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Springfield Hospital reaches savings goals

BY SHARON HUNTLEY
The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Recent changes to Springfield Hospital including elimination of the Birthing Center, and changes to contracted service providers have allowed the hospital to realize over \$7 million in savings that they need to survive.

Now Springfield Hospital looks to work out the details of its Birthing Center partnership with Brattleboro Memorial Hospital. According to Interim CEO Mike Halstead, Springfield Hospital will continue providing pre- and postnatal care locally, even though expectant mothers will be delivering their babies in Brattleboro Memorial Hospital, a 42-minute drive from Springfield.

Part of that plan is having the Brattleboro Obstetrician group operating 2-3 days a week out of a Springfield location. Halstead and his administrative staff are looking for the location now where the Brattleboro obstetrics team and the Springfield gynecologists will be able

to provide services side by side in the same location. Expectant mothers can then have all their prenatal and postnatal appointments, including testing, done locally while establishing a rapport with the staff that will be at BMH when they travel south to deliver their babies. Locations being considered are in the Ridgewood Office Building or in Springfield Hospital itself.

Halstead understands why the decision to close the Birthing Center initially caused uproar among locals. “This is a very emotional issue,” he said. Despite the initial reaction, Halstead believes that “most of the people understand that it’s a decision that had to be made.”

The board thought long and hard before making their decision, according to Halstead, but realized they had no choice from a financial perspective. The Birthing Center only delivers approximately 150 babies each year but must be prepared for a C-section level of service around the clock. That amounted to losses each year that the hospital couldn’t sus-

tain.

Even with the Birthing Center ending operation June 1, 2019, the hospital will still be prepared to deliver a baby in the emergency room. “If the decision by the emergency room doctor is you do not have the 42 minutes it takes to drive to Brattleboro, you will be delivered here,” said Halstead. Emergency room physicians are fully trained to do deliveries.

With the decision to close the Birthing Center, Halstead doesn’t anticipate eliminating any additional lines of service although they will continue to try to tweak services or look to do them in a different way. Specifically, now with the elimination of the Birthing Center, they can restructure surgical services to be more cost effective since they will no longer need to have 24-hour coverage for certain services like anesthesiology.

Additional cost savings for Springfield Hospital are being realized in the upcoming switch to a new emergency

services provider, BlueWater Emergency Partners, a contracted service provider that staffs fully-trained physicians and physician assistants in small hospitals around New England. They will provide a core group of providers assigned to the Springfield location but can also pull additional staff from other locations as needs change. According to Halstead, “That’s the benefit of having a service. They are responsible for scheduling and staffing. They are able to increase or decrease staffing based on need which helps to keep costs in check.”

BlueWater is replacing a previous contract provider, Emergency Services of New England, which had been operating within Springfield Hospital for over 40 years. As part of the process of reviewing all contractors, BlueWater was able to provide services for less than ESNE and included providing an M.D. on site at all times, an upgrade in service. BlueWater will take over staffing the emergency department April

9, 2019. Billing will be slightly different in that patients will receive two bills after they visit the emergency room, one from the hospital and one from the doctor provided by BlueWater. The total cost will be the same however.

Still, news from Springfield Hospital hasn’t been all about cuts. Recent reports showed that some hospital staffers received pay raises. Once initial staff salary reductions went into place in late February, the hospital saw approximately 50 additional people leave voluntarily. Some of the positions were direct patient caregivers such as R.N., LPN, and social workers. At that point, Halstead realized that the hospital “can’t operate the organization without those types of people.”

In looking to replace those positions, Springfield Hospital needed to be competitive in the marketplace and therefore needed to adjust the salaries accordingly, also raising the salaries of those who had stayed. Of those 50 who left, a number of those jobs would

not be replaced however, so they were able to realize salary savings overall.

Still, the need to find additional savings and revenue continues. According to Halstead, “Overall, we are working to align revenues and expenses to bring our organization in balance. The recent expense reductions we’ve put in place are helping us achieve that goal; and we’ve identified over \$7 million in expense reductions to date. There is, however, also a need to look to the revenue side of the equation to help cover the cost of care.”

Additional measures to increase patient revenue are being explored with Halstead asking the Green Mountain Care Board to approve measures that would allow Springfield Hospital to charge an additional 5% to the amount they can charge insurers throughout the remainder of the fiscal year. The board will meet with Springfield Hospital leaders and administrators during a public meeting before acting on that request.

Andrew’s Inn remembrance hosted by the Rockingham Library

BY BILL LOCKWOOD
The Shopper

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Last Wednesday night the Rockingham Free Public Library held a community discussion and potluck event to showcase an exhibit the library is hosting for the Andrew’s Inn Oral History Project, a collaboration between Green Mountain Crossings, Marlboro College, and Vermont Performance Labs.

H.B. Lozito of Green Mountain Crossings said, “This has been a really exciting partnership with the library [and] great to have our exhibit in the library where the inn was.” The Andrew’s Inn was on the Square in Bellows Falls in the old Windham Hotel where Popolos Restaurant is now located.

The Andrew’s Inn was a “gay” bar, hotel, and eatery from 1973 to 1984. For the LGBTQ community of the time it was a refuge, a place of understanding, and a place where they could give free expression of who they really were. For others it was a scandal, and, as Fletcher Proctor says in the oral history of the inn, some felt it “the ultimate den of iniquity.” The impetus of the oral history project was to address the tension between the visibility and obscured existence in the legacy of rural LGBTQ people in Vermont.

There is a photo display set up in the library and the oral history presentation is accessible through the internet. It features talks with all the owners starting with John Moises, creator and first manager in the hotel owned by his parents, and Tom



Part of the photo display for the Oral History project set up at the Rockingham Free Public Library showing participants in the history project.

PHOTO BY BILL LOCKWOOD

Herman and Jeremy Youst who bought the business in 1979 and made it also a co-counseling site wanting it to be a “healing space” as well. They all tell both humorous and fascinating stories of how \$3,000 was spent on replacement glass alone the first year Herman and Youst ran the inn and the anti-gay parade that protested their existence that year. There are also stories of how women were also welcome to dances, homeless residents were taken in when the Star Hotel next door burned down, and Moises tells of how he mailed postcards inviting out-of-towners to various “balls” at the Walpole Post Office across the river in New Hampshire to prevent word circulating among the locals in Bellows Falls.

The potluck and discussion was attended by some old-timers and some new to the area as well. Poignant memories, humorous incidents, and serious insights were shared by all.

Robert MacBride, founding director of RAMP, a co-

sponsoring agency, brought a crockpot of beef stew and other food was shared as well. MacBride said, “It was such a unique place when it opened in the late ‘70s... A lot of great stories and relationships came out of it.”

Tom Szepiel said he used to travel all the way from Springfield, Mass. He said, “Most people have good memories. I’m sure it was a good part of a lot of people’s lives.” He also noted that, “It has changed. Being gay isn’t the taboo it once was.”

MacBride also noted that the oral history project is ongoing, and more people are welcome to add their memories. Anyone interested in contributing can contact Anne Dempsey at the library programming@rockingham-library.org.

The oral history can be found at www.greenmountaincrossroads.org/andrews-inn-oral-history-project.html.

Closure of Rockingham on-ramp to I-91

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – On Monday, April 15, 2019 at 7 a.m. the I-91 Exit 6 northbound on-ramp will be closed for two weeks while

the ramp is reconstructed to its original grade. All motorists will follow a signed detour on Route 5 north to the Exit 7 northbound On-Ramp.

The ramp is anticipated to be opened up April 26, 2019 at which time all traffic will be switched over to the new I-91 Northbound Bridge.

Walpole School Science Olympiad wins state championship

WALPOLE, N.H. – On Saturday, March 23, 2019, the Walpole School Science Olympiad team, made up of 25 sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth grade students, won the State Championship for the third time in three years at Saint Anselm College in Manchester, N.H. With this win, Walpole will represent the state of New Hampshire in the National Science Olympiad Tournament at Cornell University June 1. We are seeking donations to offset the \$12,000 needed to cover transportation, tournament, and housing costs.

Since September, these Walpole students have been studying two hours a day, three days a week in the fields of Anatomy and Physiology, Battery Buggy, Boomilever, Circuit Lab, Crime Busters, Density Lab, Disease Detectives, Dynamic Planet, Elastic Launch Glider, Experimental Design, Fossils, Heredity, Herpetology, Meteorology, Mystery Architecture, Potions and Poisons, Road Scholar, Roller Coaster, Solar System, Thermodynamics, Water Quality, and Write It Do It.

As their coach, I am so proud of every one of these



Walpole School Science Olympiad wins state championship. PHOTO PROVIDED

students for their yearlong commitment and all they have learned through their failures, reiterations, and ultimate successes. They have battled through the extreme expectations of their events, challenges of partner dynamics, endured long hours after school, faced exhaustion, sickness, being overbooked, even entertained some creeping thoughts of maybe Science Olympiad is not what they want to be doing right then, and yet they have stayed with it to follow through on a commitment and earn their well-deserved achievement. I am so impressed by what these students have given to the program. Their quest for learning

and ability to take on the rigor of high school and college level material is mindboggling to me. They seem completely unfazed by it all.

In addition to the immense amount of science content, there are so many intangibles students take away from being on the team. Through STEM, they learn the design process, the scientific method, develop study and organizational skills, but also build perseverance and a willingness to face and try what seems an impossible task. Not one student has given up this year. Even the independence of navigating some elite college

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ATTENTION!

The Vermont Journal & The Shopper acquired The Message of the Week in April of 2018. Due to the similar coverage areas, all of the content goes into The Vermont Journal & The Shopper. You can call us at 802-228-3600.

DEADLINES

The deadline for all content is Thursday at 12 p.m. for the following Wednesday publication.

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Our Place to benefit from Shaw's reusable bag program

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Our Place Drop-in Center has been selected as a beneficiary of the Shaw's "Give Back Where It Counts" reusable bag program for the month of April. For each of the reusable shopping bags purchased at the Walpole, N.H. store, Our Place will receive one dollar.

The Shaw's program was launched in April 2019 to facilitate community support, with the goal to make a difference in the communities where shoppers live and work. The program features the reusable "Give Back Where It Counts" bag with a special tag attached that allows customers to direct a donation to the nonprofit of their choice upon purchase.

Our Place was selected as the first beneficiary of the pro-



Shaw's reusable bag gives back. PHOTO PROVIDED

gram by store leadership at Shaw's in Walpole. The food

shelf and daytime shelter will receive the donation every time the reusable bag is purchased at this location during April, unless otherwise directed by the customer through the Giving Tag attached to the bag.

"We are grateful to Shaw's for selecting us for this program and for our ongoing partnership with them in providing food for those who struggle to feed their families," said Lisa Pitcher, Our Place executive director. "The reusable bags also fit in with our

efforts to model sustainability."

Further information about the Shaw's "Give Back Where It Counts" reusable bag program can be found at www.shaws.bags4my-cause.com.

Our Place is a daytime shelter and food pantry located at 4 Island St. whose mission is to offer help with food and other essential needs in a nonjudgmental, safe, and respectful atmosphere. It serves families in Rockingham and the surrounding area and in Walpole and North Walpole, N.H. Information is available by contacting OP at 802-463-2217, ourplace@sover.net, www.ourplacevt.org, or on Facebook.



Hunger challenge

LANGDON, N.H. – Please join the Fall Mountain Food Shelf in raising \$10,000 between March 1 and April 30, 2019. The Family Foundation will match donations dollar for dollar up to \$10,000 to purchase food for local families. Donations can be mailed to Fall Mountain Food Shelf, P.O. Box 191, Alstead, NH 03602 or made in person at Fall Mountain Food Shelf, 122 Route 123 in Langdon, N.H. Thank you for your caring and support.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Rockingham Library book sale

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – While it might still be a little early to weed your garden, it's a perfect time to weed your bookshelves! Do your spring

cleaning and support the library with a donation to the library's annual Spring Book Sale.

The Rockingham Free Public Library will be hosting their

annual book sale Saturday, April 6 through Saturday, May 11 and donations are welcome now. Books of all kinds are welcome, with the exception of encyclopedia sets, magazines, textbooks, Reader's Digest condensed books, and anything that is musty or moldy. DVDs

and audiobooks are also welcome donations for the book sale.

Please bring donations during library hours only: Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m., Thursday and Friday 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

An early book preview sale is available for Friends of the Library only Friday, April 5, 5-8 p.m. Become a member of the Friends today or at the door, and get special early access to the book sale. The book sale officially kicks off Saturday, April 6, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All proceeds from the book sale will benefit the Rockingham Free Public Library. For more information, call 802-463-4270, email programming@rockinghamlibrary.org, visit www.rockinghamlibrary.org, or stop by the library at 65 Westminster St. in Bellows Falls.

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Women's Club annual BFUHS art show

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Members of the Bellows Falls Women's Club will gather at Bellows Falls Union High School April 9 for the annual club-sponsored arts show. Members should arrive by 11:30 a.m., but not before, to

view the art in several mediums and the quilts that will be on display. The members will vote for the Club Favorite piece of art and a quilt.

A luncheon provided by the Family and Consumer Science students will be served at noon. Following the meal, club

members will go to the auditorium for the awarding of prizes for art and the quilts. Ribbons for Honorable Mention, third, second, and first prizes in the prejudged art will be given by the club, along with a monetary award for the Club Favorites. The band and chorus will

entertain the members with selections. The club gives an honorarium to the Family and Consumer Science, band, and choral music departments. The art show has been an annual club-sponsored project for over 40 years.

Tom Fontaine was the speaker at the March 12 meeting. He is a teacher at Kurn Hattin and has written and published three books of historical fiction for middle school students. Tom gave a snapshot of his personal life growing up and living in and near Bellows Falls before retelling the story of the subject of his first book, a native Grafton boy who served in the Civil War as messenger boy.

During the business meeting, details about the May 5 High Tea event were outlined. It will take place at the Masonic Temple, from 3 to 5 p.m. Tickets will be available at Village Square Booksellers. There will be a raffle of gift bags of certificates and local products, with the drawing to be held at the club's final meeting of the year, May 14. Members signed up to help with the various committees for the tea. Proceeds will underwrite the high school scholarship given by the club.

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SCIENCE

From Page 1A

campuses during the competitions lets them see themselves as future co-eds. It gives them a vision and confidence that will set them apart from their peers.

"I won a gold medal and am going to the Nationals. That means to me that I am important. I actually felt important. That was a first for me," says one Walpole Science Olympian.

As a team, we have raised funds throughout the year to allow us to support the program and travel to Dartmouth, Cornell, and state tournaments. As we continue to fundraise, we have many mini events planned: Paint Night, Science Night for kindergarten through fifth grade, a letter writing campaign, grant writing, car washes, bake sales, and Dodge Ball Tournament.

We are trying hard to reach our goal, but we need your help. Please consider helping these students reach their goal of representing the state of New Hampshire at the National Competition and sponsor them by making a donation. All donations are tax-deductible. We appreciate all the support we have felt by the community!

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Windsor County Youth PSA winners announced

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Green Peak Alliance is proud to announce the winners of the first GPA Windsor County Youth Public Service Announcement contest. Maria Nadeau and Melanie Litchfield, students at Riverside Middle School in Springfield, Vt., won the \$200 grand prize, which was contributed on behalf of the Windsor Rotary and Springfield Rotary clubs. The contest focused on students creating a PSA covering one of the following topics: negative impacts of tobacco, underage/binge drinking, marijuana, and the benefits of youth assets and protective factors. Melanie and Maria worked as a team to create a PSA on the negative



GPA prevention coordinator Courtney Hillhouse recognizes Maria Nadeau and Melanie Litchfield as the PSA first place winners.

PHOTO PROVIDED



GPA PSA second place winners Ryan Page and Anneka Yuengling recognized by GPA prevention coordinator Courtney Hillhouse.

PHOTO PROVIDED

cigarettes and both are interested in this topic in the hopes that it may inspire those family members to quit. Melanie describes why she chose to focus on tobacco as, "It's something serious that can really hurt your future" and that "It's good for people to know what's in tobacco and it can let people know what they are putting in their own body by choice."

Maria liked the idea of making a PSA "to see if it will make peo-

ple not smoke" and "so they can learn at an early age about the stuff and not to get into it."

Placing second in the PSA contest are Dory Hindinger, Ryan Page, and Anneka Yuengling of Weathersfield Elementary School with a PSA that focused on the dangers of underage drinking.

Green Peak Alliance launched the contest to provide a fun and creative way for youth to learn about substance abuse prevention. Green Peak Alliance is a collaboration of substance abuse prevention coalitions that includes Windsor, Windham, and Orange counties.

impacts of tobacco products. To view the video, visit www.facebook.com/greenpeakalliance.

Melanie and Maria have family members who smoke

Youth Thrive training on teens, safety

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – In an effort to ensure a great future for our youth, Greater Falls Connections and Youth Services of Windham County recently teamed up on the three-part Youth Thrive training. This training took place at the Rockingham Free Public Library between December 2018 and February 2019. Participants learned how the teen brain works, how trauma affects behavior, how to connect to youth, and how to build on strengths of youth.

Youth Thrive is an evidence-based approach to working with adolescents aged 9-24. The approach uses the most current science on adolescent brain development, trauma, and resilience in order to provide support and to build on protective factors for youth. A number of local groups took part in the training, including Youth Services, Greater Falls Connections, Grafton Elementary School, Windham Northeast Supervisory Union, WOOL 91.5FM, Turning Point Recovery Center of Springfield, The Collaborative, HCRS, Brattleboro Area Prevention Coalition, and the Greater Falls Community Justice Center.

The training was facilitated by Sara Croitoru of Youth Services of Windham County and Matt Wolf of Vermont Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health. According to Wolf, "Adolescence is a time of

great growth and development, great passion and creativity and great feelings and behaviors as well. Instead of honoring this as a time of excitement and tremendous development of character, our culture seems to 'pathologize' our youth as 'drama queens' or 'trouble makers.' We often criticize our youth for what is really normal developmental behavior, such as hanging out with friends or being dramatic."

The Youth Thrive approach focuses on "protective and promotive factors," which help make young people more likely to thrive. It can be used in any setting where youth and their families are served. Parents who attended left with a deeper understanding of adolescent development. This empowers parents to give their children the opportunities they need for safe risk-taking, increasing responsibility and independence, while continuing to provide parental nurturing and guidance.

The Youth Thrive framework used in the training comes from the Center for the Study of Social Policy. Their research looked into resiliency, positive youth development, brain science, and the impact of trauma in order to create this training.

One goal of the training was to help youth-based agencies and their partners create programs that promote the health and well-being of youth, in-

cluding those who have experienced high levels of trauma. Another important goal was to provide information for parents, caregivers, and communities on supporting the development of young people into productive and caring members of society.

Sara Chard of the Turning Point Recovery Center of Springfield attended all of the training sessions. She said, "It was a great opportunity to build resources and connect with other people in the community." Chard added, "It was great to learn and better understand at a deeper level what kids are going through and how to reach them."

Youth are more often successful when adults give them the opportunity to express themselves. Adults should also provide opportunities for youth to feel good about the skills and competence that they possess. When young people feel connected to peers and adults, they feel loved, wanted, and valued. Research shows that when a young person feels connected to at least one caring adult they are more resilient and likely to do well. Multiple connections increase the likelihood that they will thrive.

Wolf added, "I feel this training is so important because it emphasizes understanding of where adolescents are in their development, so we can give them some understanding and

a sympathetic ear. But it also emphasizes harnessing their passion and creativity and approaching youth with encouragement, support, and enthusiasm; exciting their passions to help drive them forward."

Participants worked on the best strategies to use when working with youth who have experienced high levels of childhood trauma. They learned that it is important to offer additional supports for youth with a history of trauma in a safe environment. When youth are focused only on their self-protection, it creates a difficult learning environment. Caregivers, parents, and youth-serving groups need to ensure the physical and emotional safety of youth.

During the third session, the group looked at how the community and organizations can work together to make sure all youth feel welcome and can succeed. The group is hoping that this training will lead to future collaborations among the organizations involved in order to better support the youth of the Greater Falls area.

The Youth Thrive training series was funded by a grant from the Fanny Holt Ames & Edna Louise Holt Fund, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee, which makes grants to qualified not-for-profit organizations that provide health and medical services to individuals living in and around Grafton, Vt.

DeRosia – Becker

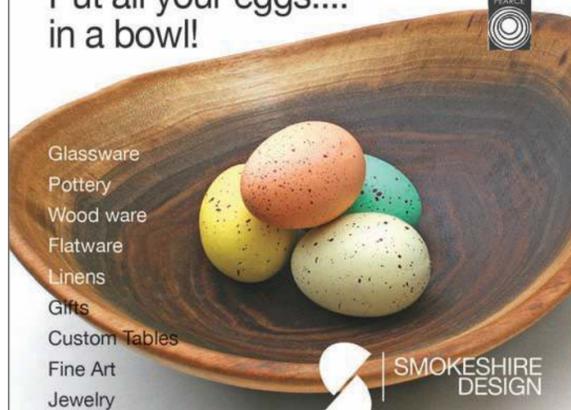


BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Gary and Edie DeRosia of Bellows Falls announce the engagement of their daughter Jennifer Lee DeRosia to Adam Charles Becker. He is the son of Charles and Barbara Becker of Douglassville, Pa. An autumn wedding is being planned.

PHOTO PROVIDED

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Key Bank hosts Kurn Hattin historical exhibit

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. – An exhibit commemorating the 125th anniversary of the founding of Kurn Hattin Homes for Children is on display at Key Bank on Main Street in Brattleboro, Vt.

The 11-panel exhibit, "A Legacy of Caring: Adapting to the changing needs of children and families," featuring a curated selection of photos and documents from Kurn Hattin Homes' archives, dating from the late 1800s through the present is being displayed throughout the region with its first stop at the Brattleboro Key Bank. The exhibit tells the story of Kurn Hattin's founding and development within the context of major events in Vermont and U.S. history, as well as the significant trends in the fields of child care, education, and social services since the turn of the 19th century that have helped to shape the organization's philosophy and approach.

"I was very impressed with the scope of what Kurn Hattin does and how important it is to our local communities in Vermont, New Hampshire, and beyond. The work your organization does is unique and incredibly impactful for our youth," said Andrew Richardson, manager of Brattleboro Key Bank after a recent tour of the Homes.

Key Bank generously offers the display space to area non-profits and community organizations to promote special events, and to generate awareness of the many important

programs in the area. The Kurn Hattin exhibit is on display until April 8, 2019.

Since 1894, Kurn Hattin Homes for Children has helped

thousands of at-risk children and their families by offering a safe home and quality education in a nurturing environment.

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Local students complete the Governor's Institutes winter weekend

REGION - This February, 146 Vermont high school students completed the Winter Weekend programs through the Governor's Institutes of Vermont. GIV hosts intensive, hands-on learning experiences for young people on college campuses throughout Vermont. These programs provide the opportunity for students to dig into a topic they are passionate about, experience life on a college campus, and make new friends from all over the state.

The topics offered for the 2019 Winter Weekend were Biological Illustration, Directing Theatre, Microcontrollers, Neuroscience, Writing & Film: Backpack Journalism, Youth



Local students completed the Governor's Institutes winter weekend. PHOTO PROVIDED

Leadership, Chaos Art, Disaster Health & Epidemiology, Global

Education & Youth Voice, and Songwriting Boot Camp.

The following students in our region attended the Winter Weekend:

- Alexis Lawrence, Chaos Art, Bellows Falls Union High School
- Fiona Therese, Youth Leadership, Compass School
- Alexandra Hutchins, Neuroscience, Green Mountain Union High School

GIV's summer Institutes are right around the corner and we are still accepting applications now. Students can apply to the competitive Governor's Institutes through their schools; learn more at www.giv.org, or call 802-865-4448 if you have any questions.



Family Festival

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The 26th annual Family Festival is Saturday, April 6, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Riverside Middle School in Springfield. This free festival celebrates the Week of the Young Child. Bring your children for a fun morning provided by community organizations and educators, including circus performer Troy Wunderle, the Scholastic Book Fair, face painting with Mona Frye, VT & NH Photo Booths, and much more! Also, don't miss the Touch-a-Truck right outside, from noon to 2 p.m. PHOTOS PROVIDED

2019 River Valley Employment Fair

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The River Valley Workforce Investment Board is hosting the 2019 River Valley Employment Fair Wednesday, April 10, from 2-5 p.m. at Riverside Middle School in Springfield, Vt. This event is free and open to the public! Representatives from area employers, employment agencies, and educational or-

ganizations will have tables set up and will be available to talk to prospective employees about the career opportunities and programs they offer. Windsor County and surrounding area residents of all ages and various employment levels will be able to look for full- or part-time jobs and look ahead to explore careers pathways and the train-

ing needed to pursue them.

This year's Employment Fair has a dual-focus, offering opportunities for jobseekers who are unemployed and those who are under-employed who would like to explore training, professional development opportunities, or simply find a better job.

The WIB is currently in the

process of registering businesses, organizing sponsorships, and inviting county high schools, colleges, and the general public. By raising awareness of the job opportunities available to graduating high school and college students, companies will have access to well-qualified candidates ready to enter the workforce.

Employer table registration, jobseeker resources, and detailed information can be found by calling Derek Williams at 802-885-8302 or by visiting www.rivervalleyemploymentfair.org.

The 2019 River Valley Employment Fair is brought to you by the River Valley Workforce Investment Board in partner-

ship with River Valley Technical Center, Creative Workforce Solutions, Vermont Department of Labor, Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce, and Springfield Regional Development Corp. Please join us at the 2019 River Valley Employment Fair Wednesday, April 10, from 2-5 p.m. at Riverside Middle School in Springfield, Vt.

Spaghetti dinner for Rachel's Kitchen

WINDSOR, Vt. - A fundraiser for Rachel's Kitchen will take place Saturday, April 6, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at the Rachel S. Harlow United Methodist Church, 165 Main Street, Windsor, Vt. The spaghetti supper proceeds will raise funds to continue to serve free breakfasts to the community. Bill Brinks and Friends will provide the entertainment. For more information, call 802-674-344 or 802-738-9399.

Aubuchon Hardware stores "Hammer Away Cancer" for the Jimmy Fund

REGION - Aubuchon Hardware, a family owned hardware store chain in the northeastern United States is proud to announce a fundraising campaign, Hammer Away Cancer, benefiting the Jimmy Fund, which supports the fight against cancer at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

Through April 14, Aubuchon Hardware customers can raise funds for patient care and research at Dana-Farber by donating any amount at the register. The campaign's goal is to raise more than \$50,000 for Dana-Farber.

This year's patient partner is M. Marcus Moran Jr., former CEO/treasurer of Aubuchon Hardware. He has been a long-time supporter of Dana-Farber, where he was treated for colon cancer more than 20 years ago. As a patient partner, Moran will encourage employees and customers to participate in Hammer Away Cancer and may appear in marketing materials, including social media, to help promote the fundraising campaign.



This year's patient partner is M. Marcus Moran Jr., former CEO and treasurer of Aubuchon Hardware. PHOTO PROVIDED

and employees in an effort to raise meaningful dollars to help fund continued life-saving research."

Aubuchon Hardware has a long history of helping the communities and neighborhoods it serves by giving back to numerous charitable causes and local community organizations.

Family owned and with over a century of history behind it, Aubuchon Hardware proudly operates more than 103 stores throughout New England and upstate New York, as well as an online store. For more information on the company's history, locations, or its products and services, please visit www.hardwarestore.com.

"We are extremely pleased to once again partner with the Jimmy Fund, supporting the fight against cancer at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute," said Mike Mattson, vice president, marketing, Aubuchon Hardware. With so many lives touched by this terrible disease, it's rewarding to join forces with our customers

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Northern Vermont University announces winter graduates

CHESTER, Vt. - The following students completed their

degree requirements at Northern Vermont University in the summer or fall 2018 semester:

- Alexander E. Dewitt, Associate of Science, photography
- Kyle B. Fischer, Bachelor of Fine Arts, animation and illustration
- Adam F. Kenney, Bachelor of Science, music business and industry

December 2018 ceremonies were held on NVU's Johnson and Lyndon campuses to celebrate the graduates' accom-

plishments. Northern Vermont University is a two-campus institution of higher education that combines the best of our campuses' nationally recognized liberal arts and professional programs. At Northern Vermont University, our goal is to guide curious, motivated, and engaged students on their paths to success and their places in the world. Learn more at www.NorthernVermont.edu.

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AT THE AMERICAN LEGION

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Also appearing..
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Ludlow American Legion

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Friday, April 5

American Legion Post #36

135 Main Street
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802-228-9807

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Baked Fish

with Rice, Asparagus, and Dessert

\$12.00

to Benefit the American Legion

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



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

Charlestown's Stephen Hasham

Much has been written about Stephen Hasham of Charlestown, N.H. But most of what has been written has been limited to clock books or trade magazines. Therefore he is not well known locally. Below I give a brief history.

Stephen Hasham
Stephen Hasham (later spelled Hassam) was born in Boston about 1761. At 14 he witnessed the Battle of Bunker Hill from the steeple of a nearby church. During the Revolutionary War his family moved to Grafton, Mass., then to Worcester, Mass. and then Charlestown, N.H.

Hasham was a mechanical genius, wood carver, land speculator, and builder of both brick and wood-frame buildings in Charlestown. I best know him as an early clockmaker. He built tower clocks for church steeples, at least two grandfather clocks and a handful of "in the wall" clocks.

There are six of his tower clocks that exist today. They are in Charlestown, Cornish Flat, Haverhill, N.H. and Springfield, Windsor, and Norwich, Vt.

I saw a clock in an early home in Charlestown over 40 years ago that was built right into an interior wall. Hasham is known to have made a few of these "in the wall" clocks. Some of these have two dials so the time could be seen in two opposite rooms, rather ingenious. I don't remember now if the Charlestown clock is two-sided or just one side. Perhaps the current owners will invite me over to see it again. I would like to take photos for an upcoming program regarding Stephen Hasham.

Hasham was married twice and had ten children. His second wife was 23 and he was 80. Even at this elderly age, he continued making clocks and children. The second marriage resulted in five more children, the last when he was 87.

Hasham is known to have

dabbled in scientific instruments. Taken from: "New Hampshire Clocks and Clockmakers" by Charles Parsons: "He was a very ingenious mechanic and had a chaise with an odometer of his own construction on the hub of the wheel which counted the miles he drove each time he used it"

Hasham was an atheist and quite outspoken about his beliefs. It's interesting that an atheist would build tower clocks for churches. When one of his daughters died, he put her in a box and placed the box in a wheelbarrow so he could take her to the family tomb. Here he became trapped inside the tomb when the door closed behind him. There was no inside door-knob so Hasham was stuck until discovered by a passerby. There was no funeral service for his daughter. He is reported to have said, "She was as dead as the devil anyway."

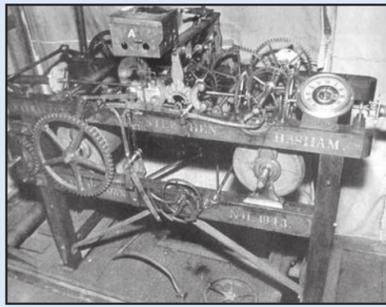
Childe Hassam

Childe Hassam is one of the world's great impressionistic painters and Stephen Hasham's grandson. Childe was born in Boston in 1859 and died in East Hampton, N.Y. in 1935.

With Mary Cassatt, John Twachtman, and other American impressionists a group was formed known as "The Ten." These men and women were the most talented of the new impressionist painters.

Childe studied in Paris at the Académie Julian, the most prestigious art school of the day. Here he met other impressionists and his unique style had its beginning. He was influenced by other artists including Claude Monet, Degas, and Pissarro.

In Paris, Childe painted street scenes that were shipped back to America to be sold. These paintings were executed in brown



Stephen Hasham tower clock at South Parish Church in Charlestown. From December 1994 NAWCC Bulletin.

PHOTO PROVIDED

tones. His more colorful paintings were yet to come. In 1887 he painted two versions of "Grand Prix Day." In these paintings we see his vision of impressionism.

These paintings document his change in style and technique. They were strongly influenced by his Parisian friends. His brush strokes became softer and he began using more color. Auction records for Hassam's paintings have reached over \$2 million.

Heads up – at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 14, at the Charlestown Town Hall I will give an informal talk and slideshow. I will cover Mt. Ascutney history including the stone house. I will also discuss Stephen Hasham including slides of his tower clock in the Methodist Church in Springfield. Perhaps the Charlestown church that has one of his tower clocks will allow me to photograph their tower clock to include in this program. This program is sponsored by the Charlestown Historical Society who provided me with information for this article. It's free and open to all. I hope to see you.

An appropriate old saying for this week I heard years ago when some old-timers were talking at the Post Office. They were discussing how they hoped to die. One old man said, "I want to be shot at the age of 92 by a jealous husband."

Vermont Teddy Bears announced for USS Vermont

MONTPELIER, Vt. – The USS VERMONT (SSN 792) Commissioning Committee is proud to partner with The Vermont Teddy Bear Co. to offer Dewey Bears with our USS Vermont logo. Our bears are called Dewey in honor of Admiral George Dewey, the only officer of the U.S. Navy ever to hold the rank of Admiral of the Navy. Admiral Dewey was born in 1837 in Montpelier, Vt., and his distinguished service during the Civil War in 1861 through the Spanish-American War in 1898 resulted in Congress awarding him the rank of Admiral.



SSN-792 Floppy Dewey Bear.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Dewey Bears come in two sizes. The SSN-792 Classic Dewey Bear is a 15-inch, honey-colored stuffed bear. This bear is a proud symbol of honor and tradition. Handmade in Vermont using the softest fur Vermont Teddy Bear can source, it is guaranteed for life. The SSN-792 Floppy Dewey Bear is a 13-inch Dewey Teddy Bear with

soft butterscotch fur. Wearing a USS Vermont T-shirt, this bear proudly pays tribute to the Green Mountain State and the U.S. Navy. This bear is stuffed with love in Vermont, using 100% recycled stuffing and the softest fur Vermont Teddy Bear can source, and it too is guaranteed for life.

Dewey bears can be found on the Vermont (SSN 792) Commissioning Committee website www.ussvermont.org or on the

Vermont Teddy Bear website, www.vermontteddybear.com/partners/uss-vermont. A portion of profits will help pay for the traditional events, activities, and gifts associated with the commissioning, which marks the beginning of Vermont's active service.

The nuclear fast attack submarine USS Vermont is under construction at Electric Boat Company in Groton, Conn. This is the third U.S. Navy warship to be named

for Vermont. The USS Vermont is scheduled to be commissioned into service in the U.S. Navy in late spring or early summer 2020.

The USS Vermont (SSN 792) Commissioning Committee's mission is to provide a memorable commissioning for the ship's officers, crew, and sponsor; the U.S. Navy; the state of Vermont and its people; and the men and women who built the ship.

Next OLLI program is "Etiquette in the 21st Century"

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Daniel Post Senning will present the OLLI-Osher Lifelong Learning Institute program Tuesday, April 9. "Etiquette in the 21st Century" will be presented at 2 p.m. at the Nolin Murray Center next to St. Mary's Catholic Church on Pleasant Street in Springfield, Vt.

Etiquette is, and always has been, about building relationships. Discover from Daniel Post Senning, the great-great grandson of Emily Post, what that looks like in today's fast changing world.

Dan specializes in relationship building in all areas of life, whether it is at home, at work, or online. He is a personable and dynamic presenter who takes pleasure in making the topic of etiquette useful and approachable to all audiences.

He is an active spokesperson for the Emily Post Institute, conducting etiquette seminars and delivering speeches across the country and around the world.

The Emily Post Institute is a family business that operates out of Burlington, Vt. It spans five generations of the Post family, maintaining and evolving the standards of etiquette that

Emily Post established with her seminal book "Etiquette" in 1922. There are currently two generations and seven direct descendants and their immediate families involved in the Emily Post Institute.

According to the Posts, though times have changed, the principles of good manners remain constant. Above all, manners are a sensitive awareness of the feelings of others. Being considerate, respectful, and honest is more important than knowing which fork to use. Whether it's a handshake or a fist bump, it's the underlying sincerity and good intentions of the action that matter most.

OLLI-Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, affiliated with the University of Vermont, is a local membership program geared towards seniors 50 years and older who want to engage in meaningful learning "just for the fun of it!" People of all ages who are interested in this type of program 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, sci-

ence, travel, and current events.

Programs are held at 2 p.m. Tuesday afternoons and last about an hour and a half. Membership for the semester includes nine programs. 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 Tuesday, April 23 and will be "Lake Champlain's Rum Runners & Boat Patrol" with Scott McLaughlin. He'll tell about the days of Prohibition in Vermont and the smuggling of booze in the 1920s.

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

For weather-related changes to the schedule, you may check the above mentioned website or SAPA TV, 802-885-6248, or call 802-885-3094.

Presenting "The Curious World of Hieronymus Bosch"

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – After 500 years Bosch's paintings still shock and fascinate us. Delve into the vivid imagination of this true visionary Friday, April 5 at 7:30 p.m. The screening of this Exhibition on Film documentary will be in the Chapel at Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church St., in Bellows Falls.

Who was Hieronymus Bosch? Why do his strange and fantastical paintings resonate with people now more than ever? How does he bridge the medieval and Renaissance worlds? Where did his unconventional and timeless creations come from?

Discover the answers to these questions and more with this re-

markable new film from Exhibition on Screen film directed by David Bickerstaff Friday, April 5 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available in person at Village Square Booksellers in Bellows Falls, Misty Valley Books in Chester, by phone at 802-460-0110, or online at www.stonechurcharts.org.

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opinion

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

We are now well into the second half of the 2019 legislative session. Since January over 500 bills have been introduced. The two-week "crossover" period when bills need to pass out of committee and onto the Floor in order to be considered for passage in the remaining weeks of the session has come and gone. Of the 500 bills introduced this session, most never made it out of committee. But this is the first year of a two-year biennium, so bills that do not make crossover can still be considered next year.

My committee, Agriculture and Forestry, was able to send on its way to statutory completion several bills during crossover. Two that have received House Floor approval are:

H.82 supports the state's timber industry by adding logging accessories, such as skidders, chippers, and tire chains, to the industry's current equipment sales and use tax exemption. This will encourage more

in-state purchases, which will also support Vermont's logging equipment industry.

H.205, better known as "the pollinator bill," which limits the use of neonicotinoids that are harmful to bees and other pollinators, has received strong support from many of my constituents. The bill does exempt pet products (flea collars, etc.) and treated seeds used by farmers for growing corn and soy. Municipalities will also be allowed to use neonics to treat ash trees for emerald ash borers infestation.

Other key bills from either Senate or House committees that did make crossover, and are now on their way from one body to the other, are:

S.169, the so-called "suicide bill" moved out of the Senate Judiciary Committee to the House. This bill has been "watered-down" from a 48-hour waiting period before purchasing any firearm to a 24-hour

waiting period before purchasing a handgun only. The secure storage of firearms requirement was also eliminated from the original proposal.

H.439, a priority for Democrats this session, will increase funding to the weatherization program of Vermont. The program's mission is to reduce the energy costs for low-income families, particularly for the elderly and disabled, by improving the energy efficiency and comfort of their homes. The House Ways and Means Committee voted to double the current 2 cent tax on heating fuel that supports the weatherization program, which would cost the average household about \$15 per year. I supported an amendment to this bill to exempt both farmers and loggers from this additional tax.

Although opponents say this bill will hurt low-income Vermonters, supporters say it will save as much as \$500 per year

in energy costs for low-income families, as well as reduce carbon emissions.

H.107 will establish a paid family leave program funded by a mandatory payroll tax administered by a private insurance carrier. Employees would receive 12 weeks of parental leave or eight weeks of medical leave. While on leave, they would receive 90% of their weekly wages if they make at or below the Vermont livable wage – currently \$13.34 per hour.

For more information on any of the bills mentioned above, visit the legislative website at www.legislature.vermont.gov. I welcome your questions and concerns on any legislative issues. You can reach me at tbock@leg.state.vt.us or by phone at home 802-875-2222.

Sincerely,
Rep. Tom Bock
Andover, Baltimore, Chester,
North Springfield

Dear Editor,

The Vermont Legislature is making its way through "crossover" – that roughly halfway in our legislative session when the bills that are going to make it into law need to go from one body to the other. Crossover makes for long days on the Floor and little Committee time.

To give you a notion of the pressure to get bills over to the other body, last week the Senate passed out 19 bills. The bills have subjects ranging from reducing employee misclassification and increasing compliance (S.108) to creating more uniform systems of reporting hate and bias based crimes (S.132) to miscellaneous banking (S.154) and elections bills (S.107) to creating a 24-hour waiting period for purchasing a firearm (S.169) to prohibiting agreements which prevent an employee from working for the employer following the settlement of a discrimination claim (S.83) to reinstating "good time" for prisoners (S.112) to

further regulating toxic substances and hazardous materials (S.55) to increasing the proportion of health care spending allocated to primary care (S.53) to requiring hospitals to provide certain financial information to patients and prohibiting surprise billing for emergency medical services (S.31) to further regulating hydrofluorocarbons (S.30) to improving data privacy for students and adults (S.110) to recognizing Indigenous People's Day (S.68). The House passed many more bills.

After a public hearing March 12, the Senate Judiciary Committee chose to combine a number of gun related bills into one, S.169. This bill creates a 24-hour waiting period for the purchase of a handgun, expands the people to whom a gun may be given, allows out-of-state law enforcement here for legitimate professional purposes to possess a high-capacity magazine, improves data collection and reporting of extreme risk protection orders,

and allows health care professionals to report information necessary to protect the safety of a patient.

The 24-hour waiting period is designed to reduce the rate of suicide by gun. Nearly 90% of all gun deaths in Vermont are suicides. In 2017, Vermont's firearm suicide rate was 1.5 times higher than the national firearm suicide rate, and nearly 3 times higher than that of other northeastern states. The vast majority of people who attempt suicide survive and go on to live out their lives – unless they use firearms. Between 2000 and 2017 gun suicides had increased 40% in Vermont.

One of our Senate Economic Development bills which is

Dear Editor,

The original Springfield school budget was defeated at Town Meeting Day. Recently the School Board, which I am a member of, unanimously voted to put forth a new proposed budget to the voters. The new school budget includes further staff cuts and results in approximately a one-cent tax rate increase.

A goal of the School Board is to have a fiscally responsible budget that is centered on the education of our students. My core belief as a board member is that the education of our students is the primary objective. We need to accomplish this goal with a pragmatic budget. As a town, we face challenges from a declining grand list, increas-

ing state educational mandates, decreasing enrollment, and an increasing number of special education students. Springfield is not alone in the before mentioned challenges, as this is a statewide dilemma.

A strong school system leads to solutions to all of these challenges. A student who feels valued by the town and school is more apt to remain in the community. This new graduate may purchase a home or start a business, adding to the grand list. As this graduate becomes involved in the community, they may add to the declining enrollment or volunteer for community positions. The strength of many towns lie in the schools. Parents will purchase homes in

LAFF - A - DAY



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"I am NOT an underachiever —
my teacher is an overexpecter!"

tries for biometric data, genetic or health information, login credentials and passport numbers that would trigger a duty to report a breach; 3) To further protect our students, who are now susceptible to their data being sold, data breaches and online marketing as a result of using educational programs on the internet – we adopt a Vermont version of SOPIPA – California's Student Online Privacy and Information Act. It would stop Ed Tech companies from using student data to sell, barter, or rent student information, engage in targeted advertising, or amass profiles on students for reasons other than school purposes; and 4) This bill requires data collectors/

brokers to give notice to consumers if a data breach occurs and the cost of giving consumers direct notice (phone, email, mail) will exceed \$10,000 based on the least expensive method of providing notice.

I appreciate hearing from you. I can be reached by email aclarkson@leg.state.vt.us or by phone at the Statehouse 802-828-2228 or at home 802-457-4627. To get more information on the Vermont Legislature, and the bills which have been proposed and passed, visit the legislative website www.legislature.vermont.gov.

Sincerely,
Sen. Alison Clarkson
Windsor County

towns with successful schools with options for their children. This is where Springfield has set its sights. We have taken a step in the right direction last year as we saw increased test scores in 10 of 12 areas. We need to continue this growth by approving a student-centered budget.

As a parent with two children in the district, I urge the voters to support the budget. The proposed budget is an effort to maintain the educational outcomes afforded to our students while reducing spending. As a father, I am concerned that further reductions will result in a diminished education for my children. Fredrick Douglass said, "It is easier to educate a child than to fix a broken man."

Dear Editor,

The Chester-Andover Family Center would like to thank our volunteers, prom wear donors, and local businesses for their work on behalf of our Prom Shopping community service project. It has been a very successful March and we look forward to a few more weeks of prom shopping.

We want all teens and families to know that the Prom Room is open for business during thrift shop hours or by appointment right up to your prom.

The Prom raffle drawing will be held April 15, so stop in to visit the Prom Room and sign up for the free raffle.

Thank you to Seventh Heaven Salon and Spa, Halladay's, Woodbury Florist, Alaura's Nail Salon,

We need to invest in our children now as we look to the future of our town.

Please join me by supporting Springfield's school budget. There will be an informational meeting Thursday, April 25, at 7 p.m. at the Springfield High School. More details about the budget can be obtained by contacting the Springfield District Office at 802-885-5141. Voting will take place on Tuesday, April 30, at Riverside Middle School. I welcome your comments and concerns at tpalmer@ssdvt.org.

Sincerely,
Troy Palmer
Parent and Springfield School Board Member
Springfield, Vt.

Headquarters, Images Salon, Boccacio's, and Salon 2000 for their generous gift certificates for our free raffle.

Thank you to Melissa Howe of Endless Creations for imagining and bringing to life our new "glam" Prom Room. Thank you to Lew Watters, our official prom event photographer.

All of us at the Chester-Andover Family Center appreciate the community support we have received for this special project. Every teen deserves to attend prom looking and feeling amazing. Thank you for making this happen.

Sincerely,
Chester-Andover Family Center
Chester, Vt.

THE Vermont Journal
&
THE SHOPPER

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Journal, LLC is a member of the New England Press Association

Dear Editor,

The Gill Odd Fellows Home wants to thank all the taxpayers of the town and village of Ludlow for approving our Property Tax Abatement for the next three years. This is such a help to us. On behalf of the resi-

dents, the employees, and the Board of Trustees, thank you so very much!

Sincerely,
Theresa Southworth
Ludlow, Vt.

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY Letters may be edited for clarity, grammatical errors, and 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. Include town & daytime phone in case we have questions. The viewpoints expressed in the editorial section do not necessarily reflect the views of The Vermont Journal & The Shopper.

Vermont ranked 11th in U.S. for Midterm Election voter turnout

MONTPELIER, Vt. – Vermont Secretary of State Jim Condos is pleased to announce that Vermont has been ranked 11th in total voter turnout for the 2018 Midterm Election across all 50 states in the 7th biennial edition of the “America Goes to the Polls” report, released by the nonpartisan groups Nonprofit VOTE and the U.S. Elections Project this week.

“Voting is the bedrock of our democracy,” said Secretary Condos. “When we all vote we

achieve fairer representation and better policy outcomes – your vote is your voice!”

The report found that the national voter turnout average was 50.3%, which is the highest recorded voter turnout for a midterm election since 1914. Vermont’s voter turnout was 55.9%.

The report included key findings that among states with the highest turnout, common factors include same-day voter registration (enacted 2017), automatic voter regis-

tration (2017), long voter registration periods, and strong vote by mail programs. All of these policies have been enacted in Vermont.

“I’m proud of the many Vermonters who came out to the polls or who voted early in 2018, placing Vermont so high in the national ranking,” said Secretary Condos. “It’s clear our policies are working. I will keep pushing to tear down barriers for eligible voters. I want to increase voter access, encourage civic participation,

and get our voter turnout numbers even higher. I hope that other states will do the same.”

Vermont’s election administration performance was ranked 1st in the country on the Election Performance Index after the 2016 General Election, completed by MIT’s Election Data and Science Lab.

Vermont also was ranked #1 nationally in the Electoral Integrity Project after the 2016 General Election.

Time for some financial spring cleaning advice

REGION – Spring is here and for many of us, that means it’s time for some spring cleaning. This year, in addition to tidying up your home, why not try

brightening your financial environment? Some of the same moves you make to clean your surroundings may apply to your finances. Consider these suggestions.

Get rid of clutter. When you go through your closets, attic, basement, or other areas, you may find many items you no longer need. You might be able to sell some of these things or find other ways of disposing of them. And as you review your portfolio, you might also encounter “clutter” in the form of investments that may be redundant to others you own. If so, you might consider selling these investments and using the proceeds to purchase new ones, which may help you broaden your portfolio.

Protect yourself from hazards. As you go about your spring cleaning, you may well encounter hazardous substances, such as cleaning agents, paints, batteries, pesticides and so on, which you don’t need anymore and which may pose potential health risks. You can reduce the possible danger from these materials by recycling or disposing of them in an environmentally safe way.

Your overall financial situation has hazards too in the form of illness or injury preventing you from working – or



This spring, clean up your home and your financial environment.

PHOTO BY NICK YOUNGSON, ALPHA STOCK IMAGES

men. And you might be able to get more mileage out of some of your existing investments too. Suppose, for instance, that some of your stocks are paying you dividends, which you take as cash. If you don’t really need this income to support your lifestyle, you might consider reinvesting the dividends so that you can own more shares of the dividend-paying stocks. Over the long run, increased share ownership is a key to helping build your portfolio.

Establish new habits. Spring cleaning doesn’t have to be just about physical activities – it

can also involve a new set of habits on your part. For example, instead of placing your unread magazines in an ever-expanding pile, try to read and recycle them quickly. You can also develop some positive habits as an investor, such as “paying yourself first” by regularly putting some money in an investment account each month, even before paying all your bills. You can also avoid some bad habits, such as overreacting to market downturns by selling investments to “cut your losses,” even though those same investments may still have strong growth potential and may still be suitable for your needs.

Doing some spring cleaning can make you feel better about your living space today. And applying some of these techniques to your financial situation can help you gain a more positive outlook for tomorrow.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.



Newport Chevy

NEWPORT, N.H. – Newport Chevy hosted a free barbecue lunch to their customers March 30 with Becca Town from Wicked Awesome BBQ. Matt (behind computer) and Jeff were happy to help customers at their sales event.

PHOTOS BY ROBERT MILLER

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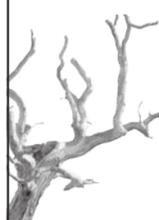
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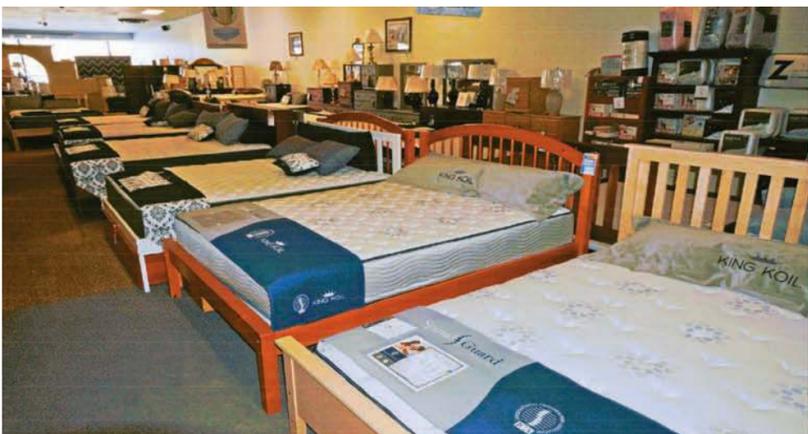
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THIS AND THAT

BY BILL MURPHY

The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

Honore Collins and Heather Dennis

In all likelihood, the name Honore Collins does not ring a bell for you. Let's try another name. Heather Dennis.

Many readers will remember Dennis, who was a strong performer for Russ Pickering in cross country at Bellows Falls Union High School, almost 30 years ago, right in the middle of their glory days. By now, some of you have put a couple of pieces together and think that Honore Collins is Dennis' daughter. Such a hypothesis would be correct.

Collins is the NCAA Division III National Women's Swimmer of the Year. Collins, a junior at New York University, captured top national honors in the 200-yard Individual Medley, the 400-yard Individual Medley, and in the 200-yard butterfly in the recent Division III National Championship Meet. That means three national championship titles for Collins. She had an NCAA record breaking performance in the 200 IM. Collins actually set that same NCAA record when she was a freshman, but someone stole top honors a year ago. A determined Collins stole the mark right back this winter.

I spoke to Trevor Miele, head coach of Women's Swimming at NYU, and he was overboard in his praise for Collins. "Honore is a tremendously hard worker who goes about her business real hard. She not only does what she's told, she goes above and beyond. It was phenomenal to see all her hard work pay off at the end of the day. She totally killed it at NAAs. She is just a tremendous competitor, who I don't think won because of her training. I think she just won because she wanted to win and she hates to lose. She is a competitor. She's phenomenal and I think she should be able to take that outside of the pool when she graduates and succeed in whatever she does. She is a great kid to have on the team.

I am really happy for her and proud of her and she deserves all the accolades that she got this year with all the fantastic times she posted," was the salute he gave to his tremendous athlete.

Dennis may have competed at Bellows Falls three decades ago, but Pickering tells me something that reminds me that some apples don't fall far from the tree. Pickering's comments on his former runner Dennis were, "She was very dedicated. She always found a way to get the best out of herself in order to compete with some athletes who may have had more talent. She was one of our hardest workers. Her gift was her ability to do her best by pushing herself to her limits." Two relative athletes personified, who both had an internal drive to succeed.

Another Springfield salute

There have been oh so many positive Springfield sports stories over the past few months and March 9 became the almost perfect evening. The showcase night for the inaugural Springfield Hall of Fame Induction drew tremendous raves. Twelve inductees were honored with a banquet that sold out and then some as expected. Bill Bibens, Bo Birsky, Greg Birsky, Mary Beth Birsky, Curt Dressel, Brad Dunbar, Tracy Guilford, Albert Gutterson, Mary Rose Jasinski, Jimmy Schwartz, Bob Schweitzer, and Richie Wyman were the first ones the hall doors were opened for and the deserving honored were one and all glorified for their achievements.

Springfield Athletic Director Rich Sappack was the organizer of the event and he felt "this was a great start. The evening met and exceeded any expectations."

Everyone I spoke to echoed Sappack's words with the only criticism whispered anywhere being that the evening was too long. It appears it was, but how else do you get an early representative number in the hall and honor them without cutting that praise down below what these athletes of the past have earned and deserve? Sappack likely said it right when he told me, "There were a lot of good stories. Nobody was shy in honoring these athletes. And there were no bad stories."

Seven of the 12 inducted athletes were present, including seven of the eight living members. The eighth was scheduled to attend but had a last minute work conflict.

One of the highlights of the evening was the appearance of the University of Vermont Track & Field Coach Matt Belfield. Albert Gutterson went on to fame at UVM, where Gutterson Field House is named in his honor. If readers missed it in an

earlier column, I mentioned that Gutterson, five years following his graduation from Springfield, competed in the Stockholm Olympics and defeated Jim Thorpe in the Long Jump. Belfield spoke at the induction and he brought along Gutterson's Gold Medal and his track shoes.

Area UVM trackster

One of Belfield's current athletes from Bellows Falls had a stellar athletic weekend recently. DJ Snide, a Bellows Falls graduate and presently a sophomore for the Catamounts, placed second in the America East Indoor 2019 Heptathlon Championships at Boston University. Snide put on an incredible two-day performance, garnering a personal best in all seven events, leading to his high overall standing. Snide had four second place finishes to go along with a third, fourth, and sixth. A truly outstanding showing!

Belfield told me, "DJ is a wonderful young man who is learning to be a strong performer in the heptathlon. He is a nice addition to our program who has come along a little further and faster than I expected and should be even more of a performer for us in the future."

UVM basketball

Fans should certainly be very proud about what the UVM basketball program has accomplished in recent seasons, but it is likely the biggest accomplishment is the fact that John Becker's Catamounts are presently on a streak, along with eight other basketball schools, of recording 11 straight 20-win seasons. The other seven schools to win a minimum of 20 games, 11 straight seasons are Duke, Gonzaga, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisville, North Carolina, and St. Mary's. That is a list of who's who in college basketball and Vermont is on it. Vermont has played all except two of those schools in that time period as well. The Catamounts are clearly big time.

Vermont also collected the most wins of any team in New England this year with 27. Since the 2002-2003 season, UVM is second in New England in total wins behind UConn, who collected two NCAA championships in that time. The top six for that stretch were UConn 393, UVM 387, Providence 304, Rhode Island 304, and BU and Northeastern at 297. Isn't that something? UVM plays close to home at Dartmouth next winter. Be ready to get your tickets when the schedule is announced.

Final chance to enter Dari Joy contest

REGION - Tuesday, April 9 is the deadline to turn in your entries in the Dari Joy Basketball contest.

Entries need to be sent to bmurphy@vermontjournal.com.

or mailed to The Vermont Journal & The Shopper, P.O. Box 228, Ludlow, VT 05149. Only one entry is allowed per person.

Entrants should choose all

six of baseball's divisions one through five. Select two wildcard teams in each league, pick an American and National League champion, and choose a World Series winner.

There are Dari Joy gift certificates up to possibly \$100 and Red Sox autographed baseballs for the top six entrants.

Format and complete details can be seen in the March 20

edition of The Vermont Journal or The Shopper, which can also be accessed online at www.vermontjournal.com/sports/this-that/this-that-9th-annual-dari-joy-baseball-contest.

test. If that is difficult for you, just follow the instructions above and you will be all set as long as you enter by the deadline.

Area youth to compete in Major League Pitch Hit & Run competition

LUDLOW, Vt. - Ludlow Parks and Recreation Dept. will host a free Major League Baseball Pitch Hit & Run competition for area youth April 28, 2019 at 1 p.m. at the Ludlow Little League Fields.

Pitch Hit & Run is the official skills competition of Major League Baseball. This grassroots program is designed to provide youngsters with an opportunity to compete, free of charge, in a competition that recognizes individual excellence in core

baseball/softball skills.

Boys and girls are divided into four age divisions: 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14, and have the chance to advance through four levels of competition, including Team Championships at Major League ballparks and the National Finals during the 2019 MLB All-Star Week.

The individual Pitching, Hitting and Running Champions, along with All-Around Champion in each division age group at the local competition will be

awarded and advance to the sectional level of competition.

All participants must bring a copy of a valid birth document for age verification and have their parent or guardian fill out a registration/waiver form prior to the start of the competition. For questions concerning the competition, please contact your local coordinator Nick Miele at 802-228-2655 or ludlowrec-recreation@tds.net.

FMRHS announces 2019 baseball coaches

LANGDON, N.H. - Fall Mountain Regional High School has started their varsity and junior varsity baseball tryouts and daily practices. The two teams have 28 eager play-

ers between them, with many returning from last year. Coach Tom Boudro says, "We have a huge pitching rotation this year and, pending any injuries, will be tough to beat."

The three coaches have decades of coaching experience between them. Boudro had been coaching in the Claremont school district for years, chalking up wins and has spent the last four years coaching the JV baseball team as well as an assistant coach on the varsity football team. Kevin Tidd had coached in Vermont for a few years before taking the position as head coach of the Walpole Babe Ruth team. Tidd is one of the most winning coaches in Walpole history. Coach Smokey Aumand has also been a winning coach for a few decades. The last eight years within the FMRSD in basketball, baseball, varsity football, varsity unified basketball, and JV softball. He coached teams in Europe, Vermont, and California.



Assistant Coach Kevin Tidd, Varsity Head Coach Tom Boudro, and JV Head Coach Smokey Aumand.

PHOTO BY DIANE BEERS

Springfield wins versus Brattleboro

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The Springfield Unified Basketball team reined in their second win against the Brattleboro Colonels Wednesday, March 27 at Dressel Gym. Through out the night, it was a continuous battle between the Cosmos' Falisha Maly and Colonels' Zachary Smith in the paint. Maly and Smith kept each other busy under each team's basket.

Senior Glidden dominated the offensive and defensive boards with 10 rebounds. Glidden was on fire for the Cosmos with put backs and short jumpers to make him the team's leading scorer with 8 points. Maly's determination and nonstop play earned her 6 points for the night. The team shared their points with Sanborn scoring his 4 points with a jumper and drive to the basket. Campbell added in 4 points with 2 jumpers. It was Machado's and Gordon's first basket each for the season. Anderson's quick thinking contributed with a few steals to help her team to victory.

For Springfield, Gibbons and Dana managed the court with crisp passes to their teammates. At the half, the Cosmos were up by 2 points with a score of 18-16. With Glidden's and Sanborn's 8 points between the two in the fourth quarter, the Cosmos battled to take the lead with 26-20 at the buzzer.

Springfield struggled defending the Colonels' Kayli Nicholson with her jumpers outside of the paint. For Nicholson, she lead Brattleboro with 8 points. Zachary

Smith followed with 6 points. Joanie Tuttle scored her first 2 points against the Cosmos. Galdamez and Bolduc each chipped in 2 points for the team.

Springfield would like to

thank our dedicated fans. Friday, March 29, the Cosmos traveled to Rutland for their third game of the season. The team played their next home game Tuesday, April 2 against BBA.



Gordon shoots for his first basket of the season.

PHOTO BY DANA GORDON MACEY



Maly and Smith battle for the ball.

PHOTO BY KIKI BOYENS

art & entertainment

National Library Week, Week of the Young Child

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Join us in celebrating National Library Week, April 8-13, at the Springfield Town Library. Visit with friendly staff, enjoy coffee gratis, and bring back overdue items for free. This offer is good only Monday through Saturday, April 8-13. 2018 was a wild year, so check out the private meeting space upstairs, the new hopscotch carpet, and soft furniture in the Children's Room and the new World Book – digital and physical! – for reference needs.

April 8 kicks off the second ever Pre-K Art Show, as part of the National Library Week and The Week of the Young Child. The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration hosted by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, celebrating early learning, young



Music with Martha at the Springfield Town Library. PHOTO PROVIDED

Perkinsville Preschool, Pine Street Preschool, Playworks Child Center, Saxtons River Montessori School, and Squeaky Sneakers are all participating in the art show, which will be showing at the library through April 13.

The week ends with a poetry jam Saturday, April 13 at 7 p.m. Check the online calendar at www.springfield-townlibrary.org for other programs during the week.

Thanks for the support, Springfield, and thanks for showing up every day – a community of readers, thinkers, and doers.

The Springfield Town Library is located at 43 Main Street, Springfield, Vt. All programs are free and open to the public. For more information, call the library at 802-885-3108 or check the website at www.springfield-townlibrary.org.

children, their teachers, and families.

Children develop creativity, social skills, and fine motor skills with open-ended art projects where they can make choices, use their imaginations, and create with their hands. They think, problem-solve, and create! Let's celebrate the joy and learning children experience when engaged in creative art making! Dandelion Wishes,

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Opening the 2019 theater season, the Springfield Community Players are wasting no time with the timeless musical, "The Drowsy Chaperone." In this parody of American musical comedy, we meet an asocial Broadway musical fan, as he introduces the

audience to his favorite musical from 1928, aptly named "A Drowsy Chaperone."

Audiences who attend the show will experience the musical alongside our asocial Broadway musical fan. Setting the scene, with the house lights down, a man in a chair appears on stage and puts on his favorite record; the cast recording of a fictitious 1928 musical, "The Drowsy Chaperone." The recording comes to life and the musical begins as the man in the chair looks on. Characters such as two lovers on the eve of their wedding, a bumbling best man, a desperate theatre producer, a not-so-bright hostess, two gangsters posing as pastry chefs, a misguided Don Juan, and an intoxicated chaperone, join our Broadway fan on stage for a night of fanfare and musical excitement.

"The Drowsy Chaperone," a

VAULT's Creative Papers Art Camp for kids

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – This April Vacation, children ages 8 and up can experiment with making beautiful decorative papers to jazz up a gift or make cards, a diary, photo album, or journal. This Art Camp will be held April 15, 16, and 17, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. at Springfield Parks & Rec at 139 Main Street in Springfield.

Techniques will include making colorful swirling patterns with paste paper and making batik geometric patterns by dipping papers in ink. Our projects can become gifts – perfect for



Experiment with making decorative paper at the VAULT. PHOTO PROVIDED

grandparents or Mother's or Father's Day!

Bring a collection of at least six photos on one topic such as family, pets, or travel photos to be a starting point for one album.

Please register at Gallery at the VAULT on 68 Main Street, open Monday 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and Wednesday through Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Older students and parents are invited to join in. There is a suggested donation. For more information, go to www.galleryvault.org or call 802-885-7111.

Windham Orchestra Concert set for April 7

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. – The Windham Orchestra offers a rich musical and spiritual treat Sunday, April 7, at 3 p.m. at the Latchis Theatre, Main Street, Brattleboro.

The program includes Mendelssohn's "Scottish Symphony," and Hindemith's "Suite Nobilissima Visione,"

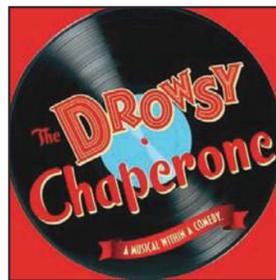
depicting episodes from the life of St. Francis of Assisi.

Felix Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 3, known as "the Scottish," was inspired by the composer's walking tour of Scotland, where he was moved by a visit to Holyrood Castle, once the home of the doomed Mary, Queen of Scots. "Nobilissima Visione," or

"The Noblest Vision," is actually a ballet. After its premiere, Hindemith extracted a 20-minute orchestral suite, which he also called "Nobilissima visione."

For more information, contact the BMC at 802-257-4523, visit the website at www.bmct.org, or stop by the center at 72 Blanche Moysse Way.

"The Drowsy Chaperone," a musical within a comedy



See "The Drowsy Chaperone." PHOTO PROVIDED

writing to his musical talents.

When asked why he chose to produce and direct "The Drowsy Chaperone" this year, Eastman said, "I've wanted to do 'The Drowsy Chaperone' since I was in eighth grade. The music and orchestrations are pure genius and it has a great, interesting concept. Not to mention a surprise during the musical number 'Toledo Sur-

prise."

Joining Eastman is his fantastic cast of characters. Each person auditioned and was hand selected by Eastman for the roles they best fit into. Ranging from new to returning talent, the engagement of new and old actors at the Springfield Community Players has spiked over the past couple years, meaning that engagement in the organization is on the rise.

Join us at the Players' Studio, 165 South St. in Springfield to laugh your way through this knee-slapping musical comedy. Make reservations online at www.springfieldcommunityplayers.org/tickets or by calling our Ticket Box Office at 866-967-8167. Show dates are April 19, 20, and 27 with doors opening at 6:30 p.m., for the 7 p.m. show and April 27 and 28 with doors opening at 1:30 p.m. for the 2 p.m. show.

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arts & entertainment

River Theater Co. auditions

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – The River Theater Company has announced that they will hold open auditions for two coming productions, “The Outsiders” and “The Spitfire Grill,” Sunday, April 7 at noon and Monday, April 8 at 5 p.m. at their theater on the second floor of the historic Town Hall on Summer Street behind Ralph’s Super Market in Charlestown, N.H.

“The Outsiders,” a powerful coming of age story follows two rival groups, the Greasers and the Socs, who are divided

by their socioeconomic status. It is adapted by Christopher Sergel, based on the book written by S.E. Hinton. A cast of up to 18 teens and adults is needed. Show dates are the last weekend in June. The production will be directed by Brandon Norman. Please email Brandon at Bnorman722@gmail.com for more information.

“The Spitfire Grill,” a musical written by James Valcq and Fred Alley, based on the 1996 award-winning film by Lee David Zlotoff. This small cast musical

seeks four women, late teens through adult, and three men of the same age range. The production will be directed by Theresa Norman with musical direction by Tucker Bettez. Theresa says, “The music is mesmerizing and the story is beautiful! A very appropriate story for our area. It encapsulates the feeling of our local townships.” Performances will be in November. Please email Theresa at life-liveit@hotmail.com for more information.

Boyce presents “The Fifteen Wonders of Daniel Green”

MANCHESTER, Vt. – Join us at Northshire Bookstore in Manchester Saturday, April 6 at 6 p.m. as Erica Boyce reads and discusses her book “The Fifteen Wonders of Daniel Green.”

Daniel travels across the country creating astonishing crop circles that leave communities mystified. When a dying Vermont corn farmer hires Daniel in an effort to breathe new life into the town he loves, Daniel is drawn into a commu-

nity struggling to stitch itself back together. For once, he is forced to stand still and face the past he’s been running from all these years.

For fans of Phaedra Patrick and Fredrik Backman, this astonishing debut explores the healing power of forgiveness, the sometimes unconventional definition of family, and the realization that home is not defined by the walls you build but by the people you choose to

build them with.

Erica Boyce is a graduate of Dartmouth College and Harvard University. She lives outside of Boston with her husband and a corgi named Finn. This is her debut novel.

Northshire Bookstore is located at 4869 Main Street in Manchester Center, Vt. For more information, call 802-362-2200 or 1-800-437-3700, or visit www.northshire.com.

Canal Street Art Gallery presents “Nature’s Deconstruction”

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Canal Street Art Gallery presents “Nature’s Deconstruction,” paintings by MC Noyes and sculptures by Phyllis Rosser. The duo show will be on view April 10 through May 11. All are invited to attend the opening reception April 19, from 5-8 p.m., to meet the artists and enjoy live jazz music with readings from Walt Whitman’s “Leaves of Grass” and Gary Snyder’s “Mountains and Rivers Without End.”

Both artists’ work spring from a shared passion for nature and the ability to envision beauty and enduring life from amongst disintegration and disillusionment. “Nature’s Deconstruction” offers the shared experience of these two artists working independently to create art to be appreciated for its aesthetic beauty, its deeply personal meaning and process to the artist, and their desire to share with the viewer a new life cycle to be found in their art.

Recognition of the neglect and intentional abuse of nature, along with a vision of civilization patterned around it are the concepts behind MC Noyes’ oil paintings. Based on a decade of observing and cataloging satellite imagery, focusing on the patterns and structures of modern human civilization and the changing surface of the earth, Noyes has pursued this series to find inspiration through the artist’s despair and disillusionment with our stewardship of this planet. These paintings are each created while focusing on

one of four concepts within the series: atmosphere, water, land, and life. For Noyes, this work represents a journey to recognize our responsibility and find our place as ethical co-creators of this world.

An exuberance and passion for the natural world is expressed through Phyllis Rosser’s sculptures. The artist is fascinated with the beauty of disintegration, and the breaking down of our environment as nature continually reconstructs it. Finding an enduring energy in the wood collected over many years from the Connecticut River, Rosser constructs freestanding, wall, and ceiling hung sculptures. This work represents a struggle for sensuousness by transforming and revaluing a material often considered refuse into objects that are appealing and alive. It presents not only the enduring aspect of nature but also the unique beauty expressed through its vulnerability to the ravages of time.

Canal Street Art Gallery is located at 23 Canal St., Bellows Falls, Vt., and is open Wednes-

day through Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, visit www.canalstreetartgallery.com, call 802-289-0104, or email artinfo@canalstreetartgallery.com.



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Flood Brook presents “A Haunting We Will Go”

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – The Flood Brook School Drama Club, under the direction of Jennifer Houghton, will perform “A Haunting We Will Go” by Tim Kelly at the Weston Playhouse in Weston, Vt. April 5 and 6. The performance is produced by special arrangement with The Dramatic Publishing Company Inc. of Woodstock, Ill.

The play is a modern mystery-comedy set at the eerie and forbidding Inn of the Three Sisters, famous for an unresolved murder, horrifying spirit manifestations, and murderous intrigue. Glamorous, young television producer Norma Corwin made a childhood vow that once in her life she would spend a night alone at the inn. A strange assortment of uninvited “guests” arrive at the inn to add more mystery: ESP expert Madame Lugosi; a young serviceman who says he’s lost his way; a doomed young woman who comes to warn Norma that she’s in great danger; and the spirits



Flood Brook Drama Club presents “A Haunting We Will Go” at Weston Playhouse.

PHOTO BY DAHLIA COHN

of the three young sisters who, with the villainous handyman Flint, are cursed to relive the ghastly murder each night.

Featuring a cast of students in grades 5-8 with additional help from high school, parent, and community volunteers. The play will take place April 5 and 6 at 7:15 p.m. at the

Weston Playhouse. Tickets will be available at the door.



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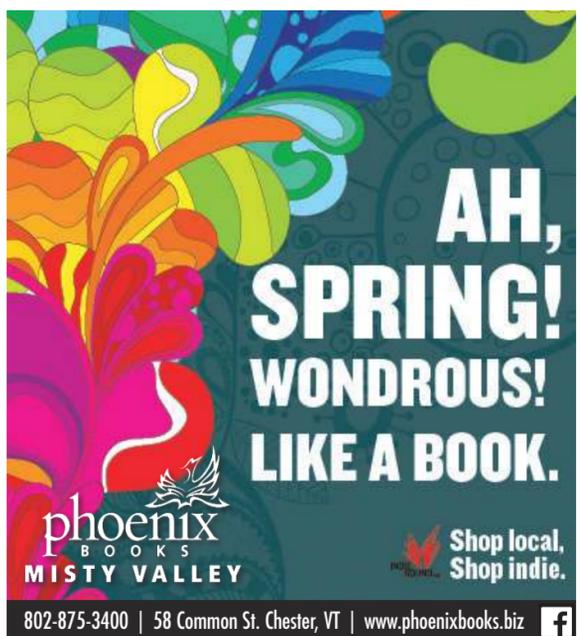


Hi! My name’s Lilly, and I’m a 2-year-old spayed pitbull mix. I’ve had a couple of homes in my short life, and I’m thinking it’s time that I finally settled down! I can’t wait until I have a family of my very own because I really like people! My human friends here at Lucy Mackenzie know how much I like cuddling and going for walks. I particularly enjoy the more leisurely-style of walk, one where I can stop and smell the roses, and everything else in between!

I’m proud to say that I’m a pretty smart girl and am well behaved too. I’m open to meeting other dogs and could maybe even live with one if we got along. I can’t live with cats though – sorry. If you’ve been thinking it’s time you adopted an adorable and adoring dog, stop in and meet me today!

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outdoor news

Sign up now for youth turkey hunt event

WATERBURY, Vt. – Young people interested in hunting turkeys are encouraged to sign up for National Wild Turkey Federation's 9th annual Jake's Day Event Saturday, April 20, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Waterbury Fish & Game Club. The event is sponsored by the Lake Champlain Longbeards group and is open to any youth aged 17 or younger.



Young people are encouraged to sign up for a youth turkey hunting event in Waterbury, Vt.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Youth hunters and their mentors will be treated to lunch. There will be activities throughout the day for youths, including prizes, target practice, and a demonstration of how to properly preserve turkey tails. Fish & Wildlife Department Com-

missioner Louis Porter will be in attendance for the event.

"Kids who are exposed to hunting at a young age often become lifelong hunters and passionate conservationists," said Fish & Wildlife Department wild turkey project leader Chris Bernier. "They gain a strong appreciation for where their food comes from and they understand the importance of healthy habitat for wildlife."

There is a cost to attend, and it includes lunch and a t-shirt, as well as a youth membership. Please preregister by April 5 by contacting Ron Lafreniere at ronlafreniere@outdrs.net.

Forest Service prescribed fire to improve wildlife

RUTLAND, Vt. – Green Mountain National Forest officials announced Wednesday, March 27 that they, in partnership with local fire departments and land management agencies, are planning to use prescribed fire to treat approximately 200 to 600 acres of the more than 400,000-acre national forest. The Forest Service says that it will use prescribed fire as a management tool to reduce heavy accumulations of grass and brush to reduce the potential for large uncontrollable wildfires, to restore critical wildlife habitat, regenerate early successional growth, and improve overall watershed conditions on the national forest in Vermont.



Green Mountain National Forest fire personnel will use a prescribed fire to improve local wildlife in the national forest.

STOCK PHOTO

In the coming weeks, GMNF fire personnel will use prescribed fire in certain areas on the forest. The prescribed fires are not likely to impact local residents, although smoke will be visible from the surrounding area and adjacent landowners may smell smoke. Occasionally, smoke will impact roads immediately adjacent to the prescribed burn, please slow down and proceed with great caution if you need to enter areas of heavy smoke. Smoke impacts to roads should be of short duration. The timing of the prescribed burns depends on weather and vegetation conditions that meet very specifically defined limits – called the "prescription" – so the ignition dates are subject to some adjustment, though the "burn window" is not likely to exceed

more than six weeks. The Forest Service will announce additional details on burn locations closer to the date of planned ignition. If a burn cannot be completed during the designated burn window, or soon after, it will likely be postponed until the fall of 2019.

Prior to each prescribed fire, crews will have already prepared the burn area by constructing control lines on the ground. On the first day of ignition, crews will further secure the burn perimeter by "blacklining," a method of applying fire to a strip of vegetation immediately inside the control lines, to create a wide barrier that contains the fire within the designated area. Once the blacklining area is secure, firefighters will use ignition devices to light vegetation in the interior of the burn area. Prescribed fire restores declining wildlife habitat and im-

proves watershed conditions. The areas planned for burning are now overgrown with thick brush and have been identified by the Forest Service as being critical wildlife habitat. Plants in the area used as forage by wildlife have become coarse, dense, and overcrowded. The post-fire landscape will support a more diverse variety of grasses and forbs, which will be more palatable and nutritious for wildlife species. Each burn site will be closed to the public, and access will be limited for the duration of prescribed fire activities. If it is necessary to temporarily close forest roads and trails, the Forest Service will notify the public of these closures by posting signs. Such closures will be subject to modification based on the actual date of ignition during the burn window. Firefighter and public safety will be the highest priority for each prescribed fire.

Hammond Cove Shooting Range opening for the season

HARTLAND, Vt. – The Hammond Cove Shooting Range in Hartland, Vt. will be reopening for the season Thursday, April 4, 2019 at 10 a.m.

The range operates under rules set forth by The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department. Range users must sign in with an onsite range officer and have a valid Vermont hunting or fishing license or be the guest of someone who does. The hours of operation and range rules are listed below.

Range rules include:

- A Vermont hunting or fish-

ing license is required for users 15 years and older.

- License holders can bring one guest, but after three visits that guest must purchase a license.
- Shooting more than one round per second is prohibited.
- Shooting long rifles or shotguns from the pistol bench is prohibited, as is shooting pistols from the rifle benches.
- Unless otherwise posted, the range will be open April 1 to Dec. 14, Thursday through Monday.
- On Mondays, Thursdays,

Fridays, and Saturdays, the range hours will be 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

- On Sundays, the range will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- The range will be closed from Dec. 15 through March 31 and on all Vermont state and federal holidays, except for special events approved by the Commissioner.

To ensure these rules are followed, a range safety officer will be present when the range is open.

If road conditions prevent safe access to the range, an update with new tentative dates will be posted to Vermont Fish & Wildlife's Facebook page. Before using the range, shooters are urged to review the range rules on Vermont Fish & Wildlife's website, www.vtfishandwildlife.com.

Sugarbush Wall of Fame inaugural ceremony, celebration

WARREN, Vt. – Sugarbush Resort will honor the first ever Wall of Fame class over the weekend of April 5 and 6. The Sugarbush Wall of Fame has been established as part of the resort's 60th anniversary celebration to honor individuals who have contributed to a "spirit of lifelong adventure and camaraderie" among guests, staff, and the community. Ten people will be honored at the ceremony – "Founders" Damon

and Sara Gadd, Jack Murphy, Lixi Fortna, Peter Estin, and John Roth; and contemporary inductees Darian Boyle, Dave Gould, Wayne McCue, and Marit Tardy.

Festivities begin Friday, April 5 at 6 p.m. with a "Sixty Years of Sugarbush" movie night and storytelling in Gate House Lodge. Live music will be provided by Phineas Gage, and a cash bar will be available. Guests are encouraged to share stories of the early days of Sugarbush and of the Wall of Fame inductees.

Saturday's activities begin

with the resort's annual Pond Skimming Competition at noon – registration at 9 a.m. The Wall of Fame Ceremony begins at 5:45 p.m. in Gate House Lodge, and is free and open to the public. A cash bar will be available. Rumble's Kitchen will serve a buffet dinner 6-9 p.m. with live music. Reservations are required. Fireworks will be set off at 8:30 p.m.

Wood and Wood of Waitsfield is creating the Wall of Fame display for Gate House Lodge. Luke Iannuzzi is creating the awards for the inductees.

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Mary Meyer was born Mary Lorang in 1904 in New York City. As a young girl she learned to sew from her mother, fixing family members' clothing. She learned a lot about fashion from her father, who was a manager of one of New York City's finest hotels. As a teenager, Mary attended a public school that specialized in sewing, which is where she learned how to make patterns and work with fabrics "that would later become colorful pincushion animals."

In 1933, Mary married her husband Hans Meyer, and continued sewing toys. The couple would go out on the road selling Mary's stuffed toys while their staff kept sewing and stuffing animals. The teddy bear quickly became the children's favorite.

By the early '40s, the Meyers moved to Vermont, where the hills reminded Hans of his hometown in Germany. They "raised cows, tended horses, and built their business," which quickly grew, and the animal barn in Townshend soon became their toy factory.

The Vermont-based family business has since been passed down from generation to generation, and grew into something grand. Mary passed the company down to her son Walter who was a toy designer, and then onto the third generation, Walter's sons Steven, Kevin, Michal, and Peter. Today, Mary's great-granddaughter Christina is the fourth generation beginning to get involved in the business as well.

The original Townshend, Vt. workshop is now used as a warehouse, design, and administration facility, while the production takes place overseas. Mary Meyer was one of the last American stuffed toy companies to outsource production. "Overseas production has allowed us to use a great variety of quality fabrics, implement excellent safety standards, and to sell toys at a price everyone can afford."

Local artists are still sketching, cutting, and stitching toy designs, and "we like to think that some of the karma of our rich past makes it into every toy we design."

Stuffed animals include bears, cats and dogs, farm, fantasy, forest, jungle, and sea life. They also carry an entire baby line, which includes baby mats, WubbaNubs animals with pacifier attachments, Taggies animals with an arrangement of tags attached in assorted colors and patterns, Lulujo baby's first blankets and hats, soft books and other educational toys, and so much more!



Mary Meyer toys are sold in stores, but to choose from the hundreds of options they have to offer, visit their website at www.marymeyer.com.

AUCTION

LUDLOW, Vt. - Storage Auction at Mini Storage, 9 Bridge St. in Ludlow, 802-228-7105, Saturday, April 6 at 11 a.m. for the following units:
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Cheryl Ross Unit 5
Chuck Roberts Unit 12
Seth Teaster Unit 6
Deanna Burns Unit 20
David Patterson Unit 21
Sean Fleming Unit 32
Timothy Harris Unit 41
Brian Paul Unit 44
Justin Fisk Unit 46
David Witech Unit 37 (04/09)



N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Auction held April, 13, 2019 at 11 a.m. at 96 Route 106 N. Springfield. 802-683-7104. To be auctioned:
Orion Pfenning unit #197
Matt Reynolds unit #177
Keith Howard unit #174
Andy Aldrich unit #159
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calendar

LEGAL NOTICES/HELP WANTED

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

SATURDAY, APRIL 6 – NORWICH, Vt. – Cardboard City workshop at Montshire Museum of Science on Saturday, April 6, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cardboard City is a large-scale, participatory art, design, and architecture project where participants are both the audience and creators. At Cardboard City, you can work together to plan, create, and build your

own structures to construct a model city. Think like engineers, planners, and architects as you add to the design of a livable city. Be inspired by architectural drawings and urban plans provided by local architects and planners.

MONDAY, APRIL 8 – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Monday, April 8 from 7 – 9 p.m., Springfield School District will host a presentation by Lynn Lyons titled "Managing Anxiety

at School and at Home: Strategies to Interrupt the Worry Cycle." Lynn will speak to school staff and professionals at 4 p.m. and then to parents and the community at 7 p.m. at the Springfield High School auditorium. This presentation teaches concrete strategies that normalize worry and help families respond and react to worry in a different way. Lynn is a licensed clinical social worker and psychotherapist from Concord, N.H. This presentation is free and both sessions are open

to the public. Childcare will be provided for the 7 p.m. session. For more information, contact Jenny Anderson at janderson@ssdvt.org or Beth Brothers at ebros@ssdvt.org.

TUESDAY, APRIL 9 – LONDONDERRY, Vt. – Join the Londonderry Volunteer Rescue Squad at Neighborhood Connections on Tuesday, April 9 at 6 p.m. to learn hands-only CPR, which is a form of resuscitation without mouth-to-mouth breaths. Space is limited, so please call 802-824-

4343 to register.
THURSDAY, APRIL 11 – CHESTER, Vt. – Join us for Family Paint Night on Thursday, April 11, from 6 – 8 p.m. in the art room at Green Mountain Union High School in Chester. All acrylic paints and supplies will be provided. Be sure to wear painting clothes or bring a smock/apron. Registration required. Contact Ashley Carafiello at ashley.carafiello@trsu.org. Proceeds to benefit the National Honor Society.

MONDAYS – WHITE RIVER JCT., Vt. – Income-eligible residents can now schedule an appointment for free tax preparation assistance through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. Appointments are available Mondays through April 8 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, located at 749 Hartford Ave, from 10:45 a.m. to

7:30 p.m. Call 866-444-4211.

TUESDAYS – LONDONDERRY, Vt. – Each Tuesday through April 9, from noon to 4 p.m., the AARP Foundation is providing free individualized assistance and preparation for all low to moderate taxpayers – especially those 50 and older – at Neighborhood Connections, located in Londonderry's Mountain Marketplace next to the Post Office. Call Neighborhood Connections at 802-824-4343 to schedule an appointment. A volunteer will work with you and provide guidance on what materials to bring with you.

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – Income-eligible residents can now schedule an appointment for free tax preparation assistance through the Volunteer

Income Tax Assistance program. Appointments are available Tuesdays through April 9 at the SEVCA office located at 91 Buck Drive, from 8:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 800-464-9951.

THURSDAYS – WINDSOR, Vt. – Income-eligible residents can now schedule an appointment for free tax preparation assistance through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. Appointments are available Thursdays through April 11 at Windsor Resource Connection Center, located at 1 Railroad Ave., from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Call 866-444-4211.

CLUBS

MONDAYS – QUECHEE, Vt. – Valley Stamp Club meets second Mondays at the Quechee Library at 7 p.m. Located at 1957 Main Street. For more information, contact John Lutz at 802-728-6212.

COMMUNITY MEALS

FRIDAY, APRIL 5 – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – First Friday Supper at The First Baptist Church in Bellows Falls will be on Friday, April 5, from 5 – 7 p.m. Menu includes a variety of meat loaves, potatoes, gravy, vegetables, salads, dessert, and beverages. Gluten-free and vegan available. Suggested donation. Proceeds to benefit The Friends of Rockingham Public library.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The North Springfield Baptist Church will be hosting a free community dinner Friday, April 5, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Dishes served are usually salads, casseroles, beans, soups, breads, desserts, and beverages. Everyone is welcome to attend. The church is located at 69 Main St. in North Springfield and is handicap accessible. For more information, call 802-886-8107.



Whitney Blake is continually growing and looking for associates to join our team. Check us out!

According to the Vermont Business Magazine's 2018 VBM100+ Survey, Whitney Blake Company had the 3rd fastest sales growth in Vermont.

We have a variety of opportunities including:

- Assembly Operators
- Wire Operators
- Quality Assurance Technicians
- Administrative Positions
- Engineering Opportunities

To Apply send resume to humanresources@wblake.com
9 Lovell Drive, Bellows Falls, VT 05101
<https://wblake.com/company/careers/>

TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM LEAF & YARD DEBRIS PICKUP

The Town of Rockingham Highway Department will pick up leaves and other natural yard debris placed at the street curbside from April 1, 2019 until May 31, 2019, weather permitting, on **Mondays & Fridays ONLY**. All yard debris must be placed in **CLEAR PASTIC BAGS ONLY**, which can easily be handled by one person. All brush, twigs, limbs must be bundled with a natural fiber string, can be easily handled by one person and must be able to run through a wood chipper easily.

Clear bags are available at the Town Clerk's Office and Recycling Center at cost (4 bags for \$1.00). ONLY CLEAR BAGS containing the following will be picked up:

LEAVES, PINE NEEDLES, LAWN TRIMMINGS & GARDEN WASTE

Bags contaminated with trash or other debris will not be picked up.

The Recycling Center is also accepting leaves and yard debris. All bags must be dumped and all trucks emptied. There is no charge for this service.

Wilson & Lawrence Inc. Tennis Court Contractors is hiring for summer jobs

Come join our team. Great job for college students. Please call 802-843-2436. Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

TOWN OF WESTON Cemetery Commission Town Hall

Weston, Vermont, 05161

REQUEST FOR BID

The Cemetery Commission of the Town Of Weston is seeking bids for a three - year contract for maintenance of the three Town Cemeteries. Work includes two major clean - ups, one in the spring and one in the fall, as well as regular mowing throughout the summer. If interested, please meet Board members on Friday, April 12 at 9AM in the Maple Grove Cemetery on Andover Rd. Bids will be due at the Town Office by noon on April 16..

BELLOWS FALLS VILLAGE CORPORATION PUBLIC NOTICE WATER MAIN FLUSHING

THE BELLOWS FALLS VILLAGE CORPORATION WATER SYSTEM WILL BE FLUSHED WEEKDAYS FROM 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM BEGINNING MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2019 AND CONTINUING THROUGH FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2019.

SOME AREAS MAY EXPERIENCE ROILY WATER BUT THIS CONDITION SHOULD CORRECT ITSELF IN A SHORT TIME.

IF YOU HAVE PROBLEMS, PLEASE CALL THE BELLOWS FALLS WATER DEPT. AT 802-463-1232. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

Brian Joslyn
Chief Operator
Bellows Falls Water Dept.

TOWN OF MOUNT HOLLY, VERMONT TRUCK DRIVER/LABORER

The Town of Mount Holly Highway Department invites resumes for the position of Truck Driver/Laborer. This is an entry level full-time, year-round position. Principal duties will include plowing snow from roads, sanding and salting roads, road construction and maintenance and other related duties. Must possess a valid Vermont Commercial Driver's License and have experience operating a dump truck with plow, dump body and sander, loader, backhoe, mower, trimmer. General knowledge of vehicle maintenance, fundamental construction and maintenance procedures, equipment operation and mechanics is a plus. Municipal Benefit Package supplied. Send resume to:

Mount Holly Town Office, PO Box 258, Mount Holly, VT 05149, ATTN: Selectboard or email: mhselectmen@gmail.com.

SUBMIT CALENDAR EVENTS ONLINE!

Visit www.VermontJournal.com

Click "Add Your Event" in the black navigation bar at the very top of the page.

Questions?

802-228-3600
ads@VermontJournal.com

TAKE A BREAK!

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

- \$ dispenser
- " Miserables"
- Trounce
- Commonest English word
- Matterhorn
- Worn unevenly
- 2012 movie bear
- Savage
- Midafternoon, in a way
- Long-legged shorebird
- Pull an all-nighter
- Freudian concept
- Use a keyboard
- Moreover
- Rodeo outcries
- Strong adhesive
- Meal for Oliver Twist
- Moral principles
- Larry's pal
- Runs from the fuzz
- Shooter ammo
- Sharpen
- Tureen accessory
- Inseparable
- Marian, in "The Music Man"

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53					54			55		
56						57			58	

DOWN

- Storage story
- " - Finest Hour"
- TV, radio, etc.
- Chemistry classrooms
- On cloud nine
- Parsley serving
- Vegan's no-no
- Bobby of hockey
- Luau side dish
- "Born in the -"
- Corral
- Huff and puff shoes
- Slight amount
- Attempt
- Sch. org.
- Resistance measure
- Practice pugilism
- Sweet
- Spanish wine
- Proclamation
- Go in
- Irritable
- Glaswegian girl
- Novelist
- Bagnold
- Varnish ingredient
- Under the weather
- Life story, for short
- Tatter

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Professional relationships grow stronger. But you might still need to ease some problems with someone in your personal life. One way could be to try to be less rigid in your views.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You might be too close to that perplexing personal situation to even attempt to make a rational decision about it right now. Stepping back could help you gain a wider perspective.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Being asked to choose between the positions of two friends is an unfair imposition on you. It's best to reject the "demands" and insist they try harder to work things out on their own.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A change of mind about a workplace decision might be called for once you hear more arguments, pro and con. A personal event suddenly takes an unexpected (but pleasant!) turn.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Romance once again looms large for single Leos and Leonas, with Cupid favoring Taurus and Libra to inspire those warm and fuzzy Leonine feelings. Expect another workplace change.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A surprise gift — and, happily, with no strings attached — could come just when you need it to avoid a delay in getting your project done. Expect education to dominate the week.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Someone close to you might ask for your support as she or he faces a demanding personal challenge. Offer it, by all means. But be careful you don't neglect your own needs at this time.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) An unexpected development could put your relationship with a partner or spouse to an emotionally demanding test. But your determination to get to the truth should save the day.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A recent agreement appears to be coming apart over the surfacing of unexpected complications. You might need to have expert advice on how to resolve the situation.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Your keen business sense helps you get to the truth about a suspicious business deal. Expect to have many colleagues rally to support your efforts in this important matter.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Someone who once moved in and out of your life through the years might now want to come back in on a more permanent basis. Give yourself a lot of time to weigh your decision.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Showing frustration over a delayed workplace decision might get someone's attention, but not necessarily make him or her move any sooner. Best advice would be to be patient and wait it out.

BORN THIS WEEK: You are drawn to excitement and enjoy fast-tempo music, with the more brass, the better.

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REAL ESTATE

calendar

SATURDAY, APRIL 6 – CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – Turkey Supper on Saturday, April 6, at 5 p.m. hosted by Charlestown Senior Center, 223 Old Springfield Rd., in Charlestown. A complete turkey supper, potatoes, carrots, stuffing, green beans, gravy, rolls and butter, and homemade pies for dessert. Tickets go on sale at 4 p.m. until we sell out. For take outs, please call 603-826-5987 between noon and 3 p.m. the day of the supper, to be picked up between 4 - 4:30 p.m. Please come and enjoy our food and our company.

EVENTS

THURSDAY, APRIL 4 – KILLINGTON, Vt. – The Greater Killington Women's Club is hosting their 2nd annual Springtime in Tuscany Wine Dinner Fundraiser at the Highline Lodge in Killington on Thursday, April 4. Welcome reception begins at 6:30 p.m. followed by the dinner at 7 p.m. Proceeds from this special fundraising event will support their Scholarship and Awards Program benefiting local students. Space is limited. Tickets are first come, first serve. Each ticket sold has a chance to win some fabulous raffle prizes! For pricing and to reserve your tickets, go to the GKWC website at www.svcvt.com or on the club's Facebook page.

THURSDAY – SATURDAY, APRIL 4 – 6 – ACWORTH, N.H. – The Female Charitable Society of the United Church of Acworth, N.H. will hold their Spring Rummage Sale on Thursday and Friday, April 4 and 5, from 3 - 7 p.m., and Saturday, April 6, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at The Church on the Hill, Acworth, N.H. They will be selling clothing, household goods, and white elephants.

FRIDAY, APRIL 5 – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – "The Economics of Happiness," Local Futures' documentary film about the worldwide movement for economic localization, is the Springfield UU's first Friday Film on April 5. Doors open at 6:45 p.m., film begins at 7 p.m. Held at the Meetinghouse at 21 Fairground Rd. in Springfield. Free admission and popcorn. All welcome!

MANCHESTER, Vt. – Welcome to the Northshire arborist William Bryant Logan Friday, April 5 at 6 p.m. He will present his new book "Sprout Lands: Tending the Endless Gift of Trees." Logan travels from the English fens to Spain, California, and Japan to rediscover and celebrate once common and practical ecology. Northshire Bookstore is located at 4869 Main Street in Manchester Center, Vt. For more information, call 802-362-2200 or 1-800-437-3700, or visit www.northshire.com.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6 – TOWNSHEND, Vt. – The Jamaica Village School annual Penny Sale is on Saturday, April 6. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

at Leland & Gray High School in Townsend. 50/50 raffle tickets will be drawn at the end of the Penny Sale.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Reiki/Polarity Therapy General Public Open House and Practitioner Share by donation on Saturday, April 6, 1 - 4 p.m. at Studio Time and Space, 59 Main St., Springfield. Sessions are given with the client fully clothed lying on a massage table or sitting in a chair, covered by a warm blanket. No appointment necessary. We encourage donations to support the studio. Come and enjoy! If you would like further information, please visit www.lauren-potterreikihealing.com or email laurenpottervt@gmail.com.

LUDLOW, Vt. – Annual spring favorite, "Okemo Slush Cup" is happening on Saturday, April 6, starting at 11 a.m. at Okemo's Jackson Gore base area. Costume-clad Slush Cup competitors schuss toward a specially constructed 80-foot slush pond and try to make it across without falling in. It's a chilly spring dip for those who don't make it. Open to the first 125 participants who register online, in advance. Prizes will be awarded in a variety of categories such as biggest splash, best costume, driest, and more. Presented by Schweppes.

LUDLOW, Vt. – Immediately following the Slush cup, enjoy the "Okemo Splash for Cash." Launch off a kicker and grab a dangling bag o' cash before splashing into the chilly slush pond. Successful skiers and riders keep the cash! The start time is slated for 1 p.m. or following the Slush Cup. Presented by William Raveis Real Estate Vermont Properties Team.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Join us at Hartness House Inn for The Cartoon Cosplay Rewind Ball on Saturday, April 6, from 7 p.m. to midnight. The Hartness House and the Steampunk Society of Vermont will host this '80s and '90s cartoon themed costuming event. This event is a fundraiser for the Steampunk Society of Vermont, the Springfield, Vt. based nonprofit organization that runs the Springfield Vermont Steampunk Festival. More details and tickets available at www.eventbrite.com. Search for "Cartoon Cosplay Rewind."

GRANVILLE, Vt. – Come on out to the Hello Spring Fair Saturday, April 6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Granville Town Hall on Route 100 in Granville. It's a fundraiser to benefit Homeward Bound - the Humane Society in Addison County. The fair will feature a number of specialty vendors and craftspeople with great products for you and your home, as well as tasty baked goods. There's no admission, but we hope you'll bring a little something along for the shelter's animals. Go to the Homeward Bound website and take a look at their "wish list." Then, bring something from the list to donate and get entered in our raffle for a terrific gift basket.

WESTON, Vt. – The Little School in Weston is holding an Open House on Saturday, April 6, from 10 - 11 a.m., to meet prospective families of children ages 2 - 5, considering The Little School for the 2019 - 2020 school year. For more information about The Little School or to request an enrollment packet, please call or email Jazmin McNeil,

interim director, at 802-824-3405 or email admin@littleschoolvt.org.

BERLIN, Vt. – The 32nd annual Vermont Scholastic Chess Championships will be held on Saturday, April 6 at Berlin Elementary School. Check-in from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. and games will start at 10 a.m. All Vermont students from Kindergarten through Grade 12 are eligible to compete for State Championships in nine divisions: each grade Kindergarten through Grade 6; Middle School Grades 7 and 8; and High School Grades 9 through 12. Complete rules and registration information can be found at www.vtchess.info or by contacting Mike Stridsberg, tournament director, at mike@vtchess.info or 802-223-1948.

CHESTER, Vt. – Gassetts Grange is having their Square Dance and Round on Saturday, April 6 from 7-10 p.m. at the Chester Town Hall. Please help us get back to our own home by attending or donating to our grange. For more information, contact Donna at 802-591-4290, or email kingswolves3@comcast.net.

FRIDAY, APRIL 12 – NORWICH, Vt. – Join us for Montshire Unleashed, a special evening to meet like-minded science enthusiasts and enjoy food, beer, science, and fun on Friday, April 12, from 6:30 - 9 p.m. Experience the joy of discovery from a trip to the museum - at night! Release your inner scientist through guided experiments at exhibits around the museum. Or just kick back, relax, and enjoy the food, drinks, and music. Jasper Murdock Ale and wine from the Norwich Inn will be available for purchase, as well as food from the

evening's featured local vendor.

MANCHESTER, Vt. – Join us Friday, April 12 at 6 p.m. as James J. Dunn reads and discusses his book "Breach of Trust: The Ethics Scandal that Challenged the Integrity of the Vermont Judiciary" that chronicles the ethics scandal that shook the roots of the Vermont Judiciary and led to Chittenden County Assistant Judge Jane Wheel becoming the first and only Vermont judge ever charged with a criminal felony. Northshire Bookstore is located at 4869 Main Street in Manchester Center, Vt. For more information, call 802-362-2200 or 1-800-437-3700, or visit www.northshire.com.

KIDS' CORNER

FRIDAY, APRIL 5 – NORWICH, Vt. – Montshire Makers: Cardboard Construction on Friday, April 5, from 6:30 - 8 p.m., at Montshire Museum of Science for grades 6 and up. Get a head start on Cardboard City with a Makers night devoted to Cardboard Construction. You'll work with Montshire Educators to design and build the (cardboard) city of the future! For architecture enthusiasts, those interested in green living and community building, and any teen or tween who loves building something new.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10 – MANCHESTER, Vt. – Join us Wednesday, April 10 at 5:30 p.m. at Northshire for a special Shires Press author event with Karen Gross presenting her book of children's poetry, "Flying Umbrellas & Red Boats," written to encourage a love of poetry

in children. Northshire Bookstore is located at 4869 Main Street in Manchester Center, Vt. For more information, call 802-362-2200 or 1-800-437-3700, or visit www.northshire.com.

FRIDAYS – GRAFTON, Vt. – Preschool nature programs at The Nature Museum in Grafton on Fridays through May from 10-11:30 a.m. Mighty

Acorns Club invites young adventurers to explore the natural world through interactive games, puzzles, and activities. Most sessions involve exploring our backyard and the nearby woods, fields and pond. Our environmental educators Jay DeGregorio and Jill Bruning lead the group. Come can join us!



AUCTIONS

USDA Foreclosure: 3BR Home
Thursday, April 11 @ 11AM
(Register & Inspect from 10AM)
2314 Main Street, Cavendish VT



Ca. 1840 Colonial with 2,324±SF on 0.80± acre. 3BR/2.5BA, dining, living, 2 fireplaces, built-in cabinets, many original features, stainless steel appliances, large back deck, 1-car detached garage. Close to interstate and skiing.

Foreclosure: 37± Acres
Thursday, April 18 @ 11AM
(Register & Inspect from 10:30AM)
Marsh Hill Road, Andover, VT
(Corner of Marsh Hill Road and Dale Road)



We have been retained to sell at public auction, 37± acres with amazing views of the ski area and potential to build your dream home, ski house, or check into other options. Stone walls border property. Partial road into lot. Power on lot at road. 3/4 mile from the VAST Trail.

Thomas Hirchak Company
THCAuction.com • 800-634-7653



Barrett & Valley Associates Inc.
"Professional Real Estate Services"
www.barrettandvalley.com
39 Pleasant Street, Grafton

 <p>Contemporary w/Tree Top Views! Easy Access To All Amenities 4 Bedrooms, 3 Baths, 10.5± Acres Grafton, \$359,000</p>	 <p>Bright & Beautiful Cape on 9+/- Acres, W/Great Local Views! 3 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths Rockingham, \$329,000</p>	 <p>Spectacular Contemporary With Mountain Views! 5 Bedrooms, 3 Baths, 1.8± Acres Weathersfield, \$285,000</p>
 <p>Big Price Reduction! Peaceful Ranch on 50+/- Acres! 3 Bedroom, 1.5 Baths Springfield, \$275,000</p>	 <p>Investment Property w/Charm! Exceptional Parking & Walking Distance To The Village Green Chester, \$225,000</p>	 <p>Unique Home W/Beautiful View! Large Attached 2 Car Garage 3 Bedrooms, 1 Bath, 10.2± Acres North Springfield, \$189,900</p>
 <p>Sweet Move In Ready Ranch! Great Back Yard Bounded By Woods, 4 Bedroom, 2 Bath. 2.00± Acres, Newfane, \$174,900</p>	 <p>Sweet, Inviting Country Home Perennials and Babbling Brook 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, 1.6± Acres Wardsboro, \$149,000</p>	 <p>Cozy Cape w/Great Backyard Close To Main St., & Schools 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, 0.17± Acres Springfield, \$123,000</p>
 <p>109.6 Acres In Current Use Direct Access To Local Vast Trails 3100 Feet of Road Frontage Townsend, \$129,000</p>	 <p>81 Varied Acres! High, Low, Brook Mostly Wooded, Easy Access Grafton, \$129,000</p>	 <p>56.1 Acres Consisting of 3 Wooded Lots Springfield, \$69,900</p>



GRAFTON 802-843-2390 **CHESTER** 802-875-2323 **SPRINGFIELD** 802-885-8282 **NEWFANE** 802-365-4311 

Professional Friendly Service
13 Clinton Street • Springfield, VT 05156
802-885-2500 • www.musevermont.com





Lori Muse, Broker/Owner Carol Cole, REALTOR



So much to offer! This home offers three floors of living space. The main floor includes a bright and inviting mudroom/entry, comfortable living room with fireplace, formal dining area, sliders to the large back deck with hot tub, half bath, upgraded kitchen, master bedroom with double closets and a full bath with sauna feature. Second floor includes three bedrooms, additional living space/common areas, full bath and a walk-in closet with laundry hook-ups. Walk-out basement includes a family room with fireplace and bar area, laundry room/half bath. Detached 3 car garage/workshop. Very nice, indeed! \$269,900



Country Treasure, this C1980 3 Bedroom, 2 Full Bath Cape Style home is situated on 1.2±/- Acres in a Rural Setting outside of town. Includes a eat-in kitchen, Den, Office, Walk-out daylight basement with family room and spare room. Private deck off the back and detached 2 car garage with additional storage under. \$199,900



This 4+/- acre Perkinsville property offers a country setting, contemporary style with all the extras. Formal and informal living rooms, dining room, eat-in kitchen with double wall oven, laundry room 3 bedroom (master suite), 2/1/2 baths, woodstove for supplemental heat. Formal entry with vaulted ceiling and arched window makes a grand statement. Exterior includes deck and detached 2 car garage. \$199,900

Country Living at its finest in Weathersfield! This charming ranch home sits on 6.8±/- private acres with numerous fruit trees waiting for your attention to bear fruit. Built in 1990 this energy efficient ranch home features a large living room with a lovely fireplace as well as a wood stove which heats most of the home in the cold of winter. Warm oak cabinets, including a nice pantry, make this roomy kitchen inviting as you cook family meals. The formal dining room makes for a pleasant space to enjoy those family gatherings. The den offers space for a home office or quiet space. Two bedrooms and a full bath complete this fine home. A full functional basement offer space for a workshop or work-out room and with a root cellar to store those garden veggies. Plenty of room in the two car garage for garden items. This home is ready to welcome new owners. Don't delay on taking a look at this great home... \$194,500



calendar

AUTOMOTIVE

LIBRARIES

TUESDAY, APRIL 9 – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Join us at the Rockingham Library on Tuesday, April 9 at 6 p.m. for viewing and discussion of the film "Resilience: The Biology of Stress and the Science of Hope" is the 2016 documentary about the Adverse Childhood Experiences study. This event is free, accessible to those with disabilities, and open to the public. For more information, go to www.rockinghamlibrary.org, call 802-463-4270, email programming@rockinghamlibrary.org, or stop by the library at 65 Westminster St. in Bellows Falls.

MEETINGS

MONDAYS – ANDOVER, Vt. – Select Board meetings are every second and fourth

Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Office. For information, call 802-875-2765.

CAVENDISH, Vt. – Select Board meetings are on the second Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Office. For more information, go to www.cavendishvt.com or call 802-226-7291. Recordings of the meetings can be found at www.okemovalley.tv.

GRAFTON, Vt. – Select Board meetings are the first and third Monday at the Grafton Elementary School or the Town Garage at 6 p.m. For more information, call 802-843-2552 or go to www.graftonvt.org. Recordings are found at www.fact8.com.

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – Select Board meetings are the first and third Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Town Office. For more information, call 802-824-3356 or go to www.londonderryvt.org. Recordings are found at www.gnat-tv.org.

LUDLOW, Vt. – Select Board meetings are the first Monday of every month at the Town Hall. For more information, call 802-228-2841 or go to www.ludlow.vt.us.

Recordings found at www.okemovalley.tv.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Select Board meetings are on the second and fourth Monday of the month starting at 7 p.m. in the Selectman's Hall on 96 Main Street. For more information, go to www.springfieldvt.govoffice2.com.

TUESDAYS – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Rockingham Select Board meetings are on the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. and Bellows Falls Village Trustee meetings are the second Tuesday during the summer. Both meetings take place in the Lower Theater of the Bellows Falls Opera House. Call 802-463-4336 for more information or go to www.rockbf.org. Recordings can be found at www.fact8.com.

MOUNT HOLLY, Vt. – Select Board meetings are on the second Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. of each month at the Town Office. For more information, call 802-259-2391.

WESTON, Vt. – Select Board meetings are on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Office. Call 802-824-6988 or go to www.westonvt.org for more information. Recordings can be found at www.gnat-tv.org.

WESTMINSTER, Vt. –

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

WEDNESDAYS – CHESTER, Vt. – Chester Select Board meetings are on the first and third Wednesday of every month. For more information, call 802-875-2173 or go to www.chestervt.org. Recordings can be found at www.sapatv.org.

LUDLOW, Vt. – Black River Area Community Coalition meets third Wednesdays in the community room of the Fletcher Memorial Library, Main Street, in Ludlow, starting at 5:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.braccvt.org.

MUSIC & THEATER

FRIDAY, APRIL 5 – PUTNEY, Vt. – Join us for a great night out of Afrobeat/funk music performed by VT Shakedown on Friday, April 5, from 9 p.m. to midnight at Club VT, 55 Putney Landing Rd. in Putney. Band members include Jay Cook - keys, percussion, vocals; Josh Francis - drums; Anders Burrows - trumpet, percussion, vocals; Jim

Heffron - tenor, bari sax; Scott Griswold - bass; Evan Lincoln - guitar; Wendell Rheinheimer - guitar; Julian Gerstin - congas. Cover at the door. For more information, visit www.clubvt.com.

SUNDAY, APRIL 7 – BRATTLEBORO, Vt. – The Windham Orchestra will be performing on Sunday, April 7, at 3 p.m. at the Latchis Theatre, Main Street in Brattleboro. The program includes Mendelssohn's "Scottish Symphony" and Hindemith's "Suite Nobilissima Visione," depicting episodes from the life of St. Francis of Assisi. For more information, contact the BMC at 802-257-4523, visit the website at www.bmct.org, or stop by the Center at 72 Blanche Moysse Way.

SUPPORT GROUPS

MONDAYS – TOWNSHEND, Vt. – The Grace Cottage "Quitters Win" tobacco cessation group will run on Mondays for eight weeks, March 4 – April 22, from 4 – 5 p.m., at the Grace Cottage Community Wellness Center, Heins Building, 133 Grafton Rd./Route 35, Townshend. Registration is required. Prior to attending a first class, contact Bill at 802-365-3762 or email WMonahan@gracecottage.org.

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

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Overeaters Anonymous Meeting, from 7-8 p.m., 44 School St., Bellows

Falls. Please call 802-376-3507.

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

TOWNSHEND, Vt. – Mental Illness Family Support Group meets the second Tuesday of every month from 6:30-8 p.m. at Grace Cottage Community Wellness Center, Heins Building, 133 Grafton Rd., in Townshend. Facilitated by trained members of the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Free. Call 713-591-2857.

WEDNESDAYS – CHESTER, Vt. – Co-Dependents Anonymous meets on Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Whiting Library in Chester. Find out more about CoDA at www.coda.org. For more information regarding this meeting, contact Sarah E. at sarahcoda2016@gmail.com.

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.

KEENE, N.H. – All Recovery is held at the Keene Center Serenity, 40 Carpenter St. in Keene every Wednesday, from 6:30-8 p.m. It is open to all people in recovery and to the families and loved ones of people who are suffering. It is free and confidential. People with questions can call the center at 603-283-5015.

TOWNSHEND, Vt. – Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital will host a Mental Illness Family Support Group on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

at the Grace Cottage Wellness Center (133 Grafton Rd) in Townshend. NAMI Family Support Group meetings are monthly 90-minute support groups of family and friends of individuals living with a mental illness where they can talk frankly about their challenges and help one another through their learned wisdom and coping strategies. For more information, call 713-591-2857. To find a complete list of all NAMI offerings, visit www.namivt.org.

ASCUTNEY, Vt. – Twin State Depression Support Group meets on the third Wednesday at Martin Memorial Hall, Lower Level, 5259 Route 5, Ascotney at 6:30 p.m. Do you know or think you may be depressed? Have a friend or family member who has depression? Then this group is for you! Support, empathy, sharing, education, confidentiality, and peer-led. Contact TwinStateDSG@gmail.com or 641-715-3900, ext. 650055#.

TOWNSHEND, Vt. – Living Alone Support Group meets on the third Wednesday of every month, from 10:15-11:45 a.m. at Grace Cottage Community Wellness Center, Heins Building, 133 Grafton Rd., in Townshend. Free. Call 802-365-4115 x108.

THURSDAYS – TOWNSHEND, Vt. – Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group meets on the first Thursday of every month, from 11 a.m. – noon at Grace Cottage Community Wellness Center, Heins Building, 133 Grafton Rd., in Townshend. Led by Grace Cottage Community Health team member Claire Bemis. Free. Call 802-365-3763.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – TOPS at Huber Building, 80 Main Street. Weigh-in starts at 8 a.m. and the meeting begins at 9 a.m.



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