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Under pressure, the GMUSD approves their budget minus \$30K

BY SHARON HUNTLEY
The Vermont Journal

CHESTER, Vt. - With the deadline looming to pass a budget, the Green Mountain Union School District board members during their meeting on Jan. 17, voted to pass a budget total that was minus \$30,000 from what was laid out in the latest version in front of them. The new number was the result of a motion made by Andover representative Joe Fromberger, after earlier expressing his unwillingness to pass the budget at hand. He noted that it would be an "opportunity to find those savings elsewhere." Fromberger admitted that part of his frustration stemmed from the food service deficit number that had not yet been studied in depth or resolved leading up to the budget presentation. After continuing discussion, the motion was seconded and passed with one board member, Cavendish Representative Doug McBride, voting no.



GMUSD approves their budget.

PHOTO PROVIDED

The GMUSD finance committee meeting had ended just prior to the board meeting, but having deadlocked, did not have a final recommended budget to present to the board. There was frustration voiced from several board members and community members that the board was seemingly unhappy with the budget at hand but voting to move it forward regardless. Cavendish resident Sara Stowell spoke about her unwillingness to vote for a budget that the board was struggling to agree on. "If this budget is approved, I'll go door-to-door telling people to vote against it."

In speaking with McBride several days after the meeting, he revealed that he voted no because "the budget did not reflect the Act 46 enhancements promised to voters." He went on to add, "I voted no because there was nothing in the budget to improve education."

The budget process has been fraught with many contentious is-

ssues including proposed elementary principal structural changes, and nursing staff changes that were then reversed. Of note however is that in recent weeks, the principal hire for CTES has now been termed an "interim position," lasting just one year, along with an added teaching dean of students at CAES, with those duties still undetermined. The implication being that the GMUSD board is not yet done with a possible restructuring of the elementary school principal staff. The board confirmed that the high school administrative staff will remain unchanged however.

Board Chair Marilyn Mahusky summed up this year's budget saying, "I think one way to look at this [budget] is that it is a bit of a step maintaining status quo...it gives this board and the community an opportunity to continue this conversation going forward..." She went on to say that next year's budget would be based more on long term educational goals and objectives.

To that end, Superintendent Meg Powden spoke earlier in the meeting about organizing a retreat, along with board members, teachers, and community members, in the early summer of 2018, to set educational goals and objectives moving for-

ward. There was discussion that the educational opportunities that had been part of the discussion during the initial Act 46 merger talks has not yet been fully realized and that this would be an opportunity to revisit those.

McBride had only heard about the retreat at the last GMUSD meeting but was excited that the board was finally talking about educational priorities. "I think it's going to open up the door to have serious conversation about the direction of our education. It should be a fascinating and engaging time as we sort this thing out."

The administration needed to decide where to take out the \$30,000 by Friday, Jan. 19. TRSU Accounting Bookkeeper Cheryl Hammond confirmed that \$10,000 was removed from Food Service and \$20,000 was removed from the Capital Reserve Fund.

The district annual meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb 27 in the Green Mountain High School auditorium at 7 p.m. Voting on the budget will be by Australian ballot in the Andover, Baltimore, Cavendish, and Chester Town Halls from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 6, 2018.

Cavendish residents concerned about representation in unified school district

BY THOMAS FOSTER IV
The Vermont Journal

CAVENDISH, Vt. - The Cavendish Elementary School Board met on Jan. 16 to discuss the budget for the upcoming year followed by a joint discussion with Chester-Andover Elementary School Board. However, discussions soon shifted when community members expressed their concern with how the Green Mountain Unified School District would affect the elementary school.

Speculations emerged that the district's long term goal would result in the eventual closure of the Cavendish Elementary School, but the rumor was immediately put to rest.

George Thompson, principle of the school for 29 years, responded by saying, "There is no intent to close the school." He continued, "It is important to keep elementary schools in the district."

Doug McBride, a representative of both the CTES Board and the GMUSD Board, stepped into the conversation and expressed that CTES is "vitaly important to the community" and that there has been no discussion of an eventual closure. He also pointed out that there is a clause in Act 46's Articles of Agreement that prohibits the immediate closure of a school in the next four years. Regardless, he believes that the Cavendish community should be confident that the new unified school district won't outvote them out of existence.

While this offered comfort for some, public comments extended beyond the agenda. Margo Caulfield, director of the Cavendish



Cavendish Town Elementary School.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY CTES.TRSU.ORG

Historical Society, reflected on when Green Mountain Union High School was formed and how some of the more elderly residents in Cavendish feel a mutual distrust towards Chester after allegedly not getting the accommodations they were promised. The concerns arose after rumors surfaced that the sixth grade, and potentially fifth grade, were being considered for relocation.

She continued, "Chester gets what they want...If you take out the sixth grade, you start kissing your school goodbye."

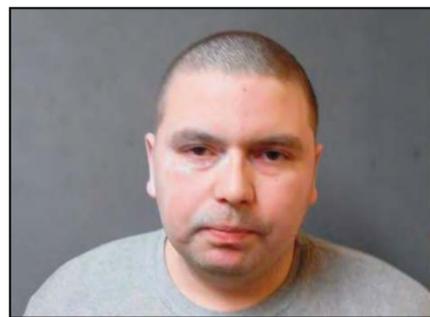
Cavendish Elementary School ranks 23 out of 169 in grade schools in Vermont, while Chester-Andover Elementary School ranks 102 out of 169, and other community members agreed when Caulfield said this is a problem.

While some were vocal about their distrust, other members in the room spoke out for unity between the two towns. Gene Bont, representative of

the CTES board, said, "The important thing is we are all trying to strive so our children have maximum benefit." Bont, along with both school boards, were impressed with the community's involvement and encouraged future public conversation. It was also agreed that transparency is a key component for a successful transition into the newly formed district.

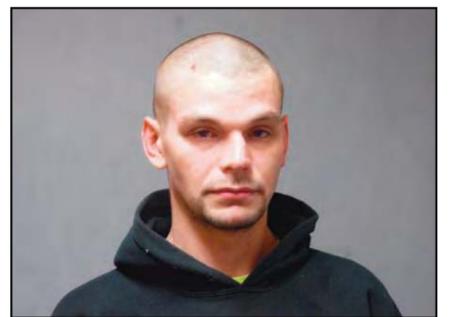
George Thompson stated that this year's budget for the school is normal with no change in staffing patterns. He is set to retire at the end of the school year, and Superintendent Meg Powden said there will be an interim principle while the Supervisory Union figures out the best administrative layout for the school. The next Cavendish School Board meeting will be rescheduled for Feb. 26. More information on Act 46 and the Articles of Agreement can be found at www.trsu.org or in the town clerk's office.

Two men arrested in Mount Holly home invasion



Antonio Diaz.

PHOTO PROVIDED



Nicholas Sweet.

PHOTO PROVIDED

MOUNT HOLLY, Vt. - At 11:53 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 21, State Police responded to a call from Old Turnpike Road in Mount Holly where two men were using weapons to force entry into the house. The police reported that the two males, identified as Antonio Diaz of Cavendish and Nicholas Sweet of Pittsfield, were

intending to harm the residents.

Diaz was taken into custody at the scene and was processed at the Rutland Barracks. He was charged with burglary, aggravated assault with a weapon, assault and robbery, unlawful restraint, threatening, and criminal DLS. He will be held at the Marble Valley Regional Correctional Facility without bail. His

court appearance was on Monday, Jan. 22.

Sweet fled from the property prior to the Troopers arrival. He was later arrested in a Cavendish residence Monday evening. He is being held at Marble Valley Regional Correctional Facility without bail and met with the court on Tuesday, Jan. 23.



BRGNS' school backpack program is available for families during February vacations.

STOCK PHOTO

BRGNS' School vacation backpack program offering breakfast and lunch

LUDLOW, Vt. - Black River Good Neighbor Services is offering a School Vacation Backpack program during the February school vacation this year, which is the week of Feb. 19. A week's worth of breakfast and lunch food will be provided. This program is offered by registration only to school-aged children within the BRGNS service area, which includes Ludlow, Cavendish, Proctorsville, Belmont, Mount Holly,

and Plymouth.

It is our goal to help families who may struggle to provide nutritious meals during the upcoming school vacation week. Food pickup time will take place on Friday, Feb. 16 between 1-3 p.m. To register your children, please contact Krey Kellington, BRGNS Food Program administrator, at 802-228-3663. Registration deadline is Feb. 9.

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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.**

Air traffic controller: a demanding profession

CHESTER, Vt. - The Rotary Club of Chester, Vt. is pleased to announce that the First Thursday speaker on Feb. 1, 2018 at the Fullerton Inn will be Rob Mikkelsen, retired F.A.A. air traffic controller and manager. Mikkelsen will explain the basics of air traffic control from a controller's perspective and how the system operates. He will discuss changes in the system during his career and new technology that is currently being deployed that will make the system even safer. Mikkelsen will also discuss his career arc with the F.A.A. that took some unexpected turns and talk about how he almost single-handedly automated the traffic counting of terminal traffic for the entire country.



Rob Mikkelsen. PHOTO PROVIDED

Mikkelsen was raised in Chester and graduated from GMUHS in

1976. After graduation, he enlisted in the United States Air Force where he was trained as an air traffic controller. After separating from the Air Force in 1982, he was hired by the F.A.A. where he worked at Orlando Executive Airport and Orlando International Airport as a controller before transferring to Tampa as a manager. Like many New Englanders, Rob moved back to New England where he worked in Nashua, N.H. and remotely at positions both in Washington, D.C. and Atlantic City, N.J. before retiring from the F.A.A. last month.

Socializing begins at 5:15 p.m. and the program goes from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. This event is free and open to everyone. For planning purposes and for notification in case of inclement weather, please RSVP to chestertrotary@gmail.com.

Biodiversity through permaculture

LONDONDERRY, Vt., - Have you wondered about permaculture and how this approach to gardening is different from organic and other sustainable practices?

Green Mountain Gardeners invites you to join your neighbors and local gardeners on Monday, Feb. 5, 2018, at 11 a.m., to learn about permaculture from Alan Benoit, award-winning architect and master gardener. The presentation is open to the public and will take place at the Londonderry Rescue Squad Building, 6068 Route 100 in Londonderry.

Biodiversity through Permaculture will introduce you to the principles of permaculture for integrating into your own landscape. Benoit will present examples of permaculture that he and his wife, Nancy, used in

their gardens, and how permaculture stimulated a surprising variety of species to flourish in their yard.

In 2001, Alan and Nancy Benoit started their gardens from scratch, creating a landscape, which is not only beautiful, but also integrates the principles of permaculture. Filled with perennial food crops and native plants, their tiny yard creates habitats, attracts pollinators, and produces food year-round. The Benoit gardens were featured in Organic Gardening magazine in 2013, Country Gardens magazine in 2017 and were a crowd favorite of 2016's Manchester garden tours.

Benoit has been giving presentations for many years, hosting about 50 free educational talks at the Northshire Bookstore, the Man-

chester Community Library, and other local venues. He became a master gardener in the late 1990s and completed a 3-year certificate in native plant studies at the New England Wildflower Society in the year 2000. To learn more about Benoit and his commitment to sustainable design, visit his website at www.sustainabledesignofvt.com.

The GMG is pleased to host Alan Benoit and to offer this opportunity to everyone in our community. If you would like to attend, please R.S.V.P. by Feb. 3, 2018, to Barbara Wells: bswells33@aol.com.

Information about Green Mountain Gardeners can be found at their website www.greenmountaingardeners.net.

Ludlow resident selected for VPA Hall of Fame 2018

LUDLOW, Vt. - On Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2018, the Vermont Principals' Association announced that 12 student-athletes, coaches, officials, an administrator, and a contributor have been selected for the VPA Hall of Fame class of 2018. The Hall of Fame was organized in 2001 to recognize and preserve the heritage of Vermont high school interscholastic activities, including sports. Members of the Hall have distinguished themselves through service, contributions and achievement in programs or activities sponsored by the VPA. They also must exemplify the highest standards of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and character. The VPA Selection Committee reviews dozens of nominations that are submitted from a variety of sources following public requests for proposed inductees each year. The induction ceremony for the Class of 2018 will be held Friday, May 4, at the Capitol Plaza Hotel Plaza and Conference Center in Montpelier.

One of the award recipients was John Witalec of Ludlow who was an official for soccer, baseball, and softball. Witalec is known for being one of the top officials as a soccer referee and as an umpire for both baseball and softball within Vermont. In over 50 years, "Wit" has officiated thousands of games and numerous state championships. He also has recruited, mentored, and evaluated hundreds of new officials. Coaches know they are going to get a good game on the diamond out of the man in blue and that their players may pick up some tips along the way.

The same can be said with soccer. He was a three-sport athlete

at Black River High School (1960) and graduated from Castleton (1964) where he played baseball and soccer. He went on to teach and coach for more than 30 years at Wallingford and Black River. Witalec's officiating

is his way of giving back.

For information on the nomination criteria and annual process, please consult the VPA website or contact Hall of Fame chairperson Bob Hings-ton at bhingsston@vpaonline.org.



Brewfest Beverage

LUDLOW, Vt. - Brewfest Beverage Company is the Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce member of the month for January 2018. Brewfest Beverage prides themselves on their commitment to providing the freshest, highest quality craft beer from our great Vermont breweries and beyond!

Criteria used to select the member of the month are: contributions to the community, hosting a mixer, is current on dues, has made donations for chamber mixers and events, participated in shows, packages with other businesses, participates in "Just Between Us," advertises/promotes in guidebook, and is an ambassador for the chamber and the region.

Brewfest owners said, "We thank the chamber and fellow business owners for this recognition and are proud to be a member of the Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce for all they do for our communities in South Central Vermont."

Congratulations, Brewfest Beverage. Pictured from left to right, Chamber CEO Marji Graf, Lorraine Bailey, Michael Bailey, Kristen Mailhot, and Jared Mailhot.

PHOTO BY DONALD DILL

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OVRCC February Chamber Corner

LUDLOW, Vt. - We started off the year strong! On Jan. 10, our first topic in our free education series was about cyber security and what steps you should take to keep your data safe.

We followed that up with a workshop by Kim Dixon of Insights, LLC on Jan. 16 about small business success. We learned how to build marketing campaigns that drive action, organize these campaigns, choose advertising to reach our target market without draining resources, and coordinate our chosen marketing venues with cohesive messaging.

Our next workshop presented by Kim will be March 13 from 11 a.m. to noon at Newsbank Conference Center in Chester. The topic is Growing Your Business Using Google. The May 15 topic will be Finding Your Niche on Social Media.

The chamber is working diligently on our annual Regional Guidebook. If you want your business or events to be included, then your chamber



Kim Dixon's presentation on Small Business Success.

PHOTO PROVIDED

membership needs to be paid by Feb. 15.

We honored Brewfest Beverage as January Members of the Month.

We held ribbon-cutting ceremonies for Main & Mountain in Ludlow, S.B. MacDonald Custom Instruments in Chester, and will be hosting another at Vermont Cannoli in Chester on Feb. 14.

I interviewed new member Scott MacDonald of S. B. MacDonald Custom Instruments of Chester on her monthly show on OkemoValleyTV.

I also spoke to the Chester Select Board on Jan. 3 about our accomplishments in 2017 as well as our goals for 2018. I asked for help with the text and images for the Chester section of the guidebook and website, which can be seen on SAPA TV. I will be speaking with the Chester Economic Development committee on Feb. 7 at 8 a.m. at Free Range.

We will depart on Jan. 25 for NY Times Travel Show to represent our region.

Article written by Marji Graf, CEO of the Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce.



S. B. MacDonald

LUDLOW, Vt. - Marji Graf, CEO of Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce welcomed Scott MacDonald of S. B. MacDonald Custom Instruments to the Chamber. MacDonald has been building one-of-a-kind custom acoustic and electric guitars for over 25 years. He services and repairs vintage guitars as well as other fretted instruments. He is a factory-authorized repair and warranty center for Martin, Taylor, and Gibson guitars. MacDonald and his family reside in Chester and can be contacted at 802-875-7397.

PHOTO BY DONALD DILL

GFWC Okemo Valley Women's Club Tree of Remembrance

LUDLOW, Vt. - The tree shines brightly in Veterans' Park in Ludlow. The bright lights are a remembrance of our friends and family past and present. The Tree of Remembrance is the Okemo Valley Women's Club fundraiser for Black River High School scholarship to be given to a deserving student at the high school. Please support our students and remember our loved ones.

Please send your donation to Fran Derlinga, P.O. Box 229, Plymouth, VT, 05056. Make out the check to "GFWC Okemo Valley Women's Club."

The following names are those remembered to date: Ed and Mary Augustausches, Oscar and Nellie Beckman, Harley and Mary Bragg, Harley and Ida Bragg, Helen Ballard, Peter Conner, Ellsworth and Dorothy Da-

vis, Blula and Ralph Davis, Nick Deocos, Carol Deluca, John and Isabelle Deluca, Frank and Christine Deluca, Pauline Deluca, Suzette Durgin, Finneas Egan, the Geberth family, Stanley Graniell, Maryann Gagner, Stan Hart, John Hart Jr., John Hart III, Doug Haskell, Brian Hodgeman, Leta Hudgings, Charlie Hughes, Tina Koye, Luhrs Family, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. McCean Jr., Aaron W.

McNabb, George and Violet Matulonis, Iggy Matulonis, Mr. and Mrs. Eben Merrill, Ernest and Melba Noll, Pete Noyes, Irene and Joe Lorrain, Frank Owen, Ann Price, Garder and Lauren Ripley, George Shaw, Allyn and Helen Seward, David Terns, Daryl Stpwes, Craig Suladach, Kelly Sanderson, Gerard Snyder, Leon and Mary Shabbott, Bernard and Shirley Snow, and Erin Paige Stinson.



KILLINGTON PICO AREA ASSOCIATION Chamber Corner

KILLINGTON, Vt. - First off, I need to give a shout out to this brave cyclist who made his way east up Route 4 Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2018 afternoon during the snowstorm. Here is the true meaning of #lifeat4241.

I wanted to pass along to you that the town of Killington is looking for a new Recreation & Parks director. This position is responsible for organizing and promoting year round recreation activities for town residents, second homeowners, and visitors of all ages; is responsible for the administration, management and maintenance of the Recreation Center, pool, fields, parks, hiking/biking trails, and other recreation facilities within the community. It's like you get to play for a living. Very cool!

A quick note about our monthly mixers. If you are a business owner or manager and would like to host a KPAA monthly mixer, please drop me a line at mike@killingtonpico.org. Mixers are a great way to promote your business to the greater Killington business community. If you have a new program or initiative of your business, you can use these mixers as a platform to launch your message. Or if you just really like throwing a party for people! Please

remember that all are welcome to our mixers; owners, employees, and ski bums, whomever.

At our last mixer, we began collecting business cards for a chance to win a door prize drawing that night. We will continue to collect cards at future mixers. In July, we will compile all the business cards collected over the six months for a grand prize drawing. So the more you attend monthly mixers, the more chances you will have to win the grand prize. The prize will be announced in the next few weeks.

Finally, I'm heading off this afternoon to ski for my first time in 15 years. Yes people, I said 15 years, not days or months... years! Wish me luck!

See you on the hill, Mike Coppinger

Under Armour Mountain Running Series comes to Killington

Under Armour, the global leader in innovative performance apparel, footwear and equipment, announced today the race dates and locations for the second annual Under Armour Mountain Running Series, presented by GORE-TEX® Products. In partnership with POWDR, the trail run-

ning series is designed for running professionals and enthusiasts alike who want to experience trail running in some of the most beautiful and challenging mountain environments and destinations across North America. POWDR's mountain resorts provide diverse climates, changing elevations, varying terrain, and are naturally built to push athletes to their limits.

On Aug. 25, 2018, this event will be right here at Killington Resort. Located along the Appalachian Mountains, Killington provides diverse terrain and challenging vertical climb across several courses.

The 2018 series features an energizing, single-day running festival format offering an exclusive base-camp experience. Runners of all levels are awarded a journey through the unique trails and course design at each mountain. Race distances at each location will include a distance for every runner to test themselves: 5K, 10K, 25K, and 50K. A \$5,000 prize purse will be distributed across the men's and women's podium for the top three 50K finishers at each race in the series.

Registration is open for one or all races. In addition to registration,

course details, elevation maps, training plans, and more can be found at www.UAMountainRunning.com. For live updates leading up to and throughout the race series, be sure to follow the @MTNRunning channel on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Business profile - Chalet Killington

Chalet Killington, located on the Killington Road, offers 30 guest rooms. Attached to Chalet Killington is Baja Burrito Co. featuring Mexican American fare. They have great brews on tap and the best Margaritas on the Mountain. Another cool thing about Chalet Killington is that they are dog friendly. This can be hard to find for guests visiting the area. I want to also acknowledge General Manager Matthew Gouchberg who has been a long time member of the Killington Fire & Rescue. Matt was just named captain by the department for the second year. Thanks for your service to the community, Matt!

Check out our weekly Business Spotlight Featured on Page 5B

The Emporium Tobacco & Gift Shop

Humidified Premium Cigars | Hand Blown Glass Pipes Hookahs & Shisha | Roll Your Own Tobacco & Supplies Bubbblers & Water Pipes | Smoking Accessories Vaporizers & Concentrates | E-Cigs & E-Pipes

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Marinated Boneless Chicken Thighs \$1.99/LB	Our Own Homemade Sausage \$2.39/LB	Sirloin Tip Steaks \$3.89/LB	Country Style Spare Ribs \$1.69/LB

Sale Prices Effective Tuesday, January 23 thru Monday, January 29, 2018

Always check our in-store floor specials!
Thanks for supporting my staff! ~ Lonnie

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Cookbook Signing/Trunk Show

Saturday January 27th, 2:00 - 4:30

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Vermont Fiber Artist Hannah Regier's Sky Like Snow Hats

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Gov. Phil Scott signs H.511 into law

MONTPELIER, Vt. – Gov. Phil Scott has signed H. 511, an act relating to eliminating penalties for possession of limited amounts of marijuana by adults 21 years of age or older, into law on Monday, Jan. 22, 2018.

Below is his message to the General Assembly.

"Today, with mixed emotions, I have signed H. 511.

"As I said when I vetoed S. 22 in May, I personally believe that what adults do behind closed doors and on private property is their choice, so long as it does not negatively impact the health and safety of others, especially children. In this context, it is very important to understand what H. 511 does and does not do.

"While this legislation eliminates

penalties for adult (age 21 and up) possession of no more than one ounce, and cultivation of no more than two mature plants on their private property, marijuana remains a controlled substance in Vermont and its sale is prohibited. Also, consumption of marijuana in public places is prohibited. Consumption of marijuana by operators and passengers in a motor vehicle is prohibited. And schools, employers, municipalities and landlords are also empowered to adopt policies and ordinances further restricting the cultivation and use.

"In addition, when we negotiated a compromise prior to the veto session in June, I insisted the legislation also include:

- Stronger criminal and civil penalties

for selling to or enabling the consumption of marijuana by someone under 21

- Criminal penalties for using marijuana in a motor vehicle with a child present
- Criminal penalties for using or growing marijuana at facilities serving children
- Clear legal liability of the consequences of making marijuana available to minors
- Strict penalties for



Governor Phil Scott signed the bill eliminating penalties for possession of limited amounts of marijuana by adults 21 years of age or older in Vermont.

STOCK PHOTO

possession of marijuana by those convicted of felony sale of marijuana, selling a regulated drug to minors, or on school grounds

- Stronger penalties and fines for open containers in a motor vehicle
- Marijuana in excess of the permitted limit remains contraband and subject to seizure and forfeiture

"H. 511 included these additional protections.

"My S.22 veto message also plainly expressed my reservations about a commercial system which depends on profit motive and market driven demand for its growth. I look forward to the Marijuana Advisory Commission addressing the need to

develop comprehensive education, prevention, and highway safety strategies. To be very direct: there must be comprehensive and convincing plans completed in these areas before I will begin to consider the wisdom of implementing a commercial 'tax and regulate' system for an adult marijuana market. It is important for the General Assembly to know that – until we have a workable plan to address each of these concerns – I will veto any additional effort along these lines, which manages to reach my desk.

"More importantly, as I noted in my State of the State address, I ask the General Assembly to now turn its efforts to addressing more significant issues faced by Vermonters in their daily lives."

Getting help from a financial professional

REGION - Are you suddenly on your own or forced to assume greater responsibility for your financial future? Unsure about whether you're on the right track with your savings and investments? Finding yourself with new responsibilities, such as the care of a child or an aging parent? Facing other life events, such as marriage, divorce, the sale of a family business, or a career change? Too busy to become a financial expert but needing to make sure your assets are being managed appropriately? Or maybe you simply feel your assets could be invested or protected better than they are now.

These are only some of the many circumstances that prompt people to contact someone who can help them address their financial questions and issues. This may be especially true for women, who live longer than men on average and therefore may face an

even greater challenge in making their assets last over that longer life span.

Why work with a financial professional?

A financial professional can apply his or her skills to your specific needs. Just as important, you have someone who can answer questions about things that you may find confusing or anxiety provoking. When the financial markets go through one of their periodic downturns, having someone you can turn to may help you make sense of it all.

If you don't feel confident about your knowledge of investing or specific financial products and services, having someone who monitors the financial markets every day can be helpful. After all, if you hire people to do things like cut your hair, work on your car, and tend to medical issues, it might just make sense to get some help when

dealing with important financial issues.

Even if you have the knowledge and ability to manage your own finances, the financial world grows more intricate every day as new products and services are introduced. Also, legislative changes can have a substantial impact on your investment and tax planning strategy. A professional can monitor such developments on an ongoing basis and assess how they might affect your portfolio.

A financial professional may be able to help you see the big picture and make sure the various aspects of your financial life are integrated in a way that makes sense for you. That can be especially important if you own your own business or have complex tax issues.

If you already have a financial plan, a financial professional can act as a

sounding board, giving you a reality check to make sure your assumptions and expectations are realistic. For example, if you've been investing far more conservatively than is appropriate for your goals and circumstances, either out of fear of making a mistake or from not being aware of how risks can be managed, a financial professional can help you assess whether and how your portfolio might need adjusting to improve your chances of reaching those goals.

When should you consult a professional?

You don't have to wait until an event occurs before consulting a financial professional. Having someone help you develop an overall strategy for approaching your financial goals can be useful at any time. However, in some cases, a specific life event or perceived need can serve as a catalyst for seeking

advice. Such events might include:

- Marriage, divorce, or the death of a spouse
- Having a baby or adopting a child
- Planning for a child's or grandchild's college education
- Buying or selling a family business
- Changing jobs or careers
- Planning your retirement
- Developing an estate plan
- Receiving an inheritance or financial windfall

Making the most of a professional's expertise

You'll need to understand how a financial professional is compensated for his or her services. Some receive a fee based on an hourly rate (usually for specific advice or a financial plan), or on a percentage of your portfolio's assets and/or income. Some receive a commission from a third party for any products you may purchase. Still others may receive some combination of fees and commissions, while still others may simply receive a salary from their financial services employer. Don't be reluctant to ask about fees; any reputable financial professional shouldn't hesitate to explain how he or she is compensated.

Even if you're a relative novice when it comes to finances, don't be afraid to ask questions if you don't understand what's being presented to you. You're not being rude; you're simply trying to prevent misunderstandings that could backfire later.

Don't let yourself be pressured into making a financial decision you're not comfortable with or don't understand. This is your money, and you have the right to take whatever time you need.

However, give yourself a deadline for your decision so you don't get caught in "analysis paralysis."

If you think your financial life simply needs a checkup rather than a complete overhaul, you'll need to clarify the areas in which you're looking for assistance. That can help you decide what type of advice you're looking for from your financial professional, though you should also pay attention to any additional suggestions raised during your discussions. Your plans should take into consideration your financial goals, your time horizon for achieving each one, your current financial and emotional ability to tolerate risk, and any recent changes in your circumstances.

Don't assume you have to be wealthy to make use of a financial professional. While some do focus on clients with assets above a certain level, others do not.

Think about the scope of the services you'll need. Do you want comprehensive help in a variety of areas, or would you be better off assembling a team of specialists? Do you need an ongoing relationship, or can your needs be taken care of on a one-time basis? If you're a relative novice or having to deal with decisions you've never had to make before, someone with broad-based expertise might be a good place to start.

Even if you feel you need detailed advice from several different specialists - for example, if you own your own business - consider whether you might benefit from having someone who can coordinate among them. A financial professional can sometimes be a gateway to other professionals who can help with specific aspects of your finances, such as accounting, tax and/or estate planning, insurance, and investments.

If you want comprehensive management, you may be able to give a financial professional the independent authority to make trading decisions for your portfolio without checking with you first. In that case, you'll likely be asked to help develop and sign an investment policy statement that spells out the specifics of the firm's decision-making authority and the guidelines to be followed when making those decisions.

If you feel that consulting an expert might be helpful, don't postpone making that call. The sooner you get your questions answered, the sooner you'll be able to pay more attention to the things - family, friends, career, hobbies - that an organized financial life could help you enjoy.

Article written by Huntley Financial Services. For more information, call Mark Huntley at 888-922-1035.



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<p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; color: #0056b3;">THURSDAYS</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; color: #0056b3;">Irish Music Sessions Gypsy Reel 6:30 - 9 pm</p>	



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

Picking History

In the past I have written some of my early memories in the antiques business. In those days I would ride around, find an old home and knock on the door. This method was known as "picking" or "door-knocking."

I learned to drive by a place that had a swing set or toys in the yard. This was a sign young people lived there. I wanted to find older people as they were more apt to have antiques.

One thing I looked for was geraniums in the windows. Old ladies always had geraniums. Window boxes were another good sign. Another sign was a broom beside the door on the porch. Old ladies always kept a broom next to the door so they could sweep the porch off. These were very neat and tidy Vermonters.

In the early 1970s I was the only picker in southern Vermont. It wasn't until I got north of Rutland that I encountered other pickers. Vergennes, Ferrisburg, Charlotte and Burlington had a number of pickers.

A common meeting place was a former restaurant in Vergennes. Many of us had nicknames. Here I met "Winslow and Homer," "Jiggerman," "The Sourcerer," "Grinch," "Drano" and "Chief Long-Nail." Because I was the youngest they called me "The Kid."

There were thieves, bandits, and others of equally fine character. These pickers often went picking together. Sometimes it was a matter of economics, other times for comradeship. It amazed me how they could cheat each other.

One time Jiggerman was being sued. He called me up one night and said, "They're lying about me." My reply, "You should be thankful they aren't telling the truth."

Being a loaner by nature I most always picked alone especially since there were no pickers in southern Vermont. One funny story I have to tell you about though.

One morning the Grinch showed up at my place here in Chester and said, "Let's go picking." So we headed over into New Hampshire to try our luck. It was in Sunapee where I walked up to an old house and knocked on the door. The Grinch waited in the truck. Mr. Rollins was very friendly and offered to let me look in his barn. The Grinch got out of the truck and joined us. Soon we were buying antiques of all description.

We loaded the truck and paid Mr. Rollins and went searching for another place to buy. Now there was somewhat of a code between pickers. That was neither of you would ever go back to a house you picked together without your partner.

Well the Grinch lived up in Shelburne and seldom came down in my territory. Sometime later I found myself over in Sunapee. I wasn't having any luck so I went to see Mr. Rollins. As before, I bought quite a few an-



A day's picking circa 1978. All vehicles were filled inside, those with roof racks loaded as well.

PHOTO BY RON PATCH

tiques. I figured the Grinch would never know seeing's he lived so far north.

Sometime later I ran into the Grinch at an auction. He proceeded to chew me a new one. His eloquence spared no condemnation as he castigated me telling me how I had broken 'the code.'

"Grinch, how would you know I went back without you if you hadn't gone back yourself?" I asked. Well he got that dumb look on his face like a deer in headlights, started laughing and said, "You got me Kid." We shook hands and forgot about it.

One day I was in an old place up in Orwell. At that time round oak tables were pretty hot especially if they had claw feet or other carvings. In the kitchen was a great round oak table. It had carved claw feet and carved lion's heads where the legs joined the pedestal.

But it also had a problem. There was a six-inch sewer pipe that ran down through the kitchen ceiling almost in the center of the kitchen. Up-

stairs was a small apartment and the toilet was right over the downstairs kitchen. The farmer had cut a six-inch hole in the center of the tabletop through which the sewer pipe passed. As you sat there eating your dinner and if someone upstairs flushed the toilet, well it must have been appetizing.

We need photos and postcards of Derry & South Derry, Chester, Weston, Andover, Simonsville, and Smokeshire for Chester Historical Society's new book to be published this summer.

On Sunday, Feb. 18 from 1 p.m.-3 p.m. Tom Hildreth and other historical society members will be upstairs at Chester Town Hall. Bring your photos in and Tom will scan them while you wait. Here's your chance to have your photos published in a book. Don't miss it.

This week's old saying. "Mary had a little lamb and then she had some mashed potatoes with gravy."

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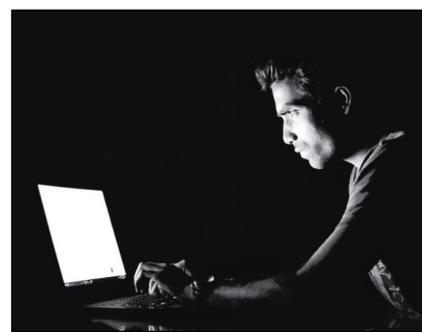
OLLI spring semester begins with Weapons of Fraud

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Elliott Greenblott will begin the winter/spring 2018 OLLI-Osher Lifelong Learning Institute series on Tuesday, Jan. 30 with relevant advice for us about scams and identity theft. Weapons of Fraud 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.

Greenblott, coordinator of AARP Vermont Fraud Watch, will describe how every two seconds someone in the United States falls victim to identity theft - by phone, in the mail, and on the internet.

We are in a state of siege created by con artists and scammers. He will present an overview of the leading scams and techniques of con artists and discuss steps to take to avoid victimization.

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



Learn how to protect yourself from fraud.

STOCK PHOTO

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 p.m. on Tues-

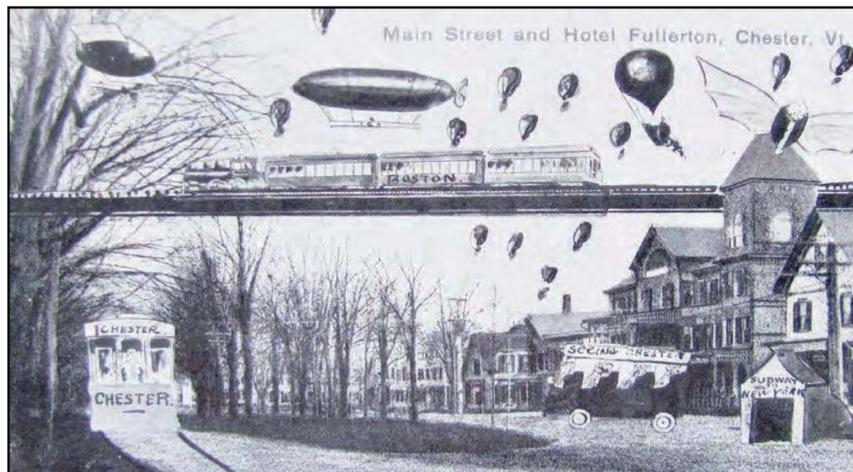
day afternoons and last about an hour and a half.

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 two weeks later on Feb. 13, and will be the History of Spices. Hank Kaestner, former director of Spice Procurement for McCormick & Co., will tell of his travels around the world buying spices and the early history of exploring spice trade routes.

This program is co-sponsored by the Springfield Garden Club.

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



Remember when...

Here are two old time photos of Chester's Green, with drawings representing what the artists thought would be the future of the town.

TOP: Chester in the future, drawn between between 1915 and 1920.

BOTTOM: Chester in the future 2, published by A.H. Fuller and Co.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY RON PATCH

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opinion

Op-Ed: To turn around, you have to change direction

We have some pretty serious issues facing our state: a shrinking workforce, a public school system that is hemorrhaging students while it vacuums money, and a structural state budget deficit, just to name just a few. These problems are not new, and the policies our state government has enacted to address them have not worked. Vermonters are now among the most highly taxed people in the country, but what do we have to show for it?

Today we spend roughly \$1.6 billion to educate 77,000 K-12 students. That's well over \$20,000 per child, more than almost every other state in the union, and nearly twice the national average. This is more than twice the total we paid before Act 60 became law in 1997, despite serving 30,000 fewer kids in 2017.

Student outcomes are not improving, and, if anything, they are declining. In the latest round of standardized tests only 48 percent of Vermont's students were learning enough to be considered proficient in their subjects. In every category in every grade but one, scores fell between 2016 and 2017.

This, despite programs mandating and expanding universal Pre-K, "proficiency based" learning, and spending \$31 million to incent school districts to consolidate in order to, no joke, save money. If nothing dramatically different is done in the next few weeks, we are looking at a 9 percent property tax increase.

Vermont has implemented many wealth redistribution programs to ostensibly help the poor. We have the most progressive income tax in the nation as well as the most progressive property tax system. Vermont spends more money per capita than all but just five other states. A single-parent family of three in Vermont receives Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) that is 51 percent higher than the national average. Roughly 35 percent of Vermonters receive some form of Medicaid. Our \$10.50 state minimum wage is already in the top five highest in the country, and a 2013 study by the Cato Institute calculated a typical welfare benefit package family was worth \$37,705, or the equivalent of a pretax wage of \$42,350. This puts us in the top ten "most generous" suppliers of welfare.

But, despite all this Vermont was the only state in 2016 to see a rise in the number of citizens living in poverty, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. According to the Vermont Food Bank, 83,630 Vermonters are "food insecure," including 24,530 children. The Public Assets Institute recently reported, "Income inequality is getting worse - most Vermonters are not sharing in economic growth."

Vermont is a wonderful place to live. But despite everything our state has to offer in terms of scenic landscapes, clean air, healthy, and safe surroundings, etc., ours is one of only three states since 2010 to have actually lost population.

What is happening that fewer people want to live in the greatest place there is to live?

Political historian, Michael Barone, most know as the author of "The Almanac of American Politics," recently explained that this "can be chalked up to Woodstock-era migrants - Bernie Sanders, Howard Dean. They've liberalized the state's culture and politics, so with the state's high taxes and stringent environmental bans, no one is following."

Indeed, beyond the direct government forays into our paychecks, Green Mountain Power customers will see a 5 percent rate increase due to progressive, renewable energy policies, and the Green Mountain Care Board approved a 9 percent increase for Blue Cross Blue Shield health insurance, no thanks to a phalanx of progressive-minded healthcare laws - including the one that created the same Green Mountain Care Board supposedly to reign in costs!

So, given the true challenges facing our state, it is a bit frustrating to see the legislature immediately take up, of all things, the legalization of marijuana, passing the bill before even reading the study they ordered last year. After that, it's more items off the same menu of failed ideas. House and senate leaders proclaimed their priorities will be to increase our already high minimum wage \$15 an hour, and to pass a government-run, government-mandated paid family leave insurance program that is so attractive on its own merits that proponents admit if people weren't forced to participate, no one would buy it.

Does anybody really think these measures are going to solve any of the serious problems facing Vermont? Rather than waste time trying to determine which next big government bell or whistle is the one that will finally cause the population tide to rise, why not figure out what it is you're already doing to scare people off? Then stop. If we want to turn our state around, that means by definition we will actually have to change direction.

Article written by Rob Roper. Roper is president of the Ethan Allen Institute.

Amber Waves



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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

From Jan. 21 to the 27, National School Choice Week is being celebrated around the country. A quote from www.schoolchoiceweek.com says, "Research shows that when parents are empowered to choose the education environments that they believe work best for their kids, students are more likely to succeed and graduate from high school. That is because every child is unique, and students thrive when they're matched with learning environments that meet their

individual needs."

We all want the same thing when it comes to the education of our children. We all want what is best for our children. We all want them to thrive.

On Feb. 6, voters in Ludlow again have to make the decision between open school choice for all children in grades 7-12, with a yes vote, or a single schooling option (Black River Middle and High School), with a no vote. There are many concerns that parents and voters might have with both sides

of this issue. We encourage all voters and residents of Ludlow to inform themselves on the issues at stake by attending the informational meetings:

- On Jan. 29, at 6 p.m. in the Ludlow Town Hall, hosted by Ludlow Elementary School Board
- On Feb. 1, at 6 p.m. in the Ludlow Town Hall, presentation by Tom Martin, hosted by the Black River Independent School Committee.

Having school choice does mean that Black River Middle and High

School closes as a public school. We are fully committed to reopening it as an independent Black River Academy the day after it closes as a public school. We believe that school choice and an independent Black River Academy are the best ways to help our children and our community thrive!

Sincerely,
Black River Independent School Committee
Ludlow, Vt.

Dear Editor,

In the last year, I have watched, with interest, the ACT 46 merger votes and re-votes that have been conducted in towns around Vermont. I have made some observations of this process. Study committees and school boards are strictly guided by the Agency of Education "experts" to present two choices for the voters to pick from. This allows for the illusion that Vermont's proud tradition of local self-determination and direct democracy is still alive.

I participated in the ACT 46 vote in my town of Cavendish. From local news reports and from speaking with my fellow citizens, the choices presented are viewed as negative. One citizen commented that the vote is like being presented "a choice between eating one pile of steaming [garbage] or another similar pile of

steaming [garbage]." I did not disagree.

To make the choices more palatable, the voters have been told by superintendents and state "experts" that if you vote for the state's "preferred" pile of steaming [garbage] there will be lower educational costs, lower taxes, and increased opportunities for students. As an added incentive to vote for the "preferred" pile, the Agency of Education has made it clear that regardless of your vote, you will still be dining on their "preferred" steaming pile of [garbage].

This choice is clearly not a choice at all. It is coercion, and it is tyrannical. Enough hard evidence exists to prove that the bold promise of cost savings, lower taxes, and increased opportunities is a bald faced lie. ACT

46 is an overreach and abuse of state power to increase the state's power.

It illustrates to me is that local direct democracy and self-determination is suffocating in Vermont. Tyranny in the legislature, the governor's office, and the Vermont Agency of Education is alive and growing stronger.

What are Vermonters to do? Perhaps all is not lost. I am encouraged that local citizens who were naive about the implications of ACT 46 have had their eyes opened wide. ACT 46 has been a true bipartisan [messing with] the Vermont citizenry. We have elections in our little Vermont republic for a reason. Democrats, Republicans, Progressives, and Independents that voted for ACT 46 can be thrown out of office. Vermont's education funding law

ACT 60/68, passed in 1997, needs to be revisited and repealed. It has exacerbated the increase in taxes by creating a fund that is too often subject to raids by duplicitous politicians.

Local control, including education financing, could be returned to the local citizenry, where it rightfully belongs. It is the locals that are paying the bills, and it is the locals that have children and grandchildren in our public schools. The educational system in place now, with control in the hands of distant and out of touch politicians and bureaucrats, is clearly not working. To those Vermonters reading this, you still have choice. You don't have to let it slip away.

Sincerely,
Stu Lindberg
Cavendish, Vt.

Dear Editor,

Now that there is a recall for the recent vote that Ludlow and Mount Holly faced in November, it may be helpful to address some facts about the upcoming vote. There have been several letters written and articles submitted to local papers, some stating facts, conjectures, and misnomers. The following points are based on fact and left for the reader to decide how to vote on Feb. 6.

Fact, voting in the affirmative does not and will not save the Black River Middle School/High School. Contrary to what many may have been lead to believe as they entered to vote, a "yes" vote does not keep either the middle school or high school in existence beyond 2020. At which point the schools will close, and Ludlow will pay tuition for all middle and high school students to attend schools of their choice.

Fact, a no vote does not mean that the State of Vermont will close Black River Middle School/High School. Repeat, fact, a no vote does not mean that the State of Vermont will close Black River Middle School/High School. Contrary to what many have been lead to believe and may have read in recent articles in local papers, the one and only way Black River Middle School/High School can

be closed is by both communities of Mount Holly and Ludlow voting to terminate the Union #39 School District. Beyond this the State of Vermont has no leverage to categorically tell the town of Ludlow that it must close or force students to attend neighboring schools. The recent passage of the November vote did indeed authorize the closing of Black River Middle School/High School.

Fact, the current vote does form a union between Mount Holly Elementary School and Ludlow Elementary schools. This requires the formation of one school board between the two towns, which will oversee one budget for the new district. Black River will be phased out no later than the year 2020. This consolidation of school boards satisfies one of the Act 46 requirements with regards to governance - to consolidate and downsize the number of school boards in a district.

Fact, a no vote will put the decision of Mount Holly Elementary, Ludlow Elementary, and Union 39 in the hands of the state to be determined by the state plan formulated and finalized this summer, per Act 46. While attending the Looking Forward Committee meeting this past summer, consultant Dan French was

asked what this might look like if the town failed to vote in the affirmative for the article presented to voters in November. His response came with no guarantees, but he intimated that the state very likely would require Ludlow, Union 39 and Mount Holly to form one district under one board satisfying the governance requirement of Act 46. Mount Holly, Ludlow, and Union 39 would operate their respective schools and remain a part of the Two Rivers Supervisory Union. This was indeed the same scenario the Looking Forward Committee recommended at the conclusion of their study.

Fact, at this time, there is no promise of exactly what the state will do, but it cannot require the communities to close their schools.

Fact, during the summer of 2017, the Ludlow and Union 39 school boards authorized a Looking Forward Committee to study and recommend a future path forward for educating Ludlow and Mount Holly students. At this time, Mount Holly was invited to participate in the study but opted to not be officially represented. The committee adopted a mission: to develop an educational structure that best supports the students of our communities. Several meetings were held

over the summer. A public forum was held and a brainstorming session was conducted to identify important factors to be considered by the committee in drafting a recommendation.

The top four factors identified at that meeting included: the importance of community, the desire to maintain local control, the need for a local high school, and that educational opportunities/flexibility of programming continues. The current plan proposed in the article before the voters does not strongly support these four factors.

Fact, Ludlow is a wonderful community to raise a family and has always proudly supported its youth. A middle school and high school are paramount to the vitality of the community. Maintaining the middle school/high school keeps young adults in our community to pass on our traditions, our history, and our values. Keep the old African saying alive: "It takes a community to raise a child" and don't leave it to another community. Please consider the facts when you vote on Feb. 6.

Please ask for an Absentee ballot now. Thank you.

Yours truly,
Sharon E.P. Bixby
Ludlow, Vt.

Dear Editor,

I thank the Springfield Department of Public Works for a good job of clearing snow and ice from sidewalks this winter, often in troublesome storms. I also thank the town manager for ensuring it has been done; the board of selectmen for budgeting funds; and town voters for approving the funds for clear sidewalks.

The biggest recent improvement has been consistently clearing gaps in snow banks at crosswalks. This makes crossing streets much safer as well as more convenient, especially for young children and the elderly. It also appears that plows are clear-

ing walks more frequently during storms. And many sidewalks have been cleared wider than used to be the norm.

Of course, it is impossible to have bare pavement always, but crews this winter have come remarkably close. And although a few property owners or their contractors still pile snow on cleared sidewalks, I hope they will soon realize how inconsiderate of their neighbors that is.

Sincerely,
Richard Andrews
Springfield, Vt.

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

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

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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.

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.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 313 Main Street.

Sunday service at 8 a.m. Service with music, Sunday School, and nursery

John D. Esau, 1950 – 2018

LUDLOW, Vt. - John D. Esau of Marlboro, Vt. and Lake Rescue, Ludlow, Vt. passed away on Jan. 9, 2018 after a graceful, courageous battle with Acute Myeloid Leukemia. Esau was born on Sept. 4, 1950 in New York City. He was raised in Port Washington, N.Y. by his loving parents, John W. Esau and Norma Bonelli Esau. In the fall of 1975, he married his best friend, Joanne Sehna Esau. In February 1983, his daughter Corey was born, fulfilling his life beyond measure.

Esau graduated from Paul D. Schreiber High School in Port Washington, N.Y. and Saint Michael's College in Burlington, Vt. where he was a member of the SMC Choir. Soon after he attended Keene State College to earn an education degree.

He entered the teaching profession at Wyndham Elementary School as a teaching principal. For much of his career, he had the privilege and joy of teaching at the Marlboro Elementary School. He also taught at Reading Elementary and served as the "Turn off Texting" presenter for the Vermont Governor's Highway Safety Council. While at Marlboro Elementary, he coordinated the building of the Johnny Esau Covered Bridge and co-directed the annual school musicals. His classroom was known as a place filled with music, laughter, hammering, and creative chaos.

He sang with the Blanche Moyse Chorale. Later, his joyful voice joined the Brattleboro Music Center Chorus where he assumed the role of "chief mischief maker." He was a member of the Marlboro Fire Department and sat on the board of directors of the Vermont Covered Bridge Society. Esau enjoyed laughing, being with friends, building, boating, beaches, metal detecting, his trucks "GARLIC" license plate, and Italian food. He spent hours working on his wooden boat "Knock On Wood." He adored his golden retrievers, but in the end it

was his little dog Tucker who was his constant companion.

He was predeceased by his parents Norma and Jack Esau. He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Joanne Sehna Esau; his daughter and son-in-law Corey and Julian Jaworski of Quechee, Vt.; his brother and sister-in-law Raymond and Kathy Sehna of Pomfret, Vt.; sisters Cynthia (Anthony) Jerolino of Cavendish, Vt. and Lisabeth (Edward) Fisher of Malvern, Pa. as well as many cousins, nieces, nephews, and a grand niece and nephew.

Esau was exceptionally proud of his Italian heritage. He adored his grandparents, "Papa and Nannie" and held his Bonelli cousins close to his heart. He was also predeceased by his birth mother, Mary Massucci, whose identity he discovered in the last year of his life. He was lovingly embraced by his newly found Masucci cousins, his niece, Denise Renda, and her husband Denis of Northport, N.Y. and Grafton Vt.

In his struggle with Leukemia, Esau showed his family the depth of his love and taught us the way to live a life of gratitude. His family and friends returned his love, giving generously of their time and resources for which he was forever thankful. We are in awe of the spirit of the nursing and medical staff who cared for Johnny at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center, Grace Cottage Rehabilitation, and most especially, Dr. Andrew Brunner and his team at Massachusetts General Hospital.

In honor of Johnny, we ask that you please give the gift of your time or your resources to a family that is caring for a loved one with cancer. A Mass of Christian Burial will take place on Saturday, Jan. 27, 2018 at 11 a.m. at St. Anthony's Parish in White River Junction. A gathering of friends and family will take place immediately following at the Quechee Club, Quechee, Vt.

Dorothy A. Wylie

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Dorothy A. Wylie, 78, of Murphy, N.C. passed away Friday, Jan. 19, 2018 at a Murphy hospital after a long battle with lung cancer.

Wylie was originally from Bellows Falls, Vt. She graduated from Bellows Falls Union High School in 1958, and married her late husband, Bruce. From Bellows Falls, the Wylies moved to Ridgefield, Conn. then to Redding, Conn., then to Sarasota, Fla., where she worked as a sales clerk for the Sport Shop at Five Points for seven years. In 1982, they moved to Murphy, N.C.

Wylie joined Kerr Drug as a sales associate in 2005. She continued to work as a sales associate after Kerr Drug was bought out by Walgreens where she was the Customer Care Award area winner in 2015. Wylie enjoyed her job at Kerr Drug and Walgreens and the people she worked with, but more importantly she loved her customers.

When not working, Wylie was the life of every party. She enjoyed dancing, especially the polka. Being of Polish descent, she loved her Polish polka music and was not afraid to share with those unfamiliar with her zest for Polish music. Wylie was also an avid

NASCAR fan and would cheer on her favorite driver, Jimmie Johnson.

Wylie was a member of Saint William Catholic Church in Murphy.

She was the daughter of the late Larry Ferland and Blanche Ferland Siliski, and was married to the late Edward Bruce Wylie, who died July 12, 2014.

Surviving are her daughter Donna Hazeltine and husband Jeff of Venice, Fla.; a son Edward Wylie of Murphy, N.C.; six grandsons Edward Wylie of Binghamton, N.Y., Jonathan Wylie of Franklin, N.C., Christian Wylie of Crescent City, Fla., Cameron Wylie of St. Petersburg, Fla., Chance Hazeltine and Chad Hazeltine of Venice, Fla.; one great-grandson and two great granddaughters.

No memorial service has been set at this time.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made in memory of Dorothy Wylie to Valley River Humane Society, P.O. Box 658, Murphy, NC, 28906 or Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, KS, 66675-8517.

Ivie Funeral Home in Murphy, N.C. is in charge of all arrangements. An online guest register is available at www.iviefuneralhomeinc.com.

care available at 10 a.m. Wednesday morning prayer at 9:40 a.m. Website www.stlukeseiscopalvt.org or call 802-875-6000.

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-

James E. Baldwin, 1937-2018

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - James E. Baldwin, 80, passed away unexpectedly at his home in Springfield on Sunday, Jan. 21, 2018. He was born June 6, 1937 in Greenfield, Mass., the son of James and Beatrice (Fowler) Baldwin. He attended and graduated from Springfield schools. He served in the Army National Guard Company C. in Springfield.

He was employed at the Fellows Gear Shaper in Springfield and later owned and operated a window washing company in the area for many years. He was a pastor with the World Wide Church of God. For several years, he had a radio show on Woll Radio playing 20s music and sharing

facts and history regarding the musicians and music. He was an avid record collector and reader. He enjoyed music, history, and genealogy.

He is survived by one brother Dale R. Baldwin of Rockingham, three nephews, eight great nieces, nephews, and several cousins. He was predeceased by his parents.

At his request there will be no services. Burial will be in the Oakland Cemetery in Springfield, Vt. Contributions may be made in his memory to the Springfield Art & Historical Society, P.O. Box 336, North Springfield, Vt., 05150. Arrangements are under the direction of the Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt.

Frank L. Hooper, 1939 - 2018

CAMBRIDGEPORT, Vt. - Frank L. Hooper, 78, of Cambridgeport Road died Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2018. Hooper was born in Hyde Park, Vt. on May 24, 1939, the son of Linwood and Bernice (Frappie) Hooper. He worked as a log scaler and fuel truck driver, and most recently worked for the Discount Food Warehouse. He loved to read and go to the Claremont Speedway.

On Dec. 1, 1985, he married Leona Upton who survives. Also surviving are his children Frank Jr., Donald and spouse, Darlene, April and spouse, and Ella and spouse;

his step children Jimmy and spouse, Michael and spouse, and Nancy and spouse; his sister Yvonne Boyd and spouse; his sisters in-law Shirley and Susan; and many grandchildren, great grandchildren, great, great grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his parents and his son Richard.

There will be a memorial service 2 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 29 at the Bartonsville Grange. The family asks for donations, in lieu of flowers, be made to Fenton & Hennessey Funeral Home to help with expenses.

Robert E. Potter, 1924 - 2017

WESTMINSTER, Vt. - Robert E. (Bob) Potter, 93, of Stowe, Vt., died peacefully and surrounded by his family at the Manor in Morrisville on Dec. 31, after a brief illness.

He was born on Sept. 18, 1924 in Rockingham, Vt. son of Warren Potter of Clarendon, Vt. and Isabelle DeRoque of Newark, N.J. He grew up in rural Westminster where he would later raise his family. He attended school there and in neighboring Bellows Falls, where he graduated from high school in 1941. Potter's college years were interrupted by World War II, for which he served as a corporal and radar operator in the U.S. Army, stationed in the Pacific. Later on, he would graduate from Norwich University, with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering in 1948.

Potter worked in Schenectady and in Queens, N.Y. as an engineer at General Electric for many years, before he moved back to Vermont in the 1960s. He started a Ford and Toyota car dealership in Bellows Falls, named Fall Mountain Motors, which he ran with his late brother Ralph, and later his nephews Bruce and Ed, through the 1990s. He married Claire Tierney in August 1973,

and raised two sons, Jerry and Tom, whom he taught to ski, stay active, and appreciate the world around them. Shortly after retirement, Claire and Bob moved to Stowe, Vt. where he had skied and enjoyed winters for more than half a century. He was always a pleasure to ski with, often surprising younger skiers in the out of bounds regions of Mt. Mansfield deep into his 80s.

A mass of Christian burial was celebrated for Potter on Thursday, Jan. 4 at Blessed Sacrament Church in Stowe and a burial will be scheduled for the late spring at the Vermont Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Randolph, Vt. The time and date will be announced.

Potter is predeceased by his brothers Ralph and Warren (Babe), and his sister Margaret. He is survived by his wife Claire, his sons Tom and Jerry, and their wives Rachel and Miyanda. He will be dearly missed by his family and ski friends from Mt. Mansfield and neighbors both in Westminster and Stowe.

Faith Funeral Home assisted with arrangements. Online condolences may be made by visiting www.faithfun.net.

Lillian C. Spallone

PLYMOUTH, Vt. - Lillian Catherine Spallone, 85, died on Jan. 19, 2018 at Saint Clare's Hospital in Dover, N.J. She was born in Brooklyn, N.Y. and grew up in Jersey City, N.J. She lived in Morris County most of her life, and lived in Toms River for a while before moving back to Morris County five years ago. She worked in human resources for SWEDA in Pine Brook many years ago and was a proud and active member of VASA in Budd Lake, N.J.

She was predeceased by her husband Robert Spallone in 2003 and is survived by her former husband James Long of Landing, daughters Donna Ann Long of Landing and

Robin Mary and husband Todd Bebo-Long of Plymouth, Vt., step-son Robert and wife Lisa Spallone of Conway, S.C. There are four grandchildren: James and wife Tamara Long, Dakota Bebo, Sahara Bebo, and Robert Spallone and two great grandchildren Jack and Patrick Long. Her surviving siblings include Thomas O'Donnell, Ellen Cifaldi, Kathleen O'Donnell, Kevin O'Donnell, and Michelle Delukey.

The entombment service was held at St. Joseph's Cemetery in Toms River, N.J. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory can be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital, American Cancer Society, or your local food shelf.

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Janet Barry, 1924 - 2018

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Janet Barry, 93, a resident of Springfield, Vt. died peacefully on Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2018 at the Springfield Health and Rehabilitation Center.

She was born in 1924 in Hingham, Mass. to the late Howard and Lucille Tinkham. She graduated from Hingham High School in 1941. Barry worked as a secretary and was later a full-time homemaker to her four children.

Barry was an active member of the Springfield Congregational Church and served as a hospital volunteer for many years. Her family will remember how much she loved being a mother and a grandmother. She also loved the Red Sox, knitting, and the ocean.

Barry is survived by a brother Howard Tinkham of Hingham,

Mass. and four children: Daniel Barry III and wife Sandra of Milford, N.Y., Ellen Ankuda and husband Steve of Springfield, Vt., Bruce Barry and wife Janine of Baldwinville, N.Y., and Mark Barry and wife Clare of New York, N.Y. She was a dotting grandmother to five granddaughters.

She was predeceased by her husband Daniel Barry, Jr. in 2001.

Barry's family would like to extend their gratitude to the staff at Brookwood and the Springfield Health and Rehabilitation Center for their kind and compassionate care.

A graveside service will be held in the St. Mary's Cemetery in Springfield in the spring.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt.

Mark Pluff

JAMAICA, Vt. - Mark Pluff, 56, of Jamaica, Vt. passed away unexpectedly on Jan. 13, 2018. He was the beloved son of Mary and the late Robert E. Pluff. He leaves behind his wife Joanne and their daughter Grace of Grafton, Vt. He is survived by his mother Mary of Canaan, Conn. and also leaves three brothers and two sisters: James Pluff of Colorado, Brian Pluff of Nantucket, Mass., and Christopher Pluff and his wife Kelley of Newfane, Vt.; and their two daughters Laura and Emily, Ann-Marie Plank of Charlotte, Vt., and her daughters Karla Plank and Margo Casco and husband Caleb, and Elizabeth Cipolla and her husband Donald of Torrington, Conn.

Pluff attended Bement School in Deerfield, Mass., the Stratton School in Stratton, Vt. and graduated from Leland & Gray High School in 1980.

Pluff was very good with his hands and was an experienced carpenter, working for various contractors in the area including his friend Scott Velsur for many years. He was currently working as a painter and was enjoying working with his hands again.

Pluff loved skiing until knee injuries kept him off the slopes, and he was excited that his daughter Grace was learning to ski on his home mountain of Stratton. They had many lively discussions about skiing on the mountain during the ski season.

Pluff loved muscle cars, and his first love was his 1970 GTO. He loved attending local car shows including the Manchester Car Show. His eyes lit up when he saw classic muscle car in perfect condition.

Pluff also took pleasure watching sports, including football and the Patriots. However, hockey was his passion. He loved the Boston Bruins and had recently begun to familiarize his daughter with the Bruins history and teach her all aspects of the game. In later years, he began to play golf and was on the Stratton Golf League for some years. There was much frustration involved in learning the sport and often much swearing! Pluff also enjoyed playing pool and was part of the Brattleboro Pool League for many years. He was a great player and valued the technical aspects of

the game. He was always willing to share his knowledge of the game and spent many happy evenings playing pool at the West Townshend Village Café with his friends.

He loved rock and roll music, nothing made him happier than to blast his music loud and hang out with his friends. He enjoyed listening to music with his daughter and immersed her in it from a very early age and nothing pleased him more than that her first passion was the Beatles.

Many of his friends remember the "house on the hill" that he lived in with his brother Topher and later his wife Joanne. Many people remember playing pool and fuzzi ball there late into the night. He loved the galley kitchen at the house and was a "master of the grill." Many fun days and nights were spent with good food, spirits, friends, and one of the most creative croquet courses ever seen. Those times will live on in Joanne's memory, as well as the memories of his many friends.

Pluff was honest, and you always knew where you stood with him. Because of that honesty, Pluff would be the first to admit he had some hard struggles over the last decade. His love for his daughter Grace was a strong motivator in his hard-fought efforts in the last five years to overcome these struggles. In the last two years, his efforts seemed to be paying off and a light had returned to his eyes in the last year that had not been there for some time.

His daughter Grace was the light of his life, and he cherished his time with her very much and watching her fall in love with the things he loved. His wife Joanne was his rock and support system that was always there for him. To make Pluff laugh was a great experience, he appreciated dry wit and was known to be a great storyteller himself with a life of accumulated adventures to regale you with. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Grace Pluff, c/o River Valley Credit Union, P.O. Box 8366, North Brattleboro, VT, 05304. A celebration of life will be held Saturday, Jan. 27 from 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Newbrook Fire Department.

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THIS AND THAT

BY BILL MURPHY

The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

Believe it or not, I am starting another column talking about rivalry games. The Bellows Falls and Springfield girls meet Thursday, Jan. 25 in Springfield, and I have no idea who is going to win. I felt the same way about Monday night's Springfield at Green Mountain game, which the Lady Chieftains captured 46-44. Rivalries are something special, but they are really extra special when you know the game is a toss-up. Persons on both sides of the rivalry will brag over the next 24 hours that their team is better because... Then again both teams are apt to have their say following the game as well. The winning side will say "I told you so," while the losers will have some kind of excuse for coming out on the short end of the score. For the most part, this bragging will be done by the fans, not the athletes.

Rarely have three area girls' teams been so evenly matched. Bellows Falls defeated Green Mountain 42-27 but Green Mountain's Hannah Buffum, who did play, was coming off a bout with pneumonia, so I think the difference will be much closer next time - which will be Thursday, Feb. 8 at Green Mountain.

The other game dates for this three-way rivalry are Green Mountain at Springfield on Monday, Jan. 29 and Springfield at Bellows Falls on Thursday, Feb. 1. They all should be considered rivalries at this point, at least this season.

I also love spirited in-season basketball tournaments. There would have been nothing better this winter than to draw the pairings out of a hat for one including these three girls teams and throw Wind-

sor as the fourth team into the mix. That would be fun.

In other news, how many lives do the Patriots have? No Rob Gronkowski, trailing again, Dion Lewis fumbles, and yet they again find a way to win. What order do you have the four Boston professional sports teams ranked in, considering which ones have the best chance to win a title in their sport in the next three years? Obviously most of you would rank the Patriots first because they are one step away. For the moment, the rest of my personal rankings are Bruins, Celtics, and Red Sox in that order. The truth is, I would not be surprised to see any of the four win in that time period. What other part of the country is set up like that?

All kinds of people reading this are excited for teams they support. Hopefully, their teams are pursuing a championship. There were a couple of quotations thrown at me recently, on my college basketball beat that were unquestionably championship related. UVM guard and reigning America East Most Valuable Player Trae Bell-Haynes - whose greatness lies in the fact that he contributes the necessary ingredients to standout personally on any given day and makes the people around him better - responded to my inquiry about how he was not himself in the non-conference part of his schedule. A nagging exhibition ankle injury slowed him down. It looks like he has finally recovered. He told me, "Excuses are for losers. I just didn't play very well at times." His recent play clearly shows different. I strongly believe the weeklong break the team had around Christmas allowed some important recovery time. Color him a real winner.

The other quote sent my way was also in reference to the UVM basketball team as a whole and it came from the most experienced America East coach, UNH's Bill Herrion, following the Catamounts victory in Durham last week. Herrion expected his team to fight the Catamounts until the end. However, after giving UVM a real test for close to three quarters of the game, Herrion's Cats rode off into the sunset. Herrion told the entire press contingent that his squad had "championship blood. That's why they win championships. They have championship blood in their system."

Herrion went on to say that a team's focus, in the long run, determines who they are and that Vermont stayed focused while his team didn't. Another Herrion quote in the session also made sense, he told me, "I guess we are just not ready to take the next step yet."

High school athletes reading this need to know that patience, determination, attention to detail, and consistent focus are all ingredients for your team to reach their potential. Very few teams actually find "championship blood," and those that do - yes the Patriots are one of them - have something very, very special. If winning was easy, there would be more winners than there are.

Next week, I will pass along a little Vermont Academy news to you. Bailey Patella, who was being red-shirted this season before UVM star Anthony Lamb was injured, is now playing some for the Cats. I am sitting down with him Wednesday to get a perspective on how a Lenox, Mass. kid, winds up at back-to-back Vermont schools. I have seen enough of Patella in a UVM uniform to notice he will have a contributing career with the Cats. On the subject of Vermont Academy 2018, they are presently 10-9 and area fans who would like to take in a game have five more chances this year. VA is home Wednesday at 5 p.m. versus New Hampton. On Friday, Feb. 2, they are away at Proctor at 6 p.m. They play against South Kent on Friday, Feb. 9, Holderness on Saturday Feb. 17, and KUA on Feb. 21 at 4:30 p.m.

Last, but not least, Black River's Drew Schoenberger lit up the nets for 32 points in the Presidents win over Mid-Vermont Christian last week. Black River moved to 2-5 with the victory. Coach Don Richard has set up a cool Player of the Week award with the Ludlow Subway. Notice of the players' award and the players' picture are on display in the shop.

Winners this year have been: Ryan Boyle, Zach Paul, Jon Mason, Drew Schoenberger, Ryan Sheehan, and Josh Lambert. Great idea, Richard!

By the way, Richard is certainly doing the right things with his athletes. He is taking them to the VA-New Hampton game to show them some high level ball. In the 78-38 win over Mid Vermont Christian, Schoenberger's 32 came with an incredible 10 three-pointers and he also had 10 rebounds and 8 assists. He was an unconscious 10-14 on his three pointers. Mason and Boyle had 17 and 10 to support the cause.

If you would like to comment on the sports in this paper, feel free to email me at bmurphy@vermontjournal.com

Green Mountain girls' hoops third in state standings

BY BILL MURPHY

The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

CHESTER, Vt. - Green Mountain girls' basketball is looking to climb to heights they have never seen before. Eight important games remain this season, but don't look now, the Lady Chieftains are 10-2 and stand third in the Vermont Principals Association Division III standings. If they can hold that position, they will host a quarter-final play-off game for the first time in their history later this winter.

The team scored a big 46-44 win over Springfield on Monday, Jan. 22. With the win came a jump in the standings, which went a long way for Terry Farrell's team and left them sitting in the third spot.

Springfield took a 25-24 lead into intermission and then took things a few steps further, when they rattled off the game's next 10 points for a 35-24 advantage. Then, Farrell said, "We kept working to catch up." They outscored the Cosmos 22-10 to claim the important victory.

Down that stretch Rachel Guerra hit a big three, Reilly Merrill tossed in an important 7 points, and Hanna Buffum threw in two hoops to lead the way. Balanced scoring headed the effort as Buffum had 13 points for the contest, followed by Paige Karl with 12 and 10 steals, Merrill finished with 9, and Maya Lewis added 8.

The win puts Green Mountain in the position where a winning record in their last eight games could well leave this year's team with the highest girls' basketball seed the school has ever had. Three times, Green Mountain has been blessed with the fifth seed, and that is as high as they ever have been. Basketball fans know the fifth seed is good, but the one major problem with it is you have to win the quarterfinal game on the road. All three times the Chieftains have finished fifth, they have found a very strong number four team they could not conquer in the quarterfinal match.



Green Mountain's Maya Lewis takes a shot against West Rutland in a game earlier this season.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE

The first number five seed came in 1984 when the Chieftains went 13-7 and faced a tough Thetford team on the road and lost. Then they never were that high a seed again until 2008 (18-2), when they had a three year stretch in which they were seeded fifth twice in three years. They finished there again in 2010 (16-4), but each time fell to a tough number four seed on the road. In 2008, Enosburgh was the power and then in 2010, they ran into one of those extremely tough Twin Valley squads. It would be nice this time if the locals could host that quarterfinal encounter.

Since I last weighed in on this team when they were 3-1 and were the champions of their own holiday tournament, I already knew this group could turn out to be something special. Since then, they have gone 7-1 with their lone loss being at the hands of a tough Bellows Falls team 42-27.

This 7-1 stretch began with one-sided wins over Black River 59-22 and Poultney 52-32. Buffum had 21 points in the win over the Ludlow based team but then was knocked down by pneumonia and although she returned for the loss to Bellows Falls, was not fully functional as yet. Paige Karl contributed 8 in the Black River game in which the Chieftains easily led 12-3 after one stanza and 27-9 at the half. Green Mountain was shell-shocked at the start of the Poultney game falling behind 11-2 as Farrell said, "We couldn't make a shot." But, like the big Springfield victory, they found their way back. Once again balanced scoring proved important as Karl tallied 11, Anne Lamson had 10, and Lewis scored 9.

The schedule then had Bellows Falls

and Windsor, who had handed Green Mountain their first loss in the next two games. "Make no mistake, Bellows Falls took it to us," Farrell told me. "They came at us in waves. They are very deep."

Guerra had 9 points to lead the Chester team in scoring and Lamson added another 9.

In some ways, the Windsor game appeared to have come at the wrong time, but that is not the way it turned out. The Lady Chieftains showed they can compete with anyone on their schedule by winning a nail-biter 54-53 in overtime in their own gym. The Chieftains trailed 14-10 at the quarter but found their way ahead 23-22 at the half and 37-33 after three. The two teams were even at 48-48 when the final horn sounded. "I told them we came too far not to win this one," Farrell said. Buffum's 22 points show she was back and ready to go, Karl and Lamson added 12 and 8 respectively.

Road games at Arlington (39-26), West Rutland (42-28), and Leland & Gray (36-20) round out the games before the Springfield clash. Green Mountain started slow in both the Arlington and Westside games but managed to win easily. Lewis' 9 paced the Arlington victory, while Karl and Buffum both had 10 versus West Rutland while Karl's 17 were the main story in the rebel triumph.

"We have had our share of foul trouble, sickness, and injuries already this season," Farrell said. Lamson is out indefinitely with an ankle injury. "But things are starting to come together." The team hosts Leland & Gray on Thursday, Jan. 25 and then has the big rematch at Springfield on Monday, Jan. 29.



Reilly Merrill on her way to two points in a game earlier this season.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE



Anne Lamson, handling the ball, is presently out with an ankle injury. The Chieftains are hoping she will be back soon.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE

Vermont 2017-18 Elks District Hoop Shoot

REGION - On Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018 gave everyone quite a shooting show at the Elks' District Hoop Shoot contest. The district event was held at Windsor High School, and included first place free throw basketball players from the Westminster, Bellows Falls, Fall Mountain, Windsor, Barre, and Montpelier area.

Local Elks Lodge #1619, Bellows Falls, Vt. held their qualifying contest for the Districts back on Dec. 10, 2017 at Kurn Hattin Homes. At the district contest, two of our own won first place honors!

For the boys in the age group 8-9 from Westminster, Vt. is first place winner Jaden Bazin. For the girls in the age group 12-13, is Siri Harrison from Alstead, N.H. They both will now advance to the state of Vermont contest, being held at Spaulding High School, in Barre, Vt. on Jan. 27, 2018.

Those who win first place in Barre will advance to New England's tournament held in Maine.



Pictured are Deny Bazin (dad), 1st place Jaden Bazin and dad Deny Bazin; Bellows Falls Elks Chair Smokey Aumand; and 1st place Siri Harrison with dad Mitch Harrison.

PHOTO BY JEANINE MOLESKY

SHARE YOUR SPORTS

If you'd like to submit your own sports news or events to our paper, please do!

Photos and press releases should be sent to Amanda at editor@VermontJournal.com by Monday 12 p.m. in order to get them into that week's Wednesday publication.

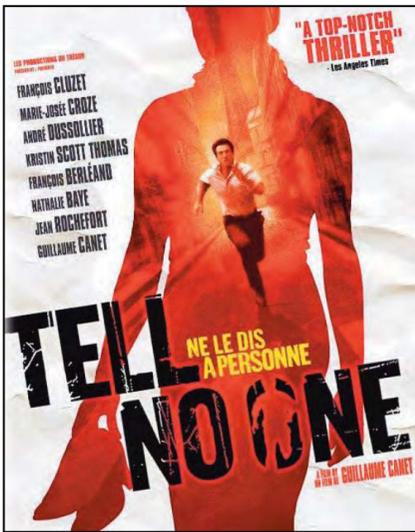
arts & entertainment

Weston Film Club presents “Tell No One”

WESTON, Vt. - The Weston Film Club strives to introduce lesser known, intriguing, entertaining, and/or provocative international films to our community celebrating film as an art medium as well as entertainment. Thanks to the Weston Playhouse at Walker Farm we will have use of their theatre complete with state-of-the-art audio and visual system and comfortable chairs!

Beginning Friday, Jan. 26 at 7 p.m., we will show our first film in a series of four: “Tell No One” in which intrigue is the name of the game.

“Tell No One” is a 2006 French thriller film directed by Guillaume Canet and based on the novel of the same name by Harlan Coben. Starring François Cluzet and Kristen Scott-Thomas, this film won four categories at



“Tell No One” to show on Jan. 26.

STOCK PHOTO

the 2007 César Awards in France: Best Director (Guillaume Canet), Best Actor (François Cluzet), Best Editing, and Best Music Written for a Film.

In Guillaume Canet's delicious contemporary thriller “Tell No One” a husband is snared in a dark labyrinth when after eight long years since his beloved wife's hideous murder, the unexpected, accidental discovery of two bodies near a doctor's estate stirs things up again in a long-forgotten buried case that nothing is as it appears.

Coben, the author, says he is a fan of “stories that move you, that grab hold of your heart and do not let it go, and Canet has gotten a film that does exactly that.”

Join us for this intriguing film. RSVP to our

new email, westonvfilm@gmail.com.

What is your body telling you?

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Join us at the Springfield Town Library, Saturday, Jan. 27 at 11 a.m. for an uplifting, educational, and rejuvenating discussion about the amazing ability of our bodies to help us balance our health. Joni Foster-Robison R.N., M.S., E.N.P. will discuss and demonstrate ways to help us “tune in,” listen, and respond to the guidance system built in each of us.

It is of significant importance that each of us find our unique balance of well-being (feeling re-

ally well, not just fair and tired). You may be amazed at the simple ways you can make a positive difference in your health just by questioning and listening to your body. And, it is so nice to have the “feel good energy” to make the most of your days!

On Monday, Jan. 29, celebrate National Puzzle Day at the Springfield Town Library. Puzzles will be available all day in the Flinn Room, and in the evening there will be a special time for families to challenge themselves.

Solving puzzles benefits both



Joni Foster-Robison. PHOTO PROVIDED

sides of the brain. Concentration, attention, planning, memory, and patience are exercised while experiencing the relaxing benefits from a type of meditation. While we won't have the world's largest jigsaw puzzle of over 40,000 pieces at the library, there will be puzzles for every age group to enjoy.

Come alone, with friends, or as a family and join the fun.

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



National Puzzle Day.

PHOTO PROVIDED

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RAMParts presents “Taming of the Shrew,” and Vincent Van Gogh

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - RAMParts Presents will bring art, stage, and dance offerings to the big screen from January through June in 2018.

On Sunday, Jan. 21, we premiere the Bolshoi Ballet in the Opera House with the broadcast of a modern interpretation of Shakespeare's Classic, “Taming of the Shrew.” The Lincoln Center review states, “The Bolshoi is ‘at the top of its game’ in acclaimed choreographer Jean-Christophe Maillot's effervescent production of ‘The Taming of the Shrew’... With their signature bravura, the Bolshoi's incomparable dancers bring to hilarious life all of the fawning, preening, and hypocrisy that well-born Kate finds so tiresome - and that ultimately makes the rough-edged outsider Petruchio seem so appealing to her.” Doors open at 12:30 p.m. for a 1 p.m.

On Thursday, Jan. 25, Exhibition on Screen brings “Vincent Van Gogh: A New Way of Seeing.” Made in close collaboration with curators and researchers at the Van Gogh



“A New Way of Seeing” to show Jan. 25.

STOCK PHOTO

Museum, Amsterdam, which houses the largest collection of Vincent's artistic output in the world, and features great works such as “The Potato Eaters,” “Sunflowers,” “Iris,” “Autumn Blossoms,” “The Bedroom,” and many of his self-portraits. This film not only provides viewers with the moving and inspiring experi-

ence of seeing Vincent's iconic masterpieces on the big screen but also examines new insights and interpretation from specially invited guests including curators, historians, and artists. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with screening at 7 p.m.

Robert McBride, director of the Rockingham Arts & Museum Proj-

ect, is expanding arts programming locally by making it accessible in cost and availability. Ticketing information is online at www.rampartstickets.com or available at the door with cash/credit. Seating general admission. Contact Susan MacNeil at 603-313-0052 or email susan@svidol.com for more information.

“SEED: The Untold Story”

LONDONDERRY, Vt. - Doreen Fabiano and Carlene Lindgren, lo-

cal 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, Jan. 26 at Neighborhood Connec-

tions. Few things on earth are as vital and miraculous as seeds. According to www.seedthemovie.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.

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arts & entertainment

Look & See: a cinematic portrait of writer, farmer, activist Wendell Berry

CAVENDISH, Vt. - Cavendish Baptist Church is hosting a screening of the award-winning Sundance documentary "Look & See," a powerful cinematic portrait of Wendell Berry - farmer, activist, and undoubtedly one of America's most significant living writers. The film will be screened on Feb. 9 at 7 p.m. at 2258 Main Street in Cavendish.

In 1965, Wendell Berry returned home to Henry County, where he bought a small farmhouse and began a life of farming, writing, and teaching. This lifelong relationship with the land and community would come to form the core of his prolific writings. A half century later Henry County, like many rural communities across America, has become a place of quiet ideological struggle. In the span of a generation, the agrarian virtues of simplicity, land stewardship, sustainable farming, local economies, and rootedness to place have been replaced by a capital-intensive model of industrial agriculture characterized by machine labor, chemical fertilizers, soil erosion, and debt - all of which have frayed the fabric of rural communities. Writing from a long wooden desk beneath a 40-paned window, Berry has watched this struggle unfold, becoming one of its most passionate and eloquent voices in defense of agrarian life.

Often called "a prophet for rural America," Berry has long been a voice for the communities that are so often overlooked by the media. Filmmaker Laura Dunn skillfully weaves Berry's poetic and prescient words with gorgeous cinematography and the testimonies of his family



A New Harvest with Wendell Berry.

PHOTO BY GUY MENDES

and neighbors, all of whom are being deeply affected by the industrial and economic changes to their agrarian way of life. "It's a conversation that is more urgent now than ever, as we find ourselves in a deeply divided nation where urban consumers remain so completely disconnected from the rural producers whose work sustains their very lives," says director Laura Dunn. "Wendell shows us with extraordinary sensitivity, just what fidelity to a place and to one's own community can truly mean."

Robert Redford, Terrence Malick, and Nick Offerman served as producers on "Look & See," which, following its award-winning 2016 premiere at the SXSW Film Festival, was retitled, updated to reflect the conversations that have emerged since the election, and re-released at

the 2017 Sundance Film Festival. Director Dunn was awarded the IFC "Truer than Fiction" Independent Spirit award for her previous film, "The Unforeseen," which was also executive produced by Redford and Malick. It premiered at the Sundance Film Festival, and was broadcast on the Sundance Channel.

The screening is on Friday, Feb. 9 at 7 p.m. at the Cavendish Baptist Church. Admission is free, thanks to a grant from the Cavendish Community Fund. Donations for refreshments will be accepted for the Cavendish Fire Dept. Emergency Shelter Initiative.

For more information and to view the trailer, visit www.lookandsee.com.

Gallery at the VAULT holds annual chocolate tasting

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Residents of Springfield and surrounding towns have grown to trust Gallery at the VAULT to carry high quality arts and crafts. What many do not know is the VAULT is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization providing a downtown gallery and art-space through volunteer staffing, in-kind services, and fund raising.

On Saturday, Feb. 3, at its 68 Main Street home, the VAULT will hold the eighth annual "Chocolate Tasting" fundraiser from noon to 4 p.m. to support VAULT programs. The public is invited and "donations are welcome." Many businesses will donate their sweets. Daily Chocolate, Red Kite Candy, and Lake Champlain Chocolates will present an abundance of candy and bars to sample with background music by flutist, Kathi Byam.

A new addition to the chocolate feast is Vicuna Candy, fresh from two write-ups in Yankee Magazine. Chefs from Heritage Deli and Bakery, Inn at Weathersfield, and Hartness House Inn will prepare desserts and sweets especially for the occasion. Tasters will be treated to chef-created delicacies from Aroma Catering: A Taste of Europe and the Mediterranean and the Springfield Co-op. To cleanse the Palate, Shaw's supermarket provides grapes. Fresh water is available.



Participate in a chocolate tasting at the VAULT.

STOCK PHOTO

and offered for sale. A colorful addition to the event is the annual student art show. Work by fifth graders from Union Street School were inspired by folk artist Karla Gerard's patchwork landscapes. Springfield High School students are showing a variety of work including portraits and principles of design. For

A perennial favorite will be the "Cookie Combo" boxes that can be filled with home baked cookies more information, contact Gallery at the VAULT at 802-885-7111 or galleryvault@vermontel.net.

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"Paper Clips" award-winning documentary film to show at the Rockingham Library

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - On Wednesday, Jan. 31 at 5:30 p.m., "Paper Clips" an award-winning documentary about the Holocaust will be shown at the Rockingham Library.

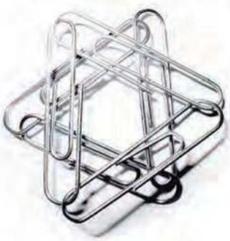
This moving and inspiring film captures how students at Tennessee's

Whitwell Middle School responded to lessons about the Holocaust with a promise to honor every lost soul by collecting one paper clip for each individual exterminated by the Nazis. Despite the fact that they had previously been unaware of and unfamiliar with the Holocaust, their dedication was absolute. Their plan was simple but profound. The amazing result, a memorial rail car filled with 11 million paper clips (representing

six million Jews and five million gypsies, homosexuals, and other victims of the Holocaust), which stands permanently in their schoolyard, is an unforgettable lesson of how a committed group of children and educators can make a difference. This program is free and open to the public. For more information, call 802-463-4270, visit www.rockinghamlibrary.org, or stop by the library at 65 Westminster St., Bellows Falls.

PAPER CLIPS

It began as a lesson about prejudice...
What happened next was a **MIRACLE**.



Watch "Paper Clips" about the Holocaust at the Rockingham Library.

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outdoor news

Celebrate the 6th annual Grafton Winter Carnival

GRAFTON, Vt. - The sixth annual Winter Carnival is scheduled for Feb. 3, 2018. We're counting down the days until we can enjoy skiing, snowshoeing, tubing, and ice-skating. There will be a fee for entry and for rentals. Children under 5 are free. Tickets are available at the gate.

There will be a triathlon fun race at 10 a.m. with two age categories: ages 7-12 and 13 and older. Registration closes at 9:30 a.m. and there is an entry fee. The race involves skiing a loop in the meadow, getting a tube and snowshoe to the top of the tubing hill, tubing down the hill, and



Snow tube toward the finish line in the Triathlon Fun Race. PHOTO PROVIDED

running to the finish. Prizes include a Grafton Trails & Outdoor Center 2018/19 membership and an over-

night stay at the Grafton Inn.

Other scheduled events include:

- A triathlon fun race at 10 a.m.
- Sleigh rides from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- A wine and cheese hike at 1 p.m.
- Rossignol ski and boot demos from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Plus, enjoy a bonfire and s'mores all day! An area for snow sculpture building will be available if snow conditions allow. The Winter Carnival will take place at the Grafton Trails & Outdoor Center at 783 Townshend Road in Grafton.

Happenings at Okemo Mountain Resort

LUDLOW, Vt. - On Sunday, Jan. 28, is Women's Alpine Adventures Sunday Funday program for all ability levels. This one-day clinic is designed exclusively for women and led by some of the best female ski and snowboard coaches in the business. Their goal is to take skiing and snowboarding women to the next level in any snow conditions and on any terrain. Participants quickly overcome fear, build self-confidence, and meet new friends in a supportive and social environment. Registration fee includes instruction and lift access.

Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2018 is Okemo's 62nd birthday. Celebrate with Okemo in the Clock Tower Base Lodge. Sing "Happy Birthday" and enjoy a piece of birthday cake.

On Feb. 1-2 Okemo Women's Alpine Adventures will host another program. This one is a two-day program for all ability levels designed exclusively for women and led by some of the best female ski and snowboard coaches in the business. On Friday, Feb. 2 is Woodchuck



Challenger on Okemo Mountain Resort. PHOTO PROVIDED

Day. While some may look to another member of the marmot family, Vermonters (aka woodchucks) turn to the woolly woodchuck to portend the length of winter. Attend Okemo's version of the ceremonial emergence with a special guest "woodchuck."

Enjoy après ski revelry with a cold Woodchuck Cider in the Sitting Bull. Okemo Mountain Resort is located at 77 Okemo Ridge Rd in Ludlow, Vt. For more information about events, call 802-228-1600 or go to www.okemo.com.

Grants improve shooting ranges

REGION - Vermont Fish & Wildlife is offering shooting range improvement grants to create more access to safe places to shoot. Developed to encourage upgrades of shooting ranges to enhance their safety and operation,

the Shooting Range Improvement Grant Program seeks grant applications from clubs and government agencies involved in the operation of shooting ranges until 4:30 p.m. on March 15. The grant period begins

July 1, 2018.

Eligible projects include shooting range re-development, noise abatement structures, safety berms, shooting benches, overhead shelters, and the construction or improvement of access roads and parking lots.

An estimated \$80,000 in grant funds will be available this year. These funds are derived through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife Restoration Program, which is based on federal excise taxes on hunting and shooting equipment. Ranges that receive one of these grants must provide at least 20 hours of public use per month when in operation and be open at reasonable times for hunter education courses.

For further information or to download an application packet, visit www.vtfishandwildlife.com. Or, contact Daneil Pieterse at 802-272-6923.



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Snow date: February 1

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Get Started: VitalCommunities.org/Weatherize

Discussions on baitfish regulations

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department is hosting several public discussion sessions on Vermont's fishing regulations. Department officials are hoping to engage anglers in a discussion and gather public opinion on the state's baitfish rules.

Vermont's most recent baitfish regulations were revised in 2012 by the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Board. Current regulations prohibit anglers from moving live fish from one water body to another, including minnows and other baitfish species. This helps reduce the risk of spreading fish diseases and aquatic invasive species, and prevents the introduction of fish species into new water bodies.

The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department and Vermont Fish & Wildlife Board began a comprehensive review of the state's baitfish regulations in the summer of 2017. The review team, consist-



Minnow. STOCK PHOTO

are affecting Vermont anglers and to hear their ideas on whether any changes are necessary. This will be a working session, with information presented on the regulations, followed by breakout groups where people will have the opportunity to share their thoughts, ideas, and experiences."

The first meeting will be held from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 30 at the Springfield Middle School Cafeteria, 15 Fairground Road, Springfield, Vt. Additional meetings are expected to follow in the Burlington area and in the Northeast Kingdom in February.

Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Please include a description of the accommodation you will need. Individuals making such requests must include their contact information. Please send an email to penny.percival@vermont.gov or call 802-828-1294 (direct voice) or 1-800-253-0191 (TTY).

ing of department fisheries staff and Board members, has been tasked with reviewing the baitfish regulations for potential changes.

"While the baitfish regulations have been successful at protecting the health of Vermont's wild fish populations, we hear a variety of opinions from anglers on the regulations," said Adam Miller, Vermont's fish culture operations manager. "We want to know how these regulations

pets of the week



Hi! My name's Buffy, and I'm a 10-year-old spayed female Pekingese. I came to Lucy Mackenzie with my brother, Angelo, and our friend, Bubba, when our owner could no longer take care of us. I may be 10, but I don't look it, and I most certainly don't act it! If you've never walked around in the snow, I highly suggest you check it out. My petite size does not deter me from barreling through snowdrifts that are taller than me.

Even though I've lived with

Angelo my entire life, I wouldn't mind spending my golden years as an only dog. It would be best if there were no young children in my new home, as I can become very cautious around sudden movements and loud noises. We've been working on basic obedience during my time here at the shelter, and I've found it all to be lots of fun and would hope to continue doing so when I leave here. If you think you and I might be a match made in heaven, stop in and meet me today!



Hi! My name's Angelo and I'm a 10-year-old neutered Pekingese. I came to Lucy Mackenzie with some of my friends, Buffy and Bubba, when our owner could no longer care for us. While I love my friends very much, I wouldn't mind spending my golden years as somebody's one and only.

Don't let my age fool you, either. This boy has plenty of pep in his step! I love playing with my toys and walking in the

snow. Well, I love walking in any weather, but I really love barreling through the snowdrifts! I shouldn't live with young children because I'm really not a huge fan of sudden movements. During my stay here at the shelter, we've been working on basic obedience and you know what? You can teach an old dog new tricks! Again, don't let my age fool you! If you think you and I might get along, stop by and meet me today!

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ON THE SNOW SNOW REPORT		MONDAY, JAN. 22, 2018	
	Lifts	Snow Depth	Snowfall
Killington Resort	14 / 21	24"	0" (1/22)
Okemo Mountain Resort	11 / 20	40"	0" (1/22)
Stratton Mountain	11 / 12	30"	0" (1/22)
Sugarbush	12 / 16	36"	0" (1/22)

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business spotlight



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Just past the Green Mountain Union High School, heading south on Rt. 103 in Chester, Vt., is a discrete driveway with a simple sign that reads "Drew's." A short drive up the winding hill and you arrive at their sprawling red building.

Part corporate headquarters, part production facility, and part warehouse, this is where Drew's Organic Salad Dressings and Salsas are created, bottled, packaged, and prepped before finding their way to your favorite supermarket shelf.

Drew's started in 1995, when a young chef named Andrew Starkweather, aka "Chef Drew" could not find healthy salad dressings in local stores, and so started making his own. He was passionate about using fresh, high quality, natural ingredients. Although no longer with the company, Drew's continues to be inspired by Chef Drew's original recipes, producing dressings and salsas which are infused with delicious, authentic regional, and ethnic flavors. Always committed to using the highest quality ingredients, Drew's recently embarked on a commitment to use only organic and non-GMO ingredients, officially becoming "Drew's Organics."

Drew's Organics currently produces 17 flavors of salad dressings and 8 different salsas. Products are available nationwide at many major retailers and independent stores. There is even a line of dressings specifically bottled and labeled for sale in Canada, as well as a line of foodservice gallon dressings for sale here in the U.S. Drew's is always experimenting with new flavors and ingredients to expand their delicious product line.

Drew's Organics, with their only facility in Chester, is a small, family-owned business, employing more than 60 people who wear many hats in this thriving business. You can find recipes and where to buy information on their website at www.drewsorganics.com.



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available, with benefits. To request an application, contact Trout Club Caretaker, PO Box 310, Mont Vernon N.H. 03057 (02/01)

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<p>2013 Ford Fusion SE</p> <p>4 Door Fully Loaded Leather V6</p>	<p>2011 Kia Optima LX</p> <p>Auto 4 Door Sedan 4 Cylinder Fully Loaded</p>

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calendar

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

MONDAY, JAN. 29
PUTNEY, Vt. – Next Stage Arts Project continues its

highly-popular cooking class series with "Soups and Stews of Spain and Portugal," on Monday, Jan. 29, from 6 – 9 p.m., taught by acclaimed chef, Linda Stavelly. Learn to make these six Spanish and

Portuguese soups and stews: Sopa de Pedra (Portuguese stone soup, hearty vegetable soup), Caldo Verde (Portuguese green Soup, sausage, kale and veggies), Caldeirada a Moda de Guincho (Portuguese fish chowder), Sopa de Ajo (Spanish spicy garlic soup), Sopa al Cuarto de Hora (Spanish clam, shrimp, and rice soup), and Caldo Gallego (Spanish bean, potato and meat stew). The class will dine together, wine and bread will be included. The classes are held at Next Stage's recently completely renovated state-of-the-art commercial kitchen, 15 Kimball Hill, in Putney. Registration is limited, tickets available at nextstagearts.org.

MONDAYS - BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The Bellows Falls Area Senior Center Knit and Stitch group meets Mondays at 9 a.m. They can help you finish a project, repair an item and even take on special projects. The group is happy to donate "Knitted Knockers" to breast cancer survivors. Stop by and ask for Betty for more information. Call: 802-463-3907. TFN

TUESDAYS - BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - River Voices Poetry meets every

Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Flat Iron Exchange building on the Square. All poets welcome. Discussion of all aspects of the poem. 802-463-2204. TFN

WEDNESDAYS - CAVENDISH, Vt. - From 5:45 to 6:45 p.m., there will be a Tai Chi beginners' class at DG Bodyworks, 7 Depot St. in Cavendish/Proctorsville, Vt., next to the Post Office at the corner of Rte 131 and Depot St. There is a monthly tuition cost. To learn more about the classes, please contact Djemila at 802-490-0225, by email: djem.translator@gmail.com or check for updates on Facebook: www.facebook.com/gemstaichi/. TFN

CHESTER, Vt. - Liza Eaton, founder of Buddhaful Yoga, will be offering a Gentle Flow Kundalini Yoga class for beginners every Wednesday 9:30-11 a.m. You will be encouraged to go at your own pace and listen to your body. Held at the Fullerton Inn, on the Chester Green. For more information visit www.buddhafulyoga.com or call 802-875-2868. TFN

THURSDAYS - CHESTER, Vt. - Strength-building chair yoga class with Liz Eaton, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Fullerton Inn, Main Street, Chester. This is a strength building yoga class in the hatha tradition for anyone looking to build bone density, physical strength, flexibility and endurance. Come as you are and do what you can. Use a chair, yoga mat, or both! Drop in anytime or purchase a few classes at once. No experience necessary. For details, contact 802-875-2868, eaton.liza@gmail.com or www.buddhafulyoga.com. TFN

buddhafulyoga.com. TFN

LUDLOW, Vt. - Okemo Valley TV offers "Train the Trainers" workshops on fourth Thursdays at no cost, 6-7 p.m. at the Okemo Valley TV studio, 37C Main St. in Ludlow. Everyone who wants to learn the "ticks and tricks" of TV-video production is welcome. Reserve a space at pcoody@pctv.org or call 802-228-8808. TFN

CHESTER, Vt. - Meditation class with Liz Eaton takes place on Thursday, 10:45-11:15 a.m. at the Fullerton Inn, Main Street, Chester. Learn simple yet profound meditation techniques for beginners (all levels welcome). There is no fee for this class; donations are appreciated. For details, contact 802-875-2868, eaton.liza@gmail.com or www.buddhafulyoga.com. TFN

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

WEEKLY - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Come swim with a great group of adults in our masters swim group at the Edgar May Center. The group meets on Mondays at 7:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 8 a.m. The group is comprised of a wide range of abilities including new swimmers. Call 802-885-2568 or visit www.myrecenter.org. TFN

REGION - Bone Builders to combat osteoporosis. Free and open to 55+. Call 802-674-4547. Monday and

Wednesday: Brownsville Town Hall 9 -10 a.m.; Martin Memorial Hall in Acutney 10-11 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday: Cavendish Baptist Church 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday: Andover Community Church 3 - 4 p.m. TFN

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

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, Tessa Buss at teshabuss@gmail.com. TFN

THURSDAYS - CHARLESTOWN, N.H. - The Charlestown Rotary Club meets 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 - 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

SATURDAYS - CHESTER, Vt. - Gassetts Grange holds a buffet breakfast every month on the first Saturday at 8-9:30 a.m. It consists of eggs, bacon, sausage, home fries, toast, pancakes (blueberry and plain), real maple syrup, juice, coffee, tea, and hot cocoa. All are welcome! Admission at the door. Hope to see you there. We are located on Route 103N, just above junction of 103 and Route 10. Any questions, call Dave at 802-875-2637. TFN

WEEKDAYS - BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The Bellows Falls Area Senior Center serves lunch 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Monday - Friday to area seniors. The Senior Meals menu is available by calling 802-463-3907. The Senior Center is located at 18 Tuttle St. Wheelchair accessible



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Health Care & Rehabilitation Services of South Eastern Vermont
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Hospital Diversion Program of HCERS and NFI VT

Program Coordinator

The Hospital Diversion Program of HCERS and NFI is looking for a full-time mental health professional to join our clinical team working with adolescents and families experiencing a psychiatric crisis. The HCERS and NFI Hospital Diversion Program is a short-term, inpatient facility working with adolescents in psychiatric crisis. The program coordinator is a multifaceted position to include: clinical case management, supervision of residential counselors, coordination of referrals, administrative responsibilities and program/building management. The ideal candidate will possess a master's degree in counseling, social work or a related field and have significant experience working with adolescents who have mental health and/or behavioral challenges. In addition, a candidate will be able to work well in crisis, be flexible and collaborative, function in a fast-paced environment, have the ability to navigate the system of care, and multi-task effectively.

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.

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.

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STAFF ACCOUNTANT VILLAGE OF LUDLOW, VERMONT LUDLOW ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT

The Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department has an immediate opening for a Staff Accountant. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, assisting the Controller with all aspects of the accounting operations, reporting and reconciliation with accuracy and attention to detail. Successful candidate must be a team player, be able to work independently, possess excellent communication and analytical skills and ensure compliance with VT DOL requirements. Bachelor's degree in accounting or finance with 3-5 years' experience is necessary. CPA license and knowledge of Harris ERP software is a plus.

This is a full-time, year-round position with a competitive wage and benefit package. Job offer will be contingent upon successful completion of background checks. Please send cover letter and resume in confidence, along with three references to James Pallotta, Controller, Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department, 9 Pond Street, Ludlow, VT 05149. The Village of Ludlow is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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 February 12, 2018 at 6:00 P.M., in the Ludlow Town Hall conference room, to consider an Amendment to a Conditional Use Permit in the Village Residential Commercial District:

APPLICANT: REXBO Properties, Inc.
PO Box 1578
Greenfield, Massachusetts 01302
PROPERTY LOCATION: 224 Main Street
Ludlow, Vermont 05149
Parcel No. 220424.000

REASON FOR HEARING: Application to amend a Conditional Use Permit to redevelop an existing parcel to construct a convenience store and gas station including new fuel dispensers, canopy, parking and interior circulation. The project is in the Village Residential Commercial District.

APPLICATION NUMBER: 204-02-CU; Amendment No. 2

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

SEVCA WEATHERIZATION IMMEDIATE OPENINGS FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

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CREW TECHNICIAN: Install weatherization measures in homes under supervision of Crew Chiefs as instructed. Go to www.sevca.org/Employment for detailed job description and application form.

For Business Administrator & Production Coordinator jobs, send resume & cover letter by 2/3/18 to Wx Jobs, SEVCA, 91 Buck Dr., Westminster, VT 05158 or email to tstaskunas@sevca.org. **For Crew Tech job,** go to www.sevca.org/Employment or call 802-722-4575 or stop by above address for application form. EOE/AA Employer

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 February 12, 2018 at 6:00 P.M., in the Ludlow Town Hall conference room, to consider an Amendment for a Local Flood Hazard Review in the Special Flood Hazard Area of the Village Residential Commercial District:

APPLICANT: REXBO Properties, Inc.
PO Box 1578
Greenfield, Massachusetts 01302
PROPERTY LOCATION: 224 Main Street
Ludlow, Vermont 05149
Parcel No. 220424.000

REASON FOR HEARING: Application to amend for a local Flood Hazard Review to redevelop an existing parcel to construct a convenience store and gas station including new fuel dispensers, canopy, parking and interior circulation. The project is in the Special Flood Hazard Area of the Village Residential Commercial District.

APPLICATION NUMBER: 463-18-FHR

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

Rosemary Goings
Board Clerk

LEGAL NOTICES

EVENTS

THURSDAY, JAN. 25 - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Vital Communities is hosting a Weatherize Upper Valley kick off event on Thursday, Jan. 25 from 6 - 7:30 p.m. at the First Congregational Church in Springfield for residents of Chester, Andover and Springfield. Learn about Weatherize Upper Valley. Meet your volunteer team and your team's three partner contractors. Learn about costs, benefits, financing, and incentives. Refreshments provided. Free and open to the public. Free pizza and LED light bulbs! Snow date is on Thursday, Feb. 1, at 6 p.m. Check VitalCommunities.org/Weatherize or call Sarah Brock at 207-624-2012

SATURDAY, FEB. 3 - CHESTER, Vt. - Gassetts Grange is holding a Square Dance and Round on Saturday, Feb. 3 at 7 p.m. at the Gassetts Grange Hall. Everyone is welcome. Come and swing your partner or watch the others swing theirs. We have refreshments on sale in our kitchen and we have 50/50 tickets on sale. Please come and join us for good music and loads of fun, for a small donation. For more information call 802-875-2637, 802-591-4290, or 802-875-1051.

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - On Saturday, Feb. 3, at its 68 Main Street home, the VAULT will hold the eighth annual "Chocolate Tasting" fundraiser from noon to 4 p.m. to support VAULT programs. The public is invited and "donations are welcome." Many businesses will donate their sweets. Daily Chocolate, Red Kite Candy, and Lake Champlain Chocolates will present an abundance of candy and bars to sample with background music by flutist, Kathi Byam. For more information, contact Gallery at the VAULT at 802-885-7111 or galleryvault@vermontel.net.

WEDNESDAYS - CHARLESTOWN, N.H. - Weekly bingo at the Charlestown Memorial VFW Post 8497, 365 Lovers Lane Rd. Early Birds at 5 p.m., Regular Games at 6:30 p.m.

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

FARMERS' MARKETS

FRIDAYS- WESTON, Vt. - Weston Winter Farmer's Market at the Walker Farm Playhouse. Friday hours are from 3 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Your favorite dairy, eggs, cheese, meat and bread vendors will be on hand as well as prepared foods, artisans and crafts people. Come and support by purchasing local and fresh! Lots of fun and real close to home. Shop and enjoy local!

LIBRARIES

SUNDAY, JAN. 28 - CAVENDISH, Vt. - Cavendish Fletcher Community Library will host "Dinner and a Movie" on Sunday, Jan. 28 at 1 p.m.

featuring "Dunkirk." The movie depicts how, in May 1940, Germany advanced into France, trapping Allied troops on the beaches of Dunkirk and captures the drama and horrors of their evacuation. Dinner will consist of Cassoulet, Toad in the Hole, and other themed dishes that connect to the time and place of the movie. Open and free to the public although donations are accepted and encouraged. Located at 573 Main St., Cavendish. Call 226-7503 for more details.

THURSDAY, FEB. 1 - CAVENDISH, Vt. - Sit & Knit at Cavendish Fletcher Community Library on Thursday evenings starting Feb. 1 from 5 - 7 p.m. Sit and Knit or Crochet, or do any fiber art of your choice. Light snacks will be provided. There is no charge.

SATURDAY, FEB. 3 - BRATTLEBORO, Vt. - If you are curious about exploring past life recall and the significance of your dreams, come join a free open discussion on Saturday, Feb. 3, from 2 - 3 p.m. at Brooks Memorial Library, 224 Main St, Brattleboro. A spiritual exercise will be shared to actively tap the wisdom your inner worlds through Soul Travel. All are welcome. Hosted by Eckankar, a spiritual teaching that provides simple exercises for people of all faiths, traditions, and walks of life to develop and deepen a conscious and practical relationship with spirit. For more information go to www.eckankar-vt.org or call 800-772-9390.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Please join Dinoman at the Springfield Town Library to celebrate

"Take Your Child to the Library Day" on Saturday, Feb. 3 at 11 a.m. Dinoman will take us on an adventure to the age of Dinosaurs! With magic, merry mayhem, and magnificent props, the audience is taken on a trip throughout the Mesozoic era. Brought to you by Friends of the Springfield Town Library and is free and open to the public. Please call Springfield Town Library for more information at 802-885-3108.

MONDAYS - CHESTER, Vt. - Children of all ages are invited to join the LEGO Club at the Whiting Library in Chester. We will provide the LEGOs and DUPLOs and you supply the imagination. The program is on Mondays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Thanks to the Rotary Club of Chester for helping us with a generous donation for this program. For further information contact 802-875-2277, www.whitinglibrary.org, or on Facebook. TFN

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

WESTON, Vt. - Join us at the library for an informal gathering to work on knitting projects or other handiwork. Share with others, give and receive encouragement, and help solve problems. Rumor has it, there may even be chocolate. This is an

ongoing event until Feb. 27, on Tuesdays from 2 - 4 p.m. Wilder Memorial Library is located in Weston, Vt. at 24 Lawrence Hill Rd. For more information, call 802-824-4307.

WEDNESDAYS - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - What do you think about creating a machine -or contraption or invention or device or apparatus - that uses a chain

WARNINGS

Green Mountain Unified School District

ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING

Green Mountain Union High School Auditorium

Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 7:00 PM

The legal voters of Green Mountain Unified School District, consisting of Andover Town School District, Baltimore Town School District, Cavendish Town School District and Chester Town School District are hereby warned to meet to transact at that time business not involving voting by Australian ballot or voting required by law to be by ballot. The business to be transacted at this meeting includes the following:

- Article I: Shall the voters of the Green Mountain Unified School District approve setting its annual honorarium for each of its School Directors at \$1,200.00?
- Article II: Shall the voters of the Green Mountain Unified School District approve setting its annual honorarium for the Treasurer at \$500.00?
- Article III: Shall the voters of the Green Mountain Unified School District approve setting the annual honorarium for its School District Clerk at \$125.00?
- Article IV: Shall the voters of the Green Mountain Unified School District authorize its Board of School Directors to borrow money, pending receipt of payments from member districts as provided in Title 16, Chapter 11, § 711, by issuance of notes of money orders, payable not later than one year from date, for the purpose of paying its expenses?
- Article V: To act on any other business proper to come before said meeting.

VOTING BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

Andover Town Hall 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM - Baltimore Town Hall 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM
Cavendish Town Elementary School 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM - Chester Town Office 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM

The legal voters of Green Mountain Unified School District, consisting of Andover Town School District, Baltimore Town School District, Cavendish Town School District and Chester Town School District, are hereby warned to meet at the respective polling places on Tuesday, March 6, 2018 for the purpose of voting by Australian ballot. The business to be transacted to include:

- Article I: Shall the Green Mountain Unified School District approve the school board of directors to expend \$12,547,513.00 which is the amount the school board of directors has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that the proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$15,659.09 per equalized pupil.

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING

Green Mountain Union High School Auditorium

Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 7:00 PM

The legal voters of Green Mountain Unified School District, consisting of the towns of Andover, Baltimore, Cavendish and Chester are hereby warned to meet for Public Informational Hearings on the proposed budget for 2018-2019.

Green Mountain Unified School Board of Directors:

Alison DesLauriers, Board Chair
Marilyn Mahusky, Board Member Vice Chair
Deborah Brown, Board Clerk
Erin Lamson, Board Member
Kathy Mutter, Board Member
Jeff Rapke, Board Member
Fred Marin, Board Member
Julie Hance, Clerk
Green Mountain Unified School District

Maria Matush
Tonia Fleming, Board Member
Kate Lamphere, Board Member
Joseph Fromberger, Board Member
Doug McBride, Board Member

Dated at Chester, Vermont in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont this 19 day of January, 2018.

TOWN OF WESTON VERMONT

Invitation to Bid

2012 International Ford F-550 Dump Truck

Bids must be submitted by 12:00 PM February 12, 2018

ADVERTISEMENTS

PLEASE NOTE!

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

Advertisements that are not sent to [Shawntae at Ads@VermontJournal.com](mailto:Shawntae@VermontJournal.com) are NOT guaranteed to be published

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

VermontJournal THE SHOPPER

TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM/BELLOWS FALLS VILLAGE CORP. MANAGER SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Town of Rockingham Selectboard and the Bellows Falls Village Corporation Board of Trustees is forming a Manager Search Committee to develop a job description and hiring process for the next Municipal Manager. Any Rockingham/Bellows Falls resident interested in serving on this committee is asked to forward a letter of interest to Municipal Manager Search Committee, c/o Kerry Bennett, P.O. Box 370, Bellows Falls, VT 05101, or email to excasst@rockbf.org by 3:00 p.m. on January 30, 2018.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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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 "Mamma Mia!" group
- 5 Apprehend
- 8 Colorful fish
- 12 Clay-rich soil
- 13 Blunder
- 14 Portrayal
- 15 Democrat or Republican
- 17 Radiate
- 18 Faucet
- 19 Arouse
- 21 Fireworks reaction
- 22 Delay or Carvey
- 23 Venomous viper
- 26 Zodiac cat
- 28 Passenger
- 31 Prosperous time
- 33 Knock
- 35 Pepsi competitor
- 36 Soothe
- 38 Tatter
- 40 Actor Danson
- 41 A long time
- 43 Bugging device
- 45 Tranquil
- 47 Pencil end
- 51 Impulse carrier
- 52 Multiple marriage
- 54 Expectorate

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54				55				56		
57				58				59		

- 6 Curved path
- 7 Wide
- 8 Occurring naturally
- 9 Bikini pattern?
- 10 Lotion additive
- 11 Chopped
- 16 Implement
- 20 Card game for two
- 23 Lawyers' org.
- 24 Scale member
- 25 Edwin Land's company
- 27 Rowing need
- 29 - out a living
- 30 Primary color
- 32 Purplish
- 30-Down
- 34 Kneecap
- 37 Longing
- 39 Indiana city
- 42 Brownish tone
- 44 Heathen
- 45 Back talk
- 46 World's fair
- 48 Wise one
- 49 Ostriches' kin
- 50 Deli loaves
- 53 On in years

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You might feel bolder as each new success falls into place. But caution is still advised through the end of the week. Until then, a step-by-step approach is best.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) That cooperation you request could come at too high a price. Since few can beat the Bovine at being clever and resourceful, why not see what you can do on your own?

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Aspects favor a quieter time spent getting closer to the people who are especially important to you. There's always much more to learn and appreciate about each other.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) The concerned Crab will act to resolve workplace misunderstandings before they get out of hand and cause more-serious problems. Co-workers rally to support your efforts.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) What the Big Cat might see as a disturbing act of disloyalty might just be a failure of communication on both sides. Take time for mediation rather than confrontation.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Be more patient with those who seem unwilling to accept your version of what's right. The fact is, there's a lot more to learn on all sides of this issue.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) It should be easier to assess the facts you'll need to make an important decision. But don't commit if you still have doubts. There could be more you need to know.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your excitement level remains high as you continue working on that new project. Expect some setbacks. But on the whole, all will move pretty much on schedule.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) It might be wise to be more prudent with expenses right now. But your financial situation should soon clear up, and you could be back shopping, happily as ever.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) You might prefer sticking with your current schedule. But some newly emerging information could persuade you to consider a change. Keep an open mind.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You might want to reject a suggested change. But it could be wise to go with the flow, at least for a while. You can always return to your first plan if you like.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) You're bolstered by both the practical and poetic sides of your nature as you maneuver through some unsettled emotional situations. Things ease up by week's end.

BORN THIS WEEK: People reach out to your generosity and wisdom, and consider you a treasured and trusted friend.

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TAKE A BREAK!

calendar

AUTOMOTIVE

LIBRARIES CONT.

WEDNESDAYS CONT. - reaction to accomplish a very simple task in a very complicated manner? Former Springfield High School physics teacher and energy educator Julian Leon will guide us in building this machine! This program starts Wednesday, Jan. 24 from 4 to 6 p.m. at Springfield Town Library, 43 Main St., Springfield, Vt. It

will end on Feb. 14. Geared for youth grades 6 and up! Call Michelle at the library for more information and to sign up: 802-885-3108. It's Complicated (but Simple) is funded by Friends of the Springfield Town Library, and is free and open to the public!

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

approaches; we encourage all voters and residents of Ludlow to inform themselves on the issues by attending the informational meeting on Monday, Jan. 29 at 6 p.m. at Ludlow Town Hall. This meeting is hosted by the Ludlow Elementary School Board.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 31 **SPRINGFIELD, Vt.** - Meeting of Union/Park Neighborhood Association on Wednesday Jan. 31 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Union Street School in Springfield.

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

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.

THURSDAY, FEB. 1- **LUDLOW, Vt.** - As the re-vote on Ludlow, Mount Holly unified school district merger approaches; we encourage all voters and residents of Ludlow to inform themselves on the issues by attending the informational meeting on Thursday, Feb. 1 at 6 p.m. at Ludlow Town Hall. This meeting is hosted by the Black River Independent School Committee.

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 from 1-2 p.m. Info: 800-639-6480, www.namivt.org.

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

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Twin State Depression Support Group meets on the fourth Wednesday at Turning Point Recovery Center (Handicapped-accessible), 7 Morgan Street at 6:30 p.m. Support, empathy, sharing, education, confidentiality, peer-led. Contact TwinStateDSG@gmail.com or 641-715-3900 (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 provides a safe and healthy environment for people to give and receive support. The group is free and open to the public. Call Diana Slade at 802-289-1982. TFN

MEETINGS

MONDAY, JAN. 29 - LUDLOW, Vt. - As the re-vote on Ludlow, Mount Holly unified school district merger

View our Complete Inventory of New & Used Cars & Trucks at www.BensonsChevy.com

<p>2018 CHEVY COLORADO CREW CAB, 4X4, Z-71 OFF ROAD PACKAGE</p> <p>MSRP \$37,135 \$1,419 DUE AT DELIVERY LEASE FOR 39 MONTHS</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$329/MONTH*</p> 	<p>2018 CHEVY CRUZE LT PACKAGE</p> <p>MSRP \$22,325 \$2,239 DUE AT DELIVERY LEASE FOR 39 MONTHS</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$189/MONTH*</p> 	<p>2018 CHEVY SILVERADO DOUBLE CAB, 4X4</p> <p>MSRP \$43,480 \$4,399 DUE AT DELIVERY LEASE FOR 39 MONTHS</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$229/MONTH*</p> 
<p>2014 BUICK REGAL GS AWD, 2.0 LITER TURBO, SUN ROOF, FULLY LOADED</p> <p>STOCK #1477</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$17,995</p> 	<p>2018 CHEVY SILVERADO CREW CAB, 4X4</p> <p>MSRP \$46,070 \$3,459 DUE AT DELIVERY LEASE FOR 39 MONTHS</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$339/MONTH*</p> 	<p>2015 TOYOTA RAV4 AWD, LE PACKAGE, ONLY 18,000 MILES</p> <p>STOCK #1586</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$18,995</p> 
<p>2014 CHEVY SUBURBAN LT PACKAGE, 4X4, LEATHER, SUN ROOF, FULLY LOADED</p> <p>STOCK #1498</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$31,995</p> 	<p>2005 GMC 2500 REG CAB 4X4, WITH FISHER PLOW</p> <p>STOCK #05143</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$6,995</p> 	<p>2015 GMC ACADIA DENALI FULLY LOADED, ONE OWNER, ONLY 39,000 MILES</p> <p>STOCK #1588</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$30,995</p> 

<p>2017 CHEVY CRUZE LT Package, Dark Grey, Only 9,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$14,495</p>	<p>2016 CHEVY TRAX AWD, LS Package, Only 4,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$17,995</p>	<p>2014 KIA SOUL 4 Cylinder, 5 Speed, One Owner, Only 56,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$8,995</p>	<p>2009 CHEVY 3500 HD REGULAR CAB 4x4, 8 Foot Box, PW, PDL</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$12,995</p>
<p>2017 DODGE RAM 2500 PROMASTER CARGO VAN Only 7,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$25,495</p>	<p>2016 SUBARU IMPREZA SPORT LIMITED AWD, Fully Loaded, One Owner, Leather</p> <p>WAS \$20,995 NOW \$19,995</p>	<p>2014 CHEVY VOLT Auto, Fully Loaded, Only 33,000 Miles, One Owner</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$14,995</p>	<p>2009 TOYOTA TACOMA CREW CAB 4x4, SR5, Auto, Fully Loaded</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$17,995</p>
<p>2017 NISSAN ROGUE AWD Auto, PW, PDL, Tilt Wheel, Only 5,000 Miles</p> <p>WAS \$20,995 NOW \$19,995</p>	<p>2016 CHEVY EQUINOX LTZ Package, AWD, 6 Cyl, Sun Roof, Navigation, Leather, One Owner</p> <p>WAS \$25,995 NOW \$24,995</p>	<p>2014 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA SE Package, Fully Loaded, Only 23,000 Miles</p> <p>WAS \$11,995 NOW \$10,995</p>	<p>2008 CHEVY EQUINOX AWD, Sport Package, V6, Fully Loaded</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$8,995</p>
<p>2017 NISSAN FRONTIER 4 DOOR CREW CAB 4x4, Fully Loaded, Only 7,000 Miles</p> <p>WAS \$26,995 NOW \$24,995</p>	<p>2015 CHEVY 2500 EXPRESS 12 PASSENGER VAN V8, Fully Loaded</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$16,995</p>	<p>2014 CHEVY CRUZE LT Package, Auto, One Owner, Only 15,000 Miles</p> <p>WAS \$12,995 NOW \$11,995</p>	<p>2007 CHEVY IMPALA LT Package, Sun Roof, Only 69,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$6,995</p>
<p>2017 NISSAN MURANO S AWD, Only 3,000 Miles, Brand New</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$25,995</p>	<p>2015 FORD F-150 SUPER CREW CAB 4x4, Fully Loaded, One Owner</p> <p>WAS \$29,995 NOW \$28,995</p>	<p>2013 CHEVY MALIBU ECO Auto, Fully Loaded</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$8,995</p>	<p>2007 CHEVY IMPALA LS Sedan, V6, Auto, Fully Loaded</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$4,295</p>
<p>2016 BUICK ENCORE AWD, PW, PDL, Tilt Wheel, One Owner</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$15,995</p>	<p>2015 CHEVY 2500 HD EXTENDED CAB 4x4, Duramax Diesel, LT Package, One Owner, Only 44,000 Miles</p> <p>DURAMAX DIESEL</p>	<p>2012 TOYOTA SIENNA LE VAN AWD, V6, Auto, Only 55,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$13,995</p>	<p>2005 DODGE RAM 1500 REGULAR CAB 4x4, Short Box</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$6,995</p>
<p>2016 CHEVY 2500 HD DOUBLE CAB, DURAMAX DIESEL 4x4, LT Package, Only 400 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$50,995</p>	<p>2015 CHEVY G-30 HIGH CUBE 12 ft Box, Extra Clean, One Owner</p> <p>WAS \$26,995 NOW \$25,995</p>	<p>2011 HONDA PILOT EXL Package, AWD, Leather, Sun Roof, One Owner</p> <p>WAS \$16,995 NOW \$15,995</p>	<p>2011 NISSAN ROGUE S Model, AWD</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$8,995</p>
<p>2016 NISSAN ROGUE AWD, Auto, PW, PDL, Tilt Wheel, Only 7,000 Miles</p> <p>WAS \$19,995 NOW \$18,995</p>	<p>2014 FORD F-450 4X4 RACK DUMP BODY with Plow, V10 Gas Engine, One Owner</p> <p>ONLY 48,000 MILES</p>	<p>2011 NISSAN FRONTIER 4 DOOR CREW CAB 4x4, SL Package, Sun Roof, Leather Interior, Extra Clean</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$11,995</p>	<p>2001 CHEVY CORVETTE CONVERTIBLE 6 Speed, Fully Loaded, Only 26,000 Miles</p> <p>SALE PRICE \$20,995</p>

BENSON'S CHEVROLET, INC.

*39 month lease. 10,000 miles per year. Must be a returning lease customer, or have a non GM lease. Monthly payment does not include tax, title, or registration fees.



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