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VOLUME 58, ISSUE 40

Wellness Weeks



See Page 4B

Town Meeting presents new revenue source and prekindergarten proposal

BY AMANDA WEDEGIS

The Shopper

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Town Meeting began Monday, March 2 with Boy Scout Troop 252 presenting the flags and leading in the Pledge of Allegiance in the Springfield High School cafeteria. Town and School District Moderator Patrick Ankuda began the meeting with a moment of silence for members of the community who had passed away in the last year, including former town manager and state representative Robert Forguites. Later in the meeting, Selectboard Chair Kristi Morris also announced that Ankuda is stepping down from moderator after this year. Ankuda received a standing ovation.

This year's Town Meeting included 31 articles, of which 27 would be voted on by Australian ballot Tuesday, March 3. Article 5, the town budget for fiscal year 2021, amounted to \$12,612,404, of which \$10,025,386 would be raised by taxes. This is a 3.48% increase over last year.

"There are only two ways of lowering taxes," Chair Kristi Morris said in presentation of the budget, "cutting services or increasing the grand list." He went on to say that a focus of

the Selectboard this year was increasing revenue.

A new net revenue source that the town is introducing July 1, 2020 is a non-emergency medical transport through the Fire Department. Fire Chief Russ Thompson created the business plan for the program. The department will be purchasing a new ambulance this year and will retain their trade-in ambulance to be used for the transport service.

The Selectboard recognizes that there is a growing demand for this service in town and estimate \$124,397 will be generated in revenue. Morris explained that the revenues from the service would more than cover the expected pay for the per diem staff needed to support the service.

Resident and executive director of SEVCA Stephen Geller asked whether the Selectboard was confident in the revenue source from the transfer program and if they had any contingencies.

Morris said that Thompson made "a conservative plan based on numbers and research he did with other agencies" who provide similar services. Thompson is optimistic that \$124,397 is obtainable and, if service is successful, that revenue could increase. As for con-



Springfield Town Meeting was held March 2.

PHOTO PROVIDED

tingencies if the service is underutilized, Morris explained that all transport is scheduled and the staff is only paid per diem. They are not full-time staff members and do not receive benefits.

Article 7 allotted \$700,000 for repaving and road construction projects. Sixteen roads are part of the proposed paving plan for 2020. Similarly, in Article 8, the Selectboard asked voters to appropriate \$100,000 to start plans for sidewalk reconstruction. This money would be used to do studies, create a priority list, and seek grant funding where applicable.

After some discussion about the different town budget items, the Springfield School District Board and Superintendent Zach McLaughlin presented Articles 14 and 15 that pertained to their budget of \$32,654,523 for the 2020-2021 school year.

Before presenting the budget, McLaughlin noted that the sale of the Park Street School was completed and that a goal of the district was to use existing space and not purchase a new building. He also noted that Union Street School did see mid-year position shifts, and that the district was also includ-

ing wrestling and indoor track as full varsity sports.

As for the school district budget, McLaughlin explained that health insurance is now fixed across the state and that the district saw a \$500,000 increase in healthcare costs. Statewide, special education funding is one of the more expensive budget items, as more students need increased services. Article 15 offered a potential solution to address special education costs.

The Springfield School District is seeking to allocate \$125,333 to establish full-time prekindergarten classes at Elm Hill School for 30 students. The budget funds would be supplemented by federal funding of \$200,000 per year for three years. This program would service a mix of children with and without special education needs. The goal of the program is to address student needs early so that fewer students will need paraprofessionals and special education programs later on.

With the addition of the prekindergarten classrooms at Elm Hill, second grade students would be shifting over to Union Street School and fifth graders would be shifting to Riverside Middle School.

Geller, speaking at the executive director of SEVCA, commented that he was in support

of the school district budget but he was wary of "unintended consequences" of the new program. SEVCA currently operates a Head Start early education program in Springfield. If they do not serve a certain number of children, they could lose financial support, which could impact the operations of their program.

McLaughlin replied that the proposed public prekindergarten would not be a universal program and would only accept 30 children so there is still a need for the other services in the area. Both programs would be offering "a menu of options" to area families. The school district would also continue all their early education programs with the private providers to help children transfer seamlessly into the school system.

Representatives from the community organizations seeking funding from the town also took turns speaking to voters about the services they provide the town and their need for funding in the fiscal 2021 year. All of those articles as well as the town budget, school budget, and election of officers took place Tuesday, March 3 by Australian ballot at Riverside Middle School. The Shopper will report later this week on the results of those votes.

Springfield's town manager resigns

BY JO ROBBINS

The Shopper

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – At its Feb. 10 regular meeting, the Springfield Selectboard announced the resignation of Town Manager Tom Yennerell, the hire of a new town manager effective April 1, and the appointment of an interim manager.

A native of southwestern Pennsylvania, Yennerell has served the town since October of 2014 when, at the age of 61, he left his position as town administrator of Henniker, N.H. to move back to Vermont, a place he considered home for several years. Yennerell succeeded Robert Forguites, who retired in 2014 and passed away in April of last year.

Yennerell has roots in Vermont that go back to 1981 when

he bought the Pittsfield Inn and owned and operated an outdoor adventure touring company, Escape Routes. While a resident of Pittsfield, he served on the Selectboard for six years, was chairman of the Planning Commission, and in 2001 was named the executive director of Vermont Mountain Bike Advocates. Throughout the years, he managed to serve the town of Rutland on two separate occasions, the last ending in 2007 when he left Vermont and moved to Mancos, Colo. to fulfill a desire he had to work out west. He held the position of town administrator there for five years but missed Vermont and New England and returned to New England in 2013, taking the Henniker position. He holds a Bachelor of Science in economics from Saint Vincent College in Latrobe, Pa.

During his time in Springfield, Yennerell has weathered many contentious situations, not the least of which was the 2019 lawsuit brought against the town and Yennerell by the former Police Chief Douglas Johnston, who alleged wrongful termination. The town settled the suit for \$250,000 and as part of the agreement there was no admission of fault. This turned a page for the Selectboard, and Chair Kristi Morris was quoted as saying, "Now that this process is behind us, our goal is to move toward the future, including a vision for a community policing-modeled department."

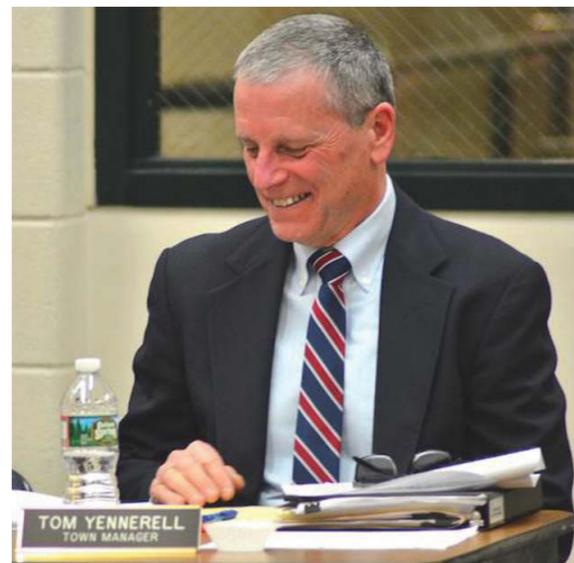
The future plans of this active, career public servant is anyone's guess, but a member of the town administration told The Shopper this is a retirement for Yennerell. The Shopper reached out to Yennerell, but he was unavailable for comment.

The new town manager, effective April 1, will be Steve Neratko of Dover. Neratko has served as the director of development since July 2017. He is an experienced planner with a history of working in government administration and skilled in

nonprofit organizations, land development, ArcGIS, and urban planning. Neratko holds a Bachelor of Science in political science, public and environmental policy, GIS, computer science, and communications, and a master's degree from Penn State University in the field of community and economic development.

The starting salary for the new town manager will be \$108,000 and Neratko needs to be a resident of Springfield before he can come on board. The board moved to unanimously appoint Neratko as town manager and to ratify his contract.

The Selectboard also appointed Finance Director Cathy Sohngen to serve as interim town manager from Feb. 11 through April 2. Sohngen will not have any hiring, firing, or staffing adjustment authority in the interim manager capacity. She will only oversee the day-to-day duties of the town manager with no dual coverage of both her current and interim role. She will revert back to finance director April 2 when Neratko is in position to take the reins of the job. The Selectboard voted unanimously to



Tom Yennerell resigns as Springfield town manager.

PHOTO PROVIDED

approve Sohngen's temporary appointment.

Yennerell's resignation was actually effective Feb. 1, but the board voted unanimously Feb. 10 to retain his services as a consultant to affect a smooth transition and provide assistance to both Sohngen and

Neratko until May 30. As consultant, Yennerell will not be able to exceed 24 hours a week, the threshold that requires contribution to retirement. The board said it is grateful for his agreement to continue to help out with a job that has a lot of information.

PLEASE NOTE

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – The results of the Rockingham Town Meeting will be printed in next week's March 11 paper as well as www.vermontjournal.com on Thursday, March 5.

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Southeastern Vermont Community Action partners with America Saves

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – SEVCA, in partnership with America Saves Week 2020, is spreading the message of saving successfully and encourages people to make savings automatic. Volunteer Income Tax Assistance sites host the America Saves Pledge at Westminster, White River Junction, and Windsor free tax preparation sites. SEVCA VITA volunteers will provide participants with books and handouts, which will educate about saving for the future, fixing credit ratings, budgeting, and saving

for retirement.

Appointments are still available for free tax preparation for eligible Vermonters and those from the New Hampshire Upper Valley, and they can be made on site or by calling SEVCA. Appointments run through April 2020.

"America Saves Week is a great opportunity to help people in our community Set a Goal, Make a Plan, and Save Automatically," said SEVCA VITA site coordinator Leslie Wood.

Since 2007, America Saves

Week has been an annual celebration as well as a call to action for everyday Americans to commit to saving successfully. Through the support of thousands of participating organizations, local communities are encouraged to do a "gut-check" on their finances and saving behaviors. The America Saves pledge is the framework that allows savers to set a goal and make a plan to achieve better financial stability.

SEVCA works to find solutions to the deep-seated problems of poverty, largely

by empowering and collaborating with those whose lives are affected by it daily. The agency can assist in addressing people's immediate needs for fuel, housing, food, and other essentials to help stabilize their lives in the short-term and provide further tools and support to help them achieve greater financial independence in the longer term.

For more information or to make a free VITA tax preparation appointment, contact SEVCA at 800-464-9951.



HCRS welcomes new staff

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – HCRS welcomes the following new employees: Amy Lynn Baker, DSP-Community in Springfield; Nicole Kirby, crisis intervention specialist in Brattleboro; Jessica Stehle, DS division director in Springfield; Angela Milligan, DSP-Employment in Hartford; Valerie Lund, behavioral interventionist in Hartford; Amy Johnston Speno, clinical intern in Brattleboro; Alena Pardoe, vocational-wellness specialist in Hartford; and Marie Brownell, residential specialist in Bellows Falls; Benjamin Robb, respite provider in Brattleboro; Richard Carter Jr., residential specialist in Brattleboro; Zeke Kreitzer, residential specialist in Brattleboro; Leah Titus, community outreach specialist in Hartford; Mary Richardson, residential specialist in Brattleboro; Jade Hodgdon, case manager-BI float in Brattleboro; and Sean Snyder, clinician I in Springfield.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Rockingham Library's Learning Express

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The Rockingham Library now offers Learning Express, a free online learning tool created by EBSCO, which gives any library patron easy access to a host of tutorials and test preparations to ready them for just about anything.

Applying for college admission and nervous about writing that personal essay? "Write Your Way in to College" provides you with all the practice, review, and strategies you need to write a great application. Getting ready to attend college?

Brush up on any academic skills needed including writing, math, science, and social studies with "Essential Academic Skills."

Want to get a commercial driver's license? Take online practice tests at home to know what to expect at the DMV. Prepare for your GED test with over 600 flashcards that include the most-tested content on the exam, including the words and themes that come up year after year. Learn English as a second language and so much more.

Any Rockingham Library

patron can access this tool at home by choosing Learning Express from the RFPL Online drop-down menu on the library's website: www.rockinghamlibrary.org.

The library is located at 65

Westminster St., Bellows Falls, Vt., and is accessible. For more information, go to www.rockinghamlibrary.org, call 802-463-4270, email programming@rockinghamlibrary.org, or stop by.

Tracy J. Sloan joins Grace Cottage Hospital Board

TOWNSHEND, Vt. – Tracy J. Sloan has joined the Grace Cottage Hospital Foundation Board of Trustees.

Sloan is a certified public accountant and has a tax practice in Brattleboro, working with

individuals and small businesses. She resides in Guilford, Vt., with her partner Leslie Olcott.

Born and raised in Fort Pierce, Fla., Sloan graduated summa cum laude from Western New England College with a Bachelor of Science in business administration. She previously worked for Coopers & Lybrand and Vermont National Bank – now People's United Bank.

Since opening in 1949, Grace Cottage has relied on the goodwill and philanthropy of the community to sustain its mission of providing health care in the West River Valley. In 1994, Grace Cottage Foundation was created specifically to raise funds for the hospital and family health clinic.



Tracy J. Sloan, CPA.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Bellows Falls women's club March meeting

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Members of the Bellows Falls Women's Club will meet March 10 at the United Church on School Street beginning at 1:30 p.m. The program will feature the Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Members will sign up to attend the April 7 club sponsored art show and luncheon at Bellows Falls Union High School.

At the club's Feb. 11 meeting, Bellows Falls Fire Chief Shaun McGinnis spoke. His presentation focused primarily on the village's "Nuisance Ordinance" on which he works with Health Officer Chuck Wise. Chief McGinnis answered several questions from the members to round out his program.

During the business meeting, members voted to send \$150 to the Australian relief efforts from its devastating bush fires to be evenly divided among fire fighter aid, animal rehabilitation, and the Australian Red Cross. Members also voted to support the General Federation of Women's Club's initiative on federal legislation known as the 3D Printed Gun Safety Act. To that end, the club will contact the Vermont and the New Hampshire con-

gressional delegations, urging each congressman and senator to support legislation to prohibit publishing digital instructions for programming 3D printers to make firearms.

Plans are underway to hold a High Tea fundraiser May 3 at the Masonic Temple, from 3 to 5 p.m. There will be a raffle of gift cards, services, and items from local and area businesses and individuals along with tea, savories, and sweets. More information about the event as well as tickets and the raffle will be available soon.

The local club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, whose signature project is domestic violence awareness and prevention. For information about the club, contact Wendy O'Dette at jodette1@comcast.net.

Benefit raises funds for asylum seekers

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – The Community Asylum Seekers Project has announced the winners of a raffle of original art by glass artist Chris Sherwin to benefit the work of the organization.

At a dinner held recently at the Saxtons River Inn, Susan Hammond of Rockingham was the lucky winner of a Chinese-style vase, a bird, and a paperweight with a four-leaf clover, all in brilliant deep blue. Hammond opted to keep two of the pieces, and another drawing was held for the third, which was won by Betsy Thomason of West Townshend.

Sherwin had donated the pieces to benefit the organization that works to provide a safe haven for those seeking to escape violence and persecution in their home countries. Currently, there are eight adults and two children living in the area under CASP's sponsorship.

Entertainment for the evening was provided by Evie Samaha on the cello and her sister Thea on the violin, playing a mix of classical works, show tunes, popular music, and Celtic tunes. They are both seniors at Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music and Arts and Performing Arts in Manhattan. Their father Justin accompanied on guitar for the Celtic numbers.

CASP is a nonprofit organization founded in 2016 by a small band of Vermonters whose vision has helped 16 asylum seekers find housing, support, and work as they await their immigration hearings.

Further information is available on the CASP website, www.caspvt.org.

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Welcome Baby Program continues to grow at SAPCC

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – If you’ve had a baby in the greater Springfield area in recent years, you may have heard of the Springfield Area Parent Child Center’s Welcome Baby program. What started out as a modest packet of resources given to new parents or caregivers has evolved into a collaborative and integrated program that will serve 200 families this year with resources, support, and a Welcome Baby Bag of gifts – all free and open to anyone expecting a baby or who has a baby up to 1 year old.



Kelsea Gorey receives a Welcome Baby Bag from Celeste Marquise at the Springfield Area Parent Child Center.

When you receive a Welcome Baby Bag, you aren’t just receiving a bag of items, you are receiving a connection with a community of professionals and volunteers who truly care and are passionate about working with families.

Kelsea Gorey is a mother of four and a recipient of three Welcome Baby Bags over the past six years. She has seen firsthand how the Welcome Baby program has grown. She was happily surprised to see all the gifts included in her most recent bag. She found swaddlers; a tiny, knitted sweater and hat; a soft block for her babies to hold; a heat-safe baby spoon; a tube to check if something is a choking hazard; a baby book; lotion;

and an array of information and resources to support parents in the raising of young children.

Kelsea has shared her experience with her friends who are new parents, telling them that they “must go to the Springfield Area Parent Child Center.” Like most parents who connect with SAPCC, Kelsea has now utilized several of the wonderful services they provide, including resources, referrals, early intervention, and community playgroups. For more information about SAPCC and their many programs and services, please

visit www.sapcc-vt.org.

Kelsea said her favorite gift in the bag was the warm, soft, colorful receiving blanket that is now her 3-year-old’s favorite blanket. These special, one-of-a-kind, blankets are handmade by several area sewing groups: the Quilter’s Group from the First Congregational Church in Springfield; Kitting Together from Bellows Falls; Life Fellowship’s Loving Hearts Sewing Group from Charlestown, N.H.; The KnitWit Club from the Senior Center in Springfield; and other individual sewing volunteers in the area.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Over 20 volunteers, groups, and organizations donate many of the items found in the Welcome Baby Bags, including books, new clothing, diapers, hats, booties, handmade stuffed baby toys, burp cloths, and more. Some items such as the lotions, choke tubes, and spoons need to be purchased. If you’d like to be a part of this growing program by donating items or making a monetary contribution, please contact SAPCC’s Welcome Baby Bag coordinator Celeste Marquise at celestem@sapcc-vt.org or 802-886-5242, ext. 257.

Friends of Rockingham Library annual meeting

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The annual meeting of the Friends of the Rockingham Library will review 2019’s accomplishments and gear up to help fund another year of library programs and activities Monday, March 9 at 5:30 p.m. at the Rockingham Library. The public is invited to attend. Last year, the organization raised over \$7,000 while hosting Preview Night for the April Book Sale; May Plant Sale; Debbi Wetzel’s Painting Class; Welcome Center Refreshment Break Fundraiser in Guilford; Across the Universe Music Concert; and December Holiday Party and Fundraiser.

Funds raised by the Friends help bring Vermont Humanities Council programs and other programs to the library. Funds were also used to provide passes to VINS Nature Center

and the Cheshire Children’s Museum. Items purchased include meeting room folding tables, supplies for Youth Department events, signs for the annual book sale and plant sale, and assisted listening devices for programs. The Friends look forward another year of providing a wide variety of programs and resources for all library patrons.

Not a Friend yet? Consider joining. There are a few member levels to choose from including family and benefactor. Members of the Friends’ feel great about supporting the library’s programs and resources. They have opportunities to fundraise with a welcoming, energetic, and creative group of volunteers, library staff, and patrons.

Friends get first access to

the April Book Sale the night before it opens for the general public. Those members who donate at the sponsor level receive a library tote bag – perfect for filling up at the Book Sale Preview Night.

The Friends welcome new ideas and input. Volunteers and attendees are needed for the Book Sale Preview Night Friday, April 3, from 5-8 p.m.; the Plant Sale May 16; and the Vermont Welcome Center hosting in August.

For more information, attend the Friends’ Annual Meeting March 9 at 5:30 p.m. at the library, follow us on Facebook at Friends of the Rockingham Library, and visit us online at www.rockinghamlibrary.org/about-the-friends.

Identifying animals in the wild

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – A winter landscape is not only beautiful but also offers an excellent opportunity to identify wild animals that have been in the area. Identifying animals by their tracks can be easy, but it is also deceptively tricky. On Monday, March 9 at 10:30 a.m., Rick Ladue from the Equinox Preservation Trust will discuss how to identify animals in the wild at The Meeting Place at Neighborhood Connections. There is no charge to attend this lecture, but space is limited

so call 802-824-4343 to make a reservation.

The Equinox Preserve covers 914 acres of forestlands on the eastern slopes of Mount Equinox in Manchester. There are 11 miles of marked and maintained trails, which is managed by the Equinox Preservation Trust.

Neighborhood Connections

is a community-based, non-profit social services agency serving individuals and families in the area mountain towns of south-central Vermont. Check out our website at www.neighborhoodconnectionsvt.org. The Meeting Place is located in the Mountain Marketplace, next to the Londonderry Post Office.



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CoolSnowGlobes of Windsor is expanding

WINDSOR, Vt. – Founded by Liz Ross and David Westby, CoolSnowGlobes is moving to the Windsor Technology Park. Occupying over 2,000 square feet, CSG will be the anchor company in the recently renovated Cone Blanchard Factory. With the help of property manager Jessica Corliss, the planning and renovation has been both enjoyable and seamless. WTP has been welcoming and set a great example of how property owners interested in developing Windsor can work with entrepreneurs to achieve rewarding collaborations. WTP is currently hosting the co-working space Windsor Co-Works in the original 1904 brick building. CoolSnowGlobes will occupy the 1943 addition.

CoolSnowGlobes began in 2007 as a small company creating high-end custom snow globes for clients such as the Orvis and Sundance catalogs. With encouragement from SCORE mentors in Lebanon, CSG now ships over 100,000 globes each year of over 50 designs to countries around the world.

Co-owner Ross says, “We also continue to maintain a thriving custom clientele, which I love. Collaborating with clients such as The MET, Whitney and Guggenheim Museums in NYC, Harrods

of London, The Central Park Conservancy, Dartmouth, Peanuts, Godiva Chocolates, and dozens more of similar clients. The projects come to us from clients as far reaching as Japan, the EU, and the Middle East.”

With their iconic, patented square base, it is easy to spot a CoolSnowGlobe. They are unique in their design, exquisite attention to detail, and in their aesthetic. Westby says humbly, “We have very little competition. CoolSnowGlobes has grown into the most recognized designer and manufacturer of hand-painted, heirloom-quality snow globes in the world.”

Partnering with Windsor Technology Park, which offers over 190,000 square feet of available manufacturing space, Ross and Westby hope that their presence will attract other entrepreneurs to the area and set an example of how a small idea can grow into an international business, in a small historic Vermont town by a river.

The town of Windsor offers small town grace with an international reach.

Locally, CoolSnowGlobes are found at both the Hanover and Powerhouse Mall locations of The Lemon Tree, and at the yearly AVA Gallery Holiday Sale.

Cavanagh recognized for academic excellence

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – Grace Cavanagh of Saxtons River was recently named to the Dean’s List for the fall 2019 semester at SUNY Purchase College in New York. Such an honor requires a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. Cavanagh is studying theatre and performance. Congratulations, Grace!

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One Credit Union opens Newport branch

NEWPORT, N.H. – While other financial institutions are shuttering branches, consolidating with other institutions, and reducing services like drive-thru, One Credit Union opened its doors to a beautiful new branch in the Shaw's Plaza on John Stark Highway in Newport, N.H. Feb. 22. Newport marks One Credit Union's seventh branch and its second in New Hampshire.

The building was designed by the NES Group out of Massachusetts, and built by JLN Contracting out of Auburn, N.H. using local sub-contractors whenever possible. Unlike traditional banking floorplans, One Credit Union designed the facility around the member experience. Members can freely interact with the technology at their fingertips. With resources to help with anything from budgeting to career planning to home buying and more, the branch acts as an interactive hub to find solutions to the financial goals of the members.

The branch will be home to Patty Kober as branch manager. Patty, a Newport resident, has over 33 years of experience in financial services, most recently at another credit union in Lebanon. "I'm excited to finally be working in town, and



The One Credit Union Newport branch grand opening held Feb. 22, 2020.

PHOTO PROVIDED

ing. "For over 75 years, we've been providing financial solutions for thousands of people. The thing is we're not a bank. Our institution is owned by our members, our depositors. One CU is a community financial resource of people helping people. That means at One Credit Union, we work for

helping my community and the businesses in town," stated Kober, adding she won't miss the commute. Patty will also have two tellers and a senior member service representative and loan officer to help meet member needs. "We are able to meet the full range of financial needs – from savings, to checking, to loans, mortgages, credit cards – you name it. We offer commercial lending solutions for area businesses as well."

Brett Smith, president and CEO of One Credit Union, emphasizes the difference in the Credit Union approach to bank-

our members. Our profits go back to the members in the form of higher savings rates, lower loan rates, and fees that don't gouge you for a mistake. We also continually invest in technology to improve our members' access to their money. This cooperative relationship is different than your average bank, which is typically owned by external investors."

The One Credit Union field of membership includes anyone who lives, works, worships, or attends school in the state of Vermont and the counties of Coos, Cheshire, Grafton, and Sullivan in New Hampshire.

Vail EpicPromise annual community grant winners

LUDLOW, Vt. – Vail Resorts EpicPromise is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2019-2020 community grants cycle. Eight local nonprofit organizations received \$21,500 in grant support aimed at supporting the issues that matter most to the Okemo Valley community. Across the company, Vail Resorts will give \$14 million in support to more than 350 community nonprofits throughout the upcoming year.

"Okemo has always been such an important and dedicated supporter of Okemo Mountain School and our student-athletes, and we feel extremely grateful to be part of such a special commu-

nity," said OMS Development Coordinator Kate Foster. "We would like to thank Okemo and EpicPromise for the grant we received, because it supports the dreams and aspirations of all Okemo athletes. Because of Okemo's contributions, we are able to provide scholarships and financial aid, individualized coaching and academic instruction, unparalleled training and mountain and lift access, and much more, making Okemo one of the strongest snow sports communities in the country."

All grant decisions are made locally by Okemo employees. These employees volunteer to serve on the local Giving Council and review all grant applications. Throughout the year, senior leaders and other

employees engage with community stakeholders and nonprofit leaders to better understand the needs of Okemo Valley area residents and use this information to ensure all contributions match local needs. Across North America, Vail Resorts EpicPromise community investment focuses on youth and the environment.

Last year, Vail Resorts EpicPromise community grants supported the following issues: Black River Good Neighbors, HCRS Hilltop, Ludlow Area Rotary Charitable Fund Inc., Okemo Mountain Alpine Racing Association Inc., Okemo Tutorial Program, Rainbow Riding LTD, Springfield Family Center Inc., and Stepping Stones Preschool.

Vermont continues preparation efforts as COVID-19 spreads globally

VERMONT – As the novel coronavirus called COVID-19 spreads to a growing number of countries around the world, Health Commissioner Mark Levine, M.D. said Friday, Feb. 28, that Vermont must prepare in the event that the virus reaches our state. At the direction of Gov. Phil Scott, Vermont Emergency Management plans to assemble an inter-agency task force to develop

a comprehensive response plan.

There have been no known cases of people in Vermont with COVID-19 as of Feb. 28, 2020. Because the highest risk for transmission has been China so far, public health nurses and epidemiologists have been monitoring people who have returned from travel in China and a few from other affected countries. Monitoring means checking their temperature every day, watching for symptoms, and for some people, asking them to stay home.

But Dr. Levine said the virus' global spread will soon make it impossible to get a handle on everyone who may have been exposed. "That's why we're asking people to be aware, watch out for symptoms if you've traveled – and stay home when you're sick," he said.

The Health Department is asking anyone who has traveled to countries where there is transmission to call 802-863-7240. Health officials will let you know what to look for and guide you on what to do if you

develop symptoms that could be from coronavirus. They will also offer to touch base a few times a week.

As of Feb. 28, 27 people are being monitored and 15 people have completed their monitoring.

The Health Department Lab now has the test for the virus from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and could begin testing soon, should it be needed.

As the state continues its monitoring to identify cases, Vermont is also preparing for further person-to-person spread in the U.S., including planning for community-wide strategies to slow disease transmission.

These strategies could include "social distancing," to limit where and when people come together – such as teleworking, restricting mass gatherings, closing public facilities, and the like. "There is no need to exercise any of these options at this time – but now is the time for all of us to prepare mentally and logistically for possible disruptions to our daily lives," Dr. Levine said.

The Health Department continues its preparation and response work through its Health Operations Center, opened in early February. It has been alerting health care providers, and providing guidance and updates on our website, via our Health Alert Network, and the news media. Vermont Emergency Management has been a part of the HOC team.

With the task force assembled by Vermont Emergency Management, the Health Department will begin working to ensure state agencies and communities, schools, and businesses around the state are prepared to minimize potential disruptions.

Right now, the most important thing for Vermonters to do is to take action to help prevent the spread of respiratory illness:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water aren't available.
 - Cover your cough or sneeze with your sleeve or a tissue, not your hands.
 - Stay home when you're sick, especially with a fever, except to get medical care.
 - Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
 - Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
 - And get your flu shot – flu is still widespread in Vermont.
- "As always, prepare yourselves and your families for the possibility that you'd need to stay home for a few weeks," Dr. Levine said.

Get the most current information at www.healthvermont.gov/covid19, which includes Vermont specific updates and resources, in addition to content from the CDC.

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March, 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 It's Sunday ALREADY!?	2 OPEN MIC NIGHT Mondays at 8:00pm	3 TRIVIA NIGHT VT 20oz Draft Beers \$7!	4 Trade your Patch or Purchase ours for \$5	5 \$7 VT Drafts IRISH MUSIC GYPSY REEL 6:30-9PM	6 LIVE MUSIC Don Dawson from 7-10 pm	7 LIVE MUSIC King Arthur Jr from 5-8 pm
8 Sunday FUNDAY	9 Open Mic Every Monday 8:00pm	10 VT Drafts \$7! TRIVIA w/ Rick Davis 7:30-8:30pm	11 Join our Mug Club	12 \$7 VT Drafts IRISH MUSIC GYPSY REEL 6:30-9PM	13 Sammy Blanchette 8-11 pm	14 Jake Kulak 5-8pm Sammy B Trio 9-12
15 It's Sunday ALREADY!?	16 OPEN MIC NIGHT Mondays at 8:00pm	17 OPEN AT 11 AM GYPSY REEL St. Patrick's Day	18 Trade your Patch or Purchase ours for \$5	19 \$7 VT Drafts IRISH MUSIC GYPSY REEL 6:30-9PM	20 Silas from 8-11 pm LIVE music	21 LIVE MUSIC Rick Webb from 5-8 pm
22 Sunday FUNDAY	23 Open Mic Every Monday 8:00pm	24 VT Drafts \$7! TRIVIA w/ Rick Davis 7:30-8:30pm	25 Join our Mug Club	26 \$7 VT Drafts IRISH MUSIC GYPSY REEL 6:30-9PM	27 Thank God it's Friday	28 Sammy Blanchette 9-12
29 It's Sunday ALREADY!?	30 OPEN MIC NIGHT Mondays at 8:00pm	31 TRIVIA NIGHT VT 20oz Draft Beers \$7!	 VT Draft Beers!	 Come for the Food Stay for the Fun	 Chicken Wing Champions!	 HOPS in the HILLS



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 intersection

Here I give the history of the old Jiffy Mart location in Chester. In the 1869 Beers Atlas of Windsor County, I see a "Boot Shop" at this location. This would be Chester Boot Company.

At the historical society, we have several photos of this building taken over the years. In the 1883 Child's Gazetteer, I see George Hall and Charles Walker were running an undertaking business at this location.

John Greenwood

John Greenwood was a prosperous man in the boot business. Greenwood was a partner in the Chester Boot Company. Greenwood lived in the house we know today as Gingerbread Apartments.

In this home over some of the interior doorways are what we call "Stick and Ball" architectural features. In the center of the stick and ball is a large letter "G." I was there one night in 1979 when I first saw the G.

I didn't know what the G stood for so I asked. The tenant didn't know, but she quipped, "Gingerbread!"

"Have another beer," says Henry. The G stands for Greenwood.

In the 1912 Chester Business Directory, Greenwood is listed as a traveling salesman. Howard Peck told me a John Greenwood story that I can't repeat here. Let's just say, "He was a colorful character."

Charles Walker

Walker ran a furniture store at this location along with his undertaking business. Walker lived in what we know today as the Adams Funeral Home. At the historical society, we have a photo of his house. In white letters on the negative is "Walker Manor."

Guild's store

The next business to occupy this site was Guild's Store. Guild was running a store here in the early 1900s. I don't know how long Guild was in business here.

Cray oil

Eugene "Gene" Cray owned this property in the 1940s. Cray was in Bellows Falls and



Chester Boot Company and later Guild's store. PHOTO PROVIDED

at the time a major dealer in fuels. Cray owned many Texaco stations in Vermont and New Hampshire in those days.

I went to see Ted Spaulding to see what he knew about the old Jiffy Mart site. It was in 1939-1940 when the Texaco service station was built. Ted told me it was first occupied by Phil Haus.

Buzzie's

Many will remember Donald Buswell "Buzzie" running his Texaco station here.

Move it on over

The building you see with this article was moved back and turned 90 degrees to make room for the new Texaco station. This would be 1939-1940. When the building was relocated, the gable roof was removed. This roof was replaced with a flat roof. Anyone my age or older who lived in Chester will remember this as the tenement building. I remember this building was an unattractive edifice. It was in the late 1960s to very early 1970s when this building was torn down to make room for the new stone bank we have today. I don't remember the exact year.

In the photo with this article, if you look to the right you'll see the side of a white house. When Ted's parents sold the Town Farm in 1965, they rented this house for a short time. When the stone bank was built, this home was also torn down to make room. This house was next to Jake Howe's Barbershop.

My classmate, Larry Howe, is Jake's son and grew up here. Larry told me a story that I recount here. After the tenement house

and the white house were torn down, workers were surveying there to prepare the site for the stone bank.

Jake was in his barber-shop cutting hair when he noticed someone right next to his house driving stakes in the ground. They were on Jake's property. Jake wasn't a shy man. I understand Jake set these surveyors straight as to property lines. He then returned to his shop and finished cutting his customer's hair. I imagine he was sputtering some.

I was in Lisbon, Portugal in January of 1986 when I saw on television the Space Shuttle Challenger explosion. I was in Portugal buying antiques. I mention this because when I returned from Portugal a couple weeks later, the Jiffy Mart had just opened. They had torn down Buzzie's and erected the vacant building you see today.

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

Last week, I saw my first robin in Bellows Falls. Today, March 1, I have several robins in my field where the ground is bare.

This week's old saying is from Nelson Kendall. "Just live like you're going to live forever."

Londonderry Conservation Commission presents Covered Bridges of Vermont –

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – On Tuesday, March 10 at 6:30 p.m., join the Londonderry Conservation Commission at the South Londonderry Depot for a presentation on Covered Bridges in Vermont by Nick Strom-Olsen.

Nick is a local enthusiast and authority on the covered bridges in Vermont. He will speak on covered bridges in general and more specifically the renowned builder, Nicholas Powers. Powers built bridges around the state and New England and has two listed as National Historical Landmarks. Powers also happens to be Nick's great-great-grandfather!

This is bound to be an inter-



Covered bridges. PHOTO PROVIDED

esting and informative evening and is open to the public – bringing the whole family!

The South Londonderry Depot is located at 34 River St. in South Londonderry.

OLLI: "Temperance and Prohibition in the Champlain Valley"

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Susan Evans McClure will present the next OLLI program, "Our Best Endeavors: Temperance and Prohibition in the Champlain Valley," Tuesday, March 10 at 2 p.m. at the Nolin Murray Center on Pleasant Street in Springfield, Vt.

When you think about Prohibition, most people imagine gangsters and bootleggers with tommy guns and fancy cars in the 1920s. But to truly understand federal prohibition in the Champlain Valley, you have to start earlier than the ratification of the 18th Amendment in 1919. Vermont actually had statewide prohibition from 1853-1904. Join us to examine how the Champlain Valley went from being a major producer and consumer of alcohol in the early 1800s to a hotbed of temperance sentiment by the mid-19th century.

What caused the members of the Westport Sons of Temperance to proclaim in 1853 that they would "use our best endeavors to procure and sustain a stringent prohibitory law?" And what can this all help us understand about the tension between regulation and personal freedom that plays out in our society today?

Susan Evans McClure is the executive director of Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. She leads the talented team of educators, curators, museum professionals, and archaeologists as they explore the relationship between the land, the people, and the water of the



A cover from a 19th-century Temperance Ballad song sheet. PHOTO PROVIDED

Education and a B.A. in Theater from McGill University.

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, affiliated with the University of Vermont, is a local membership program geared towards seniors 50 years and older who want to engage in meaningful learning "just for the fun of it!" Membership for the semester includes nine programs. Non-members are encouraged and welcome to attend individual lectures for a single program fee.

The next OLLI program March 10 will be "North Chester: It's More Than Just the Stone Village" presented by architectural historian and Chester resident, Hugh Henry. The complete Springfield and statewide program list is available at www.learn.uvm.edu/olli. For weather-related changes to the schedule, check the above mentioned website or SAPA TV, 802-885-6248 or call 802-885-3094.

Champlain Valley. Previously, Susan was director of programs and audience development at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History, where she launched the Smithsonian's first brewing history research and collecting initiative. Susan holds an Ed.M. in Arts in Education from the Harvard Graduate School of

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Pan Am detour

CHESTER, Vt. – Due to a partial collapse of the 1875 Hoosac Tunnel near N. Adams, Mass., Pan Am Railways, headquartered in Billerica, Mass., has been forced to close the tunnel and run detour freight trains on other lines in the region. This photo shows a 63-car westbound PAR train at Thompson Road in Chester, Vt. Friday, Feb. 14, 2020 at 7:55 a.m. This has happened before for the same reason, though it was way back in 1972. Not a bad record for such an old and historic railroad tunnel, one of the first in the United States.

PHOTO BY TOM HILDRETH



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opinion

TAKE A BREAK

Dear Editor,

During the Legislative Session, we often get caught up in all the challenges we face as a state and all the problems we are trying to solve. We often forget to remind ourselves of how lucky we all are to live in such a special part of the world. We often forget that we agree more often than we disagree and that we share more values in common than we think. As we look to our Town Meetings and celebrate our local communities, treasuring this icon of direct democracy - I am inspired to share an article in U.S. News and World Report, which recently named Vermont as the 5th Best State in America to live in.

In weighing eight measures: health care, education, economy, infrastructure, opportunity, fiscal stability, crime and corrections, and natural environment - Vermont averaged out to be the fifth best state. The top four were Washington, New Hampshire, Minnesota, and Utah. The first two measures - health care and education - were given most weight, then states' economies and infrastructures and on down the list. These weights were based on a survey identifying what mattered most to people.

As the federal government increasingly relies on states for core policy and spending functions, it is interesting to see which states are considered to be doing the best. The data in-

forming this work is a mix of private nonprofit and governmental sources. And, you can read the entire article with links to the data at www.usnews.com/news/best-states/rankings.

This report is of particular interest as Vermont weighs its future, its aging demographic, and how we attract new, younger workers to our state. If we are the fifth best state to live in, surely we should be able to recruit more people to live, work, play, and raise a family. To this end, the Senate Economic Development Committee, on which I serve as vice-chair, is looking at several measures to attract young people to, or back to, Vermont.

One of the chief barriers rural states face in attracting young people is student debt. Big city jobs offer higher pay and thus bigger incomes by which to reduce debt. In addition, people with student debt put off buying homes. On average, younger Vermonters have \$31,432 in student loan debt - which is higher than the national average, which is \$28,565.

As a result, we are proposing to address these barriers by creating four opportunities to reduce student debt. The first is to establish a Student Debt Repayment Benefit, which employers could offer employees. This would give employers a tax credit for the benefit - \$5,000 a year - which would be tax-free

income for the employee. Second, at the end of 2019, the federal government allowed 529 plans to be used to pay down student debt. Our bill would sync up Vermont's 529 plans with the feds to enable Vermonters to take advantage of this. Third, we encourage young people to buy homes by offering \$20,000 in down payment assistance - forgivable over five years - if they buy in one of Vermont's Opportunity Zones - downtowns in need of reinvestment. This idea builds on the very successful "First Time Home Owner Down Payment Assistance Program" offered by the Vermont Housing Finance Agency. And, fourth, we expand the payment eligibility in our Remote Worker Program to include Student Debt payment.

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

Sincerely,
Sen. Alison Clarkson
Windsor County

Dear Editor,

It's surprising to me that there are nine proposed amendments to the Vermont Constitution submitted for consideration this biennium. They can only be proposed by senators and only in every other biennium. The 2019-20 session is such a time when they can be proposed, and the next time this opportunity occurs will be the 2023-24 session. In order to pass, they must be favorably voted by the full Legislature within the two-year session in which they were introduced.

They then must pass again and this vote is by the newly elected legislators in the 2021-22 biennium. The voters of the state have the final say as to the approval of any and all amendments. Should a majority of voters support any amendment, it will become a part of the Constitution of our state. This is not an easy process and the proposals need advocates over the course of several years. In 1986, Vermont voters rejected an Equal Rights Amendment to

the Constitution.

The proposed Amendments by number submitted for this session thus far are: Governor four-year term of office starting 2024; clarifying the prohibition on slavery and indentured servitude; individual right to privacy; equality of rights; right to personal reproductive freedom; for senators four-year term of office starting 2024; bail re violent acts; gender neutral terms re voters; and right to a clean environment, natural resources are the common property of all the people. Several of these have generated quite a bit of controversy and discussion.

There's a new exhibit in the Statehouse. It was put together by the curator of the beautiful museum in which we work, commemorating the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment for women's suffrage. This small exhibit displays some Vermont memorabilia of women in the Statehouse including

women in a 1938 photo and on the cover of a "Life" Magazine, dated April 6, 1953.

There are several events scheduled around the state including a "SuffrageFest and Parade" in Montpelier Aug. 22. The Vermont History Day Competition for students will give an award for the best student Suffrage-themed project April 4 at the UVM Davis Center. On Aug. 15 in Waterbury, there is a 5K Suffrage Scramble. The Vermont Suffrage Centennial Alliance in Montpelier is organizing many events, as are museums around the state for this 1920-2020 celebration.

The Legislature is closed for Town Meeting week, March 2-6. Feel free to contact me at the Statehouse at 802-322-5616, on weekends at 802-228-8432, or anitka@leg.state.vt.us. Letters can be sent P.O. Box 136, Ludlow, VT 05149-0136.

Sincerely,
Sen. Alice Nitka
Windsor County

Op-Ed: Public Access Television is crucial for transparency

For decades, Vermont's Community Media Centers have provided our residents direct access to each other, our government, and our community events. Now, more than ever, we need a strong network of public, educational, and government stations and their community media centers to provide these important services that keep our civic engagement strong.

I have been a longtime advocate for government transparency. The public's right to know is critical to a democracy where we can audit our local, state, and federal government agencies, and ultimately hold them accountable. My days on the South Burlington City Council taught me first-hand the important role PEG TV plays in keeping our residents informed and engaged.

Historically, PEG TV was funded mainly through fees paid by the cable industry, as part of the deal that we all made with cable providers to use our common infrastructure. In recent months, the Federal Communications Commission has changed some of their rules so that cable providers can choose to contribute less to community media centers. At the same time, "cord cutting" means

that less overall funding will be available from this source over time.

Last year, the state of Vermont rightly recognized the importance of our community media centers by creating a summer study committee to look at how we can ensure their vitality if their primary funding source is reduced. The study committee found that the answer to that question is complex because of federal preemption, lawsuits, and overlapping legal jurisdictions.

This year, the committee has put forward a bill to allow the state to hire experts who understand the complexity of the issues and make some recommendations about how to support and preserve our PEG TV stations for Vermonters.

I support this bill S.318/H.744 and the accompanying funding for the expert study it allows. Our community media centers provide access to our local and state government processes, allow us to learn from each other, and allow families across Vermont to enjoy access to a variety of community events that they might not be able to at-

tend in person.

As a long-time proponent of the public's right to know, I appreciate the transparency and accessibility that PEG TV provides. Not everyone can go to every meeting or fully understand the context of board discussions through their minutes.

Our community media centers provide a valuable window into state and local government. I remember when PEG TV began back in the early 1990s, and a member of our City Council was opposed because our citizens might actually know what we were doing at our meetings. That is exactly the point!

In addition to making valuable information accessible for Vermonters, they provide 200 jobs across the state. We need to ensure that the 25 community media centers in Vermont are well-supported and strong for the long term. Their services are crucial so that we can all be more civically engaged.

I hope the Vermont Legislature will support the PEG TV bill and provide this needed small investment, to ensure we can move forward with the study and maintain this valuable public service.

Written by Vermont Secretary of State Jim Condos.

Dear Editor,

Lowell Lake Concerned Citizens has been informed by Michael Snyder, Commissioner of Vermont Forests, Parks and Recreation, that his department will not develop overnight lodging at Lowell Lake State Park at this time, stating in an email to the group that "I have made a point of becom-

ing well aware of your concerns and they certainly played a role in reaching my considered opinion and decision."

Mr. Snyder went on to state that his department will instead focus on implementing day use infrastructure improvements.

LLCC looks forward to continuing its dialogue with FP&R

in support of a sustainable Lowell Lake management policy. We greatly appreciate the responsiveness of Commissioner Snyder to the overwhelming interest of residents throughout southern Vermont in preserving the unique character of Lowell Lake as a recreational gem, and the rich and diverse plant and animal life the lake supports.

We are grateful to the residents of Windham and Windsor counties and the Conservation Commissions in the towns of Londonderry, Windham, and Weston for actively engaging in this successful effort to protect Lowell Lake.

Sincerely,
Steve Coombs, Diane Holme, Irwin Kuperberg, Bob Maisey, and Robert Nied
Lowell Lake Concerned Citizens Steering Committee

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY Letters may be edited for clarity, grammatical errors, and libelous statements. Must be kept under 400 words. Include town for publication, and daytime phone not for publication. We reserve the right to publish at our discretion. Deadline is Friday at 12 p.m. Email to editor@vermontjournal.com. The viewpoints expressed in the editorial section do not necessarily reflect the views of The Vermont Journal & The Shopper.

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8 High Street • Ludlow, VT 05149
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TAKE A BREAK!

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword

ACROSS

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DOWN

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7	One-on-one fight	8	Pismire	9	Bay State sch.	10	Multipurpose truck	11	Apiece	12	Start a garden
13	Regions	14	All-out attack	15	Carpet	16	Consumed	17	Solidify	18	That woman
19	Anger	20	Siesta	21	Scale notes	22	Church recesses	23	Din	24	Busybody
25	Old card game	26	Distort	27	Tackle moguls	28	Scuttle	29	Exist	30	Scale notes

CHURCH SERVICES

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Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church, 99 Sullivan St., Claremont, N.H.

Saturdays at 6 p.m. and Sunday at 9:30 a.m. 603-542-6273; frandrew@regubovstudios.com; hroc.org.

Charlestown Congregational Church, 71 Main St.

Sunday service on starts at 10 a.m. All are welcome. For more information, call 603-826-3335.

CHESTER, VT.

Chester Congregational Church, 469 Main St., Rt. 11 West

Sunday Service at 10 a.m. All are welcome. For more information, call 802-875-3382 or go to www.chestercongregational.org.

LONDONDERRY, VT.

First Baptist Church, 62 Crescent St., S. Londonderry, Vt.

Worship services are at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings. For more information, visit www.firstbaptistlondonderryvt.org or call 802-856-7266.

LUDLOW, VT.

The United Church of Ludlow (UCC and Methodist), 48 Pleasant St.

Sunday service at 10:15 a.m. followed by a time of fellowship and coffee hour. Call 802-228-4211 or email unitedchurch@tds.net. Visit us online at www.unitedchurch.us.

Irene H. Gordon, 1923-2020

ANDOVER, Vt. – Irene H. Gordon, 96, passed away Sunday, Feb. 23, 2020. She was born March 1, 1923 in Andover, Vt., to Edward and Ruth (Giles) Fontaine. She married Lewis Gordon Sr. Feb. 19, 1942. She was predeceased by her husband Lewis, son Edward Gordon, and granddaughter Cheryl Winslow, and by three sisters Isabelle, Louise, and Julia.

Irene is survived by two daughters Joanne Hagland and her husband Ross of Swanzey, N.H. and Sandra Riley and her husband Dennis of Inverness, Fla.; three sons Lewis "Bub"

Gordon Jr., Patrick Gordon and his wife Hallie all of Chester, Vt., and Michael Gordon and his wife Tina of Inverness, Fla.; two brothers Chuck Fontaine and Edward Fontaine and a sister Priscilla Parrington, all of Swanzey, N.H.; two sisters-in-law Janice Gordon of Andover, Vt. and Barbara Gordon of Londonderry, Vt.; and many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren.

A private graveside service will be held in the spring at the convenience of the family. Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt. is assisting with arrangements.

Mary-Jane Roberts, 1943-2020

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Mary-Jane Roberts, 77, passed away Tuesday evening, Feb. 25, 2020 at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center after a brief illness. She was born Feb. 15, 1943 in Springfield, Vt., the daughter of John and Helen (Skill) Koledo. She attended Springfield schools, graduating from Springfield High School Class of 1961.

On June 4, 1966, she married Patrick Burlew. He predeceased her July 2, 1986. She later married Floyd N. Roberts in 1991. He predeceased her Sept. 7, 2014.

She was employed as an administrative assistant in many administrative offices of the Military for many years, and later as an administrative assistant in the insurance industry.

Mary-Jane was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, a member of the Catholic Daughters of America, and taught religious education at St. Mary's. She enjoyed cooking and loved spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren.

She is survived by two sons Stephen Burlew of Weathersfield, Vt. and Matthew Burlew of Springfield, Vt.; three siblings Peter Koledo, Stephen Ankuda, and Catherine Merrill all of Springfield, Vt.; and also by four grandchildren and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was predeceased by her father John Koledo, mother Helen Ankuda, and by her stepfather Joseph M. Ankuda; four siblings James Koledo, Barbara Presler, Thomas Koledo, and Frederic Koledo; and by six half-siblings.

A funeral mass was celebrated Monday, March 2, 2020 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Springfield, Vt. Burial will be at a later date in the St. Mary's Cemetery in Springfield, Vt.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to



Mary-Jane Roberts, 1943-2020. PHOTO PROVIDED

the Springfield Hospital Oncology Department, 25 Ridgewood Rd., Springfield, VT 05156 or to the Norris Cotton Cancer Center D-H/Geisel Office of Development, Attn: Gift Recording, One Medical Center Drive, HB 7070 Lebanon, NH 03756-0001.

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



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SPRINGFIELD, VT.

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, 90 Park St.

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

First Congregational Church UCC, 77 Main St.

Worship for all ages begins at 9:30 a.m. with young people leaving for church school after the children's sermon. All are welcome. Call 802-885-5728, email fccucc@vermontel.net, or go to www.fccuccspfdvt.org for more information.

North Springfield Baptist Church, 69 Main St.

Sunday service at 10 a.m. All are welcome to join us in worship. Bus transportation is available if needed by calling the church office at 802-886-8107. Email office@nsbcvt.org or go to www.nsbct.org for additional information.

WALPOLE, N.H.

St. John's Church, corner of Westminster and Elm St.

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Maxine E. Brooks, 1939-2020

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Maxine E. Brooks, 80, passed away Sunday evening, Feb. 23, 2020 at Cheshire Medical Center in Keene, N.H. She was born March 30, 1939 in Vershire, Vt., the daughter of Howard and Barbara (Ricker) Fulford. She grew up in Bradford, Vt., attended Bradford schools, and graduated from Bradford High School.

On March 7, 1959, Maxine married Olin "Pat" Brooks in Piermont, N.H. He predeceased her Dec. 27, 2003. From 1955 to 1979, Maxine lived in Derby, Vt.; from 1979 to 1999, she lived in Baltimore, Vt.; and from 1999 to present, she lived in Springfield, Vt.

Maxine was a mother and homemaker, raising her four children. She worked at Harington's Market in North Springfield, Vt. for several years and also worked as a housekeeper in private homes in the area. She volunteered with the RSVP of Springfield for many years. She loved to read and enjoyed needlepoint.

She is survived by her four children Patrick Brooks of

Springfield, Ga., Paul Brooks of Ludlow, Vt., Priscilla Stevens of Claremont, N.H., and Patricia Gilbert of Boscawen, N.H.; two brothers Howard "Charlie" Fulford Jr. of Woodsville, N.H. and Samuel "Sam" Fulford of Orford, N.H.; one sister Mandy Gerhart of Turner, Maine; seven grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, two great-great-grandchildren; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was predeceased by her parents and by one grandson.

A memorial service will be held Sunday, March 8, 2020 at 2 p.m. at the Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt. Reverend Malcom Fowler of the Calvary Baptist Church will officiate. Friends may call at the Davis Memorial Chapel for one hour prior to the service March 8. Burial will be in the Cavenish Village Cemetery in Cavendish, Vt. at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to Springfield Ambulance Service, 77 Hartness Ave., Springfield, VT 05156. Davis Memorial Chapel is assisting with arrangements.

Priscilla A. Lashua, 1926-2020

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Priscilla "Pat" Anne Drake Lashua, 93, passed away Feb. 26, 2020 at Genesis in Springfield, Vt., surrounded by her family. Pat was born March 3, 1926 in West Lebanon, N.H., the daughter of Leonard W. and Ruby (Clapper) Drake.

Pat attended schools in West Lebanon, N.H. and Springfield, Vt., graduating from Springfield High School in 1944. Pat married Arnold J. Lashua Aug. 4, 1946. They were married almost 71 years. Arnold "Arnie" died June 22, 2017.

Pat raised her two children and had various jobs in the Springfield area. She worked for many years at the First Na-

tional Bank and Fellows Gear Shaper.

She is survived by her daughter Linda Converse and husband Albert of Baltimore Vt.; her son Gary Lashua and wife Lynn of Springfield, Vt.; four grandchildren Chari McAllister and husband Arron, Erica Blais and husband John, Trevor Lashua and wife Kelly Murphy, Melissa McCarthy and husband David; and eight great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her parents, her husband Arnold, a sister Barbara Arlene Drake Stevens, and a brother David Arthur Drake.

A family graveside service will be held at a later date.

org. For information about Art After School, click After School Programs. Leave a message at 603-756-4533.

WESTON, VT.

Andover Community Church, 928 Weston-Andover Rd.

Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. and worship service 10:45 a.m. For more information, go to www.andovercommunitychurch.org.

Janet K. Bennett, 1927-2020

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Janet K. Bennett, 92, passed away Friday morning, Feb. 28, 2020. She was born May 3, 1927 in Burlington, Vt., the daughter of Dr. Howard F. and Gladys Emery Killary. She attended Burlington High School and was a graduate of the University of Vermont.

On Nov. 25, 1950, Janet married Alexander W. Bennett in Burlington, Vt. They had five children and lived in Malone, N.Y., for 12 years before moving to Springfield in 1969. In 2016, Janet moved to the Village at Cedar Hill in Ascutney, Vt., where she resided until her death.

Janet was a mother and homemaker, raising her five children. She worked for a time as a substitute teacher for the Springfield school system and, after her youngest child entered junior high, worked as a laboratory technologist in nearby Chester, Vt.

She was also a needlework artist, sewing, quilting, and making clothes for many years. In their retirement, Janet and Al enjoyed traveling around the country and abroad to visit their children.

She is survived by her children Sandra MacDonald of Websterville, Vt., Alex W. Bennett of Christchurch, New Zealand, Judith Leffler of Duval,



Janet K. Bennett, 1927-2020. PHOTO PROVIDED

Wash., Jane Sobieski of Amelia Island, Fla., and Margaret Heins of Woodbridge, Va.; two sisters Elizabeth Fowler of Kansas City, Kan. and Margaret Cotanch of South Burlington, Vt.; and five grandchildren and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was predeceased by her parents, her husband Al in 2015, and by her sister Constance Hunziker.

A memorial service will be held at the United Methodist Church in Springfield, Vt., at a later date. In lieu of flowers, please make a memorial donation to a favorite local charity. Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt., is assisting with arrangements.

Donald A. Guy, 1932-2020

LUDLOW, Vt. – Donald A. Guy, 87, passed away at his home in Ludlow Tuesday evening, Feb. 25, 2020. He was born in Lyndon, Vt. June 25, 1932, son of Lewis and Violet (Henderson) Guy. He grew up in Lyndonville and graduated from Lyndon Institute Class of 1950.

He enlisted in the United States Army in 1950 and was stationed in Alaska from 1950 to 1952 during the Korean Conflict. On Dec. 8, 1956, he married Norma Dempsey in Ludlow, Vt.

He worked as a ski instructor and cutting trails at Okemo Mountain in Ludlow, Vt. He was employed as a toolmaker and machinist with General Electric in Ludlow and Rutland, Vt. for over 10 years, after which he owned and operated his own excavating company in Ludlow, Vt. for many years. With his ex-

cavating company, he worked on the Alaska Pipeline for three summers.

He enjoyed hunting and fishing and enjoyed trips to Canada and Colorado. He also enjoyed skiing for many years.

He is survived by his wife Norma of Ludlow, one daughter Valarie Lajoie of Shrewsbury, Vt., one son Gary Guy of Woodbridge, Va., one brother Ronald Guy of Lyndonville, Vt., five grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was predeceased by his parents, one brother, and two sisters.

Memorial services will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Ludlow Ambulance Department, 19 West Hill, Ludlow, VT 05149. Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt. is assisting with arrangements.

Charles K. Mansfield Jr.

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – There will be a celebration of life for Charles K. Mansfield Jr. Saturday, March 7 at 11 a.m. at the Immanuel Episcopal Church in Bellows Falls, Vt. Charles passed away Jan. 26, 2020. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Immanuel Episcopal Church.

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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.

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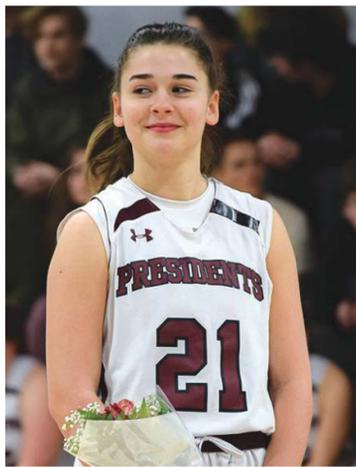
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sports & outdoor

Black River girls' basketball team finishes season at home



LUDLOW, Vt. – On Thursday, Feb. 27, the Black River girls' basketball team hosted Twin Valley for their final home game in Presidents Hall. The team also recognized two teammates during Senior Night: Christina LeTourneau (25) and Jae Greineder (21).

PHOTOS BY OTIS NELSON

Stingrays perform well at New England Swim Championships

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Connecticut River Valley Stingrays swim team recently swam at the 2020 New England Regionals Championship Meet at the Upper Valley Aquatic Center. Five months of winter practice produced many personal best times, some of which qualified for further championship meets. The Stingrays' team swims at the Edgar May Health and Recreation Center in Springfield, Vt., under the direction of head coach Ann Thompson and assistant coach Rick Matthews.



Left to right: Ruby Kiefer, Sophia Cherubini, Sarah Gaspard, Rowan Caulkins, and Aubrey Seman.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Berkley Hutchins, 14, qualified for the New England Swimming 11-14 Age Group Championships Feb. 28 at the WPI pool in Worcester, Mass. Her event was 100 breast with a time of 1 minute, 12.43 seconds. She also qualified for the New England Swimming Silvers Championship in March in the 200 breast, 100 back, 100 free, and 50 free.

Janie Thompson, 15, qualified for the New England Swimming Silvers Championship in March in the 50 free and had a personal best in the 100 back.

Rowan Caulkins, 12, qualified for the New England Swimming Silvers Championship in March in the 50 free and had personal bests in the 100 free, 50 and 100 fly.

Miles Garvin, 14, qualified for the New England Swimming Silvers Championship in March in the 100 breast and had personal bests in the 100 free and 50 fly.

Remini Bammarito, 10, qualified for the New England Swimming Silvers Championship in

March in the 50 butterfly and had personal bests in the 100 back and 50 breast.

Anna Numme, 14, qualified for the New England Swimming Silvers Championship in March in the 50 free.

Additional personal best times from the Regional Championship Meet were achieved by swimmers:

- Mollee Thurston, 9, in the 50 free
- Franklin Coull, 10, in the 50 and 100 free, 50 and 100 back, 50 fly and 100 IM
- Sophia Cherubini, 11, in the 50 free, 100 back, 50 breast, 100 breast, and 100 IM
- Sara Gaspard, 12, in the 50 and 100 free, 50 back, 100 IM
- Ruby Kiefer, 11, in the 50 free
- Aubrey Seman, 12, in the 50 free, 50 breast, 50 fly, 100 fly, and 100 IM
- Haley Racicot, 15, in the 100 free, 100 breast, and 50 fly
- Calvin Seman, 9, in the 50 free and 100 back
- Ethan Ameele, 8, in the 25

back

- Theresa Marquise, 8, in the 50 back

Other stellar performances from the 2019-2020 season included Carl Johnson, who took second place in the 25 free at the Winter Knights Meet in Colchester, Vt. in January for boys 8 and under. Swimmers Aloura Cyr, 11, Katelyn Ferris, 13, and Elizabeth DeLorenzo, 13, also qualified for the Regionals Championship Meet but were unable to participate. Newcomer Devan Metzger and returning Sarah Streeter worked on perfecting their strokes with Stingray pride this season.

The EMHRC is proud of all of these swimmers' excellent efforts. The winter season ends in March but is quickly followed by the beginning of the summer season in June. To join or ask questions about our local competitive swim team, call 802-885-2568 or visit www.myrecenter.org.

Calling all women who care about Vermont's forests

MONTPELIER, Vt. – Women are a large and growing part of America's landowner population. The percentage of family forests where women were the primary decision makers doubled from 2006 to 2013. This nationwide trend of more women owning and operating forestland is also happening in Vermont's woods.

According to the 2013 National Woodland Owner Survey, women are now the primary owners of 20% of Vermont's available woodlands, meaning there are 475,000 acres of forestland in Vermont that are solely owned by women with another 1.1 million acres that are owned by women as co-owners.

According to Caitlin Cusack, a forester with Vermont Land Trust, "These statistics prove that women are certainly shaping up to be an emerging force in Vermont woodlands."

To serve this growing demographic of landowners, the national Women Owning Wood-

lands initiative was formed in 2012 and has been working to support women woodland owners and others interested in woodlands across the country. A collaborative group of Vermont organizations recently came together to create the same network on a local level.

Kathleen Wanner, executive director of the Vermont Woodlands Association, stated, "There's a lot we can do together that we cannot do on our own."

Vermont's WOW initiative, made up of staff from Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife; Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation; Vermont Woodlands Association; Vermont Land Trust; Vermont Coverts; and UVM Extension, is working to bring women together to secure a safe, informed, and accessible future for those interested in the ownership of Vermont's woodlands.

The WOW team invites the public to participate in a survey

designed to solicit answers to important questions about women owning Vermont's forests. The team is looking for feedback from women who love Vermont's woodlands or own Vermont's woodlands to help the group develop programming, provide better technical assistance, and build a women's network to reach out and share about our forests.

Andrea Shortleeve, a biologist with Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, said, "This is a chance to have meaningful input on how we can better help a group of landowners improve forest management, wildlife habitat, and land conservation in Vermont."

Members of the public may take the survey online at www.middlebury.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_23NmIIA9IMaRI33. It will take less than 15 minutes to complete and will be available until March 6, 2020.

Berkley Hutchins qualifies for New England Swimming Championships

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Feb. 9 at the Regional swim meet at Upper Valley Aquatic Center, Berkley Hutchins of Springfield swam the 100-yard freestyle with a winning time of 59.67 seconds. She speaks gratefully about the encouragement and support of her parents and her teammates. "There are lots of people here to support you. The whole team is always here for each other."

At age 9, Berkley qualified for age group competition for the first time and this, she says, was her proudest moment ever. It was a first place performance in which she beat her closest rival by 1/100 of a second, resulting in an exciting medal award and standing on the winner's podium.

Berkley also competes in soccer and track and field – discus and shot put – at Green Moun-

self 'I can do this.'"

That confidence also boosted her to a first place finish in the 100-yard freestyle with a winning time of 59.67 seconds. She speaks gratefully about the encouragement and support of her parents and her teammates. "There are lots of people here to support you. The whole team is always here for each other."

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Berkley Hutchins.

PHOTO PROVIDED

tain Union High School. In her typical fashion of aiming high, she hopes to compete in pole vaulting. And college swimming is definitely in her plans. In her academics, she enjoys the sciences and hopes to create a career in the medical field.

Springfield wrestling teams are on the go

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Members of the Springfield wrestling team have been hitting the mats at a non-stop pace! Several weeks ago, the junior high and high school crew hosted a four-team quad meet on their home turf, facing down Newport, N.H. as well as Fair Haven and Mill River teams from Vermont.

Next, several members of the youth team rolled into Milton to test their mettle and see who would qualify to compete at Youth New England Championships in mid-March. Sixth grader Braydon Rumrill made the grade and will be heading to Danvers, Mass. for that tournament.

Most recently, the boys of the junior high and junior varsity team competed at the State Championship Tournament in Barre and truly "left it all on the mats!" Several Cosmos wrestlers earned a spot on the podium, including seventh grader Hunter Ferland coming in a solid



Springfield wrestling team.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY SPRINGFIELD, VT. WRESTLING

fourth place. Second place medals went to Noah Markwell in seventh grade, Cole Wright in ninth grade, and Bryan Stafford in 10th grade. Leading the day were seventh grade spitfire Dillan Lacasse nailing a solid first place, and 10th grader Tim Amsden battling his way to the very special Outstanding Wrestler Award.

Also competing were John

Jasinski in seventh grade, eighth graders Armando Stettner and Marshall Simpson, and freshman David Rigney. Coaches were extremely proud of all the wrestlers, who showed grit, determination, and terrific improvement.

Next up: Varsity State Championships! Stay tuned to the action on Facebook by following the team's page at "Springfield VT Wrestling."

Birding on the Farm free workshop series

WALPOLE, N.H. – Community members are invited to participate in a series of free wildlife workshops in 2020. The Birding on the Farm workshop series will host one workshop per season to highlight a variety of bird species and will be hosted on different farms located on either side of the Connecticut River in New Hampshire and Vermont.

This workshop series is suitable for all levels of birders – from beginning to seasoned. Participants will learn about the role farms play in providing habitat for wildlife, which birds utilize different farming practices, and

how and when these resources are used and explore the seasonality and natural history of wildlife in our region.

The first workshop in this series is scheduled for Sunday, March 15, from 9-11 a.m., at Miller Farm in Vernon, Vt. Participants should plan to have already arrived at Miller Farm by 9 a.m. sharp. Binoculars and boots are recommended, and please come dressed appropriately for the weather.

Please register online for this workshop at www.birdingonthefarm-vernonvt.eventbrite.com. Registration is appreciated and helpful for communicating any changes or instructions that may arise.

Save the date for additional Birding on the Farm workshops:

- Wednesday, May 13, from 7:30-9:30 a.m.
- Saturday, June 27, from 8-10 a.m.
- Sunday, Oct. 4, from 9-11 a.m.

Partners on this event include the Cheshire County Conservation District, Windham County Natural Resources Conservation District, Antioch Bird Club, and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. The USDA is an equal opportunity employer, provider, and lender. If you need accommodations, please contact Wendy Ward at 603-904-3010.

arts & entertainment

Walpole Players auditions for “Wind in the Willows”

WALPOLE, N.H. – The Walpole Players have announced auditions for their summer production of a musical version of the classic children’s tale “The Wind in the Willows.” They will take place Sunday, March 8 at 5 p.m. and Wednesday, March 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Helen Miller Theater on the second floor of the Walpole Town Hall. This play has over 30 characters, not including children’s roles, and while one person can play more than one role, a large cast is needed, including lots of children. Anyone who might be interested or has children or grandchildren who might like to be in this play are welcome. If you are unable to come at either of these times, please email WalpolePlayers@gmail.com and we will find a way to accommodate you.



Auditions for “Wind in the Willows” are March 8 and 11. PHOTO PROVIDED

There are a number of musical versions of Kenneth Grahame’s 1908 beloved book, which has become a classic tale of anthropomorphized river dwelling animals living in pastoral Edward-

ian England. They include the memorable Badger, Mole, and the hapless hero Toad of Toad Hall.

The Walpole Players have selected a version written by Alan Bennett that premiered at the National Theatre in London 1990 and made its debut in the U.S. in 1993 with the Walpole Players. Not only are they re-

peating their production of this play, but it will be one of the events of this year’s every three-year celebration of Walpole Old Home Days. Performance dates are the weekend before and week of the Old Home Days celebration, June 19, 20, 21, 25, and 27. Rehearsals will begin in April and will be every Tuesday and Thursday evening and Sunday afternoon. However, because each scene often involves a different set of characters, not everyone will need to be present at every rehearsal and most conflicts should be accommodated relatively easily.

If you want to be involved but don’t want to be an actor, also needed are a stage manager and crew, set designers and builders, someone to run lights and sound, and an assistant director. If you are interested in helping out with any of these roles, please come to the auditions or email WalpolePlayers@gmail.com.

Planning your vegetable garden in Springfield

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Join Springfield Town Library Thursday, March 12 at 6 p.m. for “Planning Your Vegetable Garden.” It’s time to think spring! Get ready for the gardening season with the Free Seed Library at Springfield Town Library.

This event is free and open to the public. All attendees will receive free seeds; a hand-out listing the dates for starting, sowing, and transplanting seedlings in our region; and a bottle of Dr. Bronner’s soap for washing up after gardening.

The Free Seed Library is a

project of VINE Sanctuary in coordination with the Springfield Town Library.

Anyone can take seeds to plant in their own gardens. Local gardeners are encouraged to help build the library’s collection by donating their own extra or saved seeds.

Winter Animals concert at Jamaica Town Hall

JAMAICA, Vt. – On Saturday, March 7, the historic Jamaica Town Hall will once again be filled with wonderful live music. The evening’s performers will be the band Winter Animals with their fabulous Vermont rock and roll.

Jay Ouellette from Peru

heads up the band with his original music. Jay is accompanied by Joel Jordan on bass, Eric Nathan on drums, and Jamaica local David Domenick on guitar. The group has quickly become a local favorite and this will be their first show at the acoustically gifted town hall.

Doors open at 6 p.m. with the show starting at 7 p.m. A donation is suggested at the door. All proceeds go to the Jamaica Community Arts Council, a Vermont nonprofit. For more information on this and other events, go to www.JamaicaCommunityArts.org.

Claremont Opera House presents Woods Tea Company

CLAREMONT, N.H. – Claremont Opera House presents Woods Tea Company Saturday, March 14 at 8 p.m.

Woods Tea Company, music that’s good for you, is an American folk music group based in Vermont. They perform a wide variety of songs, including sea shanties, folk songs, Irish drinking songs, and Celtic music. The group is known for its energy,



Woods Tea Company. PHOTO PROVIDED

musical talent, and dry sense of humor between songs. The Woods Tea Co. has been entertaining audiences throughout the U.S. since 1981 with a blend of traditional, original, and vintage musical styles that pleases the ear and inspires a smile.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.claremontoperahouse.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 in Claremont, N.H.

Calligraphy 101 at the VAULT

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Are you intrigued by the lettering arts? Jorika Stockwell will be sharing the techniques of flat pen calligraphy Saturday, March 7, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Gallery at the VAULT.

Jorika will give an overview of flat pen calligraphy tools, lettering instruction, and history. You’ll get plenty of time to experiment with a variety of beautiful letters with

hands-on guidance. This workshop is appropriate for teens and adults. All materials are provided but bring your own pens and ink if you have them.

Jorika has been doing calligraphy for 37 years, first studying with Robert Palladino. Her works have been exhibited across the country. She continues to study with teachers from all over the world including Massimo Pollelo, Amity Parks,

Yves Letermes, Carl Rohrs, and many others, as well as teaching and doing commission work in southern Vermont.

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

Tickets on sale for “Cabaret”

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – The cast is set, rehearsals are going full blast, and tickets are on sale for Main Street Arts’ production of “Cabaret,” which opens Friday, March 13 at the Bellows Falls Opera House for a two-weekend run.

The cast of the award-winning musical set in 1931 Berlin features Aidan Flower Des Jardins in the role of Sally Bowles, a British songstress performing in the seedy Kit Kat Club against the background of the Nazis’ rise to power, and her relationship to American writer Cliff Bradshaw, played by Sean Roberts. Des Jardins was seen as the maid Martha in last year’s MSA production of “The Secret Garden,” and Roberts

starred in “Jesus Christ Superstar” on the BFOH stage.

While outside the political world is swirling and life for many is feeling more and more repressive, inside the club decadence reigns as the Emcee, played by Gavy Kessler, invites everyone to “leave your troubles outside. In here, life is beautiful.”

With music by John Kander and Fred Ebb and book by Joe Masteroff, “Cabaret” was a hit from its Broadway opening in 1967, garnering 10 Tony awards, including Best Musical and Best Featured Actor for Joel Grey as the Emcee. The movie version with Grey and Liza Minelli earned eight Academy Awards.

In addition to its title song, the show’s memorable numbers include “Wilkommen,” “Money,” “Don’t Tell Mama,” “If You Could See Her,” and “Tomorrow Belongs to Me.” David Stern is directing, with musical direction by Ken Olsson. Others in the cast include Heather Martell (Fraulein Kost), Jeannie Levesque (Fraulein Schneider), Mark Tullgren (Herr Schultz), and Victor Brandt (Ernst Ludwig).

The Kit Kat Club girls are played by Shoshana Bass, Sally Regentine, Morganna Ekkens, Aspen Moriarity, Meredith Pelton, Eliza Klein, Annesa Hartman, and Aminah Pereira. They are joined by the male counterparts Ezra Leonard, John Savastinuk, Sam Empey, and Chris Olson. Costuming is by Sandy Klein, with assistance by



Aidan Flower Des Jardins goes from last year’s maid in “The Secret Garden” to cabaret singer in the Main Street Arts production of “Cabaret” opening March 13 at the Bellows Falls Opera House. PHOTO BY IRA WILNER

Liz Guyzinski. Choreography is by Bass and Hartman. Barbi Kurkul and Bill Lockwood are stage managing.

Performances are Fridays and Saturdays, March 13, 14, 20, and 21; Thursday, March 19; and Sunday, March 15 at 7:30 p.m., with matinees both Saturdays at 2 p.m. The show is recommended for ages 16 and older and has explicit content and adult themes. For more information or tickets, go to www.mainstreetarts.org or call MSA at 802-869-2960. All seats are reserved.

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arts & entertainment

Garden Club hosts Azalea breeding specialist

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Doug Switzer will present a colorful slideshow and talk at the Nolan Murray Center, 38 Pleasant St., Wednesday, March 11 at 2 p.m. This program is open to the public.

Azaleas are an amazing addition to any garden, and these beautiful photos are especially welcome during a long winter of snow and cold weather. Doug Switzer has been working with azaleas for 45 years!

Doug states, "I began my hobby with the acquisition of five plants from a gentleman by the name of Frank Abbott who was nationally known for his development of azaleas. He was my inspiration and instructor on how to grow azaleas from seed, which he provided for me. I went on from there to propagate, grow, and sell azaleas. At the present time, I have



Doug Switzer will give a presentation on azalea breeding. PHOTO PROVIDED

over 100 plants in my yard, of which about 90 were grown from seed. What I have found is that by letting nature take its course, the variation of results is astounding."

The public is welcome to arrive early to visit with Garden

Club members. Coffee will be served at 1:15 p.m. and the slideshow will begin at 2 p.m. There is no fee for this event; however, donations are welcome to support the ongoing work of the Garden Club.

Create a gemstone tree workshop rescheduled

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Artist Lyn Parker Haas is offering a sure to be enjoyed workshop creating gemstone trees Saturday, March 14, from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at Gallery at the VAULT.

Using wire and real gemstones, you will create gorgeous tiny trees. Each will sit on a sturdy base you choose in class. Lyn will have interesting stones, unusual pieces of wood, and slices of agate on hand. You can also bring your own special piece you would



Lyn Haas will teach a workshop on making gemstone trees. PHOTO PROVIDED

like to create around. Plan on completing two trees during the class. The class is suitable for all levels.

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.

Walpole Players' Cabin Fever Radio Follies 2020

WALPOLE, N.H. – It's that time of year again, not quite spring, not quite winter; the time when cabin fever strikes. The Walpole Players have the perfect cure, "The Radio Follies!" Get out of the house and join the fun Saturday, March 14 in the Helen Miller Theatre on the second floor of Walpole Town Hall. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., show starts at 7 p.m.

You are sure to see old friends, make new ones, and catch up on the adventures of Fibber Magee and Molly; see what is going on at Garish Summit, and hear plenty of new skits and songs. With so many old radio shows, it is often hard to narrow down the choices to



Cast of the 2017 "Radio Follies" taking their curtain call. PHOTO PROVIDED

just a few, but the cast has done a great job of finding new programs. Adding to the fun, the cast will be doing many of their

own sound effects.

The show is presented cabaret style, tables are set with tablecloths, and you are wel-

Acoustic singer-songwriters Jenna Rice and Emily Lyons

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – On Sunday, March 8 at 7 p.m., Stage 33 Live will present acoustic singer-songwriters Jenna Rice and Emily Lyons.

The poetic and heartfelt songs of Jenna Rice celebrate the stories of ordinary people and the highs and the lows of being alive. She grew up in the Connecticut River Valley in Vermont, and her lyrics on life, love, and loss are carried by her honest, haunting vocals and down-to-earth guitar.

Emily Lyons is passionate, introspective, and healing-centric. She recently played before the Heather Pierson Acoustic Trio at Stage 33 Live and was called back by the audience for an encore – rare for an opening act.

There is a suggested donation at the door. All proceeds benefit the musicians. The performances will be recorded and filmed.

Stage 33 Live, 33 Bridge St. in Bellows Falls, hosts local, regional, and national per-

formers, both amateur and established, in an intimate, industrial-rustic listening room

in a former factory. For more information, www.stage33live.com.

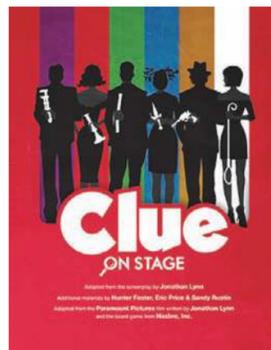
Springfield Community Players 100th anniversary

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Community Players announces auditions for the upcoming 2020 season. Auditions will be held Saturday, March 14, from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., at the SCP studio, 165 South St. in Springfield. The auditions will be held for "Marjorie Prime," directed by John MacDonald; "The Drag" by Mae West, directed by Rebecca Skrypeck; and "Clue: On Stage," directed by Todd Hutchinson.

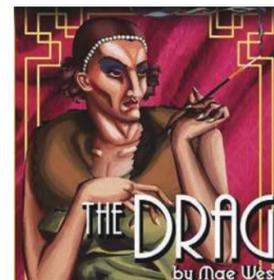
"Marjorie Prime" takes place in the year 2062 and focuses on love, death, and dementia. Marjorie speak with her deceased husband Walter through a futuristic hologram and needs to come to grips with the loss of her husband, the onset of her dementia, and her own death. "Marjorie Prime" went on to become a made-for-television movie starring Lois Smith, Geena Davis, John Hamm, and Tim Robbins.

"The Drag" is a dramatic play written by Mae West under her pen name Jane Mast. The play opened in out-of-town tryouts in New Jersey and Connecticut but was later forced to close for its portrayal of homosexuality and cross-dressing. The play never opened on Broadway as West had planned.

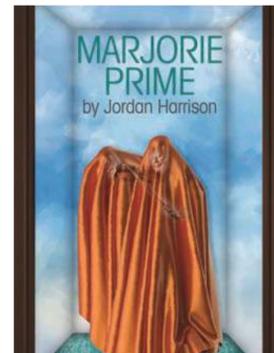
"Clue: On Stage" will be directed by Todd Hutchinson. This will be Todd's directorial debut with the Springfield Community Players. "Clue" is the beloved classic game of "who dun it?" With multiple characters and an amazing set of secret passages, this



"Clue on Stage." PHOTO PROVIDED



"The Drag." PHOTO PROVIDED



"Marjorie Prime." PHOTO PROVIDED

show will be a must-see.

High school youth and adults of all ages are invited to audition.

For more information, please email springfieldcommunityplayers@gmail.com. If you are interested in auditioning but are unavailable March 14, please call the Springfield Community Players at 802-885-4098 to speak with John MacDonald.

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Did you know you can reverse dental cavities? —

REGION – Dental caries – cavities – are the most common chronic condition among children in the U.S. Approximately 60% of children experience cavities in their baby teeth. The good news: it is preventable and reversible!

The term “cavity” describes a demineralization, or breakdown, process of the mineral structure that makes up our teeth. This loss of tooth struc-

ture is a direct result of acid build-up in our mouth. The bacteria in our mouth metabolize the food source in our mouth – sugars and carbohydrates – and create an acidic byproduct. Once our mouth reaches a certain acid level, termed the critical pH of 5.5 or below, our teeth slowly dissolve.

How can we minimize and reverse the decay process?



Cavities are preventable and reverseable.

STOCK PHOTO

By cleaning our teeth after meals and snacks, we limit the amount of time this acid breakdown process can occur. Our body’s natural saliva can then provide the minerals to help “heal” our teeth. Brushing with fluoride toothpaste provides more of the building blocks to improve the process.

Silver Diamine Fluoride is one of the latest and most powerful tools to help halt cavities and reverse the progression of decay. It is a liquid that can be

painted onto teeth without shots or drilling. The silver ion kills the bacteria, and the fluoride ion helps to rebuild the broken tooth structure.

By adopting these habits and principles – and working as a team with our parents and children – we are able to drastically reduce the number of cavities.

Article written by Colin Boswell, Montshire Pediatric Dentistry.

What is Biodynamic Craniosacral Therapy? —

REGION – Biodynamic Craniosacral Therapy is a form of bodywork that engages the energies that create and maintain health in the human body. While it is not a manipulative therapy, it has its roots in osteopathy and has evolved to include influences from advances in neuroscience, human development, and trauma resolution. Practitioners use an educated, non-invasive touch to listen for and to engage with the health in the system supporting nervous system regulation allowing resolution of conditions resulting from stress and trauma.

Who might benefit from a BCST session? People experiencing acute or chronic pain such as injuries, concussions, surgeries, chronic inflammation, headaches, backaches, sciatica, and structural misalignment. The nervous system plays a key role in how we heal from injury and how we experience and perceive pain over time. An activated nervous system creates a condition that slows the healing of tissues and contributes to inflammation. This therapeutic method supports the nervous system to return to a less activated state. Clients frequently experience pain relief from the softening and realignment of tissues.

People who are living with



Craniosacral Therapy can address a number of issues with mind and body benefits.

PHOTO PROVIDED

auto-immune, PTSD, anxiety, and stress disorders can also be supported through this gentle modality to discharge shock and trauma and access their own inner resources.

For people who experience overall health, this is a wonderful way to enhance the immune system and care for the whole self and body. This therapeutic work is suitable for people of all ages and physical conditions.

To receive a session, the client rests comfortably and fully clothed on the table. BCST sessions generally last 45 minutes to an hour and are guided by a natural progression initiated by the client’s own body.

“Life heals itself given the right conditions,” says Dr. Andrew Taylor Still, M.D., D.O.

Article written by Robin Timko, BCST.

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Shifting to Daylight Saving Time —
StatePoint – Spring and Daylight Saving Time is just around the corner. While many people look forward to the start of DST all winter long, making the actual shift is not always so simple for your body or mind.
Expect mornings to be a bit touch and go for the first several days. You may be extra groggy as your body adjusts to the new schedule. Luckily, there are plenty of eye-opening ways to energize your morning, including getting some exercise – even if it’s just a quick 5-10-minute routine, playing up-tempo music, hydrating, and eating a healthy, protein-rich breakfast. And of course, there is always coffee.
Likewise, it may take a few days before you start to feel sleepy at your typical bedtime. Create a wind-down routine in the evenings that will help relax you and get you primed to feel sleepy. This can include meditation, journaling, and shutting down devices that emit blue light.
You’ll already be losing an hour of the weekend when DST starts, so don’t forget to set your watches and clocks forward Saturday night before bed.
If you like to eat meals at a fixed time, you can adjust your schedule gradually over the space of four days by bumping meal times 15 minutes at a time in order to give your stomach a chance to catch up with the clock.

LEGAL NOTICES

classifieds

AUCTION

N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Auction held March 14, 2020 at 11 a.m. at 96 Route 106 N. Springfield. 802-683-7104. To be auctioned:
James Neathawk Unit #3
Pamela Davis Unit # 118
Brittany Davis Unit #166
Nina Daniels Unit # 32
Matt Reynolds Unit #177
(03/10)

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hams, and pork roast. \$7.50 per pound. Call 802-875-4971. (03/10)

HELP WANTED

CLAREMONT, N.H. – NAMI NH is seeking a full time, 40 hours per week, Family and Community Support Specialist in the Claremont and surrounding Upper Valley area. This is a salaried, exempt position. The Family and Community Support Specialists (FCSS) will provide 1:1 support and education to families/primary caregivers of children and adolescents with mental illness.

The FCSS will establish support groups and family education programs in communities and will be responsible for identifying and recruiting family member candidates to participate in one of NAMI NH's leadership training programs providing support to family leaders in a role of their choice. MUST have Lived Experience – having personal experience as a parent or family member of a child with mental illness, and understands and has the experience of working through the process toward family recovery empowerment. Send your letter of interest, resume, and salary requirements to: <https://naminh.bamboohr.com/jobs/view.php?id=49>. (03/10)

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TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

The Rockingham Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, March 11, 2020, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Rockingham Town Offices 3rd floor Conference Room to review a minor subdivision application. The proposed 2-lot minor subdivision is located at 25-37 Witness Oak Way, the Applicants are Jim Mullen and Virginia Voronin.

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NOTICE

Black River High School Alumni 1939-1999

Student Records from 1939-1999 can be picked up at the Black River High School Middle School office by appointment only. Please contact Debby Neubert at 802-875-4721 to schedule an appointment. Student Records that have not been claimed by June 1st will be destroyed.

ANSWERS TO TAKE A BREAK!

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 27 mins.

I	T	S	B	O	B	D	A	M	U	P		
N	E	W	A	V	E	U	N	I	T	E		
L	E	A	J	E	T	S	E	T	T	E		
A	T	M	A	R	T	E	L					
W	H	I	Z	D	Y	E	B	R	A	G		
			O	H	O	D	I	L	L	U	T	E
N	O	O	N	E	R	I	G	E	L			
A	D	V	E	R	B	W	E	T				
P	E	A	S	R	A	H	Z	A	N	Y		
			S	A	V	E	S	P	O	E		
S	H	A	R	K	T	A	N	K	S	I	N	
K	O	R	E	A	I	C	E	E	S	T		
I	D	E	S	T	L	E	W	S	E	A		

pet of the week



Hi! My name's Mitchie, and I'm a 10-year-old spayed female. Before I came to Lucy Mackenzie, I lived outside in a stranger's barn. The stranger wasn't ready to take care of me, so I'm still searching for my real family. Like most other cats that were found outside, I'm rather timid and afraid of affection. I might get used to it in time, but right now I'm at my best when I'm allowed my own space – especially if it's quiet, as it really brings me peace and calm.

I don't think a home that has other animals or young children would be a good fit for me. If you drop by the shelter today, please look out for me. I may not come racing out to you, or greet you by licking your hand, but that doesn't mean I don't want to be loved or find a place that I can truly call my own.

Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society
4832 VT Route 44, West Windsor, Vt. ~ 802-484-5829 ~ www.lucymac.org
Tuesday through Saturday, noon-4 p.m.

TOWN OF CHESTER OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY

The Town of Chester would like to extend an invitation to get involved in your community. There are volunteer positions that are open for reappointment. These are great opportunities to serve your community and get involved.

Planning Commission Member – 3 year term
Development Review Board Member – 3 year term

All interested parties should send their *letter of interest no later than 3:00 p.m. on March 12, 2020* to the Town Manager's Office at the Chester Town Office, P.O. Box 370, Chester, Vermont, 05143, or contact the Chester Town Office at 875-2173.

yellow page BUSINESS DIRECTORY

\$125 for 13 Weeks • \$200 for 26 Weeks • \$350 for 52 Weeks
Prices are based on a 20 word listing. An additional 25 cents for each word thereafter.

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art

SMS DESIGNS
Graphic Designer Shawntae Webb can help you design your logos, advertisements, magazines, books, and other publication layouts, and more. Call 802-289-4389 or email shawntae_stillwell_sms@yahoo.com.

bakery

CROWS BAKERY & OPERA HOUSE CAFE
Celebrating 22 years in business with yummy Pastries, Cakes, Pies, Breads, Cookies. Full Breakfast & Lunch. 73 Depot St. Proctorsville 802-226-7007. crowsbakeryandcafe.com. Like us on Facebook. (06/02/20 - TFN - 26)

builders/contractors

PETER JORDAN CONSTRUCTION
Over 25 years of experience in all phases of construction. Framing, finish carpentry, custom showers and tile work, hardwood flooring, decks, roofing and siding. Fully insured and registered with the State of Vermont. Lead Paint Certified. Located in Proctorsville. 802-226-8125 (05/26/20 - TFN - 13)

ALBERTI LANDSCAPE AND CONSTRUCTION
Professional landscape solutions and lawn care. Schedule a clean-up or mulch installation. Also providing home improvement and remodeling services. Call Alex 802-451-6112. (04/07/20 - 13)

HAMMER FOR HIRE LLC

802-376-3275
We offer a variety of services, ranging from handyman projects, through small restorations to full blown renovations. Our clients expect a great experience from start to finish. Our professionalism matched with proficiency, customer care, and quality hit that mark. We are fully insured and ready for your next project, big or small.
Like us on FACEBOOK: Hammer for Hire LLC @nedmortensen2008 (06/16/20 - 13)

chiropractor

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

cleanouts

A BARE CLEANING
Basements, attics, houses, barns. Household items and junk removed. Free estimates, insured. Call Reg at 802-376-4159. (05/26/20 - 13)

firewood & building materials

AMP TIMBER HARVESTING, INC.

Firewood for Sale: Cut, Split, and Delivered. Prices vary by location.
Slab wood available for firepits and sugarwood.
Rough Sawn Lumber, Custom Sawing.

Pine Boards, Framing Lumber, Hardwood Furniture Stock. Based out of Chester. Serving Chester, Springfield, Windham, and surrounding areas. Dennis Allard: 802-254-0680. Billy Parker: 802-874-7260. (03/24/20 - TFN - 13)

home improvement

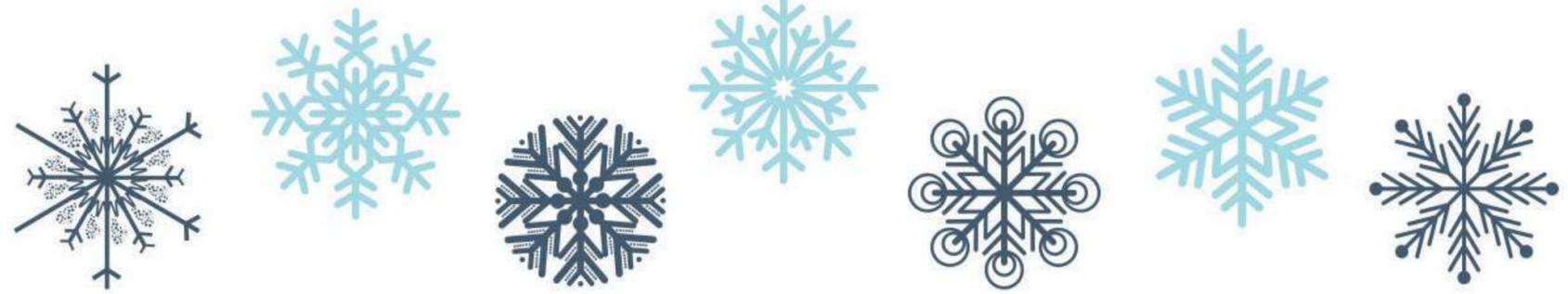
ROSE'S HOME IMPROVEMENT

Dryer vent installation and dryer vent cleaning. Also offer carpentry, interior & exterior painting, window & door replacements, window screen repairs & replacement, window cleaning, vinyl siding washing, pressure washing, drywall repairs, and odd jobs. 802-226-7077 or 802-591-0019. Cavendish, Vt. (04/28/20 - 26)

masonry

MOORE MASONRY

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



calendar

LEGAL NOTICES/HELP WANTED

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

MARCH 5 – LONDONDERRY, Vt. – Kitchen Cupboard Medicine Series, Class #2 Thursday, March 5, from 6:30 -8:30 p.m. Join Helena Wu (Mama Wu) at Neighborhood Connections in

Londonderry to learn how herbs and spices can be used to treat tummy troubles. Contact Helena for questions or to register at 802-824-9950 or mambo@mamawusgoodmedicine.com.

MARCH 13 – LUDLOW, Vt. – Hypnosis Certification Course

beginning March 13 at The Synergy Center in Ludlow. The National Guild of Hypnotists official 100-hour course for certification as a hypnotist will be taught over a few weeks beginning the evening of March 13. There is course homework and flexibility built into the schedule to meet the demands of working professionals. Information including pricing and full schedule is available at www.synergycentervt.com and www.patientwhisperers.com.

SUNDAYS – CHESTER, Vt. – The Odd

Bobbins spinning group meets on the second Sunday of the month from 2-4 p.m. at Six Loose Ladies, 287 Main Street in Chester. The Odd Bobbins meet monthly to spin in company, exchange fiber, and learn from each other. Occasional guest instructors and fiber producers attend. For more details, visit www.sixlooseladies.com.

WEDNESDAYS – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Gentle Seva Yoga, every second Wednesday from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Springfield Unitarian Universalist Meetinghouse,

21 Fairground Rd, in Springfield. For details, call 802-885-3327.

CLUBS

MARCH 8 – MANCHESTER, Vt. – Snowshoe in the Corn Hill Road Nature Conservancy Preserve with Green Mountain Club Sunday, March 8. Meet at 1 p.m. at trailhead on Corn Hill Road, 1/4 mile off Windham Hill Road, where Corn Hill Road turns sharply to the left. Limited space - after RSVPing, find out from hike leader if there are any people coming from the same direction as you and carpool to the trailhead. Hike is 2-4 miles

with long, gentle grades on old woods roads – a long-ago farm community. Moderately easy trip. Bring extra layers, wool or fleece hat, extra mittens, snacks, and fluids. RSVP to Betsy Thomason at 551-265-7561 or bzthomason@gmail.com.

MARCH 9 – PERU, Vt. – Full Moon Backcountry Ski on the Long Trail up Bromley with Green Mountain Club Monday, March 9. Meet at the Route 11/30 Long Trail parking lot for a skin up, ski down trip on the Long Trail to the summit of Bromley. Must bring an extra layer, warm hat, extra mittens or gloves, hand warmers, snacks, fluids, and headlamp.

Moderately difficult. RSVP required to Katie Brooks at 516-978-4016 or kktadams@comcast.net.

MARCH 10 – CHESTER, Vt. – The Southern Vermont Astronomy Group's monthly meeting will take place Tuesday, March 10 at 7 p.m. at the Chester Town Hall on the second floor. Features a presentation by our member (and member of the Springfield Telescope Makers) Rick Hunter. He will be showing and telling the story of his refractor telescope project.

MANCHESTER, Vt. – Easy Full Moon Snowshoe on the Equinox Golf Course with the Green Mountain Club Tuesday, March 10. Meet at 7 p.m. at the parking lot across from the Dormy Grill in Manchester Village. Snowshoe the back 9. Bring an extra layer, warm hat, extra mittens, and headlamp. This is an easy about 2-mile snowshoe on rolling terrain. RSVP required to Keld Alstrup at 802-362-1422 or alstrupkeld@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY MEALS

MARCH 6 – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – First Friday Supper is Friday, March 6 at the First Baptist Church, 9 Church St. in Bellows Falls. Menu includes spaghetti with or without handmade meatballs, garlic bread, green salad, dessert, and beverage. Vegan and gluten-free choices available. Serving 5-7 p.m. Suggested donation. Net proceeds to benefit the Thomson-Wedge family after fire relief.

MARCH 13 – ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – Bartonsville Grange Dinner Friday, March 13, from 5-7 p.m. Located at 116 Upper Bartonsville Rd. in Rockingham. Menu includes corned beef dinner with all the fixings and a variety of desserts. Children under the age of 5 are free. If you have any questions, please call 802-376-5504.

NOTICE SITE VISIT GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER CORPORATION CAVENDISH HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT (FERC NO. 2489)

Green Mountain Power Corporation (GMP) is currently relicensing the Cavendish Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2489) through the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC or Commission) Traditional Licensing Process (TLP). In accordance with 18 CFR § 4.38 of the Commission's regulations, GMP held a Joint Agency Meeting (JAM) on February 6, 2020 for the Cavendish Project relicensing. However, due to inclement weather during the JAM, GMP will host an alternate site visit/tour of the Cavendish Hydroelectric Project on Thursday March 12, 2020, to provide an opportunity for agencies and the public to view the site in person. The Cavendish Project is located on the Black River at river mile 20.8, in the Town of Cavendish, Windsor County, Vermont.

The site visit will be held at 10:00 am, at the Cavendish Hydroelectric Project site located at 241 Power Plant Road, Cavendish, Vermont 05142. This opportunity is open to the public but is primarily focused on issues and concerns of the state and federal resource agencies. GMP asks that participants please bring sturdy shoes, hard hats, and safety glasses. GMP and Kleinschmidt Associates, GMP's consultant, will provide hard hats and safety glasses for those who need them.

If you plan to attend this meeting, please RSVP with Katie Sellers at katie.sellers@kleinschmidtgroup.com by Tuesday March 10, 2020. For additional information, questions regarding this site visit, or the Cavendish Hydroelectric Project relicensing process, please contact:

Katie Sellers
Regulatory Coordinator
Kleinschmidt Associates
207-416-1218
katie.sellers@kleinschmidtgroup.com

TOWN OF LUDLOW, VERMONT POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The Select Board of the Town of Ludlow, Vermont invites applications for the following positions for FY 2021:

All terms are one year except where noted.

Black River Senior Center Representative
Emergency Management Director
Emergency Management Assistant
Fence Viewers (3 positions)
Planning Commission: One, 4-year term
Pound Keeper
Recreation Committee: One, 3-year term
Recreation Committee: Three, 1-year terms
Senior Solutions – Council on Aging Representative: 3-year term
Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission Representative
Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission Alternate
Southern Windsor County Transportation Advisory Representative
Southern Windsor County Transportation Advisory Alternate
Surveyor of Wood & Lumber
Tree Warden
Weigher of Coal

All interested parties should submit a letter of interest no later than March 23, 2020 to Scott Murphy, Municipal Manager, email village@tds.net or call the Municipal Office at 228-2841. Appointments will be made at the Ludlow Select Board's regular meeting in April. The Town of Ludlow is an equal opportunity employer.

Town of Ludlow
PO Box 359
Ludlow, VT 05149



Imerys Talc, the leader in the talc mining and processing, has openings for an Electrician, Mine Manager, and an Operator C in Ludlow, Vermont. The ideal candidate(s) for these roles will support the locations health, safety, environmental and quality programs (HSEQ).

Electrician - The Electrician performs layouts, installation, repair, programming, maintenance and replacement of electrical, PLC components. Runs wire, cable, and conduit. Position pays at \$27.19.

Operator C - This position operates packaging equipment, including hauling product away from the packaging station. Performs other duties related to loading and shipping to accomplish a safe and efficient operation. (2nd and 3rd Shifts available). Position starts at \$19.20 per hour, after successfully completing probationary period wage increases to \$21.33.

Operator B - This position operators plant/packaging equipment and forklift, loader, and manlift. Insures bulk trucks and bulk railcars are loaded properly. Position starts at \$20.14 per hour, after successfully completing probationary period wage increases to \$22.38.

Mine Manager - The Mine Manager leads and manages all activities at the Argonaut Mine for safe, clean, efficient Operations. Responsible for supervision of the mine contractors such that mining activities are accomplished safely and in accordance with Imerys health, safety, environmental and quality procedures and consistent with the desired culture of the Vermont Operations.

For more complete information and to apply go to www.indeed.com and search under Imerys - Ludlow, Vermont.

Imerys is an Equal Opportunity Employer - M/F/D/V

TRSU



TRSU SUMMER CAMP IS LOOKING FOR COUNSELORS AND JUNIOR COUNSELORS FOR THIS SUMMER

Two (2) COUNSELORS - College students studying or majoring in the field of Education or a related field and/or someone who has a minimum of 5 years success working with school age children. Responsible for planning and executing the educational program in accordance with the mission and goals of the TRSU After School Programs. Responsible for the general supervision and daily operations of all children attending Camp Go WILD.

Three (3) JUNIOR COUNSELORS - High school students, at least 16 years old, with a desire to work with children and have experience successfully working with school age children.

All counselors must be sensitive, mature individuals who relate well to children and adults. Must be responsible individuals. Must be able to resolve any conflicts in a professional and courteous manner.

Individuals must present with high energy and an enthusiasm for learning with children. Should be curious about the world, and interested in engaging students to learn about the world around them through hands on learning activities. Individuals must be passionate about the work they are doing and the potential impact they have on camper's experience.

Go WILD is an outdoor summer camp. All staff should be prepared to be outside rain or shine for approximately 8 hours per day. This is a physically demanding position, and requires energetic individuals who enjoy being outdoors.

Please send a Letter of Interest and a Resume, include 3 references to:
Venissa White
TRSU After School Program Director
609 VT Route 103
Ludlow, VT 05149

EOE
2/2020

Rockingham Meeting House Rockingham VT INVITATION TO BID: Plaster Restoration BID DUE DATE: 3/26/20

February 25, 2020

To All Bidders:

You are invited to submit your cost proposal for **Plaster Restoration and Conservation** work, for the Rockingham Meeting House project in Rockingham VT.

1. Bid Documents: Bid Documents will be made available to bidders only as follows.

• Digital copies of all bid information will be sent to each bidder upon request.

2. All bidders are required to inspect site before submitting their bid. A pre bid meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday March 10, 2020 @ 10AM**. Additional times may be available on limited basis and bidders need to contact Chris Cole in advance for availability.

3. Proposals shall be kept valid for a period of 30 days after bid due date. The owner reserves the right to waive irregularities and reject any and all bids.

4. Bids are due **Thursday March 26, 2020 by 2PM**. Bids inclusive of cost proposal and bidders' qualifications are to be e-mailed to development@rockbf.org Proposal received after this time shall not be considered acceptable.

Please contact Chris Cole at 802-375-3528 or ccole@colecompanyinc.com with any questions.

Sincerely
Chris Cole
Cole Company Inc.

CC: Town of Rockingham



VILLAGE OF BELLOWS FALLS, VERMONT CHIEF OF POLICE

The Chief of Police for the Village of Bellows Falls will be an experienced administrator who possesses outstanding interpersonal, organizational, and leadership skills with extensive knowledge and experience in all aspects of management of Police Services. The successful candidate will have expert communication skills and be able to work effectively with the governing body, management team, employees and residents. They must be open, honest, accessible, and possess a reputation as a firm, competent and consistent manager with a track record of developing effective community policing strategies.

The historic Village of Bellows Falls has a population of 3,400 in 1.4 square miles. Located along the Connecticut River in northeast Windham County, it is the commercial hub of the Town of Rockingham and North Walpole, New Hampshire.

Experience and Education: Prefer ten years Law Enforcement experience with five years supervisory experience; undergraduate degree in criminal justice, law enforcement, public or business administration, political science, social science or a related field; executive law enforcement training. Within six months of hire, must have State of Vermont Level III Certification and reside within 20 minutes of the Village.

Duties include planning, coordinating and providing overall direction for the activities of the Police Department, promulgating and enforcing rules and regulations. Responsible for the selection, training and development of personnel within the department; coordinate training programs and activities to facilitate career growth of subordinates. Research, develop, implement and review programs, policies and procedures to achieve the Village's goals and objectives. Prepare and administer the department budget.

Salary: Competitive, will depend on skills and qualifications. Range \$65,000-\$80,000

Benefits: Health, Dental and Vision insurance, Retirement plan-VMERS C, Paid time off

To apply, send cover letter and resume to Wendy Harrison, Municipal Manager at Manager@rockbf.org or Village of Bellows Falls, P.O. Box 370, 7 Square, Bellows Falls, VT 05101 by March 20, 2020.

AUTOMOTIVE/REAL ESTATE

calendar

MARCH 13 – GRAFTON, Vt. – St. Patrick's Noontime Supper Sunday, March 15, from noon -3 p.m., at the Grafton Chapel, 3 Main Street in Grafton. Tickets available in advance and at the door. Proceeds to benefit the Grafton Historical Society. For details, email grafhist@vermontel.net.

EVENTS

MARCH 6 – WESTMINSTER, Vt. – "Communicating with Nature Spirits" with Reverend Mary Francis Drake Friday, March 6, from 5-6:30 p.m., at the Congregational Church of Westminster West, 44 Church St. in Westminster West. Sponsored by Living Earth Action Group.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – A free showing of "Tomorrow" will be held Friday, March 6 at 7 p.m. at the Springfield UU Meetinghouse, 21 Fairground Rd., Springfield. Climate is changing. Instead of showing all the worst that can happen, this documentary focuses on the people suggesting solutions and their actions. Free admission and popcorn. This is one of the series of climate change films held in coordination with Mountain Valley Climate Action.

GRAFTON, Vt. – Moonlight Snowshoe Hike organized by The Nature Museum is scheduled Friday, March 6, from 7 – 9 p.m. Join us at the home of Will and Laurie Danforth as we hike under the light of an (almost) full moon. We'll head inside for a mug of cocoa, or a glass of wine, in front of the glowing fire. Snow conditions will dictate whether this is a snowshoe or a micro-spikes hike. Bring both if you have them. Participation is limited and registration is required. Visit www.nature-museum.org to register and for details.

MARCH 8 – GRAFTON, Vt. – Riverledge Farm Wedding Show Sunday, March 8, from noon to 2:30 p.m., at Riverledge Farm in Grafton. Hosted by Fall in LoVermont. Check out Riverledge Farm, a premier Vermont wedding venue, while chatting with a variety of wedding vendors, tasting hors d'oeuvres, and drinking complimentary mimosa! Grand prize of 2020 or 2021 wedding at Riverledge Farm with wedding coordination by Fall in LoVermont, and much more. Free admission. For details, contact fallinlovermont@gmail.com or 802-342-8503.

MARCH 9 – LUDLOW, Vt. – The American Red Cross Blood Drive is Monday, March 9, from 12:30 - 5:30 p.m., at the Ludlow Community Center. Free t-shirt for donors while supplies last. For details on streamlining your donation experience, visit www.redcrossblood.org/rapidpass.

MARCH 10 – LONDONDERRY, Vt. – Londonderry Conservation Commission presents a presentation on the Covered Bridges of Vermont Tuesday, March

10 at 6:30 p.m. at the Londonderry Depot. For details, email andi.fusco@gmail.com.

MARCH 14 – ASCUTNEY, Vt. – Weathersfield ninth annual Town Trivia Challenge Saturday, March 14 at the Weathersfield School in Ascutney. Representatives from at least nine boards and committees will compete in seven categories: spelling, town history, current events, sports, "Name that Tune," geography, and literature. Prizes for the winning team and the team that shows the most spirit. Door prizes and refreshments. Optional donation at the door and opportunity to sponsor a favorite team. Sponsored by Weathersfield Proctor Library. Call 802-674-6863 for further information.

SUNDAYS – CHESTER, Vt. – Country Jamboree at the Gassetts Grange on the second Sunday of every month from 1-4 p.m., featuring house band Green Mtn. Express! Door donation per person.

WEDNESDAYS – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Christian based movies shown on the second Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. at Church of Christ on Route 11, Chester Road, in Springfield. Continuing through March.

SATURDAYS – CHESTER, Vt. – Round and Square Dance at the Gassetts Grange on the first Saturday of every month from 7-10 p.m. Door donation per person.

KIDS' CORNER

MARCH 7 – GRAFTON, Vt. – Science Saturday "Who Can See

Me?" for school-aged children Saturday, March 7, from 10 – 11:30 a.m., at the Nature Museum in Grafton. Play some camouflage games; then see if you can be spotted in the woods. Tickets in advance and at the door.

LIBRARIES

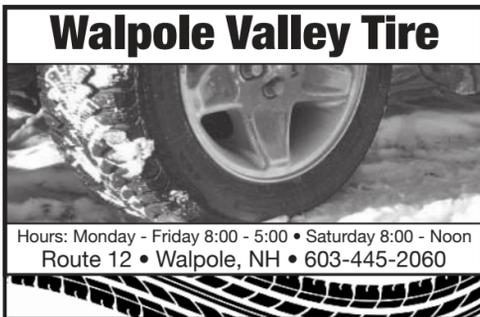
MARCH 5 – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Genealogists Wayne Blanchard and Jerry Carbone are teaming up to host a DNA-genealogy discussion session to share and learn from one another Thursday, March 5, from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., at the Rockingham Library.

ALSTEAD, N.H. – Please join us to welcome author Rebecca Rule back to Shedd-Porter Memorial Library Thursday, March 5, from 6-7 p.m., to discuss her book "Moved and Seconded: ★★★★★

Town Meeting in New Hampshire." Drawing on research from her book, Rebecca regales audiences with stories of the rituals, traditions, and history of town meeting. This event is free to the public, and made possible by a grant from New Hampshire Humanities.

MARCH 12 – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – "Planning Your Vegetable Garden" at Springfield Town Library Thursday, March 12, from 6-7 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. All attendees will receive free seeds; a handout listing the dates for starting, sowing, and transplanting seedlings in our region; and a bottle of Dr. Bronner's soap for washing up after gardening. The Free Seed Library is a project of VINE Sanctuary in coordination with The Springfield Town Library.

Walpole Valley Tire



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South Londonderry, Vermont

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Laundry facility on premises for tenant use only.

Very low and low income limits apply as set forth by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

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MANCHESTER CENTER, VT 05255
802-367-5251 • 802-367-5252
(Hearing Impaired 1-800-545-1833 ext. 326)

MUSIC & THEATER

MARCH 7 – WESTON, Vt. – "Half the Sky," winner of Weston Playhouse's New Musical Award, will be performing two free shows at Weston Playhouse at Walker Farm Saturday, March 7 at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Gypsy Reel returns to the Copper Fox Saturday, March 7, from 6-9 p.m. They will be warming up for St. Patrick's Day with their usual Celtic flair. Gypsy Reel features fiddle, banjo, mandolin, octave

mandolin, and guitars.

MARCH 8 – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Singer-songwriters Jenna Rice and Emily Lyons will co-headline a listening event at Stage 33 Live Sunday, March 8 at 7 p.m. Suggested donation at the door; all proceeds support the musicians. Limited seating. More information at www.stage33live.com.

MARCH 14 – WESTON, Vt. – Walker Farm Music presents "Upstate" at Weston Playhouse at Walker Farm Saturday, March 14 at 7:30 p.m. "Upstate"

first emerged from New York's Hudson Valley in 2015 with their critically acclaimed debut, "A Remedy." For details, show times, and tickets, visit www.westonplayhouse.org.

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Specials of the Week

2015 Nissan Pathfinder SV 4WD 6 Cylinder Auto Third Row Seating	2015 GMC Sierra Crew Cab 4x4 V8 Auto Z-71 Off Road Pkg
2013 BMW XI All Wheel Drive 4 Cylinder Auto Leather Sun Roof	2011 Volvo XC70 Station Wagon 6 Cylinder Auto, AWD Leather Sun Roof
2012 BMW 750XI Twin Turbo V8 Auto, AWD Leather Sun Roof Loaded	2011 Toyota RAV4 4WD 4 Cylinder Auto Loaded

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 Vermont Lodge Style, 54 Acres, Mountain View, VAST Access 3900 Sq Ft, 4 Bedroom, 3 Bath Townshend, \$449,000	 Charming Village Property! Once A Gallery w/ Apartment Above 4 Bedroom, 3 Bath Grafton, \$399,000	 Great Opportunity! 3 Buildings w/12 Units Many Updates Springfield, \$375,000
 Remodeled 1890's Farmhouse In Prime Village Location! 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths Chester, \$199,000	 Sweet Vintage Property 2 Unit in Picturesque Village! 2 Bedroom, 2 Baths Townshend, \$159,000	 JUST LISTED! Cape on 0.25+/- Acres 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath Springfield, \$109,000
 Furnished Camp w/Sleeping Loft Hunt, Ski, or Snowmobile Nice Yard & New Deck Chester, \$45,000	 12+/- Acres Just Outside Town With River Frontage! Awaiting Your Building Plans Springfield, \$59,900	 4 Approved 2 Plus Acre Building Lots in New Subdivision Westminster Each Lot \$49,900

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

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



Muse & Associates REAL ESTATE

Lori Muse, Broker/Owner **Carol Cole, REALTOR**

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**

Price reduction announced on this lovely Weathersfield home. The 38+/- acres of fields, forest, lovely flowers, shrubs and ornamental trees in the landscaped yards are but a preview of all this property has to offer. The cozy kitchen/family room with a beautiful wood burning cook stove will offer extra warmth on those snowy days and can't you just smell the bread baking in the oven? The living room dining room boasts lovely wood floors and woodwork. Three bedrooms are on the second level with plenty of closets and storage for all the treasures. The full basement features additional family room. The three season porch overlooks the in-ground pool and provides a quiet place for morning coffee and bird watching. An attached 2 car garage and a separate barn-workshop will make this the perfect new home for you family. Call today, **REDUCED AGAIN TO \$374,000**

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

Have you thought about a rehab? This property is located on the outskirts of town just off the State Highway with 1.3+/- acres. Includes two stories of living space with approximately 1600 square feet of living space. With Kitchen, Living Room, Den, Three Bedrooms, Full Bath, Enclosed porch. **JUST REDUCED TO \$39,900**

The old Stage Stop. This circa 1800's home has great details inside and out with an entry/breezeway between the garage and home, a large kitchen with walk-in pantry/laundry, a den, formal dining room and spacious living room with faux fireplace and a full bath all on the first floor. Upstairs offers three bedrooms (master bedroom with ample closet space and access to the balcony), full bath and attic access. Two "waiting" rooms on either side of the covered porch offer additional storage. Well maintained with replacement windows. A comfortable village setting with just over a half acre (+/-) offers gardening space and audible distance to the Black River. **\$175,000**



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