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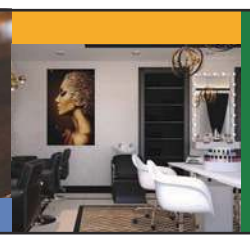

Shop Local

support the community you live in

See Pages 2B & 3B

Mount Holly Fire Department haunted hayride

BY MEGAN HARLOW JENKINS

The Vermont Journal

Scary skeleton with a chainsaw.

PHOTO BY OTIS NELSON

Creepy clown lurking.

PHOTO BY OTIS NELSON

MOUNT HOLLY, Vt. – On Saturday, Oct. 19, the Mount Holly Fire Department brought back the Haunted Hayride this year. Many of the children who participated last year became organizers this time around. While the premiere haunted hayride last year was good, this one was far better!

The Mount Holly Fire Department went all out. They created a committee of four or five people to help organize the event and over 40 volunteers to help pull it off, according to Chief Brian Buffum.

The event was a frightful family treat. Crowds lined the eerily lit fire department starting at 6:30 p.m. Families crowded together awaiting their spooky carriage, otherwise known as a tractor filled with hay. They had three tractors in rotation that carried the large crowd of over 500 people through the Mount Holly Elementary School and neighboring property. Along the side of the road, neighbors even got in the spirit. As the tractors took off up Belmont Road, skeletons could be seen dancing near gravestones and jack-o-lanterns from the friendly neighbors up the hill.

As the tractor pulled a hard left into the start of the official haunted land, riders were greeted by some frightening protectors of the realm. A ghost flew up behind the tractor as the gates were opened into the next layer of the haunted event. A large bonfire produced an erie reddish light to the fields as you drove up and were witness to chainsaws, a clown on a four wheeler, and many other haunts. Further down the trail, a gaggle of witches were busy brewing a potion that was rumored to be quite delicious. The hayride was spooky enough for the big kids, but family-friendly enough for the smallest.

Laughter and squeals of delight could be heard throughout the hayride, and it certainly should be considered a must-do Halloween event in Mount Holly.

Chester residents ask for more clarity for EMS Building Plan

A rendering of the proposed EMS building.

PHOTO PROVIDED

BY SHARON HUNTLEY

The Vermont Journal

CHESTER, Vt. – The EMS informational meeting took place in the second floor of the newly renovated Chester Town Hall Wednesday, Oct. 23 in front of a full house of Chester residents as committee member Lee Gustafson walked through the design and costs for a proposed Emergency Services project that includes building a new facility to house Fire, Ambulance, and Police services and renovating the existing town garage for sole use by the Highway Department. Chester citizens are asked to vote on a 30-year bond of $4.78 million to approve the project Tuesday, Nov. 5.

Gustafson carefully walked through the project by first establishing the need for improvements based on current state regulation violations. He then outlined the proposed design of the project; looking at the new building, as well as renovations on the existing town garage and the costs for each. The total came to $4.78 million with a tax impact that could be as high as $0.075 per 100,000 valuation for each Chester property. Gustafson also showed a graph that indicated how the costs would impact the town budget over time, starting out with just a $0.02 impact in the first years and peaking at $0.075 in approximately 2024 until it begins to lessen in subsequent years as the bond was paid down.

Despite the explanations, several audience members were looking for a clear dollars and cents impact on their tax bill as well as total overall cost for the project over the 30-year length of the bond.

One Chester resident said that she couldn't argue that the building was beautiful and the reasons behind it were great but that the cost fell on just 3,154 townspeople or just 521 households in Chester. She asked what this

*See **EMS** on Page 2A*

Ludlow Selectboard invites public to discuss 1% options tax

BY SHARON HUNTLEY

The Vermont Journal

LUDLOW, Vt. – During the October Ludlow Selectboard meeting, the possibility of instituting a 1% options tax was first brought to public attention. Discussions will continue in the upcoming Selectboard meeting but a vote will not be expected, should the Selectboard choose to bring the suggestion to the public, until the annual town meeting in March.

Ludlow Municipal Manager Scott Murphy also expects that several special meetings will be scheduled specifically for the public to discuss the issue in the months leading up to March's town meeting. Murphy wants to be clear that there is plenty of time for public input and discussion before anything is decided.

The 1% local options tax is an additional 1% tax that is added to four different categories: meals, rooms, alcohol, and sales. Projected revenue for the town with the 1% local options tax would be approximately $563,000 based on 2017 figures according to Murphy. Approximately 20 towns in Vermont currently implement a local options tax with a little over 30% going to the state and approximately 70% going to the town.

The measure was defeated in Ludlow in 2016 by 13 votes. If the Selectboard decides to put the measure again before the voters, they want to make sure that voters are well informed. "I'm hoping the voters at least have a good discussion about it," Murphy said.

To bring the options tax to the voters, the Selectboard will have to officially decide to move forward with the plan and then schedule informational meetings with the hospitality industry and citizens for their input.

For now, the Selectboard is in an information-gathering phase and will look at how other towns are using the tax among other public concerns. Some towns such as Barre have identified very specific categories, stipulating funds be used "solely for street and sidewalk reconstruction." Other towns such as Williston use the funds only to reduce property taxes. Montpelier stipulates the funds be used for economic development and infrastructure. Other towns use a combination of several categories. All these options are something Murphy wants the public to be aware of and discuss.

Murphy in particular wanted to dispel the idea that the options tax was somehow linked to the upcoming vote for the school building on Nov. 12, saying that the purpose for the funds have not been identified and will ultimately be up to the voters.

Murphy has had some experience with the options tax. As town manager of Wilmington, he has seen the concerns and the benefits of an options tax first-hand. Murphy said that in his experience initially the hospitality industry was against the tax; but once it passed, they became one of the bigger advocate groups in support of the measure. He said they saw it had no effect on their customers but could see how much money was available to offset projects around town that improved the town experience overall.

The 1% local options tax is on the agenda at the Nov. 4 Selectboard meeting at the Town Hall at 7 p.m. The public is encouraged to attend.

Belmont Trick-or-Treat draws crowds

MOUNT HOLLY, Vt. – On Oct. 25, 2019, the Mount Holly Parent Teacher Association held its annual Belmont Trick-or-Treat event on the Village Baptist Church Green. The event is an annual community-building program put on by the association.

This year, over 150 people attended the event, doubling last year's crowds. Ten local homes in the village of Belmont opened their doors to trick-or-treaters. The Mount Holly Community Museum and the Odd Fellows Hall along with the Belmont Store also handed out candy to costumed children. Young children and parents could be seen gathering in the green chatting and comparing candy while waiting for a hayride from Plew Farms. Andrea Auld, secretary of the PTSA, along with her mother Linda Miller, co-president of the Mount Holly Community Association, decorated the gazebo with frightfully fun extras.

This is a great community event that provides a safe and fun avenue for families and children to explore the village of Belmont and gather plenty of treats. The event offered three prizes for costumes. The winners of the costume contest included Parker Chase for the best overall costume as a Lego man, the Blanchards for the best family dressed as Hungry, Hungry Hippos, and Piper Daley won the scariest costume.

The event was a huge success, and the Parent Teacher Association looks forward to growing the event every year.

Kids dressed up for Trick-or-Treating fun.

PHOTO PROVIDED

The Blanchards as the Hungry, Hungry Hippos.

PHOTO PROVIDED

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DEADLINES

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

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EMAIL YOUR PRESS RELEASES, ARTICLES, AND PHOTOS
editor@vermontjournal.com

Black River thanks community for successful Taste of Fall

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Black River High and Middle School faculty and staff would like to thank the local businesses and community members who supported A Taste of Fall Thursday, Oct. 17.

Despite the cold, rainy weather, over 80 community members came to dine at the Ludlow Community Center in support of Black River Good Neighbors.

Delicacies were provided by DuJour VT, Sweet Surrender Bakery, Big Eyes Bakery, Stemwinders, Goodman's American Pie, The Castle, Mojos, The Killarney, Murdock's, La Tavola, and Outer Limits Brewery. Sam's Steakhouse and Mr. Darcy's both made monetary donations.

BRHS faculty and staff present check to BRNGS.
PHOTO PROVIDED

Participants voted The Killarney's Jameson's Chicken Pot Pie as the "Best Taste of Fall" and "Best Savory Taste." For the second year in a row, Big Eye's Bakery took home the "Best Sweet Taste" with their Maple Baklava.

With the help of all of this year's participants, BRHMS was able to donate $776.16 to Black River Good Neighbors. Thank you again to all those who supported A Taste of Fall!

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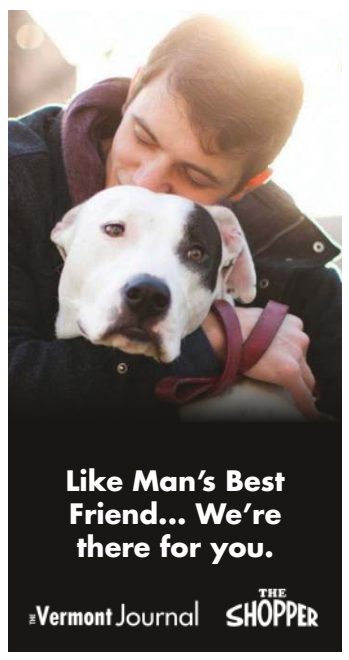
Like Man's Best Friend... We're there for you.
The Vermont Journal THE SHOPPER

Black River Academy Museum's potluck dinner, paranormal presentation

LUDLOW, Vt. – Black River Academy Museum will host their annual potluck dinner at the Annunciation Church Community Room in Ludlow, Thursday, Nov. 7, from 6-8 p.m.

This year, BRAM's annual potluck will also include a presentation by Steve Waldo on paranormal activities. Steve was a former Ludlow Police patrolman. He then worked as a Vermont state liquor inspector until his retirement a couple years ago.

In a span of four years, Steve cataloged over 25 investigations dealing with his ghost-hunting activities. His presentation includes actual videos of "suspected paranormal activity" as well as audio sound bites that have to be heard to be believed.

Join us for an evening of intrigue and fun along with our traditional turkey and gravy dinner. Hope to see you Thursday, Nov. 7, from 6-8 p.m., at the Church of the Annunciation in their community room on 7 Depot St. in Ludlow. Please bring your appetite along with a side dish or dessert. This event is open to the public. A suggested minimum donation will contribute toward our efforts in keeping this historic building a viable working facility.

Okemo Valley showcase and auction

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce is soon launching the Okemo Valley Showcase, an online auction of some of the region's favorite items, just in time for the holiday shopping season. The auction runs from Oct. 30 to Nov. 30, 2019. To see a list of items, go to www.yourplaceinvermont.com/okemo-valley-showcase-2.

Local pickup will be encouraged or shipping will be at the buyers' expense. Even if you don't have the winning bid, you can still contact our members directly to purchase their products and services.

Participation in the showcase is an OVRCC member-only benefit. These items represent the best that Okemo Valley has to offer. Chamber members donate these items such as hospitality gift certificates for overnight stays or dining out, unique handcrafted artisan products, and other special items. Since we will be celebrating Small Business Saturday in November, this auction is also a great way to showcase "buying local" in Okemo Valley.

For more information on participating in the Okemo Valley Showcase with an item, please contact the OVRCC Chamber at 802-228-5830 or email info@yourplaceinvermont.com.

This showcase is part of the Fall Membership Drive campaign theme **#OkemoValleyTogether.**

For more information, go to www.yourplaceinvermont.com.

Wednesday lunch at the Black River Valley Senior Center

LUDLOW, Vt. – Beginning Wednesday, Nov. 6, the Black River Valley Senior Center, located at 10 High St. in Ludlow, will serve a community lunch, prepared in-house by our volunteer chef, Marcia Moore. One Wednesday a month we will have our usual lunch and bingo. All are welcome. Please call the senior center at 802-228-7421 to sign up for these events or to get a ride. Reservations are required.

The schedule is as follows:

- Nov. 6 – Homemade corn chowder, half a ham salad sandwich, and dessert.
- Nov. 13 – Lunch and Bingo. Baked ham, mashed potato, vegetable, and pumpkin cake.
- Nov. 20 – Goulash and ice cream pie
- Nov. 27 – Closed for Thanksgiving

Feel free to stay after lunch to visit, put together a puzzle, or to peruse our lending library.

EMS

From Page 1A

project was going to do to her tax bill.

Town Manager David Pisha answered that during a peak impact of $0.075 that would increase a tax bill by $150 on a $200,000 home. Pisha also stated that the overall budget can change for a variety of reasons and later added that overall, the budget could be less or overall the budget could be more. "This is just a facet of a bigger picture," he said.

A second homeowner in audience said, "This project to many of us is very misunderstood… People that I do know really don't understand the finances of it." He suggested that the committee put together a detailed explanation outlining what the town's current finances are, the town's bond rating, loan principle, loan interest, and cost per family. "I believe people will vote with their pocketbook, and they need more information," he said.

Pisha agreed that he could put the information on paper and circulate it by the next meeting, which is scheduled for Nov. 4, the day before the bond vote.

It was also suggested that the committee outline the state violations that have been cited concerning the existing buildings so that citizens better understand the need for the new building and proposed renovation. Gustafson agreed that was a good idea.

Other concerns arose about the lack of sustainable heating for the buildings. Kevin Racek of Centerline Architects said that the infrastructure of the buildings were fitted to add solar heating in future phases but currently the building is slated to be heated with gas heat. The comment was made that they need to look at energy efficiency.

Gustafson explained that the project was at 50% of design phase and that changes can be made to address some of those concerns once the bond is passed. When asked if costs could go up afterward, Gustafson explained that cost of project would stay the same because they would work within same budget. He also said that there are contingency dollars built into the costs presented.

Racek of Centerline Architects added that they would make sure that all design changes would fall under the $4.78 million amount as they make adjustments to the design and components based on further input.

The final informational meeting is Nov. 4 at 6 p.m. at Chester Town Hall. The bond vote for the town is Tuesday, Nov. 5.

Vote YES on November 5th!

For a new Emergency Services Building for Fire, Police, and Ambulance services and a completely renovated Town Garage

The New Emergency Services Building

- It will be a modern, efficient building that will house all three emergency services under one roof; Fire, Police, and Ambulance
- A new EMS Building has been needed for years due to overcrowding at current Town Highway garage and Town Hall
- It will serve Chester residents for generations to come

Renovating the Town Highway Garage

- The existing Town Garage is overcrowded; it currently houses Fire, Ambulance, and Public Works; you can see all the equipment that must be kept outside and in all types of weather. This is not a good way to maintain these valuable items
- The existing Town Garage has been cited by State building officials as being deficient and in need of upgrading to the latest building codes; it needs major renovation, or the state could move to close it
- Renovating the existing Town Garage will add decades to its life and can be done for a fraction of what a new structure would cost

Please attend the informational meeting on November 4th at 6:00 PM, a day before the bond vote, to learn more about the facility and its financing.

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Sandy Burgess retires but Chrisandra's Interiors will live on —

BY SHARON HUNTLEY
The Vermont Journal

LUDLOW, Vt. – Forty years can go by in the blink of an eye when you are doing what you love. At least that's how it seems according to Sandy (Chrisandra) Burgess of Chrisandra's Interiors. Although the time has come for Sandy to retire and for her part in the business to end, the name of Chrisandra's, as well as the Pond Street location, will continue on with a new owner and designer in the coming weeks.

Sandy began her business in the basement of her home in 1980 sewing window treatments, pillows, dust ruffles, roman shades, draperies, and all manner of soft home goods. When she was offered 100 square feet in the front window of the local Ace Hardware store, her business tripled. That gave her the confidence to open her own storefront in 1988 in the Hammond Hall Building on Main Street in Ludlow. She eventually owned three locations but consolidated her business in the current Pond Street location.

Burgess credits the key to her success to answering to the needs of big or small jobs regardless. "If you had a need, it made me happy to fill it. That's my biggest thing," she said. The sale of her business happened in the 11th hour as preparations for her liquidation sale were already in place, but she is pleased that the new owners saw the value in that mindset. He has agreed that his designer will do the same, catering to all jobs whether large or small.

Even though she is extremely proud of the business she has built, Burgess is ready to retire. She had been in Florida six months out of the year for the last four years while her lead designer ran the day-to-day operations. Once he decided to leave, she needed to step back in as manager. At that point, she decided she was ready for a formal retirement.

Right now, there is a huge liquidation sale happening at Chrisandra's Interiors including furniture, carpet, fabric, lighting, decorative pieces, window treatments, fixtures, shelving, displays, and even their delivery van. Customers can also earn daily incentives to be entered into additional prizes during the sale.

Once she hands over the reins for good, Burgess will consult for a few weeks and then be on call for any questions. Being a landlord for both the Hammond Hall and Pond Street locations will keep her busy in the Ludlow area as well.

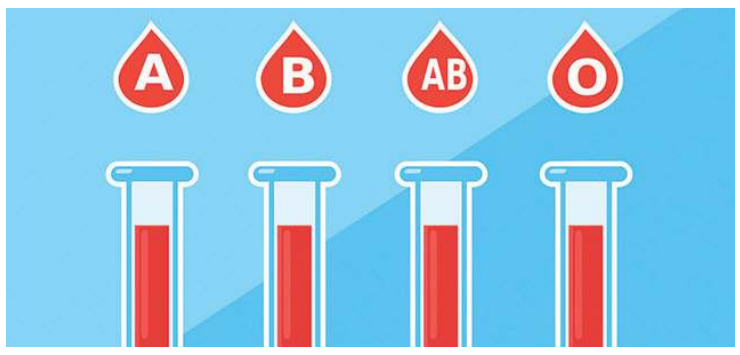
What she is most looking forward to is having the time for spirited Yahtzee games with her mother, as well as exercising, swimming, and getting back on the pickle ball court.

Sandy Burgess, retiring owner of Chrisandra's Interiors.
PHOTO BY SHARON HUNTLEY

Chrisandra's Interiors Liquidation sale is happening through Nov. 9. For more information, stop by the store at 72A Pond St, in Ludlow Monday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Ludlow community blood drive

LUDLOW, Vt. – Give blood. Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. A blood drive will be held in the gymnasium of the Ludlow Community Center, 37 Main Street, Monday, Nov. 19, from 12:30-5:30 p.m. Walk-in or for an appointment, visit www.redcrossblood.org, or call 1-800-RED CROSS. Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting www.RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.



Donate blood at the community blood drive if you can.
STOCK PHOTO

Valley Health Connections to assist with healthcare and Medicare enrollment –

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – Rose Ann McCarthy from Valley Health Connections will be at Neighborhood Connections Wednesday, Nov. 6; Wednesday, Nov. 20; and Wednesday, Dec. 4, from 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. to register Vermont residents for 2020 Health Insurance, Medicare, and Medicaid. Call Valley Health Connections directly at 802-885-1616 to schedule appointment.

Valley Health Connections is a certified navigator organization for Vermont Health Connect.

Neighborhood Connections, a nonprofit social services agency, is located in Londonderry's Mountain Marketplace, next to the Post Office.

Celebrate and create with Green Mountain Gardeners

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – Green Mountain Gardeners invites you to join your neighbors and local gardeners for a hands-on presentation with sustainable landscape designer Mary Adams Lines Nov. 4, 2019, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Landgrove Town Hall, 88 Landgrove Rd., Landgrove, Vt. The "Celebrate and Create with Nature's Bounty" presentation is free of charge and open to the public.

"Celebrate and Create with Nature's Bounty."
PHOTO PROVIDED

"I hope to inspire the audience to be brave, take creative risks, and think out of the box," Lines noted in describing her approach to holiday decorations. Her hands-on presentation will focus on new ways to think about holiday decorating and how to incorporate vibrant colors and ornamentation. "Celebrate and Create with Nature's Bounty" will feature garlands, wreaths, and topiaries created with sustainable materials from nature.

Mary Adams Lines lives in Londonderry, Vt. She has been a practicing landscape designer for over 30 years in the Westchester and Fairfield County areas and, more recently, in the Concord, Mass. area. She is a problem-solver, aspiring to achieve a symbiosis between the natural and built environments, while being environmentally responsible. An out-of-the-box thinker, her guiding philosophy is rooted in innate design aesthetic, practical horticultural knowledge, observation skills, and scrupulous attention to detail.

What a wonderful way to get ready for Thanksgiving and upcoming holidays! The GMG is pleased to be able to offer this opportunity to everyone in our community. If you would like to attend, please RSVP by Nov. 2 to Maureen Brandt at RBrandt840@aol.com.

Further information about this event and the Green Mountain Gardeners can be found at www.greenmountaingardeners.net.

Community Art Show

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – Main Street Arts is inviting community members to submit their artwork for a community art show that runs from Tuesday, Nov. 12 through Tuesday, Dec. 31, with an opening reception Thursday, Nov. 21, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Submission deadline is Thursday, Nov. 7.

Artists of all ages and experience are encouraged to submit work for this non-juried show. All types of media are welcome, including paint, photography, collage, fiber art, pottery, mixed media, sculpture, jewelry, and film or video. Guidelines and further information can be found at www.mainstreetarts.org. The submission form can be found at www.mainstreetarts.org/submission-form.html.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for local artists to share their work and creativity with their neighbors, who may not be aware of their talents," said MSA Director Heather Geoffrey. "It's always a treat to discover these hidden artists as well as celebrate those we already know."

Annual Empty Bowl Dinner planned

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Tickets are now on sale for the 22nd annual Empty Bowl dinner and auctions Sunday, Nov. 3, at Alyson's Orchard in Walpole, N.H., to benefit the food programs of Our Place Drop-in Center.

The event gets underway at 5 p.m. and includes a soup supper featuring signature soups from local restaurants and chefs and silent and live auctions featuring items and services donated by local businesses and individuals.

Tickets are on sale at Village Square Booksellers in Bellows Falls, Galloway Real Estate in Walpole, or at Our Place.

With the theme of "Gather and Share," the event begins with an auction preview and social hour. A highlight of the event is each attendee's selection of one of the handmade bowls to take home as a reminder of those who struggle to put food on the family table. Proceeds of the dinner go towards supporting the food programs of Our Place, which include a food pantry, a daily breakfast and lunch, and nutrition education. "This is our most important fundraiser of the year," said director Lisa Pitcher. "We are very grateful for the donations of bowls, auction items, and food that make it possible."

Truly a community effort, the event features soups, bread, and salad for the supper donated by area restaurants and schools and served by students from New England Kurn Hattin Homes. Students from Vermont Academy help with the set up, and the Fall Mountain Interact Club helps clean up.

Bill Stevens will be yielding the gavel for the live auction, which so far includes art works, a handmade table, Stratton ski passes, 150 gallons of heating oil or propane, a custom-made wood box from Cooperman's Fife and Drum, a quartet of metal musicians by Bob Taylor, a baseball autographed by Red Sox pitcher Eduardo Rodriguez, quilts, a Chris Sherwin glass bowl, a night at the Grafton Inn, a dinner-theater night out, a glass piece by Nick Kekic of Tsuga Studios, gift certificates from many local businesses, and the much-sought-after two pounds of fudge by Cathy Siano.

This year's sponsors include Whitney Blake, Robinson Sales, the Savings Bank of Walpole, the Richards Group, Faith Christian Church, and Mascoma Savings Bank.

The oldest such event in the area, the Our Place Empty Bowl is part of an international effort that began in 1990 to raise money for food programs. What started as a local effort in a Michigan high school has grown into a worldwide program that has raised more than a million dollars to help fight hunger.

Our Place is a daytime shelter and food pantry located at 4 Island St. whose mission is to connect people to food and each other. It serves families in the greater Rockingham and surrounding areas, as well as Walpole and North Walpole, N.H. Information is available by contacting OP at 802-463-2217 or ourplace@sover.net, online at www.ourplacevt.org or on Facebook.

Meet Rebecca Holcombe, Vermont Democratic gubernatorial candidate –

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The 2020 political season is just beginning in Springfield. On Monday, Nov. 4 at 6:30 p.m. at the HCRS Building at 390 River St., the Springfield Town Democrats will host Rebecca Holcombe as their guest speaker. This event is open to the public.

Holcombe is the first Democrat to announce her candidacy for governor in the 2020 election. She has a strong background in education and is a former teacher, principal, and most recently, secretary of education. In her first year as secretary of education, Holcombe received national attention for challenging the harmful nature of the federal No Child Left Behind Act. From her many experiences in education, Holcombe learned about the strong connection between education, opportunity, and long-term success of our communities.

Rebecca Holcombe.
PHOTO PROVIDED

Holcombe serves as a trustee at the Alice Peck Day Memorial Hospital and is well aware of the difficulties faced by rural hospitals as they try to serve the medical needs of the community while grappling with the changing demographics of rural Vermont.

There will be plenty of time to hear about her vision for Vermont and to ask Holcombe questions. For more information about Rebecca Holcombe, you can go to her website, www.rebeccaholcombe.com. For questions about the event, contact Char Osterlund at charmf@vermontel.net. This event is open to the public and free of charge.

A Doobie Brothers tribute

CLAREMONT, N.H. – "Takin' It to the Streets, the ultimate Doobie Brothers tribute show," takes the stage of the Claremont Opera House Saturday, Nov. 2 at 8 p.m. This incredible concert performance covers all of The Doobie's great hits and an occasional deep track or two with stunning accuracy. You'll hear "Long Train Runnin'," "China Grove," "Listen to the Music," "Takin' It to the Streets," "What A Fool Believes," "Rockin' Down The Highway," "Minute By Minute," "Black Water" and many more.

With amazing vocal skill and top-notch musicianship, "Takin' It to the Streets" brings it night after night, show after show. The Doobie Brothers concert experience doesn't get any better than "Takin' It to the Streets."

Tickets can be purchased in advance online at www.claremontoperhouse.org, by phone at 603-542-4433, or in person at the Opera House Box Office in City Hall Complex at 58 Opera House Square. Tickets are also available night of show. Beer and wine sales are available before the show and during intermission from Sweet Fire BBQ. Come in a Halloween costume to be entered for prizes!

American Legion Post #36
135 Main Street
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Seatings from 5:30 to 7:00 pm

Ludlow American Legion
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10	11 HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED VETERANS DAY	12 TRIVIA VT 20oz Draft Beers $7!	13 Join our Mug Club	14 GYPSY REEL 6:30 - 9 PM	15 TG IF	16 80s/90s Party Return to Sender Movie Premiere!
17 Come for the Food Stay for the Fun	18 OPEN MIC NIGHT Mondays at 8:00pm	19 VT Drafts $7! Trivia Tuesday w/ Rick Davis 7:30-8:30pm	20 Trade your Patch or Purchase ours for $5	21 $7 VT Drafts GYPSY REEL 6:30-9PM	22 tgif	23 LIVE MUSIC with Don Dawson from 5 - 8 pm
24 It's Sunday ALREADY!?	25 Open Mic Night Mondays at 8:00pm	26 TRIVIA VT 20oz Draft Beers $7!	27 Rhys playing 8-11pm LIVE music	28 Happy Thanksgiving CLOSED	29 LIVE MUSIC Silas & The Witch from 6 - 9 pm	30 Sammy Blanchette 5-8 pm Jake Kulak 9-12

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

The snowplow

Willard snow plow model.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY TED SPAULDING

Ted Spaulding's father Ed was an auctioneer while running the Town Farm and his Star Route Mail contract. Ed sold out many area homes in the 1940s into the early 1960s. Along the way, Ed picked up a few antiques he found interesting. One of those antiques is the snowplow model pictured with this article.

Many of us will know about horses drawing a snow-roller in the old days. Many photos and stories exist about snow-rollers. The salesman's sample snowplow pictured with this article illustrates how a horse-drawn snowplow operated.

It measures about 24 inches long without the pole and about 12 inches wide at the widest point. It is expertly crafted and made of cherry. The front end has the pole that the horses were harnessed to. On the back end, you'll notice a platform where the driver stood. In front of him are five hand levers. These levers control raising or lowering each side of the plow wings or widening the path of snow plowed.

There's an old string tag attached that reads: "Willards Model Snow Plow used between Weston and Andover, Vt. 1895."

Peter Farrar, Danny Clemons, and I went to work to track down this illusive snowplow maker. At Weston Town Hall, we found a little in the 1896 Weston Town Report. There are multiple listings for "breaking out the road." One listing stands out: "H.J. Batchelder, Snow plow, Simonds got $7." This is the only mention we found of a snowplow.

In the 2011 "History of Chester," we found a little information about Clinton J. Willard. He was born in West Windsor in 1842. During the Civil War, he was in Company A of the 12th Regiment Vermont Volunteers. After the war he was in the lumber business in Ludlow and Weston. In 1888, he came to Chester where he was a dealer in livestock and an agent for the "Deering Horse Rake and Mowing Machine," a machine said to be the best on the market.

His wife Elizabeth ran a millinery shop in what used to be the Hilton House on Main Street in Chester. His daughter Pearl worked in the shop. Eventually Pearl would have her own millinery in what is now Chester House next to Hugging Bear Inn. Pearl Willard is a name well-known to the historical society.

It was with some luck when I was reading a scrapbook of old newspaper clippings kept by Mary Harris that I found this news article from the Feb. 4, 1898 Vermont Phoenix. The area had been clobbered with a blizzard and sub-zero temperatures. Here is the article as printed:

"Wednesday the blockade was broken and our three stages came in and the communication with Boston was opened. Our streets look as if the town were preparing for a siege as many of the houses are barricaded by snow walls that bid defiance to intruders, and nothing less than the snow king can enter there. Among the thoroughly protected we note Dr. F.P. Mather's, Charlie Miller's and Joseph Butterfield's residences, the tops of whose abiding-places are just visible above the skylights.

"The sidewalks on Main Street were greatly improved by the timely arrival of C.J. Willard's snow plows from St. Albans Wednesday. Although the walks had been broken out by the old fashioned scraper and roller, the snow was that deep that the scraper made a cat's path with walls of snow on either side and the roller did no better work. But when Willards plow was used the walks were widened out and scraped to the hard trodden walk, leaving a clean path sufficiently wide for two pedestrians to walk abreast."

We can conclude while Willard had been a lumberman and livestock dealer, he was also an inventor. In his day, snow-covered roads were rolled not plowed. In 1895, Willard was a leader in snowplow development in New England. I found nothing about Willard or his snowplows online.

Ted felt the snowplow model should go to the Weston Historical Society. I have had it now for a couple months. I told Ted when I saw it that I wanted to write the history of this snowplow and then I would turn it over to Weston along with the article. Weston, call me.

I heard this week's old saying years ago when I was loading an antique cast iron stove by myself in my truck. When I told the farmer how heavy it was, he said, "Yep, it's 16 ounces to the pound."

BF program to focus on "the hippie invasion"

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The Rockingham Historic Preservation Commission will sponsor a program on "The Counterculture's Impact on Vermont and Vermont's Influence on the Counterculture Generation" Saturday, Nov. 2, at noon, at the Rockingham Free Public Library. Author Yvonne Daley will discuss her most recent book, "Going Up the Country: When the Hippies, Dreamers, Freaks and Radicals Moved to Vermont."

In the late 1960s and '70s, thousands of young migrants, largely from the cities and suburbs of New York and Massachusetts, turned their backs on the establishment of the 1950s and moved to the back woods, small towns and cities of rural Vermont, spawning a revolution that altered the state's politics, agriculture, education, business practices, and culture.

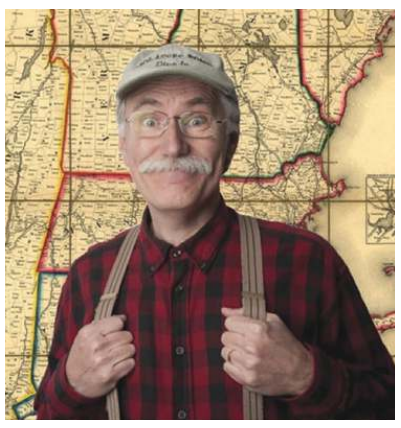
While the movement brought hippies, organic farmers, political radicals, and free thinkers to what was then one of the nation's most conservative states, the newcomers were in turn influenced by longtime residents and their practical lessons in rural living.

The result of this collaboration of cultures remains evident today, making Vermont a state that blends progressive and conservative values and ideas.

Daley, a former journalist with the Rutland Herald and the Boston Globe, is the author of six nonfiction books, including "An Independent Man (with the late Sen. James Jeffords)," "Vermont Writers: A State of Mind," and "Octavia Boulevard." She lived for 17 years between San Francisco, where she taught journalism and nonfiction writing at San Francisco State University, and Vermont, where she founded and directs the Green Mountain Writers Conference, now in its 22nd year.

The program is free. Light refreshments will be served. The library is at 65 Westminster St. and is handicapped accessible. For more information, email clg@rockbf.org or go to www.rockbf.org.

Fred Marple with his humorous Guide to New England



Ken Sheldon, aka Fred Marple.

PHOTO PROVIDED

WALPOLE, N.H. – The Walpole Historical Society will present Yankee humorist Fred Marple and his Guide to New England "for locals and people from away" Friday, Nov. 8 at 7 p.m. in the Walpole Town Hall.

Fred will discuss Yankee food, including why we think baked beans and vegetables boiled with a piece of corned beef are fine cooking. He'll examine Yankee fashion, from the ever-present flannel to rummage sale ensembles. Fred will also explain life in a small town, where everyone knows your business – often before you do – and he'll describe the people who live there, from the cheapskate native to the affluent transplant.

Fred Marple has appeared on New Hampshire Chronicle, on radio, and in the pages of Yankee Magazine and New Hampshire Magazine. His book, "Welcome to Frost Heaves," was recently published by Islandport Press. He has been called "hilarious," "a hoot," and "really smart for a guy his age." His "Yoga for Yankees" has been viewed over 6 million times online.

He is also known as author and songwriter Ken Sheldon from Peterborough.

The event is free and open to all. Refreshments will be served. For more information, go to www.walpolehistory.com.

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Commander Don Stocker | 802-463-9700 | Bellows Falls, VT
Chair Doug Roberts & Pub. Rel. Smokey Aumand

Free cold climate heat pump workshop in Ascutney

ASCUTNEY, Vt. – On Saturday, Nov. 9, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. Weathersfield Town Library, on Route 5 in Ascutney, and Brent Coleman of Chester, will host a cold climate heat pump workshop for the community. Come see the newly installed heat pumps in action at the library. Discover heat pump options for hot water and space heating. Bring your questions and learn how heat pumps operate in summer and winter. Pick up a copy of the Weathersfield Energy Efficiency flyer compiled by the Energy Group with further tips to save money on energy and help the environment.

This workshop is offered by the Weathersfield Energy Group. For more information, call 802-674-5280.

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opinion

TAKE A BREAK

Dear Editor,

In response to Dean Alexander's letter from the Oct. 23, 2019 edition concerning the proposed purchase of the Black River High School building by the town of Ludlow, he makes several good points, but some of his information may be out-of-date.

Per the Selectboard's "Black River High School Feasibility Report," the annual expected maintenance cost of the building to the town would be $300,000, double what Dean indicated. Should the independent school materialize, it's expected to have revenue of $1.2 million and pay $200,000 to the town for use of the top two floors.

The report discusses other "possible" uses of the first floor space, including expansion office space for the township, larger conference room area, and use by the Recreation Department. The only possible revenue streams suggested were for other educational activities or renting space to nonprofit organizations, though neither of these appear to have been vetted by any possible tenants and would certainly not come close to covering the $300,000 maintenance expense.

While the report paints a glowing picture of how the building is up to code, it was built in 1938 and besides some new windows – the town would have to pay to complete the window upgrades – it certainly doesn't meet today's need for energy efficient buildings. Noticeably missing is any kind of energy audit even though Efficiency Vermont offers them. The two boilers are also 22 years old and numerous efficiency upgrades are now available.

It's obvious to the casual observer that the report was written to justify the purchase of the building by the town in support of the independent school, a high school that the voters three times voted to close.

On the positive side, the purchase includes the building and, for recreational purposes, the baseball field and the "back 40;" the building is designated as an emergency shelter for the town; the town could control the smoke-free, drug-free, safe environment around the elementary school.

Before making a final decision Nov. 12 at the special town meeting, there are a number of outstanding questions that need to be answered at the Nov. 4 meeting, starting with why is this vote not by Australian ballot where the whole town has the opportunity to decide rather than the few who can attend a special town meeting?

I think anything that comes with a minimum annual expense of $300,000, having a significant impact on property taxes, should go before the whole town. It makes me wonder what they've "swept under the rug."

Other questions include:

- What exactly will the increase property tax be per $1 assessed value for the full $300,000?
- Why wasn't an energy audit done and how much would it cost to make the building energy efficient?
- What would the annual maintenance cost be if Ludlow bought the building and "moth-balled" it until a suitable use or tenant is found or sold?
- While the building is appraised at $1.8 million, what can Ludlow actually get for it on the open market? Is there any interest in the building?
- Has the independent school actually committed to the $200,000 annual rent?
- Have any potential tenants been contacted to see if there is interest and what is a realistic potential rental income beyond the independent school?

If Ludlow doesn't purchase the building, at least the annual maintenance cost continues to be shared with Mount Holly residents until the building is sold. I have serious doubts it will sell anytime soon – unless it's given away. In that situation, another question is: is there anything stopping the independent school from renting the space from the School Board?

They wouldn't have the same level of "security" in location, but it's inappropriate to risk $300,000 of taxpayer money annually until they can show a continued income sufficient to maintain the school. One final question: if Ludlow doesn't purchase the building next year, the building doesn't sell, and the independent school flourishes, can the School Board offer Ludlow the option to buy it again for $1 at a later date?

Sincerely,
Alan Meier
Ludlow, Vt.

Dear Editor,

Over the summer, the Ludlow Selectboard had a Feasibility Committee investigate the purchase of the school building, baseball field, and adjoining land. Below are some of the highlights and recommendations from that report.

Per the Ludlow-Mount Holly Unified Union School District merger agreement, when BRMHS closes June 30, 2020, the building must be offered to the town for $1.

If the town does not acquire the building, it can be sold on the open market. If sold on the open market, the town will lose control over who becomes Ludlow Elementary School's neighbor. We would like to promote a non-smoking, drug-free, and safe environment.

If the town does not buy the building, the building may be left abandoned.

Potential uses for the BRMHS building

The Fire Marshall's report regarding broad uses for the building – without triggering code issues – opens the possibility of utilizing the space for town offices, as well as generating revenue by renting space to other organizations.

Some of the specific potential uses of the BRMHS building:

The current Community Recreation Center is located adjacent to both the building and grounds and ownership of the building would allow the Recreation Department to provide continued recreation program offerings, as well as access the building for overflow space for any programming needs.

The first floor could be utilized by the TRSU After School and Summer Programs. For example, the summer program, which operates outside at West Hill Recreational Center, could use the first floor for indoor activities in the event of inclement weather.

Black River Independent School could become a tenant of the BRMHS building after BRMHS closes in June 2020, occupying the second and third floor for classrooms and offices and using the first floor as needed and available for assemblies and other student activities.

Other available classroom space could host Adult Learning – community college classes, continuing education classes, online courses, or professional development activities offered through organizations, such as Castleton University.

The first floor could be used by community organizations. The large classroom has Wi-Fi availability, kitchen amenities, and a large seating area that would be suitable for hosting Selectboard and Trustee meetings, Chamber of Commerce activities, etc.

First-floor space could be rented to nonprofit organizations such as the Visiting Nurses Association and Council on Aging or used for senior activities. The first floor could be secured by keypad.

The BRMHS building is designated as an emergency shelter that could be used to house community residents in the event there is a need.

Expense considerations

The U39 School Board 2017-2018 General Fund Budget, which included the BRMHS building expenses, provides a realistic estimate of what expenses will be to maintain the building:

- The cost of maintaining the building including custodial services, heat, and electricity are about $300,000 per year. This includes approximately $150,000 in custodial staff help.
- The total maintenance cost for 2017-18 was $341,544.
- The art room, band room, gymnasium, and other shared spaces were included in this $341,544 expense and because they are in the LES building, they would not be an expense for the BRMHS building.
- The cost of finishing the replacement windows project is approximately $25,000.
- If the oil tank were to fail, the deductible is $10,000.
- The annual cost for town insurance of the building should be about $4,622.

Revenue considerations

It may be possible for the town to generate revenue through rental agreements with Black River Independent School, as well as other organizations.

Black River Independent School, which will provide important continuity and new opportunities for BRMHS students and be a great complement to Ludlow Elementary School, anticipates 75 students its first year of operation, primarily from Ludlow and Mount Holly; $1.2 million revenue its first year in the form of state tuition dollars; expenses of $200,000 its first year to pay the town as part of a full-service lease.

Risk considerations

If the Black River Independent School does not occupy the second and third floors, the town will have $150,000 to $300,000 in negative cash flow for the building. If the school occupies the second and third floors, but the town does not secure tenants for the first floor, the town could have $100,000 negative cash flow for the building.

The town would not be able to sell the restricted-use building for five years unless they compensate LMHUUSD for capital improvements done to the building by LMHUUSD. Acquisition of the BRMHS building could cause an increase in Ludlow municipal taxes.

If the Black River Independent School does not come to fruition, the town would be left owning and maintaining a property it does not need.

The town legally cannot use the BRMHS building and land to develop housing.

Recommendations

We recommend that the town purchase the BRMHS building and land from the LMHUUSD for $1. We recommend that the town rent the second and third floors of the building to Black River Independent School to offer local education for grades 7-12.

We recommend that the town use the "back 40" of land to provide town residents access to walking paths and the ropes course and provide outdoor and nature classroom space for the schools.

We recommend that the town accept the deeded uses of the subdivision done by the LMHUUSD, which will specify access to the "back 40," the ball field, and parking for educational purposes.

We recommend that the town utilize the first floor of the building for community space or rent it to select organizations, including Black River Independent School, as needed and available.

We recommend that the town contract with LMHUUSD to utilize the existing custodial staff as they have complete knowledge of the building.

We recommend that the town complete the windows project at a cost of approximately $25,000.

Please join the Selectboard Nov. 4, 2019 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall for an informational meeting and Nov. 12, 2019 at 7 p.m. for the vote on the purchase.

Sincerely,
Dan Buckley
Ludlow, Vt.

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps

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TAKE A BREAK!

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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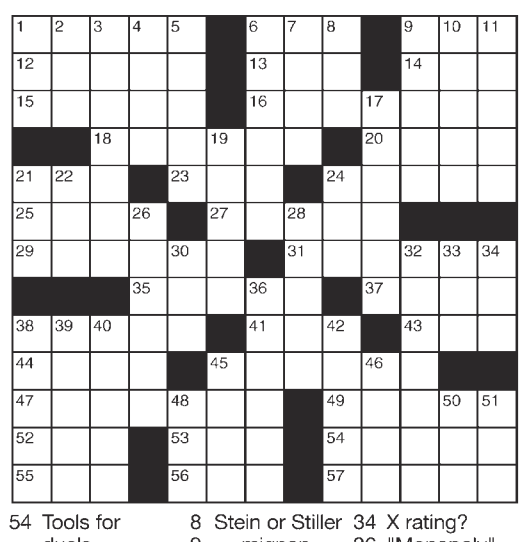
King Crossword



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30 Listener
32 $1 bills
33 2nd Amdt. proponents
34 X rating?
36 "Monopoly" buys
38 Jute fibers
39 Dickens' Mr. Heep
40 Like some mouthwashes and toothpastes
42 Written slander
45 Art —
46 California wine valley
48 Cover
50 Prepared
51 Balaam's carrier

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CHURCH SERVICES

obituaries

ALSTEAD, N.H.

Third Congregational Church UCC, River St.
Sunday service begins at 10:30 a.m. For more information, contact alsteadthirdchurch@gmail.com or 603-835-6358.

ASCUTNEY, VT.

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

Brownsville Community United Methodist Church, 66 Brownsville-Hartland Rd.
Sunday worship 9:30 a.m. followed by fellowship and refreshments. Nursery care provided during service for children 5 years and younger. ADA accessible. Call 802-484-5944, email bcchurchvt@gmail.com, or go to www.brownsvilleumc-vt.org.

BELLOWS FALLS, VT.

Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church St.
Holy Eucharist Services are offered at 8 a.m. (quiet service) and 10 a.m. (with music) every Sunday. Handicap accessible. For more information, call 802-463-3100.

Faith Christian Church, 582 Rockingham Rd.
Pastor Matt and Brenda Farkas welcome all to Sunday worship and praise at 10 a.m., the Message at 10:30 a.m., Children's Church (3-7 years) at 10:30 a.m., and Holy Spirit service on the first and third Sundays of the month at 6:30 p.m. Bible Study Wednesdays at 6 p.m. at the Church Home in the same parking lot. For more information, call 802-591-1350.

CAVENDISH-PROCTORSVILLE, VT.

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

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

CHESTER, VT.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 313 Main St.
Sunday service is at 8 a.m. Service with music, Sunday School, and nursery care available at 10 a.m. Wednesday morning prayer at 9:40 a.m. Visit www.stlukesepiscopalvt.org or call 802-875-6000.

First Universalist Parish of Chester, Rt. 103. 211 North St.
Sunday service at 10 a.m. between September and June, followed by light refreshments and conversation. Free childcare available for children under 5. The building is handicap accessible with an elevator. More at www.chestervtuu.org or 802-875-3257.

LONDONDERRY, VT.

The Village Church, 35 Church St., Belmont, Vt.
The Sunday service and children's church is at 9:30 a.m. Contact 802-259-2440 or visit www.vbch.weebly.com.

Second Congregational Church of Londonderry, 2051 N. Main St.
Worship service is at 9:30 a.m. Sunday school and childcare available. For more information, call the church at 802-824-6453 or go to www.2ndcongregationalchurchvt.org.

LUDLOW, VT.

Tyson Community Church, Corner of Rt. 100 and Dublin Rd.
Service is at 10:30 a.m., followed by fellowship. Communion offered the first Sunday of each month. Wheelchair accessible. For more information, call 802-522-8249 or email cindysummer55@gmail.com.

Village Baptist Church, 32 Church St., Mount Holly, Vt.
Sunday service is 9:30 a.m. For more information, call 802-259-2440.

SPRINGFIELD, VT.

Advent Christian Church, 11 Church St., N. Springfield
Worship is Sunday at 10 a.m. We are a small, friendly, Evangelical church. For more information, call Pastor David Young at 802-376-2136 or go to www.acchurch.net.

Lighthouse Baptist Church, 142 Wall St.
Saturday service at 10 a.m. Bible Study at 11 a.m. Worship Tuesday night is at 7 p.m. with bible study and prayer. For more information, call 802-885-5763.

Unitarian Universalist Church, 21 Fairground Rd.
Sunday services are at 10 a.m. For more information, call 802-885-3327 or go to www.uuspringfieldvt.org. All are welcome.

WALPOLE, N.H.

St. John's Church, corner of Westminster and Elm St.
Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. Services begin at 10 a.m., followed by coffee hour. For more information about Art After School program, our outreach efforts, call 603-756-4533.

First Congregational Church of Walpole / United Church of Christ, 15 Washington Sq.
Sunday service is at 10 a.m. Sunday school at 10 a.m. with coffee hour at 11 a.m. Wheelchair accessible with ramps and elevator. Call 603-756-4075 or email walpolechurch@yahoo.com.

WESTMINSTER, VT.

The First Congregational Church of Westminster, 3470 US Rt. 5
Regular Sunday worship is at 10 a.m. All are welcome!
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William R. Stearns, 1928-2019

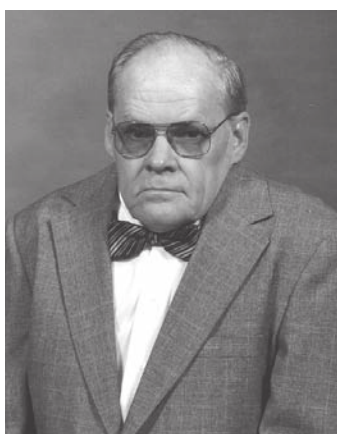
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – William Roy Stearns, 91, passed away peacefully Tuesday, Oct. 22, 2019 at Maplewood Nursing Home in Westmoreland, N.H., surrounded by his children.

Roy was born March 17, 1928 in Waterbury, Conn., the son of Albert William and Mary Ann (Manley) Stearns. Roy moved to Springfield, Vt. as a teenager and graduated from Springfield High School in 1948. He met his wife of 66 years, Dorothy Ruth Snide, while in high school, and they wed June 30, 1951 in Chester, Vt.

Roy was a master craftsman of pattern making and an excellent finish carpenter. After retirement, Roy could be found driving around the Woodbury Florist van or on Bellows Falls Country Club greens.

Roy started flying in 1958 in the Springfield Flying Club. He logged his first solo flight March 19, 1959. Roy's last airplane ride was with his daughter Wendy, son-in-law David, and his sister Joan June 24, 2017 in a 1945 vintage Beach C-45.

Roy is survived by his son Gary and wife Sharon of East Stroudsburg, Pa.; daughter Kelley and husband Karl Lauren of Chester, Vt.; daughter Wendy and husband David Putnam of Westmoreland, N.H.; granddaughters Meghan and Emily Stearns of East Stroudsburg, Pa.; step-grandson Tim Lauren of Ludlow, Vt.; step-granddaughter Kristi and husband Andrew Elhers of Eden, Vt.; step-great-grandsons Wesley and Bryson Elhers of Eden, Vt.; sister Joan Carey of Springfield, Vt.; brother-in-law Larry and wife Judy Snide of Bellow Falls, Vt.; sisters-in-law Patricia Hardy and Linda Snide of Springfield, Vt.; and many nieces and nephews.



William R. Stearns, 1928-2019.
PHOTO PROVIDED

Roy is predeceased by his wife Dot, who passed May 30, 2018; his parents Albert and Mary; sisters Jean Anderson and Enid Barr; and brothers-in-law Alan Anderson, Roger Carey, and Edward "Chick" Barr.

Graveside services will be held Saturday, Nov. 9, 2019 at 11 a.m. at the Gill-Walker Cemetery on Putnam Road in Springfield, Vt. Immediately following, there will be a gathering of friends and family at the Crown Point County Club in Springfield, Vt.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Roy's memory to EAA Chapter 968, 879 Parker Rd., East Wallingford, VT 05742.

Harold E. Moot

CHESTER, Vt. – A graveside service for Harold E. Moot, 89, of Chester, Vt., who passed away March 27, 2019, was held Saturday, Oct. 19, 2019 at Cavendish Village Cemetery.

Military honors were provided by the Ludlow American Legion Post 36 Color Guard. His nephew Roy E. Spaulding made a special toast. His niece Heidi Spaulding Agoes paid a lovely, warm tribute to her uncle, and his nephew David Sheldon sang a hymn, "Amazing Grace."

A celebration of life followed at the American Legion in Ludlow. Arrangements were made by Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt.

Marilyn M. O'Neil, 1937-2019

LUDLOW, Vt. – Marilyn M. (Mather) O'Neil, passed away Tuesday, Oct. 22, 2019 at the Gill Odd Fellow Home after a long battle with illness.

She was born Feb. 23, 1937, in New London, Conn., the daughter of David and Nellie (Regan) Mather. She grew up in Old Lyme, Conn., and graduated from Old Lyme High School in 1955. She married James A. O'Neil Oct. 11, 1958, in Old Lyme, Conn.

Marilyn started her career working at Electric Boat in Groton, Conn. They raised their family in Old Lyme before retiring to Mount Holly, Vt. in 1987 where she worked as a substitute teacher at Black River High School in Ludlow, Vt. Sadly, James passed away in 2006 after 48 years of marriage.

Marilyn was an avid Red Sox fan, loved spending time playing with and walking her dogs, and enjoyed sitting in her chair watching the hummingbirds outside her window. She also enjoyed swimming, playing bingo, and taking trips to the casino.

She is survived by her two sons Thomas O'Neil and his wife Debbie of Bluffton, S.C., and James O'Neil and his wife Pam of Ludlow; a daughter Debbie O'Neil and her partner John Coughlin of Old Lyme, Conn.; six grandchildren Holly Fraser and her husband Andy, David O'Neil, Bethany Johnson and her husband Colon, Katie O'Neil Benson and her husband Trevor, Ian Coughlin, and Chad Coughlin. She was predeceased by her parents, husband, and five brothers and sisters.

She was devoted to her family and will be sadly missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing her.

A memorial service was held Saturday, Oct. 26, 2019 at Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt. Reverend Peter Williams officiated.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Josh Cole Memorial Scholarship Fund, c/o TRSU, 609 VT Route 103S, Ludlow, VT 05149. Arrangements are under the direction of David Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt.

Joshua D. Kempe, 1980-2019

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Joshua David Kempe, son of G. Steven Kempe, passed away unexpectedly Sept. 11, 2019 at his home in Brevard, N.C. Joshua was born July 22, 1980 in Hartford, Conn. He attended Connecticut schools and North Carolina Wayne Community College.

He was self-employed and worked at garden maintenance and landscaping. He enjoyed playing the keyboard, computer repair, and restoring plants to their former beauty.

He is survived by his father and stepmother LucyMary Kempe of Springfield, Vt., his mother Barbara Rose Layman of Castleton, Vt., his sister Dawne Michelle Hensley and her two sons, stepsister Rosalina Layman, and stepbrother Robert Layman.

A memorial service was held at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Springfield, Vt. Sunday, Oct. 27, 2019.

Joshua D. Kempe, 1980-2019.
PHOTO PROVIDED

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PLEASE NOTE

In order to have room for each obituary we receive each week, we ask that submissions are limited to 350 words. We reserve the right to shorten any obituary.

Church Services are subject to space with priority given to obituaries. Each service is published on a rotation every two to four weeks. All Church Services are listed online at www.VermontJournal.com.

If you have any questions, please contact Amanda at Editor@VermontJournal.com.

arts & entertainment

Painting the vibrant colors of fall in watercolor

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Robert O'Brien is offering a one-day watercolor workshop painting the fall landscape of New England in all its splendor at Gallery at the VAULT Saturday, Nov. 2, from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The class will begin with a demonstration by the instructor who will explain his techniques for capturing the vibrancy of autumn colors through a layering process and for creating light and shadow. Students will paint for the remainder of the class with hands-on assistance from the instructor.

Robert O'Brien pumpkin watercolor.

PHOTO PROVIDED

A critique and discussion will be held at the end of the session. All levels are welcome. A materials list will be provided at registration.

If there are more than six students, the workshop will be held at the Springfield Art Gym with further registration possible.

Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main Street in Springfield, is open Monday 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and Wednesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 802-885-7111, email galleryvault@vermontel.net, or visit www.galleryvault.org.

Big Woods Voices concert at First Universalist Parish

CHESTER, Vt. – Big Woods Voices will be appearing in concert at the First Universalist Parish of Chester Sunday, Nov. 3 at 3 p.m.

Big Woods Voices unites four veteran area singers in celebrating their common passion for vocal harmony through a cappella interpretations of original, world, and roots music with a generous helping of poetry.

Will Danforth's compositions and arrangements invite harmony and dissonance to dance together in riveting soundscapes. Reveling in harmony, Big Woods Voices presents lyrical settings of poems by David Whyte, W. B. Yeats, and others; richly harmonized standards of the American roots lexicon; gems by musicians such as Pete Sutherland and The Finest Kind; and completely original poetic-harmonic pieces.

The First Universalist Parish is on North Street in Chester. There is an admission fee.

New England Classical Academy annual Murder Mystery Dinner

CLAREMONT, N.H. – New England Classical Academy's seventh annual Murder Mystery Dinner, "Murder in the House of Horrors," will be held Friday, Nov. 1 and Saturday, Nov. 2, 2019 at 6 p.m. at the Claremont Senior Center, 5 Acer Heights Rd., Claremont, N.H. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. both nights.

Welcome to the Hamilton Museum and tonight's lecture on "Monsters, Murderers, and Madmen." You are listening to Professor Dirk Carlton tell of his discovery of the Pharaoh Menkaura's tomb. However, the lecture turns deadly and a priceless jewel has vanished! You are now a suspect as well as a witness to this mystery. But don't worry; when Lt. Dan Morrow arrives, he will help narrow down the suspect list and give you an opportunity to question them too.

Tickets include salad, bread, and water; choice of beef short ribs, pan-seared Atlantic Mahi Mahi, or butternut squash ravioli dinner entrees with sides; dessert, and coffee. Soft drinks and alcoholic beverages will be for sale separately. To reserve tickets, email or call the school office at 603-543-3400 or neca_office@yahoo.com.

Fletcher Farm School November class schedule

LUDLOW, Vt. – Now that autumn is winding down and the weather is getting colder, people are thinking about spending some quality time inside. What better time to pick up a new hobby, especially with the holidays just around the corner? With that in mind, here are the classes that Fletcher Farm School for the Arts and Crafts is offering in November. For more information, go to www.fletcherfarm.org.

Liberated quiltmaking will be held Nov. 9-11.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Nov. 2: Make a gemstone tree with Lyn Parker Haas

Using wire and real gemstones, we will create gorgeous tiny trees – each one as unique as its creator! Each beautiful tree will sit on a sturdy base you choose in class. You should be able to create two trees during the day.

Nov. 2-3: Crochet for beginners with Debi Orton

Many of us didn't have an older relative around to teach us how to tat, knit, or crochet. Crochet is a way of releasing stress and can be downright meditative. It's not a hard skill to learn, but it's difficult to learn on your own. Spend a weekend with yarn and a crochet hook, and we're sure you'll be hooked.

Nov. 9: Birch bark ornaments with Penny Hewitt

Enjoy the simple pleasure of creating a decoration or gift from local materials that have been responsibly harvested. Utilizing techniques common to the Scandanavian and Russian style of basketry, you will craft birds and stars using strips of inner bark from the paper birch tree.

Nov. 9-11: Liberated quiltmaking with Susan Damone

Learn a process of quiltmaking with no rules, no patterns, no points to match, and seams don't have to be exact. It's a great way to use whatever fabric you have on hand. Your quilt will be uniquely your own. You may choose to do a "liberated" version of a traditional pattern, or you can choose a more intuitive approach.

Nov. 16: Making wool ornaments, a family activity with Sue Carey

Using cookie cutters and wool, we are going to make tree ornaments. This is a great opportunity for a family to work together to create something special for gifts or for their tree. Family-made ornaments or gifts can become heirlooms. Join the fun and learn how to make some unique decorations for your tree. Cookie cutters will be provided, but bring your own if you have a favorite.

Springfield Community Players ends its season with "Hotel Anonymous"

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – This November, the Springfield Community Players will be performing their second original script of the season with "Hotel Anonymous," taking place in the fictional Vermont town of Post. "Hotel Anonymous" is a hilarious romp about what happens when reality television makes its way into Vermont.

"Hotel Anonymous" is an original murder mystery written by Springfield Community Players veteran, Andrew Freeman. With the help of grant money from Ben & Jerry's, Freeman will be able to bring his vision to the stage. In the past, Freeman has provided his talents as an actor to shows such as "Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike," "The Drowsy Chaperone," and "The Boys Next Door." Freeman will be working closely with Springfield Community Players President John MacDonald to bring this vision to life.

The "Hotel Anonymous" cast includes a number of returning actors and a number of newcomers as well. Returning players include Barbara Ball, Dmitri Freeman, Todd Hutchinson, Laura Carbonneau, and Allison Gibbons. Newcomers are Kayden Huntley, Gabriel Freeman, Tristen Free, Garret Moore, Harry Valentin, Andrew Sayah, and David Johnson.

While you're at the studio, please check out the new ramp and awning that have been installed. None of this would have been possible without the support from volunteers in our local community. The Springfield Community Players is thankful.

Join us at the Players' Studio on South Street in Springfield to laugh your way through this murder mystery. Make ticket reservations online at www.springfieldcommunityplayers.org/tickets or by calling 802-885-4098. Performance dates are Nov. 1, 2, and 9, with doors opening at 7 p.m. for the 7:30 p.m. show. A matinee performance will take place Nov. 10 with doors opening at 1:30 p.m. for the 2 p.m. show. See you at the studio!

The End Of America and Oshima Brothers

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The End Of America returns to Stage 33 Live Saturday, Nov. 2, co-headlining with Oshima Brothers, at 7 p.m. This is the first show of an Eastern U.S. tour by the two bands. Doors open at 6 p.m.

The End Of America was voted "Favorite New Artist" at the Philadelphia Folk Festival, and won the Emerging Artist Showcase at Falcon Ridge, returning the next year as that festival's "Most Wanted" band. Beck invited them to play his Song Reader album release show.

Oshima Brothers' acoustic folk-pop has been lauded by NPR's World Café, and they've racked up hundreds of thousands of Spotify streams. Their performances are unexpectedly full sounding, with dynamic vocals, electric and acoustic guitars, octave bass, loops, percussion, and more – or, when it suits a song, a stripped down, beautifully spare arrangement.

Advance tickets are available online at www.stage33live.com. If any chairs behind the reserved rows are still available on show day, those will be available first-come first-served. One hundred percent of ticket sales support the bands. Attendees are allowed to bring their own portable seating to set up behind the house chairs or to use in place of the house chair if one was reserved.

Stage 33 Live is located at 33 Bridge St. in Bellows Falls, Vt. There is no kitchen or liquor license. Coffee, soda, water, and snacks by donation. For more information, go to www.stage33live.com.

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7th Annual Veteran's Day Assembly
November 8, 2019
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sports

THIS AND THAT

BY BILL MURPHY

The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

Cross country

One week ago, I wrote about the slim chances for post-season success in our reporting area. I did let you know at that time that the Bellows Falls girls' cross country team was the best bet to capture state honors and that, compared with the Rice girls, it was about a 50/50 chance. That particular choice did pan out. And it wasn't easy. Both teams came to run and the Bellows Falls Terriers just ran better in the Vermont State Division III Championship Meet. It was so close throughout. Rice ran above what was expected so the Terriers had to do the same.

Bellows Falls coach Tim Eno told me, "At 3K, when I last saw the girls, we were behind. Our number 3, 4, and 5 girls ran a great second half."

The meet credits the top four runners of each team with points towards the victory. However, the importance of the fifth or any runner after that can prove to be a big boost to a team because they can push teammates to greater heights and impose a psychological advantage to their team by an opponent seeing another uniform of a competitive opponent passing them by. For this edition of the Terriers, the number three, four, and five runners were sophomore Victoria Bassette, junior Abby Dearborn, and sophomore Ashley Bartlett. The three Harriers were separated by just over 23 seconds and finished 14th, 16th, and 17th propelling their team to victory. Imagine that mini pack crossing the finish line to the delightful vision of Terrier team, coach, and fans.

Abby Broadley, the Terrier sophomore added another piece of glamour to her trophy case by capturing first place in the Division III race. Broadley, clearly the class of the division, won the race by 44 seconds. Her teammate Stephanie Ager was fifth. Since all five runners mentioned have eligibility remaining, Bellows Falls should be difficult to reckon with again next season. Broadley's and Ager's performances qualified them to run in the New England in Manchester, Conn. Nov. 9. Junior Molly Hodsden and sophomore Shelby Stoodley were also members of the Bellows Falls championship squad.

The final team totals on the girls' championship run were Bellows Falls 31, Rice 37, Thetford 77, Randolph 108, Mill River 114, Sharon 124, Lake Region 125, Stowe 136, Peoples 152, Otter Valley 155, Green Mountain 161, Bellows Free Academy 193, Danville 194, Oxbow 241, and Blue Mountain 266.

Green Mountain had three runners finish in the top 50. Senior Olivia Bernier was 20th with senior Laurel King and freshman Greta Bernier coming in 36th and 43rd respectively.

The Bellows Falls boys were not expected to win, and they didn't; however, they certainly can walk away from this 2019 fall season with their heads held very high. This edition of Eno's Terrier runners finished third, but each and every scoring runner ran his personal best on this course.

There were 18 teams and Peoples Academy captured top honors with 43 points, nipping host Thetford by one, followed by Bellows Falls 56, Craftsbury Academy 60, Stowe 91, Lake Region 106, Rice 114, Otter Valley 164, Bellows Free Academy of Fairfax 176, Randolph 189, Long Trail 228, Mill River 243, Windsor 257, Danville 258, Blue Mountain 268, Richford 294, Green Mountain 300, and Oxbow 317.

The Chieftains' top runners were sophomore Mitchell Rounds 65th and senior Kameron Cummings 70th.

The four Bellows Falls boys' runners who contributed to their team score and ran so well were Tim Salter-Roy, who finished 9th, and Justice Bassette, Collin Robertson, and Stone Bradbury, who finished in 12th, 13th, and 22nd place respectively. All those Bellows Falls runners are seniors, which means Eno will be putting in place a full rebuild there.

Field hockey

In my humble opinion, the area overachiever award has to go to the Bellows Falls field hockey team. One might ask, how you can give an overachiever award to a team that captures the state title in their sport every year, regardless of what division they play in? Last year, the Terriers had moved up to capture the top spot in the Green Mountain State's top division against a team in South Burlington who had pretty much owned that crown each recent season.

This time around, Bellows Falls was hoping to slide right back into a more appropriate division for their school size and current talents, but the sports' state committee was not friendly to just a one-year stay in a division and kept them in Division I.

Bethany Coursen's team again matched up with tough South Burlington, this time in the quarterfinals, but the Terriers stole the show and shocked the Rebels 2-0. This was, to me, a major upset. The young ladies in the purple and white should be beaming.

Of the big win, Coursen said, "We don't have anywhere near the depth we have had in the past, but we have moved things around as the season has gone on. They are getting use to each other. It took me a while to evaluate everyone's strengths and for the chemistry to come together, but we are a pretty good team now. I think they realize now that this title is up for grabs."

The Terriers are back in action at Middlebury College Wednesday, Oct. 30 at 6 p.m. against a Champlain Valley Union team that lost twice to South Burlington 3-2 and 3-1. However, they beat Burr & Burton 5-0 – a team who defeated Bellows Falls twice 6-3 and 2-0. I believe anyone can win this game.

If the Terriers are victorious Wednesday, they would advance to the finals on the University of Vermont field at a time to be determined on Saturday, Nov. 2. Springfield was eliminated in their Division III playoff game, falling to second seed Stowe 5-0.

Football

In football, Bellows Falls plays again this weekend versus Union 32 in the Vermont Division II semifinals. If you plan on attending the game, you should call BFUHS Friday to find the time and place of this game. Weather and field problems may cause this contest to be held at another locale or on a different day.

The game is slated for Union 32 Friday, Nov. 1 at 7 p.m., but all will have to wait and see. Union 32 defeated the Terriers at Bellows Falls in the middle of the season in a game that saw 71 points light up the scoreboard. Although I felt Union 32 was the better team, Bellows Falls can play with them. This should be a good one. Terrier coach Bob Lockerby said, "I know we can play a lot better than we did the first time around. They have a lot of options offensively and we are getting prepared to try to stop them."

If you like both teams moving the ball up and down the field, you might want to take this one in. The tally the first time was 42-29.

Springfield's season came to a grinding halt last weekend when they found Windsor to be a real match-up pain for the second time this season. They played the Cosmos tough.

When Todd Aiken's team was picking up steam and still undefeated near the midway point of the 2019 season, Windsor didn't defeat them, but they certainly slowed down their momentum. The Cosmos escaped after a 12-6 scare and then played well through the Bellows Falls game where they stood up big in a losing effort. They fell hard in a regular season finale loss to Poultney and Windsor who has grown a lot since the first meeting. Windsor controlled them in the first round playoff game to eliminate them 22-12.

Hopefully, Cosmo fans remember the many good moments in this respectable season and not just the ending. The biggest thing this year's Cosmos achieved was this was the first winning season in the sport since 2009, when that year's Vermont State runner-ups lost the title game to Windsor in a monsoon down in Brattleboro.

New Hampshire is a step behind their Vermont neighbors in the grid sport. Fall Mountain, who completed their season 5-2, claiming a number three seed, now waits until next week to travel to Raymond for a Nov. 9 semifinal contest at 1 p.m. in Raymond.

The Wildcats fell to Raymond, the number two seed, 31-7 early in the season, but chances are the Wildcats have grown and will at the very least narrow the gap between the two teams.

On second thought, Orion Binney's Wildcats are every bit as eligible for the overachiever award as Bellows Falls field hockey is. This team has won five football games in a row and has been growing every week. They could have easily felt it was another "here we go again" season after opening the campaign with 31-7 and 33-14 losses to Raymond and Winnisquam respectively. But then they put it together on both sides of the ball to outscore the opposition 176-14 for the rest of the season.

How they have developed confidence after the first two weeks after several years of losing is impressive, but Binney kept telling us to stick with this team. They have three shutouts, and each of those teams they blanked scored in every other game they played. Then on offense, they have averaged 35 points a game over that time. It has been a long time since Fall Mountain threw up numbers like this, at least back to the 1989 season when they went 7-2. It's not bad possibly being your school's best team in 30 seasons.

The fifth of those straight victories for the Wildcats was a 28-8 victory over Newfound, a game in which Izaak Westover tallied two more touchdowns (35 and 3 yards) with Morgan Wilbur (2 yards) and Layton Stevens (6 yards) adding touchdowns. Camden Dunbar booted all four extra points. "What has surprised me most about this team," Binney said, "was how at sometimes we have just dominated games. One thing is clear, we have overcome the things which use to set us back in the mental aspects of the game."

Soccer

The Leland & Gray girls and the Green Mountain boys are our lone soccer representatives moving forward. The number two seeded Rebels have found a certain comfort enjoying a one-victory margin. Obviously, there is no comfort in such a close low scoring encounter, but 1-0 victories over both Green Mountain (1-0) and Stowe (2-1) has allowed the ladies from Townshend the opportunity to travel to Vergennes for a 3 p.m. Wednesday semifinal contest.

The Green Mountain boys have twice found the numbers 2-1 to their liking, using one-goal games also to become a semifinalist. The Chieftains used the 2-1 score to eliminate Otter Valley in the first round and the same digits for their ticket to the semifinals with a win over Vergennes. They met top-seeded Winooski on their field Tuesday at 3 p.m.

The only other soccer team to claim a win in their first contest this post-season was the Springfield girls, who turned back Lamoille on their way to a tough 2-0 loss at Fair Haven. In other girls' soccer action, Bellows Falls played tough but fell to Vergennes 2-0 and Black River was nipped by Sharon 2-1. On the boys' side, Leland & Gray came up short on the road 2-1 with their game at Bellows Free Academy of Fairfax, and Bellows Falls was a 6-0 victim at Hazen.

New Hampshire has just begun soccer tournament play. In a very unusual twist, both Fall Mountain teams did not qualify for the post-season. The girls were tied for 14th at 6-9-1 and the boys were tied for 17th with a 5-11 record.

Top left: Abby Broadley, Stephanie Ager, Victoria Bassette. Bottom left: Abby Dearborn, Ashley Bartlett, Molly Hobsden, and Shelby Stoodley.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY BFUHS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM.

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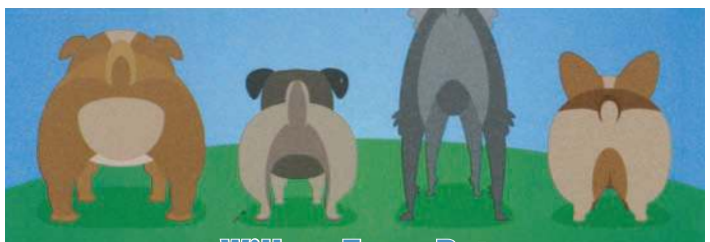
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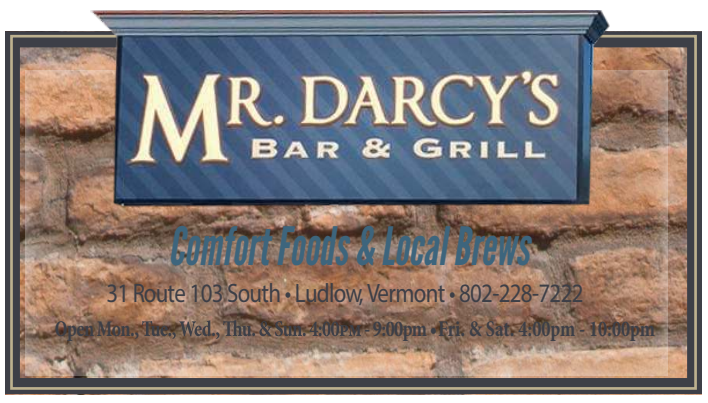

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outdoor news

Contribution of hunting, fishing, to the economy

BARRE, Vt. – On Oct. 24, flanked by store owners, hunting, and angling groups and supporters of outdoor recreation, Gov. Phil Scott recognized the important contribution hunting, fishing, and related activities have in strengthening and diversifying Vermont's economy.

"Vermont has a rich history of hunting and angling, extending back before we were even a state. It's a major part of our way of life," said Gov. Scott. "For me it was a family tradition, and I encourage more Vermonters who have an interest to get out there and try it. Take your son, daughter, niece, nephew, cousin, or mentee, and learn what the tradition is all about."

A new report by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Economic Analysis finds that Vermont is fourth among states when measured by contribution of outdoor recreation to Gross Domestic Product.

In Vermont, hunting, shooting, and trapping is the second largest sector of outdoor recreation, after snow sports. Fishing, boating, and related activities were measured separately, and were fifth among outdoor recreational activities. Overall, more than 17,000 Vermonters work in outdoor recreation according to the report.

"Wildlife-based recreation is a huge part of Vermont's economy, and what makes our state special," said Louis Porter, commissioner of the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department. "Each year, nearly 80,000 people are licensed to hunt in Vermont, and more than 132,000 are licensed to fish."

One important aspect of the contribution of hunting and fishing in Vermont is that much of the economic activity occurs in small- and medium-sized businesses, which are often located in more rural parts of Vermont.

"From game check-in stations located in stores to sporting good stores to meat cutters, many Vermonters own, manage, or work in small businesses like ours, which depend on hunters, anglers, and trappers," said Theresa Elmer, co-owner of Mountain Deer Taxidermy in Northfield. "These businesses are important parts of their rural communities which don't have all the economic opportunities which exist in Vermont's more urban areas."

Another important part of the economic contribution of hunting and fishing is the local, sustainable and healthy food provided through these activities. Hunting of the state's big game species alone provided more than 4 million servings of food in Vermont in 2018, according to a Vermont Fish and Wildlife analysis.

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Youth encouraged to participate in deer hunt

MONTPELIER, Vt. – With Vermont's youth deer hunting weekend just around the corner, young hunters are encouraged to take to the field to hone their skills and to also help Fish and Wildlife biologists by reporting their deer at one of 23 biological reporting stations around the state.

Vermont Fish and Wildlife personnel will examine deer at 23 biological reporting stations on youth deer hunting weekend, Nov. 9 and 10.
PHOTO PROVIDED

Youth deer hunting weekend helps ensure that young hunters get the quality training they need for lifelong participation, and it also provides biological information needed to manage the deer population.

"We encourage hunters to bring their deer to one of these biological reporting stations so they can directly contribute to deer management in Vermont," said Vermont Fish and Wildlife's deer project leader Nick Fortin. "Examining deer during the youth deer hunting weekend is our best opportunity to assess the deer herd because youth hunters are allowed to harvest any deer, including spike bucks. Biologists will be able to collect data on age, weight, and antler development to help guide future deer management decisions."

The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department will have personnel at the reporting stations listed below between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. unless the store closes earlier for youth weekend, Nov. 9 and 10. Along with having their deer examined and aged by a biologist, successful youth hunters visiting a biological reporting station will receive a 2019 Vermont Hunter Cooperator Patch.

"I encourage anyone interested in witnessing the data a biologist collects on Vermont's deer to visit one of these stations," said Fortin. "Plus, you get the chance to engage with a state wildlife biologist while they examine deer shot by a youth hunter."

Anyone, resident or nonresident, who is 15 years old or younger on the weekend of the hunt and who has successfully completed a hunter education course must purchase a hunting authorization and obtain a free youth deer hunting tag. The requirements apply to all interested young hunters, including the children of landowners.

The young hunter must be accompanied by an unarmed adult over 18 years of age who holds a Vermont hunting license. The adult may accompany up to two young hunters. The law requires the adult to have direct control and supervision of the young hunters, including the ability to see and communicate without the aid of artificial devices such as radios or binoculars.

Landowner permission is required to hunt on private land during the youth deer hunt weekend, and youth are encouraged to secure permission well in advance.

The youth hunter may take one deer of either sex on youth deer weekend, and the antler restriction that applies in other deer seasons does not apply during youth deer weekend.

Violation of the youth deer hunting law can result in a doubled fine that is assessed against the adult who accompanies the youth.

The local biological reporting station is Singleton's Store, 356 Main Street, Proctorsville, Vt.

Vermont's 2019 Deer Hunting Guide, with regulations and other helpful information, is on Fish and Wildlife's website, www.vtfishandwildlife.com.

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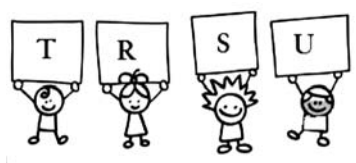

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Fireplaces, chimneys and liners, chimney sweeps, patios, walls, steps, restoration and repairs. Fully insured, free estimates. Contact Gary Moore at 802-824-5710 mooremasonry802@gmail.com (09/08/20 TFN-52)

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calendar

LEGAL NOTICES/HELP WANTED

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

NOV. 4 –
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Herbal workshop, Listening for Possibilities: Queer Herbal Magic, Monday, Nov. 4, from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Location shared with reservation. A workshop for queer folks and accomplices. Let's get together and co-create some possibilities. We'll learn about herbal remedies by playing hands-on with plants and preparations, we'll talk about the role of ritual, rhythm, and connection in creating health, and we'll move with ideas and practices of transformation and grounding together and individually. Contact Charis Boke with class reservations and questions at charis.boke@gmail.com.

NOV. 9 –
ASCUTNEY, Vt. – Free Cold Climate Heat Pump workshop Saturday, Nov. 9 at 9:30 a.m. at Weathersfield Town Library, Route 5 in Ascutney. See newly installed heat pumps in action at the library. Discover heat pump options for hot water and space heating. Bring your questions, and learn how heat pumps operate in summer and winter. Workshop is offered by the Weathersfield Energy Group. Call 802-674-5280 for details.

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CLUBS

NOV. 3 –
TOWNSHEND, Vt. – Townshend Historical Society annual meeting Sunday, Nov. 3, from 3 – 5 p.m., at Townshend Town Hall. Charlie Marchant will host the annual meeting and presentation.

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

TUESDAYS –
KEENE, N.H. – Keene Cheshiremen Chorus rehearsals Tuesdays, from 6:30-8:30 p.m., at Hannah Grimes Center for Entrepreneurship, 25 Roxbury St., in Keene. As the oldest chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society in New Hampshire, we welcome any male singers – no training necessary. We're now starting work on Christmas music. Visit www.cheshiremen.org, call 877-312-7467, or email info@cheshiremen.org.

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

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

LUDLOW, Vt. – Looking for a friendly game of bridge? Want to learn how to play or update your rusty skills? We play every Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Black River Valley Senior Center, 10 High St. in Ludlow. You are most welcome to join us. For more information, call 802-228-2983.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Great Hall Handcrafters group meets every Thursday morning at 10:30 a.m. at The Great Hall Gallery, located at 100 River St. in Springfield. Bring a project to work on, including knitting, crocheting, embroidery, quilting, rug hooking, rug braiding, basket making, or anything alike.

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

SUNDAYS –
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Catamount Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol meets every Sunday, from 3:30-6:30 p.m. at Squadron Headquarters, 13 Airport Rd., N. Springfield. Cadets ages 12-plus at these meetings go through indoor and outdoor classes learning about becoming a ground team member. For further information, contact Captain Williams 802-886-8199 or the squadron at 802-558-5571.

COMMUNITY MEALS

NOV. 1 –
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – First Friday Supper at First Baptist Church Friday, Nov. 1, from 5 – 7 p.m., at 9 Church St. in Bellows Falls. Menu includes roasted turkey with all the fixings, salad, dessert, and beverage. Gluten-free and vegan available. Suggested donation. Net proceeds to Bellows Falls Fire Dept.'s Angel Program, a quilt, pajamas, and book gift program for local children. Feel free to bring any item to contribute.

NOV. 2 –
CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – Turkey supper at Charlestown Senior Center Saturday, Nov. 2. Tickets go on sale at 4 p.m. until we sell out. We start serving at 5 p.m. Menu includes a complete turkey supper, potatoes, squash, stuffing, green beans, gravy, cranberry sauce, and rolls. Homemade pies for dessert. For take out, please call 603-826-5987 between noon and 3 p.m. the day of the supper, to be picked up between 4-4:30 p.m.

NOV. 7 –
LUDLOW, Vt. – Annual Potluck Dinner Meeting of the Black River Academy Museum & Historical Society Thursday, Nov. 7 at 6 p.m. at the Catholic Church of the Annunciation, 7 Depot St. in Ludlow. The museum

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River Valley Technical Center School District
Notice of Nondiscrimination

The River Valley Technical Center does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, gender identity, marital/civil union status or disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities. Any person having inquiries concerning the River Valley Technical Center's compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 or other state or federal non-discrimination laws or regulations is directed to contact:

Derek Williams, Assistant Director
River Valley Technical Center
307 South Street
Springfield, VT 05156
802-885-8302

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Londonderry Hardware is accepting applications for a sales person. The position requires a self-motivated, energetic individual with retail experience. THERE IS OPPORTUNITY FOR ADVANCEMENT! We offer competitive wages, excellent working conditions, and merchandise discount, yearend bonus, paid vacations.

Please send resume or stop in to:
Londonderry Hardware Mountain Marketplace
PO Box 397 Londonderry, VT 05148

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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
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Town of Londonderry, Vermont
Development Review Board
Notice of Public Hearing

The Londonderry Development Review Board will meet at **5:30 PM on Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at the Twitchell Building Town Office**, 100 Old School Street, South Londonderry, VT for public hearings on the following Applications:

Application 2019-45 by Pete Conrad Construction for review and approval of land development (add a screened porch, a mudroom and increase size of existing entry in an existing single-family dwelling) located at 563 Spruce Hill Road on Parcel 008006.200, being a lot without frontage on a public road that requires DRB approval per Zoning Bylaw Section 402(A).

Application 2019-42 by Scott and Jennifer Howe for Conditional Use and Site Plan review in support of earth materials processing and storage as a "Use Not Provided For" per Zoning Bylaw Section 203 (D).

Application 2019-44 by AGS Vermont, Inc., request for a Variance for new commercial roof sign which exceeds size limitation per Zoning Bylaw Section 418 (E) (4).

Application materials are available for inspection at the Town Office or by email from the Zoning Administrator at townadmin@londonderryvt.org. **Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. Sections 4464(a)(1)(C) and 4471(a), participation in the local proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.**

Posted and distributed October 28, 2019

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.

TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN
HIGHWAY TRUCK DRIVER

The Town of Charlestown is seeking a qualified individual to fill the position of Highway Truck Driver; a CDL Class B License is required. This position is full time, year round reporting directly to the Highway Superintendent.

Successful applicant will be subject to a drug/alcohol screening. High School diploma or equivalent required. Previous experience operating front end loader, backhoe, etc. As well as any combination of education and experience which demonstrates possession of the required knowledge, skill and ability.

Interested candidates should complete an application and submit to: Charlestown Town Office - Human Resources Department PO Box 385, Charlestown NH 03603. An application & full job description may be found at www.charlestown-nh.gov or at the Town Office 233 Main St. Charlestown, NH.

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

The Development Review Board will be holding a Site Visit at 3:30 pm on Monday, Nov. 25th and a Public Hearing at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 25, 2019 at the Town Hall, for a Conditional Use application (#541)

PROPERTY OWNERS: Joseph & Connie Tourigny
APPLICANT: Joseph Tourigny
LOCATION: 571 RT. 103 South
DISTRICT: Residential Commercial (RC)

ACTION REQUESTED: Reconsideration of prior Findings of Facts (Jan. 2007): adequate lighting, options for hours of operation and year round opening of all shops including food.

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 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

AUTOMOTIVE/REAL ESTATE calendar

staff will be serving turkey. Please bring a dish to share. Suggested donation. See you there.

NOV. 9 –
CHESTER, Vt. – Gassetts Grange is hosting their Community Breakfast Saturday, Nov. 9, from 8 - 9:30 a.m., at their Grange Hall in Chester. For cost and details, call 802-591-4290.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – A Jamaican dinner will be held Saturday, Nov. 9, 5:30-6:30 p.m., at the UU Meetinghouse, 21 Fairground Rd. in Springfield. Menu includes jerk chicken, rice and beans, baked sweet potatoes, coleslaw, banana bread, grilled bananas and pineapple, and more. Dinner is a fundraiser for the UU Meetinghouse. Please let us know if you plan to come by contacting uuspringfieldvt@gmail.com or call 802-885-3327.

EVENTS

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.

ASCUTNEY, Vt. – Weathersfield Craft Fair Saturday, Nov. 2, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., on School House Road in Ascutney. Vendors needed. Call Crystal for details at 802-674-6138.

CHESTER, Vt. – Gassetts Grange is hosting their Round and Square Dance Saturday, Nov. 2, from 7 – 10 p.m., at the Grange Hall in Chester. For details, call 802-591-4290.

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.

NOV. 8 & 9 –
CHESTER, Vt. – The annual coat drive, Warm Hands Warm Hearts, will be held Friday and Saturday, Nov. 8 and 9, from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., at the Chester Congregational Church, 469 Main St., Rt. 11 West in Chester. Donations are being accepted at all of the Chester churches until the event. Contact your local church or Town Office for days and times to donate. Call Edie Brown for more information or to sign up to volunteer at 802-875-3889.

NOV. 9 –
CLAREMONT, N.H. – St. Mary's Parish Old-Time Penny Sale Saturday, Nov. 9 at St. Mary's Gym, Main Street in Claremont. Doors open at 5 p.m., drawings start at 6 p.m. Cash grand prize plus door prizes. Over 300 prizes in all and more than 50 free gifts for kids. Refreshments available.

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.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Trivia with Rick Davis every Thursday, at KJs Place in No. Springfield from 7 – 9 p.m.

SATURDAYS –
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Dump Daze Flea Market every Saturday, weather permitting, on the spacious lawn of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 33 Fairground Rd. The market will open when the first dealer arrives and close when the last dealer leaves. There is ample parking as well as rest rooms. The event is free, with no entrance or dealer set-up fees. Dealers must provide their own tables and chairs and cannot leave anything behind when they leave. Dealing of animals is strongly discouraged. Electricity provided to food vendors. There is no need to register. If you have any questions, please call 802-885-2972.

KIDS' CORNER

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. 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.

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."

NOV. 2 –
PUTNEY, Vt. – Next Stage Arts Project presents an evening Americana music and art with StompBox Trio and Pumpkintown Saturday, Nov. 2 at 7:30 p.m. at Next Stage in downtown Putney. Tickets in advance and at the door. For information, call 802-387-0102. Advance tickets are available at www.nextstagearts.org, the Putney General Store, and Turn It Up in Brattleboro.

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.

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Grafton, $75,000

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Lori Muse, Broker/Owner

Carol Cole, REALTOR

1.2+/- acre parcel located on a corner with access to town water/sewer. There are bonus features, including a hydrant at the corner, sloping topography that gets you above the rest with valley view potential and the possibility of subdivision. **$29,900**

Within walking distance to town, but feeling remote... This two story home is situated on a one-way street just off the beaten path offering front and back porches, three bedrooms, eat-in kitchen with formal dining room/den or family room just beyond, comfortable living room and two baths. Detached garage is perfect for storage and 3/4+/- wooded acres is perfect for privacy. **REDUCED TO $94,900**

What a beautiful piece of land located in Weathersfield. 16+/- acres sloping down from the road a good distance to a large pond (most of which is included) with views of Ascutney Mountain. Includes a mix of woods and trails. Multiple access points off Route 131 (right off I91). What a gem of a property. **REDUCED TO $89,900**

Location, Location. This 4.76+/- acre parcel is located on the back side of a well regarded neighborhood offering sunny exposure, partially cleared land, proximity to VAST trail system and designed septic system. Well worth looking into for those looking to be a step above. **JUST REDUCED TO $44,900**

Looking for an affordable start? This 3 bedroom bungalow is quaint in size with living room, kitchen/dining combo, full bath, bedroom on the first floor with two closets and upstairs with 2 more bedrooms. Vinyl siding and replacement windows. Nestled amongst boulders and ledges, this home sets above the street looking out over the town. **$54,900**

Welcome to your own special place on earth! This outstanding 31 acre property, meticulously cared by the long time owners, has all the delightful features to call home, from fruit trees, garden space, walking trails as well as a beautiful in-ground pool, with a lovely pool house and patio for those sunny, sultry summer days. The house has even more to delight your senses, bright and open it features a lovely living room with adjoining seating area, dining room and large open kitchen and large master bedroom on the first level. With an oversized bedroom and cozy den/family room on the lower level there's plenty of room. Then add a screened in porch and separate deck to overlook the nicely landscaped property and you'll never want to leave! An oversized 2 car garage, sheds and storage buildings are waiting to be filled. **$299,900**

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LEASE FOR ONLY $389/MO
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MSRP $29,580
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SALE $24,580
$1,154 dealer discount. The rest is rebate.

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LEASE FOR ONLY $259/MO
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2019 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 4WD Z-71 DBL Cab

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STK# NGT19019, NGT19024, NGT19022, NGT19040, NGT19042

MSRP $36,350
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MSRP $26,145
$7,000 OFF!
SALE $19,145
Must have a GM Lease.

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