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VOLUME 59, ISSUE 36

It's been a great run!

Dear readers and advertisers,

It is bittersweet to write my last letter for the paper. As I approach my retirement date of April 30, 2021, I am preparing my staff as well as my community for the transition. On Feb. 1, 2021, I stepped down from my role as publisher and handed the reins over to my entrusted assistant publisher, Shawntae Webb.

For the past year, Shawntae has learned and acquired many of my responsibilities as publisher to make my departure as seamless as possible. I wanted her to fill the position of publisher before I leave to ensure that I can be here along every step of the way so that this transition will be smooth for everyone.

I've been in the newspaper business my entire life. When I was ten I had my own paper route. My family owned four local weekly newspapers including The Shopper out of Bellows Falls, which they start-

ed in 1961, and they were also part owners of The Message, which opened in 1972. I later relocated and started working for The Patriot Ledger in Boston in 1984. I moved on and purchased The Freeman's Journal in Cooperstown, N.Y. in 1986, and in 1998 I moved back to Vermont and maintained the family paper, The Shopper. In 2000 I started The Vermont Journal out of Waitsfield, and in 2005 I moved the operation of The Vermont Journal and The Shopper into one office at our current location in Ludlow, Vt.

Of all of the positions I've held in the newspaper industry, I've cherished being a salesman the most. I have enjoyed getting to know all of my customers, and I've gained many friendships and connections along the way. I was born and raised in Bellows Falls, but when I moved the company to Ludlow, this community has also become my home.

I've seen so many things

evolve over the years, including the way the paper is put together. When I first started out in this industry, we built ads with paper, calligraphy pens, and white out. Today, everything is all computerized and much more efficient. Businesses have also been evolving over my time. I have countless memories working with so many great people. I've worked with multiple generations of families and companies. Businesses have come and gone, but others are still operating with the next generation of family members, carrying on their name and values.

I know that The Vermont Journal and The Shopper are in good hands with Shawntae. She graduated from Champlain College with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in graphic design, and has been designing our ads and laying out the paper for over five years. She has worked her way up the ladder here from a designer, to the graphic director, to the assistant publisher.

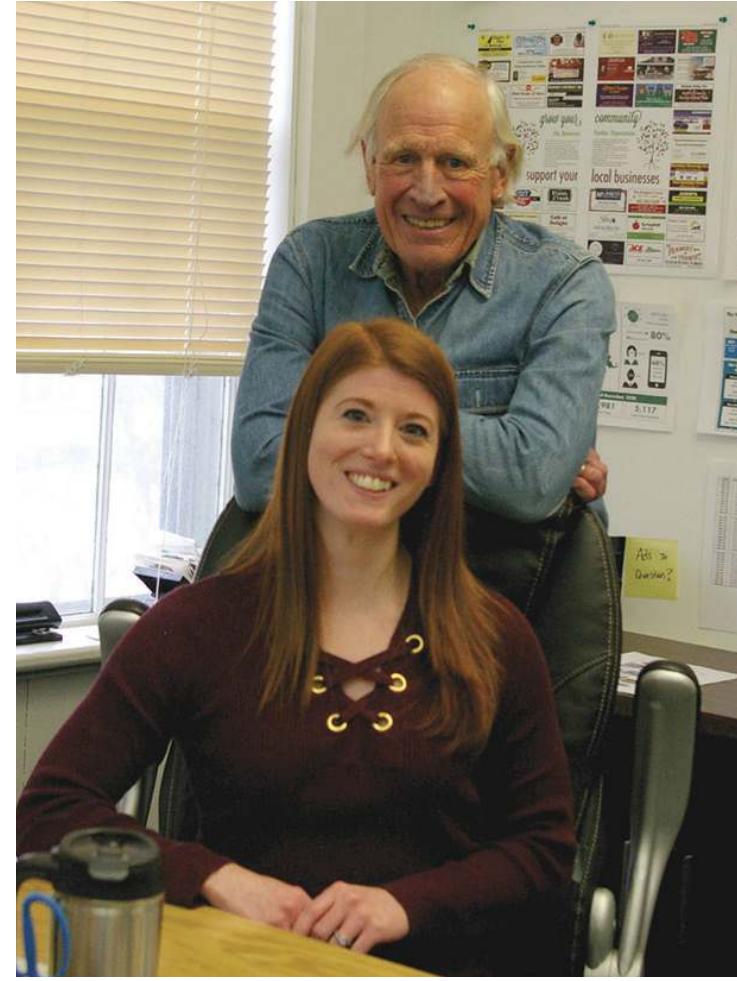
In my retirement, I plan to sit back, relax, play golf, ski, and enjoy my time, knowing the newspaper will carry on.

She has built relationships with many of our advertisers, helped to revamp our website and Facebook, and has shown strong leadership skills as she has fulfilled many of my roles here at the paper, preparing her for her new position of publisher.

I want to thank everyone who has been a part of my paper. Whether you have worked at the office, advertised in the paper, read the paper, submitted press releases or information, or supported us with donations during this difficult time with the Covid-19 pandemic, your involvement has made my venture worthwhile. You were all a part of my successes, and I will remember all of you.

In my retirement, I plan to sit back, relax, play golf, ski, and enjoy my time, knowing the newspaper will carry on.

Thank you all,
Bob Miller



On Feb. 1, 2021 Bob Miller announced new publisher, Shawntae Webb. PHOTO PROVIDED

Springfield is Vermont's first town to host AV testing

BY JO MILLIKEN

The Shopper

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Springfield recently became Vermont's first town to accept the testing of automated vehicles on its town roads, after the Springfield Selectboard unanimously voted yes to this new progressive program set in motion by Vermont Agency of Transportation.

In January of 2020, the VTans Director of Policy, Planning, and Research Joe Segale made an initial presentation to the Selectboard about the Automated Vehicle Testing Act, the law passed in 2019 which allows for the testing of self-driving cars

on state and town highways. The presentation was made to educate the Selectboard on the purpose of this new technology, as to decide whether they would ultimately participate.

"Springfield Selectboard Vice Chair Mike Martin saw a presentation I gave at a municipal training day in the fall of 2019, and I was invited to speak to the their Selectboard about a year ago, before the pandemic hit," Segale said. "It was a good meeting and we reached out to the town to see if they were [still] interested, and they invited us to last week's meeting at which they made the decision to approve automated vehicle testing in Springfield."

In agreeing to participate in this new state program, the Selectboard feels that it is a great opportunity to solidify Springfield as a town that welcomes digital technology, progressive thinking, and entrepreneurship moving forward.

VTans has established strict guidelines for test vehicles,

as well as a town municipality's overseeing of the testing procedures and conditions. Additionally, the Governor's Highway Safety Association has prepared a report that examines the implications of new vehicle technologies for highway safety agencies, which can be viewed at the Agency of Transportation section of Vermont's state website.

There are multiple levels of vehicle autonomy, ranging from a lower level in which the driver primarily operates the vehicle with minimum automated features, to a mid-level that allows the vehicle more control but will also inform the driver when they must take control, to

the highest level in which the vehicle can fully operate without a driver.

What are some of the potential benefits of "driverless" cars? The benefits depend on the level of automation, but the GHSA states that 94% of vehicle crashes are tied to human choice and error. Therefore, it is estimated that there could be a one-third reduction in crashes using level one automation, which offers forward collision and lane departure warning, blind spot assistance, and adaptive headlights.

Additionally, a transition to level four or five – driver attention not required – could help reduce the number of impaired

driver-related crashes, which is the cause of 39% of vehicle fatalities. Other benefits include a potential reduction in driver costs and personal mobility improvements for older people and those with disabilities.

"Automated vehicle testing will continue for many years, and we will continue to spread the word and work with municipalities that are interested in allowing testing," Segale added. "We are hosting the first-ever Vermont Automated Vehicle Exchange Feb. 8. The virtual forum will be an informative discussion around opportunities and challenges for testing automated vehicles or 'self-driving cars,' in Vermont."

Springfield School Board defends budget cuts

BY JO ROBBINS

The Shopper

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield School Board held a virtual meeting Jan. 19 and voted to approve Warrant Article 4, which calls for a budget of \$32,431,509 for the ensuing fiscal year with education spending of \$518,324 per pupil and is 3.87% lower than spending for the current year.

The board approved Article 5, which allows the district to create an operating expense fund with an initial transfer of \$400,000 from the district's fiscal year 2020 surplus to be under the control of the Board of School Directors, for the purpose of paying operational expenses that were not anticipated at the time of the budget preparation. Richard Pembroke, the board's CFO, said that figure includes a combination of the reduction of teachers and in unemployment and said it is rare to have a fund balance come out of a prior year that can both reduce your taxes in next fiscal year as well as set money aside to help

reduce taxes in future years. He called it a tax stabilization reserve. It allows the board to create some stability for the taxpayers, that their taxes are going to be relatively flat for a few years into the future. He said the budget was increased by \$92,000 but there is actually a 1.85% reduction overall.

The board also approved the motion to move Articles 1, 2 and 3 to an Australian ballot.

But the topic of the virtual meeting that drew the participation and concern of educators and parents was the 4-1 vote by the board to approve a motion to reduce the teaching positions from full-time to part-time for the art, music, and physical education programs. Jeanice Garfield was the "no" vote.

The meeting began with a lengthy presentation of academic metrics collected through recent student assessments, but it switched focus immediately thereafter to the contentious subject of budget cuts to these three programs.

Superintendent Zack McLaughlin said the decision

to cut the programs offers a reduction in the amount of money to be moved over to the reserve account and offers the community a \$0.0125 reduction in the actual homestead rate. In dollars, these program cuts amount to \$114,427. In people, this translates to three half-time teachers across the district.

McLaughlin said, "I would love to be in the position to offer individualized education to every student...but I'm obligated to live within the budget."

As an educator he said he did agree with some of the discussions but said he worries a lot about the relationship and credibility within the community in terms of the utilization of funds provided and said he didn't think he could defend to a taxpayer the number of students taking advantage of these courses right now.

Nicole Awwad, high school academic resource teacher,

See SCHOOL on Page 2A

Moderna advises Springfield Hospital vaccine supply can be used

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Tuesday, Jan. 26, Springfield Hospital notified state officials of concerns that its refrigerated Covid-19 vaccine may have reached a temperature slightly above the manufacturer's recommended maximum. General guidelines from Moderna provided to all states indicated that in such a situation the doses might need to be discarded.

Springfield Hospital, in coordination with the Vermont Department of Health, and in an abundance of caution, canceled a Covid-19 vaccination clinic on Wednesday, Jan. 27.

The Department of Health had been in contact Wednesday and Thursday with vaccine manufacturer Moderna and federal officials for determination of whether the 860 doses of Moderna vaccine stored at Springfield Hospital

were viable following concerns with the temperature equipment.

Late on Thursday, Jan. 28, Moderna informed the department that all of the vaccine doses are effective and safe for use. None of the vaccine had been discarded as the hospital waited for the results of the manufacturer's review.

Given the large amount of vaccine involved and specifics of the situation, state and hospital officials worked with the company for a more comprehensive review. Based on a



Springfield Hospital can still use Moderna vaccine.

deeper review and totality of the facts, Moderna determined none of the doses were impacted by temperature inconsistencies and can be used with full public confidence.

The Health Department's Immunization Program provides vaccination guidance and support for the state's health care providers. The department is working with Springfield Hospital to investigate the storage issues and conducted a site visit on Friday, Jan. 29. Health Commissioner Mark Levine, M.D. said he appreciates the hospital's proactive efforts in alerting the state of the situation and in its cooperation during this review.

"The public can have confidence in the care and vaccine they receive from Springfield Hospital," said Dr. Levine.

As of Wednesday morning, only 99 or 0.1% of doses in the state have been considered non-viable or wastage.

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CONTACT US

- OFFICE ADDRESS:**
8 High Street • PO Box 228 • Ludlow, VT 05149
- BILLING ADDRESS:**
PO Box 116 • Rutland, VT 05702
- PHONE NUMBERS:**
Ph: 802-228-3600 • Fax: 802-228-3464
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THE VERMONT JOURNAL & THE SHOPPER

DEADLINES

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

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

Department of Labor update on 1099G Tax Form issue

MONTPELIER, Vt. — On Monday, Department of Labor Commissioner Michael Harrington briefed the media to provide an update on the ongoing issue involving 1099G tax documents issued by the department.

A transcript of the commissioner's remarks is provided below:

"On Monday, Feb. 1 at approximately 9:30 a.m. the Department of Labor began receiving reports regarding discrepancies

involving 1099G tax documents that were issued by the department for unemployment insurance benefit purposes. Upon further review of the reports that were coming to the department, we learned that individuals were receiving 1099G tax documents where the name and mailing address did not match on the front of the envelope and in other cases where the name and social security number on the inside did not match the recipient. Additionally, we believe

that in certain cases individuals may have received another claimant's name and social security number.

"As of now, the department believes this issue is specific to the 1099s that were associated with the Lost Wages Assistance program and a portion of the Vermont Short Term Supplemental benefit population; however, the department is issuing a mass recall of all 1099s that have been mailed, regardless of program. This is being done out of an abundance of caution. The department will be mailing further instructions to everyone who received a 1099, along with a self-addressed stamped envelope, to return the incorrect 1099 to the department.

"In addition, recognizing that there is the potential of the improper release of confidential and personal information, the department has already been in contact with the Vermont Attorney General's Office in accordance with state statute, and we

will be providing all impacted individuals with the option to enroll in ID protection services. This improper release of data did not occur in every instance, but for those cases where an individual's information was released, they will be provided the opportunity for identity protection. More specific information will be provided in a mailing to impacted individuals along with further instructions.

"We are still in the midst of investigating this issue, the cause of the issue, and the next steps for impacted individuals, but in the immediate, individuals should do the following:

- If an individual receives a 1099 letter from the department and the name and address on the front do not match, they should not open the 1099. The department will mail them further instructions for returning the 1099.
- If an individual receives a 1099 letter from the department and the name and address on

the front do match, but when they open the 1099, the information on the inside does not match their information, they should hold onto the 1099. The department will mail them further instructions for returning the 1099.

• All claimants will receive a new 1099G tax document from the Unemployment Insurance Division.

"More information will be posted to the department's website at www.labor.vermont.gov.

"I know there are many questions around how this happened and exactly who is impacted and to what extent, and I promise that we will conduct a thorough review of the incident; however, at this time we are focused on getting important information to impacted Vermonters as quickly as possible. This is obviously frustrating, as many Vermonters rely on state government to issue accurate and timely information, let alone during this public health emergency. I want to assure all of you that we are working as fast as we can to correct this error and ensure that this does not happen in the future."

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SCHOOL

From Page 1A

said the most vulnerable students are either in her classroom or come to visit to use her room's "quiet spaces." She said she understood the "balancing the budget kind of game" and knows everyone is in a difficult position but said, "We do have the power to figure this out together and try to find some other place and rally around the kids." She added poor students in the community are unable to afford these opportunities, but these programs allow them to use great equipment and be taught by great teachers.

Heather Rigney and her husband have two high school students who are exclusively

remote learning. Mrs. Rigney said, "We've been talking about the isolation due to Covid and about their disconnection from the school, peers, and teachers in this time of great need." She said reducing these programs will have a profound effect on students who look forward to returning to classrooms in the spring.

Mr. Rigney told the board, "It always comes back to the numbers...Let's talk about the numbers. Let's talk about the last two years your budget has been voted down. It's been voted down because people haven't liked what you've been proposing." He said this budget would fail. "I'm not going to support a budget that is going to cut my children's arts and music." He said it does nothing but hurt the community and the children.

Resident Donna Batista Young said these programs span the generations with long-lasting and positive impacts and continue to be a draw for families looking to send their kids here. She wondered how much the town was really saving in the overall budget versus the negative impact that could be long-lasting. "Our children are all watching us now and watching the decisions we are making for their futures," Young commented. "The choices that we make shows them what we value as a community and as a society."

Vice chair Michael Griffin said he doesn't see this as a proposal intended to nor will it hurt the students. He said what gets reduced has very little actual impact on the actual class offerings and there are the Cosmos U opportunities – independent stud-

ies – that allows any shortfalls in the classes where students can design coursework that both interests them and meets their needs.

Chair Palmer said he has two middle school age students, and they are both actively involved in band, arts, and sports and PE. He said, "I did not make this decision lightly. I looked at the data and it was based on everything we covered."

The board adjourned to go into executive session and Superintendent McLaughlin thanked everyone and said, "This is hard...it is gut wrenching...If there was a blank check to do all that, we would handle it differently."

The warrant articles as approved will be presented at Town Meeting for a town wide vote.

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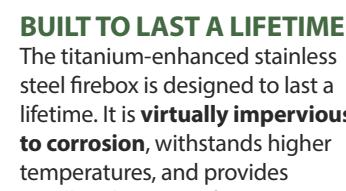
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LOCAL HISTORY

BY RON PATCH

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

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

Odds & ends

What I call odds & ends are little tidbits of history that by themselves don't make a story. Here are a few of those tidbits. The Chester Advertiser was a newspaper published in Chester by A.N. Chandler. The historical society has The Chester Advertiser from the 1890s into the early 1900s.

Chester Advertiser May 20th, 1899

Aid Steamer Fire Company is the stone building on School Street, near the footbridge.

"The members of Aid Steamer Fire Company are arranging for a lawn party to be given in front of the engine house next Wednesday evening, May 24. Ice cream and cake will be served from 7 to 10 o'clock, and in addition, a literary program will be presented consisting of vocal and instrumental music, reading, etc. It is hoped that the people will turn out and thus show their appreciation for the organization. Remember the date, Wednesday, May 24."

Chester Advertiser July 27th, 1906

"The large Chester cheese factory which was erected in 1870 was destroyed by fire last week Thursday night about twelve o'clock together with contents which is said to include about \$600 worth of cheese. The fire started in the north end of the building and on account of lack of water the fire department could do but very little work. The building was two stories high and large hall was on the second floor which was used many years ago for dancing, parties etc. A tenement was in the south end and the occupants lost nearly all they had. The Factory and contents were partially covered by insurance. The cause is still unknown."

The photo with this article is the cheese factory. The large room upstairs was where they aged their cheese.

Chester Advertiser August 11th, 1906

"Last Saturday afternoon



The Cheese factory on North Street.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY CHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

lightning struck the house at the Henry farm now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Spaulding and one room upstairs was completely riddled, the lightning tearing the lath and plaster entirely off. The most peculiar part of the circumstance was that Mr. and Mrs. Spaulding did not know of the damage done until they were about to retire for the night, although they realized that the lightning struck near at the time. Another peculiar thing as well as fortunate was that no fire started."

Lucy Harris's Diary - 1910

"Monday, March 8th Chimney fire in front room burned out. Edward Spaulding and Cliff Carlisle came up with chemical wagon, worked an hour putting out fire and cleaning chimney."

Sisters Mary and Lucy Harris lived where Bill Dakin's law office is today. Ed Spaulding would have been 17 years old. You may recall I recently submitted an article written by Ed Kendall where he recalled Yosemite's early days. Kendall mentioned Yosemite taking in boys as members. Ed Spaulding was one of those boys.

Newfane flea market

Years ago I used to sell antiques I bought during the week at the Newfane flea market. Every Sunday I was there about 8 a.m. Most dealers were there by 6 a.m. I had a plan. I would arrive after the early birds were set up. Mixed in were a few retail buyers looking for a bargain.

When I pulled in, my truck was piled high with tables and chairs like the Beverly

Hillbillies. People would run alongside the truck asking how much a certain table or chair was on top of the load. When I got to my space and climbed up into the truck to unload, hands were reaching up everywhere to help unload. I would stand in the bed of truck barking out prices.

There was always someone who asked a price that knew if he didn't take it the person behind him would. Greed set in. As it did, I raised my prices. It was a selling frenzy for about 30 minutes.

One time I had two hog scraper candlesticks. I was in the truck bed when a man held them up and asked, "How much?" "\$35 each." "Can you do any better?" "Yeah \$75." He bought both.

Grafton store

Ted Spaulding told me a story, told to him, about the man who owned the Grafton store years ago. An accountant or tax assessor came in the store and announced he was there to see the owner's assets. The storeowner pointed to an upper shelf with bedpans and chamber pots. "There," he said.

This week's old saying is from a reader: "Willow wood is so bad that you can burn it in the summer to cool off!"

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Vermont automated vehicle forum for local government and industry

REGION - The Vermont Agency of Transportation will host the first-ever Vermont AV-Xchange Forum Feb. 8, from 1-2:30 p.m., to discuss opportunities and challenges for testing "AVs," often referred to as self-driving cars, on public roads in Vermont. This event will feature state and local government officials and representatives from the automated vehicle technology industry in an engaging, candid, and informative discussion.

In June 2019, Vermont passed legislation to support the testing of AVs on public roads.

Based on the legislation, the Agency of Transportation has adopted a permitting framework that promotes the testing of AVs in Vermont in a manner that reduces the risks of an emerging technology; fosters collaboration between the state, local governments, and the AV

industry; and promotes public education and awareness.

Automated vehicles have the potential to improve safety, increase mobility for people who cannot currently drive, and reduce travel costs for Vermont households, businesses, and visitors. The goals of the AV-Xchange Forum are to increase awareness among local officials, put Vermont on the national map for testing of automated vehicles, and promote collaboration between local officials and the automated vehicle industry.

During the forum, AOT staff will describe Vermont's unique testing opportunities due to our small towns and cities surrounded by a rural countryside, challenging weather, and thousands of miles of dirt roads. The Automated Vehicle Testing Act was written to encourage the active engagement of munici-

MANDY

Last seen on Drumlin Road, Perkinsville, Vt. with siblings. Please call 802-263-5320 with any information



The Black Presence at the Battle of Bennington

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Join Springfield Town Library Wednesday, Feb. 24 at 6 p.m. for an online presentation of "The Black Presence at the Battle of Bennington." Most Vermonters might be surprised that among the 30 men killed at the Battle of Bennington was a black man, Sipp Ives, a member of Seth Warner's Continental regiment of Green Mountain Boys. And Ives was not the only patriot of African descent who played a role in the fighting and its aftermath.

In this illustrated talk, teacher and author Phil Holland explores military records and early town histories to present a more diverse picture of Vermont's iconic battle and its Green Mountain Boys than typically depicted. Holland will also reflect on historical memory and how it is preserved and constructed.

Sign-up required at www.eventbrite.com/e/the-black-presence-at-the-battle-of-bennington-tickets-135733862637.

This is a Vermont Humanities Council Event hosted by Springfield Town Library contact Tracey at 802-885-3108 with any questions.

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CHURCH SERVICES

ASCUTNEY, VT.

Open Bible Baptist Church, 168 Cemetery Rd.

Sunday services are being held in the church, with people sitting every other pew. Sunday school is at 9:45 a.m. Morning service at 11 a.m. Sunday evening service at 6 p.m. and Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. Services are also available on Facebook and YouTube. For more information, call the church at 802-674-2266 or visit www.obbcvt.org.

Brownsville Community United Methodist Church, 66 Brownsville-Hartland Rd.

Sunday service is 9:30 a.m., held in the church with reduced occupancy or streaming online at www.facebook.com/brownsvillecommunitychurch and www.brownsvilleumc-vt.org. Our Christmas Eve service will follow occupancy guidelines for both services at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Please RSVP for the service you would like to attend on our website.

CAVENDISH, VT.

St. James United Methodist Church, 570 Main St.

Please join us Sundays at 8:45 a.m. with Pastor John Hawkins. All are welcome. Masks and social distancing are required. For more information, call 802-674-3443.

CHESTER, VT.

St. Joseph's Church, 96 S. Main St.

Public masses have resumed. Services at St. Joseph's include Saturday at 4 p.m. and Wednesday at 9 a.m. There are no live streams for these masses. For more information, go to www.stmaryjoseph.com.

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

Zoom services are Sundays at 10 a.m. Our service will be an enhanced Rite One Morning Prayer Service with music. For information, visit www.stlukesepiscopalvt.org.

LONDONDERRY, VT.

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

Worship services are now online-only and can be live streamed at www.firstbaptistlondonderryvt.org/streaming-worship.html. 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 services are held in person and streamed online. Please be safe and care for each other. Email unitedchurch@ds.net for more information. Visit www.unitedchurch.us to receive Covid-19 updates on services and meetings.

Ludlow Baptist Church, on the Green, 99 Main St.

Sunday school and service at 11 a.m. are in person. Sunday evening worship is canceled. Mid-week prayer will continue over Zoom. For more information about social distancing guidelines, go to www.LudlowBaptist.org or call Pastor Jerry Scheumann at 802-228-7600.

SPRINGFIELD, VT.

Church of Christ, Rt. 11, 972 Chester Rd.

Sunday services are streamed online at 10 a.m. For more information, go to Facebook @SpringfieldVTCurchofChrist.

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, 90 Park St.

Sunday Liturgy has resumed at 9:30 a.m. and Saturday vespers at 5 p.m. Please note, the church is limited to 50 participants. For more information, call 802-885-2615.

St. Mary's Catholic Church, 10 Pleasant St.

Sunday mass is at 9 a.m. and Tuesday at 7 p.m. to watch the live streams, go to www.youtube.com and search Holy Family Parish Springfield Vermont. Streaming is available five minutes before the service starts. For more information, go to www.stmaryjoseph.com.

Unitarian Universalist Church, 21 Fairground Rd.

Sunday services have resumed at 10 a.m. with Rev. Mellen Kennedy via Zoom. For more information, go to www.uspringfieldvt.org.

WALPOLE, N.H.

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

As the weather turns colder, worship services have returned to Zoom Sundays at 10 a.m. For more information, go to www.stjohnswalpole.org.

WESTMINSTER, VT.

The First Congregational Church of Westminster, 3470 US Rt. 5

Sunday services are online. For more information, call 802-772-4148, or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalChurch-of-Westminster-Lnc-1506511432980057.

CHURCH SERVICES: We are currently running Social Distancing Church Services on an alternating schedule. Subject to space. All services are posted online at www.VermontJournal.com.

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Robert J. Bodo Jr., 1954-2020

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Robert John Bodo Jr., 66, of Springfield, Vt., died Nov. 17, 2020. He was born Feb. 28, 1954 and raised in Manchester, Conn. and Westchester, N.Y.

He enlisted in the United States Air Force and worked many years for the New York Railroad. He married Susan Bodo and had a son Frederick Bodo.

Bob was a leatherworker and enjoyed reenactments, going on many overnight trips, camping, and selling his wares. He was a very talented artist and did many mediums. He painted

ed, made belts and bags out of leather. He also loved fishing.

He is survived by his son Frederick Bodo, ex-wife Susan Bodo, second ex-wife Sharon Bodo Farnum, brother Charles W. Bodo of Chester, Vt., sister Linda Bodo of Springfield, sister Laurie Bodo-Curran of North Springfield, brother-in-law Dan T. Curran, and two grandsons Vinny Bodo, 2, and Ian Bodo, 1.

His ashes were taken back to New York where he lived for many years. Burial will follow in New York. Details are pending at this time.

Corrina M. Carr, 1975-2021

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Corrina M. Carr, 45, passed away Monday, Jan. 18, 2021 in Ludlow. She was born Sept. 24, 1975 in Springfield, Vt., daughter of Lonnie and Donna (Woychosky) Carr. She graduated from Lee High School in Lee, Mass.

Corrina worked as a waitress in several area restaurants for many years. Most recently, she worked as a lift operator at Okemo Mountain Ski Resort in Ludlow. She enjoyed working on arts and crafts projects and painting. She also enjoyed the outdoors and going to the beach. Even though Corrina had her struggles, she had an infectious smile and the happiest of demeanors. No one who ever met her left being a stranger. She was always there for anyone who needed her and was truly a gift to this earth.

Corrina is survived by the love of her life Steven Bennett; her daughter Bethany Bennett and son Jacob Bennett, both of Springfield, Vt.; four brothers David LaPlante of Springfield, Vt., Ronald LaPlante

Corrina worked as a waitress in several area restaurants for many years. Most recently, she worked as a lift operator at Okemo Mountain Ski Resort in Ludlow. She enjoyed working on arts and crafts projects and painting. She also enjoyed the outdoors and going to the beach. Even though Corrina had her struggles, she had an infectious smile and the happiest of demeanors. No one who ever met her left being a stranger. She was always there for anyone who needed her and was truly a gift to this earth.

Corrina is survived by the love of her life Steven Bennett; her daughter Bethany Bennett and son Jacob Bennett, both of Springfield, Vt.; four brothers David LaPlante of Springfield, Vt., Ronald LaPlante

A celebration of life will be held this summer. Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt. is assisting with arrangements.

In 1976, on Valentine's Day, she married Richard Clauson of Marlborough, N.H., and they formed the Quality Printing business, which they ran for several years.

In 1976, on Valentine's Day, she married Richard Clauson of Marlborough, N.H., and they formed the Quality Printing business, which they ran for several years.

Helen is survived by her son Thomas Kibbee and his wife Tammy of Westminster, Vt. Her son William predeceased her in 1979. Helen has two grandsons, Jordan Kibbee of Charlestown,

Colleen Fitzgerald, 1969-2020

CAVENDISH, Vt. – Colleen Fitzgerald of Hemel Hempstead, England and Cavendish, Vt., passed away Dec. 24, 2020 in England due to a reoccurrence of cancer. She was the daughter of Howard and Jane Pixley, born March 3, 1969.

She is survived by her loving husband Kevin, her daughter Abigail and stepson Zachery, her parents, her brother Christopher, his wife Lisa and their children Annika and Jacob as well as many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews. She was loved by all and will be missed by many in England, Ireland, and America.

Colleen graduated from Green Mountain Union High School

with honors. She also graduated from University of Vermont with a history and American literature degree and University of Arizona with a library degree. She was an assistant customer supervisor at the Hertfordshire Library in Watford, England. Colleen's world tour started in 2004 in Dublin, Ireland, then England. Colleen and her family traveled throughout Europe and America. Colleen and family also traveled home multiple times to visit and enjoy family and friends.

Colleen's funeral was held in Hemel Hempstead Jan. 18, 2021, which was virtual and very sadly attended by her family and many friends.

Colleen graduated from Green Mountain Union High School



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obituaries

Amber J. Dwinell, 1987-2021



Amber J. Dwinell, 1987-2021.
PHOTO PROVIDED

uncles, nieces, and nephews, and a great number of extended family and friends.

There will be no calling hours. A celebration of life will be held at a later date at the convenience of the family.

Helen R. Clauson, 1928-2021

ALSTEAD, N.H. – Helen R. Clauson, 92, of River Street, Alstead, N.H., passed away Jan. 23, 2021. She was born Dec. 21, 1928 in Bellows Falls, Vt., the daughter of Walter and Ruth (Severens) Hitchcock. She was a graduate of the Bellows Falls High School in the Class of 1946 as salutatorian. She worked for the municipal manager of Bellows Falls, Vt. until her marriage in 1954 to Bruce Kibbee of Keene, N.H. Helen went to work after the birth of her two sons for the superintendent of schools in Charlestown, N.H. and spent 20 years there. She then worked at the Connecticut River Bank branch in Langdon, N.H. for several years.

In 1976, on Valentine's Day, she married Richard Clauson of Marlborough, N.H., and they formed the Quality Printing business, which they ran for several years.

Helen was survived by her son Thomas Kibbee and his wife Tammy of Westminster, Vt. Her son William predeceased her in 1979. Helen has two grandsons, Jordan Kibbee of Charlestown,

Services will be private at Helen's request. A burial will be in the Pine Grove Cemetery in Alstead, N.H. Fenton & Hennessy Funeral Home of Bellows Falls, Vt. will be assisting the family with the arrangements.

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OBITUARIES

**Basic 200-word Obituary \$50
\$0.20/word after 200**

Black and White Photo \$10

Email to editor@vermontjournal.com



Due by **Monday 12 p.m.**



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and Thank You Notices **under 50 words are free**

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arts & events

Grace Cottage Cabin Fever Auction

TOWNSHEND, Vt. — Too much time stuck at home? Ready to dream for the future? Grace Cottage's Annual Cabin Fever Online

Auction, Feb. 14-24, offers a chance to bid on Caribbean trips, an African safari, outings to local restaurants and inns, fun outdoor venues,

and much more. Also included are locally made arts, crafts, and foods, plus a varied array of gift certificates for hair salons,

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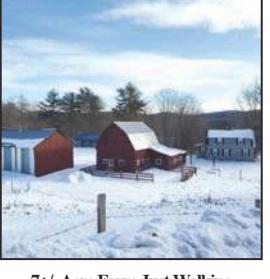
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Commercial opportunity on Route 106 in North Springfield
offers a highly visible/accessible location. Building offers close to
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to 1 acre of land. Currently used as a medical office with storage.
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A fantastic business location on a well traveled road, easily located
with ample parking. These 5 condos are currently occupied by one
business. Space currently includes retail space on the first floor and
office space upstairs. Put it back into the 5 condos with common
space/stairs with two potential retail spaces on the first floor and
three condos/potential office space on the second floor. Definitely
worth consideration \$169,900



Cottage with acreage! This property has much to offer. The cottage
offers a rustic interior with open concept living space, 2 bedrooms
plus a loft area and a front porch. The 26+/- acres is mostly wooded
and could potentially be subdivided. Located in Weathersfield
a short distance to paved roads, close to trails and recreation.
\$220,000



Configure this property to your liking. This property can easily be
a three unit with Three one bedroom units or as two units with
a one bedroom first floor a two bedroom townhouse. Located near
the Chester Depot with the Williams River to the rear, this property
is within walking distance to all the local amenities. Easy care with
metal roof, vinyl siding, laminate and low pile carpet. Newer propane
heating system services the entire property, electric is split out
between the units, town water/sewer, shed for storage. \$167,000

AUTO/REAL ESTATE

Bernie mittens at the VAULT

SPRINGFIELD, Vt.

You saw Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders at the Inauguration wearing cozy mittens given to him by a supporter who made them from recycled sweaters. Gallery at the VAULT has a new selection of Bernie Style mittens made by JoAnne Russo of Green

Threads, also made from recycled wool sweaters and lined with Polartec.

JoAnne has been making these recycled mittens for 15 years. Her first pair was out of necessity because she is a runner, and she needed something warm for her hands. We've had many requests and JoAnne has brought VAULT a new

supply, which we're selling online at www.galleryvault.org as well as in at Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main Street in Springfield. We're open Wednesday and Saturday from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Friday from 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

We just sent off a pair to Skagway, Alaska! We're happy to support Vermont artists and warm hands.

Social media documentary

REGION — Mt. Ascutney Prevention Partnership will host a screening of the compelling documentary "Like"

through a virtual platform with an accessible link available from Feb. 14-27. Parents, educators, and community members interested in attending should RSVP to www.eventbrite.com/e/the-like-movie-tickets-136823243003. This event is free and open to the public.

More than 2 billion people have smartphones today. And we check our phones on average an incredible 150 times every day. Technology makes our lives easier in so many ways, especially in a time of Covid-19, but what is the cost of our dependence, and our children's reliance, on screens? "Like" reveals the true effects of technology on the brain and uncovers the impact social media can have on our lives. The film's mission is to educate, inform, and inspire people to effectively self-regulate their screen time.

When social media users chase "likes" or seek followers, they lose sight of the fact that their devices are now using them. The goal

of the screening is to raise awareness about the hidden costs of social media as well as start a conversation about how to ensure our own, and our children's, healthy use of technology. The film was created by IndieFlix Group Inc.

Mt. Ascutney Prevention Partnership is excited to share this viewing opportunity with the public. As a community-based public health coalition with a mission to inspire community action that promotes health and positive environments for youth, finding ways to share opportunities to build awareness and provoke conversation helps build protective factors like: parental resilience, social connectedness, knowledge of parenting and child development, concrete supports in times of need, and social and emotional competence of children. To learn more about MAPP, visit www.mappvt.org. The "Like" screening will be followed with brief survey to inform on the interest of discussions and events.

How to create a conservation corridor

GRAFTON, Vt. — Do you love to garden? Do you care about birds and bees? Join The Nature Museum's next online webinar with Doug Tallamy Wednesday, Feb. 17 at 7 p.m. to learn how our gardening choices can have a profound impact on local conservation and biodiversity.

Doug Tallamy is an internationally-known, bestselling author passionate about bringing awareness

ness to our plant choices. His first book, "Bringing Nature Home," awakened thousands of readers to an urgent situation: wildlife populations are in decline because the native plants they depend on are fast disappearing. His solution? Plant more natives.

In this new book, "Nature's Best Hope," Tallamy takes the next step and outlines his vision for a grassroots approach to conservation. He shows how homeowners everywhere can turn their yards into conservation corridors that provide wildlife habitats. Because this approach relies on the initiatives of private individuals, it is immune to the whims of government policy. Even more important, it's practical, effective, and easy — you will walk away with specific suggestions you can incorporate into your own backyard.

Dr. Doug Tallamy is a professor in the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware, where he has authored 104 research publications and has taught insect-related courses for 40 years. Chief among his research goals is to better understand the many ways insects interact with plants and how such interactions determine the diversity of animal communities.

His book "Nature's Best Hope" is a New York Times Bestseller, and his latest book, "The Nature of Oaks: The Rich Ecology of Our Most Essential Native Trees," will be available in March 2021.

Join The Nature Museum for a Zoom presentation and discussion with one of the leading researchers and authors in the field of conservation biology. This is a sliding scale event. Learn more and register at www.nature-museum.org.

LEGAL NOTICES/HELP WANTED

AUCTION

N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Auction held Feb. 13, 2021 at 11 a.m. at 96 Route 106 N. Springfield. 802-683-7104. To be auctioned: Katelyn Howard # 91 Jay Huntley #51 & #98 (02/16)

BUYING/ SELLING

BUYING-SELLING Coins, Paper Money, Vintage Sports-Postcards, Comics. See our displays at Chester Stone House Antiques. Open 7 Days. 802-379-2353. House calls available. (03/02)

Snow Blower, 5.5 hp, 22". Good condition. \$350. 80" Futon Frame + Mattress + 2 Matching End Tables. \$350. 802-885-9297. (09/16)

GUNS WANTED

REGION – Guns wanted. Hand-guns, rifles, or shotguns. Top prices paid. Call Ray at 802-775-2859 or 802-236-7213. (02/09)

REGION – Old Ruger 10/22, stock can be broken or barrel can be rusted. Any condition... Please call 603-542-8938. (02/09)

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LUDLOW, Vt. – Cashier/Customer Service Associate. Self-motivated, honest, friendly, and reliable. Duties include front-end work & product stocking. Full & Part-time positions available. Apply in person at Brewfest Beverage, 199 Main St. Ludlow. (02/16)

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Snapper

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SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Sunfit 24-bulb clamshell tanning bed. Operates on 120 volts. Disassembled and ready for pick up. \$500. 802-738-8858. (02/16)

ANSWERS TO TAKE A BREAK!

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

A	R	A	B	O	S	H	A	K	G	B
G	U	R	U	F	I	L	B	E	E	E
U	S	E	D	F	O	B	S	N	N	E
A	T	A	D	E	T	C	H	O	E	S

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Town of Westminster

The Town of Westminster is seeking a qualified paving contractor for the "Full Depth Reclamation" of the Westminster West Road starting at the South School Entrance in the Village and going approximately one and a quarter miles north. The Reclaiming will be approximately 8" to 10" deep with the new Pavement to be completed at 3 1/4" depth over the complete reclaimed section of the road. The 3 1/2" of pavement will be placed in two layers (2" base & 1 1/2" top).

The Town will need to provide the traffic control and signage for the complete job. The excess asphalt grinding will be the property of the Town of Westminster and will be trucked off site by the Town's trucks with the Contractor to load the product. Reclaiming & pavement will be rolled to the proper compaction. All materials & workmanship will be required to comply with the State specifications for Road Standards found in the "Orange Book" created by the State of Vermont.

- Specifics: The Town will expect the Contractor to use 3/4" base mix with a 3/8" aggregate mix for the top layer. Emulsion will need to be placed between the new layers of pavement. The Contractor must use a State approved bituminous concrete pavement mix and the mix will not contain recycled asphalt shingles (RAS).

The section of road is as follows:

1. Approximately 1 1/4 miles starting at the south entrance of the Westminster West School and going north to near North Goddard Hill Road. This section of road varies between 22' and 24' wide on average. This measurement will need to be verified by the successful contractor prior to starting. The Contractor will be responsible for measuring the road before bidding the project and will also be responsible for the amount of pavement needed to create the proper crown in the roadway. Under no circumstances will added costs be accepted for this section of road unless previously approved by the Town Manager in writing. The Town is requesting that this work be completed between the dates of June 1, 2021 and September 1, 2021.

Proposals are due by noon on March 12, 2021 at the Town Hall or by mail (PO Box 147 Westminster, Vt. 05158). At 12:00 PM the bids will be opened and read out loud. Proposals are to include a complete description of the work to be performed, confirmation of availability between dates allowed, and the tonnage to be used at a firm price. Please include a per ton price in place. The Contractor is to be qualified to do business in the State of Vermont and will have to supply proof of insurance at the time of the bid. Any and all bids, not supplying the proof of insurance or a complete scope as requested will not be considered. Your proposal should be sealed and marked "Pavement Bid 2021-01". It is recommended to call the Town Manager and set up an appointment at (802) 722-4255 for the additional information and/or a site visit, if needed. The Town reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.

yellow page

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"Bernie Mittens" Made from recycled sweaters by JoAnne Russo

Curvature Exhibit by Jamie Townsend

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(02/09/21 - 13)

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builders/contractors

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builders/contractors (cont.)

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(03/16/21 - 13)

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masonry (cont.)

calendar

FEB. 9 –

CHESTER, Vt. – The Southern Vermont Astronomy Group is hosting their February monthly meeting via Zoom Tuesday, Feb. 9 at 7 p.m. for a fun night of astronomical discussion!

FEB. 10 –

REGION – AARP Vermont is offering a series of free virtual presentations on consumer fraud. On Feb. 10 is "Fraud, Scams, and Con-Artists: Coming to a Computer Near You," the why, how, and basic defense regarding scams

HELP WANTED
TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD
ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK
 Part-Time – Permanent Position

The Town of Springfield, VT is seeking a part-time Assistant Town Clerk for the Springfield Town Clerk's Department. The Assistant Town Clerk supports the Town Clerk and assists in the full range of responsible clerical functions in the Town Clerk's office. The function of the position is performed according to the body of State Law and Town Charter. This position reports and is supervised by the Town Clerk.

Knowledge of municipal operations and land records is preferred. Working knowledge of office procedures, proficiency with Microsoft Office software, and the ability to learn other software as it applies to town clerk's management of land records. An ability to deal effectively with the public, other town departments and appointed and elected officials. Must be able to read and understand laws, rules and regulations, especially State Statutes and the Town Charter. A college degree is preferred or a minimum of 30 college credits in a related subject matter. A high school diploma or equivalent may be acceptable with equivalent experience. Pay Grade 16, a salary range of \$18.92 to \$22.53 per hour depending on experience. This is a non-exempt position without benefits. Apply at the Human Resources Office, 96 Main Street, toshr@vermont.net (802) 885-2104. Applications may also be downloaded from the Town's website <https://springfieldvt.gov/office2.com/>. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. E.O.E.

TOWN OF CHESTER
WARNING
NOTICE OF TOWN MEETING

The Legal Voters of the TOWN OF CHESTER are hereby notified and warned to meet on Monday, March 1, 2021, at 6:00 pm., via Zoom for a virtual Informational Meeting on the following Articles. Voting on all Articles will be by Australian ballot on March 2, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Chester Town Hall Second Floor.

ARTICLE 1: To elect Town Officials for the ensuing year as provided by the Public Laws of Vermont.

ARTICLE 2: Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of paving Lovers Lane Road and Popple Dungeon Road (portion between new road construction and the dirt road)? Said paving to be financed for a term of 5 years.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise \$3,342,887.01 to be paid to the Chester Town Treasurer on September 15, 2021, to pay current expenses and any part of the Town's indebtedness.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to expend from the Capital Budget Reserve Fund, \$887,249.36 to be allocated as follows: \$18,750 to be used for the purchase of air paks for the Fire Department; \$10,000 to be used to purchase signage for the town; \$200,000 to be used as match for the Depot Street Sidewalk Grant; \$41,000 to be used to purchase a Police Cruiser; \$146,610.80 to be used to pay previously approved equipment loans; and \$470,888.56 as a transfer to the Bond Plan; all as indicated on the Capital Budget Program schedule and less any grant funds that may be received.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town of Chester will vote to approve the purchase of a dump truck for the Highway Department in an amount not to exceed \$130,000, less any trade in. Said dump truck to be financed for a term of 5 years beginning in 2022, as illustrated in the Capital Plan.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to exempt from municipal and education taxes, for a period of five years, 100% of the Fair Market Value of lands and buildings occupied by the Chester Rod & Gun Club.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to exempt from municipal and education taxes, for a period of five years, 100% of the Fair Market Value of lands and buildings occupied by the Green Mountain Softball, Inc.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to exempt from municipal and education taxes, for a period of five years, 100% of the Fair Market Value of lands and buildings occupied by the Olive Branch Lodge.

ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$4,000 (four thousand dollars) to Meals on Wheels of Greater Springfield, Inc. for continued support and services to the citizens of the Town of Chester in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2691.

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$2500 (two thousand five hundred dollars) to support the Chester Fireworks for Independence Day, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2691.

ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THIRTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVEN DOLLARS (\$13,807) to help support the home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by the Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of VT and NH, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND AND FORTY FOUR DOLLARS (\$3,044) to help support outpatient, mental health and substance abuse services by the staff of Health Care and Rehabilitation Services, Inc, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND FORTY DOL- LARS (\$3,040) to Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) to assist Chester in responding to the emergency needs of the community and providing all available and applicable services to families and individuals in need, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of NINE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$900) to the Women's Freedom Center for general budget support to provide services to women and their children who are experiencing emotional, physical and/or sexual abuse and are residents of the Town, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.

ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,200.00) for the support of Senior Solutions (formerly Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont) for help to support seniors and their families who are trying to remain at home and not be placed in a nursing home, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.

ARTICLE 16: Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$2,250 (two thousand two hundred fifty dollars) for the support of the Current operated by Connecticut River Transit, Inc., to provide transit services to the residents of the Town of Chester, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.

ARTICLE 17: Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$800 (eight hundred dollars) to support Windsor County Mentors, for youth mentoring services provided to children in Windsor County, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.

ARTICLE 18: Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$400 (four hundred dollars) to Green Mountain RSVP & Volunteer Center of Windsor County to develop opportunities for people age 55 and older to positively impact the quality of life in the community of Chester through volunteer service, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.

ARTICLE 19: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,800.00) toward the support of the Community Cares Network of Chester and Andover, Inc. a non-profit organization which provides services to senior citizens, helping them to stay in their homes longer safely, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town of Chester will appropriate the sum of THREE THOU- SAND DOLLARS (\$3,000) to assist in the services of the Chester-Andover Family Center for individuals and families in need, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.

ARTICLE 21: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUN- DRED DOLLARS (\$1,500) to Neighborhood Connections, Inc. to cover the cost of providing services in Chester in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.

Dated at Chester, Vermont on this 25th day of January 2021.

/s/ Arne Jonynas, Chairman
 /s/ Heather Chase
 /s/ Leigh Dakin
 /s/ Jeff Holden
 /s/ Lee Gustafson

LEGAL NOTICES/HELP WANTED

LITERACY FOUNDATION is offering a monthly Book Club for Grown-ups series featuring Vermont and New Hampshire authors who write for both kids and adults. On Friday, Feb. 12 at 7 p.m., bestselling author Dan Brown will discuss his latest novel in the popular Robert Langdon series, "Origin," as well as his new children's book, "Wild Symphony." This Zoom event is free, but donations to the Children's Literacy Foundation are encouraged. Learn more

and sign up for the event at www.clifonline.org.

FEB. 13 –
LUDLOW, Vt. – Please join OMS for our first-ever virtual Winter Festival. Purchase a household ticket to join OMS on Zoom for a festive evening at home with live music by Sammy Blanquette and special guest appearances. We will have an online silent auction that is going live Jan. 30 and staying open until the end of the virtual event Feb. 13. Tickets can be purchased online. Visit www.okemountainschool.org for details. Prior to the event, you will receive a Zoom link to join. All proceeds will go towards our scholarship fund.

MONDAYS –
REGION – "Nurturing Skills for Families in Recovery" is an online mutual self-help support

group for parents aided by a trained facilitator. Beginning Feb. 8, the group will meet Mondays from 1-2:30 p.m. Whoever said parenting is easy? It's probably the toughest job you will ever have, and sometimes it can be pretty overwhelming. You are not alone! Come and join us. For more information and to join the free group, contact Amber at amenard@pcavt.org or call 802-498-0603.

WEDNESDAYS –
BRATTLEBORO, Vt. – Advanced directives, every Wednesday at 10 a.m., Taking Steps Brattleboro is offering Advanced Care Planning informational meetings via Zoom. To receive the Zoom invitation, call Dan Freeman at 802-257-0775 ext. 101 or email don.freeman@brattleborohospice.org.

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 February 12, 2021 to the Town Manager's Office at the Chester Town Office, P.O. Box 370, Chester, Vermont, 05143, via email at Julie.hance@chestervt.gov, or contact the Chester Town Office at 875-2173.

THURSDAYS –

REGION – "Circle of Parents in Recovery" is an online mutual self-help support group for parents aided by a trained facilitator. Beginning Feb. 4, the group will meet Thursdays from 3-4:30 p.m. Whoever said parenting is easy? It's probably the toughest job you will ever have, and sometimes it can be pretty overwhelming. You are not alone! Come and join us. For more information and to join the free group, contact Amber at amenard@pcavt.org or call 802-498-0603.

REGION – "Circle of Parents for Grandparents" is an online mutual self-help support group aided by a trained facilitator. Beginning Feb. 16, the group will meet Thursdays from 4-5 p.m. Come and join us. For more information and to join the free group, contact Amber at amenard@pcavt.org or call 802-498-0603.

DAILY –
REGION – If you want to drink that's your business, but if you want to stop, that's ours. Contact Alcoholics Anonymous at www.aavt.org or call your local hotline at 802-885-8281 and join a meeting. You are not alone.

General Federation of Women's Clubs scholarships for Vermont women —

REGION – The General Federation of Women's Clubs of Vermont announces the availability of scholarships for Vermont women, beyond the traditional college age, seeking to further their education, training, or to upgrade their skills in preparation for advancing in the workplace. Applicants must submit a specific plan for their education or training. Applications are due to Betty Haggerty, 16 Taylor St., Bellows Falls, VT 05101 by March 15.

The scholarships range from \$500 to \$1,500. GFWC-VT has been awarding this financial aid, which is funded through contributions from the state federated clubs and from individuals, for 27 years.

The scholarship is named for Barbara Jean Barker, late of Poultney, who served as GFWC-VT President from 1992-1994, and who was instrumental in establishing the program. Women receiving the awards over the years have come from a wide range of towns in the state.

Applications for the scholarship can be obtained from Betty Haggerty, hubbett@hotmail.com, or Beverly Pallmerine, bpallmerine@myfair-point.net. They are also available through federated women's clubs in several Vermont towns, and through Community College of Vermont and Vermont Technical College sites around the state. The scholarships will be awarded at the state federation's annual meeting in late April.

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TOWN OF ANDOVER
REMOTE PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING AGENDA

February 27, 2021

The Select Board for the Town of Andover will hold a public informational hearing by electronic means on Saturday, February 27, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. to discuss the Australian ballot articles on the 2021 Town Meeting Warning. There is also very limited in-person meeting space at the Andover Town Hall, please RSVP to the Andover Town Clerk, 875-2765 if you wish to attend in-person.

To access this meeting remotely: Access via Zoom: <https://zoom.us> Meeting ID: 829 7910 8836 Passcode: 011681
 One tap mobile: +19294362866,,82979108836#,,011681# US (New York)

By Phone, call: (929) 436 2866 US (New York)

AGENDA:

- Moderator to call the meeting to order, lead the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Hear the Auditor's report.
 - o Public comment
- Discuss Articles 1 & 2, the election of Town Officers.
 - o Public comment
- Discuss Article 3, when to hold Town Meeting in 2022.
 - o Public comment
- Discuss Article 4, fiscal year 2021/2022 budget.
 - o Public comment
- Discuss Article 5, what to do with the fiscal year 2019/2020 surplus.
 - o Public comment
- Discuss Article 6, tax payment schedule.
 - o Public comment
- Discuss Article 7, use of ATVs on Town roads.
 - o Public comment
- Discussion of any other non-binding business.
- Motion to adjourn.

Dated at Andover, Vermont this 25th day of January, 2021.


WARNING
TOWN OF ANDOVER
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

March 2, 2021

The legal voters of the Town of Andover, in the County of Windsor and the State of Vermont, are hereby warned and notified to meet in the Town Hall in said Town on March 2, 2021 beginning at 8:00 a.m. to transact the following business by Australian ballot:

1. To elect a Moderator for a term of one year, ending on June 30, 2022.

2. To elect the following Town Officers:

Position	Term Length	Currently Held By	Position	Term Length	Currently Held By
Select Board	3 Years	Maddy Bodin	Town Treasurer	1 Year	Jeanette Haight
Select Board	1 Year	Jed LaPrise	Tax Collector	1 Year	Jeanette Haight
Select Board	1 Year	vacant	Sexton	1 Year	Hank Mauti
Auditor	3 Years	Wendell Perkins	Cemetery Commissioner	3 Years	Robert Hale
Auditor	2 Years	vacant	First Constable	1 Year	Al Peters
Lister	3 Years	Lisa Ryan**not seeking re-election	Second Constable	1 Year	Carol Scafuro

3. Shall the voters authorize holding Andover's Annual Town Meeting on Saturday, February 26, 2022. (The Saturday prior to traditional Town Meeting Day).

4. Shall the voters authorize total fund expenditures for operating expenses of \$884,374.45, of which \$745,874.45 shall be raised by taxes and \$138,000.00 by non-tax revenue.

5. Shall the voters authorize putting half of the \$24,315.38 surplus from fiscal year 2019/20 into the Highway/Bridge Fund and half into the Capital Equipment Fund as recommended by the Select Board.