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VOLUME 17, ISSUE 47

Happy Thanksgiving

See Events on Page 5A

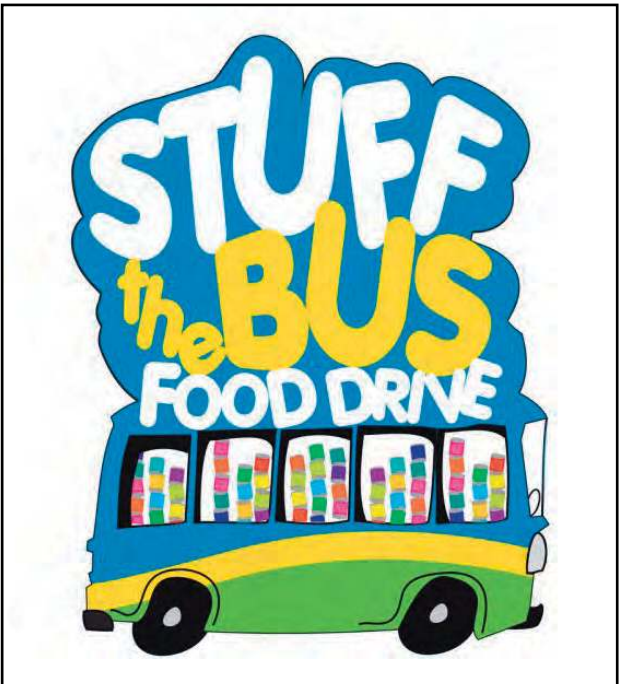
We are CLOSED Wednesday, Nov. 22 & Thursday, Nov. 23
The office will reopen on Friday, Nov. 24

Holiday Stuff-A-Bus to benefit local food shelf

LUDLOW, Vt. - The holiday season is starting and Black River Good Neighbor Services has announced that it will hold its annual Stuff-A-Bus food drive on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Shaw's Market parking lot in Ludlow. This is BRGNS' most important food drive of the year.

While there is abundant joy to be found at this time of year, it is also a time that marks significant need in our communities. BRGNS employees and volunteers are very busy now as they prepare to deliver gifts and a full holiday dinner to those in need. Over one hundred families from the immediate and surrounding towns will be helped this holiday season.

At the Stuff-a-Bus, food shelf volunteers will hand out holiday dinner menus and will ask you can get involved.



BRGNS is holding a Stuff-A-Bus food drive.

STOCK PHOTO

shoppers to help with the foods most needed: canned fruit, cranberry sauce, pickles, olives, mac & cheese, hot chocolate, cookies, tea, cereal, candy, canned carrots, peas, green beans and corn, gravy, stuffing, soup, and coffee.

Donations of money are always welcome and greatly appreciated since much food will still need to be purchased.

Volunteers are needed to sort the food as it comes in, and countless other tasks are required to make sure that the Holiday boxes find their way to everyone who needs help. Please call Krey or Audrey at BRGNS' Food Shelf, 802-228-3663 or visit 37B Main Street to ask how

Act 46 deadline forces a school district vote on Nov. 28

BY SHARON HUNTLEY
The Vermont Journal

LUDLOW, Vt. - In order to adhere to the State of Vermont's Agency of Education's Act 46, which requires school districts to merge into larger districts to realize efficiencies and increase opportunities for students, and to be eligible for the incentives offered through Act 46, the deadline to approve a merger is fast approaching and must happen by Nov. 30, 2017.

Over the course of over two and a half years, several committees have been formed to study the issue. The latest is a formal merger study committee called the 706B Mergers Study Committee, made up of both Ludlow and Mount Holly representatives, which considered four final options. After a thorough analysis, the committee chose to move forward with "Option 1," selected largely because of financial considerations and student options. This merger proposal was presented to and approved by the State Board of Education, and now goes before the voters of both Ludlow and Mount Holly on Nov. 28, for a yes or no vote. Here's what Ludlow and Mount Holly residents will be voting on and what a yes vote or a no vote means.

The proposed merger would combine the districts of Ludlow, Mount Holly and Union district 39, which is Black River, into a new unified Pre-K through grade 12, likely to be named Ludlow-Mount Holly Unified Union School District. This district would operate both Ludlow Elementary School and the Mount Holly School, Pre-K through grade six. The district would also operate Black River High School/Middle School until its closure, which would happen no later than June 30, 2020. After Black River High School is closed, the district would provide tuition for students grades 7 through 12 to attend the school of their choice.

Here's what a yes vote means:

A new unified school district would be formed with Ludlow Elementary, Mount Holly School and Union District #39.

Black River Union High School/Middle School would be closed before June 30, 2020. Once the school is closed, students grades seven through 12 will have school choice and the tuition will be paid equaling the average public school tuition rate as set by the state. The choice of school can be either a public school or an approved independent school. In a practical sense, Ludlow students would likely choose to go to Green Mountain Union High School and Mount Holly students would



Black River students and staff spell out "The Heart of our Community." PHOTO PROVIDED

likely choose to go to Mill River High School. If Ludlow community members have success establishing a Black River Independent School, tuition dollars could also be used for this option.

The district would realize a cost savings of approximately \$600,000 in overall educational spending which would result in a 20-cent tax rate decrease in Ludlow and a 12-cent decrease in Mount Holly. Additional merger incentives through Act 46

"One thing that everyone can agree on however, is that there are no easy answers, and whether your vote is yes or no, the closure of Black River Union High School may be unavoidable."

add an additional 8-cent decrease in year one, and additional 6-cent decrease in year two, 4-cents in year three and 2-cents in year four.

Small School Grants totaling approximately \$134,000 would continue in perpetuity, being renamed the Merger Support Grants.

A new school board would be formed with eight total members, four from Mount Holly and four from Ludlow.

The articles of the agreement would provide protection for the both elementary schools, protecting them from closure.

Here's what a no vote means:

No new district would be formed. The districts would submit a report to the Secretary of Education by the end of 2017 outlining their current governance structure, specifically how it relates to Act 46.

Black River High School/Middle School would remain open in the short term. However, based on the policy goals of Act 46, which requires merger action before 2019, the state would most likely step in to force a merger with the neighboring district, which includes Green Mountain Union High School or they may redraw district lines altogether. Based on all other prior committee(s) research, Black River

High School/Middle School would be targeted for closure regardless. When that happens, tuition dollars would follow students to their assigned school, most likely Green Mountain Union High School.

If Ludlow Community members have success establishing a Black River Independent School, tuition dollars could not be used for this option. Choosing a different school, including a possible Black River Independent School, would result in the entire tuition for any other choice other than the assigned public school, being the sole financial responsibility of the parents.

There would be no educational spending decrease, in fact it would likely increase, therefore there would be no tax rate decrease for either town. Also, the additional merger tax incentives extended by Act 46 would go away.

The Small Schools Grants for both elementary schools, totaling approximately \$134,000 would be eliminated. These are not new dollars, but money that has been critical to the elementary school budgets in the past.

The school board that governs the Ludlow and Mount Holly schools would be comprised of members from all of the schools in the larger district, not solely those of Ludlow and Mount Holly.

The articles of the agreement for the forced merger may not protect the Ludlow and Mount Holly elementary schools.

The State of Vermont's Agency of Education is intent on their mission to unify districts and realize efficiencies across the state. As community members grapple with the decisions ahead, many are bristling with the idea of losing their beloved community middle school and high school. One thing that everyone can agree on however, is that there are no easy answers, and whether your vote is yes or no, the closure of Black River Union High School may be unavoidable.

Voting will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 28, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Ludlow Town Hall and Mount Holly town office.

Audi FIS Women's Ski World Cup, 2017

KILLINGTON, Vt. - Mark your calendar for the return of the Audi FIS Women's Ski World Cup to Killington, Vermont on Nov. 25 and 26, 2017. Following the rousing success of its 2016 event, Killington has been chosen to host the races on Thanksgiving weekend through 2018.

Pictured is Mikaela Shiffrin as she edges her way through a gate on her winning run in the 2016 Womens World Cup slalom event at Killington.

Get more info on the World Cup event at www.killington.com/site/to-do/World-Cup

PHOTO BY JERRY LEBLOND



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ATTENTION!

Send all press releases and calendar events as a word / text document. **Do not send a PDF.**
All press releases are **subject to space and may not include pricing information.**
Send images as a **JPEG.**



Smokeshire Design

CHESTER, Vt. - Smokeshire Design, a custom furniture store, will have a soft opening on Friday, Nov. 24. The stores hours will be Friday 10 a.m. - 9 p.m., and Saturday, Sunday, Thursday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

PHOTOS PROVIDED



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Cavendish calendars are here

CAVENDISH, Vt. - The Cavendish Community and Conservation Association's 2018 Cavendish calendar is now on sale, just in time for the holidays. Each year CCCA solicits photos in the spring for the following year's calendar. Photos have to be taken within Cavendish, including Proctorsville, by Cavendish residents, including second homeowners. Subjects can include anything that reflects life in this rural Vermont community.

CCCA selected the pictures from their annual calendar photography contest in which entrants submit photos during the spring.

The winners and their winning photos that grace each month in 2018 are:

January - "Sunrise" by Winston Churchill
February - "Dinner" by Tim O'Donoghue
March - "Fox and Hound" by Richard Manders
April - "New Beginnings" by Pete Ramsdell
May - "Vacancy" by Jim Fisher
June - "Butterfly Concerto" by Hans Schrag
July - "Twenty Mile Encampment" by Belle McKnight
August - "The Old Barn" by Kristen Durkin
September - "Vineyard at Brook Farm" by Dan Sullivan
October - "Angel Hair" by Svetlana Phillips
November - "Fading Light in Birch Leiner at 802-226-7820.



Butterfly Concerto by Hans Schrag.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Trees" by Ellen Beatty
December - "Iron and Ice" by Pat Moore

The next contest will be starting soon, so start taking your photos for the next calendar.

Calendars are on sale now at Crow's Bakery on Depot Street in Proctorsville, at the Village Clipper on Main Street in Proctorsville, and at Singleton's Market in Proctorsville. For additional information on the contest or any other aspect of the Cavendish calendars, please call Cheryl

Okemo Valley December Chamber Corner

LUDLOW, Vt. - I hope you have a Happy Thanksgiving surrounded by family and friends. We have a lot to be grateful for.

We had a busy November. Okemo Mountain Resort hosted our November Chamber mixer and shared with us the new investments they made on the mountain and at the resort.

We followed that up with a fun casino night, held in the Roundhouse. Everyone had a great time for a great cause. I would like to thank our sponsors, our dealers, volunteers, businesses who donated items, and our bankers from People's United Bank for helping for our very first casino night.



Casino Night.

PHOTO BY DONALD DILL

mo-Woodstock, Slopeside Okemo Vacation Rentals, William Raveis Vermont Properties, Mary W. Davis Realtor & Associates, Skygate Financial Group, Imery's Talc, Golden Stage Inn, Awesome Graphics, Okemo Mountain Resort. **Table sponsors:** Echo Lake Inn, Home-style Hostel, Brewfest.

We're working on a promotion from Small Business Saturday Nov. 25 - Dec. 2 leading up to the INNdulgence Tour on Dec 2-3. People will be shopping and touring inns throughout our region.

We also hosted the Travel and Recreation Council on Nov. 16. Thank you to President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site for hosting our meeting.

Written by Marji Graf, CEO, Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce

Happy Thanksgiving!

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Saturday: 3:00pm, 5:30pm, 8:00pm
Sunday: 4:00pm, 7:15pm
Monday: 7:15pm
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Black River Academy hosts an open house

LUDLOW, Vt. - The Black River Academy Museum is proud to announce an open house on Wednesday, Nov. 29 from 6-7 p.m. where they will be exhibiting miniature replica buildings of downtown Ludlow. These replicas feature businesses and homes, which were on Main Street from 1938-42. The

Ludlow Elementary School sixth graders and their teacher, Heidi Baitz started working this year on this project to show what properties looked like during that time. The students have assembled and painted the buildings using photos from that era. Come visit and reminisce about the "goings on" in

that busy thoroughfare when you were running errands or walking through town on your way to school. If you are not from this area but would like to learn more about Ludlow, this is the perfect opportunity to visit and compare what the buildings looked like then to what

they look like now. You will be surprised at the wide variety of stores that were available to the townspeople. See how many you can identify just by the shape of their rooflines, windows, and porches. We look forward to seeing you all at the museum on 14 High Street. Refreshments will be served.

Annual House Warming fuel assistance event benefits local residents

CHESTER, Vt. - The annual Chester and Andover House Warming Gathering will take place on Monday, Dec. 4, 2017 at 6 p.m. at Baba a' Louis Bakery in Chester. All are invited. This event has been aptly named, "housewarming," as it raises money to help local residents with fuel assistance to heat their homes during the cold winter months. All money raised is given to the Chester-Andover Family Center to distribute to those in the Andover and Chester communities who need help. There

is no set amount to donate, but give what you can. Started in 2005 by then State Representative Kathy Pellett, with enthusiastic community participation and support, the holiday-time "housewarming" party has become an annual event. And now that less money for winter heat costs is being made available from the federal LIHEAP program, it is harder and harder each year for those in need to get support to heat their homes. From donations received at the House Warming Event in 2016,

Chester-Andover Family Center was able to provide fuel assistance to over 50 households in our community. In the spirit of holiday giving, we want to do what we can to help our neighbors. Although sponsored by the Chester and Andover Town Democratic Committees, all are welcome. For more information, contact Bill Dakin at 802-875-3456. If you are unable to attend but wish to make a donation, please make checks payable to Chester-Andover Family Center, a 501(c) 3 organization, and send to

Bill Dakin, c/o Dakin & Benelli, PC, P. O. Box 499, Chester, VT, 05143.



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Homestyle Hostel receives Chamber Member of the Month



LUDLOW, Vt. - Pictured is Marij Graf, Justin Hyjek and Eliza Green of Homestyle Hostel in Ludlow. Homestyle Hostel has been chosen by peers to be the November Chamber Members of the Month. The owners are "honored to be a member of this chamber, and we look forward to helping serve our community for years to come. Thank you OVRCC for all of your continued support!"

PHOTO BY DONALD DILL

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American Marten Fish & Wildlife lecture

LONDONDERRY, Vt. - The American Marten is the subject of a presentation by Katy Crumley, Fish and Wildlife specialist with the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department at 11 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 11 at the Meeting Place at Neighborhood Connections. Crumley has been working seasonally with the department since 2015. As a Fish and Wildlife specialist her primary role includes the management of field-based marten and lynx monitoring and camera database management. Martens, with long, slender bodies, pointed faces, small prominent ears, short legs and long furry tails are roughly the size of their more aquatic relative, the mink. They are on Vermont's endangered species list with a recovery plan adopted in 1990 at the outset of their re-introduction effort. Crumley will discuss the history of this effort, department attempts to evaluate the success, and monitoring activities to date. The work she is doing will help the department better understand Vermont's marten population and implement conservation

measures to ensure the future of this important species. This lecture is offered at no charge, but please calls 802-824-4343 if you would like to attend. Neighborhood Connections is a

community-based non-profit social services agency serving individuals and families in the area mountain towns of south-central Vermont. Check out our website at www.neighborhoodconnectionsvt.org.

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Sale Prices Effective Tuesday, November 21 thru Monday, November 27, 2017
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6/2/2011

happy thanksgiving

Thanksgiving Weekend open house

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Bellows Falls area (including Rockingham, Saxtons River and Westminster) restaurants and shops will hold their annual Thanksgiving Weekend Open House from Friday Nov. 24 to Cider Monday Nov. 27.

Starting with Plaid Friday where everyone wears plaid, many of the businesses will be having specials, classes, events, and serving refreshments throughout the weekend. Small Business Saturday* is a national holiday shopping tradition that celebrates small businesses like ours. And it wouldn't be a celebration without our loyal customers joining us. Get ready to shop with us on Nov. 25. Grab a friend or family member and come by on the big day.

The Bellows Falls Downtown Development Alliance reminds the public that they can help get the word out and celebrate Small Business Saturday by using #shopsmall on Facebook and all of their social networks, and the 2017 Shop Local cards are welcome in around 60 establishments in Bellows Falls, Saxtons River, Rockingham, and Westminster through the end of the year. We thank the public for all of its support. Details on all of our events are available on the BFDDA Facebook page. Call 802-460-2333 for more information.

Details listed below:
Athen's Pizza - 10 percent off from 5-9 p.m.
Boccaccio's - gift certificate holiday

specials

Flat Iron Exchange - holiday specials

Halladays Flowers and Harvest Barn - refreshments, door prizes, and classes on Saturday and Sunday

J & H Hardware & Sporting Goods - 10 percent off to customers wearing plaid on Friday

M&M Carriage House Creations - raffle

River Artisans - Julie Nauceder gives a spinning demonstration Friday at noon. Bonnie North gives a demonstration on fabricating painted copper jewelry on Saturday at noon.

S.B. & Co Auction House - Open on Saturday

Sherwin Art Glass - Open studio weekend with Walpole Artisans.

Glassblowing demonstrations and refreshments

Shona Grill - Buy one order of fries, get one free

The Rock and Hammer - Refreshments on Saturday and Sunday

Thyme to Cook - weekend specials

Village Square Booksellers - Plaid Friday and weekend specials. On Saturday, 50 Libro AudioBooks 50 percent off. On Sunday Mrs. Claus will read "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" at 1 p.m. Cider Monday, there will be cider and donuts.

Windham Antique Center - photos with Santa on Saturday from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Color Me In!



Party for turkeys at VINE Sanctuary

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - VINE Sanctuary invites the public to meet rather than eat turkeys on Saturday, Nov. 25, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 201 Massey Road in Springfield, Vt. This Thanksgiving Party for Turkeys will focus on celebrating and helping the turkeys and other animals at the sanctuary. Visit with turkeys and sanctuary residents as you volunteer to get buildings and grounds ready for winter. Your labors will be rewarded with a sanctuary tour followed by vegan snacks with sanctuary staff.

Five turkeys share coops and foraging yards with other birds at VINE Sanctuary. Many wild turkeys also make use of the sanctuary, raising their young in the woods that we maintain as a wild-life refuge, where they are safe from hunters.

This event is free and open to the public, but please RSVP by responding at www.facebook.com/VINESanctuary or emailing ayeshah@bravebirds.org at least one day in advance, so that enough snacks are available for all to enjoy!

What should I wear? Wear sturdy boots or shoes that you won't mind getting dirty. Bring muck boots or rain boots if it rained or snowed the day before or seems

likely to rain or snow that day. Wear clothes suitable for messy outdoor chores.

What should I bring? Bring a refillable water bottle, so that you can stay hydrated. If you have (non-leather) work gloves or gardening gloves, bring those. If you happen to have a shovel or a rake, bring that too.

Can I help with the snacks? Yes! Sanctuary staff volunteer their time to make or buy snacks for these events. If you can pitch in by bringing something vegan to share, that's always deeply appreciated!

Can I bring something for the turkeys? Sure! Turkeys love fruits and vegetables of all kinds.

What will we be doing, exactly? That will depend on the weather and on what we have been able to get done in preceding weeks. Certainly, we will be making sure that all coops and yards used by turkeys and their friends are all set for winter. That may involve raking, painting, cleaning, or helping to shift used bedding into new composting piles. We may also need to remove sticks, stones, and other obstacles from driveways, paths, and pastures.

Is this event child-friendly? It can be! Tell us in advance if you want to bring child younger than 13, and we will be sure to plan something appropriate for a child of that age to do.

Run or walk in the Thanksgiving Day 5k

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The Edgar May Health and Recreation Center will host its 5th annual Thanksgiving Day 5k Road Race and Walk on Nov. 23. Runners and walkers of all ages are welcome and children under the age of 12 are free. Registration begins at 8 a.m., with the race starting at 9 a.m. Please call 802-885-2568 to register or visit www.myreccenter.org

Thanksgiving morning is a great time to get out with friends and family for a walk or run. This year, there will be prizes for the family with the greatest number of participants, for the most experienced participant, and youngest walker or runner. The event is timed by Springfield High

School's Cross Country program, which will benefit from the races proceeds.

The 5K will begin and end at Springfield Hospital. The route begins at the bottom of Ridgewood Road and turns onto Park Street, following Park Street to Union Street and Union Street to South Street. Participants turn around at Springfield High School and head back to the starting point of the race. The course is a flat, fast course, perfect for a 5k.

EdgarMay, Executive Direc-



Runners from last year's race.

PHOTO PROVIDED

tor Christian Craig stated, "This event is a great way to start what is typically known as the largest calorie consumption day of the year. Come out and burn off some calories and you won't feel as guilty about that second piece of pie." Last year's race had a record turnout with 139 participants coming out to walk, run, and trot.

The race is sponsored by Springfield Medical Care Systems, Vermont Packing House, the Springfield Rotary Club, Black River Produce, and HCRS. Sponsorship opportunities can be found at www.myreccenter.org. Participants are also encouraged to bring food donations for the Springfield Family Center.

The race is also seeking volunteers. If you are interested in supporting a great event, contact Christian Craig. For more information regarding the Thanksgiving Day 5k, or any Edgar May Health and Recreation Center Program, please call 802-885-2568 or visit www.myreccenter.org.

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LOCAL HISTORY

BY RON PATCH

Ron Patch is a Chester native, Chester Historical Society president, and a lifelong antiques dealer.

He can be reached at 802-374-0119 or email knotz69@gmail.com

Stray shots & short casts

In the 1960s the Rutland Herald had a weekly column titled "Stray shots & short casts." I choose that title for this article as I have several subjects to write about this week.

Last week Peter Farrar, Danny Clemons and I went up the Reservoir Road researching a bit of local history. Peter knew the history and Danny knew the area.

While we didn't locate exactly what we were looking for we did find a number of old cellar holes. One site had several cellar holes. On the 1869 Beers Atlas we found the Sabin family living there in 1869. All that remains today are the cellar holes.

Some of the foundation stones were huge. While some of the walls had partially fallen in most were well preserved. Today, these old cellar holes are being bulldozed by landowners without concern for their historical importance. Peter suggested before any more are destroyed a high school student using GPS could locate and map all of the cellar holes in the town of Chester. It doesn't have to be a student, perhaps you'd like to give it a try. It would be a worthy project. Today, we map trees in town. Why not cellar holes? Trees are renewable; cellar holes are not.

The Chester Historical Society is publishing a new book to be released next spring. This book will include real photo postcards of Chester and surrounding towns. Included will be Chester village, the Depot, Gassetts, Smokeshire, West Chester and Popple Dungeon.

Also included will be Andover, Simonsville, Londonderry and Weston. We invite you to submit any old photos or postcards you have of these areas. I imagine there are a few families in these towns who have unpublished photos. This is your chance to step forward and share your photos with a wide audience. You will be given credit for any photos you submit or you can remain anonymous.



Clyde Clark with his oxen, Dick & Dan.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Another item: recorded history shows Captain Melvin left Fort Dummer May 13, 1748 to Lake Champlain. It was May 31, 1748 on the return trip to Fort Dummer when Melvin's men were attacked by Indians. Here a massacre took place with four or more of Captain Melvin's killed and scalped.

There is a monument to Captain Melvin and his men at the Salmon Hole in Jamaica but is this accurate? Sam Ogden of Landgrove, Vermont made an interesting discovery many years ago and makes a strong case for it having occurred in Londonderry.

Ogden located Captain Melvin's 1748 journal at the New Hampshire Historical Society and copied it word for word. This journal documents Melvin's daily route with compass bearings and miles marched each day. In those early days few mountains, streams or rivers had been given names.

However Melvin's journal is fairly well detailed where he describes mountains, waterfalls or streams crossed. Sam concluded the massacre occurred in Londonderry not Jamaica.

Here is part of Sam Ogden's conclusions.

"...At any rate, it seems quite plain that the captain and his group followed this stream to the east where, as he says, 'travelled over a Large Mountain, leaving another large mountain on the N/W,' the first undoubtedly being Bromley and the other Stiles Peak, at which

point they would come upon the headwaters of our Flood Brook. I cannot pinpoint the actual location of the ambush, but as I have indicated, it would seem to have taken place in Londonderry somewhere just below the juncture of Flood Brook with the West River..."

We have assembled a small group of individuals with different skills. One individual who is a retired engineer will take Melvin's journal with aid of a compass and a 1756 map of the region and attempt to retrace Melvin's steps. Others have equally important skills. Our goal is not to rewrite history but to accurately record history. Whatever our findings are it is our intent to present them in a Power-Point presentation in the future.

The 2018 Chester Historical Society calendars are for sale at: Stone House Antiques Center, Chester Hardware, Phoenix Misty Valley Books, Lisa's Market, Erskine's Feed Store, Chester Town Hall, Vintage Vermont, Salon 2000 and the Framery of Vermont. The photo with this article is the cover of our 2018 calendar.

Instead of an old saying I offer an epitaph I recently read in an old book for Maggie, an Army mule. "In memory of Maggie, who in her lifetime kicked 1 General, 4 Colonels, 2 Majors, 24 Lieutenants, 42 Sergeants, 454 Privates and one bomb."

Fond memories of Southeast State Correctional Facility



Playing volleyball at SESC.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY JOSEPH HAMMOND



The Southeast State Correctional Facility building.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY JOSEPH HAMMOND

WINDSOR, Vt. – The Southeast State Correctional Facility in Windsor recently closed its doors. As someone who worked closely with the facility, I share my fondest memories of the SESC.

I started working for the Vermont Department of Corrections at the Maximum Security Prison on State Street in Windsor, Vt. It was a brutal and dangerous environment. The prison closed in 1975 and is now providing valuable housing for senior citizens.

In 1984, I started work at what was then known as WCF or "the prison farm." I started there as a correctional services specialist I and eventually was promoted to correctional services specialist II. I later served as a correctional officer for three years and then finished my career as the facility's recreation coordinator.

I have many fond memories of the facility having done an excellent job implementing a variety of missions. For much of the time that I worked for the Corrections, Vermont Department of Corrections was nationally admired. The department received a lot of federal funds because Vermont is a small state and made a good laboratory for testing correctional initiatives. I was particularly impressed with treatment programs such as cognitive self-change with Steve Woodsum and the Vanguard program, which I eventually administered at Windsor.

Windsor housed women for about five years and did an excellent job making sure the relationships between the incarcerated women and their children were maintained. While the women were at Windsor, the Girl Scouts would bring the young scouts to the facility to camp out overnight with their mothers and sometimes grandmothers. The scouts would cook marshmallows over an open fire, sing songs, and then pitch tents and sleep overnight. When the decision to move the women from Windsor was discussed at the legislature, I testified in front of the House Committee and they voted 10 to 0 not to move the women. Then the Vermont Senate became involved, and the rest is history.

My personal feeling is that the 2005 Truth in Sentencing legislation



Gardening at the facility.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY JOSEPH HAMMOND

has had a devastating effect upon corrections in Vermont and severely downgraded the quality of Vermont Corrections. My hope at this point in time is that the facilities of the

Southeast State Correctional Facility will be put to good use.

Article written by Joseph F. Hammond.



The Southeast State Correctional Facility.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY JOSEPH HAMMOND

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opinion

Op-Ed: Vote ‘yes’ on Nov. 28.

Will the voters of Mount Holly and Ludlow vote to retain control of their own schools and the education of our students?

1. If the proposed school merger between Mount Holly and Ludlow is approved, then Mount Holly and Ludlow will each keep their own elementary school for grades Pre-kindergarten through 6 governed by a new joint school board. Students in grades 7 -12 will have a choice of what middle and high school to attend. Black River High School will close within two years.

If the merger fails, the two elementary schools and U39, after filing Section 9 reports, become a side-by-side district with the Green Mountain district in Chester. Then the State Board has the authority and will, in all likelihood, put the Mount Holly, Ludlow, U39 school district into the Chester centered Green Mountain district, which, as members of the Green Mountain district indicated, will close BRHS anyway. That Board has said it will not run two high schools since Green Mountain Union High School could easily absorb the Black River students. Since Mount Holly and Ludlow would only have minority representation on this enlarged board, there is no way that move could be blocked. Mount Holly and Ludlow School Board discussion with the consultant hired by the two boards indicated that this is the most likely result if the merger fails.

2. The new Mount Holly-Ludlow merger proposal provides protection for our elementary schools since the Articles of Agreement state that neither elementary school can be closed without a unanimous vote of the new Board and a positive vote of the town involved.

3. The new Board will be made up

of eight members, four from each town though they will be elected by the entire membership of both towns. Mount Holly and Ludlow schools will be governed by Mount Holly and Ludlow people. If our schools are put in the Green Mountain district, under the larger Chester based Board, we will have little say in the governing of our two elementary schools. They wouldn't have the protection they would have under this new merger proposal.

4. There should be significant cost per pupil tax reduction when the merger becomes final July 1, 2018 and when BRHS is closed in 2020. Further, if the merger fails, the district will lose approximately \$131,000 in small school grants and will also lose the 3.5 percent Hold Harmless Provision, costing further money should school populations drop.

All of this raises our taxes. The estimate is an annual savings, if the merger is approved, of about \$600,000. If the merger fails, all of these savings disappear along with the tax incentives which would reduce taxes by .08, .06, .04, .02 each year over 4 years. Apart from those incentives, it is estimated that the Mount Holly tax rate will drop by about .12 and the Ludlow rate by about .20 if the merger is approved.

5. The issue of student transportation has been discussed and the district consultant has estimated that providing transportation to Mill

River High School and Green Mountain High School would cost about \$30,000, adding perhaps one cent to the tax rate.

This is the last chance we get to control our own destiny as far as education in our two towns is concerned. We can control our own destiny by voting “yes” for this new merger plan or let the State Board of Education do it for us by voting “no,” which will still close BRHS while leaving the people of Mount Holly and Ludlow with no say, no choice in where our students can go after leaving elementary school.

Furthermore, not only will the control of our two elementary schools be turned over to a larger Board centered in Chester, it likely will leave some Mount Holly students with a 60-mile round trip bus ride to and from school each day.

This new merger proposal involving the two elementary schools and 7-12 choice may not be a perfect solution and not what many may have desired; but it leaves educational decisions in the hands of the people of Mount Holly and Ludlow rather than turning those decisions over to the state - and eventually a bigger Board in the Chester based Green Mountain district. We control our own destiny, and, as an added benefit, it saves us money. A winning combination.

Article written by Peter B. Smith of Belmont, Vt.

Letters to the Editor



“This is the longest relationship I’ve ever been in!”

THE Vermont Journal & THE SHOPPER

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Dear Editor,

Those who say they want to create an independent high school in Ludlow have no solid plan and have not indicated that the state would even endorse their idea.

Have any of these people been involved in the current high school? It appears the real goal is to close Black River High School. And if we vote for the new district, it's not likely BRHS will remain open beyond another year at best. Teachers have families to feed and would need to accept positions elsewhere.

If students choose even the nearest other high schools, they will be spending at least an extra hour on a school bus each day. Is this what we want for them?

Recently a teacher from another school wrote a commentary in the Rutland Herald about quitting because

Dear Editor,

Greater Falls Connections would like to thank all of our community members for disposing of their unwanted or unused prescriptions at the Bellows Falls Police Department's prescription drug drop box over the past year. A total of five boxes, weighing 123 pounds, have been collected

Dear Friends,

Two years ago, when I was hired as the new executive director for the Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce, I had no idea what to expect. I only knew that it was going to be an adventure, and a lot of hard work.

Now, membership is up. Event attendance has been steadily increasing. Financially, we're operating in the black. We're working closely with the town and local orgs to tackle the issues facing our community and taking steps to promote a thriving region. The response from chamber members and townspeople has been overwhelmingly positive, and humbling to experience.

Even so, I was completely surprised when, amidst looking back on two years of toil and effort, I was notified that I had been nominated as one of Vermont Business Magazine's "Rising Stars" of 2017. When I received word that I had indeed officially been chosen as one of those Top 40 Under 40,

Dear Editor,

Energy eats up a large portion of Vermonters' monthly expenses.

That's one thing we heard from Vermonters we met during Efficiency Vermont's statewide tour this fall. In addition to these in-person conversations and live polling, Efficiency Vermont gathered input online to help identify the most pressing energy issues facing Vermonters.

Of the people who attended our forums, 32 percent of live-poll respondents reported spending over \$500 per month on heating, driving, and electricity; and an additional 45 percent spend between \$250 and \$500. For those living at or below the poverty line, these costs can consume 10 percent or more of their income.

Dear Editor,

Neighborhood Connections would like to thank the Lyman Orton Fund of the Vermont Community Foundation for their recent grant for annual support. These funds will go to provide much-needed help to our neighbors in the community.

Neighborhood Connections is a community-based organization serving individuals and families in the mountain towns of south-central

of student disrespect. It's too bad he never experienced teaching at BRHS where both students and teachers are part of a tight-knit family. Students know their teachers care about them.

Closing a school guarantees an economic decline in the community. Ludlow businesses will lose local traffic. The students they depend upon for part-time jobs won't be just down the road. The town may also lose its sense

team for assisting us with National Take Back Day this past Oct. 28, and supporting our year-round efforts to increase education and awareness to prevent prescription drug abuse and drug addiction.

If you want to learn more about our work, visit us on Facebook or at www.

brought to my attention so many things to be grateful for. I am appreciative of my Board, for seeing something in me and for giving me the opportunity to run the chamber and to promote positive impact in our neighborhoods. Their continued assistance and enthusiasm keeps my engine running.

I'm thankful for Lori Evans, an unexpected volunteer who serendipitously showed up on the chamber doorstep and gave me her time, energy, and friendship during the busy weeks leading up to Apple Fest.

Back in September, I had the pleasure of speaking on a panel for the Vermont Young Professionals Summit at the Paramount Theater. The panel was called "Building an Entrepreneurial Ecosystem." We talked about the importance of human connections, the value of authenticity, the critical need to communicate openly and listen. I was so proud to be able to use the Springfield Regional Chamber as a fantastic example of a collection of

through efficiency - and is something Efficiency Vermont will continue to do.

Second, people are interested in innovations in the energy sector. Smart appliances, electric vehicles, and zero energy homes (among other solutions) were discussed frequently. The energy system of tomorrow may look very different than the system of today. We want to make sure we continue to provide customers with objective advice to make sense of the options and find the solutions that are right for them.

Finally, we heard that Efficiency Vermont's partnership with Vermont tradespeople is important and should remain a priority. Echoing much of the broader public dialogue

of being a community. There won't be a science fair, no play to attend, and the lights won't come on at the ball fields.

If, on Nov. 28, we vote "no" in order to keep Black River High School open, students win and the community wins as well.

Sincerely,
Carol Ballou
Ludlow, Vt.

greaterfallsconnections.org to see how you can get in involved. Prevention through Inspiration!

Sincerely,
Deb Witkus
Outreach Coordinator
Greater Falls Connections

people getting it right.

I even got a nice letter from our U.S. Congressman Peter Welch, offering congratulations; he wrote, "You will renew Springfield"

It was lovely to hear from him, and I thought to myself, "Well, I certainly can't do it alone!" But I'm not alone. I am one of many who are working hard every day, each in their own way, to make our beautiful community an even better place to live, grow, work, and play.

Thank you all for your commitment to Springfield. Together we are making it happen. I wish for all of you this holiday season that you find ample time to spend with family and friends. Rest, relax, and renew.

Sincerely,
Caitlin Christiana
Executive Director
Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce
Springfield, Vt.

around contractor availability, the Vermonters we talked to also see a need for more energy efficiency contractors in a number of regions across the state.

In the coming weeks and months, expect to hear more about our plans for the future, which will incorporate this essential customer feedback.

We're proud of our work serving Vermont and Vermonters and invite you to share your thoughts on how we can help you save energy and save money.

Sincerely,
Karen Glitman
Director
Efficiency Vermont

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

OBITUARIES

church services

ASCUTNEY, VT.

Bow Baptist Church, 1102 Route 5.
Sunday school at 10 a.m. Morning service at 11 a.m. Evening service at 6 p.m. Prayer meeting on Wednesday at 7 p.m. Call 802-546-4902 or www.bowbaptist.com.

Open Bible Baptist Church, 168 Cemetery Rd.
Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. Morning service at 11 a.m. Afternoon service at 2 p.m. Wednesday at 7 p.m. Sanctuary handicap accessible. Visit: obbcvt.org.

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 a.m. (quiet service) and 10 a.m. (with music) every Sunday. Immanuel Church is handicap accessible.

Faith Cristian Church, 582 Rockingham Rd.
Pastor Matt and Brenda Farkas welcome all to come and enjoy their services. Sunday worship at 10 a.m. Children’s Church (3-7 years) at 10:30 a.m. Thanksgiving Service will be held Tuesday, Nov. 21 at 6:30 p.m., an evening to give thanks to God for what he has done for us.

BELMONT, VT.

The Village Church: 35 Church St.
The Sunday service and children’s church is at 9:30 a.m. Contact 802-259-2440; vbch.weebly.com/

CAVENDISH-PROCTORSVILLE, VT.

Cavendish Baptist Church, 2258 Main St.
Sundays at 10 a.m. More at CavendishBaptist.com or call 802-226-7131

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church, Main St.
Sunday Mass at 9:30 a.m. Call 802-228-3451

CHARLESTOWN, N.H.

North Charlestown United Methodist Church, Route 12A River Rd.
Sunday worship begins at 9 a.m. Church is handicap accessible. Contact 603-826-0381.

CHESTER, VT.

St. Joseph’s Church, 96 S. Main St.
Mass at 4 p.m. on Saturday and Thursday at 9 a.m. Confession from 3 – 3:30 p.m.

First Universalist Parish of Chester, Rte. 103. 211 North St.
Sundays at 9:30 a.m. between Sept. and June. More at www.chestervtuu.org or 802-875-3257.

CLAREMONT, N.H.

Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church, 99 Sullivan St.
Saturdays at 6 p.m. and Sunday at 9:30 a.m. 603-542-6273; frandrew@

Obituaries

Kenneth J. LaBarge, Jr., 1933 - 2017

LUDLOW, Vt. - Kenneth J. LaBarge, Jr. 84, passed away peacefully Wednesday Nov. 15, 2017 at Springfield Health and Rehabilitation. He was born in Winchendon, Mass. on Jan. 27,1933 the son of Kenneth and Florence (Breton) LaBarge, Sr. He moved to Vermont as a teenager and entered the United States Army on Jan. 27, 1953. LaBarge served with the Army for 20 years and received his honorable discharge on April 30, 1973.

He was married to his loving wife of 63 years, Betty Hobart, on June 24, 1954. After returning from the Army, LaBarge had owned and operated the Farrand Green House for many years. Afterwards, he worked for the Black River School District as a custodian for 15 years before his retirement.

LaBarge enjoyed camping, traveling, flowers, and spending time with his family. He is survived by his wife Betty LaBarge of Ludlow; two sons: Dwaine LaBarge and his wife Kim, Bruce LaBarge and his wife Beth; his daughter Cynthia and her husband Harry; his brother Wesley Smith; his sisters: Ilene Breton, Linda Baldwin and her husband Nyle, Rose Letourneau and her husband Bill, Marylou Woolley, and Carol Lemieux and her husband Alfred; and his brother in law Tony St. John. Also surviving are seven grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren. He was predeceased by his parents, his son Keith, and his sister Beverly.

Calling hours will be held on Sunday, Nov. 26, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Adams Funeral Home, 12 Meadow St., in Ludlow. The funeral service will be held on Monday at 10 a.m. at the funeral home. Graveside committal services and interment with Military Honors will follow in the Pleasant View Cemetery in Ludlow.

Memorial contributions in lieu of flowers may be made to either the Black River Good Neighbor Services, 37B Main St., Ludlow, VT, 05149 or to the Muscular Dystrophy Association, USA National Office, 222 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 1500, Chicago, IL, 60606.



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GRAFTON, VT.

The Grafton Church (UCC and ABC), 55 Main St.
Worship begins at 10 a.m. All are welcome!

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St. Joseph Chapel, High St.
Mass on Saturday at 6 p.m.

LUDLOW, VT.

Annunciation Catholic Church, Corner of Depot and High St.
Mass on Saturday at 4:30 p.m. Sundays at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Call 802-228-3451

The United Church of Ludlow (UCC and Methodist), 48 Pleasant St.
Sundays starting at 10:15 a.m. followed by a time of fellowship and coffee hour. Services by the Reverend Dr. Donald E. Harpster. Call 802-228-4211 or email unitedchurch@tds.net. Visit us online at www.unitedchurch.us

Ludlow Baptist Church, on the Green, 99 Main St.
Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. Music Ministry Fellowship at 10:30 a.m. Morning service at 11 a.m. Sunday evenings at 6:30 p.m. Prayer meeting on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. More information can be found at www.ludlowbaptist.org or by Pastor Jerry Scheumann calling 802-228-7600.

PERKINSVILLE, VT.

Perkinsville Community Church, Route 106.
The annual Christmas candle light service will be held on Sunday, Dec. 10 at 5 p.m. There will be holiday carols, harp, guitar, chime choir, vocals, piano, organ, flute, and violin. All are welcome. Come and enjoy an evening of music and Christmas scripture readings.

SPRINGFIELD, VT.

Church of Christ, Route 11, Chester Rd.
Sunday school starts at 10 a.m. Worship service at 11 a.m. Wednesday Devotional is at 6:30 p.m. Enter through the back downstairs door. Check out the Facebook page: Springfield Church of Christ.

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, 90 Park St.
Vespers on Saturdays at 5 p.m. and Liturgy on Sunday at 9:30 a.m. For more information, call 802-885-2615 or go to www.htocvt.org.

North Springfield Baptist Church, 69 Main St.
Adult Bible study on Sundays at 9 a.m. before the worship service at 10 a.m., followed by fellowship and coffee hour. Call 802-886-8107, email nssbc@vermontel.net or go to www.nsbcbt.org for additional information and directions.

Precision Valley Baptist Church, 69 Route 106
Adult Bible Study on Sundays from 9 -9:45 a.m. Services start at 10 a.m. 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. Sunday evening service at 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible study for all ages at 6 p.m.

The church also has a bus to pick up children for Sunday school. Call anytime during the week to schedule a pick up. Call 802-885-4261.

St. Mary’s Catholic Church, 10 Pleasant St.
Sunday Masses at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m., Tuesday at 7 p.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration. Thursday and Friday at 9 a.m. Confession on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. Contact the rectory at 802-885-3400.

Unitarian Universalist Church, 21 Fairground Rd.
“A Basic Call to Consciousness” with Sharon Mueller will be the Nov. 26 Sunday service at 10 a.m. In 1977, the Haudenosaunee - the Six Nations, or Iroquois - presented position papers to the Non-Governmental Organizations of the United Nations in Geneva. They conveyed the point of view that the destruction by Western Civilization of the Natural World and its peoples is the clearest indicator of humankind’s spiritual poverty, and called for consciousness of the Sacred Web of Life. Have we listened to these wise words? All welcome! www.uuspringfieldvt.org or call 802-885-3327.

WALPOLE, N.H.

St. John’s Church, corner of Westminster and Elm St.
Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. Services begin at 10 a.m., followed by coffee hour. For more information about Art After School program, our outreach efforts, call 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. Wheelchair accessible with ramps and elevator. Call 603-756-4075 or email walpolechurch@yahoo.com.


Walpole Unitarian Church, corner of Union and Main St.
Sunday Service begin at 10 a.m. Minister is Rev. Elaine Bomford who will be present twice a month. The first Sunday of each month is Family First Sunday with breakfast and spiritual activities for the while family. Check www.walpoleunitarianchurch.org.

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. Fellowship lunch on first Sunday of each month. Non-denominational. Visit www.christianfamilycirclechurch.com and like us on Facebook.

WEST WINDSOR, VT.

Brownsville Community United Methodist Church, 66 Brownsville-Hartland Rd.
Sunday Worship 9 a.m. followed by fellowship and refreshments. Childcare provided during church service. ADA accessible. Call 802-484-5944 or go to www.brownsvilleumc-vt.org.



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Kirstie K. Greer, 1991 - 2017

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Kirstie K. Greer 26, passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2017. She was born March 19, 1991 in Springfield, Vt. the daughter of Kimberly Pierce and Alexander Greer III. She attended Springfield schools.


Greer loved to cook and bake and was employed in the food service industry for many years, most recently baking at the Green Mountain Sugar House in Ludlow, Vt. She loved spending time with friends and family, loved to fish, loved animals especially her cats, liked horses, and loved baking and cooking.

She is survived by her mother Kimberly Hains of Springfield, her father Alexander Greer III of North Springfield, sister Kyndra Hains of Springfield, maternal grandmother Brenda Pierce, maternal grandfather Keith Pierce, paternal grandmother Bonnie Reynolds, aunt and uncle Tamara and Don Thomas, and several aunts, uncles, and cousins.

She was predeceased by her paternal grandfather Alex Greer.

A memorial service will be held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday evening, Nov. 21, 2017 at the Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt. Erin Hunter will officiate. Contributions may be made in her memory to Turning Point Recovery Center, 7 Morgan Street, Springfield, VT, 05156.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Davis Memorial Chapel.



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Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

T	O	F	U	T	A	M	S	C	A	N
O	M	E	N	A	P	E	T	E	S	T
T	A	L	C	U	R	N	A	N	K	H
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P	E	R	I	I	D	O	L	A	V	A
R	E	E	F	E	O	N	E	V	E	N
E	L	S	E	S	A	G	R	E	S	T

christmas is coming

HOLIDAY BAZAARS

FRIDAY, NOV. 24 – SATURDAY, NOV. 25

WESTON, Vt. - There's something for everyone at this year's Weston Christmas Bazaar, including the pets! There will be 60 vendors, at least a dozen who are new. It all begins on the Friday after Thanksgiving at the Weston Playhouse, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 24 and Saturday, Nov. 25. Jams and jellies, baked goods and breads, syrups and sauces, wreaths and ornaments, scarves and mittens, clothes and jewelry, art and pottery, quilts and crafts... all handmade, all one of a kind, and all affordable! New this year, gifts for pets too! So start the Christmas season off right. Support Vermont's incredibly talented local artisans and small businesses in the process. Proceeds from the bazaar support the Weston Community Association. Admission is free.

SATURDAY, NOV. 25 -

WESTMINSTER, Vt. - The Women's Fellowship will hold its annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 25, from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., at the First Congregational Church, 3470 Route 5, Westminster, Vt. The Christmas Shop will be open and will include crafts, candles, gifts, handmade items, collectibles, and homemade baked goods. At 11 a.m. Santa will visit! Children of all ages are invited to do a craft project and take a photo with Santa. Also starting at 9 a.m., the Christmas Café will be open from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Coffee, tea and treats will be available in the morning and soup, chili, sandwiches, chips, and beverages for lunch. Come and get some early shopping done or just spend time with friends in the café.

SATURDAY, DEC. 2 –

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The Bellows Falls Area Senior Center, located at 18 Tuttle Street, will hold its annual Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. The bazaar features knitted and hand-sewn items, arts and crafts, white elephant sale, jewelry, holiday decorations and ornaments, which are all available on our second floor. The first floor will feature homemade baked goods, raffles and the Elf Café. The Elf Café is open from 11 a.m. -1 p.m. and will feature soup, hot dogs, sandwich rolls, and homemade pie. A beautiful quilt made by the center's quilting group will be raffled off. We will be awarding cash prizes! All raffles will be drawn the day of the event. Tickets are still available at the center's office, which is open Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m. The Center is handicap accessible and we have a lift available to take you to the second floor. Parking is available.



Springfield High School Alumni Association, Inc.
Invites you to Attend Our
**39th Annual Beyond the Unicorn II
Christmas Craft Fair**
Saturday, December 2nd from 9am - 4pm
at Riverside Middle School ~ Springfield, VT
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Celebrate the holiday season with Christmas in Weston

WESTON, Vt. - Christmas in Weston is a daylong celebration of family fun that ushers in the holiday season for the mountain communities, residents, and visitors alike. Christmas in Weston attracts those looking for a traditional Vermont winter experience as well as great holiday sale opportunities. But this event is also an opportunity for us to showcase a local charity who works tirelessly for those in our community needed help. Funds raised through donations, raffle, and food sales at designated vendors from this event will go to Just Neighbors.

Just Neighbors is an all-volunteer organization dedicated to providing short-term assistance to local people who are experiencing a sudden and overwhelming challenge in their living situations. Just Neighbors provides assistance for the basic life necessities to address safety, security, and other essential components to support family and housing needs. They are a valuable asset to our community, and we are proud to support them. This organization provides services to residents of Andover, Bondville, Landgrove, Londonderry, South Londonderry, Peru, Weston, Winhall, and Windham in Vermont. Come and visit them on the Vil-

lage Green to learn more about this essential organization to the community.

Now in its 33rd year, Christmas in Weston is a day full of free events throughout the town on Saturday, Dec. 2, 2017 from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. There are fun events and activities for all ages at galleries, shops, museums, and inns throughout the scenic village and delicious food at local restaurants. Have fun while finding unique gifts for everyone on your Christmas list - all in the town of Weston.

"This event offers a variety of events and activities for children and adults alike," says Deane Cooper, the event chairperson. Start the morning off with a good breakfast at the Colonial House Inn. Tour the village by foot or two horse-drawn wagons. Children will enjoy visiting with Santa and Mrs. Claus and the petting zoo at the Vermont Country Store. For some hands-on activities, the little ones can make a craft at the historic Little School then go and enjoy a reading of "The Night Before Christmas" with Mimi Neff at the Wilder Memorial Library. The Village Green Gallery will be offering signed copies of "A New Day" by author and illustrator Don Bolognese, a timeless story of the nativity, to the first 25 children who stop by. Adults can enjoy a hearty lunch at the Bryant House

Restaurant, a cappuccino and cannoli at the Village Green Gallery, followed up with an afternoon libation at the Landgrove Inn or sample craft beers and Vermont cheeses at the Inn at Weston.

If you linger into the latter part of the day, the Inn at Weston is offering a special Christmas dinner and night of holiday music. One-of-a-kind gifts can be purchased at the Vermont Country Store and Weston Village Store, the Weston Village Christmas Shop, and the Village Green Gallery. With so much going on you might enjoy food on the go. At the Weston Playhouse we are offering the ever popular Weston Women's Club Holiday Cookie Sale, as well as chili and soup to warm you up while you view the quilt display of local needlework.

This year we have a new event location at the Weston Playhouse's new Walker Farm which will host a few old favorites and some new additions to the day's events. A dramatic reading of "A Christmas Carol" by Munson Hicks and our local finest, a variety of music events, and Magician Doug Eash who is "just plain cool" will amaze the kid in all of us. Walker Farm is also calling all you bakers out there for a ginger bread contest. We will be having categories for children, adults, and professionals. Prizes will be awarded for the best in show for

each category. "This is an exciting new event for Christmas In Weston. We have really creative and talented bakers out in the community and we look forward to seeing their beautiful creations." Kathy Schoemer, contest coordinator says.

Music is alive in the Village of Weston this year. The Church on the Hill will have live Christmas caroling featuring Patricia Connelly. The Little School students will be warming our hearts with their caroling before Santa whisks them off to the Village Green, and the lighting of the Weston Christmas Tree.

Works from local artists will be raffled as part of the day's activities along with gift certificates from local businesses including area restaurants and inns as well as theatre tickets to exciting summer Weston Playhouse performances. The raffle will also benefit Just Neighbors and tickets can be purchased at the Weston Playhouse and businesses in the town. Winners need not be present to win.

Weston, a jewel to be found, is a town for all ages, interests and seasons. Start the winter with a nostalgic, traditional Vermont Christmas experience. For more detailed information and the schedule of events for Christmas in Weston visit the Village of Weston website at: www.westonvt.com.

Santa to light the town tree

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - When Santa lights Springfield's town tree, a sense of awe comes over the crowd of families who anxiously awaited his arrival, quickly followed by cheers!

Once again, Springfield on the Move and the Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce are collaborating to bring the holiday program to downtown Springfield.

The chamber has invited Santa and Mrs. Claus to come to town and have arranged for the tree, Santa's house, and caroling.

The annual family holiday program will begin at 4 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 1, at the SOM office at 6 Valley Street. Chil-

dren will pick up their sticker maps and visit downtown businesses and organizations to get special treats and stickers to put on their maps. When maps are full, children will return to the SOM office for their goodie bags filled with surprises.

Caroling with the Springfield Community Band and the Springfield Holiday Community Chorus will begin in the People's United Bank parking lot on Main Street near Santa's House at 5:30 p.m. Santa will arrive at 6 p.m. to light the town's Christmas tree. He will then greet excited children in his special house.

Wreath Workshop

JAMAICA, Vt. - Get in the holiday spirit with the first annual Holiday Fest and Wreath Workshop. The event takes place at the beautiful historic Jamaica Town Hall on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 4 -6 p.m. The festival will include a myriad of activities and photo opportunities. Be crafty and create a holiday wreath at the workshop table, or purchase a decorated locally made artisan wreath. Sing carols and enjoy live music with the wonderful Merry Pranksters bluegrass band.

The music heads outside across to the town green to light the town tree at 5:30 p.m. Great raffle prizes have been donated by local businesses. Sign up at the D&K store for the cookie swap with talented local bakers. Enjoy homemade refreshments, bring a new unwrapped toy to donate, make a fun project at the kid's craft area and much, much more.

Jamaica Town Hall is located at 3735 VT Route 30 in the village of Jamaica. The event is free and hosted by The Jamaica Community Arts Council.

Festival of Lights

MOUNT HOLLY, Vt. - You are invited to the Festival of Lights Silent Auction, presented by the Mount Holly Community Historical Museum. This annual event will be on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 6 – 8 p.m.

Beautifully decorated one of a kind wreaths, creative gift baskets and an array of donated items will be auctioned. This is the museum's primary fundraising event. The monies raised will support the development of new exhibits, the educational program and contribute to the upkeep of mu-

seum facilities.

This year's event will be at Perkins House on the Green in Belmont. An array of hors doeuvres with wine and other refreshments will be offered beginning at 6 p.m. In addition to the silent auction, there will a penny sale style raffle for some items, wine and cheese baskets raffle, plus door prizes!

This adults-only event is free. Come join the festivities and support the museum! For more info, visit www.mounthollyvtmuseum.org or our Facebook Page.

38th Annual

Christmas Craft Fair

Black River High School Gym, Ludlow

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Ludlow Community Center

Saturday, November 25, 2017

10 am - 4 pm

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christmas is coming



Home for the pawlidays

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Springfield Humane Society and North Shore Animal League America announce their free pet adoption days Friday – Sunday, Nov. 24 – 26 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Springfield Humane Society located at 41 Skitchewaung Trail, Route 143. All applicants must be preapproved before adoption! Email spfldhmane@vermontel.net to get an application for your dog or cat. PHOTO PROVIDED

Rockingham Library holiday party and raffle

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – The Friends of the Rockingham Library are hosting a Community Holiday Party at the library on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Join the festivities and celebrate the Friends of the Library's donation of the Vilas Bridge painting by Jerry Pihol. The public is invited to this free family-friendly event. The Springfield Springers of Saxtons River will be performing live. Light refreshments will be served. Children of all ages and their families are invited to decorate a gingerbread person in the library's youth department. The Friends' Holiday Raffle and Silent Auction will conclude the event. Stop by the library anytime to see all the prizes on display. Silent Auction items include baskets of children's books and instruments, Peruvian handcrafts, woodcarvings from around the world and sweet/savory snacks from Vermont Country Store. Raffle prizes include best-selling books, a Scandinavian hat & mitten set, an artist's coloring book, a number of lovely framed prints and many other items. Raffle tickets are for sale at the front desk. All proceeds from the silent auction and raffle will benefit the Friends of the Rockingham Free Public Library. For more information, email programming@rockinghamlibrary.org, call 802-463-4270, visit the library at 65 Westminster St. in Bellows Falls or go to www.rockinghamlibrary.org.

Beyond the Unicorn Christmas Craft Fair celebrates its 39th anniversary

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Kick off your Christmas shopping at Springfield's version of a super mall with 95 vendors showcasing their unique and unusual creations at the Beyond the Unicorn Christmas Craft Fair at Riverside Middle School, Route 11, in Springfield, Vt. on Saturday, Dec. 2. The show will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will host a large array of artisans and crafters from all over New England, New Jersey, and New York. Vendors are selected based on the diversity and quality of their creations, including: bath and body products, candles, hand painted items, glass items, pottery, lighted objects, ceramics, country crafts, deer-skin gloves and accessories, photography, postcards, cards, wooden toys, clocks, jewelry, and other unusual items. There will be Christmas decorations galore; holiday centerpieces, snowmen, Santas, and wreaths. An author will be present with her mystery books and related items as well as locally created cookbooks. Children's

specialty items such as hair bows and ties, tutus, and pewter animals will abound. New this year, are metal, copper and stainless steel garden ornaments as well as window hangings and sculptures. Springfield High School students will provide face painting, and Clown Purple will turn her balloons into adorable little creatures for the children. Outside you will find fresh balsam wreaths and a kettle corn popper will fill the air with the aroma of freshly popped corn! You're sure to find gifts for everyone. The alumni chefs will serve a continental breakfast and lunch, and two raffles will be ongoing throughout the day. Don't miss this opportunity to support local vendors and the Springfield High School Alumni Association with our largest fundraiser. This event helps to support our annual weekend activities as well as our scholarship funds. For more information, contact Marie Gelineau at 802-885-3579 or mge-lineau@vermontel.net.

Kick off your holiday season in Brownsville

BROWNSVILLE, Vt. – On Saturday, Dec. 2, various committees of the Brownsville Community Church, West Windsor's Beautification Committee, and West Windsor Fire Dept. will sponsor the following festive holiday events. Start with Christmas shopping at the famous Brownsville Christmas Bazaar on Saturday from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Brownsville Town Hall, located on Route 44 and Brownsville Hartland Rd. The ladies of the United Methodist Women's group have, once again, pulled together a fine gathering of artisans and crafters who will be selling their wares at the Christmas Bazaar. And, shoppers at the bazaar will enjoy Christmas music by West Windsor fiddler, Adam Boyce. Lunch will be starting at 11 a.m., when the ladies will be offering an array of delicacies including homemade soups and sandwiches as well as freshly baked desserts. This dedicated group of women has accomplished many things this past year. All of the monies that the UMW raised through seasonal bazaars, craft sales and food events go to various charities as well as to sustain the greater church community. The UMW openly encourages any like-minded individuals to join them in their efforts. Contact Gail Britton at 802-674-6805 for more information on the bazaar. Contact Ann Matthews for information on the United Methodist Women's group at 802-484-5502. At approximately 4 p.m., you can wander next door to the West Windsor Town Hall for the Holiday Tree Lighting. There will be caroling around the trees, a fire pit and tasty refreshments. Contact Jim Curry of the W. Windsor Beautification Committee at 802-484-0138 for more information on the Holiday Tree Lighting festivities. At 5:30 p.m., the community will be treated to a concert of Christmas music at the Brownsville Community Church. Rev. Christian Huebner has arranged this concert featuring a trio of young talented musicians on cello, piano, and violin. In addition, there will be a collection of instrumental offerings including Seven Bowen on the piano, Emilee Jones on flute, Diane Fleck on French horn, Sten Bowen on the piano, and Christian Huebner on the organ. This concert is the last of a series of free-to-the-public concerts the Brownsville Community Church has offered to the public this year. Contact the Brownsville Community Church at

bcchurchvt@gmail.com for more information on the Christmas Concert. Thank you to W. Windsor Fire Department, United Methodist Women's group, the Brownsville Beautification Committee, and Brownsville Community Church for all making these events possible. The Brownsville Community Church is located on the Brownsville-Hartland Road, between Albert Bridge School and the Brownsville Town Hall. You can call the church at 802-484-5944, email bcchurchvt@gmail.com, or visit the www.brownsvilleumc-vt.org. Town Hall is next door to the church. Admission is free for all the events but a free-will offering will be accepted at the concert to help offset costs. Kick off the holidays on Dec. 2 in Brownsville, and enjoy the holiday festivities!



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* Visit With Santa & Mrs. Claus *

11AM-3:30PM
* Petting Zoo From Taylor Farm *

11AM-3:30PM
* Horse-Drawn Wagon Rides *
\$1 donation goes to Just Neighbors*

1-3PM
* Vermont Cheese Tasting *
Featuring Cheeses From Taylor Farm

* Carolers In The Green *

* Tree Lighting *

 Enjoy Special Holiday Menus
Lunch 11am-3:30pm

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Saturday, December 2nd

Family Fun and Festivities

All Day Long!

11am to 4:30pm

- Magician from 12-12:30 & 2:30-3:00, at Playhouse at the "new" Walker Farm
- Cookie Decorating and Museum Tours from 11:00- 3:00 at the Farrar- Mansur House and Mill
- Christmas Caroling from 2:15-3:00 at The Church on the Hill
- "A Christmas Carol" reading from 1:15-2:00 at Playhouse at the "new" Walker Farm
- Reading of The Night Before Christmas at 12:45 at the Wilder Memorial Library
- Gingerbread contest, firemen cookout on Green, log splitting and marshmallow roasting by an open fire, visit with Santa, live petting zoo and so much more...

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Grafton to sell fresh wreaths and greens

The GHS outdoor decorations will be made from live evergreens and

Funds raised from this event will go to the repair of the museum's basement and operating expenses.

She went on to say that the whole community gets involved. Students and parents at Bellows Falls Middle School as well as high school students, Destination Bellows Falls all together to bring the North Pole to the corner of Vermont.

PHOTO PROVIDED



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THIS AND THAT

BY BILL MURPHY

The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

Try this one on for size. You are a college soccer coach and your team is enjoying one fantastic season. The word fantastic was not chosen lightly.

Your team is 18-0-2. They average 3.2 goals a game. Said team has given up one goal all season. That's no typo. They actually allowed only one goal all season. You have advanced to the second round of the NCAA Division III Soccer Tournament and you shutout your opponent. But...you are eliminated from the tournament.

Meet Adrian Dubois. He graduated from Fall Mountain Regional High School in 2005. He was New Hampshire's Gatorade Player of the Year that school year, meaning he was saluted as the best darn high school soccer player in the state. He went on to the University of New Hampshire, where he started four years as a midfielder, received the Glenn Abern Award as the team's most improved player, made the America East all-tournament team, and was part of another Wildcat team at a higher level that broke the Top 30 rankings nationally.

The native of Acworth, N.H. didn't stop playing the sport when he graduated from college with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Biology. He has competed against some of the best players in the world. He played in both the National Premier Soccer League and the United Soccer League. He also believes "from the time I started, I was a natural as a coach."

Tim St. Pierre, who has coached the Fall Mountain Wildcats for 20 years, was Dubois high school coach. The headman in Langdon said, "He is wildly successful at everything he's ever done. He has great character and integrity and finds a way to get things done. We still talk a number of times a year. I'm glad he still calls me to get my opinion."

Once upon a time, Dubois did not want St. Pierre's opinion. The truth is, Dubois wasn't always that way. The hot commodity of a coach at St. Joseph's College in Maine remembers the first time he laid eyes on St. Pierre. Dubois recalled, "He was lurking in the background up on the hill when I was playing summer soccer up in North Charlestown. We have become very close over time, but it wasn't always that way."

Dubois reached next into his bag of great stories, which he has accumulated along the journey. This one deals directly with St. Pierre. Dubois admitted, "I was kind of a hot shot back then. It caused us to butt heads a little bit. We were playing down at Hollis-Brookline and I was the starting midfielder and acting like a hot shot. We either tied or won the game, but coach was not happy. He called our huddle at the end of the game and started sternly addressing us. He started talking about prima donnas and then seemed to get more personal and he was staring right at me. He said you always put yourself first, you don't work hard enough, you should go and play at a prep school, because if you are not going to work hard, you are not going to play anymore here. We were both angry at the time and then after the huddle, we went our own ways."

In the next few hours, the message sunk in. Dubois said this week, "That day was the turning point of my work ethic. I was a different player after that day. My parents raised me the right way and things went very well during my Fall Mountain days. We had three semi-final appearances and lost in the finals once to Hollis-Brookline. We had an extraordinary team."

"Tim introduced me to coaching," Dubois told me. "He brought in middle school groups and the players gave them clinics. I enjoyed doing it. This was a chance for me to give back to the community. I felt right away I was a natural at it, and I have coached ever since then, in one way or another."

Dubois gives St. Pierre the ultimate compliment. "He was a over all great coach and life teacher," he articulated, adding, "He has helped loads of us figure things out."

This is Dubois fourth year at St. Joseph. He was basically a last minute replacement, when a coach departed just prior to a season beginning. He recalled, "I have been told I wasn't the first choice, but I was able to get the job. My coaching style is a combination of the coaches I have worked with and played for. We play an intricate, entertaining style that takes time to learn. Things may have started

Former Wildcat soccer player, outstanding college coach

slow my first year because of that [5-15]. I thought it was important to implement my style. It took time. I wanted to make it work. I learned to recruit when I was at UMass Boston and that has helped me a lot too."

His style was well received and the next two seasons the Monks were 11-7-1 and 15-2-6 respectively. When one adds this year's record, Dubois stands 50-24-9 since taking over the program. Yes, initially, using the time to implement his system may have been a step back-"I felt I had to take that chance" - but it appears it is certainly paying off.

Dubois hopes he is able to see St. Pierre when he returns home for Thanksgiving. The Fall Mountain coach knows exactly where he can find Dubois at 8 a.m. Thanksgiving morning.

"He'll be playing with the alumni [on the green] in Walpole. That game has been going on since before the year 2000 and many a proud alumni show up and play every year," St. Pierre predicted.

Dubois confirmed he would be there. "I spend up to two weeks a year in the area," Dubois told us, adding, "and the Thanksgiving game is one thing I always look forward to."

The St. Joseph's coach is a family man. He loves visiting his parents in Acworth, his sister in Claremont, and speaks highly of "my wonderful girlfriend of six years, who came to join me from California."

I have digressed enough, but now it's time to mention how Dubois' team was eliminated from this year's NCAA Tournament when they tied Tufts 0-0 after two overtimes. True soccer fans know what comes next. Penalty kicks.

So, St. Joseph's gets to the second round of the NCAA Tournament with a 14-0-2 regular season. They sweep their conference tournament's three games by a 8-0 count, defeat Mitchell in their opening NCAA match 2-1, giving up their first goal of the season in the process, and then in the Tufts game lose 4-2 on penalty kicks. Again, they give up only one goal all season.

"It's heartbreaking," Dubois told me. "You don't lose a game all season and give up only one goal, and you are done for the season. I never, never could of dreamt up anything like that. We went toe to toe with Tufts for however many rounds it was and had to lose like that. We had a good year last year and went to the NCAA Tournament and now we had another spectacular year, broke NCAA records, and still had this ending. We weren't trying to simulate last year, but in the end we passed it."

St. Pierre felt as bad as his pupil. He said, "I guess there are no moral victories at that level. Adrian has always been special in the sport. He grew up playing club ball, where he had to play a role among many talented players. Then he played for us, where his expectations were personally higher. The two scenarios made for a dual role, which made him better. His parents were tremendously dedicated to his growth. When I first went to watch him in middle school, he was good, but nobody could have predicted the level he went to play at."

I asked Dubois if he had taken the opportunity as yet to allow himself to think about how far the program had come under his leadership and how special the recently completed season actually was? His answer was about what I expected.

"I'm a big picture guy. Maybe it is one of my downfalls, but I don't give myself a lot of time to reflect. Maybe some time I should stop and allow myself to smell the roses. I am always looking at the big picture and am ready to move on to what's next," he offered.

When I told St. Pierre what Dubois said, the long time coach replied, "He doesn't need to stop and smell the roses. That is his special sauce. When it comes time to give it up, then he can stop, and by then those roses will smell really good."



Adrian Dubois is a thinker.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY ADRIAN DUBOIS



Adrian Dubois pointing his team to success.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY ADRIAN DUBOIS



Dubois is a leader.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY ADRIAN DUBOIS



Encouraging his team towards a win.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY ADRIAN DUBOIS

Local athlete completes final season

LUDLOW, Vt. - Keene State College Women's Soccer Team celebrated the accomplishments of 11 seniors on Saturday, Oct. 28, marking four years of outstanding play by the young athletes. Among those honored was Ludlow's own Morgan Kathan (3). Kathan contributed 16 goals, 18 assists, 4 game winners, and 50 total league points during her four years at Keene State, lifting her to 3rd place in total team statistics during the four-year stretch. Kathan is also credited with converting a penalty kick that won the LEC Championship in her freshman season. Congratulations to Morgan and her teammates!



PHOTO PROVIDED

Springfield Elks Lodge #1560 46th annual Elks Hoop Shoot

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Springfield Elks Lodge #1560 will be holding their annual Elks Hoop Shoot on Saturday, Dec. 9, 2017 at Riverside Middle School. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. This event is open to all boys and girls 8 to 13 years of age based on your age as of April 1, 2018. Trophies awarded to 1st and 2nd place winners in each age bracket. For further information or questions, call Chairman Vic Baskevich at 802-885-4355.



STOCK PHOTO

arts & entertainment

“SEED: The Untold Story”

LONDONDERRY, Vt. - Doreen Fabiano and Carlene Lindgren, local advocates for the environment and other important issues facing the world today, will host a 6:30 p.m. showing of the documentary film “SEED: The Untold Story” on Friday, Dec. 15 at Neighborhood Connections.

Few things on Earth are as vital and miraculous as



Neighborhood Connections is showing the film “SEED: The Untold Story.” PHOTO PROVIDED



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seeds. According to www.seed-themovie.com, 94 percent of our seed varieties have disappeared. As biotech chemical companies control the majority of seeds, farmers, scientists, lawyers and indigenous seed keepers fight to defend the future of our food. In a harrowing and heartening story, these heroes rekindle a lost connection to our most treasured resource and revive a culture connected to seeds.

This screening is open to all and presented at no charge, but please register at 802-824-4343 to attend. Neighborhood Connections is located in Londonderry's Mountain Marketplace, next to the post office.

Meet the author of “The Grafton Cavaliers”

GRAFTON, Vt. - Thomas Fontaine will discuss his new children's historical novel, “The Grafton Cavaliers,” at a special Meet the Author program Dec. 2 at 2 p.m. in the Grafton Public Library, Main St., Grafton, Vt.

The new Civil War book, written for the sixth grade level reader, was created to help bring children in contact with history in their local area. It is based on two real Grafton college students. Samuel Pettengill (Middlebury College) and Wilder Burnap (Dartmouth College) who took a leave of absence from their colleges to answer President Lincoln's call for men to join the Union Army and help protect Washington from the advancing Confederates.

The book is written about real Vermont people, and uses factual, historical information, and photographs from the Grafton Historical Society museum archives. The appendix includes descriptive lists of Civil War soldiers, battles, and terms used in the war.

At the December event, Fontaine will discuss these people and history of Grafton in the Civil War

period, and how he tries to relate this history to students. The author has been a Vermont teacher for 30 years. He wanted to write a history novel that would be a useful tool for teaching Civil War history in the classroom in an interesting narrative to which children could relate. He wanted it to be exciting to read, grade level appropriate, and capture the drama of history. His first book, published last year, was “The Messenger Boy of Grafton.” It portrays the experience of one of Grafton's teens, Henry Spring, as a messenger boy in the Civil War.

His second book, “The Cavaliers,” follows the adventures of two other young Grafton residents, Pettengill and Burnap, who joined the only cavalry unit in the Union Army composed of college students from Dartmouth, Middlebury, Norwich, Bowdoin, Union, Williams, and Amherst. These 81 cadets took part in what was one of the most



Author Tom Fontaine. PHOTO PROVIDED

daring escapes in 1862 that any company of men had performed for the Union at Harpers Ferry.

The Meet the Author event is open to the public and children are welcome to attend. For further information about the program, contact the Grafton Historical Society at 802-843-2584 or grafhist@vermontel.net.

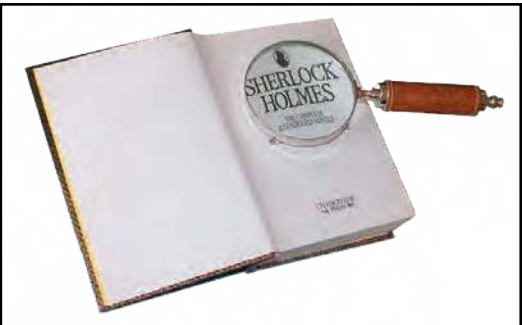
OLLI presents “Sherlock Holmes: The Hidden Truth”

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Michael Atkinson will present the OLLI-Osher Lifelong Learning Institute program on Tuesday, Nov. 28, “Sherlock Holmes: The Hidden Truth.” It will be presented at 2 p.m. at the Nolin Murray Center next to St. Mary's Catholic Church on Pleasant St. in Springfield, Vt.

Sherlock Holmes is perhaps the world's most widely recognized cultural icon. But he himself is also a mystery to be solved. Investigating

him can light up our entire cultural landscape. Was Holmes the ultimate rationalist or a secret mystic? A confirmed bachelor or a clandestine lover? Arthur Conan Doyle's proudest creation or his unwelcome albatross?

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Investigate the mysteries of the legendary Sherlock Holmes himself. STOCK PHOTO

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Michael Atkinson, Professor Emeritus of English and Comparative Literature at the University of Cincinnati. His book “The Secret Marriage of Sherlock Holmes” won the coveted Edgar Award from the Mystery Writers of America.

OLLI-Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, affiliated with the University of Vermont, 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!” People of all ages are welcome to attend.

The OLLI series programs are selected with input from the local members and carry varied themes from semester to semester including history, art, music, literature, health, nature, science, and current events. Programs are held at 2 pm on Tuesday afternoons and last about an hour and a half. 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 following OLLI program will be just one week after on Dec. 5. Mark Breen, Fairbanks Museum weatherman and planetarium director will return for his 8th annual December program with us, presenting “Going Deep: Exploring the Universe with Space Telescopes.”

Brochures have been distributed throughout the area towns at businesses, the local libraries, town halls, and Chamber of Commerce offices. The complete Springfield and statewide program list is available at www.learn.uvm.edu/olli. Choose State-wide programs from the menu, and then scroll to Springfield.

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arts & entertainment

Apple Blossom Cotillion Queens and children participants

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. -

High school senior girls in the communities served by Springfield Hospital and Springfield Medical Care Systems (SMCS) are invited to participate in the 62nd annual Apple Blossom Cotillion. One of them will join the select group of Apple Blossom Queens. This special community event continues to be both a unique tradition and a rite of passage for area young people. Girls present themselves with and without their escorts and are interviewed by a panel of judges. This year's cotillion is on Friday and Saturday, May 4 and 5.

The director of the 2018 cotillion is Madison Moreau. While relatively new to the local area, she has been studying and teaching dance for more



Participants at the 61st Apple Blossom Cotillion.

PHOTO PROVIDED

than 15 years. Her choreographic pieces were featured at Hampshire College, where she was a student, and she worked for the Basketball Hall of Fame as a choreographer. She also volunteered with the Good Company Theater, a non-profit community organization in Granby, Conn., before

moving to Springfield, Vt.

The master of ceremonies for the 18th consecutive year is Larry Kraft, director of Development for SMCS.

Elementary school children in grades kindergarten through 4th are invited to participate in the 62nd annual Apple Blossom Cotillion, presented by Springfield Hospital and Springfield Medical Care Systems. These young performers, always a popular feature of the show, are introduced in couples, just like the high school participants and escorts, and they perform singing and dancing numbers.

Children should apply in couples

— a girl and her male escort — just like the high school participants. Elementary school couples who submit a completed application by the due date of Dec. 4 are eligible to participate unless the number of applicants exceeds the capacity of the production. In that case, a random drawing will be held on Dec. 7 to determine the participants.

An orientation for all parents and participants, including elementary

school, is on Sunday, Jan. 7 at 1 p.m. at Dressel Gymnasium at Riverside Middle School. Weekly rehearsals for high school couples start immediately after that orientation. Rehearsals for elementary school participants start on Sunday, Feb. 25 from 3 - 4 p.m.

Applications are available at www.springfieldmed.org and at area schools. Applications must be received by Dec. 4. Parents who would like their children to participate may

obtain an application form from the Springfield Hospital Development office, 802-885-7644, or lkraft@springfieldmed.org.

Proceeds from the event are used for the Dr. E Sherburne Lovell Health Career Award to benefit Springfield Hospital and the ten community health centers of SMCS.

For information, call Larry Kraft, 885-7644, or lkraft@springfieldmed.org.

Walpole Artisans Tour

WALPOLE, N.H. - The 15th annual Walpole Artisans Tour and sale will host over 30 artisans at five locations. This event will take place Thanksgiving weekend, Friday, Nov. 24 through Sunday, Nov. 26, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. The tour features juried original artwork, fine crafts, and unique gifts. Start your tour at the Walpole Town Hall, 34 Elm St., Walpole, N.H.

Additional tour locations are:

- The Walpole Artisans gift shop at 52 Main St.
- Sherwin Art Glass at 33 Bridge St., Bellows Falls, Vt.
- Walpole Interiors, 604 Whitcomb Rd.
- Walpole Mountain View Winery, 114 Barnett Hill Rd.

While on this tour, you will have the opportunity to meet the following artisans: Bob Askey (framed original artwork), Carla

Boyington (wool & silk scarves and accessories), Wayne Cotton (segmented wood turnings), Jim and Andrea Lorette (hand forged jewelry, skin care, and note cards), Donna Lund (watercolor and pastel paintings), Joellen Knight (wooden harps), Philip Morgan (carved wooden birds and back scratchers), Mary Ellen Pellerin (quilts, aprons, and hand bags), Chris Sherwin (functional and deco-

rative art glass), Bob Taylor (metal sculpture and garden art), Anne Ward (framed paintings and prints), and Liz Winchester-Larson (still life and landscape colored pencil).

For more information and a tour brochure, stop by the shop at 52 Main Street, call 603-756-3020, email walpoleartisans@myfairpoint.net, or website www.walpoleartisans.org.

RAMParts presents Stephen Sondheim's "Follies"

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - RAMParts Presents, in partnership with the National Theatre of London, brings the legendary Sondheim musical, "Follies," to the comfort of the Bellows Falls Opera House on Sunday, Dec. 10 at 1 p.m.

It's New York, 1971. There's a party on the stage of the Weismann Theatre. Tomorrow the iconic building will be demolished. Thirty years after their final performance, the Follies girls gather to have a few drinks, sing a few songs, and lie about themselves. This is a Vaudeville Broadway reunion marked with sadness and regret, lost youth and second chances.

Sondheim's homage to Old Broadway takes place on a lavish set designed by Vicki Mortimer, who created "a crumbling Broadway theater - its brick walls half-bulldozed, its stalls swallowed by rubble - it lets old ghosts mingle with lost souls and becomes much, much more than a mere memory play. Instead, it grows into something far more profound - a philosophical meditation on the passage of time and the agonies of aging," according to Variety.

Tracie Bennett, Janie Dee, and Imelda Staunton play the magnifi-

cent Follies in this dazzling new production. Featuring a cast of 37 and an orchestra of 21, it's directed by Dominic Cooke (The Comedy of Errors). Musical standards from the show include such classics as "Broadway Baby," "The Road You Didn't Take," "Could I Leave You?," "I'm Still Here" and "Live, Laugh, Love."

The original Broadway production opened in 1971 and was directed by Harold Prince and Michael Bennett, who also served as choreographer. The show was nominated for Grammy, Olivier, and eleven Tony Awards, going on to win seven.

Robert McBride, director of the Rockingham Arts & Museum Project, is expanding arts programming locally by making it accessible in cost and availability. "Not everyone is able to afford travel to a city to see art exhibitions or Broadway shows. A trip can easily cost over \$100 per person in travel and ticket expense and becomes a barrier to the art experience. By creating the RAMParts ticketing platform and partnering with the Opera House, we are removing this barrier to create unique, spectacular offerings right here in Bellows Falls."

Tickets for Follies are on sale now

through the RAMParts ticketing platform, www.rampartstickets.com. Doors open at 12:30 p.m., show at 1 p.m. Seating is general admission. The show is 2 hours, 15 minutes without intermission. Contact Susan MacNeil at 603-313-0052 or email susanmacneil@svidol.com for more information.

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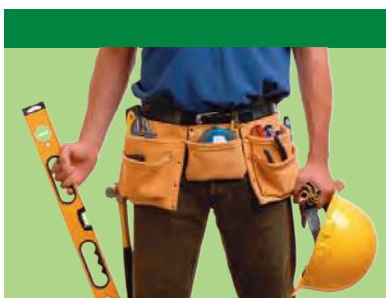
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outdoor news

Fall foods abundant for wildlife and the 2018 calendar

REGION – Vermont Fish & Wildlife is reporting that several important fall foods for wildlife were abundant this year.

"Fish & Wildlife staff surveyed 27 mast stands around the state in late September and early October and found that beechnut counts were excellent, with the highest numbers recorded since 1998," said State Wildlife Biologist Forrest Hammond. "They also found abundant deer and bear sign in the beech stands."

Hammond said acorn production was found to be good in oak stands, and mountain ash berries were very abundant at high elevations. He added that apples were available at high numbers early, but that most had fallen by late October.

The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department and Vermont Life Magazine have also announced the release of the colorful 2018 Fish & Wildlife Calendar. Filled with stunning photos of Vermont's wildlife, including moose, chestnut-sided warbler, Atlantic salmon, hooded merganser,



Vt. Fish & Wildlife 2018 calendar.

PHOTO PROVIDED

and whitetail deer, the calendar includes photos by many well-known Vermont photographers including Roger Irwin, Jim Block, and Kurt Budliger.

"This year's calendar highlights the diverse habitats that ensure that Vermont's wildlife continue to thrive," said Susan Warner, Vermont Fish & Wildlife's director of outreach and education. "The fish and wildlife calendar is a yearlong celebration of Vermont's commitment to conservation."

The calendar includes hunting, fishing, and trapping season dates for each month, along with beautiful photography. It makes the perfect gift for any outdoor recreationist.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife calendars can be ordered online from Vermont Life's website at www.VermontLifeCatalog.com or by phone 1-800-455-3399.

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Below are a few local hunters who brought their bucks to Tyson.

LEFT - Emily Benson weighing in her very first deer, a 108 pound spike horn.

MIDDLE - Congrats to David Patch on his 142.8 pound 9 pointer.

RIGHT - A huge congratulations to Ashley Billings on her first ever deer, a 140 pound 9 pointer.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY TYSON STORE FACEBOOK PAGE



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Christmas trees available in the Green Mountain National Forest

REGION – U.S. Forest Service officials in Vermont are encouraging the public to purchase Christmas tree removal permits should they be interested in a tree for the holidays. This year, all fourth graders can take advantage of the Every Kid in a Park Initiative and get a free

Christmas tree voucher found here www.everykidinapark.gov. Fourth graders that present a printed copy of the voucher may redeem it for an EKIP pass and a Christmas tree removal permit at one of the U.S. Forest offices listed below. This is a one-time opportunity to cut down a Christmas tree on national forest land during the 2017 holiday season. Christmas trees for personal use may be cut on the Green Mountain National Forest, subject to the following conditions:

A "Christmas Tree Removal" permit must be purchased at one of the Forest Service offices located in Rutland, Manchester Center, or Rochester, Vt. The permit must be attached to the tree before transporting it from the site where it was cut.

The permit holder is responsible

for knowing that the tree comes from Forest Service land. Maps are available when you purchase your permit. Trees over 20 feet tall are not designated for cutting by the Christmas tree permit. The height of the tree stump left after a tree has been cut should be six inches or less above the soil.

Christmas trees shall not be cut in active timber sales, wilderness areas, campgrounds, picnic areas, or within 25 feet of any Forest Service, town, or state maintained road. Only one Christmas tree permit will be issued per household per year. Permits are not refundable.



A decorated Christmas tree cut off of the Green Mountain National Forest in Lincoln, Vt. Photo provided

PHOTO PROVIDED

Trees obtained under the Christmas tree permit may not be resold.

U.S. Forest Service offices in Vermont:

- In Rutland, the Forest Supervisor's Office, located 231 North Main Street, Rutland, Vt. Call 802-747-6700.
- The Manchester Ranger Station is located 2538 Depot Street, Manchester Center, Vt. Call 802-362-2307.
- The Rochester Ranger Station is located 99 Ranger Road, Rochester, Vt. Call 802-767-4261.

The U.S. Forest Service is an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, with a mission of sustaining the health, diversity and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. For more information, visit www.fs.usda.gov/R9.

The U.S. Forest Service manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to state and private landowners, and maintains the largest forestry research organization in the world. Public lands the Forest Service manages contribute more than \$13 billion to the economy each year through visitor spending alone. Those same lands provide 20 percent of the nation's clean water supply, a value estimated at \$7.2 billion per year. The agency has either a direct or indirect role in stewardship of about 80 percent of the 850 million forested acres within the U.S., of which 100 million acres are urban forests where most Americans live. For more information, visit www.fs.usda.gov/.

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Crows Bakery & Opera House Cafe
73 Depot Street, Proctorsville, Vt.
802-226-7007
www.crowsbakeryandcafe.com
www.facebook.com/crowsbakerycafe

Owners George and Robin Timko have lived in Cavendish for almost 40 years and are proud that their café serves as a popular gathering spot. Crows Corner Bakery opened in 1998 and moved from their corner location to the old opera house building in 2003 and was renamed Crows Bakery and Opera House Café. “After 19 years, we still really love what we’ve created with the help of all the employees who have worked for us. Every employee has brought something new to the bakery,” owner Robin Timko explained.

From the beginning, Robin Timko had a dream of having a children’s corner full of books and toys in the bakery, which quickly became a focal point for young visitors. Over the last 19 years, newer toys and books have been added, not just by employees but by customers as well.

The family-friendly café serves breakfast and lunch made from whole, fresh ingredients, many of which are organically and locally produced. Ingredients include King Arthur Flour, Grafton Village Cheese, and Mountain Grove coffee. Community products such as honey and maple syrup are also sold at the café.

The bakery features breads, pastries, and pies along with daily specials. There are also gluten-free muffins and other tasty baked goods. With the holidays approaching, Timko is preparing the holiday special Yule Logs, which is a chiffon cake, made with chocolate butter cream and ganache. It’s decorated with festive meringue mushrooms, chocolate bark, frosted lichen, and holly. Timko also takes orders for made-from-scratch “budget-friendly” wedding cakes and cakes for all special occasions.

The Crows Bakery & Opera House Cafe is open Tuesday through Thursday from 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.



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BARN SALE

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – Join us for the first annual barn sale featuring antiques, collectibles, fresh greens, and much more! Also taking orders for centerpieces! Nov. 24 – 26 from

10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at 3531 Route 5. (11/28)

FOR RENT

N. WALPOLE, N.H. – Spacious 1 bedroom apartment for rent. \$700/mo includes heat, hot water, & electric. Call after 5 p.m. 603-826-0113 as for Phil. (12/05)

LUDLOW, VT – 1 bedroom handicapped accessible apartment at Gill Terrace Retirement Apts II for the elderly. Federally subsidized rent. Must meet income & eligibility requirements. Accepting applications for immediate occupancy & wait list. Call 1-800-496-9449. Equal Housing Opportunity. (11/23)

GUN SHOW

WHITE RIVER JCT, Vt. - Gun Show

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Town of Plymouth
Public Notice of Hearing Before the Planning Commission and Zoning Board

A Public Hearing before the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of the Town of Plymouth will be held on Tuesday, December 5, 2017, at 7:00 pm, at the Municipal Building, 68 Town Office Road, Plymouth, VT, to consider:

Applicant: Michael and Yvette Pedone
Proposal: to subdivide property
Location: Pine Hill Road
Application No. 2017- 23

Dated: November 16, 2017
Michael Coleman, Chair

Sat., Nov. 25 9 a.m. -5 p.m., and Sun., Nov. 26 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. At the Conn. Valley Auto Auction building, 1567 Rt. 14. Info www.GreenMt-GunShowTrail.com 802-875-4540 (11/28)

HELP WANTED

N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Welder / Fabricator w/ experience for custom ornamental metal incl. railings, gates, fences, etc. Installation exp. a plus. Good math and layout skills and drivers license req. Benefits after qualifying. Hawks Mtn. Ironworks / Springfield Fence, 50 Rt. 106, 802-886-2221 (11/28)

N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. –Custom shop seeks knowledgeable, dependable team player w/ integrity for a combination inside/outside sales position. (Most sales are in response to customer-initiated contacts.) Must be able to problem-solve for solutions to meet customers’ needs in residential, commercial & contractor markets. Attention to detail, organized, and strong written and verbal communication and computer skills a must. Mechanical aptitude and exp. w/ CAD and layout preferred. Full-time w/ benefits. Hawks Mtn. Ironworks div. of Springfield Fence, 50 Rt. 106, 802-886-2221 (11/28)

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Hiring full time truck driver for delivery and main-

tenance. 40 hours from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Pays \$10.50/hour. Must have valid driver’s license. CDL not required. Call Jay or Tom at 802-885-4552. (11/28)

MOVING SALE

LUDLOW, Vt. – Tools, kayak, dish-ware, wood, housewares, furniture, toys, nick-nacks, clothes, bakeware, appliances, kitchen items, MORE! Some items tagged, others give BO. Friday, Nov. 24, 10-3, and Saturday, Nov. 25, 8-3. 89 Fishing Access Road. (11/28)

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WESTON CEMETERY COMMISSION
Town Hall
Weston, Vermont, 05161

Request for Proposal

The Weston Cemetery Commission is requesting proposals for work in the Maple Street Cemetery on Andover Road in Weston. The work entails grading and preparing a path up to a section in the cemetery. If interested, please meet with the Cemetery Commissioners at 9AM on Thursday, December 7 to be briefed on the project.

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calendar

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 29 – LONDONDERRY, Vt. - The Londonderry Conservation Commission is sponsoring an encore lecture by Sue Morse at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 29 at Flood Brook School, 91 Rt. 11, Londonderry. Her lecture on Return of the Cougar was very popular. The new lecture is titled “Animals of the North: What will Global Climate Change Mean for Them?” This program is designed to educate audiences about ways in which northern

wildlife species are already being affected by climate change, with more serious challenges ahead. The program is free and open to the public. No registration is required, but donations to the Londonderry Conservation Commission are always welcome. Questions can be directed to Irwin Kuperberg at irwin234@yahoo.com.

THURSDAY, DEC. 7 - ASCUTNEY, Vt. - There will be a free, public talk on Wildlife Habitat Improvement for Landowners on Thursday, Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. at the Weathersfield Town Hall,

5199 Route 5, Ascutney, Vt. Sponsored by the Weathersfield Conservation Commission, the talk will be given by Andrea Shortsleeve and forester Hannah Dallas of the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department. It will touch on how small and large landowners may undertake projects to improve habitat for both game and non-game species. For more information, contact Jeff Pelton at 802-885-9517.

SUNDAYS – RUTLAND, Vt. – Spartan Arena is sponsoring a series of Learn to Play instructional hockey sessions led by members of the Rutland Cutting Edge women’s ice hockey team. Instruction will be geared to players of varying abilities, even if you have never skated before. No experience is necessary! But the following equipment is required: hockey helmet with face shield, hockey gloves, hockey skates (rentals are available at the rink), and a hockey stick. It is also highly recommended that you wear elbow & shin pads. The Cutting Edge has some equipment to loan to get you started. Sessions run from 6 - 7 p.m. on Sundays, (Nov. 26, Dec. 10, and Dec. 17.) No preregistration is necessary, though it is recommended that you arrive 20 to 30 minutes ahead of time to suit up! Questions? Email rutlandcuttingedges@gmail.com

CLUBS

MONDAYS – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Springfield Community Chorus rehearsals are on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church on 21 Fairground Rd. Contact Terri at springfieldcommunitychorus@gmail.com or call Barbara at 802-886-1777. www.springfieldcommunitychorus.org. TFN

CHESTER, Vt. - Please join the Chester Senior Citizens Club for their monthly luncheon meeting, third Mondays at 11:30 a.m. at the Chester Congregational Church on Main Street. Enjoy lunch, jokes and funny stories, and possibly Bingo. Just bring your place setting, if possible a dish to share, and a friend. If you need a ride, just call Georgia 802-875-6242. TFN

TUESDAYS- LUDLOW, Vt. – Ludlow Rotary Club meets every Tuesday and is hosted by DJ’s Restaurant, 146 Main St. from 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Enter via side door opposite bank drive-through. Visit www.ludlowrotary.com or contact club President, Tesha Buss at teshabuss@gmail.com. TFN

THURSDAYS – CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – The Charlestown Rotary Club meets at the Charlestown Town Hall at 6:30 p.m. on Summer Street. For more information email rayandrosie@comcast.net. TFN

RUTLAND, Vt. – Marble Valley Duplicate Bridge Club meets from 7-10:30 p.m. at the Godnick Center in Rutland, Vt. Snacks provided. Come join for a fun evening. More info call 802-228-6276. TFN

SATURDAYS – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The Rockingham Library will launch a Google Computer Science First Game Design Club for youth ages 9 to 14, to learn to make their own computer video games. No computer experience necessary. Club sessions will be held Saturdays, noon to 1 p.m., in the library’s youth department, through Dec. 9. Participation is free but spots are limited and registration is required. For more information and to register, contact Sam Maskell at the library, 802-463-4270 or email youthservices@rockinghamlibrary.org.

MOUNT HOLLY, Vt. – Still life drawing. The Mount Holly Artists Group meets at 10:30 a.m. in the community center room (under library) and sets up a still life. The sessions are open to all and free of charge. All that is needed is pen and paper. TFN

SUNDAYS - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Catamount Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol meets at 3:30-6:30 p.m. most Sundays at Squadron Headquarters, 13 Airport Road, N. Springfield. Membership is open to ages

12 and up. Call Commander Capt. Tom Williams at 802-558-5571, Twilliams@vtcap.org. TFN

COMMUNITY MEALS

THURSDAY, NOV. 23 – PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – On Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 23 from noon – 2 p.m., there will be a Thanksgiving Dinner at the Cavendish Elementary School at 573 Main Street, Proctorsville. Hosted by St. James United Methodist Church, everyone is welcome to attend the dinner. It’s a great time to sit down, relax and enjoy a delicious, home-cooked holiday meal, free-of-charge. The event is an outreach program of Black River Good Neighbor Services entitled “Our Community Cares,” established for individuals and families to receive a free, nutritious meal within a warm, welcoming community setting.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 29 - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The Springfield Church of Christ will host a free community dinner on Wednesday, Nov. 29, 2017 at the building at 972 Chester Road, Springfield. Serving will be from 6 p.m. until the food is gone. The doors open at 5:50 p.m. The evening’s menu will include roast pork with gravy, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, rolls, and cupcakes. Beverages will include lemonade, milk, coffee, and tea. Any questions should be addressed to Puggy Lamphere at 802-886-2670,

Tom Snow at 802-885-1614, or Ed Wilkins at 802-886-3065. All members of the Springfield area communities are welcome.

EVENTS

FRIDAY, NOV. 24 - SUNDAY, NOV. 26 - PUTNEY, Vt. - Putney celebrates craft, culinary and performance weekend, 10 a.m.- 5 p.m., highlighted by the Putney Craft Tour, a self-guided tour to artisans’ studios within a 12-mile radius of Putney and Saxtons River. Visitors may start at the Gleanery Restaurant, 133 Main St. in Putney for a preview exhibition of the artisans’ works, and pick up maps.

MONDAY, NOV. 27 - CHESTER, Vt. – Join us in person on Cider Monday at Phoenix Books Misty Valley at 58 Common St., Chester to enjoy a free cup of delicious, hot apple cider, while supplies last. Cider Monday is a new tradition being started by lots of small businesses in New England. For more information visit www.phoenixbooks.biz.

FRIDAY, DEC. 1 - PUTNEY, Vt. – Next Stage Arts Project and Twilight Music present The Turning of the Year: A Holiday Celebration with John Whelan, Low Lily & Katie McNally at Next Stage on Friday, Dec. 1 at 7:30 p.m. Seven-time All-Ireland accordion champion and Narada recording artist John Whelan teams up with roots band Low Lily and Scottish-style

TOWN OF ANDOVER NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

The Andover Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the Andover Town Office to consider the following applications:

Application #: 9/34.22/17/10/2 - Subdivision Application
Applicant/Owner: Chris Carlock
Location: 91 Trombley Road
Application for: An application has been submitted for a Minor Subdivision proposing to subdivide a 13.6 acre lot into two parcels.

Application #: 11/11/17/8/8 - Variance Application
Applicant/Owner: Levi & Lauren Gordon
Location: 97 Castaldo Road
Application for: An application has been submitted by the Gordons for a variance from setback requirements to build a shed on their property.

Application #: 9/40.2/17/10/1 - Variance Application
Applicant/Owner: Kevin Kunze
Location: 305 Simonsville Road
Application for: An application has been submitted by Mr. Kunze for a variance from setback requirements to place a garage on his property.

Dated at Andover, Vermont this 8th day of November, 2017.
Jeanette Haight
Andover Town Clerk

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

Hospital Diversion Program of HCERS and NFI VT Shift Supervisor(s)

The Hospital Diversion Program of HCERS and NFI VT are seeking two full-time Shift Supervisors located in Brattleboro. The Hospital Diversion Program provides crisis stabilization, clinical consultation, individual treatment and discharge planning in a small, safe residential setting. Shift Supervisors provide supervision and support to youth, as well as provide a sense of safety and security. Shift Supervisors are also responsible for: taking lead in managing the overall tone of the milieu, for attending to administrative aspects of the program including the staff schedule, and for coordinating training for respite staff. Job requirements: Superior interpersonal skills and ability to function well in a team atmosphere a must. Bachelor's degree in psychology or related field required. Experience working in residential treatment and/or with adolescents who have been impacted by trauma.

Awake Overnight Residential Specialist(s)

The HCERS and NFI Hospital Diversion Program is hiring for Awake Overnight Residential Specialists. Hospital Diversion is a short-term in-patient facility working with adolescents in psychiatric crisis in Brattleboro. This position provides supervision and support to the youth during the sleeping hours, completes client intakes after-hours and performs administrative duties. This is a great entry level position with opportunities to advance within the agency. The ideal candidate would have a bachelor's degree in a related field, superior interpersonal skills, and experience working with adolescents struggling with emotional/behavioral difficulties. These positions are 30 hours a week (Thursday, Friday and Saturday overnights).

Relief Awake Overnight Residential Specialist(s)

HCERS and NFI are looking to hire Relief Awake Overnight Residential Specialists. These are part-time, per-diem positions that would help to cover three residential programs during the overnight hours in Brattleboro. Our residential programs include short and long term work with adolescents experiencing emotional and/or behavioral challenges. Responsibilities include providing supervision and support to the youth during the sleeping hours and performing administrative duties. This is a great entry level position with opportunities to advance within the agency. The ideal candidate would have a bachelor's degree in a related field, superior interpersonal skills, and experience working with adolescents struggling with emotional/behavioral difficulties.

Day-shift - Residential Specialist(s)

The HCERS and NFI Hospital Diversion Program is hiring for Day shift Residential Specialists. Hospital Diversion is a short-term in-patient facility working with adolescents in psychiatric crisis in Brattleboro. This position provides supervision and support to the youth during the day, completes client intakes and performs administrative duties. This is a great entry level position with opportunities to advance within the agency. The ideal candidate would have a bachelor's degree in a related field, superior interpersonal skills, and experience working with adolescents struggling with emotional/behavioral difficulties. These positions are 40 hours a week.

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

Please send resume and letter of interest via our WEBSITE at www.hcers.org, by fax to 802-886-4530, or by mail to:
HCERS - Attn: Human Resources, 390 River Street, Springfield, VT 05156
Equal Opportunity Employer

BLACK RIVER HIGH SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL Coaching Positions

*Middle School Boys Basketball Coach
Middle School Girls Basketball Coach
JV Boys Basketball Coach*

Black River High School/Middle School in Ludlow, VT continues our search to fill the Middle School Boys, Girls and JV Boys basketball coaching positions for the 2017-2018 season.

Duties include organizing practice and game instruction, development of lower level programs and to provide a positive learning environment for student athletes. Successful candidates must be able to develop a solid rapport with student athletes, work cooperatively with the athletic program and provide positive leadership and role models.

It is our desire to establish long term commitments from all coaches; allowing the successful candidates to build and develop strong feeder programs.

Interested candidates should apply through SchoolSpring.com or send a cover letter with resume and references to:
**Joe Gurdak
Athletic Director
Black River High School/Middle School
43 Main Street, Ludlow, VT 05149**

Criminal Record Check is required.
EOE

TOWN OF LUDLOW NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing before the Development Review Board for the Village of Ludlow, Vermont, will be held on December 11, 2017 at 6:00 P.M., in the Ludlow Town Hall conference room, to consider an amendment to a Conditional Use Permit located in the Village Residential Commercial District:

APPLICANT: Homestyle Hotel, LLC
Justin Hyjeck
119 Main Street
Ludlow, Vermont 05149

PROPERTY LOCATION: 112 Main Street
Ludlow, Vermont 05149
Parcel No. 230433.000

REASON FOR HEARING: Application to amend a Conditional Use Permit to allow for eight outside seats for outside consumption at the existing motel. The project is in the Village Residential Commercial District.

APPLICATION NUMBER: 457-17-CU; Amendment No. 1

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

Rosemary Goings, Board Clerk

LEGAL NOTICES

Bus Drivers Needed – Green Mountain Union High School and Cavendish Elementary School

We have openings now for Bus Drivers! Call Todd Parah for information on Green Mountain High School, or George Thomson for information on driving in Cavendish. They will have information on the hourly rates and work schedules.

Successful candidates will have a CDL with school bus and passenger endorsements, as well as DOT Medical Card. Background Checks Required.

Please forward a letter of interest and references to:

Todd Parah
Maintenance & Transportation Supervisor
Green Mountain Union High School
716 VT Route 103 South
Chester, VT 05143
802-875-2146

OR

George Thomson
Cavendish Town Elementary School
P.O. Bo 236
Proctorsville, VT 05153
802-875-7758

EOE

TOWN OF LUDLOW NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing before the Development Review Board for the Town & Village of Ludlow, Vermont, will be held on December 11, 2017 at 6:00 P.M., in the Ludlow Town Hall conference room, to consider for an Appeal of the Zoning Administrators Decision located in the Mountain Recreation District.

APPLICANT: Prescott White
63 Malvern Street
Melrose, Massachusetts 02176

PROPERTY LOCATION: 149 Upper Crossroad
Ludlow, Vermont 05149
Parcel No. 220263.000

REASON FOR HEARING: Application to appeal the Zoning Administrator's decision denying the change of the nonconforming use from a two-family residence to condominiums. The project is located in the Mountain Recreation District.
APPLICATION NUMBER: 461-18-AP

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

Rosemary Goings
Board Clerk

LEGAL NOTICES

EVENTS CONT.

FRIDAY, DEC 1 CONT. - fiddler Katie McNally for a spectacular holiday mini-fest of traditional and original music from Ireland, Scotland and America. Next Stage is located at 15 Kimball Hill in downtown Putney, VT. For information, call 802-387-0102. Advance tickets are available at www.nextstagearts.org, Turn It Up in Brattleboro and Putney Food Co-Op in Putney.

SATURDAY, DEC. 2 - CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – Enjoy the annual ARTS & CRAFT EXPO at the Charlestown Town Hall, Dec. 2 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – The 16th Annual Community Holiday Fair will be held Saturday, Dec. 2, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Proctorsville Fire Department on Main St. in Proctorsville. Crafts, food, raffles, handmade gifts, trees and wreaths all available!

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – It's time for the Thrifty Attic holiday jewelry sale! Special items have been put aside all summer waiting for this big event on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 8 a.m. until noon. Something for someone on your holiday shopping list or a little treat for yourself - you can't go wrong! This is a one-day only event. The Thrifty Attic is on Main Street in Londonderry, VT.

FRIDAY, DEC. 1 - SATURDAY, DEC. 2 - KEENE, N.H. – The Horatio Colony House Museum will be holding their annual holiday open house on Friday, Dec. 1 from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 2 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. The Horatio Colony House Museum, located at 199 Main St., Keene, will be festooned with traditional seasonal decorations. This is an event for the whole family. Children will specially appreciate the exhibit of animal images and the holiday animal tree decorated with animal-inspired ornaments made by students from Wheelock School. There is also a special exhibit of poems, short excerpts and artwork created by Keene Middle School's Nature Writing Program. Cider and cookies will be served. Admission is free. Please park in Saint Bernard's Church Parking lot. Contact 603-352-0460 for more information.

MONDAY, DEC. 4 – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The

United Church of Bellows Falls will once again be hosting the St. Petersburg (Russia) Men's Ensemble. The show begins at 7 p.m., on Monday Dec. 4 at the United Church of Bellows Falls at 8 School St. This event is open to the public, and all are welcome. A freewill offering will be taken at the door. For more information, please call the church office at 802-463-4323.

FRIDAY, DEC. 8 - PUTNEY, Vt. – Next Stage Arts Project and Twilight Music present contemporary folk singer/songwriters Mark Erelli and Stephen Chipman at Next Stage on Friday, Dec. 8 at 7:30 p.m. Mark Erelli has toured internationally as a solo artist for the past 18 years, appearing onstage everywhere from coffeehouses and major folk festival stages to Fenway Park. Stephen Chipman grew up in Boston, where he learned to play guitar at an early age and rode the folk music wave through college frat parties and corner bars in the 1970s. Forty years later, when he's not rebuilding old parlor guitars in his Chester, VT shop, Chipman returns to his singer/songwriter roots with a set list of songs dedicated to poking fun at himself and the follies of his past. Next Stage is located at 15 Kimball Hill in downtown Putney, VT. For information, call 802-387-0102. Advance tickets are available at www.nextstagearts.org, Turn It Up in Brattleboro and Putney Food Co-Op in Putney. For more information, visit www.markerelli.com, www.twilightmusic.org and www.

nextstagearts.org.

SATURDAY, DEC. 9 - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Join us for a festive holiday open house at Gallery at the VAULT on Saturday, Dec. 9 from noon to 4 p.m. Paint a watercolor of your favorite winter tree with artist Nancy Lanoue. The event is free and all materials are provided. Enjoy music by Kathi Byam on flute, joined by Karen Engdal on violin. Find perfect gifts from the creations of 160 artists, all in a historic 1907 bank with a real vault. Enjoy 20 percent off Danforth ornaments. As well as refreshments, crafts, and gift-wrapping station. New open wall exhibit, Magical Light. Gallery at the VAULT, a Vermont State Craft Center, in located on 68 Main St. in Springfield, VT and is open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5. See www.galleryvault.org or call 802-885-7111.

THURSDAYS – LUDLOW, Vt. – Gypsy Reel plays regularly at The Killarney, in Ludlow. Music always begins at 6:30 p.m. and continues until 8:30 p.m. or later (depending upon football schedule). Fine ale, good pub food, and great music in the traditional Irish style. TFN

GASSETTS, Vt. - Bingo will be held every Thursday night at the Gassetts Grange. Starts at 6:30 p.m., doors open at 5 p.m. Supper, raffle and 50/50 tickets are on sale. Come and join in. Call Donna at 802-591-4290 or you can call the hall at 802-875-1051. TFN

SATURDAYS- BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Internet and jazz jam Saturday at the Flat Iron Exchange, located in the square. No cover charge, just a tip jar to listen to some great jazz music. Enjoy a coffee and relax. 5-7 p.m. TFN

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

LIBRARIES

TUESDAYS – CHARLESTOWN, N.H. - Story time for toddlers and Pre-K at the Silsby Free Library from 10:30 a.m. Children and parents are invited for stories, songs and finger plays. Session includes playtime, an activity and a story time. Free and open to all. TFN

SPRINGFIELD, Vt.– Springfield Town Library story time, 43 Main St., 10 a.m. Free and open to the public with stories, songs, and activities for the youngest readers. For more information, call the library at 802-885-3108. TFN

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. - Crafts, Stories and Play Time toddlers and preschoolers. Enjoy stories, songs, crafts, and activities. Rockingham Free Public Library

10:30-11:30 a.m. Contact 463-4270. TFN

WEDNESDAYS – WESTON, Vt. - Come and enjoy a story hour with friends at the Wilder Memorial Library, Lawrence Hill Road in Weston! 11 a.m.-noon. Call ahead to check, 802-824-4307. TFN

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Rockingham Library hosts a series of six films by and about women for everyone, sponsored by the Women's Freedom Center on the second Wednesday of each month through February. These events are free and open to the public. For more information, go to rockinghamlibrary.org, call 802-463-4270 or stop by the library at 65 Westminster St., Bellows Falls, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. on Thursday & Friday and 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. on Saturday.

LUDLOW, Vt. – Weekly toddler and pre-school story time with a weekly theme, music, and activity. 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the Fletcher Memorial Library. Best suited for ages 5 and younger. Call Sacha at 802-228-3517 or email skrawczykvt@gmail.com to register for programs. TFN

WINDSOR, Vt. - Preschool and Toddler Storytime every Wednesday from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Windsor Public Library, 43 State Street. Each week features a theme, music stories and a craft. www.windsorlibrary.org. 802-674-2556. TFN

THURSDAYS- BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Join the genealogy group at Rockingham Free Public Library every Thursday, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. when genealogy enthusiast Wayne Blanchard takes you on a quest to discover your family roots. If you own a laptop, please bring it along. Many free databases are available at the library. Beginners and seasoned genealogists are welcome. Free and open to the public. For details, call 802-463-4270, email programming@rockinghamlibrary.org or go to www.rockinghamlibrary.org. TFN

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Minecraft Club at the Rockingham Free Public 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. TFN

NOTICE OF TAX SALE TAX SALE OF REAL ESTATE Town of Cavendish, Vermont

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgages of lands in the Town of Cavendish in the county of Windsor are hereby notified that the taxes assessed by such town for the year 2012-2013, 2013-2014, 2014-2015, 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 remain, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described lands in such town, to wit, a parcel of land, parcel #2V21-101, conveyed to Jason Staley and Sara J. Staley recorded in Volume 52, Pages 526-527 in Cavendish Land Records.

Reference may be had to said deed for a more particular description of said lands and premises, as the same appears in the Land Records of the Town of Cavendish. And so much of the lands will be sold at public auction at the Office of the Town Tax Collector, located at the Cavendish Town Office Building, 37 High St., Cavendish, Vermont, on December 7, 2017 at 1:00 o'clock in the p.m., as shall be requisite to discharge said taxes together with costs and other fees allowed by law, unless the same be previously paid.

Dated at Cavendish, Vermont this 18th day of October 2017. Brendan McNamara Delinquent Tax Collector, Town of Cavendish

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

NOTICE OF TAX SALE TAX SALE OF REAL ESTATE Town of Cavendish, Vermont

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgages of lands in the Town of Cavendish in the county of Windsor are hereby notified that the taxes assessed by such town for the year 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 remain, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described lands in such town, to wit, a parcel of land, parcel #1R20-228, conveyed to Caryl M Blaise Life Estate and Andrew L Blaise, Jr. recorded in Volume 47, Pages 136-137 in Cavendish Land Records.

Reference may be had to said deed for a more particular description of said lands and premises, as the same appears in the Land Records of the Town of Cavendish. And so much of the lands will be sold at public auction at the Office of the Town Tax Collector, located at the Cavendish Town Office Building, 37 High St., Cavendish, Vermont, on December 7, 2017 at 1:00 o'clock in the p.m., as shall be requisite to discharge said taxes together with costs and other fees allowed by law, unless the same be previously paid.

Dated at Cavendish, Vermont this 18th day of October 2017. Brendan McNamara Delinquent Tax Collector, Town of Cavendish

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

NOTICE OF TAX SALE TAX SALE OF REAL ESTATE Town of Cavendish, Vermont

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgages of lands in the Town of Cavendish in the county of Windsor are hereby notified that the taxes assessed by such town for the year 2014-2015, 2015-2016, and 2016-2017 remain, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described lands in such town, to wit, a parcel of land, parcel #1R10-077, conveyed to Kevin Cheney and Karen Cheney recorded in Volume 50, Pages 45-46 in Cavendish Land Records.

Reference may be had to said deed for a more particular description of said lands and premises, as the same appears in the Land Records of the Town of Cavendish. And so much of the lands will be sold at public auction at the Office of the Town Tax Collector, located at the Cavendish Town Office Building, 37 High St., Cavendish, Vermont, on December 7, 2017 at 1:00 o'clock in the p.m., as shall be requisite to discharge said taxes together with costs and other fees allowed by law, unless the same be previously paid.

Dated at Cavendish, Vermont this 18th day of October 2017. Brendan McNamara Delinquent Tax Collector, Town of Cavendish

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

TAKE A BREAK!

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

Difficulty this week: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Bean curd

5 Scot's chapeau

8 Read bar codes

12 Portent

13 Gorilla

14 Exam

15 Body powder

16 Coffee holder

17 Egyptian cross

18 Catch in a snare

20 Norway's capital

22 Outrageous

26 "— Foolish Things"

29 Call-day link

30 Carte lead-in

31 Enervates

32 Hollywood trickery, for short

33 Whirl

34 Muhammad or Laila

35 Reaction to fireworks

36 California-Nevada lake

37 How low can you go?

40 One

41 "Nighthawks" painter

45 Graceful young woman

47 Altar affirma-

tive

49 Volcanic outflow

50 Coral construct

51 A billion years

52 Tied

53 Otherwise

54 Droop

55 Leftovers

DOWN

1 Carry

2 Mideast nation

3 Touched

4 Straighten, as one's legs

5 Hosiery shade

6 Spring mo.

7 "Amahl and the Night Visitors" composer

8 Trité

9 Tomb of a sort

10 Inquire

11 To the — degree

19 Rd.

21 — Na Na

23 Correct

24 Hodgepodge

25 Glass sheet

26 Autocrat

27 Head light?

28 Gourmets

32 Lice, slangily

33 Needlepoint creation

35 Japanese sash

36 As well

38 Piece of cutlery

39 Sandal type

42 Macadamize

43 Arden and Plumb

44 Carry on

45 Opposite of "post-"

46 Wet wriggler

48 1950 "who murdered me?" movie

Salome's Stars

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)

You've let yourself be distracted from what's really important. But love finally gets your attention this week. However, it comes with a challenge that could create a problem.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)

Be careful not to bully others into following your lead. Best advice: Persuade, don't push, and you'll get the cooperation you need to move forward with your plans.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)

Resist the urge to gloat now that you've proved your detractors wrong. Instead, charm them back into your circle. Remember: A former foe can become your best ally.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)

You might want to claim all the credit for making this holiday season special. But is it worth producing a lot of hurt feelings by rejecting offers of help? Think about it.

LEO (July 23 to August 22)

Ignore a co-worker's questionable behavior. Instead, put your energy into making your own project special. Then sit back and purr over your well-deserved applause.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)

You might not want to accept those suggested changes in your workplace. But don't chuck them out before you check them out. You could be happily surprised.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)

Your holiday planning might have to take a back seat for a bit so that you can handle a problem with a friend or family member. Your schedule resumes by the 9th.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)

Relationships in general benefit during the early part of the week, including in the workplace. Also expect some overdue changes in a personal situation.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)

"Prudence" should be your watchword this week. Best not to be too open about some of the things that are currently happening in your life.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)

Money is on your mind, so you'd best mind how you're spending it. Take another look at that holiday budget and see where you can make adjustments.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)

Resolving to revive an old friendship could open some old wounds. Are you sure you want to risk that? Think this through before making a commitment.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20)

Your need to know more about a new friend could lead to some startling revelations. Best advice: Keep an open mind about what you learn until all the facts are in.

BORN THIS WEEK:

Your loyalty to friends makes you a very special person to those whose lives you've touched.

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calendar

REAL ESTATE/AUTOMOTIVE

EVENTS CONT

FRIDAYS
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Bellows Falls Area Senior Center Book Club, in partnership with the Rockingham Free Public Library, 65 Westminster St., meets on the first Friday of every month at 9 a.m. Call the senior center at 802-463-3907 or the library at 802-463-4270 for details. TFN

SATURDAYS-
ALSTEAD, N.H. - Stop by the Shedd-Porter Memorial Library for cinnamon buns the last Saturday of each month and visit with friends or neighbors. The cinnamon buns are from McGuire's Bakery and are available for a small fee. All the proceeds go to benefit the library. The library is at 3 Main St., Alstead.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

MEETINGS

TUESDAYS-
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The Bellows Falls Woman's Club meets on the second Tuesday of each month, through May, at the United Church. The hall is accessible to all. Women interested in joining and helping with club projects may contact Barbara Comtois, membership chairman, at 802-344-0025. The Bellows Falls Woman's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt.- The Steampunk Society event committee meets Tuesdays at the Hartness House Inn at 6 p.m. located at 30 Orchard St. TFN

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 can be found at www.westminsterfireandrescue.org. TFN

WEDNESDAYS-
LUDLOW, Vt.- Black River Area Community Coalition meets third Wednesdays in the Community room of the Fletcher Memorial Library, Main St. in Ludlow, starting at 5:30 p.m. More information, visit www.braccvt.org. TFN

FRIDAYS-
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Monthly Coalition meetings of Greater Falls Connections every fourth Friday of the month, from 12-1:30 at Parks Place. The

meetings provide informative presentations on substance abuse prevention and updates on our work. Meetings are open to everyone. Lunch and good company provided. TFN

SUPPORT GROUPS

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. TFN

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

TUESDAYS-
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Breast Feeding Support Group second and fourth Tuesdays at the Springfield Hospital Library Level D. Noon-2 p.m. It is free and no registration is required. For more information call Erin at 802-885-7511. TFN

LUDLOW, Vt. – Co-Dependents Anonymous meets on Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the basement of the Fletcher Memorial Library, 88 Main St. in Ludlow. Find out more about CoDA at coda.org. For more information regarding this meeting, contact Sarah

E. at sarahcoda2016@gmail.com. TFN

WINDSOR, Vt. – Cedar Hill Alzheimer's caregiver support group. Meet fellow caregivers who really understand because they've been there, too, when things are difficult or isolating. First Tuesdays from 3:30-5 p.m. at 92 Cedar Hill Drive (off Route 5). TFN

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

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - TOPS Chapter Vermont #12 meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at Sacred Heart Social Center, 39 Green Street in Bellows Falls. Come to TOPS (take off pounds sensibly) a non-profit, non-commercial, weight loss support group that really works. Every week there are interesting programs that touch on topics that help us in our quest for weight loss. We share healthy recipes for main meals and snacks. Your first meeting is free. Bring a friend; you won't be disappointed. Visit our website www.tops.org for more information. TFN

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. TFN

LUDLOW, Vt. – Eating behavior support group meets Wednesdays at 6 p.m. at the Women's Center for Binge and Emotional Eating on 70 Main St. This free group is intended to help you understand your eating and/or weight-related struggles. The group is led by trained therapists who specialize in eating behavior. To join call 802-975-0435 or email shiri@fitwoman.com. TFN

ASCUTNEY, Vt. - Twin State Depression Support Group meets on the third Wednesday at Martin Memorial Hall, Lower Level (Handicapped-accessible), 5259 Route 5, Ascutey, (near Exit 8 off I-91) at 6:30 p.m. Do you know or think you may be depressed? Have a friend or family member who has depression? Then this group is for you! Support, empathy, sharing, education, confidentiality, peer-led. Contact TwinStateDSG@gmail.com or 841-715-3900 (ext. 650055#). TFN

THURSDAYS –
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Mental health peer support group, 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. TFN

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

Ludlow, VT



Stunning Bensonwood home in gated community on cul de sac with privacy and beautiful views on 11 acres. 4 bedroom 6 baths. This custom Timberframe home boasts an open floor plan on the first floor with gorgeous natural birch floors and staircases. The custom kitchen offers cherry cabinets, granite countertops, center island . The living area features a floor to ceiling wood burning stone fireplace. There are 2 master en-suites, theater room & wine cellar. **Price: \$950,000**

Cavendish, VT



Gorgeous, bright & young home. This 4 bedroom 2.5 bath is designed with high end touches including granite countertops, custom cabinetry and hardwood floors. Great pond, oversized 2 car garage to hold all your toys, and a home office and art studio makes this a very unique home. **Price: \$465,000**


CALL LISTING AGENT
Karen Wilson & Cathy Fisher
802-228-5678

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www.susancolbyrealestate.com



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OFFICE RENTALS, second floor Central Business District are 4 available stating at \$165. First floor street side \$450 with heat.

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Call Sue today! NH: 603-756-2921*

SPRINGFIELD



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802-886-9510 office

SSimpson@SpringfieldAutomart.com

Professional Friendly Service
13 Clinton Street • Springfield, VT 05156
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Lori Muse, Broker/Owner





How sweet it is! This charming home offers much to love as it sits on a lovely 2.9 acre lot in a cul-de-sac close to the village and has it all. Garden space, babbling brook and space to enjoy the birds and wildlife in the backyard. The living room features a fireplace to cozy up to on those snowy evenings as you pick a book to read from the built-in bookcases. A generous dining space for family dinners and roomy kitchen for those preparations. Beautiful hardwood floors throughout this lovely 3 bedroom home with plenty of closets. The full basement awaits your finishing touches. The detached oversize garage has plenty of room for workshop projects. \$179,900

Single or Double, this property was originally a duplex with two garages, two basements, two kitchens, two living rooms and four bedrooms. Modernized and currently set up for single family occupancy with a refinished eat-in kitchen, spacious living room with 3/4 bath, a master bedroom on the first floor with its own bath and a deluxe laundry. Includes a shed, deck, 6 acres with abundant stone scape (easy grounds maintenance) and easy access off Route 131. Just Reduced to \$159,900



Easy Keeper Ranch Style Home located at the end of the neighborhood on 5+/- acres. Includes two bedrooms, 1 bath, bright open concept living/dining with access right into the kitchen with soapstone countertops and pellet stove for supplemental or primary heat. Outdoor living space on the front deck/covered porch and garage for storage. \$129,900

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Specials of the Week

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 <p>2010 Chevy Equinox AWD V6 Auto Fully Loaded</p>	 <p>2013 Ford Escape SE Fully Loaded Auto 4 Cylinder AWD</p>

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AUTOMOTIVE

essay contest

Bernie Sanders announces essay contest for high school students on pressing issues in the U.S.

REGION - As President Trump prepares to give his State of the Union speech to a joint session of Congress early next year, Sanders is inviting Vermont high school students to describe what they think are the most pressing issues facing the United States and what they would do to solve them.

“Our students are the future of our country and they must be involved in the discussion about

where our nation needs to go,” said Sanders, who serves on the Senate education committee. “It doesn’t matter what is-

Students are the future of our country.

sues students write about, or what positions they take. What matters is that young Vermonters are engaged, and thinking about the future of our country. That’s what democracy is

all about.”

A panel of Vermont teachers will judge the 250-500 word essays based on the students’ ability to describe the issue and proposed solution. The

finalists will have their essays entered into the Congressional Record - the official archive of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. Sanders will also hold a roundtable discus-

sion with the finalists.

The deadline to submit an essay is Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2018. For more information, go to www.sanders.senate.gov/stateoftheunion/.

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All Wheel Drive, LT Package
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SE Package, Auto
SALE PRICE \$9,995

2017 NISSAN FRONTIER
4 DOOR CREW CAB
4x4, Fully Loaded, Only 7,000 Miles
SALE PRICE \$26,995

2016 CHEVY 1500
DOUBLE CAB
LT Package, Fully Loaded, 4x4, Only 28,000 Miles
SALE PRICE \$29,995

2015 CHEVY 3500 HD
4 DOOR CREW CAB 4X4
LTZ Package, Fully Loaded, Duramax Diesel, Sun Roof, One Owner
SALE PRICE \$50,995

2015 CHEVY 2500 HD
EXTENDED CAB
4x4, Duramax Diesel, LT Package, One Owner, Only 44,000 Miles
DURAMAX DIESEL

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AWD, Only 3,000 Miles, Brand New
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SALE PRICE \$20,995

2016 NISSAN SENTRA
Auto, One Owner, Extra Clean
SALE PRICE \$13,995

2016 CHEVY EQUINOX
LTZ Package, AWD, 6 Cyl, Sun Roof, Navigation, Leather, One Owner
SALE PRICE \$25,995

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SALE PRICE \$22,995

2015 CHEVY COLORADO
CREW CAB
Z71 Off Road Package, 4x4, One Owner, Only 34,000 Miles
SALE PRICE \$27,995

2015 KIA SORENTO
LX Package, AWD, Fully Loaded
SALE PRICE \$15,995

2014 CHEVY CAPTIVA
Sport Package, FWD, Only 46,000 Miles, Leather, Sun Roof
SALE PRICE \$11,995

2014 GMC TERRAIN
SLE 2, NAVIGATION,
ONLY 44,000 MILES
STOCK #1494



SALE PRICE \$17,995

2014 BUICK REGAL GS
AWD, 2.0 LITER TURBO, SUN ROOF,
FULLY LOADED
STOCK #1477



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2016 BUICK ENCORE
AWD, SUN ROOF, NAVIGATION,
ONLY 13,000 MILES
STOCK #1634



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2014 CHEVY CRUZE
LT Package, Standard Shift, Only 34,000 Miles
SALE PRICE \$10,995

2012 SUBARU OUTBACK
2.5 I LIMITED
AWD, Fully Loaded
SALE PRICE \$13,995

2010 TOYOTA COROLLA
S Package, Fully Loaded
SALE PRICE \$8,995

2005 GMC 3500 HD DUMP
4x4, w/ V Plow, Duramax Diesel
SALE PRICE \$19,995

2014 CHEVY CRUZE
LT Package, Auto, One Owner, Only 15,000 Miles
SALE PRICE \$12,995

2012 CHEVY CRUZE
LT Package w/ RS Package, Fully Loaded
SALE PRICE \$8,495

2009 HONDA ACCORD LXP
Fully Loaded, Only 84,000 Miles
SALE PRICE \$8,995

2003 CHEVY 2500 HD
4 DOOR CREW CAB
Duramax Diesel, One Owner, Only 107,000 Miles
SALE PRICE \$13,995

2014 GMC 2500 HD
CREW CAB
4x4, SLT Package, Fully Loaded, One Owner
SALE PRICE \$29,995

2011 NISSAN FRONTIER
4 DOOR CREW CAB
4x4, SL Package, Sun Roof, Leather Interior, Extra Clean
SALE PRICE \$11,995

2008 CHEVY EQUINOX
AWD, Sport Package, V6, Fully Loaded
SALE PRICE \$8,995

2002 CHEVY 2500 HD EXT CAB
4x4, Fully Loaded
SALE PRICE \$9,995

2013 CHEVY TAHOE
LTZ Package, Fully Loaded
SALE PRICE \$29,995

2011 CHEVY 1500 EXT CAB
4x4, Z-71 Off Road Package, 5.3 Liter V8, Only 98,000 Miles
SALE PRICE \$19,995

2006 CHEVY 3500 HD DUMP
4x4, with Fisher Plow, Only 26,000 Miles
SALE PRICE \$6,995

1993 CHEVY CORVETTE COUPE
2 Removable Tops, Auto
SALE PRICE \$7,495

2012 FORD FUSION
SEL Package, Leather, Sun Roof, Only 27,000 Miles
SALE PRICE \$11,995

2011 HONDA FIT
Sport Package, Fully Loaded Only 50,000 Miles
SALE PRICE \$7,995

2005 FORD MUSTANG
CONVERTIBLE
Auto, Fully Loaded, Leather Interior, Only 82,000 Miles
SALE PRICE \$7,995

1984 MERCEDES 380SL
CONVERTIBLE W/ REMOVABLE HARD TOP
Only 29,500 Miles
SALE PRICE \$27,000

2014 VOLKSWAGEN TIGUAN
AWD, R-LINE, LEATHER,
NAVIGATION, SUN ROOF,
ONLY 21,000 MILES



SALE PRICE \$21,995

2016 JEEP CHEROKEE TRAILHAWK
FULLY LOADED, ONE OWNER
STOCK #7442B



ONLY 9,000 MILES

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SPORT LIMITED, AWD, FULLY LOADED,
ONE OWNER, LEATHER
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How does a 401(k) plan work?

REGION – With a 401(k) plan, you elect either to receive cash payments from your employer immediately, or defer receipt of a portion of that income to the plan. The amount you defer isn't currently included in your income; it's made with pretax dollars. Consequently, your federal taxable income that year is reduced. And the deferred portion isn't taxed to you until you receive payments from the plan.

You may also be able to make Roth contributions to your 401(k) plan. Roth 401(k) contributions are made on an after-tax basis, just like Roth IRA contributions. Unlike pretax contribu-

tions to a 401(k) plan, there's no up-front tax benefit, but qualified distributions from a Roth 401(k) account are entirely free from federal income tax.

When can I contribute? In general, a 401(k) plan can make you wait up to a year before you're eligible to contribute. But many plans don't have a waiting period at all, allowing you to contribute beginning with your first paycheck.

Some 401(k) plans provide for automatic enrollment once you've satisfied the plan's eligibility requirements. If you've been automatically enrolled in your 401(k) plan, make sure to check

that your assigned contribution rate and investments are appropriate for your circumstances.

You can contribute up to \$18,000 of your pay (\$24,000 if you're age 50 or older) to a 401(k) plan in 2017. You can split your contribution between pretax and Roth contributions any way you wish.

Your participation in a 401(k) plan has no impact on your ability to contribute to an IRA. You can contribute up to \$5,500 to an IRA in 2017, \$6,500 if you're age 50 or older.

What are the tax consequences? When you make pretax 401(k) contributions, you don't

pay current income taxes on those dollars. But your contributions and investment earnings are fully taxable when you receive a distribution from the plan.

In contrast, Roth 401(k) contributions are subject to income taxes up front, but qualified distributions of your contributions and earnings are entirely free from federal income tax. In general, a distribution from your Roth 401(k) account is qualified only if it satisfies both of the following requirements: it's made after the end of a five-year waiting period and the payment is made after you turn 59.5, become disabled, or die.

The five-year waiting period for qualified distributions starts with the year you make your first Roth contribution to the 401(k) plan. Each nonqualified distribution is deemed to consist of a pro-rata portion of your tax-free contributions and taxable earnings.

What about employer contributions? Your employer can match your Roth contributions, your pretax contributions, or both. But your employer's contributions are always made on a pretax basis, even if they match your Roth contributions.

Should I make pretax or Roth contributions? If you think you'll be in a similar or higher tax


bracket when you retire, Roth 401(k) contributions may be more appealing, since you'll effectively lock in today's lower tax rates. However, if you think you'll be in a lower tax bracket when you retire, pretax 401(k) contributions may be more appropriate. Your investment horizon and projected investment results are also important factors. A financial professional can help you determine which course is appropriate for you.

What happens when I terminate employment? Generally, you forfeit all contributions that haven't vested. Vesting means that you own the contributions.

Your contributions, pretax and Roth, are always 100 percent vested. But your 401(k) plan may generally require up to six years of service before you fully vest in employer matching contributions.



When you terminate employment, you can generally take a distribution, leave your money in your 401(k) plan until the plan's normal retirement age, or you can roll your dollars over tax free to an IRA or to another employer's retirement plan that accepts rollovers.

Article written by Huntley Financial Services. Mark Huntley at 888-922-1035.



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YOU COULD QUALIFY FOR A 2017 TAX DEDUCTION OF UP TO \$25,000


SMALL BUSINESS CUSTOMERS MAY CLAIM UP TO \$510,000 TAX DEDUCTION

WHAT IS TAX SECTION 179?

The Section 179 Deduction was enacted as part of the IRS tax code in 2008 to help small businesses with their vehicle and equipment purchases. This law allows your commercial and fleet customers to claim the full purchase price of certain Chevrolet/GMC/Buick vehicles totaling up to \$510,000 (for eligible vehicles) as a tax deduction.¹







1. Each individual's tax situation is unique; therefore, please consult your tax professional to con-firm vehicle depreciation deduction and tax benefits. For more details, visit www.irs.gov.

2. For vehicles that qualify as passenger automobiles under the Internal Revenue Code, there is a \$11,560 per-vehicle depreciation deduction cap for certain SUVs, trucks, and vans placed in service during 2017.

3. For vehicles that qualify as sport utility vehicles, including certain trucks and vans, under the Internal Revenue Code, the maximum amount that may be expensed is \$25,000 of the total purchase price. The \$25,000 expense cap contributes to the \$510,000 dollar limit and \$2,030,000 investment limit under Section 179.

4. The tax incentives are available for depreciable tangible property that is acquired by purchase for use in the active conduct of a trade or business. Additional limitation based on purchases. For the 2017 tax year, the aggregate deduction of \$510,000 under Internal Revenue Code Section 179 is most beneficial to small businesses that place in service no more than \$2,030,000 of Section 179 property during the year. For every dollar spent on Section 179 property in excess of the overall limit of \$2,030,000, the \$510,000 expense-tax deduction decreases by a dollar. Certain vehicles, models, and restrictions apply. Consult your tax professional for details.

GM reserves the right to make changes at any time, without notice, to prices, colors, materials, equipment, features, specifications, models and availability. September 2017

VEHICLE (2017MY-18MY)	DEDUCTION ALLOWED
Camaro	Up to \$11,160 ²
City Express	Up to \$11,560 ²
Colorado	Up to \$11,560 ²
Corvette	Up to \$11,160 ²
Cruze	Up to \$11,160 ²
Equinox	Up to \$11,560 ²
Express Cargo	Up to \$510,000 ³ (aggregate*)
Express Cutaway	Up to \$510,000 ³ (aggregate*)
Express Passenger	Up to \$510,000 ³ (aggregate*)
Impala	Up to \$11,160 ²
Low Cab Forward	Up to \$510,000 ³ (aggregate*)
Malibu	Up to \$11,160 ²
Silverado (short box)	Up to \$25,000 ⁴
Silverado (standard or long box)	Up to \$510,000 ³ (aggregate*)
Silverado Chassis Cab	Up to \$510,000 ³ (aggregate*)
Sonic	Up to \$11,160 ²
Spark	Up to \$11,160 ²
SS Sedan	Up to \$11,160 ²
Suburban	Up to \$25,000 ⁴
Tahoe	Up to \$25,000 ⁴
Traverse	Up to \$25,000 ⁴
Trax	Up to \$11,560 ²

Vehicles must be placed in service during the 2017 tax year to be eligible.
*Total deduction aggregate; no per-vehicle purchase price limit.

VEHICLE (2017MY-18MY)	DEDUCTION ALLOWED
Acadia	Up to \$25,000 ³
Acadia Denali	Up to \$25,000 ³
Canyon	Up to \$11,560 ²
Savana Cargo Van	Up to \$510,000 ⁴ (aggregate*)
Savana Cutaway	Up to \$510,000 ⁴ (aggregate*)
Savana Passenger Van	Up to \$510,000 ⁴ (aggregate*)
Sierra 1500 (Short Box)	Up to \$25,000 ³
Sierra 1500 (Standard and Long Box)	Up to \$510,000 ⁴ (aggregate*)
Sierra 1500 Denali (Short Box)	Up to \$25,000 ³
Sierra 1500 Denali (Standard Box)	Up to \$510,000 ⁴ (aggregate*)
Sierra Denali HD (Standard and Long Box)	Up to \$510,000 ⁴ (aggregate*)
Sierra HD (Standard and Long Box)	Up to \$510,000 ⁴ (aggregate*)
Sierra HD Chassis Cab	Up to \$510,000 ⁴ (aggregate*)
Terrain	Up to \$11,560 ²
Terrain Denali	Up to \$11,560 ²
Yukon	Up to \$25,000 ³
Yukon Denali	Up to \$25,000 ³
Yukon XL	Up to \$25,000 ³
Yukon XL Denali	Up to \$25,000 ³

Vehicles must be placed in service during the 2017 tax year to be eligible.
*Total deduction aggregate; no per-vehicle purchase price limit.

VEHICLE (2017MY-18MY)	DEDUCTION ALLOWED
Enclave	Up to \$25,000 ³
Encore	Up to \$11,560 ²
LaCrosse	Up to \$11,160 ²
Regal	Up to \$11,160 ²
Verano	Up to \$11,160 ²

Vehicles must be placed in service during the 2017 tax year to be eligible.
*Total deduction aggregate; no per-vehicle purchase price limit.

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