



Who's got Spring Fever?

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Happy Birthday Bach!
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THE Vermont Journal

MARCH 22, 2017 | WWW.VERMONTJOURNAL.COM VOLUME 17, ISSUE 12

UDB passes in unified vote

BY BRANDY TODT
The Vermont Journal

CHESTER, Vt. - Although the fall festival isn't until Sept. 15 - 17, the Chester Rotary came before the Select Board asking about usage of the Village green. The Common Road would be closed during the weekend from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. The main parking will be at the Newsbank parking lot with overflow in areas nearby. The Rotary also asked if the town could look into a bus service for next year to help pedestrians that have trouble walking from the parking lot and from Depot St. to the green. The Select Board said they would need to look further into what it would detail for a short-term bus service and if the town could collaborate with The Current. The fall festival is growing every year and is becoming a Chester tradition that is far reaching and is helping drive the economy of Chester right before foliage time.

Among the board's action for the night was the voting on the appointment procedure, which has been a drawn-out discussion. The board members voted to have the interviews take place in executive session, with the posted list of general questions to the candidate available to the public. Also the board will allow the public to submit comments to the board, in writing, prior to the interview.

As pre-determined from the previous Select Board meeting on Wednesday, March 1, the Unified Development Bylaws, UDB, was to be voted on by the board on Wednesday March 15.

Legally, the Select Board fulfilled the requirement to have one public hearing, which was recessed twice, however a small group of citizens adamantly stated that they were under the impression there was going to be a second public hearing. The change to only one public hearing



L to R Town manager David Pisha, Chairman Arne Jonyas, Heather Chase, Ben Whalen, Dan Cote, Lee Gustafson.

PHOTO BY BRANDY TODT

caused confusion and a false hope for the citizens to make additional comments.

The board was discussing if they should hold another public hearing or to push for a vote to adopt the UDB as they stand. How many public hearings are needed before the living document is beaten to death?

Chairman Arne Jonyas voiced he was not for another public hearing whereas Heather Chase indicated she would like to have another public hearing. New Select Board member Lee Gustafson stated that when he was running for election many people approached him saying that the UDB was taking too long and needed to move forward. Ben Whalen reminded the public that two weeks ago it was decided that the board was going to make a choice at this meeting whether or not to vote to adopt the bylaws.

The Select Board was only accepting public comment on the board's discussion to adopt the UDB or to hold a second hearing, not public opinion on the bylaws. Marilyn Mahusky, the ever-strong voice of direction, persisted to give her thoughts on the UDB even after Jonyas inquired if her comment related to the board's current discussion. After a

few tense words back and forth between the two of them, she stepped away from the podium.

Even after Mahusky was asked to withhold her comment if it was unrelated to the board's discussion, a few more townspeople approached the podium in an attempt to carry on the torch that she had lit.

Barre Pinske stepped forward and urged the board to make a vote that night. As well as advised the people on both sides of the UDB debate need to graciously accept the board's vote. Randy Miles also requested the Select Board move the vote forward on the UDB.

Gustafson made motion to accept the document as is, Whalen second the motion and the UDB passes in a unified vote!

The UDB discussion has been like a galactic war causing a divide amongst the townspeople. However, do not forget that the UDB is a living, changeable document; the bylaws are not being encased in carbonite. Hopefully, Chester will lay aside their light sabers and learn to work together as neighbors rather than go to war like the Sith against the Jedi.

Cavendish Select Board approves Firefighter Olympics

BY JULIA PURDY
The Vermont Journal

CAVENDISH, Vt. - The Select Board held its annual organizational meeting and regular meeting at the town office, March 13, 2017. The meeting was congenial and the board covered a lot of ground in a timely fashion. Discussion was collaborative.

The annual meeting portion opened the session, during which incumbents, nominees and vacancies for town positions were presented for consideration. The board approved the entire list by voice vote.

As the first order of business, Vermont Journal was approved as "official newspaper of advertisement" for Cavendish.

Select Board meetings are still the second Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Town officers were chosen as follows:

Select Board chairman, Bob Glidden; vice chairman, George Timko; clerk, Mike Ripley; town manager and collector of delinquent taxes, Brendan McNamara, each for a 1-year term; animal control for 1-year term, Jillian Flinn and Seth Perry; tree warden, Tim Calabrese; emergency management coordinator, Michael Ripley; health officer, Doris Eddy for 3-year term; town service officer, Brendan McNamara, 1-year term; regional planning commissioner, Etienne Ting for Roger Sheehan's unexpired term, 4th of 5 year term; reg planning commission alternate, Bruce McEnaney to replace Steve Birge; Solid



The "Firefighter Olympics" will benefit the firehouse. PHOTO COURTESY OF CAVENDISH FIRE DEPARTMENT

also Wayne Gilchrist.

Regarding the town planning commission, it was moved, seconded and voted to reduce the number of commissioners to seven. Bruce McEnaney said the positions are hard to fill and the job can be done with seven to get a quorum.

The minutes for Feb. 13, 24, 28 approved

Denise Gembore of Body Works appeared to get the board's blessing for a proposed "Firefighter Olympics" fundraiser for June 11 on the green, to include both firehouses of Proctorsville and Cavendish and Cavendish Elementary School. There will be various events for kids and a firefighter competition. No axes or fires, but such events as the "dummy drag," she assured the board. She is getting donations lined up and has a binder from her insurance company. Her only reimbursements would be for t-shirts; all other proceeds will go to the fire departments. She does not plan any disturbance of the ground or damage to property. She was referred to the policy on the green that was passed last year. The board unanimously approved the project, subject to guidelines for the use of the green; final arrangements would be worked out as the time approached.

All requests for liquor license
See **FIREFIGHTER** on Page 2A

Black River Spring Concert fills Presidential Hall with music

BY AIYANA FORTIN
The Vermont Journal

LUDLOW, Vt. - The Black River Music Department performed in

their annual Spring Concert on March 16 at 7 p.m. in the Presidential Hall. The concert was originally scheduled for Tuesday, but was postponed to Thursday due to the winter weather.

Principal Shannon Martin introduced Musical Director Katherine Herrie, who led the Middle School Chorus, with guest performers Natasha and Aiyana Fortin, in "Kusimama," a celebratory African piece, and "Thistle and Rose," a celebratory Scottish-English song, with soloist Aiyana Fortin. The Middle and High School Chorus combined to perform "Distant Shore," a partner song with "The Water is Wide." The High School Chorus then performed "There Will Come Soft Rains" and "Rhythm of Life," bringing an end to the Chorus' performance.

The Jazz Band performed next, beginning with "Heathens" by Tyler Joseph, with soloist Madeline Veysey on the tenor saxophone. Mary Faenza, soloist pianist, performed



Black River Middle School Choir performs in the Spring Concert, directed by Music Director Katherine Herrie.

PHOTO PROVIDED

"All of Me," originally by John Legend. Bailey Matteson, trumpeter, performed "Wagon Wheel," written by Bob Dylan and Ketch Secor, in conjunction with "Let it Be," with soloist Mary Faenza on the alto saxophone.

The middle school band then performed their two pieces, "Andromeda Overture" by Mark Williams, with soloist Jonathan Oakes on the clarinet, and "Air for Band" by Frank Erickson, with soloists Jonathan Oakes and Haley Racicot, both on clarinet. The Middle and High School Band performed "Fire Dance," by David Shaffer. The High School Band then performed "Emerald Isle," with soloists Christina LeTourneau on the

See **CONCERT** on Page 2A

SPORTS ON 4B

We have some sports news from our sports writer Bill Murphy on page 4B! He is still recovering from pneumonia, and will hopefully be sending more stories for our March 29 edition. Parents and students are more than welcome to send photos and press releases to Brandy at editor@VermontJournal.com by Friday, March 24 to be published in the March 29 edition as well.

Thank you for your understanding,
The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

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The Little School announces registration and open house

WESTON, Vt. - The Little School would like to announce open enrollment for new students beginning April 3, 2017. The Little School is an NAEYC accredited non-profit early childhood program for young children ages two through five years. Founded in 1976, the educators at The Little School offer preschool programs with an emergent, place-based curriculum that has been carefully structured to promote the emotional, social, cognitive and physical development of each child. Children who are three to five years old before Sep-

tember 1, 2017 are eligible to attend The Little School for 10 hours per week with no tuition cost due to Act 166 Universal Pre-K Legislation.

Families are invited to attend an Open House at The Little School on Saturday, April 1 from 10 - 11 a.m. Our classroom teachers will be available to meet with families and answer questions about our programs.

"Visiting a program and getting a feel for the culture is a very important step in selecting a preschool for your child," states Executive Director of The Little School, Jean Edwards. "One of the benefits of our program is the flexibility of schedules available. We offer full and half day options, as well as early morning and after-school programs, for two, three, four or five day a week schedules. The Little School understands the importance of not just offering enriching preschool programming, but also, helping working families meet their childcare needs."

For families who are interested, but unable to attend the open house, we encourage you to call 802-824-3405 to schedule a visit while school is in session. For more information please contact administration at 802-824-3405 or visit www.littleschoolvt.org.



The Little School registration is open for 2017-18. PHOTO PROVIDED

Prom wear sale at CAFC

CHESTER, Vt. - The Chester Andover Family Center is hosting a community service event for area teens to find their perfect prom outfit. On Thursday, April 6, 2017, the CAFC will open its doors from 3 - 7 p.m. for prom shopping.

We have a large selection of prom wear for girls and guys, including over 100 dresses, suits and tuxedos. All are either new or in "like new" condition. You can also shop for accessories such as shoes, shirts, ties, handbags and jewelry to complete your "look."

All teen shoppers can also enter into a free raffle to win prom

flowers or manicure gift certificates, which have been donated by local businesses; Chester Flowers, Halladay's, Salon 2000, Seventh Heaven Salon, Woodbury Florist and E-Clipz Salon.

At a suggested donation, prom goers can put together a dress or tux outfit with all the accessories. Please join us on for a fun and affordable shopping spree. We will have the music going and dressing rooms set up.

The Chester Andover Family Center is located at 908 Vt. 103 in Chester. Follow them on Facebook or call the Center at 802-875-3236 for more information.



Find your dress or tuxedo at CAFC. PHOTO PROVIDED

One-on-one computer instruction

SOUTH LONDONDERRY, Vt. - Do you have questions about how your computer or tablet works or want to know more about its capabilities? Computer whiz Marc Fontaine will be on hand to help you solve the mysteries on Wednesdays, March 29, April 5, and April 12. These classes will begin at 7:15 p.m. Marc has also agreed to hold a class on Saturday, April 15, at 11 a.m.

Marc will provide one-on-one instruction and will encourage participants to help each other out. Marc wants to know what you want to learn. Please list what specifically that is and bring your lap-

top, digital device, or tablet with you. He will help you with Word, making a spreadsheet with Excel, emails, and saving or forwarding attachments and images.

Do you know that you can download free e-books and free audio books on your Kindle or i-pad through the library? We can help you with doing that also!

Signup is encouraged. Please call the library at 824-3371, or stop by.

Library hours are: Monday, Wednesday and Fridays, 10 a.m.-noon and 1-5 p.m. as well as Wednesday evenings, 7- 9

p.m. On Saturdays we are open 10 a.m.-1 p.m.



Join Marc Fontaine for computer help. PHOTO PROVIDED

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FIREFIGHTER

From Page 1A

renewals passed: Glimmerstone Mansion, Brook Farm Vineyards, Table 19, Cavendish Pointe Hotel and Castle Hotel.

The status of the town garage was reviewed by Town Manager Brendan McNamara.

The garage was damaged by a fire that started with a short in the positive battery cable of a truck that frayed against the truck frame and the burn spread to the battery, which is located under the cabin floor. The

only burned portion of the building occurred was where the asbestos had been removed at some point; the rest suffered smoke and water damage. The decision is whether to rebuild the garage or demolish it and build new. A major issue is the "substantial amount of asbestos," whether to remove it or cover it. The town is gathering information from the insurance company and environmental cleanup specialists, to see what is allowed and the likely settlement. McNamara expects numbers will be available in the next 7-10 days.

ServPro submitted a bid for \$147,000 to gut and clean the building. The insurance company has requested the separation of the demolition and cleaning options, which may result in less expense overall.

McEnaney has added up the value of lost equipment to \$10,000. He said

the town has gotten immediate replacement for the crew trailer and appliances in the break room. The town has \$1 million in asbestos removal coverage in addition to fire and contents coverage, he said. A cost-benefit discussion ensued. Brendan explained that there are numerous related problems with cleanup such as oily and hazardous debris that may mean it's not worth saving the building.

"Is it worth putting good money into an old building?" the board asked. "We would never put the building back the way it is now," McEnaney said - it isn't big enough, the floor drains have been disconnected per order of the state, and a sprinkler system must be installed. The slab would have to be completely reworked with oil separation system.

McNamara: we are able to gather

bids to compare with ServPro's estimate. Waiting on an asbestos removal expert's report; the company says asbestos removal costs \$79/sq.ft. "plus two days of setup for an hour and a half of work."

McNamara will send the members a spreadsheet that itemizes the comparative figures. He anticipates "a variety of thoughts and opinions" on the best course of action once all the facts and figures are available. "It will be a slow process ... the goal is to do it right," he said.

The crew will have input. McNamara plans to consult first with the firefighters for their preferences. The board expressed admiration and gratitude for the "good-natured" attitude of the firefighters, given the huge inconvenience to their operations.

The session is viewable online at lpcvt.org.

CONCERT

From Page 1A

trombone, Sonya Sheehan on the clarinet, Alex Barton on the flute, Mary Faenza on the alto saxophone, and Paige Kelley on the snare drum. The Band concluded the concert with "The Phantom of the Opera Medley," arranged by Johnnie Vinson.

Katherine Herrle, Music Director, works with her student musicians to practice basic musicianship skills in addition to preparing the concert

music. The choir practices sight-reading using solfege and rhythm patterns, which has improved their ability to sight read in preparation of concert music, which leaves more time to enhance ensemble techniques. The bands will begin preparing for the Memorial Day parade soon, and will be marching as soon as it's warm outside.

At Black River, the musical ensembles are very small, and nurture strong musicians. As Herrle remarks, "In a larger ensemble, there may be 15 students playing the same clarinet

part, and it's very easy to fall behind and simply rely on your classmates to play your parts for you. At Black River, almost every student in the band is playing their own individual part, and in the choruses, the sections are usually two to four singers. The students must rely on each other to perform to the best of their ability, and it gives the students a sense of individuality that they might not get in other academic classes. Performing in an ensemble is a very vulnerable activity, and they have to have the confidence to step in front of the audience and perform."

The Pops Concert is scheduled for Tuesday, May 16 at 7 p.m. in Presidential Hall, with the bands performing music from movies and the Choirs performing Disney music.



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Bach Rocks!

Happy 332nd birthday, Johann!

BY KAREN ENGDAHL

The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

REGION - Musicians and music lovers in Vermont and around the world share the spirit of J.S. Bach as they remember his 332nd birthday on March 21.

"I start every day by playing Bach," said Peggy Spencer, noted Vermont violinist, recently. "I pick something at random from the violin partitas and sonatas. Bach gets you organized and lays the foundation for anything else you want to play."

Spencer, concertmaster of the New England Bach Festival Orchestra under the direction of Blanche Honegger Moyses for two decades, charmed audiences with the violin solos in all of Bach's great choral works. She continues to perform Bach's music with chamber groups throughout New England, most recently appearing in a trio performance of his "Musical Offering" in Brattleboro several weeks ago.

Brian Cohen, violist and cham-

ber musician, said, "I can't imagine music without Bach. He is the ultimate musical creator."

Continuing with a grin, Cohen said, "Plus my daughter was born on Bach's 300th birthday. That feels like a pretty special connection to me."

Today, Bach is easily one of the top three most revered composers (along with Beethoven and Mozart), but that wasn't always the case.

In fact, after Bach died his music wasn't considered valuable at all. His estate listed a number of different instruments and a few books. None of his music was included as a valuable asset. And much of it disappeared in the years that followed, as his eldest son sold it off piece by piece. Eighty years after Bach died, com-



Brian Cohen, Vermont violinist. PHOTO BY KAREN ENGDAHL



Peggy Spencer, violinist. PHOTO BY KAREN ENGDAHL

poser and conductor Felix Mendelssohn conducted Bach's "St. Matthew

Passion" and began a Bach revival. In 1890 cellist Pablo Casals dis-

covered a tattered copy of the Cello Suites in a secondhand sheet music store. He spent 13 years practicing these little-known suites before performing them and ultimately recording them.

In the 1940s, conductor Leopold Stokowski introduced Bach to millions of people through his organ transcriptions and by including Bach's Toccata and Fugue in D minor in the Disney film, "Fantasia."

And in 1955, pianist Glenn Gould stunned the world with his recording of a then-obscure piece, "The Goldberg Variations." His interpretations continue to thrill listeners.

Bach's music has taken root in Vermont. Besides the tradition of the New England Bach Festival in Marlboro, there

are many other concerts and events dedicated to Bach's music.

Recently, the Third Annual Bach Organ Marathon was held in Montpelier at Christ Episcopal Church on State Street. Seven organists from around the state played some of the most glorious music ever composed for the organ by the musical genius. The pipe organ in the church, built by Karl Wilhelm in the north German Baroque style, is perfectly suited for this music.

Damian Schloming, a Harvard organist, made recordings in Woodstock, Vt., of a large collection of Bach's work in 2016. You can listen to them on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6pERYyfuDZQ>.

Middlebury College will present its sixth annual Bach Festival, April 28-30. Check the website for details: www.middlebury.edu/academics/music/bachfest.

"You can't get too much Bach," said Peggy Spencer. "Bach's music is one of the things that will get humankind through the hard times."

Brigid Faenza speaks at GFWC women's club meeting

LUDLOW, Vt. - The March meeting of the Okemo Valley GFWC Women's Club was held on Monday, March 13, at the Black River Valley Senior Center.

This month's guest speaker was Brigid Faenza of Big Eyes Bakery in Ludlow. Brigid captivated the club by recounting her years of experience as a policewoman leading to her present career as a baker and business owner. She began her life in law enforcement at age 26 and worked the streets of New York City as a street cop and then as a detective. When she began her career as a policewoman there were six women in her department of more than a hundred men. She was awarded a detective gold shield in 1987. After 20 years with the police department in New York Brigid retired in 2001. Next Brigid studied baking and received a master's degree.

She and her husband Paul, also

retired from law enforcement, began selling baked goods at farmers markets in New York then moved to Vermont with their twin daughters where they began selling at local farmers markets beginning at the Londonderry Farmers Market. Their baked goods were a hit and soon in great demand so eventually they opened Big Eyes Bakery in Ludlow and recently moved to their new location at 126 Main Street in Ludlow. In addition to managing a business and baking, Brigid is very active in the local community where she has been an EMT on the Mt. Holly Rescue squad, a member of the Mt. Holly School Board and a part time employee in several departments at Okemo Mountain Resort. Brigid suggests that succeeding as a woman means "being tough but tender, having patience and compassion and a willingness to work hard".

Following the riveting presenta-

tion by the guest speaker there was a short break for refreshments provided by this month's hostesses Fran Derlinga, Eileen Dunseith and Michele Twombly. The treats had a definite St. Patrick's Day theme and were enjoyed by all.

Next was held a business meeting where club projects, past and future, were discussed. There will be a bake sale on April 29 to benefit the Barbara Jean Barker Scholarship fund with more information to follow.

The next meeting will be held on April 10, at 7 p.m. at the Black River Valley Senior Center. Our guest speaker will be Wendy Neal of Stemwinder Wine Bar. Anyone wishing to attend or wishing more information about the club or its activities should contact President Darlene Remy 802-228-4907 or Membership chairwoman Roxie Davis 802-226-7417.

Members' art show

MT. HOLLY, Vt. - Friday, March 24 will see the opening of the third annual members' art show, presented by the Mount Holly Art Group. This year's show will include new water color works from Mount Holly's own Viola Higgins. Drawings and paintings will be for sale, with part of the proceeds to benefit the Mount Holly Community Association. Refreshments will be served. Please join us from 6 - 8 p.m. at the Mount Holly Community Room located downstairs of the Mt. Holly Library.



Artwork from Viola Higgins will be for sale at the show.

STOCK PHOTO

Sign-up for 3SquaresVT at CAFC

CHESTER, Vt. - Are you or someone you know eligible for 3Square VT? Armone Persing of the Vermont Foodbank will be at Chester-Andover Family Center Food Shelf on Thursday, March 30, 2017, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. to help folks from Chester and Andover sign up for Food Stamps. You do not have to be a Food Shelf recipient to meet with Armone.

3SquaresVT, also known as SNAP, EBT and food stamps, helps low-income individuals and families buy the food they need. Unfortunately, the program is underutilized in Vermont, so the Vermont Foodbank is helping to increase participation in this federal nutrition program.

The recent CAFC Election Day bake sale held at the Chester Town Hall was a great success! The Sale generated nearly \$600.00 which will be used to help support the Center's Food Shelf by providing supplemental nutritious food and financial assistance to individuals and families in Chester and Andover who are struggling financially and the Center's operating expenses. The Center operates with volunteers only. The Center's Board wishes to thank all of the volunteers who prepared the many baked items for the Sale and also the members of the community who supported the Sale with their donations in purchasing Sale items.

Income from the Thrift Shop also supports the Center's Food Shelf, the Financial Assistance Program,

and operating expenses. Purchasing items at the Shop not only provide you with quality clothing, linens, household items, etc., but helps feed the hungry and help keep a family warm this winter.

CAFC is located at 908 VT Route 103 South (P. O. Box 302), Chester, Vt. 05143. Call 802-875-3236, email: cafc302@gmail.com, and website www.chester-andoverfamilycenter.org.

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Vermont carbon tax in limbo while neighboring states pick up the effort

REGION - While hopes of passing a carbon tax in Vermont are dimming by the day, a development in nearby Connecticut could breathe new life into the initiative.

According to a CTNewsJunkie report, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New Hampshire are considering carbon taxes.

"The strategy among the carbon tax supporters is to just put it in front of all the different legislatures," Matt Cota, executive director of the Vermont Fuel Dealers Association, told Watchdog. "We had our turn last year, and maybe now it's Connecticut [that has a chance of passing the tax]. But I fully suspect that this is an issue that

won't go away."

In the case of Connecticut's proposal, H.B. 7247, the tax could be \$15 per ton of carbon dioxide equivalent that would be released by burning such fuel, increasing by \$5 each following year until a special committee decides otherwise. Like the proposals floated in Vermont, supporters claim it will mostly be "revenue neutral," meaning most of the money will find its way back to citizens in one form or another.

Eric Brown, associate counsel for the Connecticut Business and Industry Association, told Watchdog that while his group supports a general conversation about a carbon tax, he

thinks the bill is moving too fast.

"We're not against having a conversation about it, but obviously we'd prefer ... that it happen at the federal level," Brown said.

While a federal carbon tax seems unlikely under the Trump Administration, Brown said that there is language in the bill for a regional effort that neighboring states could join.

Stephen Rosental, president of Leahy's Fuel in Danbury, Conn., said his business is located six miles from the New York state line, and he's concerned a carbon tax for Connecticut would disadvantage his business and send customers across the state line.

"In seven years out we would be at

a 50 cents per gallon of fuel oil disadvantage to New York," he said. "There are plenty of oil companies right near the border, and that's a major problem that will ever be growing. It's basically a death knell to the industry anywhere near that border."

Chris Herb, of the Connecticut Energy Marketers Association, represents about 600 heating oil dealers and about a 1,000 gas stations. He says the policy is a grave threat to the industry.

"I think that it's probably the largest threat to the economy. It will do significant damage to our ability to attract and maintain employers," he said.

He added that a carbon tax would not reduce fuel usage.

"Even when gas prices double, it's almost the same consumption," Herb said. "All this will do is put tremendous pressure on middle and working class. This isn't about incentivizing solar or wind, this is about punishing you for going to work."

Back in Vermont, S.66, authored by state Sen. Virginia Lyons, D-Chittenden, has not seen any action since its first reading in the Senate Natural Resources and Energy Committee on Feb. 3. While backers such as the Vermont Public Interest Research Group and the Vermont Natural Resources Council hyped the bill for 2017, op-

ponents including the free-market Ethan Allen Institute have successfully campaigned against the policy.

"The Ethan Allen Institute worked hard to explain to Vermonters just what they were being asked to buy into," EAI Vice President John McClaughey wrote in a recent online commentary.

Since Republican Gov. Phil Scott has repeatedly promised to veto a carbon tax, supporters may have to settle for commissioning a study on the policy, or it could be revived if attached to another bill.

This article was written by Michael Bielawski of Vermont Watchdog.

Understanding the net investment income tax

REGION - If your income hits a certain level, you may face an additional wrinkle in calculating your taxes: the net investment income tax (also referred to as the unearned income Medicare contribution tax). This 3.8 percent Medicare tax applies to some or all of your net investment income if your modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) exceeds certain thresholds. The tax is in addition to any other income tax applicable to such income.

Note: If the net investment income tax applies, your long-term capital gains and qualified dividends may be subject to a combined federal tax rate of as much as 23.8 percent (the top long-term capital gains tax rate of 20 percent + 3.8 percent). Your other taxable

investment income may be subject to a combined federal tax rate of as much as 43.4 percent (the top regular income tax rate of 39.6 percent + 3.8 percent). Your investment income may also be subject to state income tax.

In general, the net investment income tax applies to U.S. individual taxpayers (similar rules apply to certain domestic trusts and estates).

Calculation of net investment income tax

The net investment income tax is equal to 3.8 percent of the lesser of (a) your net investment income or (b) the excess of your MAGI over:

- \$200,000 if your filing status is single or head of household
- \$250,000 if your filing status is

married filing jointly or qualifying widow(er) with dependent child

- \$125,000 if your filing status is married filing separately

For purposes of the net investment income tax, MAGI is generally equal to your adjusted gross income (AGI). However, if you are a U.S. citizen or resident living abroad, you must include in MAGI the foreign earned income that is generally excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes.

Example: You and your spouse file a joint tax return. Assume your net investment income is \$50,000 and your MAGI is \$270,000. The amount of your net investment income subject to this tax is equal to the lesser of (a) \$50,000 or (b) the excess of \$270,000 over \$250,000, or \$20,000. Your net investment income tax is equal to \$20,000 x 3.8 percent, or \$760.

Net investment income

Net investment income includes gross income from:

- Interest, dividends, nonqualified annuities, royalties, and rents that are not derived from the ordinary course of a trade or business, and
- Net gain from the disposition of property not used in a trade or business

Gross income and net gain (or loss) from a trade or business may be included in net investment income if the trade

or business is (a) a passive activity or (b) engaged in trading financial instruments or commodities.

Note: In general, a passive activity is a trade or business in which you do not materially participate. Rental activities are treated as passive activities regardless of whether you materially participate, but there are certain exceptions.

Net investment income is reduced by any income tax deductions allocable to these items of gross income and net gain that are included in net investment income. Examples of deductible items that may be allocated to net investment income include investment interest expense; state, local, and foreign income tax; and miscellaneous investment expenses. Deductions may be subject to limitations.

Note: Generally, an interest in a partnership or S corporation is not property held for use in a trade or business, and gain or loss from the sale of a partnership interest or S corporation stock is included in net investment income.

Net investment income does not include income excluded from gross income for income tax purposes. It also does not include items of gross income and net gain specifically excluded from net investment income. Examples of excluded items include: Wages, Unemployment compensation, Alimony, Social Security benefits, Tax-exempt interest income, Income from certain qualified retirement plan and IRA distributions, Self-employment income, Gain that is not taxable on sale of a principal residence.

Note: Even though certain items such as wages and income from certain qualified retirement plan and IRA distributions may not be included in net invest-

ment income, they may be included in MAGI, which (as discussed above) is a factor in determining the amount of net investment income that is subject to the net investment income tax.

Planning for the net investment income tax

For a particular taxable year, the net investment income tax applies only if your MAGI exceeds the appropriate threshold based on your tax filing status. Also, the net investment income tax applies to the lesser of (a) your net investment income or (b) the excess of your MAGI over the appropriate threshold. So you may be able to reduce exposure to the net investment income tax by controlling the timing of items of income or deduction that enter into the calculation of net investment income or MAGI.

For example, you might consider increasing your net investment income in a year in which your MAGI does not exceed the threshold. Conversely, you might consider decreasing your net investment income in a year in which your MAGI exceeds the threshold.

In general, you may be able to increase net investment income in a particular year by pushing income into that year and deductions into another year. Conversely, you may be able to decrease net investment income in a particular year by pushing deductions into that year and income into another year. You will need to consider how increasing or decreasing net investment income affects MAGI.

Example: Tom, a single taxpayer, is considering selling some stock, either at the end of Year 1 or at the beginning of Year 2, with the effect of increasing his net investment income by \$10,000 for one of those years. To keep things simple, assume that an increase in net investment income would result in a dollar-for-dollar increase in MAGI. Before taking into consideration the proposed sale of stock, Tom expects to

have \$190,000 of MAGI in Year 1 and \$200,000 of MAGI in Year 2. If Tom sells the stock in Year 1, he would not be subject to the net investment income tax because his MAGI of \$200,000 (\$190,000 + \$10,000) would not exceed the \$200,000 threshold for single taxpayers. If Tom sells the stock in Year 2, he would be subject to the net investment income tax because his MAGI of \$210,000 (\$200,000 + \$10,000) would exceed the \$200,000 threshold and he would have \$10,000 of net investment income.

Note: Ordinary income and long-term capital gains tax rates are generally much higher than the 3.8% Medicare tax rate applicable to net investment income. Planning for the net investment income tax should not be done without considering its effect on the regular income tax.

Note: There is no standard deduction for purposes of determining your net investment income. Itemized deductions are not available for purposes of reducing net investment income unless you itemize deductions for purposes of regular income tax. However, neither standard or itemized deductions reduce MAGI.

Recordkeeping

Net investment income tax is reported on IRS Form 8960. If you owe net investment income tax, you must attach Form 8960 to your tax return. For purposes of the net investment income tax, certain items of investment income or investment expense receive different tax treatment than for the regular income tax. You will need to keep records for the items included on Form 8960. Generally, you need to keep records for the life of the investment to show how you calculated basis. You also need to know what you did in prior years if the investment was part of a carryback or carry forward.

This article was written by Huntley Financial Services.

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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

Boyhood memories from over 50 years ago

When I was 11 years old (1962) I began boiling sap for maple syrup. Bud Nadeau and Billy Parker were usually there to help.

We built a pit outdoors of stone and placed a heavy iron grate on top of the stones. In the pit we burned wood to heat the sap. We used a large washtub on the grate to boil the sap. It took a few hours to bring the sap to a boil.

The first year I tapped the maple trees on our property and the next year I got permission from my neighbors to tap their trees. Bob Parker, the Cooks and Herbie Randall were happy to let me tap their trees along High Street.

In our barn were some old wooden sap buckets but not enough. To supplement the sap buckets we used half-gallon milk cartons or any other container at hand. Sap spouts were something we didn't have so my father showed me how to make them.

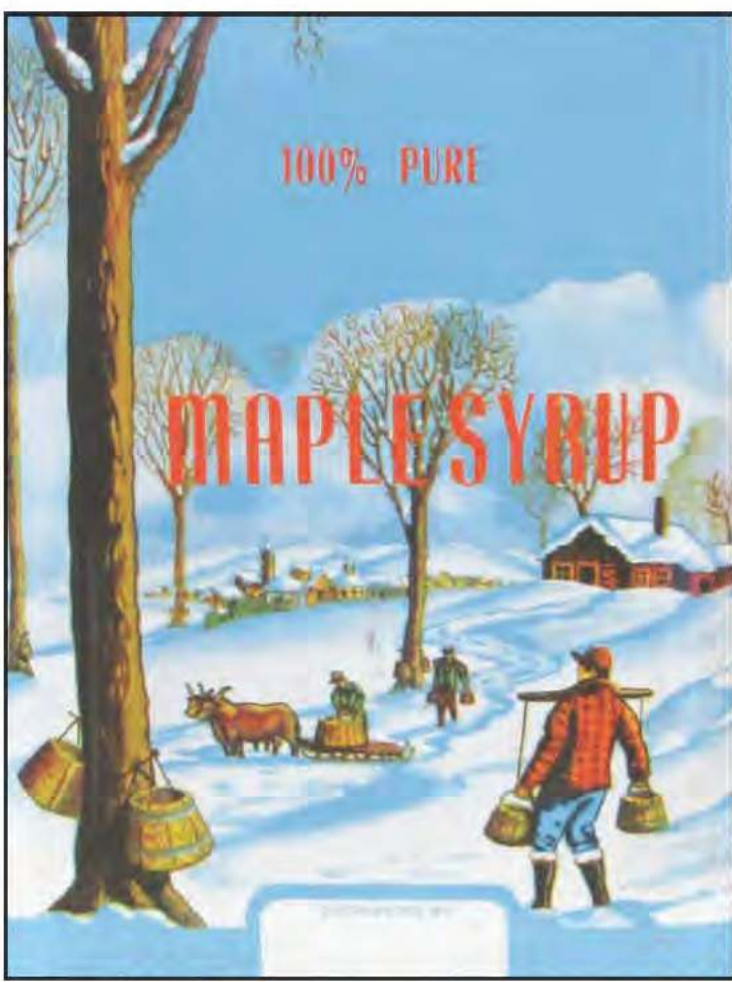
You cut a piece of sumac about 5/8" in diameter. The next step is to remove the bark from the entire length. Then cut that piece in 4" lengths. I put a stiff piece of coat hanger about 5" long in the bench vice. The 'pith' or center of the sumac is very soft. Next you take a piece of sumac you've cut and push the center onto the coat hanger and push it through. With just a couple passes you can remove the center creating a hollow tube.

Then you take a knife and slightly taper one end. This is the end that gets tapped into the hole you bore in the maple tree. Tap in just enough for a snug fit, hang a bucket and watch the sap flow.

I rigged up a little red wagon with a modern ice chest. I pulled the wagon down the street to the Cooks and emptied the sap buckets into the ice chest. Put the cover on the ice chest and proceed to the next tree and repeat. We did this at least twice a day if the sap was running well.

My folks made me go to bed at 9 p.m. school nights so we boiled Friday and Saturday nights. I could stay out as late as I wanted. We would be outdoors boiling all day and night. When we were hungry we would drop hot dogs into the boiling sap. You've never eaten such a good hot dog as one boiled in the sweet sap.

Firewood was always in short supply. An operation of this magnitude required more wood than we could scavenge in the neighborhood. Some will remember Fred Perron. Fred had a tree trimming business in town and was a real nice guy. I



1950s Maple syrup tin. PHOTO PROVIDED BY THE CHESTER HISTORICAL COLLECTION

acorns for her. In return she gave me a book on flowers. I still have that book somewhere. I wonder how large those oak trees are today.

I remember Miss Pickard telling our class about a tourist travelling on a back road here in Vermont whose car overheated. He removed the radiator cap and realized he was low on water. He looked around for a brook so he could get water. There wasn't a brook nearby but he noticed sap buckets hanging on trees. He took a sap bucket and poured the sap into his radiator. You can imagine what happened to his cooling system as the sap boiled down.

Maple Open House Weekend in Vermont is March 25 and 26. Sugaring is part of quintessential Vermont. Visit a local sugar maker this weekend.

Instead of an old saying I have a question. Did you have a teacher that influenced your life?

asked Fred if he had any limb wood we could have to boil sap. Later that week Fred delivered a truckload of limb wood to my house. Now we were in business.

As water is evaporated from the sap the sugar content increases. At this point if you have too much heat the sugary sap in the tub will erupt into a frothy boil and boil over. Just a couple drops of cream will settle the boil down.

In 1962-1963 my sixth grade teachers at Chester Elementary School were Mr. Fish and Miss Pickard. I really liked them both and both teachers took an interest in me. Mr. Fish taught history and he recognized I liked history. He lent me books and encouraged me to pursue history. Today I credit him for introducing me to history.

Miss Pickard recognized my love of the natural world and flowers. Once she gave me some poppy seeds to plant. I planted them and the next summer they bloomed. I was proud of those poppies. My father ran over them with the lawn mower.

In October, 1962 Miss Pickard wanted some acorns to plant. She asked me if I could get her some. I filled a five-gallon bucket with

A brief history discussion of the Cheshire Railroad

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - On Saturday, March 25 at 1 p.m., Alan Rumrill shares the history of the Cheshire Railroad which eventually ran from North Ashburham, Mass. to Bellows Falls, Vt. The advent of the railroad changed the nature of life in this area of New England, making passenger travel faster and more comfortable. It also fueled industrial growth in towns all along the rail line.

The Cheshire line, later acquired by the Fitchburg Railroad and then leased by the Boston & Maine Railroad, operated for more than 130 years. Learn how

this technological marvel of the 1840s impacted the people and economy of this region.

Alan Rumrill is the director of the Historical Society of Cheshire County in Keene, N.H. This event is free, open to the public and generously sponsored by the Friends of the Rockingham Library.

To register or for more information, call 802-463-4270, go to www.rockinghamlibrary.org or stop by the library at 65 Westminster St. in Bellows Falls.



Cheshire Railroad Locomotive Jaffrey, No. 17. PHOTO PROVIDED BY KEENE & CHESHIRE COUNTY (N.H.) HISTORICAL PHOTOS

Your chance to hear Gov. Phil Scott speak

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The annual Springfield Rotary and Chamber Governor's Luncheon will be held on Monday, March 27 starting at 11:30 a.m. at the Hartness House, with the Governor sched-

uled to arrive at noon.

The Honorable Phil Scott will be speaking and then doing a Q&A session. The event is open to Rotarians, chamber members, and their employees. Guests are welcome but

must RSVP as a guest of a member.

To register, please RSVP to springfieldrcoc@vermontel.net or call 802-885-2779 to reserve your seat. There is a cost for lunch. Hope to see you there!

"A Sense of Place: Vermont's Farm Legacy" farming lecture

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The character of a place is shaped by its cultural heritage and folk life, the informal traditions of family and community that guide the ways in which a person plans a meal, treats a neighbor, or understands civic responsibility. In Vermont the cultural legacy of farming has strongly influenced the identity of Vermonters, and it is these distinctive traditions, which have persisted even with the decline in farm numbers, that help make the state unique.

This lecture by Gregory Sharrow, Sharrow co-director at the Vermont Folklife Center in Mid-

dlebury, explores the fabric of farm culture in the past and probes its relationship to the world of Vermont today.

The second event of the series will

take place on Thursday, March 23 at 7:00 p.m., at the Windham Antique Center, located at 5 Square. This is a Vermont Humanities Council event hosted by the Town of Rockingham.

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

editorial

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vermont's sacred places

High places in the land have always held a special attraction. Distant mountains intrigue us with their mystery. Whether incandescent with autumn color or pink with winter alpenglow, they create a breathtaking backdrop to our everyday lives, enough to make us pause and drink in these unsolicited gifts.

In ancient times, mountaintops were holy places where priests and shamans led ceremonies and reached out to their respective creators.

High in the Bighorn Mountains near Lovell, Wyoming, at 9,642 feet, coarse stones have been placed on the ground in an arrangement like the hub, spokes and rim of a wheel, 80 feet in diameter. It's a medicine wheel, one of numerous medicine wheels scattered throughout the Great Plains. The Crows, on whose territory it rests, say it was used for fasting and vision quests and has "always been there," still today, the wire fence that surrounds the Bighorn site is colorful with prayer offerings—bandanas, medicine bundles, dreamcatchers. Until a road was built, deeply-worn ruts of an ancient travois trail led to it.

During the 19th century, landscape painters in search of the sublime found it in the stunningly majestic landscapes of the West as they accompanied exploratory expeditions. The combination of cliffs, wildlife, mountain lakes and streams, untidy forests, grand vistas, and nature in all its moods, fit their notion of the "Sublime," which to them meant a sense of exhilaration and freedom, spiced with the thrill of possible danger. Some of the same painters found the sublime in Rutland County and the White Mountains.

Many Vermonters would agree that there are many places in our state that are sacred, whether or not there is a historic marker announcing it. The sacred quality lies in the solace a place or a view provides us, whether we see it every day or only on the occasional outing. Many old-timers, those who work or play in the woods, and those with a historical sense of place, have their sacred spots. And the mountains offer a special kind of exalted experience to those hardy souls who "skin" up the mountains at dawn, ski the forest glades, or spend a lazy summer day in a trout stream.

These places do not have to be remote. But remote or not, they are increasingly vulnerable as laws, attitudes and policies become more technology-driven, politically or personally ambitious, and less respectful of local ways and needs.

A utility company executive digs up and relocates, with the blessing of the Vermont Supreme Court and over the objections of family members of people buried there, a 19th century hilltop family cemetery. The view is just the thing for the executive's planned house, but then he changes his mind.

Another executive has plans to build an entire all-new community by combining farmland parcels from four adjacent towns. The new town would house thousands eventually in multiunit buildings, in essence destroying the peaceful rural character and historical sovereignty of the existing towns.

The ongoing fight over ridgeline wind turbines is another instance. These developments are deemed desirable as a "public good." But a new publication, "The Vermont Manifesto," makes the case that ridgeline wind development—the only place it makes any sense to put windmills in Vermont—is not only inappropriate but threatens the destruction of the Green Mountains themselves—everywhere the roads and pads are blasted out of the bedrock, the environment suffers irreparable harm. It's not worth it, the authors write.

"The Vermont Manifesto" views our Vermont mountains themselves as sacred ground. Generations of Vermonters have drawn spiritual sustenance from our hills—for their incomparable beauty year round and a kind of emotional satisfaction that even the humblest citizen can enjoy, gratis, just by looking up or taking a walk.

That's hard to argue with.

—BM—

Op-Ed: Clouds on the horizon: The public's right to know is under attack

REGION - This is the first Sunshine Week, since it began in 2005, when the public's right to know has been under direct assault, and on several fronts. "Fake news," "alternative facts," retaliatory restrictions of press access by the White House, and demonizing attacks on the working press are eroding the public's access to real facts and real information about what their government is doing.

Next week the Senate Judiciary Committee will convene for crucial hearings to consider the nomination of Judge Neil Gorsuch to serve on the United States Supreme Court. These hearings are a unique moment when all three branches of government converge as senators consider a presidentially appointed nominee to serve on the highest court in the land. I plan to use these public hearings to ask Judge Gorsuch about vital matters affecting millions of Americans, and about how he will approach those issues if he is confirmed.

It is fitting that these hearings will occur just after Sunshine Week, a time when we rededicate ourselves to transparency in government. It was Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis, a staunch believer in open government, who famously said that sunlight is the best disinfectant. It is often the press that shines the sunlight in dark corners where we need it most. Since the beginning of our republic, Americans have recognized the freedom of the press as central to our democracy. But today, that basic understanding is being tested by a president who apparently needs a

refresher.

Our Constitution provides for freedom of the press because a democracy cannot survive without it. But a free press is not just a constitutional requirement; it is essential for the public's participation and faith in democracy. The press informs the public and holds elected officials accountable. It serves as a critical check on our government, shining a light on corruption, exploitation, injustice, and excess.

With the new administration, the very existence of facts and truth seem to be under attack. From his first days in office, in which he made outlandish claims about his inauguration crowd size, the president has waged a war against reality. President Trump labels unfavorable reports as "fake news," while simultaneously decrying the leaks from his administration that gave rise to the reports in the first place. And in an attempt at censorship, his administration has retaliated against respected media institutions by limiting their access to cover the White House.

Instead of censoring the media, we have a responsibility to ensure it can operate freely. Last year we took a significant step forward when Congress finally enacted my FOIA Improvement Act to strengthen and modernize the Freedom of Information Act — our nation's premier transparency law and a tool the press relies on to root out the truth behind government spin. This new law, which took years of hard work to pass, made permanent President Obama's directive that government

agencies operate with a "presumption of openness" when considering the release of government information under FOIA. I fought for this strengthening legislation because I believe we have to hold all presidents and their administrations accountable to the highest standards. In retrospect, given the Trump Administration's hostility to the press, this legislation could not have been better timed. By codifying the presumption of openness, we declare that sunshine, not secrecy, is the default setting of our government.

While passing the FOIA Improvement Act is important progress, we cannot stop there. We must make sure that our government conducts its work in public where possible and uses technology to invite more people into public proceedings. This access and transparency were a priority for me when I was chairman of the Judiciary Committee during the consideration of the last two Supreme Court nominees. And for me this will remain a top priority. We have already seen one Trump nominee mislead the Judiciary Committee under oath when Attorney General Jeff Sessions did not accurately respond to my direct question and then failed to disclose false testimony, until prompted by news reports. We cannot allow that to happen again. Not when the stakes are so high for our system of justice and for our democracy.

Despite the alarming attacks on the free press from our new president and the misleading testimony of his Cabinet members, I believe we

can and we must continue to bring more transparency to government. We did so last year with the FOIA Improvement Act, and we can continue by promoting transparency and accountability through technology. My parents ran an independent printing press in Vermont. From an early age, I understood the power of technology to inform the public. Today, all that separates our citizens from vital information and news is often the click of a button.

Next week, Vermonters and all Americans will be able to tune in to the Senate Judiciary Committee's public consideration of a Supreme Court nominee. While this same process should have been afforded to Chief Judge Merrick Garland, President Obama's highly qualified nominee to fill the Supreme Court vacancy, Republicans broke a century of Senate tradition and refused him the opportunity of a public hearing. Now we are faced with a new nominee for the highest court in the land, nominated by a president who has already shown hostility to independent judges who dare to uphold the Constitution, and to journalists so bold as to write the truth. Next week's hearings mark a time where transparency and a free press can illuminate for the American people exactly what is at stake with this Supreme Court nominee and this presidency.

During this Sunshine Week, let us all remember to keep the spotlight shining.

Written by Senator Patrick Leahy.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Rebuilding our military

As a Navy veteran and a strong supporter of our military I commend President Trump for initiating a program to rebuild our military with a defense budget increase of \$54 billion, but it should be decreased by \$1.3 billion and the \$1.3 billion added to the Coast Guard budget within the Department of Homeland Security so it is not cut by \$1.3 billion.

Our military has dramatically shrunk and been neglected in recent times. Although we have increased the capabilities of our military through technological advances, we have downsized our forces and we have not adequately replaced worn

Dear Editor,

Once again it is time for the Springfield Lions Club annual Have a Heart food drive. On Saturday, March 25 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., Springfield Lions will be in front of Shaws in the Springfield Plaza collecting non-perishable food items and toiletries to donate to the Springfield Family Center.

The Lions Club is a community

Dear Editor,

Nitka's notes from the State House

Talk in the State House at the beginning of the week centered around the many issues raised at Town Meetings around the state. Attendance is waning in many towns, even those with floor votes and in others the numbers are robust as are the discussions. The food and pies are still good.

The new Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, Thomas Anderson and Col. Matthew Birmingham, the head of the Vt. State Police with their finance team were in the Senate Appropriations Committee this week to present their budget. There are 332 authorized troopers and 97 civilian employees. Presently there are 21 vacancies and

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the Residents, the employees, the Board of Trustees, and myself, from the Gill Odd Fellows Home, I want to take this opportunity to thank the voters of the Town of Ludlow, for approving our Tax Abatement for two years. Our building is getting older and our equipment needs replacing, and the cost of supplies and payroll continue to climb. We will pinch every

out equipment.

Due to the cuts imposed by the 2014 sequestration act our army has significantly decreased from a high of 570,000 soldiers after 9/11, and it is heading down to 450,000. The Marines are going from 184,000 to 175,000 and the National Guard and Reserves will lose tens of thousands. The Air Force will have 700 fewer aircraft, and the Navy remains at 286 ships. My Navy has 11 carrier battle groups but at any one time a number of them are not available due to overhaul and maintenance requirements, in port rest and relaxation, and ships in transit. It should have 12 carrier battle groups to fulfill its global mis-

service oriented club with the motto "We Serve." Many people associate the Lions with the eyeglasses collections, and indeed eradicating blindness and visual impairments is one of the primary missions of Lions worldwide. In addition to collecting eyeglasses, the Springfield Lions have conducted vision testing for the past two years in the Springfield

normal attrition each year is about 10 persons. However this year they expect to lose about 26 officers due to more retirements occurring. Mandatory retirement in the force is age 55. A big challenge for the force is the recruitment of qualified men and women, who after screening will attend the Police Training Academy, graduate and start serving. There are presently fewer than ten new troopers at the Academy in one of the two training sessions offered each year.

In the force, five new trooper positions have been added who are dedicated to Heroin enforcement and a Fair and Impartial Policing Director has been appointed. The total budget for the State Police is \$64 million as proposed by the Governor. A new expense in the budget is a proposal

penny and make the very best use of this that we can. Thank you so very much for your help in this achievement! The vote for the Village portion of our taxes is coming up on March 28. Please don't forget to vote again for us!

Thank you,
Theresa Southworth
Administrator

sions in a dangerous world. George Will in an article on October 1, 2015 stated "the sun never sets" on our Navy.

Potential adversaries continue to build up their military forces. Iran has a large army and continues with its missile development program. North Korea continues to test long range missiles and develop nuclear armaments.

The two significant potential adversaries are China and Russia. China has a huge army, is adding to its air force, and is building up its navy, including aircraft carriers and submarines. China lays claim to the South China Sea and has established

schools. Most people think of the Snellen eyechart when they think of vision screening, however that tests for just one factor, visual acuity. The Lions use a Spot vision screening camera which uses low level infrared light to the retina, taking 23 camera shots of the eye in 1 second. It can detect six different vision issues. Early detection is the clue to successful

for body cameras for all troopers at a cost of \$604,000 while the proposal for gasoline is down by \$237,000.

The Criminal Justice Training Council, which runs the Police Academy, has a proposed budget of \$2,339,000. Municipal police, Game Wardens, Sheriffs, Constables, FBI Agents, Corrections Officers, and Federal Park Service Officers use the facility, some for all of their training and others for a portion of it. There is a lot of use of the shooting range from which lead is removed periodically to the tune of 7 tons, if I heard this correctly, over a two-year period. The state sells it.

Ludlow fifth graders visited Montpelier this week with Ms. Heidi

island bases in the region, which our Navy will have to contest. Russia is rebuilding its navy and maintains a large army and air force, and it continues to threaten Europe.

Trump should continue to rebuild our military so we can meet the military challenges in the world, preserve our national security, and keep the peace.

PS. President Trump, please stop your un-presidential tweets and concentrate on the important matters, which impact our national security and our economy.

Donald Moskowitz
Londonderry, N.H.

treatment.

So remember members of the Springfield Lions Club will be in front of Shaws serving our community. Please be generous and Have a Heart.

Thank you,
Char Osterlund
Springfield, Vt.

Baitz, their teacher and had the opportunity to argue a lost and found dog case in the Vt. Supreme Court chamber. They also met with their Senators and Representative, toured the State House and visited the museum. This is a great opportunity for the students and they are very welcome here. Our tour guides can make these arrangements for school groups.

Visit the State House, have lunch in the cafeteria and listen to testimony in the committees on many of the bills. Contact me at home at 802-228-8432 or anitka@leg.state.vt.us.

Senator Alice Nitka
Montpelier, Vt.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY Letters may be edited for clarity, grammatical errors & libelous statements. Must be kept under 400 words. We reserve the right to publish at our discretion. Deadline Friday at 12 p.m. Email to editor@vermontjournal.com. Mail to Vermont Journal PO Box 228 Ludlow, VT 05149.

Include town & daytime phone (not for publication)

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

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OBITUARIES

church services

ALSTEAD, NH

Third Congregational Church of Alstead, River St. Sundays at 10:30 a.m. with Pastor Maureen Lasell.

ASCUTNEY, VT

Open Bible Baptist Church, 168 Cemetery Rd. Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. Morning service at 11 a.m.

BELLOWS FALLS, VT

Immanuel Retreat Center, Currier Hall, 12 Church St. Celtic worship service at 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays.

Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church St.

Holy Eucharist Services are offered at 8:00 (quiet service) and 10:00 am (with music) every Sunday.

BELMONT, VT

The Village Church: A church for all seasons, 35 Church St. The Sunday service and children's church is at 9:30 a.m.

CAVENDISH, VT

Cavendish Baptist Church, 2258 Main St. Sundays at 10 a.m. with activities for children, followed by a coffee and snack time.

CHARLESTOWN, NH

North Charlestown United Methodist Church, River Rd. Sunday worship begins at 9 a.m. followed by coffee hour.

CHESTER, VT

St. Lukes Episcopal Church, 313 Main St. Rite I, Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m. and Rite II Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m.

First Universalist Parish of Chester, Rte. 103, 211 North St.

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. between Sept. and June. Fellowship with refreshments follows the service.

CLAREMONT, NH

Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church, 99 Sullivan St. Services: Saturdays at 6 p.m. and Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

GRAFTON, VT

The Grafton Church (UCC and ABC), 55 Main St. Worship begins at 10:00 a.m. Reverend Christine Dyke welcomes everyone!

LUDLOW, VT

The United Church of Ludlow (UCC and Methodist), 48 Pleasant St. Sundays starting at 10:15 a.m. followed by a time of fellowship.

Reverend Dr. Donald E. Harpster.

Ludlow Baptist Church, on the green, 99 Main St. Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. Fellowship at 10:30 a.m., Singing at 10:45 a.m.

SPRINGFIELD, VT

Church of Christ, Route 11, Chester Rd. 10 a.m. Sunday School for all ages, 11 a.m. Worship Service; 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Devotional.

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, 90 Park St. Services: Vespers on Saturdays at 5 p.m. and Liturgy on Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

North Springfield Baptist Church, 69 Main St. Worship and Praise Service on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. followed by a fellowship time and classes.

Precision Valley Baptist Church, 69 Route 106

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

Springfield Assembly of God, 269 River St. Sunday school at 10 a.m. Sunday service begins at 11 a.m.

St. Mary's Catholic Church, 10 Pleasant St. Mass on Saturdays at 4 p.m. and Sundays at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Unitarian Universalist Church, 21 Fairground Rd. Word service on March 26 Sunday Service with Tina Feindel, 10 a.m.

WALPOLE, NH

St. John's Church, corner of Westminster and Elm St. Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.; services begin at 10 a.m.

about Art After School program, our outreach efforts, call at 603-756-4533.

First Congregational Church of Walpole / United Church of Christ, 15 Washington Sq. Sunday School at 10 a.m. with coffee hour at 11 a.m.

Walpole Unitarian Church, Main St.

Sunday Services: 10 a.m. in the church. Rev. Kitsy Winthrop & Rev. Elaine Bomford.

WESTMINSTER, VT

Christian Family Circle Chapel, 1512 Back Westminster Rd. Sunday song service begins at 10 a.m., Sunday school at 10:30 a.m.

WEST WINDSOR, VT

Brownsville Community United Methodist Church, 66 Brownsville Hartland Rd. Sunday Worship 9 a.m. ADA accessible.

Obituaries

Sidney Prentice Perkins, 1925 - 2017

PERU, Vt. - Sidney Prentice Perkins, 91, of Peru, died Sunday, March 5, 2017 at Pine Heights, Brattleboro, Vt.

Following his service in the Army he worked for Pfizer's in Conn. After moving to Vermont he worked at the Stratton Mountain Inn as morning chef and maintenance for many years.

Mr. Perkins loved fishing, bowl-

ing, cooking, baking and especially snowmobiling.

He has two step sons, John G. and Willard L. Starr; two step daughters, Lorraine Harvey and Edith Derosia; one brother, Ted Perkins; 12 grandchildren; 21 great grandchildren and 4 great great grandchildren.

At the request of Mr. Perkins there will be no services.

Fenton & Hennessey Funeral Home, Bellows Falls, Vt. is handling the arrangements.

Leonard Albray Stockwell Sr., 1940 - 2017

PUTNEY, Vt. - Leonard Albray Stockwell Sr. 77, of Putney Vt. passed away Monday March 13 from complications of late stage Parkinson's Disease.

Son of Bert and Florence (Vein) Stockwell he was born in Westminster, Vt. and preceded in death by his parents, two sisters, Alberta Woods and Kathrine Look.

Leonard retired from the Bellows Falls Police Department after 32 years of service. Leonard enjoyed maple sugaring, gardening, hunting, and going fishing with his family.

He is survived by his brother Stanley Stockwell. His children Timothy Stockwell, Leonard Stockwell Jr., Lisa Stockwell, Hiedi Stockwell, Christal Durant, Scott Durant, Randy Durant and Kym Durant.



Leonard Albray Stockwell Sr., 1940 - 2017.

PHOTO PROVIDED

great grandchildren and nieces and nephews.

There will be a graveside service on Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at the St. Charles Cemetery in Westminster, Vt. with Rev. Harold Noyes officiating.

Marian Maggi Marrone, 1922 - 2017

WINDSOR, Vt. - Marian Maggi Marrone passed away March 18, 2017. She was born May 16, 1922 in Central Park, Long Island, daughter of Anna (Lohman) & Louis J Maggi.

She married Thomas D Marrone in Bethpage, N.Y. on April 5, 1942. He predeceased her on March 19, 1988.

Marian worked in various school districts on Long Island & in Westchester County, after their move to Armonk, N.Y. She retired to Hendersonville, N.C. in 1977, but moved to Clearwater, Fla. in 1990.

Survivors include her son Thomas L. Marrone and his wife, Margo of Plymouth, Vt.; her granddaughter Melissa Perrino and her husband, Chris and two great-grandsons, Owen and Landon Perrino of Ludlow.



Marian Maggi Marrone, 1922 - 2017. PHOTO PROVIDED

and a niece, Linda Pohli.

There was a service of remembrance at Cabot Funeral Home in Woodstock, Vt. on Wednesday, March 22 at 5:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society, 4832 Route 44, Windsor, Vt. 05089.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Cabot Funeral Home in Woodstock, an on line guest book can be found at cabotfh.com

Howard G. Rumrill, 1928 - 2017

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. - Howard G. Rumrill, 88, of River Front Drive died Sunday, March 20, 2017. Howard was born in Alstead, N.H. on May 29, 1928.

He served in the Army during the Korean Conflict, and worked for St. Johnsbury Trucking for 38.5 years. Howard enjoyed gardening, taking care of his ducks, snowmobiling, and the outdoors.

On June 16, 1956 he married Pa-

tricia Billado who predeceased him. He is survived by his sons Gary of Chester, Vt., Patrick, Roland and Rodney all of Charlestown, N.H.; his daughter Linda Howland of Westminster, Vt.; his sister Jean Yake of Chester, Vt.; 12 grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

There will be calling hours 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Thursday, March 23. The funeral service will be at 11:00 a.m. Friday, March 24 at Fenton & Hennessey Funeral Home in Bellows Falls, Vt.

Jeanne L. Foster, 2017

WESTON, Vt. - Jeanne L. Foster, 89 passed away peacefully at her home in Weston on March 14, 2017.

A funeral service is planned for the end of April in Weston. A complete obituary will be published at a later date.

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arts & entertainment

The Wizard of Oz comes to Chester

CHESTER, Vt. - The Wizard of Oz performances are Thursday, March 30, and Friday, March 31 at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday April 1 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Tickets are either per person, students and seniors or a set price for a family. Performances are in the auditorium at Green Mountain Union High School, located at 716 Vt. Route 103S, Chester, Vt. For more information call the school at 802-875-2146.

The Wizard of Oz story is by Frank Baum, Music and Lyrics by Harold Arlen and E.Y. Harburg

The classic story is about a young girl growing up in Kansas who goes searching her hearts desire. Because of an unexpected tornado her house lands in the beautiful Land of Oz and she goes on an exciting journey with various friends. Look out though because along the way a Wicked Old Witch makes an appearance. She even flies!

Directors are Christine Saul and Cynthia Austin. Choreography is by Ashley Hensel-Browning.

Cast: Kimbal Shultz is playing Dorothy, Scarecrow by Ben Haseltine, Tinman by Alex Beshay and the cowardly Lion is by Tuck Wunderle. Glinda, the good witch is by Julia Howard and Clara Martorano

performs the Wicked Witch, Professor/Oz is Cheyenne Williams, Aunt Em is Sierra Kehoe, Uncle Henry/Oz guard is Brianna Luman. Nikko (Commander of the Winkies) is Royce Schultz and the Winkie General is Anna Church.

Crow Singers are Rosie Saccardo, Olivia Wright, Sarah Devereaux, Anika Reitmeyer-Lankone. The Tree Singers are Rosie Saccardo, Sarah Devereaux, Olivia Wright, Anika Reitmeyer-Lankone, Cheyenne Williams, Ozzie Jewett, Julia Howard.

Winkies are Ozzie Jewett, Camille Rivet, Anna Church, Caroline Donovan-Atwood, Deirde Moore, Rosie Saccardo, Anika Reitmeyer-Lankone, Artem Sheutsov. Monkeys are Royce Schultz, Olivia Wright, Pearl Myers.

Munchkins: the Mayor by Anna Church, the Coroner by Royce Schultz, Barrister is Deidre Moore, Fiddler by Lily Jones, Braggart is by Caroline Donovan-Atwood, Teachers are Caroline Donovan-Atwood, and Narelle Saylor, Lullaby League is Pearl Myers, Zoe Meyers, and Sarah Devereaux. The Lollipop Guild is Camille Rivet, Cheyenne Williams, and Erika Bonnett. Dance Troupe is Zoe Meyers, Emery Benoit, Narelle Saylor, Lily Jones, and Pearl Myer.



Cast rehearsing and stage construction putting on the finishing touches.

PHOTO PROVIDED



The cast is excited to present The Wizard of Oz.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Dance Captain is by Sierra Kehoe.

CAES Munchkins: Violet Haight, Brandon Bonnett, Lacey Heady, Sophia Cherubini, Hannah Rivet, Linsey Miles, Cheyenne Curley, Abigail Nickerson, Selena Hodgdon, Mikhalaya Arace, Grace Wright, Brielle Heybyrne, Angelina Cole, Sally Chapman, Ava Anderson, Ceili Peay, Sydney Learned, and Lily Parment.

Pit Band: Marc Thomas and

Clayton Thompson - Percussion, Scott Wunderle and Jim Chlebak - Trumpet, Grace Johnson- Baritone, Ange Wunderle- French Horn, Riley Thomas - Tuba, Chris Goding-Trombone, Cindi Austin- Piano, Meekah Hance and Olivia- Violin, Anna Solzhnitsyn and Jyoti Knisevly-Flute, Noelle Gignoux and Katie Herrle and Isabelle Cameron - Clarinet, Saxophone.

Technical Crew: Stage Manager-

Michael Randzio. Chad Carey, Miles Garvin, Jordan Harper, Jaden Holden, Chrystal Longe, Charlie Macko, Kylie Moses, Johannah Parker, Abby Williams, Cailyn Williams, Madison Williams, Jenner Haseltine

Special thank you: Kristine LeFevre-Costumes, Fritz Wendlandt-Set construction, Christine Saul's Behind the Scenes class-Set construction, Josey Schultz- Set construction, Ozzie Jewett- Poster, and

Marquee, Amy Jones- Art work, Amy Jones's Art classes, Diane Whittaker- Technical Support, Christa Valente-Programs, Mary Ellen Haseltine, Angela Luman - Concession, The Jackson Lloyd Drama Fund for their past contributions, The Rotary Club for financial support, Taylor Lefevre, Heidi Skinner- Makeup, Kat Myer-Hair and Mr. Ference- our Principal for all his continued support of the arts in our school.

Okemo to host Hops on the Snow beer festival

LUDLOW, Vt. - It's no April Fools' Day joke; Okemo Mountain Resort has scheduled an on-the-snow beer festival April 1. Based on the overwhelming success of its three-day summer beer festival called Hops in the Hills, Okemo introduced a one-day winter beer celebration called Hops on the Snow three years ago. The event will take place in Okemo's Jackson Gore Inn courtyard from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 1.

Vermont's craft beer industry has put the State on the map for beer aficionados - drawing more than 1 million visitors each year, according to an economic impact report commissioned by the Vermont Brewers Association. The National Brewers Association estimates that in 2016



Join the Hops on the Snow festival at Okemo.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY OKEMO.COM

the economic impact on Vermont exceeded that of maple syrup. The manufacturers of craft beer support nearly 2,000 jobs and the State ranks first in the nation for number of breweries per capita.

Admission to Hops on the Snow is free and open to the aged 21 and older, attendees must present valid ID, and will feature 10 seasonal brews for sampling. There is a price for the beer tasting, which includes a souvenir six-ounce glass and four samples. Additional sample tickets will be priced at an individual cost. Glasses and tickets will be sold at the event.

In addition to the seasonal brews, Okemo will be serving up fresh-from-the-grill fare and delicious barbecue favorites.

For more information, call 802-228-1600 or visit okemo.com.

'How the Guitar Conquered America'

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Tim Brookes, will present the OLLI-Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, program on Tuesday, March 28 - 'How the Guitar Conquered America.' It will be presented at 2:00 p.m. at the Nolin Murray Center next to St. Mary's Catholic Church on Pleasant St. in Springfield, Vermont.

In 1900, the guitar was seen as old-fashioned, and its place in the home, on stage and in the popular imagination had been taken over by the piano, the banjo and even the mandolin. How was it that 100 years later guitars would outsell all other musical instruments combined? Brookes shall suggest a number of answers,

accompanied by stories, photos, and even a little live guitar music.

The following OLLI program on April 11, co-sponsored by the Springfield Garden Club, will be Charlie Nardozi speaking about his new book, Foodscaping. He'll explore ways that you can integrate the beauty of edible vegetables and fruits into the landscaping of your yard.

OLLI is a local membership program geared towards seniors 50 years and older who want to engage in meaningful learning, "just for the fun of it!" All ages are welcome to attend.

Membership is for the semester

which includes nine programs. The programs are open to the public. Non-members are encouraged and welcome to attend individual lectures for a single program fee. Memberships, as well as single program fees, may be paid at the program.

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 on Comcast and VTel.

best for you, using a minimal selection of tools. Comments by previous students include "great teacher, wonderful class, learned about new techniques to apply, excellent." This class is open to all levels of expertise to enjoy and learn. There is a cost for the class. Please preregister. Materials list available upon registration.

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

The art of colored pencils

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Come explore this fun, versatile, portable art form with Josephine Habeski on Saturday, March 25 at Gallery at the VAULT. Josephine will cover the basics of pencil drawing and the techniques to achieve rich contrasts, textures, patterns and reflections. You will learn how to achieve the results that work

Springfield Town Library kicks off Vermont Reads 2017

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Poet and educator Dan Heller will present "A Poet's Work: Can it be Defined?" at the Springfield Town Library, 43 Main St., on Thursday, March 30, at 6:30 p.m. Dan will give a poetry reading followed by a lively and educational poetry mini-workshop in which the audience will have the opportunity to write their own line of iambic pentameter, limerick, metaphor, and simile. Dan Heller was a secondary educator for over thirty years. He

holds a B.A. and an M.A. in English from Middlebury College. He has recently published his first book of poetry, "Between the Shadows: A Book of Poems."

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

The 2017 Vermont Reads book selection is Jacqueline Woodson's

"Brown Girl Dreaming." This beautiful memoir of the author's childhood, written in verse, tells the story of a young person finding her voice and examines the strength of family bonds. The library has been awarded multiple copies of "Brown Girl Dreaming" for patrons to borrow and share in our community this spring. Stop by and borrow a copy today! Look for more Vermont Reads programs at the library this spring for all ages!

Skate party fundraiser for business students' national trip

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - A fun skate party with a DJ and refreshments for grades 3-8 will be held on Saturday, April 1 from 7 - 9 p.m. at the Springfield Parks and Rec Center at 139 Main St. in Springfield. The River Valley Technical Center Business and Financial Services students are putting this event on as a fundraiser for their trip to DECA nationals in Anaheim, Cali. next month.

Bring your skates and a helmet and join the fun! Tickets are less with a non-perishable food item. All proceeds will benefit the RVTC Business & Financial Services program.

Whitney Greene and Kaylee Norton competed in the



Whitney Greene and Kaylee Norton are headed to the DECA nationals.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Vermont Chapter of Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) in February and earned multiple medals at the annual conference held in Burlington. The two Springfield high school 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.

Mole Hill theatre springs open

ALSTEAD, N.H. - Mole Hill Theatre, 795 Gilsun Mine Rd. in Alstead, renews spirits with "Volition," an evening of five performers followed by a "divine" dance party on Saturday, March 25, 6-11:30 p.m.

Owner Dennis Molesky halted Mole Hill Theatre events this past winter in order to renovate space to accommodate LEAF, a charter high school that will rent space weekdays for the 2017-2018 school year. The expectation is for events to continue to be staged on weekends.

Tara Greenblatt Band, from Peterborough N.H., creates original songs. Listen to their sometimes funky, sometimes sweet sound on You Tube. Libby Kirkpatrick, a guitarist and vocalist from Vermont, shares songs of the heart. Her "Neverland" music video is a computer click away. Polly Wood, of Ithaca, N. Y., catches audiences with her soulful, feminine, percussive vocals. She sings while she drums on djembe, tongue drum, cajon drum or drum kit.

In 2014 Wood bought ToKo Imports in Ithaca, a store that sells drums and hats. The djembe she bought from the former owner

was made not in Africa but from a local tree that lightning struck. Wood brought Tara Greenblatt to her store to launch live in-store music events to draw in customers. Wood explained to Ithaca Times reporter Keri Blakinger that she has a soft spot for women drummers and hopes to bring more out of the woodwork.

Briana Pearl journeys north from West Virginia. Some say her voice evokes the spirit of Appalachia and the soul of New Orleans. Check her "Protagonist" music video on the internet.

Performance poet Andrew Hannah works as an expressive arts therapist and hosts dance parties.

Mole Hill Theatre offers a casual, bring-your-own-food-and-beverage - no hard liquor - venue. Mole Hill Theatre's Facebook page offers more information.



An evening of performers planned for "Volition."

PHOTO PROVIDED

Celebrate at the Regional Drama festival

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Springfield High School will host a Regional Drama Festival on Saturday March 25. Six area schools, including Springfield, will perform One Act plays during the day. Please join us to celebrate a day of theater.

Springfield High School's "Medea" contains PG-13 content and the use of a fog machine.

South Burlington's "Lockdown" contains PG-13 language.

Long Trail School's Elephant's Graveyard deals with animal abuse, which might be tough for

some viewers.

Thetford Academy's one act "Amelia, Once More," is a stirring drama about an aspiring actress who is becoming the character she plays.

Sharon's Academy's one act "Cut," is "a comic exploration of the veil between acting and reality."

Festival rules state that you are not allowed to enter the auditorium once a show has started, no matter what. Leaving during a show is discouraged as well.

Festival Schedule

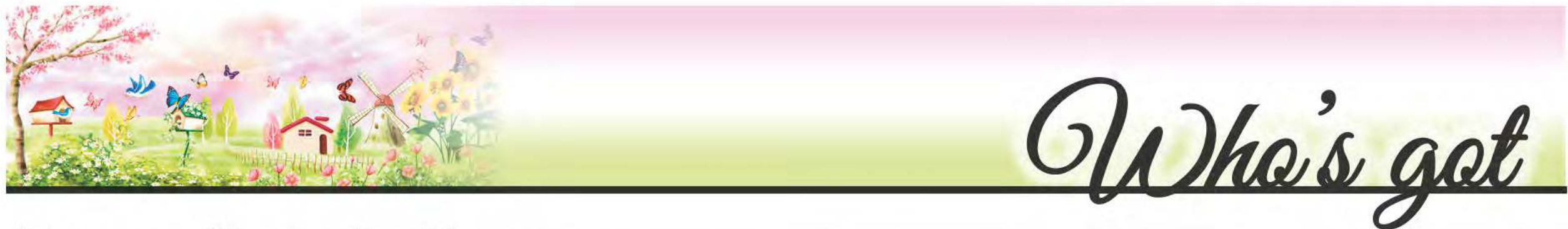
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. is Spring-

field "Medea" by Nelly E. Cuellar-Garcia (drama) and Sharon Academy "Cut" by Ed Monk (comedy).

2:30 - 4:30 p.m. is Long Trail "Elephant's Graveyard" by George Brant (drama) and Twin Valley adaptation of "Taming of the Shrew" (comedy).

6:30 - 8:30 p.m. is South Burlington "Lockdown" by Douglas Craven (drama) and Thetford "Amelia, Once More" by David Muschell (drama).

There is a price per performance block or you can purchase a day pass. Door proceeds support the SHS Theater Dept.



Spring fiber challenge

CHESTER, Vt. - March has come roaring in and our thoughts are turning, yearning for spring. In the spirit of re-awakening, Six Loose Ladies Yarn and Fiber Shop, on the Green in Chester, invites you to get your creative juices flowing. We challenge you to make something that completes this sentence: "April showers bring _____." You may use any fiber and any technique. Bring your fiber creation to the shop by May 1 along with contact information. All participants receive a thank you gift. A winner will be determined by viewer's choice and will receive the grand prize.



We challenge you to make something that completes this sentence April showers bring _____?

STOCK PHOTO

Other events to look forward to at Six Loose Ladies: "Yarn Kippur," an evening of fun, fiber and absolution on April 27, this is an opportunity for you to unburden yourself from fiber and fiber projects you no longer want. In May (date not yet set) we will be hosting a yarn tasting. As always, we welcome you to join us for Knit Knite on Thursday evenings from 5 -8 p.m. Questions? Call the shop at 802-875-7373.

Spring craft fair just in time for Easter and Mother's Day



Ceramic flowers blooming for spring.

STOCK PHOTO

CLAREMONT, N.H. - Get ready for spring and Easter! New England Classical Academy's Epic 4H Group is hosting a Spring Craft Fair on Saturday, April 1 at St. Mary's Gymnasium in Claremont, N.H. from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The fair brings a wide assortment of over 25 crafters featuring great items, especially timely for Easter baskets and Mother's Day gifts!

Some of the crafts featured will be sewing crafts, spring wreaths, candles, handmade jewelry, dog treats, crocheted and beaded art, knitted items, hand painted signs and glass, essential oils, homemade preserves and baked goods.

There will also be vendors providing Lu La Roe tights and Osborne books. The New England Classical Academy Prom committee will have a food stand of baked goods and lunch items and there will be face painting for children and a craft table for them to make their own art.

The Craft Fair will benefit NECA 4-H and prom committee and table rentals are still available for craft vendors interested in showing their wares. Contact 4-H Leader Heather O'Hara at halynn1975@yahoo.com for more information.

Boiling Sap at Night in Vermont

Daniel L. Cady, from "Rhymes of Vermont Rural Life," Tuttle, 1920

Our sugarhouse was jest a shack,
Shacked up "regardless," bit by bit;
Sed parva apta est, is how
A scholar might have spoke of it;
The "arch" was bluestone set in clay
Without a draft or door in sight—
But say; 'twas fun to boil all day
And extry fun to boil at night.

Each time before we built the fire
We boys would take an iron bar,
Retrue the arch, reset the pan,
And pry the kettle up to par;
And then we'd slather on the clay
To make the thing combustion tight—
And say, 'twas fun to boil all day
And extry fun to boil all night.

There'd be a backfire now and then—
Most chimbls have to sneeze and cough—
And there was settlings more or less,
Of course, each time we syruded off;
But wa'n't that syrue good and sweet,
Not zoomy gray or sickly white,
And wa'n't it elegant to eat
That syrue syruded off at night!

We fired with hemlock dry as bone,
And there was floating sparks, no doubt,
But always after every run
We scoured the pan and kettle out;
Soft soap and sand—a Yankee pair—
Would make 'em both look pretty bright,
And all us boys, we combed our hair
Before we went to work at night.

However, wa'n't no science plant,
No prophylactic tub or plug,
Or ox or ass was 'round the place,
Or listerated jug or mug;
But wa'n't that syrue good and brown,
It looked the part, it tasted "right"—
I've never seen a can in town
Like that we syruded off at night.

Our sugarhouse was jest a shack,
Shacked up Si Briggs way, bit by bit;
Sed parva apta est, is how
The preacher might have spoke of it;
No zinc "containers" 'round it stood,
No 'vaporator was in sight,
But wa'n't that syrue sweet and good—
That syrue made at dead of night!



Making Vermont maple syrup.

STOCK PHOTO

*Sed parva apta est - loosely translated as: "It's not much but it gets the job done"



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

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



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Spring Fever?

Register for VINS summer nature camp

REGION - Spring is here and summer is on its way! The Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS) 2017 Summer Nature Camp schedule is now online and open for registration. With limited availability, planning ahead is the best way to secure a place for your child in these fun and educational programs, in which children have a chance to spend a week immersed in hands-on nature adventures.

This summer, VINS will offer an additional overnight camp, Natural Leaders, at the VINS Old Pepper Place Nature Reserve in Washington, Vt. We had much success with the two overnight camps that were launched last year at this same wilderness site. Located on 327 acres of diverse wetlands, forests, and fields, each overnight camp runs for one week. The first session will involve a field study expedition that hones campers' research skills while developing an appreciation for biological diversity

and natural ecosystems. The second session focuses on outdoor survival skills and human interaction with nature. Finally, the third week of overnight camp, which we are introducing this summer, challenges campers to step into the role of an outdoor leader by serving as Trail Leaders for the day, helping the staff to lead a hike or a work crew including how to plan the route, pack the food, and look out for the group.

Nature Camps for children in pre-kindergarten through grade eight are currently available at four locations in Vermont and New Hampshire: VINS Nature Center in Quechee, Vt.; Art-istree Community Arts Center and Gallery in South Pomfret, Vt. (formerly Purple Crayon Productions in Woodstock, Vt.); VINS' Old Pepper Place Nature Reserve in Washington, Vt.; and Storr's Pond Recreation Area in Hanover, N.H.. All sessions will provide campers with the opportunity to explore nature through interactive

activities and outdoor investigations.

Many camp sessions, like those below, will fill quickly, so sign up early to secure enrollment for your child:

Survival Adventures provides a great opportunity for young outdoor enthusiasts to build proficiency in basic self-reliance and teamwork skills in a fun environment.

Advanced SOAR gives campers the opportunity to delve deeply into the world of raptors, a special camp theme only available at the VINS Nature Center.

Natural History Mysteries fill the day with diverse themes, eco-quests, and scavenger hunts through the forest -- campers will become nature detectives and solve a natural history mystery every day.

VINS believes all children should have the opportunity to experience VINS Nature Camp, and, therefore, provides camp scholarships to families in need of support. If you would like your child to experience the joy

of outdoor exploration and discovery that VINS' camp programs offer, but the cost does not suit your budget, please inquire about these discounts. Scholarships for the 2017 camp season have been made possible through the generosity of the Seventh Generation Foundation and the Horne Family Foundation.

For more information about VINS Nature Camps, for online registration, to download a scholarship application, or to become a VINS member, please visit www.vinsweb.org or call 802-359-5000, ext. 223.

Stay connected with VINS through our website at www.vinsweb.org, our nature blog at vtnature.blogspot.com, and our Facebook page.



Many camp sessions will fill up quickly, so sign up today!

PHOTO PROVIDED

Creative gardening tips for the spring season

StatePoint - Gardeners often focus on the science of their hobby: how much water and sunlight their plants need and how to improve soil quality and keep pests at bay. But there can be a lot of artistry behind the craft as well -- from how you harvest and enjoy flowers to how you convert unused spaces of your home into a viable indoor edible garden. Put your creativity to good use this spring season by gardening with style.

can commit.

"Just remember that unlike other projects in the home, such as decorating and cooking, all gardening projects require some aftercare. So, if you have a busy schedule, choose crops that will tolerate less watering and feeding."

Flower Arranging

While your flower garden is likely a beautiful work of art in and of itself, you can spread the joy by har-

vesting your flora and bringing the beauty indoors. Floral arrangements add vitality to any interior space.

when selecting flowers for your arrangement, pay attention to shapes, textures and colors to achieve good balance. Start with a primary focal flower and build out with a couple of secondary focals, a final flourish, and foliage.

From flowering bouquets to spicy pepper plants, apply creativity to your gardening this spring.



Put your creativity to use in your garden this spring. PHOTO BY LUKAS GOJDA - FOTOLIA.COM

Indoor Gardening

For those who don't have an outdoor garden or yard, the dream of enjoying your own freshly picked fruits and vegetables may seem out of reach. However, the nooks and crannies of your home can be creatively rendered into productive growing zones. And experts say that nearly all homes can support indoor gardening.

"Whatever the size of your home, there will be a selection of edible plants you can grow indoors, as long as you have some natural daylight filtering in," says Zia Allaway, author of "Indoor Edible Garden: Creative Ways to Grow Herbs, Fruit and Vegetables in Your Home." "The areas where plants will grow can be windowsills, beneath a skylight or even in a dark, unlit area if you install grow lights."

In "Indoor Edible Garden," a highly visual guide full of practical tips and stylish ideas, Allaway offers step-by-step directions for everything from creating suspended shelves and hanging jars for growing herbs to mounting edible orchids onto bark and displaying them on walls. She points out that those embarking on indoor gardening should first evaluate the level of time they

vesting your flora and bringing the beauty indoors. Floral arrangements add vitality to any interior space.

"For me, every arrangement starts with the container. Think about what mood or style you want to evoke, and remember, anything can be a container as long as it can be made watertight," says Rachel Siegfried, author of "The Flower Book: Natural Flower Arrangements for Your Home," which explores 60 flowers, bloom-by-bloom in portraiture, including quick-reference profiles and tips.

Siegfried recommends that,

A simple spring-cleaning checklist

StatePoint - It's the time of year to roll up your sleeves and do some spring cleaning. Experts point out that it's helpful to streamline the tools you use to do the job and the tasks you seek to accomplish.

"An all-purpose cleaner and a tough degreasing agent can be used in so many areas of the home," says Jeff Devlin, a licensed contractor who's appeared on several home improvement television shows. Devlin's first tip: look to reduce the number of products in your cleaning arsenal. "Along with high-quality sprays and cloths, I use one all-purpose cleaner that also contains degreasing ingredients."

Devlin, along with Mean Green and its line of heavy-duty, all-purpose cleaners offer these different strategies for critical areas of your home.

- Stove and range hoods: While you should be cleaning these areas regularly after food preparation, take this opportunity to conduct a more thorough cleaning. Spray cleaner directly on the mess for up to two minutes. Wipe clean with a sponge or cloth. Then rinse thoroughly with clean water.
- Sinks and countertops: Sinks and countertops can be a trap for food, grease, grime and soap scum. Generously spray non-porous surfaces with your cleaner then rinse with clean water.
- Stove exhaust filter: The grease buildup that collects on the stove's

exhaust filter can be a tough nut to crack. In a sink basin, mix 8 ounces of a concentrated multi-surface cleaner and 1 gallon of hot water and submerge the filter. Place the filter in a sink or dishpan and pour in concentrated cleaner to cover. Allow the filter to soak for 30 minutes. Drain the dishpan and rinse thoroughly with hot water.

• Floors: Give your floors a mopping. Mix 4 ounces of cleaning solution with 1 gallon of warm water. Apply with mop or sponge.

• Garbage cans and diaper pails: Bags often leak nastiness into the bottom of the garbage can, which can easily be missed when quickly replacing the bag. Turn your cleanser's nozzle to spray and generously cover the can. Wipe or brush any areas that have any residue. Rinse thoroughly with clean water.

• Showers, tubs and tile: Use your cleaning agent at full strength and generously spray surfaces directly. Allow it to penetrate the soap scum for up to two minutes. Do not allow to dry. Wipe away with a coarse sponge or cloth. Rinse thoroughly with clean water.

• Toilets: Let's face it. This isn't anyone's favorite job but it has to be done. Turn that nozzle to spray and generously spray the outside of the toilet. Wipe clean with a paper towel, then give a quick rinse.

• Patio: For patios, outdoor furniture, concrete, vinyl fences and siding, use the same cleaner outdoors: simply spray, then wipe clean with a cloth or sponge and rinse surfaces with clean water. While you're at it, consider removing grease and grime from tools, engine parts, tires, sports gear and lawn equipment.

For efficiency, consider cleaning solutions that don't require pre-cleaning, such as Mean Green Super Strength Cleaner & Degreaser, the strongest all-purpose cleaner available. More tips for getting your spring to-dos completed can be found at meangreendegreaser.com.

"Make spring cleaning simple and effective by using smart strategies on every surface of your home," said Devlin.



Give your stove a good spring-scrub. PHOTO BY WEST_PHOTO - FOTOLIA.COM

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sports & outdoor news



THIS AND THAT

BY BILL MURPHY

The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

I have been on a little unplanned vacation for a couple of weeks and so on my return, I thought it would be a good idea to get back to the original intent of this column and give you a little bit of This and a little bit of That.

The rosters for the 2017 Shrine Football Game were announced today and four area gridders were among the athletes named. Bellows Falls has three players on the squad, which will be coached by Terrier Head Coach Bob Lockerby. The members of Lockerby's title team, who have been chosen to represent the Purple and White are Jahyde Bullard, Brady Illingworth and DJ Snide. All three veteran Terriers performed at a high level all season long.

Fall Mountain will be represented on the 2017 New Hampshire Shrine roster. Koal Simonds, who stood out in a big way each time I saw the Wildcats in the 2016 season, becomes the first Wildcat since the turn of the century to become a Shrine player. Simonds was a standout on a team, which was short on numbers and talent and he showed a grit that helped those around him play as big as they could. It looks like the last Wildcat to be part of a Shrine game was Ryan Trapani, a running back.

While on the subject of Fall Mountain football, FM AD Gordon Danserau tells me the school hopes to officially name a new coach in early April. Danserau is excited that former varsity head coaches came forward and would like to pursue the challenge of making Fall Mountain football something other than a 0-8, 1-7 or 2-6 experience for those involved. Danserau told me weeks ago,

"I still think you will see a day when there will be excitement in Fall Mountain football again."

Those who have seen the product in recent years know that it is great that the Maroon and White still field a team, but recently the number of additional freshmen who need to be relied on each year, has made the future very questionable. Coach John Callahan worried at times last fall when he had to play athletes, who likely should not have been competing in a varsity game. The new coach faces a minimum of a three-year battle to create a squad with enough upperclassmen to think about taking the next step. Give Fall Mountain credit for not abandoning the sport.

Competition is the backbone that sport is built on. In recent years Division I girls basketball in the state of Vermont had turned into UConn 2. There

was Champlain Valley Union, then the rest of the field. For four straight years, Ute Otley had sent her team out on the floor with little chance of losing. Like, UConn, it was about CVU, not the rest of the field. CVU was that good and it concluded in four consecutive Vermont Division I titles. I spoke to Otley in early December and she told me back then,

"there will be competition this year. I think we have a chance to repeat, but there will be plenty of competition."

She was right. CVU's long winning streak was ended in the second game of the season when Rice defeated them and CVU lost twice to Bellows Free Academy of St. Albans in regular season contests too. Long time Division I girls enthusiasts were really excited about this years tournament. In the end, CVU, came out on top again in a close low scoring affair, but there was certainly competition. That Rice's team, which ended CVU's streak, never even made the final four, where the match-ups were CVU-Mount Anthony and St. Johnsbury-BFA. Incidentally, BFA was the team which ended Rice's season, but they never had a chance to see if they could defeat CVU three times, because they were eliminated by St. Johnsbury in a classic semi-final and then the Hilltoppers fell in the finale to CVU.

Last but not least, UVM senior basketball forward Kurt Steidl is undergoing surgery for the ACL he injured in last Thursday's NCAA Tournament game versus Purdue. Fans around the state were rightfully excited about the strong performance by the Catamounts against the Boilermaker team, which is one physical match for just about anyone in the tournament. One rabid fan asked me,

"Does this mean unless Vermont lands a genuine big man, they will never win another NCAA Tournament game again?"

My answer is no. Tournaments, especially the NCAA, are all about match-ups and you are right, it was almost impossible for the Cats to match up in this one, but they gave it more than the old college try and there were high seeded teams like Virginia, Notre Dame, Butler (UVM lost to them by 12 on Butler's floor without a starter) and Minnesota, which the Cats may have been able to pull off an upset against. UVM plated well making the Green Mountain State proud of their season's accomplishment.

2017 Dari Joy baseball contest

BY BILL MURPHY

The Shopper

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Most of you know what time it is! That's right, it is time for the 2017 Dari Joy baseball contest. Each spring, The Shopper/ Vermont Journal newspapers combine with the Dari Joy in Bellows Falls to allow their communities to show their baseball expertise by picking the winners in the upcoming Major League baseball season.

You can enter this year's contest by either emailing your picks to bmurphy@vermontjournal.com or mailing them to The Shopper, PO Box 308, Bellows Falls, Vt. 05101 noting below the address: Attention Baseball Contest. All correspondence must be sent or postmarked by April 12.

In making your selections you should: 1) List the order of finish (top to bottom) in each of baseball's six divisions, 2) Note two wild card teams in each league, 3) Pick the American and National League champion, 4) Pick the World Series champion.

How points are awarded:

- 7 points for choosing the World Series champion (you will be given 2 points if your champions selection is in the World Series and loses).
- 4 points for choosing the World Series loser (you will get 2 points if your selection is in the World Series and wins)
- 3 points awarded for each division champion selected (you will get 1 point if a division champion choice makes the post season as a wild card)

• 1 point for wild card choices who are in the play-offs either as a wild card or as a division winner.

Tiebreakers- Ties will be broken from last place up, thus every one of your choices is important. If you tie for one of the winners spots, the tie will be broken by how many last place teams each tied participant chooses correctly. If a tie still exists after last place consideration, then we will move up to next to last place and continue up the standings ladder as many spots as needed until the tie is broken. Most seasons something is broken by the tiebreaker system.

Only one entry is allowed per person- Please include contact information with your selections. A mailing address or an email address, plus a phone number would be helpful.

Next week Demuzio and Murphy will publish their picks for the 2017 season. If you want to wait until then fine, but the contest is officially open. GOOD LUCK! Remember the deadline is April 12.

The 2017 baseball season will be the seventh year this contest has been a part of the area sporting scene and if you have never been involved before, then it's time now to join the fun.

Long time area umpire Danny Budd of Newport, New Hampshire has been the most successful participant since the competition began. Budd was the contests outright winner in both 2011, the inaugural year,

and then again in 2015. Tyler Clough (2012), Mike O'Brien of North Walpole (2013), Kathleen Korstange of Putney (2014), and Joseph Sampsell (2016) of Springfield have also basked in the winners circle. Put your town or yourself on the map by earning top honors this season.

The top six finishers win prizes in each years competition. Prizes include Dari Joy gift certificates of \$50, \$25 and \$15 and three autographed baseballs. If any of the winners accumulate more points than both Dari Joy owner Rich Demuzio and Bill Murphy, Sports Editor of the paper, monetary totals will be doubled.

Last seasons winners can collect their 2016 prize beginning when the Dari Joy opens for the season on Saturday, April 1 at 11 a.m. The Dari Joy is open seven days a week at 11 a.m. Spring hours are Sunday through Thursday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., while on the weekends the Dari Joy closes at 10 p.m.

Over the years, fourteen different forecasters have been awarded for their picks. The first four years of the contest there were three winners each year and then beginning in the 2015 season, an anonymous donor began donating three autograph baseballs each year to extend the number of winners. Behind Sampsell last year, Charlie Keefe, Ian Clark, Lewis Clark, Korstange and Charlie O'Brien finished in the money and most are likely to be already working on this years picks. Hopefully you will join them in the fun this time around.

2017 N.H. & Vt. Shrine teams

LEBANON, N.H. - The stage is set for the 64th annual Shrine Maple Sugar Bowl with the announcement of two Shrine teams representing the finest high school football talent of New Hampshire and Vermont.

The summer classic is scheduled to be played Saturday, August 5, 2017 on Castleton University

Spartan Field, Castleton, Vt. at 5:30 p.m.

Over 200 players from New Hampshire and Vermont, all graduating high school seniors,

nominated by their head coaches. In each state, "screening committees," chaired by the Shrine Head Coaches, selected the two teams.

The Vermont Shrine Team is coached by Bob Lockerby, Head Coach at Bellows Falls Union High School, and the New Hampshire team will be coached by Rob Cathcart, Head Coach at Trinity High School. Vermont will be the home team for 2017.

Twenty-six high schools are represented on the New Hampshire Shrine Team and eighteen on the Vermont Team. The two

teams met with their respective coaches in early March to review game plans. Formal practice will begin on Sunday, July 30, 2017 for both teams at Castleton University.

The Shrine Maple Sugar Bowl is played for the benefit of the Shriners' Hospitals for Crippled and Burned Children and in its first 63 years has raised nearly five million dollars. The Bowl Game is one of 30 Shrine games played every year across the country. The twin state game is sponsored by the two Shrine Centers of Vermont, Cairo (Rutland) and Mt. Sinai (Montpelier).

Youth wrestlers were throwing down

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - On Saturday, March 11, three Springfield youth wrestlers were throwing down in Salem, Mass. with the top wrestlers in New England, while a dozen more 'green grapplers' stormed the Rumble in the Valley youth tournament at Otter Valley HS in Brandon Vt.

Dillon Lacasse, Gabe McNeil, and Hunter Ferland made the trek with their families and with coaches Buck and Meier for Youth New England's; major kudos to all the boys for qualifying for and competing in such an impressive arena. Hunter clocked an early win as the first Springfield Vt. kid to ever score team points

at Youth New England's! At the Rumble in the Valley, Coach Don Beebe was assisted by senior wrestler Moira Stettner to help our wrestlers be their best. Springfield ended the day on a high note, with five champs (Garrett Brickey, Dave Crocco, John Jasinski Jr, Tristan Perry, and Dmitri Ja-

sinski), three second place wins (Kyle Bauer, Seth Markwell, and Jamey Cosby), and bronze medals for third place to Armando Stettner, Jayden Paul, and Noah Markwell. Sixth grader Cole Wright banked a terrific win early in the day, facing down multiple opponents in a series of tough matches.

The entire team should be very proud as Springfield was awarded the Rumble in the Valley Team Sportsmanship Award for the second year in a row! This trophy is awarded by the voting of the referees at the event; Springfield won by a margin of 6:1.



The youth wrestling team poses with the Team Sportsmanship Award. PHOTO BY KELLY STETTNER

'Let's Go Fishing' instructors needed

REGION - The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department is seeking volunteers who would like to become 'Let's Go Fishing' instructors so they can pass on Vermont's fishing tradition to the next generation of Vermonters.

The department will be hosting a one-day, free training workshop for new instructors on Saturday, April 15, at the ANR Annex building, 190 Junction Road, Berlin, Vt.

Instructors in the 'Let's Go Fishing' program organize and instruct clinics in their communities for young people and their families. Participants in the training workshop will learn how to teach a fishing clinic, in addition to learning about fishing ethics, aquatic ecology, fisheries management, habitat conservation,

and tackle craft. The class is informal, and it is not necessary to have a high level of fishing expertise to become an instructor.

"Becoming an instructor will give you the opportunity to introduce Vermonters both young and old to the joys of fishing, while teaching them all they need to know to enjoy a day on the water," said Corey Hart, Vermont Fish & Wildlife's 'Let's Go Fishing' coordinator.

There is no charge for the training and all curriculum materials and lunch will be provided. The workshop runs from 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Pre-registration is required, and you must be 18 years of age to participate. Register by April 10 by calling 802-505-5562 or emailing letssofarishing@vermont.gov.



Volunteer to teach fishing to the next generation. PHOTO PROVIDED

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James McGonigal, BC, HIS

LEGAL NOTICES

calendar

CLASSES CONT.

WEEKLY - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. Come swim with a great group of adults in our Masters Swim Group...

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Youth swim lessons are offered on Saturday and Sunday mornings and Tuesday afternoons.

REGION - "Bone Builders" to combat osteoporosis. Free and open to 55+.

CLUBS MONDAYS - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Springfield Community Chorus rehearsals...

Community Chorus rehearsals are on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church...

LUDLOW, Vt. - Ludlow Rotary club meets every Tuesday and is hosted by DJ's Restaurant...

TUESDAYS - WOODSTOCK, Vt. - The Freelance Family Singers Community Chorus will begin practicing for the chorus's May 6 and 7 concerts.

THURSDAYS - CHARLESTOWN, N.H. - The Charlestown Rotary Club meets at the Charlestown Town Hall...

RUTLAND, Vt. - Marble Valley Duplicate Bridge Club meets from 7-10:30 p.m. at the Godnick Center...

SATURDAYS - MOUNT HOLLY, Vt. - The Mount Holly Artists Group meets at 10:30 a.m. in the community center room...

SUNDAYS - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The Catamount Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol at 4 - 6 p.m. at Squadron Headquarters...

COMMUNITY MEALS

THIRD SATURDAY - N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Ham Suppers the North Springfield Baptist Church, 69 Main Street...

EVENTS

FRIDAY, MARCH 24 - PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. - Come support the Cavendish Fletcher Community Library and Pollard family at a spaghetti dinner...

PUTNEY, Vt. - Sarasa Chamber Music Ensemble presents "Trainspotting" at Next Stage, 115 Kimball Hill.

train-inspired music performed on gut strings, including works by 19th-century train enthusiast Antonin Dvořak...

SATURDAY, MARCH 25 - ALSTEAD, N.H. - Mole Hill Theatre, 795 Gilsum Mine Road in Alstead, renews spirits with "Volition..."

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. - River Valley Animal Protection League holds its 11th annual potluck dinner, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at the VFW...

MONDAY, MARCH 27 - LONDONDERRY, Vt. - At 10 a.m., Rick LaDue, steward at the Equinox Preservation Trust...

spring wildflowers, some that mainly grow in the Preserve and are not widespread in the Green Mountains...

LUDLOW, Vt. - Blood drive for the American Red Cross from 12:30 - 5:30 p.m. at the Ludlow Community Center...

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. - The Sustainable Energy Outreach Network (SEON) will host another presentation for the public on "The World of High Performance Building"...

FRIDAY, MARCH 31 - BELLOWES FALLS, Vt. - "Farm to Fork Dinner." The Great Falls Regional Chamber of...

Commerce holds its 2017 annual dinner and Person of the Year award, at the Loyal Order of Moose, 59 Westminster St., Bellows Falls.

gfrcc.org. SATURDAY, APRIL 1 - BRATTLEBORO, Vt. - Bowl for Kids' Sake! Join the Greater Falls Connection's team...

ADVERTISEMENTS

PLEASE NOTE!

ALL ADVERTISEMENTS: BOX/DISPLAY ADS, CLASSIFIEDS, REAL ESTATE, AUTOMOTIVE, DINING, HOSPITALITY, ETCETERA SHOULD BE SENT TO ADS@VERMONTJOURNAL.COM

Advertisements that are not sent to Shawntae at Ads@VermontJournal.com are NOT guaranteed to be published

The Deadline for ALL Advertisements Reservations is Friday by 12 noon, Approvals by 5 pm for the following Wednesday Publication

Green Mountain Union High School COACHES FOR SPRING AND FALL 2017

Green Mountain Union High School in Chester, VT is seeking Coaches

For the upcoming Spring season: JV Girls Softball, JV Baseball, and Middle School Track

For Fall 2017 season: Varsity Girls Soccer & Varsity Boys Soccer

Responsibilities include but are not limited to, team management and program development. Successful candidates must:

- possess high quality communication skills, both oral and written
• have the ability to plan and implement a practice plan with skill developing progression
• be professional in their approach
• demonstrate the ability to work with a variety of people
• be flexible
• 1 or more years of experience in a coaching setting is desired.
• must complete and clear expanded criminal history background check.
These are a part-time positions.

Please apply through SchoolSpring.com or forward a letter of interest and references to:

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

EOE

Town of Plymouth Public Notice of Hearing

A Public Hearing before the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of the Town of Plymouth will be held on Tuesday, the 4th day of April, 2017, at 7:00 pm at the Municipal Building...

Applicant: Farm & Wilderness

Proposal: to construct a three-sided seasonal cabin 18' x 22' with a 6' x 22' deck - no electricity, plumbing, or heating

Location: 282 South End Road, Indian Brook Campus

Application No. 2017 - 6

Dated: March 13, 2017 Michael Coleman, Chair

TOWN OF LANDGROVE PLANNING COMMISSION ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Notice of Public Hearing

The Landgrove Planning Commission / Zoning Board of Adjustment has scheduled the following public hearings for Wednesday, 12 April 2017:

7 PM Bruno Licata 78 Nichols Road Tax Map # 05 00 06

Request for a variance to the required front setback requirement to allow construction of barn and an addition to the residence

7:30 PM Michael Jeffery 8 Nichols Road Tax Map # 03 00 67

Request for Conditional Use Approval to allow construction of an accessory structure in the Utley Flats Scenic District

Both hearings will be held at the Town Office, 88 Landgrove Road, Landgrove

For additional information on these applications, please contact the Town Office at 802.824.3716 or at landgroveza@gmail.com

TAKE A BREAK!

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

9x9 Sudoku grid with numbers and empty cells.

Please number in the empty boxes in each row, each column, each 3x3 box, each 3-row, 3-column subgrid, and each row, column, and 3x3 box with all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ****

Moderate Challenging HOO BOO

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Earth (Lat)
6 Witnessed
9 relief
12 Symbol of slowness
13 Inventor Whitney
14 Genetic abbr.
15 Of punishment
16 Burma's capital, once
18 Astute
20 Took the train
21 Oom follower
23 Thither
24 Xbox enthusiast
25 " - a Kick Out of You"
27 Worked with rattan
29 Circle around the sun
31 Conspiracy of silence
35 Cardiff's people
37 Sunrise
38 200 milligrams
41 Gear tooth
43 Affirmative action?
44 Culture medium
45 Cringes
47 Longtime Klugman

11x11 crossword grid with numbers and some filled letters.

- co-star
49 Symbol of money
52 Jazz job
53 Accomplished
54 Intact
55 Individual
56 Chances, for short
57 Gumby's horse
DOWN
1 Recipe meas.
2 Away from
3 Cowboy,

- often Iranian money
5 Dumpster location
6 Venus' sister
7 Winged
8 Victory
9 Witch craft?
10 Battery terminal
11 Less loony
17 Ranked
19 Singer's recording
21 Snapshot
22 Past
24 Jewel
26 In the direction of
28 "Forget it!"
30 Trawler need
32 Rifle
33 Pair
34 Moreover
36 Berates
38 Freight
39 Over
40 Kitchen need
42 Outfit
45 Film sample
48 Nevada city
46 Commodity
50 Regret
51 Pigs' digs

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Be careful about doing someone a favor when you don't know the full story behind the request. Don't rely on someone's unsubstantiated assurances. Insist on all the facts before you act. TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) That workplace problem still needs your attention before you finally can close the book on it. Meanwhile, a long-anticipated reunion gets closer to becoming a happy reality. GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You might be demanding more from others than they can give. Best advice: Have a long and frank talk to determine what the facts are. Tensions should abate as the week winds down. CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Aspects are favorable throughout this week for making contacts that could be important to your career plans. Meanwhile, an old friend offers the advice you're seeking. LEO (July 23 to August 22) It's time to stop licking your wounds from past mistakes. Get up and get going toward your future. Loyal friends will be there to help the Lion get back into rip-roaring shape. VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Take time out to go over what's expected of you before you begin your new project. Otherwise, you run the risk of pushing yourself harder than you need to.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) An unusual request could put you in an awkward position. Best advice: Deal with it immediately. The longer you delay, the more difficult it will be to get out of it. SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You should feel recharged and ready for whatever your workaday world holds for you. The same positive energy spills over into your personal relationships. SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A prospect might be less than it appears to be. Like the Archer in your sign, you always aim for the truth. And this is no time to settle for less than full disclosure. CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Start doing some serious thinking about a career move that could entail more than just changing job sites. Some lifestyle changes also might be involved. AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) With tensions easing at the workplace, a more positive environment once again encourages the free flow of ideas so typical of the always-innovative Aquarian. PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Show some of that usually hidden steel-strong Piscean backbone, and stand up for yourself if you hope to make a case for that promotion you know you deserve. BORN THIS WEEK: You enjoy doing new things and staying ahead of the crowd. You would make a fine sports coach or military leader.

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AUTOMOTIVE

calendar

LIBRARIES CONT.

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

MEETINGS

FRIDAY, MARCH 24- BELLOWS FALLS, VT. - Greater Falls Connections will be hosting its monthly coalition meeting, noon-1:30 p.m. at Parks Place Community Center, 44 School St. Highlights and ideas will be shared from a recent visit to Washington, D.C., where two coalition members attended a national leadership forum. There will also be an update on this year's Kick Butts Day activities. Kick Butts Day is a nationwide initiative that empowers student advocates to lead the effort to stop youth tobacco use. Lunch and good company will be provided at the meeting. Find out more about the work of GFC at www.greaterfallsconnections.org or call Scott Sharland, program specialist, 802-463-9927.

THURSDAY, APRIL 27- WINDSOR, Vt. - The Ascutney Trails Association's annual meeting will be held from 6-8 p.m. at the Windsor Town Welcome Center. We are looking for volunteers, new members, and directors. The director's meeting will begin at 6 p.m., followed by a presentation from Rick White, state lands forester responsible for the management of Ascutney State Park. Mr. White will be discussing the Ascutney Management Unit long range management plan. If you have a passion for Mount Ascutney and its history, and are willing to assist in the maintenance of present and future hiking trails, please join us! Light refreshments will be served. For more information you can link to our Facebook page by visiting www.ascutneytrailsassociation.org, or call Steve Giroux at 802-674-6369.

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

TUESDAYS - LUDLOW, Vt. - Co-Dependents Anonymous meets on Tuesdays starting April 4, 6:30-7:45 p.m. in the basement of the Fletcher Memorial Library, 88 Main St. in Ludlow. Find out more about CoDA at codavt.org. For more information regarding this meeting, contact Sarah E. at sarahcodavt@gmail.com.

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

WESTMINSTER, Vt. - Westminster Fire & Rescue Department monthly meeting on the first Tuesday at 7 p.m. Rescue training is on the second Tuesday and combined drill on the third Tuesday. More information found at www.westminsterfireandrescue.org.

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

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

FOURTH FRIDAYS- BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Monthly Coalition meeting, Friday, March 24, 12-1:30 at Parks Place. Come hear new ideas from Deb and Scott's most recent trip to DC for the CADCA National Leadership Conference, plus some tobacco updates. Lunch and good company provided. Future meeting dates: April 28, May 26, June 23.

SUPPORT GROUPS

FRIDAY, MARCH 24- BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The Connecticut Valley Ostomy & IBD support group (COG)

OVER 2000 BROKEN-IN TIRES MANY SETS OF 4

CANON TIRE

191 Exit 8, Ascutney, VT
802-674-5600

NEW TIRES TOO!!

aims to bring people together who are managing with inflammatory bowel disease or who have had an ostomy of any type. No cost to attend. It is run by Margaret Heale (802-376-8249) a local certified Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurse Specialist. Meetings are at 5 p.m. in the Fireplace Community Meeting Room at Rockingham Medical Group, 1 Hospital Court, with the summer BBQ and

winter potluck at 12:30 at Mrs. Heale's residence. Spring season- Fri., May 12 at 5 p.m.

MONDAYS - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - NAMI Vermont Connection Recovery Support Group is a mental illness support group. It provides a forum to share experiences and learn about opportunities and challenges regardless of diagnostics. HCRS, CRT Room, 390 River St. Meets every Monday from

1 - 2 p.m. Info: call 800-639-6480 or visit www.namivt.org.

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

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Just Us Moms Program (JUMP). Come

with your children. Have dinner with other moms in the area, learn about resources, and have fun while your children play, and eat dinner. 5 - 7 p.m. at Cherry Hill School. Contact Michelle 275-7871.

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

Wednesday.

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

Cruise into Spring with a new Vehicle!

<p>2014 JEEP WRANGLER SPORT 4X4, V6, AUTO, HARD TOP & SOFT TOP, EXTRA</p>  <p>SALE PRICE \$24,999</p>	<p>2014 CADILLAC ESCALADE EVS PREMIUM PACKAGE, 6.2 LITER V8, FULLY LOADED, ONLY 39,000 MILES</p>  <p>SALE PRICE \$45,995</p>	<p>2015 JEEP WRANGLER SPORT 4X4, V6, 6 SPEED, A/C, TILT WHEEL, EXTRA EXTRA CLEAN</p>  <p>SALE PRICE \$24,999</p>
<p>2013 CHEVY MALIBU LS PACKAGE, FULLY LOADED, ONLY 36,000 MILES</p>  <p>SALE PRICE \$11,299</p>	<p>2003 CHEVY 1500 EXT CAB 5.3 LITER V8, FULLY LOADED</p>  <p>SALE PRICE \$5,995</p>	<p>2007 HONDA ACCORD EXL PACKAGE, FULLY LOADED</p>  <p>SALE PRICE \$7,295</p>
<p>2013 CHEVY SUBURBAN LT PACKAGE, LEATHER, NAVIGATION, SUN ROOF, REAR ENTERTAINMENT, ONE OWNER</p>  <p>SALE PRICE \$37,995</p>	<p>2013 KEYSTONE LAREDO 291T FRONT QUEEN BED, REAR BUNK BED, ONE SLIDE OUT</p>  <p>SALE PRICE \$18,995</p>	<p>2013 CHEVY AVALANCHE LTZ PACKAGE, 4X4, SUN ROOF, LEATHER</p>  <p>SALE PRICE \$27,999</p>

<p>2017 VOLVO S-60 SEDAN AWD, Fully Loaded, Only 6,000 Miles, Stock #1702</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$28,995</p>	<p>2015 GMC CANYON CREW CAB All Terrain, Navigation, Fully Loaded, Only 26,000 Miles, One Owner</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$31,995</p>	<p>2014 CHEVY CRUZE LT Package, Auto, Fully Loaded, Only 31,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$10,995</p>	<p>2011 CHEVY 1500 CREW CAB 4x4, LT Package, One Owner</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$20,995</p>
<p>2017 VOLVO XC-60 AWD, Fully Loaded, Sun Roof, Leather, Only 7,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$39,995</p>	<p>2015 FORD MUSTANG 2 Door Coupe, Leather, Navigation, One Owner, Only 8,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$23,495</p>	<p>2014 CHEVY SPARK LS Package, Auto, One Owner, Only 19,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$8,995</p>	<p>2010 CHEVY TRAVERSE 2LT Package, Leather, Sun Roof, One Owner</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$12,995</p>
<p>2016 CHEVY IMPALA LT Package, Fully Loaded, Only 10,000 Miles, Stock #1617</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$17,995</p>	<p>2015 CHEVY CRUZE LT Package, One Owner, Only 16,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$13,995</p>	<p>2013 CHEVY SPARK LS Package, 5-Speed, Only 16,000 Miles, Stock #7031M</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$7,995</p>	<p>2009 SUBARU FORESTER Auto, Sun Roof, Leather</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$6,995</p>
<p>2016 CHEVY MALIBU LS Package, Fully Loaded, Only 163 Miles, Stock #1615</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$16,995</p>	<p>2015 CHEVY MALIBU LT Package, Sun Roof</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$15,995</p>	<p>2013 VOLVO XC-60 T6 Leather, Sun Roof</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$25,995</p>	<p>2009 FORD F-350 DUMP BODY 4x4, Stainless Steel Sander, Fisher Minute Mount PLOW, Only 38,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$21,995</p>
<p>2016 GMC SIERRA DBL CAB SLE Package, One Owner, Only 4,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$31,995</p>	<p>2014 TOYOTA RAV4 LE Package, AWD, One Owner, Only 23,000 Miles, Stock #1466</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$18,995</p>	<p>2013 MITSUBISHI LANCER LS Package, Fully Loaded, Only 54,000 Miles, Stock #7175B</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$7,995</p>	<p>2009 SUBARU FORESTER AWD, Fully Loaded</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$7,995</p>
<p>2016 CHEVY CRUZE LT RS Package, Sun Roof, Auto, One Owner</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$14,995</p>	<p>2014 FORD F-350 4x4, 2-3 Yard Dump Body, 6.7 Liter Power Stroke Diesel, Like New</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$40,995</p>	<p>2013 CHEVY MALIBU LS Package, Only 36,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$11,995</p>	<p>2009 CHEVY 1500 EXT CAB 4x4, Z-71 Off Road Package, One Owner, Extra Clean</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$14,995</p>
<p>2016 CHEVY TRAX LTZ Package, AWD, Leather, Fully Loaded, Stock #1613</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$18,995</p>	<p>2014 CHEVY SPARK LS Package, Auto, One Owner, Only 19,000 Miles, Stock #093A</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$8,995</p>	<p>2013 CHEVY SPARK LS Package, 5-Speed, Only 16,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$7,995</p>	<p>2008 SUBARU IMPREZA STATION WAGON Auto, AWD</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$5,995</p>
<p>2016 CHEVY EQUINOX LTZ Package, Heated Leather Seats, Only 13,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$23,995</p>	<p>2014 CHEVY EQUINOX AWD, LS Package, One Owner, Only 18,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$17,995</p>	<p>2012 VOLVO XC-70 STATION WAGON Sun Roof, Leather, Fully Loaded, One Owner, Stock #1258</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$19,995</p>	<p>2008 FORD FUSION SEL Package, Auto, Power Seats</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$4,995</p>
<p>2015 CHEVY CRUZE LT Package, Only 16,000 Miles, Stock #1547</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$13,995</p>	<p>2014 CHEVY CAPTIVA FWD, Auto, Fully Loaded</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$11,995</p>	<p>2012 CHEVY SONIC HATCHBACK 5 Door, LT Package, Only 50,000 Miles, Stock #7149A</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$7,995</p>	<p>2005 FORD E-450 14 PASSENGER BUS Wheel Chair Ramp, Only 65,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$12,995</p>
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17 agricultural buildings across Vermont receive preservation grants

REGION - The Vermont Division for Historic Preservation and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation are pleased to announce the recipients of the 2017 State Barn Preservation Grants. Seventeen matching grants totaling \$211,369 will aid in the restoration and maintenance of significant historic agricultural buildings in ten counties around the state.

Funding will help owners to repair a broad range of barns from a 1933 gambrel-roof horse barn in Underhill to a circa 1830 English barn that is part of a complex of historic agricultural buildings at the Miller

Farmstead in Ferrisburgh. Grants will support foundation repairs, drainage work, timber frame repairs, and replacement of failing roofs.

Funds were awarded to the following projects in our region:

Bellevue Falls, Vt. where Basin Farm is located received \$15,000. This property was conserved by the Vermont Land Trust in 1992. The current owners grow organic crops on 12 acres, with pastures for cows and goats and fields of grain and hay for animal feed. Structural repairs and drainage work to the circa 1880 barn will be supported by this grant funding

Cavendish, Vt. where Spaulding Farm is located received \$10,000. This 170-acre property was owned by the Spaulding family until 1986. In addition to the circa 1850 barn, the farmhouse is one of 26 schnecked ashlar stone houses in Cavendish. The owners plan to undertake a top-to-bottom rehabilitation of the barn with the aid of this grant funding. Work includes reconstruction of the high drive and repairs to the stone foundation and timber frame.

Mount Holly, Vt. where Crowley Cheese Factory located received \$8,160. Constructed in 1881-1882

for a cheese-making operation, this building is the oldest continuously operating cheese factory in the United States. The property includes roughly 15 acres. The building serves all aspects of this active operation, including manufacturing, packaging, sales, and shipping. These matching grant funds will help the owners restore the building's historic windows.

To view the full listing of agricultural buildings that received a preservation grant visit http://accd.vermont.gov/sites/accdnew/files/documents/HP/Barn-Grants-Summaries_FY2017.pdf



Crowley Cheese factory received one of the preservation grants. PHOTO PROVIDED

Ludlow, VT

Two bedroom plus townhouse located in the heart of downtown Ludlow offering convenience to restaurants, shops and the shuttle to Okemo Mtn. The main floor is welcoming with a wood burning fireplace, and open floor plan leading to a large deck off the dining area. The upper floor has 2 large bedrooms, a bathroom and a bonus loft. **\$164,900**

Springfield, VT

Tried and true home on side street near the Springfield Hospital. This is a 3 bedroom 1300 sq ft Gambrel home with 2 and a half baths. The living room and dining room have clever built-ins and hardwood flooring, and a large eat-in kitchen. The master bedroom is on the first floor. **\$109,000**

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Manifesto asks Vermonters to "lift our eyes unto the hills"

REGION - Environmentalists may have covered nearly every ecological concern under the sun when it comes to stopping the march of wind turbines across Vermont. Now some, arguing that the actual, physical mountains have been left out of the discussion, have penned "The Mountain Manifesto," a paean to the vanishing ridgelines of the Green Mountain State.

And while there is poetry - "Like the psalmist, we lift our eyes unto the hills from whence cometh our strength" - there is also prosaic politics, bluntly stated.

"Green Mountain Power Corporation needed little more than a wag of the hand to get the State of Vermont's blessing to use a rumored 700,000 pounds of ammonium nitrate to blast away the ridgeline of Lowell Mountain, an act of incalculable ecological violence," reads the manifesto. "That is one hundred times what Timothy McVeigh used to blow up the federal building in Oklahoma City."

The document, written by "a core group of Vermonters with experience in natural science, public policy and environmental history," is being published by the Vermonters for a Clean Environment.

VCE director Annette Smith called the document "an urgent and public call to action to protect Vermont's mountains."

One of the authors of

the manifesto is Bruce Post, a staffer for the late Vermont U.S. Sen. Jim Jeffords and Gov. Richard Snelling, who died in office in 1991. He said he contributed much of the sections on mountain ecology and the state's environmental history.

"The greatest threat to them right now is industrial wind turbines on our ridgelines," said Post. "The pictures speak for themselves. I think most people, all they see is these aerodynamically attractive features spinning, in many cases off in the distance."

He said what most Vermonters don't see up close is all the damage caused by construction and wind energy operations.

"They don't know about the amount of destruction and the infrastructure that you have to put up in the mountains to get them there," he said. "They

say, 'No, I had no idea!' So, this is an attempt to educate people about that destruction and to enlist more voices in the battle against wind turbines."

In an interview with Watchdog, Post sounded a theme that has reverberated through the state's environmental community over the past few years - the division of old allies.

Not surprisingly, he contends that those who choose wind energy over mountaintops have lost their way.

Former Vermont State Naturalist Charles W. Johnson helped Post with writing and editing the manifesto and echoed that concern.

"One of the difficult parts of this is it has divided the environmental community," he said. "I have been personally sort of disparaged from my positions by some environmental groups."

Johnson said he is a true believer

when it comes to man-made global warming.

"I think that's one of the most urgent environmental issues of the day, but not by destroying the very landscapes that we and wildlife depend on," he said. "To me it's sort of akin to when you are freezing, burning down your house to keep warm."

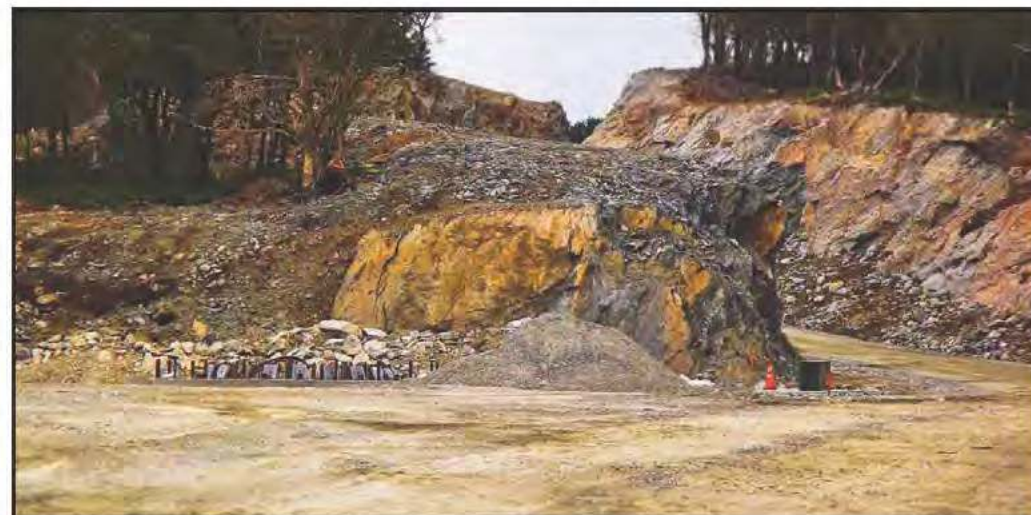
The manifesto addresses that dichotomy. Still, Johnson acknowledged there's a whole array of other concerns with wind turbines that it doesn't focus on, including the noise that can harm humans and animals, and the higher price of the electricity for ratepayers.

In the long term, Johnson said he hopes the manifesto can grow into a functioning force in Vermont's energy and environmental policy making.

"The hope is that people will read this and it will be part of a movement

toward greater numbers expressing more outwardly what we believe in, and to get - we hope - some political [impact]," he said. "One thing that would be nice is to get the environmental community together again and not segment off and vilify each other. Another goal is to look at some kind of plan statewide, not this rampant development that comes one-by-one and sort of excludes local voices."

Michael Bielawski is a freelance reporter for Vermont Watchdog. Contact him at mbielawski@watchdog.org.



Road cut, Lowell Mountain Wind Project. It will never be put back. PHOTO COURTESY OF VERMONTERS FOR A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

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