny Wright took folks outside.

Outside, a biochar demonstration by Doug Clayton warmed people by the fire. Joy Moves dance with Hillary Richardson, kimchi making with Tom Prunier, mending with textile artist Kate Dean, synthesis of environmental landscape and livable future by Lionel Chute, manage your woodlot with Chip Chapman,

Manitowoc on how to reconnect with each other, tea with Lior Sadeh, visualization with Bill Whyte, tiny houses with Kevin Warzecha and Dee Denehy - all made for full, diverse day.

Solar Sisters Valerie Piedmont and Jeanne Sable played music. Peter and Linda Simoneux, Bayou X band,

performed. Look for their CD "Big Powerful Woman" under their a.k.a., Lil' Orphans Cajun Express.

The Sustainability Project is a non-profit educational organization that promotes love of nature, environmental stewardship, and caring communities. Visit www.emersonbrookforest.org.

BRIDGE

From Page 1A

deteriorate badly to the point of being closed. The longer they wait to fix it, the more expensive it will be to repair. My questions for New Hampshire include: when will they start to work on it? If they don't, will they let it ultimate-

ly fall into the river? Are there issues with the sewer line that runs under it?"

Walpole Select Board Chair Stephen Dalessio commented that Walpole's position on the bridge has not changed. No timeline has been set for

moving the sewer line and options are being considered. It should be noted that Walpole continues to meet their financial obligations to the Bellows Falls waste treatment despite not having a current agreement in place.

Women's Health Services are Now Available at Rockingham Medical Group



Jennifer Michalke, WHNP, of The Women's Health Center in Springfield, VT, is now available for patient appointments every Thursday in Rockingham.

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Springfield Chamber hosts Candidates Night

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - As an ongoing tradition, the Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce hosts an annual Candidates Night, giving locals an opportunity to meet select-board and school board candidates. This year's event, open to the public, will be held at the Town Office on Tuesday, February 28 at 7 p.m.

Current selectboard Chair Kristi Morris and Mike Martin are running uncontested for two open seats on the selectboard. School board Chair Ed Caron and Troy Palmer



Meet your candidates. PHOTO PROVIDED

are competing for one open seat on the school board. All four candidates have agreed to participate in the event. Attendees are encouraged to come prepared with questions for the candidates to prompt lively discussions about important issues. This public question and answer session will be recorded and aired on local cable by SAPA TV.

Questions? Contact the Chamber at 802-885-2779 or springfieldrcc@vermontel.net.

Amanda Cassell is BFUHS Elks Student of the Month

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - It is a pleasure to announce that Amanda Cassell has been named the January Elks Student of the Month for Bellows Falls Union High School. Amanda, a senior, is the daughter of Charles Cassell and Tammy Sears both of Bellows Falls.

A conscientious student, Cassell



Amanda Cassell. PHOTO PROVIDED

works hard on her academics every day. She is dedicated to doing well and puts in the time needed to strengthen her skills.

She is polite, caring, kind, and generous and often puts the needs of others before her own. Cassell is helpful with her peers, and is always willing to help classmates who are struggling academically or emotionally. She is readily available to help anyone who should need her, and is often the first to volunteer to go get something or help out if someone needs a helping hand. Cassell is a courteous person who will hold the door for a line of teachers and students as they enter the building, and offer a bright smile and enthusiastic "hello."

Not only does Cassell work hard in school, but she works hard to give back to her community, as well. She is currently a member of the Board of Directors for Our Place in Bellows Falls and has worked hard in that position. She has even recruited

friends to join her in supporting Our Place to help at events and with volunteering time. Cassell was incredibly helpful showing items at the "Empty Bowl" fundraiser for Our Place, which helped to raise money for the community. She also helped with set up and take down of that event as well. In addition to attending her monthly board meetings for Our Place, she delivers bags of groceries to home-bound residents in local homes one day a month. Cassell enjoys this job and the joy it brings to the residents.

Clearly deserving of this award, BFUHS is proud to have Cassell represent the school this month

Poetry reading at Westminster West Library



Westminster West Library. PHOTO PROVIDED

WESTMINSTER, Vt. - On Friday, February 24, at 7 p.m., Vermont poet Laureate, Chard Denoird will be performing at the Westminster West Public Library located at 3409 Westminster West Road. Local author Justin Grimbol will host the event, and there were be snacks and wine and plenty of good company. Everyone is welcome.

Hopefully this event will create the desire for many more poetry readings at the Westminster West Library. We hope you will join us. It will be a simple and great way to celebrate where

we live.

Feel free to contact the host, Justin Grimbol, if you have any questions justingrimbol@hotmail.com. Or visit the library's website at www.westwestlibrary.org/

CARNIVAL

From Page 2A

Thanks to everyone who joined us! We'll see you next year!

- 2017 Springfield Winter Carnival Contest Winners:**
- Cardboard sled contest:**
 Bling Award - Jake Tostrup
 Spirit Award - Julian Roberson
 Bragging Award - Garrett Twombly
- Broomball tournament:**
 1st Place - Team State Farm
 2nd Place - Skeleton Crew
 3rd Place - Black River Rugby Club
- Snow kayak races:**
 1st Place - Garrett Twombly (son)
 2nd Place - Kurt Twombly (father)
- Community snowman contest:**
 1st Place - Erly and Willy Aviles
 2nd Place - the kids at Springfield Parent Child Center
 3rd Place - Lorie Small & Family
 4th Place - Amy Shaw & Family

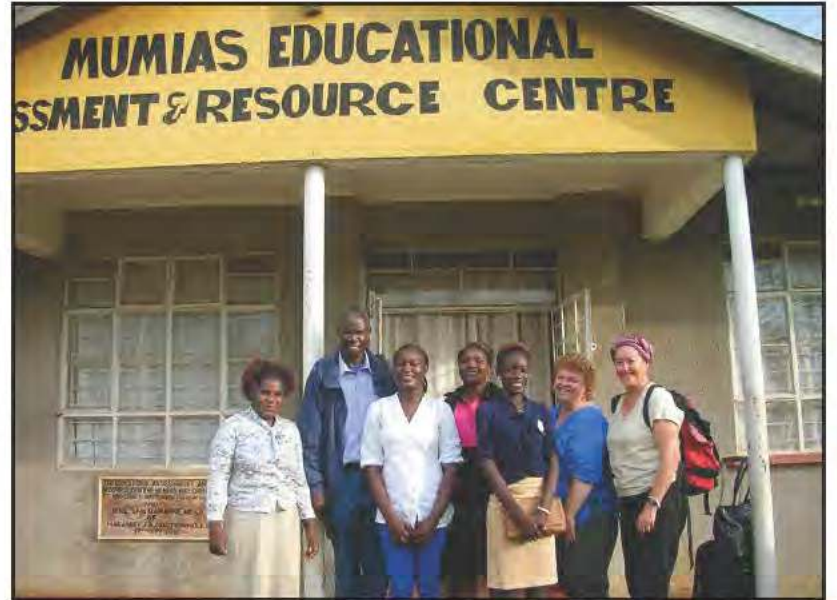
Vt. villagers make a connection to children in Kenya

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. - The residents of a small Vermont village will make a connection to young children with disabilities in another small town - this time in Africa -- when they come together for a benefit dinner and concert Saturday, March 4 at Christ's Church. The dinner begins at 5:30 p.m., followed by the concert at 7 p.m.

Local speech-language pathologist Wanda Salter of Rockingham is organizing the event to support the establishment of the first Kenyan preschool for children with special needs, who currently have no access to early intervention services.

"Unfortunately, young children with disabilities are a marginalized population in Kenya and do not have access to preschool," said Salter. "During their early, formative years when a stimulating educational environment can help children make developmental gains, they remain at home."

Salter has observed the needs first hand during two trips to western Kenya, spending time at the Mumias Educational Assessment and Resource Center (EARC) in Kakamega County, which has been providing assessment and rehabilitation services to children with disabilities since 1984. She is planning a return trip in March. She will return next fall, taking along pediatric physical therapist Karen Wallace of Saxtons River. Wallace and Heather Edwards, director of the Village Early Learning Center,



Kenyan children will benefit from a dinner and concert March 4 organized by Wanda Salter, second from right. PHOTO PROVIDED

are helping with details of the benefit, with support from Christ's Church.

The dinner will feature an authentic Kenyan menu based around ugali, a traditional dish made of cornmeal cooked in boiling liquid that is used to dip into other ingredients.

A concert by accordionist Brent Buswell will follow the dinner. Buswell, who is blind, is originally from Ludlow. He graduated from the Berkeley School of Music in 2003 and was named the 2008 Finlandia Foundation Performer of the Year. He enjoys playing a wide variety of music, including jazz, polkas, marches and Scandinavian, Christian and Ameri-

can standards. He has performed throughout the Northeast, in Finnish festivals all over the U.S., and as a guest artist and teacher at the Texas Accordion Association Convention.

Tickets for the dinner and concert can be purchased in advance or at the door. Tickets for the concert only can also be purchased. Reservations can be made by calling Salter at 802-869-2582.

Those who wish to support the school and cannot attend the benefit are invited to send a check made out to Christ's Church, with the memo line Kenyan Preschool, to P.O. Box 649, Saxtons River, VT 05154.



U-12 Baseball tournament

I would like to thank the Stone Hearth Inn and Tavern and also the Springfield Elks Lodge #1560 for their donation to help me play in the Cooperstown, N.Y. "Field of Dreams" U-12 baseball tournament in August, 2016.

Every year hundreds of baseball teams from across the country apply to play in this distinguished tournament and only so many get accepted. The GM Lightning is only the fifth team from Vermont to get accepted and the only team representing Vermont this year.

Our program is a non-profit AAU program that is completely financed through fundraising. If you would like to donate please contact email me at vt2irish@yahoo.com for more information.

Sincerely,
 Dylan M. McCarthy

PHOTO PROVIDED



Special needs children in Kenya will benefit from a dinner and concert March 4 in Saxtons River. PHOTO PROVIDED

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ALSO LOCATIONS IN SPRINGFIELD & RUTLAND, VT

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 the week of Tuesday, February 21.

There will be periodic temporary daytime lane closure in the south-bound high-speed lane (left lane) to allow crews/equipment access to the median. We ask motorists to use extreme caution as the safety of the workers along with themselves is of

the 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/rockingham-vt-bridges-91/> Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Rockingham-Bridges-595422213984445/> Follow us on Twitter: [#91rockbridges](https://twitter.com/roadconstructvt)

SMCS pronounces Children's Dental Health Project a success

REGION - The collaborative efforts of Springfield Medical Care Systems (SMCS), the Rural Oral Health Access (ROHA) committee, and the Fanny Holt Ames and Edna Louise Holt Fund (Holt Fund), are helping children across the region to receive dental screenings and cleanings in their local school settings.

The Children's Dental Health Project came about after many planning hours by SMCS and ROHA members, and with generous financial support from the Holt Fund.

Dental health is important, especially for children. One in four children has tooth decay by age 5. A national survey found that one in seven children aged six to twelve had suffered a toothache in the previous six months. Children with poor oral health were nearly three times more likely to miss school because of dental pain, as reported in a 2011 American Public Health Association study, "Impact of Poor Oral Health on Children's School Attendance and Performance." Children who reported recent toothaches were four times more likely to have a lower grade point average than their peers reporting no dental pain. The consequences of untreated tooth decay include visits to emergency departments and urgent care walk-in centers for dental pain issues as well as lost time from school.

The goals of the Children's Dental Health Project are to prevent tooth

decay, to educate and encourage self-care among children and their parents, and to increase access to oral health treatment. Educational messages such as "Choose Tap Water for a Sparkling Smile," which is the campaign slogan for National Children's Dental Health Month, encourage healthy choices and are shared during each school visit.

This project makes a dental hygienist with portable equipment available to "screen and clean" children's teeth in local school settings and apply sealants and fluoride varnish to school-age children.

School visits are currently taking place in the following area elementary schools: Grafton, Chester-Andover, Flood Brook, Townshend, Springfield and Jamaica. Future plans include adding other area elementary schools and, if resources allow, services will be offered to middle and high school students in the SMCS service area.

These school-based services will be provided with no out-of-pocket cost to families. Transportation assistance from schools to local dental clinics/offices for any needed follow-up treatment is also available.

SMCS is pleased to announce the recent hiring of Barbara Hodgkins, RDH, to lead this important program. Hodgkins has been a dental hygienist in the area for over 35 years. She has worked in private practice and also in school systems through the Vermont Tooth Tutor program. "It is important to



Dental visit with students at the Chester-Andover Elementary School. PHOTO PROVIDED

children's overall health that medical and dental services are closely aligned," said Hodgkins. She added, "This program is a wonderful opportunity to provide area youth with early access to preventive dental care and education that will have a positive life-long impact on their oral and medical health."

"The need for dental services was identified in our community health needs assessment as one of the top three health needs in our service area," commented Timothy Ford, president and chief executive officer of SMCS. He adds, "We are pleased to report The Children's Dental Health Project is now up and run-

ning - and reporting great results. Barbara has already visited hundreds of students in area schools. She has performed cleanings and sealants on more than 50 students to date. She is now a friendly and familiar face in the schools, and the children are excited and happy to have their teeth screened and cleaned."

If you have questions about this program, or your child attends one of the schools listed above and you would like to participate in the program, please contact your local school nurse or call Barbara Hodgkins, RDH, at 802-875-2878, or email: BHodgkins@springfieldmed.org.

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Ludlow American Legion
FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER

Friday, February 24th

Chicken & Biscuits
w/ Veggies
and Pineapple Upside Down Cake

\$12.00
To benefit the
American Legion Auxiliary

Seatings will be from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.
Call 802-228-9807 for reservations.

Enter your beard into a contest to benefit Make-A-Wish Vermont

REGION - Make-A-Wish Vermont and ArtsRiot have teamed up for a

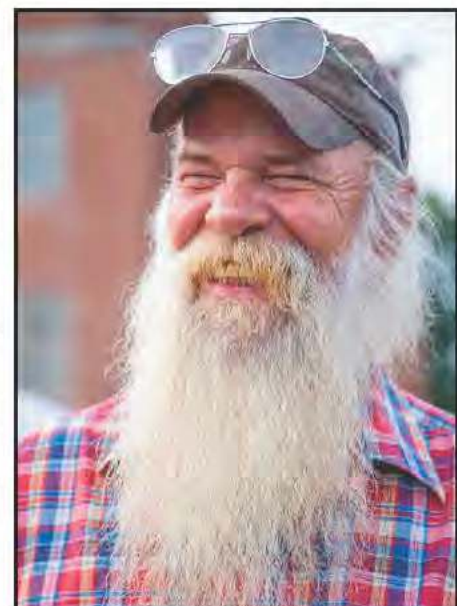
truly Vermont-style fundraiser: the 2017 Vermont Beardies. Vermont beards from any part of the state and in all shapes and sizes are invited to enter.

Those wishing to participate or support a beard should visit www.vermontbeardies.com to enter, share

their reason for participating, and invite friends to support their rise to the top of the Vermont Beardies. Proceeds will support Make-A-Wish Vermont.

March 18, 5 - 7 p.m., is the culmination of Vermont Beardies, and will be filled with contests and judging. However participation in this night's events is not required in order to join the online portion of the contest.

Make-A-Wish Vermont grants wishes to children with life-threatening medical conditions. A wish is often the turning point in child's recovery. Since 1989, Make-A-Wish Vermont has granted over 750 wishes.



Enter your beard into the Vermont Beardies fundraiser and help grant a child's wish. PHOTO PROVIDED

Free community meal

LUDLOW, Vt. - On Saturday, March 5 at 5:00 p.m. the United Church of Ludlow will host a free meal for all members of the community. It's a great time to sit down, relax and enjoy a delicious, home-cooked meal.

The event is an outreach program of Black River Good Neighbor Services

entitled "Our Community Cares," established for individuals and families to receive a nutritious meal within a warm, welcoming community setting.

The United Church is located at 46 Main Street in Ludlow. We hope to see you there!

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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

The Gypum Brothers Circus

Many older area residents will remember my father, Arnold Patch. More still will remember his brother Stanley.

The Gypum Brothers Circus began in Springfield in 1928. Brothers Arnold and Stanley Patch of 38 Crescent Street were the promoters. In 1928 Arnold was 10 years old and Stanley was eight.

My father told me many stories about the circus. One story I remember was a tame black bear that walked around on its hind legs. The bear did basic tricks for treats.

My father played the trumpet and guitar as well as vocals. He provided much of the musical entertainment for the Gypum Brothers Circus. I remember my father telling me that even though it was the height of the Depression they made over \$100 each in later years.

The first couple of years the circus was mainly animal exhibits with juggling acts and magic tricks. Eventually more events were added, making for an all-day-and-night event.

At the Springfield Art & Historical Society are original copies of "The Springfield Reporter." Below are a few entries from those papers.

August 5, 1932: "Arnold Patch Manager, Stanley Patch Treasurer. Raymond and Robert Hitchcock as lion tamers, camel drivers. Among the attractions are an eight piece orchestra, side shows and eats. The main show consists of ten or more acts with fireworks at night. Moving pictures will be shown at an additional cost of three cents over the general admission of five cents."

July 28, 1933: "Gypum Bros Circus robbed! Gypum Brothers Circus absolutely the greatest show on earth as far as Springfield is concerned defied the Depression and the elements to register the greatest triumph in its five years of showing. Although a sorrowful note crept into the voice of Stanley Patch when he revealed that some rascal had pinched between five and seven dollars at the gate. Patch stated, 'we know who it is and we'll get our money back.'"

July 27, 1934: "Over 800 persons attend the Gypum Bros Circus at Patch Flats. 'The Greatest Show on Earth' according to Springfield residents. Among the performers: Arnold and Stanley Patch, Junior and Roger Hunting, Sylvia and Jane



August 29, 1903 circus in Chester.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Wellwood and a dozen more.

Howard and Harold Magwire served as 'cops' during both performances, performing a task made extremely essential by the rush of spectators and the enormous size of the audience. Some of the feature vaudeville acts were: Tap dancing by that expert Lester Beaudry, songs by Evelyn Beaudry, three acts by the clowns of the show Raymond and Steve Zaleski, Dominick Gosselin on the flying trapeze. The Gypum Brothers Band led by Arnold Patch followed by fireworks."

July 25, 1935: "Gate Crashers Disciplined. Only one incident occurred to mar the show and that when a group of young boys tried to slip in under the tent, they were given the bums rush and retaliated by tossing a green apple which hit a fair bystander. Manager Patch refused a demand for police protection on the grounds saying that he and his gang of razorbacks could do their own policing, which they proceeded to do in a prompt and effective manner and to the discomfort of several would be gate crashers who are said to be nursing discolored eyes today." Patch also allowed to call the cops would raise the town tax rate, and besides he did not know what Officer Parker might be searching for someone's dog which had temporarily disappeared."

"Well stocked Menageries Anymles

from all parts of the world were on display at the zoo. A flying squirrel from the jungles near the railroad yards; one large and seven small rabbits; a mud turtle, taken at great risk of life from the Black River; a white rat and several stray dogs completed the menagerie."

I can attest from personal experience that it wasn't a good idea to make Arnold mad.

Marshall Dutton told me a funny story about the circus. Marshall had a large dog that was a Collie/Saint Bernard mix. They shaved the dog from the rear end up to the neck, leaving what looked like a mane of a lion. The tail was also shaved leaving a ball tip.

I don't have a photo of the Gypum Brothers Circus so I include one of the Aug. 29, 1903, Circus in Chester.

The next meeting of the Chester Historical Society is Thursday, Feb. 23 at 7pm, upstairs at Chester Town Hall. All are invited.

This week's old saying was a bumper sticker I saw in the 1980s. "Nuke the Gay whales for Jesus."

One regiment's story in the Civil War

MOUNT HOLLY, Vt. - From guarding Confederate prisoners incarcerated at Camp Douglas, Illinois, to the woods of coastal North Carolina and finally to the gates of Richmond, the Ninth Vermont Regiment earned a reputation of being well-disciplined and steadfast under fire. Although lacking the renown of other Vermont units, it represented the state well throughout its history.

Civil War historian Donald Wickman offers listeners tales of the ninth Vermont, highlighted by the stories of some of the 1,878 Vermonters who com-

prised it, as it became one of the most traveled regiments in the Federal army.

This free event is on Saturday, March 11 at 2 p.m. and is held at the Mount Holly Town Library located at 26 Maple Hill Road, Belmont. The library is accessible to those with disabilities. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

Contact Joan McCallum at 802-259-2318 or the Library at 802-259-3707



The ninth Vermont regiment became known as steadfast under fire.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Archeology open house

KEENE, N.H. - The Historical Society of Cheshire County invites anyone interested in archeology to stop by at the Historical Society on Wednesdays in April between 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. to talk with the arche-

ology team researching the Wyman Tavern. Since 2013, Martha Pinello has led a team of professional archeologists and community volunteers in researching, excavating and analyzing artifacts found near the Wyman

Tavern built in 1762. Activities will be hands-on and suitable for adults and children. For more information, contact 603-352-1895 or email dired@hscsnh.org. The Historical Society is 246 Main St, Keene, NH 03431

Presentation on Rudyard Kipling

WALPOLE, N.H. - Rudyard Kipling was the most internationally celebrated author of his day. The first four years of his marriage and fatherhood were spent in New England where he built his dream house - Naulakha in Dummerston, Vermont - now preserved as a Landmark Trust property. It was there that he penned "The Jungle Book" and other classics. These were productive and happy years for the young literary giant, but eventually, they were deeply troubled.

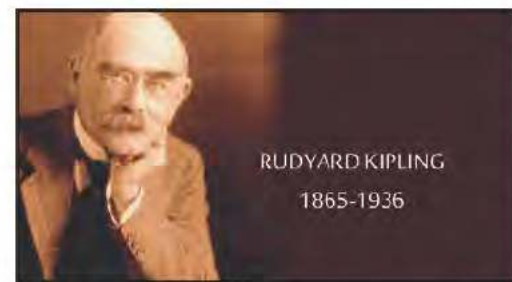
Although Kipling was an intensely private individual, Jackson Gillman's sensitive portrayal provides an inside look at the writer's

experience in New England and some of the controversy surrounding this complex man. Part lecture, part living history, part storytelling,

Jackson's presentation includes a selection of the classic "Just So Stories."

With a storytelling career that began in 1978, Jackson Gillman has gone on to be a featured storyteller at the National Storytelling Festival. Since 2000, Jackson has portrayed "Rudyard-Residence" at Kipling's historic Vermont home for a week each year.

This speaker series program is presented by the Walpole Historical Society and is free. The public is invited to attend at the Walpole Town Hall on Friday, March 3 at 7:00 p.m.



Although Kipling was an intensely private individual, Jackson Gillman's sensitive portrayal provides an inside look at the writer's experience in New England.

PHOTO PROVIDED

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All about 403(b) plans

REGION - A 403(b) plan is an employer-sponsored retirement plan for certain employees of public schools, tax-exempt - 501(c)(3) - organizations, and churches. The employer can purchase annuity contracts for eligible employees, or establish custodial accounts to be invested in mutual funds or other investments. In the case of annuity contracts, a 403(b) plan is sometimes referred to as a tax-sheltered annuity (TSA) plan. (Church plans are subject to several special rules not

covered here.)

How does a 403(b) plan work?

Depending on the type of 403(b) plan, contributions may be made by the employee, the employer, or both the employee and employer. Many 403(b) plans are similar to 401(k) plans: you elect either to receive cash payments (wages) from your employer immediately, or to defer receipt of all or part of that income to your 403(b) account. The amount you defer (called an "elective deferral") can be either

pretax or, if your plan permits, after-tax Roth contributions.

Employer contributions, if made, may be a fixed percentage of your compensation, or may match a specified percentage of your contribution. One unique characteristic of 403(b) plans is that your employer is allowed to make contributions to your account for up to five years after you terminate employment.

Who can participate?

In general, if any employee is eligi-

ble to make elective deferrals, then all employees must be allowed to do so. This is called the "universal availability rule." However, your employer can exclude certain groups of employees from participation (for example, employees who normally work less than 20 hours per week, or who are eligible under another deferral plan - for example, a 401(k) plan - of the employer). Your employer may also require that you attain age 21 and/or complete up to two years of service before you're eligible for employer contributions.

Some 403(b) plans provide for automatic enrollment once you've satisfied the plan's eligibility requirements. If you've been automatically enrolled in your 403(b) plan, make sure that your assigned contribution rate and investments are appropriate for your circumstances.

What are the contribution limits?

You can defer up to \$18,000 of your pay to a 403(b) plan in 2017. If your plan allows Roth contributions, you can split your contribution between pretax and Roth contributions any way you wish. Employee elective deferrals to 403(b) plans aren't subject to discrimination testing.

If your plan permits, you may also be able to make "catch-up" contributions to your account. You can contribute up to an additional \$6,000 in 2017 if you'll be age 50 or older by the end of the year. If you have 15 years of service with your employer (even if you haven't attained age 50), a special Section 403(b) rule may also allow you to make annual catch-up contributions of \$3,000, up to \$15,000 lifetime. If you're eligible for both rules, then any catch-up contributions you make count first against your 15-year \$15,000 lifetime limit.

If you also contribute to a 401(k), 403(b), SIMPLE, or SARSEP plan maintained by the same or a different employer, then your total elective deferrals to all of these plans - both pretax and Roth - can't exceed \$18,000 in 2017, plus catch-up contributions. It's up to you to make sure you don't exceed the limit. Total contributions to your 403(b) account - both yours and your employer's - can't exceed \$54,000 in 2017 (or 100% of your compensation, if less). Age 50 catch-up contributions are not included in this limit, but special Section 403(b) catch-up

contributions are. (Aggregation rules may apply if you also participate in a qualified retirement plan.)

Can I also contribute to an IRA?

Yes. Your participation in a 403(b) plan has no impact on your ability to contribute to an IRA. However, depending on your income level, your ability to make deductible contributions to a traditional IRA may be limited if you contribute to a 403(b) plan. (Your income level and tax filing status may also impact your ability to contribute to a Roth IRA.)

Income tax considerations

When you make pretax 403(b) contributions, you don't pay current income taxes on those dollars but your contributions and investment earnings are fully taxable when you receive a distribution from the plan.

In contrast, your after-tax Roth 403(b) contributions are subject to income taxes up front, but are tax free when distributed to you from the plan. And, if your distribution is qualified, then any earnings are also tax free.

In general, a distribution from your Roth 403(b) account is qualified only if it's made after the end of a five-year waiting period, and the payment is made after you turn 59½, become disabled, or die.

If your distribution is nonqualified, then you're deemed to receive a pro-rata portion of your tax-free Roth contributions and your taxable earnings.

Your employer's contributions are always made on a pretax basis, even if they match your Roth contributions. That is, your employer's contributions, and any investment earnings on those contributions, are always taxable to you when you receive a distribution from the plan.

If you receive a payment from your 403(b) account before you turn 59½ (50 or 55 in certain cases), the taxable portion may also be subject to a 10 percent early distribution penalty, unless an exception applies.

When can I access my money?

In general, you can't withdraw your elective deferrals from your 403(b) until you reach age 59½, become disabled, or terminate employment (deferrals to annuity contracts prior to 1989 aren't subject to these restrictions). Some plans allow you to make a withdrawal if you have an immediate and heavy financial need ("hardship"),

but this should be a last resort - not only is a hardship distribution a taxable event, but you may be suspended from plan participation for six months or more. If your plan allows after-tax (non-Roth) contributions, your plan can let you withdraw these dollars at any time.

Employer contributions to 403(b) custodial accounts are subject to similar withdrawal restrictions. But employer contributions and pre-1989 deferrals to 403(b) annuity contracts are subject to somewhat more lenient distribution rules. Check with your plan administrator for your plan's specific rules.

If your plan permits loans, you may be able to borrow up to one-half of your vested 403(b) account balance (to a maximum of \$50,000) if you need the money.

What happens when I terminate employment?

Generally, you forfeit all employer contributions that haven't vested. "Vesting" means that you own the contributions. Your plan may require up to six years of service before you're fully vested in employer contributions. (Your own contributions are always 100 percent vested.) You can generally leave your money in your 403(b) account, transfer it to a new 403(b) account, roll your dollars over to an IRA or to another employer's retirement plan, or take a distribution.²

What else do I need to know?

- You must begin taking distributions ("required minimum distributions," or RMDs) from your 403(b) account after you reach age 70½ (or after you terminate employment, if later). (The RMD rules don't apply to contributions made prior to 1987.)

- If your employer offers 403(b)s from various vendors, you may be able to transfer your assets from one contract to another while you're still employed. This can be helpful if you're dissatisfied with a particular vendor's investment offerings.

- Your 403(b) account is fully protected from creditors under federal law in the event of your bankruptcy. If your plan is covered by ERISA, then your account is generally protected from all of your creditors' claims.

This article was written by Mark Huntley of Huntley Financial Services.

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Two \$1000 Sammy Pierce Memorial scholarships

REGION - Sammy Pierce was a real estate professional of the highest caliber. Well known in the area, not only for his real estate expertise, but equally known for his willingness to help others when he saw a need. It is that quality that we hope to find in students today of any age who are going on to higher learning.

Sammy died in a tragic motorcycle accident. As in all accidents, there is never an expectation; no warning and no good-byes. Every year the Crown Point Board of Realtors, together with Sammy's family, chooses scholarship recipients who best exemplify that same giving spirit that Sammy displayed: helping when there was a need and without thought to recognition or reward.

Students from the towns of Andover, Baltimore, Cavendish, Chester,

Clarendon, Grafton, Ludlow, Mount Holly, Plymouth, Reading, Rockingham, Shrewsbury, Springfield, Wallingford, Weathersfield, Weston, and West Windsor who are continuing education in a 2 or 4-year college program are invited to apply. Public and private school students, home schooled, college, adult learners, and previous recipients may apply. While the course of study is not restricted in any way, the applicants must have a strong history of volunteer community service.

Applications and information for the Sammy Pierce Memorial Scholarships are available at your local High School, or by contacting Helen Wachtel 802-275-3902. The deadline to submit applications for this scholarship is Wednesday, May 10, 2017. Selection shall be announced in June.

Governor's Institutes

REGION - All Vermont teenagers in grades 9-11 who love to learn can be nominated for the fun and prestigious summer programs offered by the Governor's Institutes of Vermont! Applications are now open at www.giv.org/applynow.

Governor's Institutes offer enthusiastic young Vermonters the opportunity to dive in-depth into a topic they love, meet other students, and experience a supportive collegiate environment. Each immersive program takes learning beyond the classroom and into the outside world, giving students the resources to dive deep into what excites them and try out potential careers in that field. Institute topics span the performing, media, production and visual arts, science, information technology, writing, mathematics, engineering, entrepreneurship, current events, and more.

A brand new Institute in Architecture, Design, and Building will be part of the 2017 offerings. Poised at

the intersection of art and science, the new Institute will be taught by Norwich University faculty and professionals as students spend a week in residence on the Norwich campus. It will offer intrepid young visionaries the chance to design, plan, and build their own sustainable buildings.

"We are always investing in powerful new ways to connect Vermont's youth with exciting pathways to fulfill their dreams," says Executive Director Karen Taylor Mitchell. "Every passionate learner is likely to find something they're interested in pursuing this summer at GIV."

The Governor's Institutes model ensures that finances and geography won't be an obstacle for any interested Vermont resident.

Students apply by filling out an application at www.giv.org/apply and requesting their school to nominate them. GIV Talent Scouts at every school, listed at www.giv.org/school-contacts, can provide more information.

Please Join Us!

Chester Family Dental Open House Monday, March 6th, 5 - 6:30 pm

Join us at our Chester Family Dental Open House and help us celebrate National Dentists' Day!

Meet the dental staff from our Chester and Ludlow offices, enjoy food and conversation, and sign up for prize drawings:

- Free screening & cleaning dental visit (value \$300+)
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Michael Foster, DDS
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Madhav Shrirao, DMD
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sports



THIS AND THAT

BY BILL MURPHY

The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

Once upon a time, Springfield's Riverside Gymnasium was one of the centers of the Vermont Basket-

ball universe. It was spanking new, state tournament games were played there and everyone sang its praise.

Now over fifty years later, few people consider the once spiffy building special.

I have spent many enjoyable days in the confines of Riverside. Recently, I made peace with myself, that all its' glory days had likely gone by. Each time I attend a game it hurts a little to see the size of the crowds. Some are bigger than others, but with the bleachers pulled out on only one side, I had settled there would not be another grand basketball experience between the walls.



Alex Naccarato wiping away some tears, as the moving ceremony was bringing tears from people on both sides. Alex took everything in and later that evening responded graciously through a Facebook posting he has allowed us to share with you.

"It started as simple as a benefit game hosted by the Booster Club. I accepted the offer, but never did I know that it would turn in to what it did. So many people have reached out to me: some even being from the pacific coast. So many people have helped me thus far, and it hasn't ended yet. Tonight, I experienced something special. I was in a gymnasium filled with people who wanted to deliver their support. Man, was it delivered ... I hope you know that it takes a lot for me to tear up, but tonight, I couldn't hold back. The kind words and actions from everybody tonight were overwhelming and my emotions took over. Every single person in the gym made me feel important and ensured me that my life is filled with great purpose and meaning. Because I absolutely hate public speaking, I've chosen a Facebook status as a way to extend my gratitude to everybody, whether you were at the game or not. I'm so, so lucky to be surrounded by amazing people. Thank you all for making tonight so special and for making sure that a negative health condition doesn't control my life."

PHOTO BY DENISE E. PHOTOGRAPHY



The Springfield Cosmos receiving last minute instructions before taking the floor in the meeting with Bellows Falls. The Cosmos had bowed to the Terriers 87-54 earlier in the season, but due to likely both, the emotion of the evening and an improved Springfield team, especially on defense, the score was much closer last Friday night, 49-34.

It is difficult when a team is having a down and possibly winless season, to measure progress, but, the two scores versus Bellows Falls are likely to do just that, show a great amount of progress. The Terriers went on from the Springfield game and showed they are likely competing at their highest level now, upsetting Woodstock and pushing a strong Twin Valley squad to overtime, before bowing in Whitingham, a further indication of improvement on the Cosmos part.

PHOTO BY DENISE E. PHOTOGRAPHY

there.

One might guess that it might take a Springfield-Bellows Falls match-up to create such hype and we are sure such a get together had a little to do with it, but this night went way beyond the emotion of any contest ever played between these two rivals. A night that "started as simple as a benefit game hosted by the Booster Club," according to a Springfield senior player by the name of Alex Naccarato, turned into a night that had Springfield people wearing and saluting the color purple (actually lavender to be exact) and left almost everyone with an emotional outbreak they never saw coming.

Naccarato is at the heart of this story. He was enjoying his senior season of being a Cosmo basketball player, when he was interrupted through no fault of his own.

"I just kept getting really tired," Naccarato told us Monday evening, adding, "eventually I came home one night and told my mother I couldn't do it anymore. I wanted to quit basketball," a sport that he loved. This proclamation led to a trip to the doctor's office.

While Naccarato felt tired, Springfield Cosmo Coach Mike Ruppel noted, "I had coached Alex for three years and he was always a kid who gave 100 percent. Both the staff and I noticed, he had become a step slower and had lost weight. Something wasn't quite right."

Mono was everyone's first guess, but unfortunately as bad as that can be in ones life interruption, it wasn't that simple. Tests and more tests and periods of wait, ended in a diagnosis of Hodgkins Lymphoma. A chest x-ray helped lead to the discovery of an enlarged lymph node in his upper right chest and a biopsy led to the diagnosis.

For those not familiar with Hodgkins Disease, Naccarato was told, "If you have cancer, it is a good kind to have." I know other sufferers who have been told the same thing, including yours truly, who fought the



Richard Swenson, a two time Hodgkins Lymphoma cancer survivor, served as the main speaker, at the fund raising event for Alex Naccarato last Friday night. Swenson sent a clear athletic lifelong message to Alex and anyone else who may be fighting through adversity. Swenson noted the words of former North Carolina State Coach Jim Valvano in saying, "Don't give up. Don't ever give up."

Later while focusing in on anyone fighting against cancer, Swenson again drew from the words of Valvano who said while he was personally battling the disease, "cancer can take away my physical abilities. It cannot touch my mind, it cannot touch my heart, it cannot touch my soul."

PHOTO BY DENISE E. PHOTOGRAPHY

disease in 1994. Beating the disease takes its toll, but the survival rate is high.

All of Naccarato's gears are lined up in the direction of overcoming this disease. The large crowd, which turned out for the basketball game, saw some incredible uplifting events.

It was a surprise to most, when the Bellows Falls team came out for warm-ups all wearing number 10 warm-up jerseys to salute Alex. Naccarato expected some money would be raised on this evening to help with medical expenses and to help his family overcome a loss of funds, as they fight through this adversity. However what happened was not in his wildest expectations.

"People said we would get a big crowd, but I didn't expect that big a crowd. My great uncle (Andy Bladyka) took me to a basketball game when I first moved here and there was a big crowd and a college type atmosphere. This is the closest to that it has been since I came to high school. I didn't expect the stands to fill up like that. It was really amazing," Naccarato said reflecting back three days later.

Bladyka, who is the Springfield High School Softball coach and



Both teams are lined up for the National Anthem before the Bellows Falls-Springfield Basketball Game at Dressel Gym in Springfield last Friday night. The game was a highlight of an evening set aside to celebrate fund raising efforts for Alex Naccarato's battle with Hodgkin's Disease.

In an effort to highlight everyone's solidarity in their support of Alex, both teams wore warm-up shirts with Alex's number 10 highlighted on the back. People who attended the event boasted of the incredible high emotion shown throughout the building on the evening.

PHOTO BY DENISE E. PHOTOGRAPHY



This is a photo of Alex thanking Bellows Falls Junior Varsity Coach Nate Haskell for the kind donation the Bellows Falls community made to help his family offset the cost of his battle with Hodgkins Lymphoma. Bellows Falls had become the center of this effort, thanks to the work of the Springfield Booster Club headed by Rachel and Denise Hunter, who set up the benefit game and have encouraged other fund raising efforts.

Green Mountain staged four basketball games in Alex's honor last weekend and donated all the receipts to the Alex, including what we are told an incredible all day barbecue put on by the Chester Fire Department. When Springfield visited Leland + Gray, the game day receipts were donated and Windsor is doing the same in a game with Springfield this week. The surrounding Springfield Area community has come through with flying colors.

Ongoing efforts are continuing to add to the totals raised. Anyone who wishes to make a donation may send their offering to: Rachel Hunter, President, Springfield Boosters Club, PO Box 666, Springfield, Vt. 05156. The Booster Club is also presently supporting the efforts of a raffle for the same cause, which can be accessed online by googling: Eventbrite: Alex Naccarato - Raffle Hoops For A Cause, which has a March 10 deadline and includes two major prizes.

First prize is 4 tickets to the Celtics versus Miami Sunday, March 26 and includes overnight accommodations. The second prize is a Snowboard Package which includes a board, a jacket and pants.

PHOTO BY DENISE E. PHOTOGRAPHY

the town's recreation director, told me that Alex is "a very intelligent, very likeable, young man and an outstanding student, who treats freshmen and seniors like they are equals."

Hours after Bladyka uttered those words a parent of a Cosmo freshman player said to me "Alex is the ultimate role model. He treats my freshman son like he was his best friend and it has helped with his confidence all over."

During my sit down with Naccarato, it was obvious this young man has special qualities galore.

Even Alex had wondered at times, if he would be able to attend his own night last Friday. He had a chemotherapy appointment that day and energy can certainly be a challenge

after that. If his own drive allowed him to arrive that evening, the gathering pushed him the rest of the way through.

"I know treatments were not going to be easy," he told me, "but they have been a lot better than I expected."

I asked him if he ever asked himself, why me and now?

"Yes, I have thought of that. I think I do things right, so you wonder, but I am one who believes that there is a reason for everything, so maybe I will some day find out," he answered.

His future is on hold, but at the same time it isn't.

"I am definitely going to college, but I am not sure where," Naccarato stated.

He has been accepted at the University of Vermont and would be more than happy to be in their Wildlife and Fisheries program, but he really wants wait to see what all the options are.

His assistant principal Jade Costello says, "he's an example of what teachers, coaches and school leaders hope for when we send young people off into our world."

Alex has spent his high school years building his skills and putting himself in a position to have choices about his future. He does and doesn't have full control now. His life has been interrupted and at some time things should return to normal.

In the meantime, the community is doing their part in nudging him over the top with his battle. Of all that community effort, Costello says, "there couldn't be a more deserving kid." There are a whole lot of people who agree.



Springfield assistant principal Jade Costello addresses the crowd during the fund raising event for Alex Naccarato. She thanked Bellows Falls for their big donation saying, "Over the past few weeks, Bellows Falls has come together to put the town rivalry aside in support of Alex and his battle with Hodgkins. At this time I would like to ask the Bellows Falls Boys Basketball team to come forward and present a check on behalf of the community."

Costello wittingly went on to say, "I have to say to the Terriers, to enjoy this night because it is the only night you will see Dressel Gym covered in Purple."

PHOTO BY DENISE E. PHOTOGRAPHY

Wrestlers win more than medals

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Springfield wrestlers bring home the wins - medals as well as personal. The team brought home two JV State Champions, Mason Olney and Jayson Webster, from the competition in Barre last weekend. Brandon Bennett brought home second place; bronze medals were earned by Matt Prosser and Tim Bapp-Cederholm. In fifth place were Trent Lewis-Briere and Skyler Congdon; Mo Stettner claimed sixth place, and everyone cheered on teammates Gillian Guy and Skylar Wallace through some very tough matches.

There were lots of close calls, nail-biting moments, and excellent moves executed by all Springfield grapplers; the coaches are very pleased with the accomplishments and progress made by each wrestler this season. The team's sights are now set on Varsity States in Vergennes on Friday and Saturday, February 24 and 25.

Running a K-12 team is not an inexpensive prospect; team co-manager Kelly Stettner calculates it costs roughly \$10,000 a year, without paying coaches or any staff. The team raises money through fundraising events such as hosting tournaments

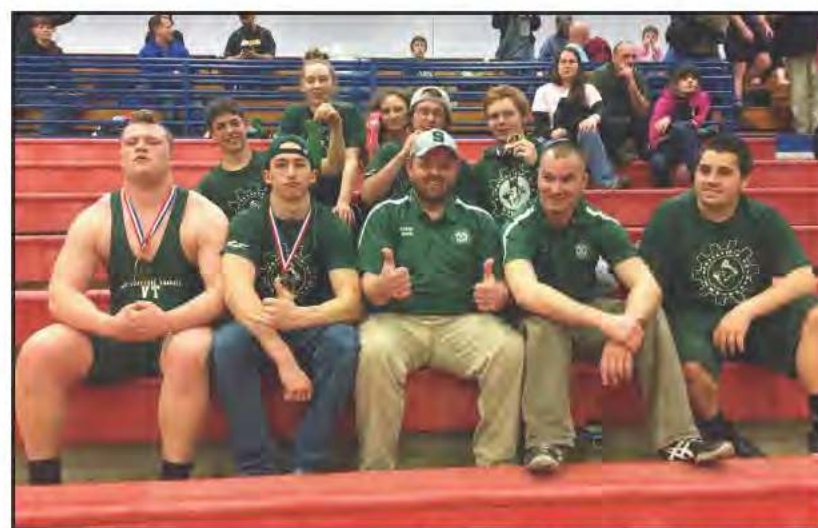
and the annual Color Gauntlet 5K Fun Run. Stettner invites everyone to come out in support of these young grapplers and the sport they love by stopping in to watch some local wrestling on March 4.

Riverside Middle School will be host to two back-to-back tournaments that day: the K-8 Schweitzer Memorial Tournament, which kicks off at 9 a.m. and in the afternoon, the Precision Valley Classic Girls State Championship is launched for female wrestlers in grades K-12. The PVC will also offer an open folk style division for adult women who wish

to compete for the title of "Champion."

Donations to the team can be made out to Springfield VT Wrestling and mailed to Springfield Parks & Rec, 139 Main St, Springfield Vt. 05156.

The Springfield Redemption Center, near Riverside Middle School, will also take donations of cans and bottles for the team. For any questions about the team, donations, or home tournaments, please contact team co-manager Kelly Stettner at k.stettner101@gmail.com or leave a message at 802-738-0456.



Front row, l-r: Jayson Webster, Mason Olney, Coach Floyd Buck Jr., Coach Don Beebe, Skylar Wallace; Second row, Trent Lewis-Briere, Tim Bapp-Cederholm, Matt Prosser; Gillian Guy, Mo Stettner. Missing from photo: Brandon Bennett and Skyler Congdon.

PHOTO BY HEIDI OLNEY

arts & entertainment

10 Vermont artisans exhibit together

CHESTER, Vt. - A Cure for Cabin Fever is the exhibition featuring 10 Vermont artists and craftsmen display their work at the 103 Artisans Marketplace this month. With a wide array of styles, pricing, and mediums, there is something for everyone to enjoy.

Vermont Barn Studies by artist Marcia Dockum, art quilts by Susan Damone Balch, sawdust kiln fired pottery by Kathy Stone, Cow art by Woody Jackson, reclaimed wood cutting boards and stools by Mark Yuengling, metal art by Payne Junker Studio, metal clay and sterling sil-

ver jewelry by Laurie Marechaux, hand crafted rockers and chairs from Vt. grown hardwoods by Bud Nadeau, Batik handwoven fabric bowls by Elizabeth E. Ezold, locally grown Lavender & Beeswax tea candles by Maryanne Kearns, Ewes in Vermont original art on t-shirts, cards and mugs by Brenda Lacroix, distinctive tapped Maple and curly Maple rockers and table by Brent Karner of ClearLake Furniture.

Each artisan lives in Vermont and has been inspired in some way by the beauty and materials surrounding them.

The show runs through March 19. Hours are Thursday - Monday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. For more information call 802-875-7400, like the marketplace on Facebook, or visit their website www.103artisansmarketplace.com.

See more photos from the artists online at www.VermontJournal.com



Vermont Barn study series painted by Marcia Dockum.

PHOTO PROVIDED

"Share a Tree Story" art contest

REGION - Arbor Day this year is held on Friday, May 5. It is a day to plant, nurture and appreciate trees and the difference they make in our lives. To help Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program spread the word about Arbor Day, they are inviting students to actively participate in the celebration by creating tree art.

This year, the Growing Works of Art contest theme is "Share a Tree Story." Celebrate the connections we share with trees by helping students create a work of art that showcases fond memories enjoyed because of the trees in our lives. The contest is for students in grades 1 - 8. Students will write a 1-3 paragraphs capturing their fond memory of their chosen tree, and create art illustrating the beauty of their chosen tree.

This art/science activity will en-

rich student knowledge about trees. Eight students, one per grade, will

have their artwork professionally printed and developed into a poster that will be distributed to schools across Vermont.

Winning entries will be featured online, and receive: A Vermont State Parks punch pass, a gift bag full of tree-related items and be featured on WCAX's "Across the Fence" television show!

Only one entry per student, artwork must be original and no larger than 11 x 17 inches, entry is to include the art-

work and written portion. A completed entry form, which can be found on vtcommunityforestry.org, must accompany the submission.

The submission deadline is March 17. The winners will be announced April 3.



Share your connection to trees with a piece of art.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Attend one of the performances of Elf Jr. the Musical

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Springfield High School and Riverside Middle School are teaming up to produce the spring musical Elf Jr. It will be performed at the Springfield High School auditorium on Friday, March 3 at 7 p.m., Saturday, March 4 at 7 p.m., and Sunday, March 5 at 2 p.m.

The story follows Buddy, a young orphan, mistakenly crawls into Santa's bag of gifts and is transported to the North Pole. The would-be elf is raised, unaware that he is actually a human, until his enormous size and poor toy-making abilities cause him to face the truth. With Santa's permission, Buddy embarks on a journey to New York City to find his birth father and discover his true identity. Faced with the harsh reality that his father is on the naughty list and that his half-brother doesn't even believe in Santa, Buddy is determined to win over his new family and help New York remember



Some of the student cast members of Elf Jr. the Musical.

PHOTO PROVIDED

the true meaning of Christmas.

Admission is by donation. Any questions please call 802-885-7900 x3305 or email Rebecca Skrypeck

at rskrypeck@ssdvt.org. Check out their Facebook - SHS Theater Dept. to keep updated with future performances.

OLLI presents "Rethinking the Role of Psychiatric Drugs"

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Dr. Sandra Steingard, will present "Slow Psychiatry: Rethinking the Role of Psychiatric Drugs," the next OLLI-Osher Lifelong Learning Institute program on Tuesday Feb. 28. It will be presented at 2 p.m. at the Nolin Murray Center next to St. Mary's Catholic Church on Pleasant St. The program lasts about an hour and a half.

Steingard, the Chief Medical Officer at the Howard Center in Burlington, will examine alternative ways of treating schizophrenia and bipolar disorder rather than using drugs to target these specific conditions. She'll discuss need-adapted approaches, a treatment option that allows time for the complex discussions required to understand and help people

experiencing the problems that are labeled as psychiatric illness.

The OLLI series programs are selected with input from the local members and carry varied themes from semester to semester including history, art, music, literature, health, nature, science and current events.

Membership, which includes 9 programs, is available for the semester. The programs are open to the public. Non-members are encouraged and welcome to attend individual lectures for a single program fee. All fees may be paid at the program.

The following OLLI program will be on Wednesday, March 22. This is a change from the previously published date. Jim Douglas, former Vermont Governor will present a program around his book, "The Vermont Way: A Republican Governor

Leads America's Most Liberal State." He will discuss his experiences of working across the political aisle and how our nation is currently confronting a decline in civil discourse due to a rise in political polarization.

Another important change in the schedule is that the music program on March 28 is a change in speaker and topic. Tim Brookes will present "How the Guitar Conquered America."

The complete Springfield and statewide program list is available on the Internet at www.learn.uvm.edu/olli. Choose Statewide programs from the menu, and then scroll to Springfield.

Weather related changes can be found on the OLLI website and by viewing SAPA TV available through Comcast and VTel.

"Powerful Muses," seven artists

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The Springfield Town Library is pleased to present "Powerful Muses: The Group of Seven Artists"

with award-winning local artist Robert Carsten on Saturday, Feb. 25 at 2 p.m.

Seven Canadian artists, along with Tom Thomson, weathered a storm of rejection by art critics and forged a new vision of art. Rather than painting the gentle surrounding countryside, they responded to the powerful muses of wilderness and rugged beauty, painting the Northlands of Ontario in all seasons. Nearly 100 years after their first group exhibition, today their heroic accomplishments are an integral part of Canada's identity in the visual arts and environmentalism.

Join Robert Carsten for this fascinating presentation on our neighbors to the north. Carsten, a master pastelist in the Pastel Society of America, studied at the Rhode Island School of Design and the Accademia di Belle Arti in Italy. He is a much sought-after art workshop instructor whose gentle teaching style and gen-

uine love for art are contagious.

This event is free, accessible to people with disabilities, and open to the public. Please call the Springfield Town Library at 802-885-3108 for more information.



Robert Carsten to present on "Powerful Muses: The Group of Seven Artists." PHOTO PROVIDED

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Big Woods Voices

WESTON, Vt. - The a cappella quartet Big Woods Voices will perform in Weston at 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 5, in Weston's Old Parish Church as the latest installment of OPC's "Hearts and Voices" performance series.

Big Woods Voices is the union of four veteran area singers to celebrate their common passion for a cappella harmony. The voices are (from soprano to bass): Amanda Witman, co-leader of the Brattleboro Pub Sing with Tony Barrand; Becky Graber, leader of the Brattleboro Women's Chorus, music director at The Putney School and the New England Youth Theater, and a life-long teach-

er; Will Danforth, an award-winning, multi-instrumental solo acoustic artist; and Alan Blood, long-time member of countless area groups such as the Blanche Moyses Chorale, I Cantori, Blue Moon, House Blend, and others.

Big Woods Voices is also the fulfillment of a creative transition for Will Danforth from his life as a roots-oriented performing songwriter to that of composer-arranger-style stealer who has married two loves: his love of American roots music and his love of the vast harmonic palette absorbed while singing with the a cappella world music chorus, The River Singers. The results are lyrical set-

tings of poetry by David Whyte, Mary Oliver, W. B. Yeats, and others; richly-harmonized standards of the American roots lexicon; and completely original compositions. Add to that pieces by musicians such as Pete Sutherland; The Finest Kind; and Lambert, Hendricks, and Ross, and you have the ear-thrilling experience called Big Woods Voices.

The Hearts & Voices Performance Series was established in 2009 in memory of G. Frederick (Fritz) Zeller, a longtime educator, community leader and a pillar of Old Parish Church. Revenues from the performances are donated to benefit deserving area non-profit organizations. In 2017, donations will benefit Just Neighbors, a volunteer organization that provides a variety of services to mountain town families in crisis.

Old Parish Church is located on Route 100, on the left as you enter Weston from the south. Anyone with questions can check www.oldparishchurch.org or call Bob Brandt at 802-824-5486. For more information about Just Neighbors, go to www.justneighborsvt.org.



Big Woods Voices will appear in Weston on March 5.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Talented songstress to give a musical tribute to Hollywood musicals

LUDLOW, Vt. - Through special arrangements with the Weston Playhouse staff, FOLA (Friends of Ludlow Auditorium) will feature the talented songstress, Marissa McGowan, in a musical tribute to Hollywood musicals on Saturday, Feb. 25 at 7 p.m. at

the Ludlow Town Hall Auditorium.

Marissa McGowan is NYC based actress and singer, she will offer "Broadway at the Movies", a musical tour of over 80 years of Hollywood's greatest songs. She is a familiar actress at the Weston Playhouse where

she recently starred in "Man of La Mancha" and "Guys and Dolls."

The program is open to everyone and is free; donations are appreciated. For information, call (802) 228-7239 or visit www.fola.us.

"Black America Since MLK: and Still I Rise" film

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. - The Rockingham Free Public Library, in partnership with VT PBS, will present the film "Black America Since MLK: And Still I Rise" on Thursday, March 2 at 7 p.m., followed by a discussion. Also participating in this program will be Parks Place Community Resource Center and Greater Falls Connections.

Through the eyes of Henry Louis Gates, Jr, this film looks at the last five decades of African American history since the major civil rights victories. Drawing on eyewitness accounts, scholarly analysis and rare archival footage, the film illuminates our recent past and paints a complex portrait of black America since 1965, while raising urgent questions about

the future of the African American community - and our nation as a whole.

The film is approximately 30 minutes long and will be followed by a discussion facilitated by Dotie Morris, Associate Vice President for Institutional Diversity & Equity at Keene State College and Chuck

Pizer, VT PBS's Community Engagement Coordinator.

This program is free and open to the public. For more information, call the Library at 802-463-4270, email programming@rockinghamlibrary.org, go to rockinghamlibrary.org or stop by the Library at 65 Westminster St. in Bellows Falls, Vt.

Books, brains & beer at an Irish themed trivia night

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. - Pre-register by March 1 to reserve a table at the Rockingham Library for the third annual Books, Brains & Beer Pub trivia night with a St. Patrick's Day theme being held on March 11 from 4 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

The Friends of the Library thank Donovan's for providing a cash bar, serving soft drinks, beer and wine. Complimentary

sweet and savory treats will be provided and John Bohannon will be the Master of Ceremonies. In celebration of the Irish theme, there will be a raffle of a basket of Irish goodies.

A trivia night is an evening of fun, friends and trivia questions. Each team table, up to 6 people, competes with other team tables to come up with the most correct answers to trivia questions covering

such topics as sports, art, history, music, food, current events and local lore. It is the team table that answers the questions, not the individual. Come and enjoy the fun.

Pre-registration is required before March 1. To pre-register or for cost, call the library at 802-463-4270, email programming@rockinghamlibrary.org, or visit rockinghamlibrary.org. Proceeds will benefit the Friends of the Library.

Calling all local artists to enter work into next VAULT show

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - You are invited to show your work at the Gallery at the VAULT in their Open Wall show. This is a chance to display your work in a non-juried show. There is no fee. It is a great way for artists who would like to get their work out there for the first time as well as for seasoned artists. The next show's theme is "A Pigment of Your Imagination." You can bring in 2 works if they are 18" x 20" or smaller, or 1 if it is larger. Sculpture, pottery, etc. are appreciated just as much as wall art.

The work needs to be suitable for viewing by all ages. The time to bring your creations in is Thursday, Feb. 23 from 5 - 6:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 24 or Saturday, Feb. 25 from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., if you cannot come during the week. The show will be on display from March 1 through April 27. The 2017 schedule of four shows is available at the front desk or by

email.

For more information please call or come into Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main Street, Springfield. We are open 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Contact: 802-885-7111, email: gallervault@vermontel.net or visit their web page: www.gallervault.org



Open Wall show allows local artists to exhibit their work free of charge.

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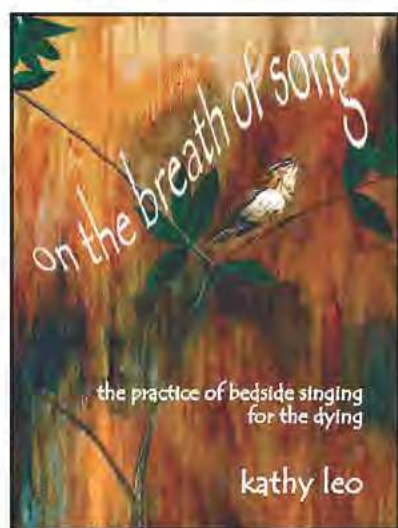
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An evening of readings from "On the Breath of Song"

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Please join Hollowell on Friday March 3 at the Village Square Booksellers from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. for an evening of shared readings from Kathy Leo's new book, "On the Breath of Song, The Practice of Bedside Singing for the Dying." The evening will consist of readings, stories, songs and conversation with Hollowell. Along with stories from the book, Hollowell will sing songs used at bedside sings and offer guidance for community conversation and discussion about end of life care, grief, loss and joy.

"On the Breath of Song" is a book that offers guidance and insight into the practice of singing for the dying and their families through the telling of true stories and over a decade of experience in song and spirit with the hospice choir Hollowell. Please

call 802-463-9404 for book and event reservations.



"On the Breath of Song." PHOTO PROVIDED

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outdoor news

Two owls and a hawk will be available for viewing

WESTON, Vt. - The Wilder Memorial Library will be having the popular program Two Owls and a Hawk return to the Weston Playhouse on Saturday, March 11 at 10 a.m. The live owls and a hawk are from VINS (Vermont Institute of Natural Science).

This program includes live birds and audible sounds of local owls and their calls. This first-hand encounter enables participants to understand the defining characteristics and adaptations for life as a predator on the wing. Touchable artifacts and hands-on materials round out this special experience.

The event is free and great for families!



Live birds will be at the presentation.

PHOTO PROVIDED

"Birds, Butterflies, Backyards and Beyond" in Chester

CHESTER, Vt. - Bryan Pfeiffer, biologist, field naturalist and writer, will present "Birds, Butterflies, Backyards and Beyond," a fresh view of the wild on Wednesday, March 1, at 7 p.m. at Newsbank Conference Center, 352 Main Street, Chester. The lecture is sponsored by the Nature Museum in Grafton, Vt.

With vivid images from nature and tales from the frontiers of wildlife

science, Pfeiffer will offer practical advice for creating wildlife habitat in our own backyards and developing a wildlife ethic on a warming planet.

The American back yard is a crucible of culture and nature. The back yard is a destination and a retreat for humans and wildlife. There's so much more to enjoy in your back yard beyond relaxing, recreating, barbecuing, entertaining and play-

ing. You'll discover the odd and shocking wildlife that hops, flies or just sits there as the rest of us go about our lives.

A writer and field biologist, Pfeiffer explores the wild places where people and nature converge. His essays have appeared in The New York Times, Aeon Magazine, Orion, Northern Woodlands, Field & Stream and many other places. When he's not chasing nature, Bryan teaches writing to graduate students in the natural sciences at the University of Vermont. Otherwise he has been (or still is) a bread baker, a pot washer, a firefighter, a nature guide, a videographer, a beat reporter and a consulting biologist chasing birds and insects. Find Pfeiffer among friends at the diner in Montpelier or online at www.bryanpfeiffer.com.

This event is recommended for adults and children over 10. Discounted early bird tickets are available online at www.nature-museum.org until two days before the event, when tickets can be purchased online or at the door on the day until sold out. To register or for more information, please go to www.nature-museum.org.



Learn about birds, butterflies, and beyond at this nature talk.

PHOTO PROVIDED

How to make growing roses pleasurable and easy

LONDONDERRY, Vt. - Have you struggled with growing roses? Do you want to care for your roses with greater ease and less effort?

Green Mountain Gardeners (GMG) invites you to join your neighbors and local gardeners for "Easy Care Roses" with Teresa Mosher on Monday, March 6 at 10 a.m. The presentation is open to the public and will take place at the Londonderry Rescue Squad Building, 6068 Route 100, Londonderry. This presentation is for gardeners of all skill levels, from beginners to advanced.

Teresa Mosher is one of the leading garden and rose consultants in New England. Mosher is currently the president of the prestigious New England Rose Society and spends her free time as a Horticulture Rose Judge and Consulting Rosarian for the American Rose Society. She is the author of "A Year in My Rose Garden" and owner of Purple Roses Publishing.

Mosher will provide essential information to anyone interested in growing roses in addition to

sharing spectacular photos from her rose garden. According to Ms. Mosher, her passion for flowers, especially roses, started as a child when her dad would start seedlings and plant them in the family garden every spring. This passion led to her work in the garden and her focus on roses. She truly enjoys sharing her knowledge for gardening with others.

What a wonderful way to step back from winter and imagine the budding of roses to come in the spring. The GMG is pleased to have Teresa Mosher and to be able to offer this opportunity to everyone in our community. If you would like to attend, please R.S.V.P. by February 28 to May Bigelow at mbigelow@myfairpoint.net.

Information about Green Mountain Gardeners, can be found at their website: <http://www.greenmountaingardeners.net/>



Teresa Mosher with her roses.

PHOTO PROVIDED

ECO AmeriCorps seeks service sites for 2017-2018

REGION - The Vermont Environmental Careers and Opportunities (ECO) AmeriCorps program is seeking partners interested in hosting a talented AmeriCorps member for the 2017-2018 service year. Towns and organizations with identified environmental project and outreach needs are encouraged to apply. The deadline to apply is March 13. Successful applicants will be matched with an AmeriCorps member by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, which administers the program.

The Program provides an opportunity for local organizations to add capacity for environmental work while training the next generation of environmental leaders. "ECO AmeriCorps has proven to be a tremendous resource in helping the state and our community partners achieve Vermont's environmental goals," commented Agency of Natural Resources Secretary Julie Moore. "All of our members provide services and complete projects for the host sites that may otherwise go undone. The members truly are getting things done for the state of Vermont."

More than 30 organizations have benefitted from working with ECO AmeriCorps since the program began in 2015, ranging from local watershed groups to the Vermont-based offices of federal agencies like the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. In the program's first year alone, ECO AmeriCorps provided 32,700 hours of service to host sites and organized 700 community volunteers, who logged 5,840 hours of community-based work. Members serving during this current

2016-2017 service year are on pace to match or exceed these first-year accomplishments.

Applications are currently being accepted from municipalities, state and national governmental agencies, and nonprofit organizations interested in acting as a service site. Applicants should identify projects where help is needed to protect and restore Vermont's water quality or to reduce the amount of waste entering landfills. In past years, ECO members have served as conservation assistants, volunteer coordinators and communications specialists.

Service sites are responsible for providing meaningful projects, supervision and support, a work space, equipment, and supplies. Service sites also provide a cash match of

\$6,500 for each AmeriCorps member they supervise.

The department provides administrative support for selected host sites, including providing living stipends, health insurance, and regular technical and professional development trainings for members.

Members are required to serve a minimum of 1,700 hours during their 11 months of service from August 2017 to September 2018.

ECO AmeriCorps is funded in part through an AmeriCorps state grant provided by SerVermont from the Corporation for National and Community Service.

To apply or find more information, visit the ECO AmeriCorps website at: <http://ecoamericorps.vermont.gov>.



ECO Members pose after a service project removing invasive species at Lake St. Catherine State Park during National Public Lands Day in September 2016. PHOTO PROVIDED

Check the Snow Report at www.VermontJournal.com



Find out how much snow is on the slopes!



ON THE SNOW

ON THE SNOW SNOW REPORT	MONDAY, JAN. 6, 2017		
	Lifts	Snow Depth	Snowfall
Killington Resort	18 / 21	36"	0" (2/20)
Magic Mountain	4 / 4	36"	0" (2/20)
Okemo Mountain Resort	20 / 20	40"	0" (2/20)
Stratton Mountain	12 / 12	40"	0" (2/20)
Sugarbush	16 / 16	58"	0" (2/20)

Click on a mountain to open a more detailed report in a new tab, providing ticket prices, trail details & maps, and more!

get your local news online! WWW.VERMONTJOURNAL.COM

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Unlimited Skating: \$5 • Skate Rentals: \$5

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Hours:

Monday - Friday: 2:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Weekends & Holiday Periods: 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

802-228-1406

okemo.com/activities/ice-house



LEGAL NOTICES

classifieds

business spotlight

Pleasant Valley Brewing
16 Main Street
Saxtons River, Vt.
802-469-4602



www.yelp.com/biz/pleasant-valley-brewing-saxtons-river
www.facebook.com/Pleasant-Valley-Brewing-135836400446/

This small pub in the village of Saxtons River offers a simple menu of pub fare and a good selection of beers. They do not brew here, as the name suggests, but Chelsea the bartender can serve up any number of premium beers, with emphasis on English and American craft ones, as well as mixed drinks.



Patrick LeBlanc, the owner, cooks up a full menu with pub food plus a full special board every night. Monday is Wing Night, Tuesday is Taco Night with ground beef tacos and other premium tacos.

Wednesday is Karaoke Night. Thursday is Open Mic Night with Mike and Jan from The Milkhouse Heaters and John Farnham of The Malcolm Fogg Band. There is no cover charge for these events. Always a good scene!

Pleasant Valley Brewing is open 4-11 p.m., Monday through Saturday.



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E-mail: weehavenchildcare@comcast.net
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www.VermontJournal.com

Click "SUBMIT A CLASSIFIED AD" in the black navigation menu bar at very top of the page

TOWN OF CHESTER ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

Interesting and busy position involving secretarial support and administrative assistance to the Office of Chief of Police. General duties include typing, filing and maintenance of records. This position coordinates department criminal justice correspondence with prosecutors, courts and other agencies. The Administrative Secretary prepares and maintains various police documentation with an extremely high level of confidentiality. This position requires an individual who can work independently with limited supervision and continuously uses their own initiative. They must be able to communicate effectively and courteously with the public at all times. A knowledge of modern office management practices and competent skills are required. Familiarity with the Vermont Incident Based Reporting System and NCIC reporting practices and mandates is a plus.

Please submit resume with letters of interest to Richard Cloud, Chief of Police at 556 Elm Street, Chester, Vermont no later than February 28, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

Cavendish Town Elementary School KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Cavendish Town Elementary School is registering incoming students for the 2017-2018 school year. Children who will be five by August 31, 2017 are eligible. If your child was born between September 1, 2011 and August 31, 2012, please call the school at 226-7758 to register them for school.

GREEN MOUNTAIN UNION HIGH SCHOOL Chester, VT

BUS DRIVERS
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Criminal Background Record Check will be required for all positions.

Qualified candidates may apply through SchoolSpring.com, send resume with references or complete a Two Rivers Supervisory Union Job Application and forward to:

Todd Parah
Green Mountain Union High School
716 VT Route 103 South
Chester, VT 05143

EOE

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art

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business services

SMALL BUSINESS SERVICES
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builders/contractors

L. JEFF GILCRIS, BUILDER
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ish carpentry, custom showers and tile work, hardwood flooring, decks, roofing and siding. Fully insured and registered with the State of Vermont. Lead Paint Certified. Located in Proctorsville. 802-226-8125 TFN

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Dr. Denise Natale 58 Parker Avenue, Proctorsville, VT 05153, 802-226-7977 Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10AM-6PM TFN

JAMES RIZZO, DC
11A Hospital Court, Bellows Falls. Accepts most insurance including state plans. Appointments, hours and directions are online at www.jimrizzo.com. 802-732-9137. (04/05/17)

cleaning & clean out

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counseling

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ing and lawn maintenance. Home: 802-975-0033; Mobile: 802-417-1647; email: baztaylor@comcast.net TFN

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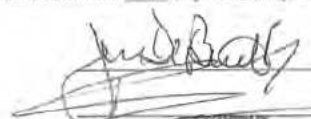

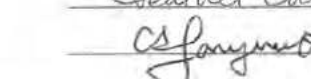
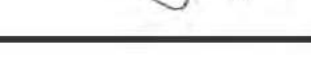

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**TOWN OF CHESTER
WARNING
NOTICE OF TOWN MEETING**

The Legal Voters of the TOWN OF CHESTER are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Chester Town Hall, Second Floor in said Town of Chester on Monday, March 6, 2017, at 6:00 pm., to act on the following Articles. Voting on Article 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be by Australian ballot on March 7, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Chester Town Hall Second Floor.

- ARTICLE 1:** To elect Town Officials for the ensuing year as provided by the Public Laws of Vermont and citizens to serve on the Budget Committee (Australian Ballot).
- ARTICLE 2:** Shall general obligation bonds of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Two Hundred Thirty Five Thousand Dollars (\$235,000.00), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of purchasing the following capital items: \$135,000.00 to repair the large culvert on Popple Dungen Road; \$100,000.00 to make improvements to Route 35. (Australian Ballot)
- ARTICLE 3:** Shall general obligation bonds of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of purchasing a new Pumper Truck for the Fire Department. (Australian Ballot)
- ARTICLE 4:** Shall general obligation bonds of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed One Hundred Eighty Five Thousand Dollars (\$185,000.00), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of purchasing the following capital items: \$25,000.00 to replace the pumps at the town pool for the recreation department; \$110,000.00 to purchase a tractor with a roadside mower and leaf blower for the highway department; \$50,000.00 to repair the handicap access ramp at town hall. (Australian Ballot)
- ARTICLE 5:** To see if the Town will vote to eliminate the office of town auditor. The town is audited annually by a certified public accountant. (Australian Ballot)
- ARTICLE 6:** To see if the Town will vote to eliminate the office of Lister, effective January 1, 2018. This position would be replaced by a professionally qualified assessor. (Australian Ballot)
- ARTICLE 7:** To see if the Town will vote to accept gifts and trust funds for perpetual care of cemetery lots in accordance with conditions of said gifts and trusts as follows: Nelson and Sherry Smith, \$1,000.00; Georgeann and Donald Turner, \$500.00; Frederick Sale, \$500.00.
- ARTICLE 8:** To see if the Town will vote to raise \$2,876,502.11 to be paid to the Chester Town Treasurer on September 15, 2017, to pay current expenses and any part of the Town's indebtedness.
- ARTICLE 9:** To see if the Town will vote to expend from the Capital Budget Reserve Fund, \$333,100.00 to be allocated as follows: \$125,000.00 for the purchase of a new dump truck for the highway department; \$49,600.00 for the Loader lease for the highway department; \$20,000.00 for the purchase of a new pickup truck for the highway department; \$55,000.00 for the excavator loan for the highway department; \$18,500.00 for the purchase of airpaks for the fire department; \$45,000.00 for the purchase of a cruiser for the police department; \$20,000.00 for the library repairs; all as indicated on the Capital Budget Program schedule and less any grant funds that may be received
- ARTICLE 10:** To see if the Town will vote to exempt from municipal and education taxes, for a period of five years, 100% of the Fair Market Value of lands and buildings occupied by the Chester Rod & Gun Club, Inc.
- ARTICLE 11:** To see if the Town will vote to exempt from municipal and education taxes, for a period of five years, 100% of the Fair Market Value of lands and buildings occupied by the Green Mountain Softball League.
- ARTICLE 12:** To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$ 8,649.00 to the Springfield Regional Development Corporation.
- ARTICLE 13:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to Pennies for the Playground (501(c)(3) nonprofit) organization for the renewal of the Chester Community Playground at Chester Andover Elementary School in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.
- ARTICLE 14:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$2500 (two thousand five hundred dollars) to support the Chester Fireworks for Labor Day weekend, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2691.
- ARTICLE 15:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THIRTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVEN DOLLARS (\$13,807) to help support the home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by the **Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of VT and NH**. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 16:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND AND FORTY FOUR DOLLARS (\$3,044) to help support outpatient, mental health and substance abuse services by the staff of **Health Care and Rehabilitation Services, Inc.** This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 17:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND FORTY DOLLARS (\$3,040) to **Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA)** to assist Chester in responding to the emergency needs of the community and providing all available and applicable services to families and individuals in need. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 18:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of NINE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$900) to the Women's Freedom Center for general budget support to provide services to women and their children who are experiencing emotional, physical and/or sexual abuse and are residents of the Town. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 19:** Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,200.00) for the support of Senior Solutions (formerly Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont) for help to support seniors and their families who are trying to remain at home and not be placed in a nursing home. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 20:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$2,700 (two thousand seven hundred dollars) to assist with the cost of operating the Meals on Wheels Program of Greater Springfield that provides daily hot and cold congregate and home delivered meals and other nutritional needs to the qualified residents of Chester. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 21:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$2,250 (two thousand two hundred fifty dollars) for the support of the Current operated by Connecticut River Transit, Inc., to provide transit services to the residents of the Town of Chester. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 22:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$800 (eight hundred dollars) to support Windsor County Partners, for youth mentoring services provided to children in Windsor County. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 23:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$400 (four hundred dollars) to Green Mountain RSVP & Volunteer Center of Windsor County to develop opportunities for people age 55 and older to positively impact the quality of life in the community of Chester through volunteer service. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 24:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,800.00) toward the support of the Community Cares Network of Chester and Andover, Inc, a non-profit organization which provides services to senior citizens, helping them to stay in their homes longer safely. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 25:** To see if the Town of Chester will appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000) to assist in the services of the Chester-Andover Family Center for individuals and families in need. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 26:** To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to borrow money in anticipation of taxes to pay current expenses and any part of the Town's indebtedness.
- ARTICLE 27:** To act on the reports of the Town Officers for the year ending December 31, 2016.
- ARTICLE 28:** To transact any other business deemed proper when met, not including the expenditures of Town Funds or other business acted upon in the preceding Articles.

Dated at Chester, Vermont on this 19th day of January, 2017.

 /s/ John DeBenedetti, Chairman
 /s/ Ben Whalen
 /s/ Daniel S. Cole
 /s/ Heather Chase
 /s/ Arne Jonynas

calendar

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

FRIDAY, MARCH 3 – SUNDAY, MARCH 5- LUDLOW, Vt. - The Women's Center for Binge and Emotional Eating is hosting a premier retreat for women who struggle with overeating and weight. Retreat will include strategies for mindful eating, mindful movement, self-care, and stress management.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4- KEENE, N.H. - History enthusiasts are invited to participate in a special Citizen Archivist initiative workshop hosted by Keene State College from 10:15 a.m. to 5 p.m. Located in the Mason Library. Workshop attendees become acquainted with Revolutionary War leader Meshech Weare and, using his papers, will learn to transcribe 18th century script. The workshop will also introduce 17th and 19th

century script. The workshop is free. Space is limited. To register for this free workshop contact Margaret Orelup at morelup@keene.edu.

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.

MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS - WALPOLE, N.H. - Pam Bernard announces the beginning 8-week sessions of writing and reading memoir workshops at her home in Walpole, NH. Please email pam@pambarnard.com, or visit www.pambarnard.com or call for more information. 603.756.4177. Monday, Feb. 27, 12 - 3 p.m. Wednesdays through 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

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@myrecenter.org

LONDONDERRY, Vt. - 2 hour art classes. BYO refreshments & appetizers. 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Art & Paint Parties: Clay Whistles, 3/7- Paint Your Favorite Animal, 3/21- Graphite drawing, 4/4 - Still Life Painting, 4/18- Feng Shui painting. Contact Jane Mackugler for her Art Adventures classes 802-824-5974 / jmackugler@gmail.com. Art Adventures with Jane Mackugler: 3/14- Needle felting, 4/11- Alcohol Inks. Contact Kim Ray for her Art & Paint Parties at 802-824-6555 / Kim@kimraymurals.com. Classes will take place at the Mountain Painters & Artisans Gallery at the Mountain Marketplace, 5700 Route 100.

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

SPECIAL EDUCATION PARAPROFESSIONAL Ludlow Elementary School

Ludlow Elementary School is currently seeking a highly qualified individual to serve as a Special Education Paraprofessional. This is a full time position, 7 hours/day during the school year.

The ideal candidate will be caring, patient and flexible; team spirited and very organized. You must be passionate about students, and learning.

Experience working with Special Needs Students a plus. Must have an Associates Degree or Highly Qualified Paraprofessional Status.

Interested candidates should apply through SchoolSpring.com or send a letter of interest, with a resume and 3 letters of references to:

Karen Trimboli
Principal
Ludlow Elementary School
45 Main Street
Ludlow, VT 05149
802-875-5151

E.O.E

TOWN OF LUDLOW NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing before the Development Review Board for the Town of Ludlow, Vermont, will be held on March 13, 2017 at 6:00 P.M., in the Ludlow Town Hall conference room, for a Local Flood Hazard Review located Special Flood Hazard Area in the Industrial District.

APPLICANT: Imerys Talc Vermont, Inc
73 East Hill Road
Ludlow, Vermont 05149
PROPERTY LOCATION: 73 East Hill Road
Ludlow, Vermont 05149
Parcel No. 070219.000

REASON FOR HEARING: Application for a Local Flood Hazard Review to perform a maintenance clean out of an Army Corp of Engineer permitted sedimentation pond. Sediment is to be used in reclamation of a former mine site on appellant's acreage. The project is located in Special Flood Hazard Area of the Industrial District. be any new lots created.

APPLICATION NUMBER: 453-17-FHR

The above application is available for inspection at the Ludlow Municipal Offices. Persons wishing to participate may do so in person, be represented by an agent or an attorney, or by writing the Board. Written communications about the application should be filed with the Board either prior to, or during, the hearing.

Rosemary Goings, Board Clerk

TOWN OF LUDLOW NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing before the Development Review Board for the Town & Village of Ludlow, Vermont, will be held on March 13, 2017 at 6:00 P.M., in the Ludlow Town Hall conference room, to consider a Subdivision, located in the Lakes District.

APPLICANT: John Neal
Mary Ann Neal
58 Lakeshore Drive
Ludlow, Vermont 05149
PROPERTY OWNER: Estate of Ann P. Neal
33 Lakeshore Drive
Ludlow, Vermont 05149
PROPERTY LOCATION: 33 Lakeshore Drive
Ludlow, Vermont 05149
Parcel No. 210158.000

REASON FOR HEARING: Application to consider a three (3) lot subdivision. The project is located in the Lakes District. be any new lots created.

APPLICATION NUMBER: SUB17-005

The above application is available for inspection at the Ludlow Municipal Offices. Persons wishing to participate may do so in person, be represented by an agent or an attorney, or by writing the Board. Written communications about the application should be filed with the Board either prior to, or during, the hearing.

Rosemary Goings, Board Clerk

TOWN OF LUDLOW NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing before the Development Review Board for the Town of Ludlow, Vermont, will be held on March 13, 2017 at 6:00 P.M., in the Ludlow Town Hall conference room, for a Local Act 250 Review located in the Industrial District.

APPLICANT: Imerys Talc Vermont, Inc
73 East Hill Road
Ludlow, Vermont 05149
PROPERTY LOCATION: 73 East Hill Road
Ludlow, Vermont 05149
Parcel No. 070219.000

REASON FOR HEARING: Application for a Local Act 250 Review to perform a maintenance clean out of an Army Corp of Engineer permitted sedimentation pond. Sediment is to be used in reclamation of a former mine site on appellant's acreage. The project is located in the Industrial District. be any new lots created.

APPLICATION NUMBER: 452-17-ACT250

The above application is available for inspection at the Ludlow Municipal Offices. Persons wishing to participate may do so in person, be represented by an agent or an attorney, or by writing the Board. Written communications about the application should be filed with the Board either prior to, or during, the hearing.

Rosemary Goings
Board Clerk

TOWN OF LUDLOW NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing before the Development Review Board for the Town of Ludlow, Vermont, will be held on March 13, 2017 at 6:00 P.M., in the Ludlow Town Hall conference room, for a Conditional Use Permit located in the Industrial District.

APPLICANT: Imerys Talc Vermont, Inc
73 East Hill Road
Ludlow, Vermont 05149
PROPERTY LOCATION: 73 East Hill Road
Ludlow, Vermont 05149
Parcel No. 070219.000

REASON FOR HEARING: Application for a Conditional Use to perform a maintenance clean out of an Army Corp of Engineer permitted sedimentation pond. Sediment is to be used in reclamation of a former mine site on appellant's acreage. The project is located in the Industrial District. be any new lots created.

APPLICATION NUMBER: 451-17-CU

The above application is available for inspection at the Ludlow Municipal Offices. Persons wishing to participate may do so in person, be represented by an agent or an attorney, or by writing the Board. Written communications about the application should be filed with the Board either prior to, or during, the hearing.

Rosemary Goings
Board Clerk

LEGAL NOTICES

calendar

CLASSES CONT.

WEDNESDAYS CONT.

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Wednesdays through March 15 is the Celtic Knotwork Course...

CAVENDISH, Vt. - Tai Chi beginners' class from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. at DG Bodyworks...

CHESTER, Vt. - Liza Eaton, founder of Buddhaful Yoga, will be offering A Gentle Flow Kundalini Yoga class...

Fullerton Inn, on the Chester Green. For more information visit www.buddhafulyoga.com...

THURSDAYS - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - EdgarMay Open Play Group 10 - 11:30 a.m. at Studio Momentum...

LONDONDERRY, Vt. - Active Parenting is a great workshop for parents of kids of any age, especially tweens and teens...

WINDSOR, Vt. - Play Group 9:30 - 11 a.m. Come and enjoy an open gym, ball games and sometimes even a bounce house!

FRIDAYS - CHESTER, Vt. - Liza Eaton, founder of Buddhaful Yoga, will be offering Kundalini Yoga Dance every Friday 9:30 - 11 a.m. Held at the Fullerton Inn...

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.

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

SUNDAYS - WALLINGFORD, Vt. - Restore movement to all areas of your body at the Wallingford Elementary School from 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. Beginners and experienced welcome.

mountains

CLUBS

SUNDAYS - WOODSTOCK, Vt. - The Upper Valley Curling Club will play each Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m., through March

19 at the Union Arena in Woodstock. The club invites anyone with an interest in the sport of curling to join them.

the Woodstock Union High School on Route 4 just 1 1/2 miles west of the Woodstock village. For more information on league play, drop-in games, or clinics please e-mail uppervalleycurling@gmail.com or visit www.uppervalleycurling.org.

NOTICE

TOWN OF NORTH WALPOLE

Residents of the North Walpole Village District are hereby notified of a hearing on the year 2017 Budget to be held at 7:00 pm, Thursday, March 02, 2017 at the Village Commissioners' Office at 70 Church Street in North Walpole, NH.

NW Village Commissioners

TOWN OF CAVENDISH

WARNING OF PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING

February 28th, 2017

The legal voters of the Town of Cavendish, in the County of Windsor, are hereby notified and warned that an informational meeting will be held at the Cavendish Town Office, 37 High Street, Cavendish, Vermont at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, February 28th, 2017.

This meeting will afford voters the opportunity to get additional information on Article 2 of the Annual Town Meeting Warning. Article 2 reads as follows:

Shall the legal voters of the Town of Cavendish approve the issuance of a municipal bond in the amount not to exceed \$790,000 for the purpose of complete replacement of the Town Wastewater Treatment Plant Aeration system.

Article 2 is included on the Warning for the Town of Cavendish 2017 Annual Town Meeting which will be voted on by Australian Ballot on March 7th, 2017 between the hours of 10:00 am and 7:00 pm at the Cavendish Town Elementary School.

Dated at Cavendish, Vermont this 3rd day of February, 2017.

Robert W. Glidden, Chairman

George Timko

Michael J. Ripley

Jillian M. Flinn

Received for record, February 3rd, 2017th at 3:45 PM.

Attest: Diane M. McNamara Town Clerk

NOTICE TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM ANNUAL TOWN REPORT

The 2015-2016 Annual Town Report will be available in the following locations: Bellows Falls Senior Center; Lisa's Market; Lisa's Corner Deli; Chamber of Commerce; People's United Bank; Bellows Falls Fire Station; Bellows Falls Police Station; Health Center at Bellows Falls; Rockingham Free Public Library; Rockingham Shell Station; Saxtons River Village Market; Superintendent's Office; Town Offices. If you would like a Town Report mailed to you, please send \$3.00 with your address to Town of Rockingham, Municipal Manager's Office, P.O. Box 370, Bellows Falls, VT 05101

TOWN OF LUDLOW NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing before the Development Review Board for the Town of Ludlow, Vermont, will be held on March 13, 2017 at 6:00 P.M., in the Ludlow Town Hall conference room, for Local Flood Hazard Review in the Special Flood Hazard area of the Town Residential Commercial District.

APPLICANT: 24 Fox Lane, LLC 5 Northfield Road Wallingford, Connecticut 06492 PROPERTY LOCATION: 24 Fox Lane Ludlow, Vermont 05149 Parcel No. 030322.000

REASON FOR HEARING: Application for a Local Flood Hazard Review to raze the current structure and construct a new building with added parking. The new building would contain two (2) commercial units on the first floor and four (4) residential units on the second floor. The project is located in the Special Flood Hazard Area of the Town Residential Commercial District. be any new lots created.

APPLICATION NUMBER: 450-17-FHR

The above application is available for inspection at the Ludlow Municipal Offices. Persons wishing to participate may do so in person, be represented by an agent or an attorney, or by writing the Board. Written communications about the application should be filed with the Board either prior to, or during, the hearing.

Rosemary Goings, Board Clerk

TOWN OF LUDLOW NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing before the Development Review Board for the Town of Ludlow, Vermont, will be held on March 13, 2017 at 6:00 P.M., in the Ludlow Town Hall conference room, to consider a Conditional Use in the Town Residential Commercial District.

APPLICANT: 24 Fox Lane, LLC 5 Northfield Road Wallingford, Connecticut 06492 PROPERTY LOCATION: 24 Fox Lane Ludlow, Vermont 05149 Parcel No. 030322.000

REASON FOR HEARING: Application to consider a Conditional Use to raze the current structure and construct a new building with added parking. The new building would contain two (2) commercial units on the first floor and four (4) residential units on the second floor. The project is located in the Town Residential Commercial District. be any new lots created.

APPLICATION NUMBER: 449-17-CU

The above application is available for inspection at the Ludlow Municipal Offices. Persons wishing to participate may do so in person, be represented by an agent or an attorney, or by writing the Board. Written communications about the application should be filed with the Board either prior to, or during, the hearing.

Rosemary Goings Board Clerk

TAKE A BREAK!

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

Sudoku grid with numbers and empty cells for solving.

Please a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row, column, and 3x3 sub-grid contains all the numbers 1 through 9.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK

Moderate Challenging

FOUR STAR

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Eden evacuee 4 Temporary gifts 9 School org. 12 Lucy of "Elementary" 13 Liver or lung 14 Parcel of land 15 Hearth 17 Past 18 Hot tub 19 Porter 21 Occur 24 Great Lake 25 Web address 26 Banned pesticide " - alive!" 28 Bound 31 Surprised cries 35 Citrus fruit 36 Fancy neckwear 38 Special - 40 Nashville-based awards org. 41 "Zounds!" 43 Rouse 45 Autobiography's cousin 47 Carnival city 48 - carte 49 "Monopoly" purchase 54 Tit for - 55 More than

Crossword grid with numbers indicating starting points for clues.

- enough 9 Football tactic involving a tee 30 Penn or Astin 56 Explanation 32 Comic-strip possum 57 Type measures 34 Glisten 58 Called 37 James Clavell novel 59 Gorilla 11 On 39 Stole 16 Sixth sense, for short 42 Historians 20 Use a rotary phone 44 Partner 21 Hawaiian dance 46 Verve 22 War god 50 Spinning stat 23 Settings for settings? 51 "Eureka!" 27 Nevertheless, for short 52 Police officer 29 Model nee 53 Ram's 45-Down 2 Melissa Miller

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You're correct to want to help someone who seems to need assistance. But be careful that he or she isn't pulling the wool over those gorgeous Sheep's eyes. You need more facts. TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your Bovine optimism soon will dispel the gloom cast by those naysayers and pessimists who still hover close by. Also, that good news you recently received is part of a fuller message to come. GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Feeling jealous over a colleague's success drains the energy you need to meet your own challenges. Wish him or her well, and focus on what you need to do. Results start to show in mid-March. CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You're likely to feel somewhat Crabby these days, so watch what you say, or you could find yourself making lots of apologies. Your mood starts to brighten by the weekend. LEO (July 23 to August 22) Your pride might still be hurting from those unflattering remarks someone made about you. But cheer up, you're about to prove once again why you're the Top Cat in whatever you do. VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A misunderstanding with a co-worker could become a real problem unless it's resolved soon. Allow a third party to come in and assess the situation without pressure or prejudice.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Call a family meeting to discuss the care of a loved one at this difficult time. Be careful not to let yourself be pushed into shouldering the full burden on your own. SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) An upcoming decision could open the way to an exciting venture. However, there are some risks you should know about. Ask more questions before making a commitment. SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Personal matters need your attention during the earlier part of the week. You can start to shift your focus to your workaday world by mid-week. Friday brings news. CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) You've been going at a hectic pace for quite a while. It's time now for some much-needed rest and recreation to recharge those hardworking batteries. AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) This is a good time to upgrade your current skills or consider getting into an entirely different training program so that you can be prepared for new career opportunities. PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Keep a low profile in order to avoid being lured away from the job at hand. Focus on what has to be done, and do it. There'll be time later to enjoy fun with family and friends. BORN THIS WEEK: You can be a dreamer and a realist. You dream of what you would like to do, and then you face the reality of how to do it.

calendar

LEGAL NOTICES

Get more news at: WWW.VERMONTJOURNAL.COM



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 Chester, VT
 Office: 802 875 2819

Owner/Operator
 Palmer cell: 802 291 3417
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COMMUNITY MEALS

TUESDAY, FEB. 28 – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Shrove Pancake supper at the First Congregational Church on Main Street. 5 – 7 p.m.

CHESTER, Vt. – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at St. Luke's Episcopal Church at 313 Main Street begins at 5:30 p.m. Featuring spectacular pancakes, sausage patties and fruit salad. The church

school waiters are the ticket for bringing the families to the tables. The supper is free and all are welcome. However, there will be baskets on each table for a free will offering to benefit Episcopal Relief and Development. 802-875-6000

EVENTS

SATURDAY, FEB. 25 – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Mark your calendars for a delicious dinner out with your friends and family. The Bellows Falls Rotary Club's annual spaghetti dinner is back. Dinner will be served from 5:30 p.m. – 7

p.m. at the Bellows Falls Moose Club 59 Westminster Street. The food is freshly prepared and served by the Rotary club members. Takeout is also available. Tickets will be sold at the door or you may ask a Rotarian. There will also be a signup sheet for delivery of a dinner to the Canal House and Riverview apartments. Any questions call 802-376-9972. Proceeds support Rotary sponsored community projects.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1 – CHESTER, Vt. – Bryan Pfeiffer, biologist, field naturalist and writer will present Birds,

Butterflies, Backyards and Beyond, a fresh view of the wild right outside your backdoor. The program is at 7 p.m. at Newsbank Conference Center, 352 Main Street. Pfeiffer will offer practical advice for creating wildlife habitat in our own backyards and developing a wildlife ethic on a warming planet. For more information call 802-843-2111

SATURDAY, MARCH 4 – WESTON, Vt. – "Steadfast Hope: The Palestinian Quest for Just Peace" is the title of a talk at the Weston Priory, 58 Priory Hill Rd at 4 p.m. Two women, Kate Stevens and Jean Carr, will reflect on their recent experience as part of a delegation that recently went to Palestine in search of greater understanding. Following their talk, everyone is invited to participate in an optional evening prayer with the Brothers of the Weston Priory.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The North Springfield Baptist Church will be holding their annual indoor Cabin Fever sale 69 Main St in North Springfield from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.. A corn chowder luncheon will be from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.. Other features of the sale are a food sale, Rada cutlery, a rummage sale to include clothing and footwear, housewares, holiday items and much more. There will also be an assortment of plants, toys and books. For

more information call the church at 802-886-8107.

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS – LUDLOW, Vt. – Pickup ice hockey is running every Tuesday and Thursday nights from 7 - 9 p.m. at the Ice House at Jackson Gore. It's just pickup, no stress, and no worry about skill level - just have fun. Please join us! Questions? Contact 802-228-1406

WEDNESDAYS – WESTMINSTER, Vt. – Scottish Country Dance class, friendly, informal, and free. Meets during the school year, 7:30-9:00 p.m., Westminster Center School. Contact Jessie Haas: (802)387-2601 or email kjh@sover.net.

EVERY FOURTH SUNDAY – PUTNEY, Vt. – Dinner and A Movie. At each event, at 5:30 p.m., the chefs at the Gleanery will serve a special menu in time for diners to make it to the hosted 7 p.m. film screening around the corner at the newly-renovated Next Stage. For pricing or reservations call 802-387-3052. Limited seating available. 15 Kimball Hill Rd.

WEEKLY – CHESTER, Vt. – 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. This exhibit runs through March 2017. Please call the Library for more information at 802-875-2277, whitinglibrary@yahoo and visit us Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

CHESTER, Vt. – Come to Expo + Artisans + Craftsmen = A cure for cabin fever exhibit at 103 Artisans Marketplace, 7 Pineview Rd & RT 103 South 05143. Visit www.103artisansmarketplace.com or call 802-875-7400. Exhibit ends Sunday, March 19.

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. This exhibit runs through February 28, 2017.

LIBRARIES

SATURDAY, FEB. 25 – ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – Vermont folklorist Jane Beck shares the story of the Turner family: a multi-generational saga spanning two centuries. Her captivating narrative covers the early 19 century British-African trade, shipwreck, birth of a biracial child, slave trading, enslavement, plantation life, escape, Civil War, moving north, battling racism, buying land and settling on a hilltop in

LOOKING FOR HOUSING IN NEW HAMPSHIRE, MAINE OR VERMONT? WE MANAGE THE FOLLOWING U.S.D.A. RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROPERTIES:

PROPERTY	LOCATION	TYPE
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BELLOWS FALLS HOUSING	BELLOWS FALLS, VT	FAMILY
BLACK RIVER OVERLOOK	LUDLOW, VT	FAMILY
BRIDGEVIEW APTS.	PITTSFIELD, NH	FAMILY
BUTTERFIELD ELDERLY	WEST DOVER, VT	ELDERLY
CHURCH HILL APTS.	DURHAM, NH	ELDERLY
COLONIAL COURT I & II	LITTLETON, NH	ELDERLY
CONWAY PINES	CONWAY, NH	FAMILY
CRANBERRY HILL APTS.	TROY, NH	FAMILY
GILFORD VILLAGE KNOLLS I & II	GILFORD, NH	ELDERLY
HIGHLAND APARTMENTS	ASHLAND, NH	ELDERLY
HILLSCOMB APARTMENTS	HILLSBORO, NH	FAMILY
JAFFEY MILL APTS.	JAFFEY, NH	FAMILY
MOUNTAIN VILLAGE	GROVETON, NH	ELDERLY
ORCHARD CIRCLE	FARMINGTON, NH	ELDERLY
PAPER MILL VILLAGE	ALSTEAD, NH	ELDERLY
PEQUAWKET VILLAGE	FRYEBURG, ME	ELDERLY
PROCTORSVILLE GREEN	PROCTORSVILLE, VT	FAMILY
PROMENADE COURT	GORHAM, NH	FAMILY
ROCKBROOK APTS.	PETERBOROUGH, NH	FAMILY
UNION SQUARE	WINDSOR, VT	FAMILY
WALL STREET	SPRINGFIELD, VT	FAMILY
WINCHESTER WOOD	SWANZEY, NH	FAMILY

Elderly – 62 or older, or handicapped or disabled (regardless of age)
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 Applicants must meet USDA Rural Development Income Guidelines.
 In most cases, waiting lists do apply. For more information please contact:

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Health Care & Rehabilitation Services of South Eastern Vermont A Community Mental Health Agency Serving Windham and Windsor Counties

Rewarding Opportunities to make a difference!

Clinical Supervisor/Area Manager - School Services - Looking for a challenging and very rewarding next step in your career? Join our team! The HCRS Children's Program is seeking a dynamic team player to be the Clinical Supervisor/Area Manager for School Services in the Hartford Vermont area. We are looking for candidates with extensive clinical experience working with children and youth with mental health and behavioral issues and likes working collaboratively with school districts. This individual is responsible for the day-to-day contract management, clinical supervision and administrative oversight of HCRS' school-based clinicians and behavioral interventionists in the Hartford/Windsor area. Candidates should have a supervision approach that blends relational, trauma informed, family systems and ABA models. Proven organizational and staff management skills needed. Clinical license with MSW, MA or PhD is required. *Please reference position #5125-5126*

Respite Providers - Hourly positions are currently available in the Brattleboro area. A desire to work one on one independently with children with mental health diagnosis. Experience working with high needs children related coursework or degree a plus: CPR and First Aid, CPI preferred, but will be offered. Must be energetic and have experience working with children from ages 4-15 after school hours and weekend schedule. Clean Driver's license and high school diploma required. *Please reference position #5341 - Brattleboro*

Community Outreach Specialist(s) - Full time 37.50 hours/week and part time positions working in the Windham County area, with focus in Brattleboro, providing support services to adults with Intellectual and Physical Disabilities in different community settings. Duties include but are not limited to community integration and assistance to increase Independent Living Skills. Assist in planning and participating in person centered, community based activities. Must be able to work some shifts until 6 PM. Must have reliable transportation and a valid driver's license. Must be comfortable with assisting individuals who are wheelchair bound or need assistance with personal care tasks. Experience in working with Adults with Intellectual Disabilities is preferred. *Please reference position #1030-Brattleboro*

Residential Specialist(s) – Brattleboro, Bellows Falls and Springfield – Per-diem and Full time positions are currently available. Opportunity to join a dynamic team working in a therapeutic community for individuals with serious mental illness. We are looking for creative, flexible and dependable people to teach independent living skills, socialization and community integration in the area. Applicants with relevant bachelor's degree and/or residential mental health experience preferred.

HCRS is proud to offer one of the best benefits packages in the area. Our benefit package, coupled with competitive salaries, allows us to attract and retain the best staff you may ever work with. The high caliber of our staff creates an environment of excellence; making HCRS a great place to work and helping us make a positive difference in our community.

Please send resume and letter of interest via our WEBSITE at www.hcrs.org, by fax to 802-886-4530, or by mail to:
 HCRS - Attn: Human Resources, 390 River Street, Springfield, VT 05156
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Specials of the Week

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	baru Forester Fully Loaded AWD Auto		2010 Hyundai Sonata 4 Door Sedan 4 Cylinder Auto

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\$30 Offer Expires 02/28/17
Vermont State Inspection
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pets of the week



Hi! My name's Nikita and I'm looking for a home and family that loves life just as much as I do!

I'm a 1-year-old spayed female Siberian Husky. I came to Lucy Mackenzie because my former family fell on hard times and could no longer afford to care for me.

Since I've been here, I've dedicated myself to perfecting the game of fetch. It's a blast! I'm sure it will come as no surprise to you that I love

going on long walks and runs in the snow, too. The people here have been helping me learn basic obedience behaviors, like how to heel, sit, wait, and lots more. I'm doing a great job with it all, if I do say so myself! My ideal home would have a safely fenced-in yard for me to play and run around in. There's a really good chance I could live with a dog-companion in my new home, as long as we got along. I'm sorry to say, I can't live with cats, though. If you've been looking for a fun-loving adorable canine companion, stop in and meet me today!



Hi! My name's Midnight and I'm hoping to find a forever home soon!

I thought I had one because I've been with the same family as long as I can remember. Then, the youngest family member became really sick and they soon realized it was because he was allergic to cats. So, I came here with my buddy, Mist. It's OK, though. We have lots of room to run and play, and I'm making new friends all the time.

Yes, I may be older, but I still have lots of life to live. If you've been looking for a deserving cat that promises to fill your heart with love, stop in and meet me today!

Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society is located at 4832 Route 44, West Windsor, VT. We're open to the public Tuesday through Saturday, 12 - 4 PM. Reach us daily at 802-484-LUCY. Visit us at www.lucymac.org, like us on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter. We hope to see you soon!

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Sat 8-4
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2017 SILVERADO 1500 4WD LT DBL CAB



5 TO CHOOSE FROM

SAVE \$12,000

MSRP \$45,375
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Presidents' Day
Sale Price **\$33,375***

- Spray-on Bedliner • Rear Axle 3.42 Ratio • Trailer Brake Controller
- Driver & Front Passenger Heated Seats • 5.3L V8 Ecotec3
- 6 Speed Automatic • Trailing Equipment Pkg including Auto Locking Rear Differential • Power Seat Adjuster, Driver • Air Conditioning
- Dual Zone Climate Control • Tilt & Telescoping Steering Column
- Remote Vehicle Start • Rear Window Defroster • Power Outlet, 110 Volt AC
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*Trade a 2012 or Newer vehicle and finance full amount with GM Financial

2017 TRAX LS FWD



6 TO CHOOSE FROM

SAVE \$5,905

\$125 A MO.

MSRP \$21,895
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Sale Price **\$15,990***

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- Great on Gas! Great Versatility! Bluetooth • Power locks • Power windows • Auto
- Turbo • Air conditioning • Audio controls on steering wheel • Power mirrors • 7" diagonal color touch-screen • AM/FM stereo with seek-and-scan and digital clock, includes Bluetooth streaming audio for music and select phones; featuring Android Auto and Apple CarPlay capability for compatible phone (STD) • Audio system feature, 6-speaker system

*Must trade a 2012 or newer vehicle and be a current Chevrolet or non GM Lessee

2017 SILVERADO 2500 4WD LT DBL CAB



7 TO CHOOSE FROM

SAVE \$9,205

MSRP \$50,695
\$9,205 OFF
Presidents' Day
Sale Price **\$41,490***

- Bluetooth • Power locks • Power windows • Auto • Air conditioning • Cruise control • Audio controls on steering wheel, Multi-function remote • Trunk/hatch/door/tailgate • 8" Diagonal Color Touch-Screen • AM/FM Stereo with seek-and-scan and digital clock, includes Bluetooth streaming audio for music and select phones • USB ports • auxiliary jack • voice-activated technology for radio and phone and Shop with the ability to browse, select and install apps to your vehicle – Apps include Pandora, iHeartRadio, The Weather Channel and more. (STD)

*Must trade a 2012 or newer vehicle and finance full amount with dealer

2017 TRAVERSE AWD 1LT



SAVE \$7,795

MSRP \$42,785
\$7,795 OFF
Presidents' Day
Sale Price **\$34,990***

- 3.6L V6 • Dual Skyscape Sunroof • 22 MPG Hwy UDIO SYSTEM
- Chevrolet Mylink 6.5" diagonal color touch-screen display
- AM/FM/SiriusXM radio with CD player, includes Bluetooth streaming audio for music and select phones • Hands-Free smartphone integration with Pandora and Stitcher
- voice-activated technology for radio and phone

*Must trade a 2012 or newer vehicle and finance full amount with dealer



Brand-New Show Room

