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Chester Selectboard moves forward with Church Street sidewalk project

BY SHARON HUNTLEY

The Vermont Journal

CHESTER, Vt. – At the Chester Selectboard meeting Wednesday, Oct. 16, Chrissy Haskins from Dufresne Group presented the results of a scoping study concerning a proposed sidewalk project on Church Street in Chester. After a review of three alternatives and with a fourth option, which would be doing nothing, the Selectboard approved moving forward with recommended Alternative 3. Alternative 3 follows on the east side of Church Street, crossing at Meadow Drive to the west side, and then crosses back to the east

side near the hill, and connecting with the existing sidewalk on Route 103.

Dufresne Group's recommendation was for Alternative 3 since it had the least impacts to properties. The estimated cost of this alternative is \$1.18 million. Arne Jonynas agreed with their recommendation saying, "That's the least impact it seems on people's houses and the area that's going to be affected."

Lee Gustafson also agreed. "From my perspective, Alternative 3 makes the most sense. It seems to have least amount of impact on people and property owners." He also noted that it makes best use of existing to-

pography.

Chester Town Clerk Julie Hance said that they would apply for a grant to pay for the project that would cover 80% with 20% being covered by the town.

The Dufresne Group will develop the plan a little further, as part of their existing contract, and then provide the town with the report that they can use to apply for the grant.

Michael Normyle, Chester's zoning administrator, presented to the Selectboard his concerns about temporary signs that are put up in town that are in violation of the existing ordinance. Normyle is hoping to add "more

teeth" or better enforcement to the town ordinance, giving the town the authority to take down the signs.

Board member Ben Whalen wanted to make sure that all signage enforcement treated everyone in town in the same way. Lee Gustafson said he'd like to see an outline of a policy that spelled out the steps the town would take when approaching townspeople on signage violations including any variances to the policy. Normyle agreed to draft something for the board to review.

The Selectboard discussed lowering speed limit on High Street. The state recommends

that towns conduct a traffic study. Hance is waiting to hear back from Jason Rasmussen from Regional Planning Commission on next steps. It was discussed that the RPC would cover the cost of the traffic study.

To date, data gathered on the speed limits on that road are averaging 23 miles per hour with a few people reaching over 50 mph. Whalen thought that police enforcement would help. Lee Gustafson recommended that they post a "no outlet" sign at the beginning of the street would also help. Jonynas said that they should move forward with the traffic study since it

would give them more data. Hance said she would talk in more depth with Rasmussen.

The town manager search continued with the board approving the town manager and assistant town manager job descriptions. They also approved that the salary range for the town manager would span from \$60,000-\$75,000. The job also includes a generous benefit package. The committee will choose the three town participants on the town manager search committee in their next meeting Oct. 24.

The next Chester Selectboard meeting is Thursday, Oct. 24 at 6:30 p.m. at the Chester Town Office.

Join in the Trunk-or-Treat in Cavendish

CAVENDISH, Vt. – On Oct. 31, the Cavendish Trunk-or-Treat brings people from all over our community together in one location to celebrate Halloween! The parking lot at Cavendish Town Elementary opens for trunk set up at 4:30 p.m. Trick-or-Treating will take place from 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Adults can be Trunk-or-Treaters. Bring your car, decorate the trunk with a theme, and hand out treats. Be as creative as you'd like, but please do not use scary decorations. Pick a theme from books, movies, games, hobbies, sports, history, or a friendly Halloween theme. There are plenty of ideas online to start your brainstorming. You can even wear a costume to go with your theme. Please



Trunk or Treat in Cavendish.

PHOTO BY U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA

bring enough treats for approximately 200 kids.

Kids can be Trick-or-Treat-

ers! Come in costume and collect treats. Invite your friends!

Cavendish looks to refurbish old town garage area

BY SHARON HUNTLEY

The Vermont Journal

CAVENDISH, Vt. – Cavendish Streetscapes began a discussion with the Cavendish Selectboard at their Oct. 15 meeting to discuss their broad plans for renovating the old town garage property to make it a recreational area. According to landscape architect Tim Calabrese, who spoke on behalf of the Streetscapes Committee, details of the property were still being thought out and they are looking to get input from the Selectboard and community members. Calabrese discussed exploring the possibility of a covered concert space and hiking trails. Drainage and soils need to be looked at as well as power poles and parking considerations as they come up with

concepts.

The group is looking to the town to request that they move the shed that currently is on that property. Town Manager Brendan McNamara has agreed that they always planned to move the shed and any other structures from the site and will begin to remove everything from that site in the spring.

Cavendish Streetscapes will be looking for corporate money to help fund the project. Committee member Rolf Vanschaik said that in that effort they will need a plan, budget, and a timeline to present to potential investors. They would also need a water supply in the area.

Margo Caulfield of the Cavendish Historical Society mentioned that the project might include incorporating the former Cavendish General Store

location.

The Streetscapes Committee is also looking to put stone benches in the town green and other areas around town. They will also look to move a donated swing to the park area next to the Cavendish Town Offices. They are asking the Selectboard to appoint McNamara as the point person on any ongoing bench and swing decisions.

The Selectboard agreed to proceed with next steps to lower the speed limit on Tierney Road. According to McNamara, the discussions with the state strongly recommends a speed study and engineering study be done but they are not required. In discussions with Jason

See **GARAGE** on Page 2A

Distrust an ongoing issue between administration and GMUSD Board

BY SHARON HUNTLEY

The Vermont Journal

CHESTER, Vt. – Ongoing friction between Superintendent Meg Powden and the Green Mountain Unified School District Board came to light during their most recent Oct. 17 meeting at Green Mountain Union High School.

During the course of the GMUSD meeting, board member Michael Studin asked Superintendent Meg Powden to provide the board with the text of her recent speech to teachers and staff at a recent welcoming meeting saying that he had received a few calls and heard about some issues that staff had about Powden's speech.

Powden responded that she had written the speech specifically for the teachers and staff and that she would not share it with the board but added, "There were a couple of people that expressed concerns. I'm happy to talk with them in more detail about their concerns, but overwhelmingly I've had a huge positive response to my remarks."

When questioned further, Powden said that she shared very personal information in her remarks but she and the board have an issue. She then added, "I don't trust some of the board members because of some of their actions." Powden did say that she was glad that communication between the board and TRSU administrators was one of their priorities for this year.

Board member Doug McBride praised Powden for speaking honestly about the

situation.

This contentious exchange came after the board returned from back-to-back executive sessions at the start of the meeting. The first session was to review pending litigation currently facing the TRSU with a presentation from Jordan Bergeron of Vermont School Board Insurance Trust. The second was to discuss a support staff grievance. After returning to the public meeting, Board Chair Joe Fromberger said that the issue discussed during the second executive session had been resolved and that there was no longer a grievance.

During public comments, TRSU executive assistant and public relations coordinator Mary Moeykens spoke about the survey to district stakeholders currently being worked on by board member Michael Studin. Moeykens had recently attended a Vermont school communications group and brought up the survey to get their opinion. According to Moeykens, the group unanimously recommended that Vermont School Board Association take a look at the survey questions and assist in the process. She also said they suggested involving a college communications professor from a local university. She also suggested that the board form a committee to develop the survey.

Once the board discussion turned to the development of the survey, Studin said that he had incorporated input received previously from GMUHS Principal Lauren Fierman. He was concerned that the survey was becoming "a bigger animal" than anticipated, and he was looking for some simple feedback to help instruct the budget

process on the priorities of district stakeholders.

McBride also cautioned against more scrutiny of the survey, saying he was fearful of "paralysis by analyses" and that the survey didn't need to be perfect but should move forward right away so they could get back information for the budget discussions. In the end, it was agreed that the board would look at the proposed survey questions that Studin provided and make their comments in time to be incorporated and redistributed at the next regular board meeting. Studin also welcomed input from Mary Moeykens. In the meantime, Studin and Fromberger would craft a cover sheet to accompany the survey and would also have that ready for review and final approval at the next meeting.

Fromberger informed the board that both the support staff union and the teachers union wanted to reopen their contracts. He asked the board members who participate in negotiations to begin that process. McBride expressed his concern for the legal costs associated with negotiations in the past and wondered if there might be a way to get an estimate of costs from the board's legal counsel, build that into the budget, and then work within that estimate in order to contain costs. Powden agree to talk with TRSU attorney Chris Leopold to begin that process.

In other updates, Black River High School and Middle School students have been visiting Green Mountain Union High School as they look to identify their top two choices for next year since Black River is closing

See **GMUSD** on Page 2A

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

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Okemo Valley Chamber kicks off fall membership campaign

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce is closing out the year with a Fall Membership Drive. The theme of the campaign is #OkemoValleyTogether.

OVRCC represents businesses in all sectors of the economy including hospitality, service, retail, manufacturing, recreation, and the arts. Their membership includes members anywhere from individual and home-based businesses to national and international corporations. We are also the gateway of information for visitors and locals alike at our visitors' center at the base of Okemo Mountain.



Brent Karner from Clear Lake Furniture says, "I have been a member for over 20 years. The Chamber gives us an opportunity to connect with other members and be able to learn about their businesses through the monthly mixers and other member events. I think it is important for us to be able to work together to promote the area."

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When our current members were recently surveyed, the top reasons for belonging to the chamber were: a unified regional cooperative marketing strategy; events to promote greater awareness of their business and meet colleagues in the region; and a collective voice for business advocacy with legislators and policy makers.

Businesses that work together on a regional basis are stronger than those who try and go it alone.

The Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce supports all the businesses in our 12-town region. Please let us know if you'd like to try out one of our After Hours Mixers or have one of our membership committee members contact you for more information. We are seeking additional members to support us so we can better serve you.

For more information about the Fall Membership Drive, go to www.yourplaceinvermont.com/join-the-chamber.

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Fletcher Memorial Library annual Holiday Silent Auction

LUDLOW, Vt. – Our 20th annual Holiday Silent Auction is happening soon at Fletcher Memorial Library, Ludlow, Vt. – Dec. 2-13 at 6 p.m. during regular library hours. The night of Dec. 13 is shaping up to be a lot of fun! There is always a bidding frenzy and add to that a visit from the guy in a red suit, music by Sammy Blanchette, and perhaps a little magic. Further details will be announced soon. Mark your calendars, and please join us.



Join the 20th annual Holiday Silent Auction at FML. PHOTO PROVIDED

This is the library staff's annual fundraiser, and we are anticipating our best one yet. We are looking for donations of new merchandise, gift certificates, small collectible and antique items, items for kids, and, of course, cash. All proceeds are used to en-

hance library services, technology, events, and special collections, which are not budgetary items. We listen to our patrons and want to offer a 21st-century library experience.

FML is a 501(c)(3) organization governed by a Board of

Trustees and is not a Ludlow Municipal Department. Your donations are 100% tax-deductible, and we are happy to supply a receipt. So have fun with this, visit a local business, purchase an item or a gift certificate, and donate it to the library.

Londonderry cemeteries closed for the season

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – The Cemetery Commission for the town of Londonderry announces that the town cemeteries are closed for burials for the season as of Nov. 1. Flags will be removed from veterans' graves after Veterans Day, Nov. 11. Any items remaining on graves after Nov. 15 will be removed as

part of fall and winter cleanup. Commission members thank everyone for their assistance in this matter and their cooperation.

Also, the Cemetery Commission asks that if anyone knows of a veteran's grave that does not have a veteran marker, or a marker that is in poor repair, would they please contact the

Town Office at 802-824-3356. New veteran markers have been acquired and will be placed on graves in the spring. Also, the Cemetery Commission would like to alert members of the community that gravestones have been cleaned this past year.

Thank you to all from the Cemetery Commission for the town of Londonderry.

Ashley Dailey named regional director of Vermont Adult Learning –

REGION – Ashley Dailey began working with Vermont Adult Learning in August 2018 as a high school completion plan manager, developing strong relationships with colleagues, students, high schools, and community partners. Dailey was promoted to regional director of Vermont Adult Learning for Windsor County, overseeing the Springfield and White River Junction locations. She holds a B.A. in communications and English literature

from SUNY, The College at Brockport, and will begin a master's in education studies at the University of New Hampshire in January.

Dailey enjoys working at Vermont Adult Learning and as a community partner throughout Windsor County. She truly believes in education and the powerful impact it can make on the individuals we serve. Witnessing the passion her colleagues bring to their work every day and the personalized services provided to folks looking to further their

education, Dailey feels energized each day to bring her best to adult education in Springfield, White River Junction, and surrounding towns.

Vermont Adult Learning's mission is to create an innovative, inclusive, and equitable learning environment that provides personalized opportunities for education and career development for Vermont residents by building relationships, strengthening communities, and fostering life-long learning. Learn more at www.vtadulthoodlearning.org.

GARAGE

From Page 1A

Rasmussen from the Regional Planning Commission, the RPC will do the speed study and assist with the engineering survey free of charge. The Selectboard agreed to proceed with those next steps to move the project forward.

The town wastewater budget is under review. A recent USDA audit indicated that current rate structure is not sustain-

able and will need to be revised. The town will be looking at the amount of increase and looking at what is the best way to implement that. Part of the issue is that one-third of all water meters in town are unreadable. The Selectboard will begin the process of figuring out the breakeven point for water and a rate and rate structure that makes sense and won't create a huge sticker shock.

The Selectboard approved the request by Windsor County Sheriffs to use the lower sand

pit down behind the wastewater area for low light target shooting. The area will be roped off and warning will be given to residents in advanced once a date is established.

The concrete on the Depot Street Bridge was poured Tuesday, Oct. 15, but the bridge will not be paved or open to car traffic until next spring. Whether the bridge will be open to foot traffic has not yet been decided.

The next Cavendish Selectboard meeting is Tuesday, Nov. 12 at 6:30 p.m.

GMUSD

From Page 1A

at the end of the 2019-20 school year. Students will be identifying their decisions in

mid-November, which should give the board an idea of what numbers to expect next year.

During a discussion on the buses, the board confirmed that GMUSD was solely responsible for paying for the buses. Powden

said that Ludlow Mount Holly board was discussing transportation, but they had not discussed the possibility of paying GMUSD for use of their buses. Fromberger said that he would be happy to have their participation and would welcome them paying 40% of the cost.

The Employee Handbook, which had been reviewed and rejected by the board in previous meetings, returned once again, this time incorporating all of the legal suggestions made by VSBA. The board approved the handbook with McBride being the lone dissenter.

Powden informed the board that initial discussions have begun about bringing preschool to Chester-Andover Elementary School. Powden said they looked at the TDS Bank building right in front of CAES as a location. The building is going to auction but has an asking price of \$265,000. Powden will send a survey to parents of 3-year-olds to gauge interest. She will begin assembling renovation costs for full proposal.

The next GMUSD meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 21 at CAES at 6 p.m.



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Give the “gift of warmth” for 14th annual Coat Drive

LUDLOW, Vt. – We are counting on your help again this year! Every year, with the help of our friends and community members, William Raveis Vermont Properties has been able to collect more than 100 winter clothing items to donate to Black River Good Neighbors Services. This will be our 14th year, and we hope to make this our best yet and know that we can with your help. The forecast for this winter is expected to be another cold one, and if you come to Vermont in the winter, you know what that means!

From now until Dec. 1, we will be collecting gently used, clean outerwear to support our community and friends. We are especially looking for children's coats and snow pants.

Since beginning our yearly efforts, we have collected over 1,750 coats and other outerwear. All donations help keep local families warm, in one way or another. The outerwear will either be given to someone in need or sold at the Black River Good Neighbors store where the proceeds will fund programs that provide heat, utilities, or food to local families.

Please drop your gently used, clean coats and outerwear off at our office at William Raveis Vermont Properties at 29 Locust Hill Rd. Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m., and Sunday, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. It's time to give the gift of warmth and keep a local family warm this cold winter season. Thank you for joining us to make this happen for the 14th year in a row. Please call 802-228-8877 for more information.

CPBR announces 2019 Good Neighbor

LUDLOW, Vt. – Katherine Burns has been named CPBR's 2019 Good Neighbor! The annual Good Neighbor Award recognizes a realtor member whose extraordinary dedication to community service is making a difference. Kathy is always the first to step up and help any way that she can either by volunteering or giving a monetary donation. Her many years of volunteering in the Ludlow, Vt. area has made a substantial positive monetary impact on this community. Her charismatic personality gets everyone excited and moving toward the highest fundraising goal.

Kathy was on the board of The Okemo Community Challenge for over 15 years and was one of its founding members. Founded in 1996, OCC raised close to \$2 million through the generous support of local businesses, homeowners, and visitors to fund challenge grants for our local nonprofits.

OCC actively supported Ludlow area schools, whose declining budgets made it difficult to provide students with state-of-the-art technology and enrichment programs. OCC has funded Streetscapes and the Ludlow Garden Club, organizations that brighten up our Main Street. Fletcher Memorial Library, Black River Academy Museum, Okemo Valley TV, Friends of Ludlow Auditorium, Black River Area Community Coalition, Windsor County Youth Services, and the Gill Odd Fellows Home have all received support from OCC.

Kathy was one of the primary organizers of the 2004 Streetscapes Ludlow Llama fundraiser for the town of Ludlow helped to raise more than \$80,000 for Streetscapes, a nonprofit organization dedicated to beautifying and enhancing the village of Ludlow, and the Ludlow Art Guild.

Kathy and her company have been running the coat drive for 14 years. Coats are collected at her office and are brought down to Black River Good Neighbors Services to be sold in the store after being distributed to local schools. The proceeds of the coat sales in the BRGNS store helps support the food shelf and financial assistance to people who need help in the Ludlow community.

Comedy Night is another fundraiser that Kathy Burns started about 18 years ago. Each year, the proceeds go to a different organization.

Kathy currently sits on the OMARA Board. OMARA's mission is to support the development of our snow sport athletes in the Okemo community. Through members' dues, exciting fundraising events, and volunteering, OMARA provides financial support, outreach, and advocacy to our Okemo snow sport athletes.

Kathy spearheaded the Okemo Mountain School development committee to get more community members involved. She also spearheaded the OMS annual appeal called Campaign for our Community, and last year helped to raise over \$100,000 for OMS. She also raised additional money to support the 5,200 square-foot fitness facility at OMS that houses state of the art strength and conditioning equipment, a yoga and recovery room, a trainer's office, coaches' offices, and student-athlete locker rooms.

Kathy is the broker and owner of William Raveis Real Estate Vermont Properties.

Chester-Andover Food Shelf seeking Thanksgiving turkeys

CHESTER, Vt. – The Chester-Andover Family Center food shelf needs your help. We are busy preparing to provide food shelf participants with food for their Thanksgiving dinner. While we will purchase food from the Vermont Foodbank and local retail grocers, it will not be nearly enough to put a Thanksgiving dinner on the table for our 100-plus regular food shelf participants who depend on us for supplemental food to feed their family every month. Thanksgiving is especially challenging for families on a tight budget as it comes at the end of the month.

Our goal is to provide a Thanksgiving turkey to participating food shelf families in our community. Please consider dropping off a turkey or turkey breast to the food shelf between now and Thursday, Nov. 21. We are available every Thursday between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. to accept Thanksgiving food donations.

Shelf stable items such as stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, canned pumpkin, and piecrust mix to complete their holiday dinner are also greatly appreciated. Oranges and apples are always a welcome fresh fruit.

We also seek your help in identifying friends and neighbors who may be struggling to make ends meet. Residents of Chester and Andover in need of supplemental food are eligible to become food shelf recipients. Stop in to the food shelf and a volunteer will help you enroll. Please bring proof of residency.

The Chester-Andover Family Center is located at 908 VT Route 103 South. As a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, your donation is tax-deductible.



Donate a turkey to the food shelf for a family in need. STOCK PHOTO

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Sale Prices Effective Tuesday, Oct. 22 - Monday, Oct. 28, 2019

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Warm Hands, Warm Hearts

CHESTER, Vt. – The 12th annual coat drive in Chester, now called Warm Hands, Warm Hearts, will take place Friday and Saturday, Nov. 8 and 9, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Congregational Church in Chester on the corner of Church and Main Street.

The event is open to anyone in the community, and there is no limit to any one person. “Take what you need for yourself or for someone you love,” said Edie Brown, organizer of the event. Bags of food will also be offered to the community during the event.

Last year, the drive donated over 500 coats; 200 sweaters and sweatshirts; 75 blankets; and countless hats, mittens, and scarves to approximately



Donate to the Warm Hands, Warm Hearts coat drive. STOCK PHOTO

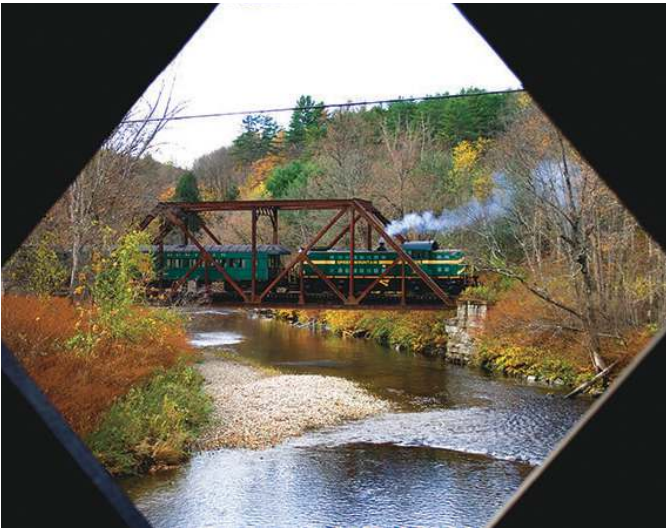
200 community members in need.

This year, they are accepting all of the same types of items, “anything that can keep some-

one warm,” including boots, shoes, socks, sweaters, hats, coats and jackets, and blankets and bedding. They ask that everything you donate is clean

and usable. Donations can be delivered to any church in Chester, as well as Renewed Life of Jesus in Bartonsville, Andover Community Church in Andover, the Chester Town Office, and the Andover Town Office. Contact your local church or town office for days and times that they are accepting donations.

Warm Hands, Warm Hearts is also looking for volunteers to help sort all of the donations, Tuesday through Thursday, Nov. 5-7, as well as to help for the busy days of the event Nov. 8 and 9, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call Edie for more information, or to sign up to volunteer, at 802-875-3889.



Foliage train

BARTONSVILLE, Vt. – Ron Patch and Tom Hildreth went down to photograph the fall train from a different perspective. Pictured is a view from inside the Worrell Covered Bridge in Bartonsville looking through the window as the foliage train crossed the bridge.

PHOTO BY TOM HILDRETH

Festival of Trees save the date



Don't miss the Festival of Trees! STOCK PHOTO

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Garden Club invites you to the 27th annual Festival of Trees fundraiser to be held Friday, Nov. 22, from 6-8 p.m., at the Great Hall, 100 River St. in Springfield, Vt. Once again, the Great Hall will be transformed into a “Winter Wonder-

land” with trees, music, hors d’ouerves, wine, local craft beer, silent auction, raffle, and sales of fresh green creations. The festival is the sole means of support for all of the programs the club provides to the community. More information will be available soon.

The Beyond the Unicorn Christmas Craft Fair celebrates its 40th anniversary

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The annual Beyond the Unicorn Christmas Craft Fair, sponsored by the Springfield High School Alumni Association, is in the process of selecting new vendors to fill in a few available spots. Vendors are selected based on the diversity and quality of their creations and include food, home decor and furniture, bath and body products, fabric, wool and deerskin wear, as well as photography, painting, jewelry, and Christmas decor.

If you would like to join in the fun and showcase your creations, be sure to contact us but don't delay because we

usually fill all available spots quickly. This annual event is always held on the first Saturday of December and hosts over 90 artisans and crafters from all over New England, New Jersey, and New York.

The Beyond the Unicorn Christmas Craft Fair is a largely attended community celebration and includes a delicious lunch served by the Alumni Chefs and helps to support the association's annual weekend activities as well as scholarship funds. For more information or to join the event as a vendor, contact Sara Moulton at 802-291-2974 or SaraMoulton18@gmail.com.

Agency of Transportation announces launch of Transit App

REGION – The Vermont Agency of Transportation announces the launch of a statewide bus locator tool called the Transit App. This service shows the actual bus location on any transit route operating within Vermont and can be downloaded for free.

“We are excited to bring this level of information to our bus riders,” said Transportation Secretary Joe Flynn. “We remain committed to improving our public transit system, and this service was identified as a priority by our riders and transit providers.”

The Transit App can be downloaded on iPhone and Android, and then used to search any route or bus stop for real-time location and projected arrival times. The app also has features for trip planning, step-by-step navigation, service disruption notifications, and departure and stop reminders.

“This is part of a larger and ongoing effort to provide better transit service,” said Barbara Donovan, AOT Public Transit program manager. “Our riders deserve this predictability and real-time information, and we continue to develop better tools and amenities to improve the rider experience.”

Be creative when withdrawing from retirement accounts

REGION – Like many people, you may spend decades putting money into your IRA, your 401(k), or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan. But eventually you will want to take this money out – if you must start withdrawing some of it. How can you make the best use of these funds?

To begin with, here's some

background. When you turn 70.5, you need to start withdrawals – called required minimum distributions, or RMDs – from your traditional IRA and your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan, such as a 457(b) or 403(b). You can take more than the RMD, but if you don't take at least the minimum, which is

based on your account balance and your life expectancy, you'll generally be taxed at 50% of the amount you should have taken – so don't forget these withdrawals.

Here, then, is the question: What should you do with the RMDs? If you need the entire amount to help support your lifestyle, there's no issue – you take the money and use it. But what if you don't need it all? Keeping in mind that the withdrawals are generally fully taxable at your personal income tax rate, are there some particularly smart ways in which you can use the money to help your family or, possibly, a charitable organization? Here are a few suggestions.

Help your grown children with their retirement accounts

Your grown children may not always be able to afford to “max out” on their IRAs. You might want to help them with any excess funds from your own retirement accounts. You can give \$15,000 per year, per recipient, without incurring any gift taxes – an amount far higher than the current annual IRA contribution limit of \$6,000 – or \$7,000 for individuals 50 or older.

Help your grandchildren pay for college

You might want to contribute to an investment specifically designed to build assets for college. A financial professional can help you choose

which investments might be most appropriate. Of course, if your grandchildren are already in college, you are free to simply write a check to the school to help cover tuition and other expenses.

Help support a charitable organization

Due to recent changes in tax laws, many individuals now claim a standard deduction, rather than itemizing. As a result, there's less of an incentive, from a tax standpoint, for people to contribute to charitable organizations.

But if you'd still like to support a charitable group and gain potential tax benefits, you might want to consider moving some, or all, of your required

distributions from your IRA to a charity. You can transfer up to \$100,000 from your IRA in this type of qualified charitable distribution, thus meeting your RMD requirements without adding to your taxable income. Furthermore, this move might keep you in a lower tax bracket. Before making this transfer, you will need to consult with your tax advisor.

Your RMDs can contribute greatly to your retirement income, but as we've seen, they can do even more than that – so use them wisely.

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

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DJ at 10pm, Costume Prizes

Thursdays

Irish Session at 6:30 pm
with Gypsy Reel

Mondays

Open Mic Night at 8:00 pm

Tuesdays

Trivia Night Starting at 7:00 pm

Circus Spooktacular, NECCA's first Halloween production

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. – Be amazed and surprised, spooked and impressed, at

the New England Center for Circus Arts first-ever Circus Spooktacular Oct. 26 and 27.

The “Circus Spooktacular: A Recipe for Disaster” is a creative cauldron for NECCA's instructors and special guests and features the school's elite level coaches as flying trapeze zombies, aerial vampires, acrobatic mad scientists, and a juggling ghost, among other acrobatic conjurings shared with Halloween spirit.

The performers will lead this high-energy circus romp three



Check out NECCA's first Halloween themed production. PHOTO PROVIDED

Ludlow American Legion FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER

Friday, October 25

Baked Ham

Mashed Potatoes, Veggies, and Dessert

\$12.00

to Benefit the American Legion Auxiliary

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

American Legion Post #36

135 Main Street
Ludlow, VT

802-228-9807


Seatings from 5:30 to 7:00 pm

shows only at the NECCA Trapezium in Brattleboro, Vt. This story of witches, monsters, and some surprisingly lively undead may not be appropriate for the youngest children.

Show times are Saturday, Oct. 26 at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 27 at 7 p.m. Purchase tickets at www.necenterforcircusarts.org. For more information, call 802-254-9780.

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LOCAL HISTORY

BY RON PATCH

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

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

Al's IGA

From about 1940 through the early 1970s, Al's IGA was a busy store in downtown Chester. Al Cross took over what had been the Grand Union.

In the 1800s into the early 1900s, it was known as the Fletcher Block. In the 1860s, Mr. Fletcher ran a tailor shop at this location. Fletcher is known to have made Civil War uniforms for officers.

Howard Peck told me that in the 19-teens it was two stores. As Howard told me, Mr. Richardson ran a grocery in one side. There was a pool hall in the other side. Howard said the pool hall drew all sorts of men of fine character. Howard's parents told him to stay away.

Howard described the interior of the pool hall as being rather dark and smoky. There were two pool tables and a few slot machines. Spittoons, cigar smoke permeated the air.

This location has been affected by a couple of bad fires in its long history. In 1888, the Central Hotel caught fire as well as a couple other buildings in close proximity. The Fletcher Block caught fire, but Chester firefighters were able to save the store. There was considerable damage.

When the store was rebuilt, it was extended maybe 14 feet closer to the inn. If you look at the upper level of the photo with article, you'll notice on the left four windows very close together. Then look to the right and you'll notice a space and then three more windows spaced further apart.

The space between the four and three windows shows is where the building was added on. At the historical society, we have a photo taken circa 1860 that shows the original, shorter addition.

After Al's IGA closed, Baba



Al's IGA circa 1950s. PHOTO PROVIDED BY CHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Louis Bakery got their start here before moving to Proctorsville. In the 1980s, I ran an antiques shop here. At first I was only in half of the building. When the other side became available, I rented it. It was a great location.

After I closed my shop in 1987, I seem to remember two men from Grafton or Springfield opening a bookstore here. I remember it became two stores after I left. Anne Stein was in one side. Misty Valley Books came in and occupied both sides. It has since remained a bookstore. Today, the history continues as Blair Books & More.

The photo with this article is one of 18 photos in the 2020 Chester Historical Society calendar. They are available at Lisai's Market, Erskine's Feed Store, Salon 2000, The Framery of Vermont, Stonehouse Antiques Center, Blair Books & More, and Chester Hardware.

Instead of an old saying, I have a short story I want to tell. After Bud Nadeau's celebration of life this past Saturday at the Legion, I went out to the bar to get a beer. I saw Jerry Stewart talking with his son. I jumped in and asked Jerry if he remembered skiing up Main Street with my brother Brian. "Yes," he said. This is worth telling.

It had been snowing for some time. The town had plowed Main Street a couple hours ear-

lier, but by now more snow had accumulated. Perfect conditions, they thought.

They tied a rope to the rear bumper of my father's 1956 Ford. With my brother driving and Jerry being towed on skis, what could go wrong? They reached about 20 miles per hour when there was a slight setback.

Just above where Jerry lives today and Newsbank is where it happened. Unknown to my brother or Jerry, there was some excess salt on the road in one area. Salt melts snow.

Well, my brother drove through the melting snow in the road. Next is Jerry. You can imagine what an abrupt stop it would be when your skis leave snow and hit pavement.

Jerry described to me how the wind had been knocked out of him and that he couldn't speak. John Leon "Gramp" Spaulding came up to Jerry and asked if he was ok. Gramp was shoveling snow at Readex/Newsbank when it happened. Jerry couldn't catch his breath to reply. Gramp asked a couple more times. Finally, Jerry got his wind back.

I wish you could have seen the twinkle in Jerry's eye as he recounted this story. Chester was a great town to grow up in.

OLLI presents “Grave Robbing in New England”

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Alan Rumrill will present the next OLLI program, “Grave Robbing in New England,” Tuesday, Oct. 29 at 2 p.m. at the Nolin Murray Center on Pleasant Street in Springfield, Vt.

During the 19th century, it was common for paid grave robbers to visit cemeteries in the dark of night to dig up recently buried bodies and sell them to medical schools for use as cadavers in medical dissection classes. Rumrill will tell stories of this practice throughout New England and discuss the laws and punishments used against grave robbers, as well as the process used to rob a grave.

Rumrill has been executive director of the Historical Society of Cheshire County in Keene, N.H. for 36 years. He has written eight books and numerous articles on local history and art and has also made 1,000



Alan Rumrill. PHOTO PROVIDED

public presentations on local history topics.

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.

Membership for the semester includes nine programs. Nonmembers are encouraged and welcome to attend individual lectures for a single program fee. Single program fees may be paid at the program.

The next OLLI program will be Nov. 12 with Robert Hamill, M.D., from the College of Medicine at the University of Vermont, who will discuss “Protecting the Aging Brain: Lifestyle Matters.” The complete Springfield and statewide program list is available online at www.learn.uvm.edu/olli.

Reading Frederick Douglass at Springfield Library

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Join us at the Springfield Town Library Wednesday, Oct. 30, from 12:15-12:45 p.m., as we read together the fiery July 5, 1852 speech in which the great abolitionist orator Frederick Douglass took exception to being asked to commemorate the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

This is a participatory event. Community members are invited to witness or join in the reading. Copies of the speech will be provided. Sign up at the front desk to participate. Bring your bag lunch, and we will provide dessert.



Frederick Douglass. PHOTO PROVIDED

In 1852, Frederick Douglass, one of our nation's greatest orators and abolitionists, was asked to speak at an event commemorating the signing of the Declaration of Independence. In his provocative speech, Douglass said, “This Fourth of July is yours, not mine. You may rejoice, I must mourn.”

He asked, “Do you mean, citizens, to mock me, by asking me to speak to-day?” Douglass's speech remains emotionally powerful and thought provoking more than a century and a half after he gave it.

This reading is part of our

celebration of the Vermont Humanities Council's Vermont Reads 2019 graphic novel “March: Book 1” by Jon Lewis, Andrew Aydin, and Nate Powell. Free copies of “March: Book 1” are available at the Springfield Town Library, 43 Main Street, Springfield.

Presented in conjunction with the Vermont Humanities Council, Springfield Universalist Unitarian Congregation, and Springfield Food Co-op. This program is free, accessible, and open to the public. For more information, contact 802-885-3108 or stlas@vermontel.net.

Rockingham’s 2019 Old House Award winners

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The Rockingham Historic Preservation Commission will host a public reception and awards ceremony for the winners of the 2019 Old House Awards Thursday, Oct. 24, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Bellows Falls Historical Society's new office at 31 Westminster St., Bellows Falls.

This annual event is spon-

sored by the commission as a way to recognize the efforts of individual home and business owners who take pride in preserving and maintaining their historic properties, contributing to the entire town's historic character now and in the future. Nominations come from neighbors, property owners themselves, and members of

the commission.

This year's winners will be announced at the event. Winners will receive a bronze plaque suitable for mounting on their homes or businesses in recognition of their efforts. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, email clg@rockbf.org or go to www.rockbf.org.

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- Baked Shrimp, Haddock, Scallops - \$13⁰⁰
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All Specials Include your Choice of Baked Potato, Sweet Potato Fries, OR Regular Fries, AND a Choice of Vegetable of the Day OR Coleslaw.

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Sausage • Pancakes • French Toast • Home Fries
Brunch • Potatoes • Fresh Fruit • Juice & More

\$11⁰⁰ Kids under age 12 for half price!

sports



THIS AND THAT Fall 2019 playoff picture

BY BILL MURPHY

The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

Playoff time is always an exciting time of year for high school athletes. When any regular season begins, most teams figure they will be pretty good this time around. By the time the post season swings into gear, game action and the team's record either tell them that they are a contender or that it is likely to be one and done time. There are a couple of other exceptions: the team doesn't qualify for the post-season despite what their play and record or the team believes they can pull an upset of one, two, or even more games. One thing every team does know is: you win today or you go home.

Cross country

How many area teams do we think will capture the top prize in this fall of 2019? The high flyers this fall are the Bellows Falls girls' cross country team. They head to Thetford Saturday, Oct. 26 for the Division III State Championship race with a reasonable chance of capturing the top prize. Their race is at 12 p.m. Bellows Falls finished second to a strong Division II Burr & Burton team in the Southern Vermont League Championship race last week. Top Terrier runner Abby Broadley, only a sophomore, ran away with the race, finishing one minute and 15 seconds ahead of all the competition.

The DIII title run is expected to come down to a toss up between Bellows Falls and Rice, and the depth of performance of the Bellows Falls runners are expected to decide the top spot. Supporting Broadley in the SVL race were sophomores Stephanie Ager, 4th; Victoria Bassette, 8th; and Ashley Bartlett, 12th; and juniors Abby Dearborn, 14th, and Molly Hodsden, 15th. Each of those runners could be a key to Saturday's competition.

The Bellows Falls boys' cross country team are not expected to challenge for the title, but they did place third in the

SVL race behind powerful Woodstock and Rutland and will push to as high a position as is possible. Tim Salter-Roy, 8th, and Collin Robertson, 12th, were both in the top dozen in that race. The boys DIII title race is Saturday, Oct. 26 at 10:30 a.m.

Girls' soccer

Our area favorite to go the furthest in girls' soccer has to be the Leland & Gray Rebels (12-2). However, there may be people in our coverage area cheering against them and rooting for the Green Mountain Chieftains (5-9) because the two teams match up in the opening round of playoffs. These two are Division III rivals and have had some intense battles over the past few years on the pitch. The two schools have met six times in post-season play with each school winning three games.

This fall, they met twice with the ladies from Townshend dominating the first meeting 8-0 before a much closer 3-1 victory for Leland & Gray the second time around. Home field advantage could be a big plus for the third-seeded team. Whoever wins this game plays Saturday, Oct. 26 at 1 p.m. against Stowe.

The Springfield girls' soccer (10-3-1), competing in Division II, probably have the next best chance to go the furthest. They had a Wednesday, Oct. 23 p.m. home game with Lamoille (6-6-1), who is a tough team to judge. The Lancers play a northern schedule of mostly Division III schools, but they hold a couple of victories against teams at the top of that pack whom are considered DIII title threats.

A Cosmos' victory would likely set up a trip to Fair Haven (10-2-2), whom they have played twice during the regular season with each team coming out victorious on their home turf. Springfield shut the Slaters out 1-0 at home after falling 2-0 at Fair Haven. The Fair Haven contest would be Saturday, Oct. 26 at 3 p.m.

I doubt Black River (5-8) is a title threat, but the fact the Lady Presidents could land a home game Tuesday, Oct. 22 as an eight seed versus Sharon, is a story in itself. A victory in this one would be one kind of footnote to say goodbye to a proud community soccer tradition. These young ladies, win or lose, are the last team to represent their tradition of soccer excellence. The competitive spirit they have showed without depth while playing through some untimely injuries leave the Ludlow residents smiling.

Bellows Falls (2-10-2) took their 15 seed up to Vergennes (8-4-1) for another Tuesday, Oct. 22 encounter.

Boys' soccer

On the boys' side of the competition, Green Mountain (9-5) is the only strong team from the area. The Chieftains are seeded third and drew an Otter Valley (2-12) squad Tuesday, Oct. 22, who competes in a mainly DII schedule, so are likely better than their record.

A Chieftain victory allows another home game Friday, Oct. 25 at 3 p.m. versus the Randolph at Vergennes contest. The two other boys' teams to compete both saw games Tuesday as Leland & Gray (4-9-1) and Bellows Falls (3-11) hit the road at Bellows Free Academy (7-7) and Hazen (11-3) respectively.

Field hockey

Bellows Falls (7-7) and Springfield



Terrier quarterback Griffin Waryas runs the ball on a sweep in a 39-16 win versus Milton last week with Patrick Barbour (56) and Grady Lockerby (50) clearing the way.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE

(3-11) are the only two schools in our area who have field hockey teams. The Terriers compete in Division I and with a limited number of teams in Division I get a bye to the quarterfinals where they have a road game at South Burlington (9-5). The Rebels have dominated DI field hockey for years until the Terriers interrupted their fun last season. This will be a very difficult road encounter.

The Cosmos also play in a small division with teams seeded into the quarterfinals in Division III, and they will travel to Stowe (11-3) for a Saturday, Oct. 26 contest at 1 p.m.

Football

Both Bellows Falls (6-2) and Springfield (5-3) host home playoff football games Friday evening, Oct. 25 at 7 p.m. Bellows Falls will host a Lyndon team they defeated on the road earlier this season. Bob Lockerby's team dominated the first half and was not challenged, but Lyndon was without a couple of key players in that game. Lockerby told me, "They are kind of a scary opponent, but if we take care of the ball and don't give up big plays, we should be okay."

Springfield hosts a Windsor team they defeated 12-6 on the road a few weeks back, and some people feel the Jack-ets have improved since then. Coach Todd Aiken said, "We need to have a good week of practice. We didn't before the Poultney game, and we didn't play well so we need to focus now because it's a brand new season."



Leland & Gray's Carly Lane and her team host Green Mountain in the first round of the Vermont Division III soccer playoffs. Lane is shown in regular season action battling Bellows Falls' Hannah Dupuis for the ball.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE



Bellows Falls' Halle Dickerson in white battles a Rutland player for the ball in an exciting 2-1 overtime victory over Rutland on Senior Day. Maya Waryas and Grace Wilkinson had the Terrier goals.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE

Ludlow Insurance Agency and Springfield Hospital award hole-in-one winner

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Sept. 19, 2019, Mark Huntley of Cavendish, Vt., landed a hole-in-one during the 19th annual Springfield Hospital Golf Challenge at the Okemo Valley Golf Club in Ludlow, Vt., and won \$10,000. This was the first time in the history of the Golf Challenge, and also the first time during a tournament at OVGC, that a player hit a hole-in-one on one of the big prize-winning holes.

"Many thanks go to long-time supporters, Sharon and Ron Bixby of Ludlow Insurance Agency, for sponsoring hole #17 and the \$10,000 cash prize," says Sandy Peplau, who managed Springfield Hospital's 2019 Golf Challenge. "We also extend thanks to Springfield Buick-GMC for

sponsoring a hole-in-one prize at hole #8... a bright, red 2020 GMC 3500. While we had a very close call on that hole, we

had no winners," continued Peplau.

Twenty-two teams participated in this year's Golf

Challenge, and more than 60 businesses and individuals sponsored the event that raised over \$14,000 for Springfield Hospital.

"When I was given the task of organizing this year's tournament, I hoped for three things," says Peplau. "One: No rain, and we had a beautiful, blue-sky day. Two: Enough people to play in the tournament, and we had 88 players. And, three: Wouldn't it be fun for someone to get a hole-in-one? I never thought that I would get my third wish. Thanks, Mark!"

Proceeds from this year's Golf Challenge are being used to purchase equipment for the Urology Department and Operating Room at Springfield Hospital.



Sharon Bixby, left, and Sandy Peplau, right, present Mark Huntley, center, with \$10,000 hole-in-one cash prize.

PHOTO PROVIDED



VRPA awards Kurn Hattin Track & Field small community champion

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – On Friday, Oct. 11, the Vermont Recreation & Parks Association Conference awarded Shaun Edwards, Kurn Hattin assistant track coach, and Dan Barile, head coach, for leading Kurn Hattin to the VRPA State Track & Field Small Community Championship at St. Johnsbury Academy Aug. 3.

PHOTO PROVIDED

arts & entertainment

Chili Cook-off to benefit Rec Area

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – The Saxtons River Rec Area will hold its annual chili cook-off Saturday, Oct. 26, from noon to 2 p.m., on the lawn at Main Street Arts. In case of rain, the event moves down the street to the basement of Christ’s Church.

For a small fee, attendees can sample all the chili they want, have a piece of cornbread, and vote for a winner in the individual and professional categories. There will also be other refreshments for sale and live music to add to the festive air.

Entries for the chili cook-off should have been registered by Wednesday, Oct. 23 by contacting Samantha Fletcher at 802-869-1407. The event is a fundraiser for the Saxtons River Rec and for its youth soccer program.

“Horses in Translation” at Rockingham Library

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Join Sharon Wilsie for “Horses in Translation,” a program on how to speak to horses in their language, instead of expecting them to comprehend ours at the Rockingham Library Saturday, Oct. 26 at 10 a.m.

Wilsie’s progressive philosophy of horsemanship finds positive solutions to behavior and training problems and ultimately leads to fewer misunderstandings between horses and humans. Wilsie highlights her horse speak process with the clues that point to the best course of action, and the steps she takes to connect with the horses that have shut down, grown confused, or become sulky or aggressive for any number of reasons.

Wilsie has enjoyed a professional career as a horse trainer and rehabilitation specialist, intercollegiate coach, and riding instructor. Her work now focuses on helping people learn the body language of horses and bridging the gap of communication that has existed for far too long. She lives in Westminster, Vt.

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Secret Garden tells of nature’s healing powers

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – When the curtain rises Friday, Oct. 25 at the Bellows Falls Opera House on the Main Street Arts production of “The Secret Garden,” the audience will be invited to “dig into the magic of a little bit of earth.”

Frances Hodgson Burnett could not have imagined that the children’s classic she penned in 1911 would resonate in 2019 with young and old who are concerned with climate change. The musical tells the story of 11-year-old Mary Lennox, orphaned in India by an epidemic of cholera, who returns to Yorkshire to live with her embittered, reclusive Uncle Archibald and his invalid son Colin on their estate. Among its wonders, she discovers a magic garden that beckons the children with haunting melodies and the “Dreamers,” spirits from Mary’s past who guide her through her new life.

The large cast and crew includes about three dozen actors from ages 12 to 71, another dozen who created the set under the direction of Bill Doran, a group of cos-



Mary (Teya Bryan) and Colin (Eben Wagner) will experience the healing powers of the secret garden. PHOTO BY IRA WILNER

tumers led by Liz Guzynski, a lighting crew who rise to new heights, as well as an orchestra of 17 led by music director Ken Olsson. Shoshana Bass and Annesa Hartman serve as choreographers, and Barbie Kurkul is stage manager.

In the role of Mary is 12-year-old Teya Bryan of Acworth, N.H. She’ll be joined by 14-year-old Eben Wagner of Brattleboro as Colin. Veteran actor Falko Schilling of Saxtons River plays the cantankerous caretaker Ben Weatherstaff. Playing the sad Archibald Craven is Gavy Kessler of Dummerston. Morganna

Ekkens (Lily) appears as one of the five ghosts who haunt Archibald: Ron Bos-Lun (Fakir), Sam Holmberg (Rose), Victor Brandt (Albert Lennox), and Erica Yuengling (Mary’s nursemaid).

Other local cast members include Libby McCawley of Putney as the housekeeper, Gary Clay as Major Shelley, and Heidi Lauricella as Mrs. Winthrop. An ensemble of spirits of the past rounds out the cast.

The production kicks off with a free dress rehearsal for 500 local school children.

Performances continue for two weekends, with performances Fridays and Saturdays, Oct. 25, 26, Nov. 1, and 2, and Thursday, Oct. 31, all at 7:30 p.m., and matinees Saturdays, Oct. 26 and Nov. 2, and Sunday, Oct. 27, all at 2 p.m.

Ticket pricing allows a wide range of options for theatergoers, and tickets can be purchased online at www.mainstreetarts.org or by calling MSA at 802-869-2960 or in person at Village Square Booksellers. Youth 12 and under and seniors 65-plus can receive a discount on the Oct. 27 matinee.

“One Town at a Time” by Mike Leonard at Springfield Town Library

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – How many Vermont towns have you visited? 251? What is the 251 Club? Join us at the Springfield Town Library Saturday, Oct. 26 at 10:30 a.m. to view the documentary, “One Town at a Time,” directed by Mike Leonard.

In 2006, during a summer between college semesters, Vermont Mike Leonard took on the challenge of visiting every town in the state by joining the

251 Club, a unique organization dedicated to exploring the Green Mountain State. During Mike’s tour, he met with locals and visited some of Vermont’s famous and not so famous areas. Then, after living outside Vermont for over a decade, Mike moved back home and chose to revisit the 251 Club, returning to some of the same places and interviewing some of the same people he met 12

years before. Find out how Vermont has changed, how it has stayed the same, and how a humble wayfarer’s club shaped his identity forever.

“One Town at a Time” is a coming-of-age story that is firmly rooted in the community spirit that makes Vermont towns so special. Hear the stories that other 251 Club members have of traveling through Vermont. Discussion with the filmmaker, Mike Leonard, will follow. You may find yourself inspired to start exploring as well.

This event is sponsored by



Mike Leonard. PHOTO PROVIDED

the Friends of the Springfield Town Library and is free, accessible, and open to the public. The Springfield Town Library is located at 43 Main Street, Springfield, Vt. For more information, contact 802-885-3108 or stlas@vermontel.net.

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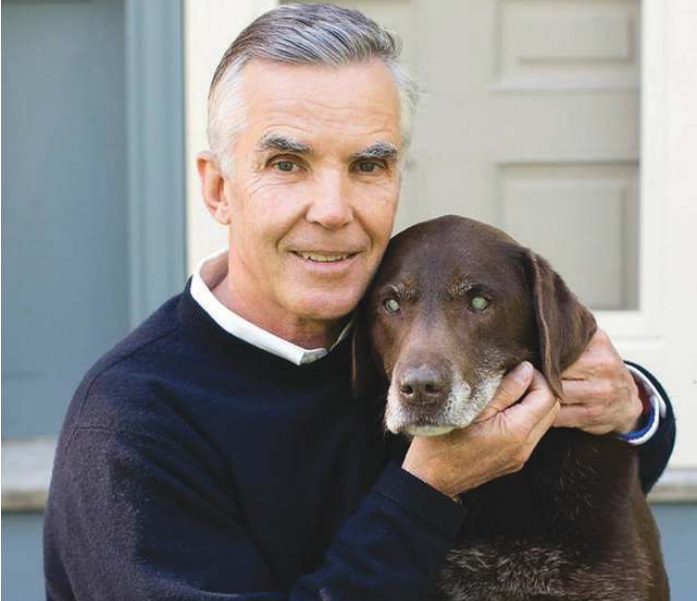
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arts & entertainment

“Bessie’s Story: Watching the Lights Go Out”

CAVENDISH, Vt. – On Saturday, Oct. 26 at 4 p.m., Cavendish Fletcher Community Library and the Book Nook will co-host author Thomas Farnen for an afternoon author’s talk about “Bessie’s Story: Watching the Lights Go Out,” an inspiring book about Bessie, a chocolate lab slowly losing her sight, who unwittingly becomes a mentor and teacher for her owner on the high-wire act of growing older with grace and optimism. This event will take place in the Cavendish Fletcher Community Library, located at 573 Main Street in Proctorsville, Vt.

“Bessie’s Story: Watching the Lights Go Out” is the true story of a man slowly approaching retirement and his dog, Bessie, who is gradually losing her sight. The book traces the subtle, yet inexorable changes in Bessie, an exuberant chocolate lab and lover of humanity, as she struggles to make sense of a world increasing in darkness and learns to compensate for her disability. As Bessie adapts, so does he; his behaviors alter in response to her needs. He becomes more



Author Thomas Farnen with his dog Bessie.

PHOTO PROVIDED

watchful, mindful, and compassionate as he finds ways to make her life easier and better. She refuses to let what is happening to her slow her down or change what she loves to do.

Thomas W. Farnen is the headmaster emeritus of Rumsey Hall School in Washington, Conn. He and his wife Ashley worked in partnership at the school for over four decades

and now live in rural New Hampshire. Tom serves on the board for several non-profit organizations, including Special Olympics of New Hampshire, and is an ambassador at Mount Sunapee ski area. This event is free and open to all.

The Cavendish Fletcher Community Library is located at 573 Main Street in Proctorsville, Vt. For more information, please call 802-228-3238 or visit www.facebook.com/events/381564962535598.

Springfield Town Library kicks off 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Springfield Town Library is proud to join with libraries across the U.S. in hosting the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten initiative. Join us Monday, Oct. 28 at 5:30 p.m. for a kickoff event at the library. 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten is a challenge designed to promote reading to newborns, infants, toddlers, and preschoolers and encourages child and guardian bonding through reading.

Families read books – any books – with the goal of reading

1,000 books before your child starts kindergarten. If you read just one book a night, you will have read about 365 books in a year – 730 books in two years and 1,095 books in three years!

The kick-off will include a story time and activities for children and an opportunity to register. Early childhood experts will be on-hand for conversations about your important role in your child’s learning. Find out more Monday, Oct. 28 at 5:30 p.m. at Springfield Town Library.

Kids’ Halloween at BF American Legion 37

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Kids up to 10 years of age in the Bellows Falls and North Walpole area are invited to a free Halloween Party at the Bellows Falls American Legion Post 37 Sunday, Oct. 27, from 1-3 p.m. Doors will open for all the Spooks at 12:50 p.m. There will be prizes, candy, refreshments, and special treats for everyone. Kids may wear a costume if they wish, but it is not required.



Stop by Bellows Falls American Legion for a Kids’ Halloween Party. STOCK PHOTO

BRAM annual Soup ‘n Sip Fall Harvest Gala

LUDLOW, Vt. – Join us for the festivities at the Black River Academy Museum Saturday, Oct. 26, 2019 starting at 6 p.m. It’s time for our Fall Harvest Soup ‘n Sip annual fundraising gala event. There will be many activities taking place such as raffles, grab bags, and silent auction items donated by our local businesses.

Delicious soups, chowders, and chili will be provided to warm you on a cool autumn evening. Liquid re-



Join BRAM for Soup ‘n Sip.

STOCK PHOTO

freshments will also be available for purchase. The admission fee supports our local historical site. This function is geared towards adults 21 or older.

Hope to see you then at 14 High St. in Ludlow. Our building is handicap accessible. For more detailed information, go to www.bramvt.org.

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“Local Health Care Access Assured Me Sun, Sand and Smiles...”

Photo Credit: Denise Hunter

outdoor news

Halloween Pasture Pals at VINE Sanctuary

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Celebrate Halloween Saturday, Oct. 26, from 1 to 3 p.m., with Pasture Pals at VINE Sanctuary. Children ages 6 and up are welcome to dress up in their spooky costumes to celebrate the holiday with the animals.

VINE is a farmed animal sanctuary that provides refuge for over 650 animals. Home to cows, chickens, goats, sheep, turkeys, and many more, VINE is a safe place for these formerly exploited beings. Pasture Pals is the sanctuary's humane education program that teaches children empathy and compassion while also introducing participants to the animals. The lessons are



Dress up and visit the Halloween Pasture Pals. STOCK PHOTO

written and taught by Aimee Bittinger, a veteran teacher and sanctuary staff member who knows the stories of the multi-species community.

Registration for Pasture Pals is required. Costumes are al-

lowed and encouraged, but masks are not. Masks can scare the animals and limit the wearer's visibility. All children must be at least 6 years old and accompanied by an adult at each meeting. Wear sturdy shoes, jackets, or anything else needed for a day outside. Each class is two hours long and includes a lesson, service project, and animal interaction. Pasture Pals is free and open to the public.

Register for the final sessions at www.tinyurl.com/pasturepals or email Anna Boarini at anna@bravebirds.org.

Colts and Fillies 4-H Fall Show

ALSTEAD, N.H. – The Colts and Fillies 4-H Club held their annual Fall Open Horse Show Oct. 6. The weather was gray and chilly, but that didn't damper anyone's enthusiasm. The show was competitive and fun; all classes were well attended, giving the spectators plenty to watch.

Judge Deb Danforth did a fantastic job determining class placing from a very close group of exhibitors. The food booth was a great success thanks to the efforts of Sarah, Kim, and Jamie Dennewitz. Our show secretary Rebecca Kennedy kept the classes organized. Our announcers Anna Kercewich and Sarah Vogel did a wonderful job keeping all informed of the next classes and placings. Evan Dennewitz handed ribbons to our class winners and manned the gate.

A big thank you to our jump builder Todd Rathke and our ring crew Jesse Fiske for setting up and moving all the jumps. Thanks to our course designer Daniela Rathke.

We would like to thank our show sponsors: Tractor Supply in Walpole, Big Dee's Tack, Walpole Shaw's, Mr. G's Liqui-



Colts & Fillies 4-H Club recently held their Fall Open Horse Show. PHOTO BY SANDY RATHKE

dation Center, Achille Agway in Walpole, Blue Seal Feed, Poulin Grain, Straight Arrow Products, EQyss Grooming, Shapley's, Farmgirl Farrier, The Cheshire Horse, Horse & Buggy Feeds in Keene, and WS Badger.

Our sponsors, competitors, and spectators made this a successful show for the Colts & Fillies 4-H Club. We are always seeking new youth members and volunteers. Anyone who may be interested should contact the club at coltsandfillies_4h@yahoo.com or find us on Facebook, @coltsandfillies4h.

Championship results:
Adult: Champion – Cassidy Wyman, Little Bit of Luck; Reserve Champion – Abby Quigley, Dynamo Flotilla
Open WT: Champion – Nola Sciacca, Thunders Elvis; Reserve Champion – Bridgett Fal-

lon, June's Lightning
Beg WT: Champion – Emily Abbott, Bodi; Reserve Champion – Ella Coleman, Stradivarius

In Hand: Champion – Jennifer Boyd, Jewel; Reserve Champion – Daniela Rathke, SHS He's a Dust Bunny

Junior: Champion – Ella Clark, UVM McKenna; Reserve Champion – Jenna Dolloph, One Crafty Indian

Senior: Champion – Mia Decamp, Meadowair Quest For Glory; Reserve Champion – Amy Minard, Meadowair Kiss Me Kate

Hunter: Champion – Daniela Rathke, SHS He's a Dust Bunny; Reserve Champion – Madison Amsden, Augustus

Beg WTC: Champion – Margaret Winiecki, Meadowair Quest for Glory; Reserve Champion – Sadie Scott, Ultra Superlative

WT Games: Champion – Bridgett Fallon, June's Lightning; Reserve Champion – Addison Cobeil, Augustus

Open Games: Champion – Daniela Rathke, SHS He's a Dust Bunny; Reserve Champion – Ella Clark, UVM McKenna

See full results online at www.VermontJournal.com.

Halloween Wildlife Festival and Jack-O'-Lantern hike

CASTLETON, Vt. – Looking for a "wild" family-based adventure for Halloween this year? The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department is inviting families to attend its annual Halloween Wildlife Festival and Jack-O'-Lantern Hike at the Kehoe Education Center on Point of Pines Road in Castleton Friday, Oct. 25, from 5 to 8 p.m.

The festival features a fun and educational Halloween campfire show led by students from Castleton University. Kids will learn about the creepy, crawly critters that reside in Vermont and have a chance to get decked out in their costumes before the traditional trick-or-treat night.

Other activities include a nature hike along a trail that is lit by carved pumpkins, wildlife-related activities, face painting, and a photo booth. Snacks will include



Halloween at Bomoseen 2018. PHOTO PROVIDED

apple cider, caramel apples, and other seasonal treats.

"October is a perfect time to highlight the fun of Halloween while focusing on the critters that make it so special," said Alison Thomas, education coordinator. "This event gives families a chance to enjoy the season in a fun way and to learn these animals may not be so scary after all."

Admission and activities are

free and open to the general public, and all ages are welcome. No registration is required. Costumes are encouraged but not required.

The Edward F. Kehoe Green Mountain Conservation Camp is operated by the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department. This event is sponsored by the Fish & Wildlife Department and Castleton University.

For more information about the event, contact Corey Hart at corey.hart@vermont.gov or 802-265-2279. Organizers are seeking donations of pumpkins for the event, so anyone with spare pumpkins is asked to please get in touch with Hart also. For directions to the Edward F. Kehoe Green Mountain Conservation Camp, visit www.vtfishandwildlife.com/learn-more/gmcc.

Tom Beaudry of Walpole honored as Conservation Educator of the Year

WALPOLE, N.H. – Each year, the Cheshire County Conservation District honors an individual or organization with the "Educator of the Year" award. This is done to celebrate the efforts the recipient has undertaken to steward a conservation ethic and awareness through their personal and professional work in whatever form of education that takes. This year, we are happy to announce Tom Beaudry of Walpole, N.H. as our 2019 Educator of the Year.

Tom Beaudry is a certified crop consultant who works with farmers to meet their production goals and provide education on best management practices for soil health and water quality. Tom has been doing this work since 1995 on over 20,000 acres of farmland on both sides of the Connecticut River from the Massachusetts border to Woodsville, N.H.

Tom grew up right here in the region, in Charlestown, N.H. Prior to attending college and later starting his own farm, Tom worked and managed several local farms including Putnam Farms in Charlestown, Ascutney View Farm in West Claremont, and Boggy Meadow Farm in Walpole. After gaining this experience, Tom received two back-to-back degrees – an undergraduate degree in animal

science from the University of New Hampshire and a master's degree in dairy science from Virginia Tech.

All of Tom's early education and work experience led him to purchase Elm Island Dairy Farm in Walpole in 1995 at which point he also began his career as a crop consultant. While Tom only raises approximately 15 heifers on the farm today, at its peak the dairy farm was milking approximately 50-60 cows.

As a crop consultant, Tom supports farmers throughout New Hampshire and Vermont in a variety of ways. First and foremost, Tom's work focuses on meeting each farmer where they're at to provide recommendations to meet their desired production goals. His work varies from farm to farm for this reason, but often involves a focus on nutrient management and recommendations for manure, fertilizer, and herbicide application rates; seeding rates; farm equipment and machinery conversions and maintenance; as well as education and advice regarding soil health and water quality.

If you were to ask Tom, he might not label himself an educator – but that doesn't change the fact that he certainly is. Through his consulting work, Tom aims to help farmers understand best management practices for soil and water health, and how to navigate those practices when and if they make sense for each farm's end goal. This includes conversations and education regarding pH levels in the soil, cover cropping, crop rotation, manure application, erosion control, seed application, and especially

no-till practices – all practices that support the conservation of soil and water resources in the region. This year alone, Tom has worked with farms to transition approximately 2,000 acres on both sides of the Connecticut River to no-till.

Tom plays several additional volunteer roles throughout the farming community. He is an Associate Board Member of the CCCD, a member of the New Hampshire Soil Health Partnership, he sat on the Walpole Conservation Commission for 12 years and served as chair of that commission for seven years, sits on the newly established Modern Nutrient Management Commission as well as the New Hampshire Agricultural Experiment Station External Advisory Commission, and also served as vice-chair of the Connecticut River Watershed Farmers Alliance.

The service Tom provides is invaluable to the region, and we thank him for his commitment to conservation and advancing the farming community in New Hampshire and beyond. It is with great honor that the CCCD presents Tom Beaudry with the 2019 Educator of the Year Award. Congratulations, Tom!

Please join the Conservation District in honoring Tom Beaudry at the annual meeting Tuesday, Oct. 29, at 6 p.m. at the Keene Country Club. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for hors d'oeuvres, silent auction, and cash bar. Tickets include social hour with hors d'oeuvres, a buffet dinner, dessert, and coffee or tea. Seats are limited. Please register early at www.cccd-74th-annual-meeting.eventbrite.com.

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RAWSONVILLE, Vt. – Honey Pie Restaurant, located at the intersection of Routes 30 and 100, is looking for KITCHEN & COUNTER HELP. We're looking for people to join our team who can work in a fast-paced, team-oriented environment - where honesty and a positive attitude is the most important quality. A great steady job with a big focus on quality, local food and products, presented in a very approachable and fun way. Work for a company that cares and supports their employees, get paid a high hourly wage

plus tips, and extra perks with growth within the company. Close to Stratton Mountain and surrounding communities. Please stop in for an application or call 802-824-6327 and ask for Chloe. (10/29)

LUDLOW, Vt. – Slopeside Okemo Vacation Rentals now hiring housekeepers. FT Hourly (\$16+/hr) or Independent Contract Cleaners (\$25+/hr). Seasonal/Permanent positions. Reliable vehicle/Driver's License/Insurance required. Contact 802-228-8999 for appointment or stayokemo@hotmail.com. EOE. (11/05)

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LUDLOW, Vt. – Mary W. Davis Realtor & Associates in Ludlow is looking for an Administrative Assistant. Candidate will possess excellent computer skills and be proficient in Microsoft Access, Word and Excel, as well as Adobe InDesign, Illustrator and Photoshop. Must have experience with database management and possess good

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Answer								
9	7	3	8	6	5	4	2	1
2	8	6	1	3	4	7	5	9
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— King Crossword —

Answers														
Solution time: 25 mins.														
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CAMP	ONE	VOLE	WAR	EWAN	RENO	OWN	BONNET	SEW	ASS	BADE	ANDROIDS	AGO	SRO	ZIP
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CAMP	ONE	VOLE	WAR	EWAN	RENO	OWN	BONNET	SEW	ASS	BADE	ANDROIDS	AGO	SRO	ZIP



This handsome boy is Rebel – Rebel with a cause, and that cause is to love you! Rebel is a 9-month-old mixed breed puppy. Rebel is a very active boy and will enjoy an equally active person or family. Rebel loves food and is very gentle when he takes treats. He already knows “sit” and will learn so much more with a few lessons and lots of treats. Rebel did fine when he met the cats, but he is very playful with dogs. He will need a young dog that enjoys roughhousing but will also teach him some boundaries. Rebel is more handsome in person than in his photos. This boy loves cuddles and, after a fun walk, he’ll gladly binge-watch Netflix with you! Stop by Wednesday through Saturday from noon to 4:30 p.m.

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Painting the Vibrant Fall Landscape with Rob O'Brien 11/2 9:30 to 4:00

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Celebrating 20 years in business with yummy Pastries, Cakes, Pies, Breads, Cookies. Full Breakfast & Lunch. 73 Depot St. Proctorsville 802-226-7007. crowsbakeryandcafe.com. Like us on Facebook. (12/03/19 TFN-13)

builders/contractors

PETER JORDAN CONSTRUCTION

Over 25 years of experience in all phases of construction. Framing, finish carpentry, custom showers and tile work, hardwood flooring, decks, roofing and siding. Fully insured and registered with the State of Vermont. Lead Paint Certified. Located in Proctorsville. 802-226-8125 (11/26/19 TFN-13)

ALBERTI LANDSCAPE AND CONSTRUCTION

Professional landscape solutions and lawn care. Schedule a clean-up or mulch installation. Also providing home improvement and remodeling services. Call Alex 802-451-6112. (04/07/20)

campground

CATON PLACE CAMPGROUND

2419 EAST ROAD, CAVENDISH VERMONT
SEASONAL SITES AVAILABLE FOR 2020! REASONABLE RATES!
802-226-7767
Catonplacecamp@aol.com
Inground Pool, Activities, and Entertainment. Full hook up sites, pull thru and tent sites. Views of Okemo! Large Private Sites! (12/10/19)

chiropractor

FOUR SEASONS CHIROPRACTIC, PC

Dr. Denise Natale 58 Parker Avenue, Proctorsville, VT 05153, 802-226-7977 Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10AM-6PM (08/18/20 TFN-52)

cleanouts

A BARE CLEANING

Basements, attics, houses, barns. Household items and junk removed. Free estimates, insured. Call Reg at 802-376-4159. (11/19/19)

firewood & building materials

AMP TIMBER HARVESTING, INC.

Firewood for Sale: Cut, Split, and Delivered. Prices vary by location.

Slab wood available for firepits and sugarwood.

Rough Sawn Lumber, Custom Sawing.

Pine Boards, Framing Lumber, Hardwood Furniture Stock. Based out of Chester. Serving Chester, Springfield, Windham, and surrounding areas. Dennis Allard: 802-254-0680. Billy Parker: 802-874-7260. (12/24/19 TFN-13)

home improvement

ROSE'S HOME IMPROVEMENT

Property management, lawn care, carpentry, interior & exterior painting, window & door replacements, window cleaning, vinyl siding washing, pressure washing, drywall repairs, and odd jobs. 802-226-7077 or 802-591-0019. Cavendish, Vt. (10/29/19)

masonry

MOORE MASONRY

Fireplaces, chimneys and liners, chimney sweeps, patios, walls, steps, restoration and repairs. Fully insured, free estimates. Contact Gary Moore at 802-824-5710 mooremasonry802@gmail.com (09/08/20 TFN-52)

painting

RALPH'S PAINTING

Interior & Exterior painting, power washing, decks, and roofs. 30+ years experience. Fully Insured. 18 Pleasant St. Ext. Ludlow, VT. 802-975-0356 or 802-738-5282. (11/22/19)

calendar

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

OCT. 27 –
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. –
“The Fear of Singing
Breakthrough: A Singing
Workshop for Beginners,”
Sunday, Oct. 27, from
9 a.m. - 4 p.m., at
Stone Church Art Center
in Bellows Falls. Start

learning to sing in a fun,
supportive atmosphere,
discover your own natural
voice, and become more
confident. Take home skills
to start you on your way.

MONDAYS –
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The
Bellows Falls Area Senior
Center Knit and Stitch
group meets Mondays at

9 a.m. They can help you
finish a project, repair
an item, and even take
on special projects. The
group is happy to donate
Knitted Knockers to breast
cancer survivors. Stop by
and ask for Betty for more
information, or call 802-
463-3907.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Senior
Solutions continues its Tai
Chi for Fall Prevention
class in the Great Hall,
100 River St. on Mondays
from 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Tai Chi not only helps
to lower the risk of
falling but also improves
concentration, leg strength,
balance and coordination
and reduces joint pain and
stress. Come join us - it's
fun and it's free!

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. –
Weekly Tai Chi classes
on Mondays from 5 – 6
p.m. at Springfield UU
Meetinghouse. With
instructor Sue Ruble, a
certified instructor through
Tai Chi Vermont. All ages
and abilities welcome.
Wheelchair accessible,
open to all, no charge.

TUESDAYS –
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. –
Come try Senior Safe Tai
Chi Tuesdays at 11 a.m.
in the top floor meeting
room of the Rockingham
Library. Better balance,
mindful movement, and
fall prevention are just a
few of tai chi's benefits.
This program is free
and open to the public.
Located at 65 Westminster
St. in Bellows Falls and
wheelchair accessible. For
more information, visit
www.rockinghamlibrary.org.

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. –
River Voices Poetry meets
every Tuesday at 7 p.m.
at the Subway, 65 Square
in Bellows Falls. All poets
welcome. Discussion

covers of all aspects of
the poem. Call 802-463-
2204.

TOWNSHEND, Vt. – On
Tuesdays, from 4:30-6
p.m., Grace Cottage offers
yoga in the Viniyoga
tradition with Crystal
Mansfield. Participants
build strength, balance,
and endurance as they
move through basic
postures in fluid motion
with coordinated breath
work. Students of all ability
levels are welcome. Mats
and blocks provided.
Classes are held at Heins
Building, 133 Grafton
Rd., Townshend. For more
information, call 802-
365-3649 or go to www.gracecottage.org.

TOWNSHEND, Vt. –
Healthy Aging Educational
Series offered every other
Tuesday, from Oct. 1 to
Nov. 26, from 10 – 11:30
a.m. at Grace Cottage
Hospital. Free, five-session
healthy aging educational
series for women 50 plus.
The informal meetings will
focus on matters of the
mind, body, and spirit.

Lectures and presentations
will be followed by group
discussion. Meetings will
be held in the Grace
Cottage Community
Wellness Center. Class size
is limited. Pre-registration
is required. For more
information or to register,
email Deb at dbrown@gracecottage.org or call
802-365-3640.

WINDHAM, Vt. – On
Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m.,
join Pauline O'Brien for
Zumba Gold classes at
Windham Elementary
School. These classes are
structured for the active
45-plus crowd. Zumba
Gold recreates all the
original zumba moves
at a lower-intensity in an
easy-to-follow format.
Come prepared to sweat,
and leave feeling strong
and empowered. For
more information, email
paulineblakeob@outlook.com or call 802-376-
5397.

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

CHESTER, Vt. – Liza

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

S. LONDONDERRY, Vt. –
Sit and Knit workshop
every Wednesday, from
7-9 p.m., at the South
Londonderry Free Library
in the Janeway Wing,
located at 15 Old School
Rd., South Londonderry,
Vt.

TOWNSHEND, Vt. –
Wednesdays, from 1-2
p.m., there is a Chair
Yoga class at Grace
Cottage Wellness Center,
133 Grafton Rd. Beginners
to yoga are welcome as
is anyone with limited
flexibility or an inability
to practice on the floor.
Students will flow through
an eclectic blend of seated
and standing poses while
incorporating breathing
techniques into their
movements. Class is led
by Rebecca Griswold. For
more information, call
802-365-3649 or go to
www.gracecottage.org.

THURSDAYS –
CHESTER, Vt. – Join the
Six Loose Ladies for Knit
Knite Thursdays from

HYDRANT FLUSHING NORTH WALPOLE VILLAGE

Saturday, October 26, 2019

Any problems, call
Robert McGuirk
313-5422

TOWN OF CHESTER WARNING NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

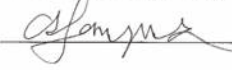


The Legal Voters of the TOWN OF CHESTER are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Chester Town Hall, Second Floor in said Town of Chester on Monday, November 4, 2019, at 6:00 pm., to act on the following Articles. Voting on Article 1 will be by Australian ballot on November 5, 2019, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Chester Town Hall Second Floor.

ARTICLE 1: Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Four Million Seven Hundred Seventy Seven Thousand One Hundred Ninety Four Dollars (\$4,777,194.00), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of constructing a new Emergency Services building as well as renovations to the Public Works facility, the estimated cost of such improvements being Four Million Seven Hundred Seventy Seven Thousand One Hundred Ninety Four Dollars (\$4,777,194)? (Australian Ballot)

ARTICLE 2: To transact any other business deemed proper when met, not including the expenditures of Town Funds or other business acted upon in the preceding Articles.

The legal voters of the Town of Chester are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee/early voting relative to said special meeting shall be as provided in Chapters, 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Dated at Chester, Vermont on this 18th day of September, 2019.

 /s/ Arne Jonynas, Chairman
_____/s/ Heather Chase
 /s/ Leigh Dakin
_____/s/ Ben Whalen
 /s/ Lee Gustafson

TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM AMENDING ZONING BYLAWS AND SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS

The Town of Rockingham, VT is amending its Zoning Bylaws and Subdivision Regulations. The Selectboard will hold a public hearing at 6:00pm, Tuesday, November 5, 2019 at the Rockingham Town Offices. The purpose of the hearing is to receive public input on the proposed changes. Copies of the amendments are available online at rockbf.org. Hardcopies are available at the Rockingham Free Public Library, the Rockingham Town Clerk's Office, and mailed or emailed upon request of the Planning & Zoning Administrator (planning@rockbf.org / 802.376.5241).



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

We are seeking a Manufacturing Buyer

The Manufacturing Buyer is responsible for source selection and procurement functions directly associated with the company's needs for raw materials and services. The Buyer is also responsible for best utilizing the company's productive capacity as well as managing inventory levels.

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

TOWN OF CHESTER NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

The Development Review Board will be holding a Site Visit at 4:30pm and a Public Hearing right after the Site Visit on Monday, November 11, 2019 at the Town Hall to RE-OPEN Conditional Use Review application (# 539)

PROPERTY OWNERS: Town of Chester
APPLICANT: David Pisha, Town Manager
LOCATION: 878 VT Rte 103 South
DISTRICT R40

ACTION REQUESTED: Re-open the Municipal Sand and Gravel Project hearing for the sole purpose of clarifying the location of the secondary roadway into the actual site of extraction.

Abutters are hereby notified that further information can be found at the Town Clerk's Office which is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Participation in this hearing is a pre-requisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

For the Development Review Board
Michael Normyle
Zoning Administrator
(802) 875-2173
Michael.normyle@chestervt.gov

TOWN OF CAVENDISH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Cavendish Select Board will hold a public hearing at the Town Office, 37 High Street, Cavendish, VT, to receive comments regarding amendments to the Town Plan. The public hearing will be held on Tuesday, November 12th at 5:30 p.m.

Copies of the proposed Town Plan can be obtained from the Town Clerk at the above address during normal business hours.



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

Quality Manager - Bellows Falls, VT wblake.com/company/careers APPLY AT: humanresource@wblake.com

Provide quality management leadership through the development and implementation of plans to organize, design, implement, and control a quality assurance program to reduce overall manufacturing variation. Ensure plant reliability through identification and elimination of causes of cost of quality; re-inspection, defect escape, customer complaints and production delays.

For Job details go to: wblake.com/company/careers
WHITNEY BLAKE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
9 Lovell Drive, Bellows Falls, VT 05101
<https://wblake.com/company/careers/>



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:
- Coil-Assembly Operators
 - Wire Operator
 - Extrusion Operator

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

Notice of Filing with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Green Mountain Power Corporation Cavendish Hydroelectric Project FERC No. 2489

Green Mountain Power Corporation (GMP), as required by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission), hereby gives notice of its intent to seek relicensing of the Cavendish Hydroelectric Project, FERC No. 2489 (Project). The Project is located on the Black River in the Town of Cavendish, Windsor County, Vermont. The Applicant's address is 2152 Post Road, Rutland, Vermont 05701; phone number is 802-770-2195.

On or about October 29, 2019, GMP will file with the FERC its Notice of Intent (NOI) to File a Subsequent License Application, a Preliminary Application Document (PAD), and a Request for Authorization to use the Traditional Licensing Process (TLP) under Part 4 of the Commission's regulations for the Project. The NOI provides notice of GMP's unequivocal statement of intent to file a license application for the Project. The PAD summarizes relevant and available information regarding the Project's description and operation along with discussions of the potential operational effects on environmental and cultural resources.

GMP invites resource agencies, Indian tribes, and members of the public likely to be interested in the proceedings to participate in the licensing and to comment on this notice and related matters. The NOI, PAD, TLP request, and associated reference materials will be available for inspection and reproduction online at <https://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/elibrary.asp> by searching under docket P-2489. They will also be available for inspection during regular business hours at GMP's Rutland Office located at 2152 Post Road, Rutland, Vermont 05701.

GMP's request to use the TLP is based upon informal consultation with the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (VANR) and a via a thorough desktop review of the site and surrounding resources. As GMP is not proposing changes to Project operations or facilitates and environmental issues are generally known, it is not expected that this relicensing will be an extensive effort. GMP believes that granting the request to use the TLP will not infringe on the ability for agencies or the public to provide comments on the Project, nor on GMP's ability to address such comments.

Comments on the request to use the TLP are due to the Commission no later than 30 days following the filing date of the Cavendish NOI and PAD (i.e. by November 28, 2019 if the NOI and PAD are filed on October 29, 2019). All responses must reference the Cavendish FERC project number (FERC No. 2489). Comments should address, as appropriate to the circumstances of the request: the (a) likelihood of timely license issuance; (b) complexity of the resource issues; (c) level of anticipated controversy; (d) relative cost of the traditional licensing process compared to the integrated licensing process; (e) the amount of available information and potential for significant disputes over studies; and (f) other factors the commenter believes pertinent.

Commenters must submit an electronic filing via FERC's website (<http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ferconline.asp>) pursuant to 18 CFR§ 385.2003(c) or an original and eight copies of their comments to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426.

AUTOMOTIVE/REAL ESTATE

calendar

5-8 p.m. at the Six Loose Ladies shop in Chester. This is not only for knitting but also to crochet, spin, or work on any other portable fiber project. We also serve sweets in the evenings – many ladies like to bake. Whether you want to learn to knit or crochet or consult with a more experienced knitter, this is a great time to join us. For more information, visit www.sixlooseladies.com.

CHESTER, Vt. – Strength-building chair yoga class with Liz Eaton, 9:30-10:35 a.m., Fullerton Inn, Main Street, Chester. This is a strength building yoga class in the hatha tradition for anyone looking to build bone density, physical strength, flexibility, and endurance. Come as you are and do what you can. Use a chair, yoga mat, or both! Drop in anytime or purchase a few classes at once. No experience necessary. For details, contact 802-875-2868, eaton.liza@gmail.com, or www.buddhafulyoga.com.

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

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – From 7 to 8 p.m. Thursdays, join a Tai Chi beginners’ class at DG Bodyworks, 7 Depot St. in Proctorsville. This is a soft, grounding practice to improve alignment, balance, and prevent or relieve postural pains, reduce stress, and strengthen legs and core muscles. Available to all levels. There is a monthly tuition cost. To learn more about the classes, please contact Djemila at 802-490-0225 or email djem.translator@gmail.com.

FRIDAYS – CHESTER, Vt. – International Folk Dancing Classes at Chester Town Hall on Fridays, from 10:30 a.m. to noon, through Nov 22. Melissa Lovell Post will teach dances from countries in Eastern and Western Europe, the Middle East, and the U.S. Beginner to intermediate level. No experience necessary; no partner needed. For details, email goodwood@vermontel.net.

TOWNSHEND, Vt. – New Tai Chi for Fall Prevention six-week class series offered Fridays, from 9-10 a.m., at Grace Cottage Community Wellness Center, 133 Grafton Rd. Classes focus on developing balance and flexibility. Certified Instructor Ruth Fleming is a physical therapist at Grace Cottage. These classes are free. For more information, call 802-365-3649 or go to www.gracecottage.org.

TOWNSHEND, Vt. – Fridays, from 3:30-4:30 p.m., enjoy yoga in the Hatha tradition. This class takes participants through a series of standard yoga poses with coordinated breathing exercises for the benefit of mind, body, and spirit. Mats and blocks provided. Registered yoga

teacher Rebecca Griswold is a physical therapy assistant at Grace Cottage. Classes are held at Heins Building, 133 Grafton Rd., Townshend. For more information, call 802-365-3649 or go to www.gracecottage.org.

SATURDAYS – PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – Enjoy weekly yoga classes at DG Bodyworks, 7 Depot St. in Proctorsville Saturdays at 9 a.m. All-level classes designed to improve core strength and balance, stretch and strengthen muscles, and promote a sense of well-being.

WEEKLY – PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – Join Denise at DG Bodyworks in Proctorsville for Boot Camp classes on Mondays and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Let Denise work you towards your health and fitness goals with an amazing workout that will leave you coming back for more.

REGION – Bone Builders to combat osteoporosis is free and open to seniors 55-plus. Call 802-674-4547. Mondays and Wednesdays classes are held at Martin Memorial Hall in Ascutney from 10-11 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday classes are held at Cavendish Baptist Church from 10-11:30 a.m. or at Andover Community Church from 3-4 p.m.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Springfield Adult Learning offers ongoing classes to earn your high school diploma. Anyone interested should contact 802-546-0879 or visit Vermont Adult Learning at 363 River St. in North Springfield.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Youth and adult swim lessons are available at Edgar May Heath and Recreation throughout the year. Check

their website for days, times, and details at www.myreccenter.org or for an appointment call 802-885-2568.

TOWNSHEND, Vt. – Strong Bones ongoing classes offered Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:30-11:30 a.m. or 5-6 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:45-9:45 a.m. or 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Grace Cottage Community Wellness Center, Heins Building, 133 Grafton Rd. in Townshend. Preregistration required. Call 802-365-3649.

CLUBS

OCT. 27 - PERU, Vt. – Join the Green Mountain Club for a working hike to Griffith Lake, along the Long Trail, then to Mad Tom Notch Sunday, Oct. 27. Meet at 8 a.m. at the Peru Park & Ride. Carpool to Mad Tom Notch, leave a vehicle, and drive to the FR 58 trailhead. Hike in on FR 58 to Griffith Lake. Work south on the Long Trail cleaning out water bars of leaves and debris, back to Mad Tom Notch. Bring extra layers and a warm hat, snacks, lunch, fluids. If you have a garden hoe, bring it, but we have tools for you to use. Total miles 7.5 with 2,000 feet elevation change. Moderate difficulty. RSVP to either Dave Ratti at 802-366-0698 or dbrspruce@gmail.com or Marge Fish at 802-384-

3654 or marge.fish@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY MEALS

OCT. 26 – CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – Boy Scout Troop 31 is hosting their semi-annual Spaghetti Dinner Saturday, Oct. 26, from 4:30 – 7 p.m., at VFW in Charlestown. Menu includes all-you-can-eat spaghetti with homemade meat sauce (vegetarian sauce is available), an extravagant salad bar, homemade rolls with butter, and a vast array of desserts. Take out available upon request. Proceeds help send our troop to summer camp!

MOUNT HOLLY, Vt. – Ham Supper Saturday, Oct. 26 at 5 p.m. at Odd Fellows Hall in Belmont. Entrance fee to benefit the Gill Odd Fellows Home. Menu includes ham, baked potatoes, coleslaw, and pies. For more information, call 802-228-6863 or 802-259-2460.


★ ★ ★ ★ ★

OVER 2000
BROKEN-IN TIRES
MANY SETS OF 4


CANON TIRE INC.

CANON TIRE
I-91, Exit 8, Ascutney, VT
802-674-5600
NEW TIRES TOO!!

Walpole Valley Tire



Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 - 5:00 • Saturday 8:00 - Noon
Route 12 • Walpole, NH • 603-445-2060

EVENTS

OCT. 24 – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Reception and awards ceremony for the winners of the 2019 Old House Awards Thursday, Oct. 24, from 5:30 to 7 p.m., at the Bellows Falls Historical Society, 31 Westminster St., Bellows Falls. This annual event is sponsored by the Rockingham Historic Preservation Commission. Winners will receive a bronze plaque suitable for mounting. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, email clg@rockbf.org or visit www.rockbf.org.

OCT. 25 - 27 – WALPOLE, N.H. – Walpole Library annual Book Sale is happening Oct. 25 – 27 at Walpole Middle School. Friday, Oct. 25, from 6 – 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 26, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; and Sunday, Oct. 27, from 9 a.m. to noon. Call 603-756-9806 for more details.

OCT. 26 – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The United Methodist Church Fall Rummage Sale will be Saturday, Oct. 26, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 10 Valley St., in Springfield. There will be many great

items available, as well as coffee and donuts for sale. Everyone is welcome!

WALPOLE, N.H. – The Bellows Falls Women’s Club will hold a food and bake sale Saturday, Oct. 26, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Walpole Middle School in Walpole, N.H. Offerings include homemade soups, baked beans, pies, squares and cookies, breads and rolls, quiche, gluten-free choices, and preserves. The sale is held in conjunction with the Walpole Library’s book sale. Proceeds are earmarked for the club’s

P&M Auto Sales

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Specials of the Week

 2016 Dodge Ram 1500 Extended Cab 5.7 Liter Hemi Auto Fully Loaded	 2014 Chevy 1500 Extended Cab 6 Cylinder Auto LT Fully Loaded
 2011 Volvo XC-70 Station Wagon AWD, V6, Auto Leather Sun Roof Fully Loaded	 2013 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo V6 Auto, AWD Sun Roof Fully Loaded
 2013 Dodge Caravan 7 Passenger 6 Cylinder Auto Fully Loaded Power Sliding Door	 2012 Nissan X-Terra 4 Wheel Drive Auto 6 Cylinder Fully Loaded

\$20 Offer Expires 11/30/19

Oil Change up to 5-quarts
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802-885-2500 • www.musevermont.com

Lori Muse, Broker/Owner
Carol Cole, REALTOR



This Comfortable Cape Style Home has character and style. Includes an efficient kitchen with warm oak cabinets, large combination formal dining and living room with natural light, bright first floor bedroom and refinished bath, upstairs master suite with office space & large bedroom and lots of storage. Oversized detached garage has a side covered porch with views of local hillsides and a large back yard that connects to the next street. **JUST REDUCED TO \$115,000**







This lovely 10.1 acre parcel, is located on a town maintained country road with easy access to town services. This scenic country lot with an open field, a babbling brook nearby and next to conserved land makes for a perfect location for a country home. **\$59,900**



Modernized ranch style home on 4.5+/- acres offers accessible country living. Includes a bright open sun/living room, formal dining room, functional kitchen, three bedrooms. Newer standing seam roof and radiant & baseboard heat for comfort and ease. Private back deck, full basement and one car garage under. A mix of open acreage and woods with fruit trees. Imagine! **JUST REDUCED TO \$175,000**


All the makings of a comfortable, pleasant home. This raised ranch is set up above the town offering a lovely 'double' corner lot (.83+/- acres) with gardens, raspberry patch, ferns and mature trees. Pleasant and well maintained interior has hardwood floors, combination living/dining area with glass doors leading to the private back deck, a large eat-in kitchen, three bedrooms and a full bath. The basement offers a family room, with bedroom and bath/laundry room and two car garage. New roof, replacement windows, freshly painted exterior makes this home ready to enjoy. **REDUCED AGAIN TO \$179,900**


Perkinsville Village with 1+/- acres. This Victorian style home needs TLC; however, the existing details can't be overlooked! Bright interior with kitchen/keeping room with full pantry, formal dining room with pocket doors to the living room/parlor, library with 1/2 bath. Upstairs has spacious bedrooms with wood floors, high ceilings, large full bath, walk-up attic. Basement houses a newer furnace. Attached barn for storage. **\$97,000**

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

 Classic Vermont Vintage Home In The Village! 4 Bedrooms, 1.5 Baths Grafton, \$325,000	 Remodeled 1890's Farmhouse In Prime Village Location! 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths Chester, \$199,000	 Unique Contemporary Home 3 Car Garage w/Storage 4 Bedrooms, 3 Baths Springfield, \$179,000
 Charming Country Home! Lovely Stonework & Landscaping 2 Bedrooms, 2 Baths Grafton, \$179,000	 Ranch w/Upgrades & Fireplace Family Room In Basement! 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths Springfield, \$159,000	 Great 2 Story w/Large Retail Space Plus 2 Bedroom Apartment! Chester, \$159,000
 Sweet, Inviting Country Home Perennials and Babbling Brook 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, 1.6+/- Acres Wardsboro, \$149,000	 Cozy Cape w/Great Backyard Close To Main St., & Schools 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, 0.17+/- Acres Springfield, \$119,000	 Immaculately Cared Double Wide Home on Beautiful Lot 3 Bedrooms, 1.5 Bath Hinsdale, NH, \$45,000
 Beautiful 12.7 +/- Acre Building Lot Just Above the Village Grafton, \$75,000	 1.08 +/- Acres Ready & Permitted For 3 Bedroom Home State Approved Septic Design Rockingham, \$41,900	 Serene Ponds & Valley Views! Beautiful 20+/- Acre Site in Chester & Cavendish \$40,000

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calendar

high school scholarship.

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Chowder & Chili Cook-off Saturday, Oct. 26, from noon to 3 p.m., at Bellows Falls Downtown Community Harvest Festival. Sample lots of chowder and chili, and vote for your favorites. Start at the Flat Iron and then make your way around downtown shops for more tastings. Judging from 3 – 4 p.m. Questions or interested in entering? Email info@grcc.com.

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Monthly dance party Wundergroove with DJ Boy Nun Saturday, Oct. 26, from 9:30 p.m. -1:30 a.m., at Wunderbar, 22 Rockingham St. in Bellows Falls. Nightclub dance party atmosphere, great bespoke cocktails all made inhouse, inclusive happy vibe, all welcome, come dance with us. Kitchen closes at 9:30 p.m. Farm fresh local ingredients, international tapas/small plate menu. No cover. Costumes encouraged.

OCT. 27 – HARTLAND, Vt. – Psychic Fair at Vision of Light Church Sunday, Oct. 27, from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m., at 10 Legion Drive in Hartland. 15 minute readings. Readers include: Minta L’ecuyer – Psychic Medium; Linda Carley – Animal Reiki and messages (please bring photo of pet); Kathryn Samuelson – Automatic

Writing; Paul Hyson – Tarot; Bonnie Waters – Angel Card Readings. Light refreshments available. Scheduling ahead is recommended. To make an appointment or for more information, please contact Bonnie at 802-299-5083, or email: bonnie_songgarden@hotmail.com.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Reiki General Public Open House (and also for practitioners who would like to give and receive Reiki) by donation, Sunday, Oct. 27, from 1 - 4 p.m., at Studio Time and Space, 59 Main Street in Springfield. Enjoy receiving a gentle, relaxing Reiki treatment to reduce stress and anxiety, alleviate pain, and help heal your body, mind, and spirit. Reiki is given with the recipient lying comfortably on a massage table, sitting in a chair, or standing covered by a warm blanket. Reiki may be given with gentle touch or no touch. No appointment is necessary. Easy access, parking next to the building. For more information, please email laurenpottervt@gmail.com, call 802-591-0507, or visit www.laurenpotterreikihealing.com.

OCT. 31 – CAVENDISH, Vt. – Trunk or Treat Thursday, Oct. 31, from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m., at Cavendish Town Elementary School

parking lot. Welcoming any adults who would like to be Trunk-or-Treaters! Bring your car, decorate the trunk with a theme, and hand out treats. No scary decorations please. Be as creative as you’d like – pick a theme from books, movies, games, hobbies, sports, history, or a friendly Halloween theme. You can even wear a costume to go with your theme! Bring enough treats for approximately 200 kids.

LUDLOW, Vt. – Trunk-or-Treat Thursday, Oct. 31, from 4-7 p.m., at Benson’s Chevrolet, 25 Pond St. in Ludlow. There will be face painting, a carved pumpkin contest, and more. Sponsor a trunk! Contact Corrie for details at 802-228-4000 or corrie@bensonschevy.com.

NOV. 2 – ACWORTH, N.H. – Acworth Craft Fair Saturday, Nov. 2, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at Acworth Meeting House. Local crafts, lunch, and raffle hosted by the Acworth Female Charitable Society.

NOV. 2 & 3 – CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – Native Heritage Weekend at Fort at No. 4 Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 2 and 3, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Come celebrate our native heritage with us this weekend.

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

KIDS’ CORNER

OCT. 27 – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Kids’ Halloween Party at Bellows Falls American Legion Post 37 Sunday, Oct. 27, from 1 – 3 p.m., for infants through kids 10 years of age from the Bellows Falls and North Walpole area. There will be prizes, candies of all kinds, refreshments, and special treats for everyone. If available, please wear a costume (any kind), but not required. Doors open at 12:50 p.m.

NOV. 1 – GRAFTON, Vt. – Mighty Acorns Preschool Explorers Club: Forest Senses and Fort Building Friday, Nov. 1, from 10 – 11:30 a.m., at The Nature Museum in Grafton. With autumn chills turning into the first winter winds, the forest has a new look. We’ll experience the forest through testing some of our senses and other fun

exploration activities. The forest is the perfect place to play in any season. We’ll get creative and tinker through fort-building and free play. Learn more and register at www.nature-museum.org.

LIBRARIES

OCT. 26 - LONDONDERRY, Vt. – Goblins of all ages are invited to join art teacher Casey Junker Bailey at the South Londonderry Free Library Saturday, Oct. 26 for scary stories and spooky crafts. The frightful workshop begins at 10:30 a.m. As always, the workshop is free of charge and appropriate for children of all ages. Join us if you dare! For more information, contact the library at 802-824-3371.

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

MUSIC & THEATER

NOV. 1 & 2 - CHESTER, Vt. – Green Mountain Union High

School Drama Club presents “Almost, Maine,” a play by John Cariani, Friday and Saturday, Nov. 1 and 2 at 7 p.m. at the GMUHS auditorium. The story of an almost town in far northern Maine where the residents “find themselves falling in and out of love in unexpected and hilarious ways.”

TUESDAYS – WOODSTOCK, Vt. – The Freelance Family Singers of Woodstock began holiday concert rehearsals on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. If you enjoy singing, join us. There are no auditions. Rehearsals are at the First Congregational Church of Woodstock, 36 Elm St. Tuesdays, from 7-9 p.m. There is a participation fee. The holiday concerts are scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 8 at 3 p.m. For more information, contact Ellen at 802-457-3980.

SUPPORT GROUPS

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

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.

TUESDAYS – WALPOLE, N.H. – Hope and Help for Families is held every Tuesday night, from 6:45-8 p.m. at the Congregational Church on the common in Walpole, N.H. It is open to all family members and loved ones – over the age of 16 – of people who are suffering from addiction. It is free and confidential. For information, call Becky Pearson at 603-860-0221.

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.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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