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Springfield voters approve fiscal 2022 school and town budgets

BY AMANDA WEDEGIS
The Shopper

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Town Meeting Day looked a little different across Vermont as many towns opted for virtual informational meetings and voting on budgets by Australian ballot on Tuesday.

While Springfield votes by Australian ballot every year, even the town felt the impact of the Covid-19 related virtual meeting. Town moderator Larry Kraft led the meeting from Springfield Town Hall while members of the Selectboard, School Board, and area organization representatives spoke over Zoom from their homes.

Springfield residents could participate in the meeting over Zoom or by phone. They could also watch it live on the SAPA TV channels or online stream, courtesy of Lawrence and Wheeler who underwrote the production.

An added bonus to the online meeting was the ability for presenters to share their screen so that the public could see a PowerPoint presentation for the town and school budget. While there were few moments of technical difficulties, the meeting went along seamlessly; however, there were no public comments

about either budget this year.

On Tuesday, March 2, voting took place as usual at the Riverside Middle School gymnasium. Around 1,315 Springfield residents voted, including 670 absentee ballots this year.

The voters approved Larry Kraft as town and school district moderator. Everett Hammond (739 votes) and incumbent Walter Martone (701) were voted to three-year seats on the Springfield Selectboard. Troy Palmer (642) and Stephen Karaffa (591) were reelected to three-year terms on the Springfield School Board. Several elected officer positions ran unopposed, including Suzette Chivers for a Library Trustee three-year term, Claire Trask for Library Trustee one-year term, Marc Aube for Trustee of Public Funds three-year term, Beth Gray for Cemetery Commissioner five-year term, Terry Perkins for Lister three-year term, and Paul Stagner for First Constable one-year term.

Springfield voters also voted 832 “yes” to 445 “no” for a fiscal year 2022 budget of \$12,845,413. The budget is a 0.5% increase from last year. The voters also approved an additional \$700,000 for repaving and road construction and \$100,000 for sidewalk reconstruction.

In a break from the previous two years, Springfield voted 734 to 548 to approve the fiscal 2022 Springfield School District budget of \$32,431,509 with educational spending of \$18,324 per pupil. On Monday, Troy Palmer reported that this budget was level-funded with only \$7.6 million to be raised by taxes.

The School Board also anticipates that the school district will be fully back to in-school learning in the fall. Regarding the music, art, and physical education positions that were cut to half-time, Palmer noted that the School Board would reconsider moving those positions back to full-time if or when the enrollment of those programs goes up.

Springfield also voted on and approved the creation of an operating expense reserve fund – with an initial transfer of \$400,000 from a fiscal 2020 surplus – for the School Board to use pay operating expenses that were not anticipated during budget preparation.

Articles 12 through 26 regarding appropriating funds to area social services organizations were all approved as well.

Rockingham holds hybrid Town Meeting in person and online

BY BETSY THURSTON
The Shopper

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – On Monday, March 1 the Rockingham Town Meeting was held at the Bellows Falls Opera House with limited attendance as well as virtually on Zoom. Sixty-seven residents participated via Zoom and about 20 were in attendance. The 2020-2021 Town Report was dedicated to Steve James, a resident, business owner, philanthropist of Bellows Falls since 1965.

Resident Doug McPhee had questions on Article 2, “to receive and act upon the reports of the Town Officers for the past year,” regarding Town Hall building expenses of \$91,000 and the Revolving Loan Fund. McPhee questioned whether the allotted \$45,000 in the next fiscal year was sufficient.

Municipal Manager Scott Pickup explained that outside of the capital repairs to the roof, clock, and heating and cooling systems, “the \$45,000 was a good number going forward.”

McPhee asked about outstanding loans and if they were paid back in a timely manner. Board member Peter Golec explained that he and Gaetano Putignano were on the Revolving Loan Fund Committee and with the exception of maybe one or two in litigation, all were paying on their loans.

McPhee cautioned the manager and board to watch the delinquencies, pointing out that three companies on the list had closed. He also complimented everyone on “a very good budget.”

During discussion on Article 5, regarding a fiscal year 2022 budget of \$6,021,089 with \$5,122,944 to be raised by taxes, Village President Deborah Wright said they had waited to get the full audit in the Town Report and only received a few pages that night. She was “hoping to have the entire audit here.”

Pickup explained that last year the auditors had requested updates resulting in

a large number of adjustments from previous years. He said, “It was an accounting activity that required a tremendous amount of updates.” Pickup added that the difficulties of remote auditing made the town miss the deadline for publication but explained that this “did not impact our overall financial performance.”

Trustee James McAuliffe asked, “What is the impact of this budget on the tax rate versus the previous year?” Finance Director Shannon Burbela explained that “this budget was level-funded and because our grand list increased slightly...it was a negative impact.”

Wright clarified that on Article 7, the appropriation of funds to area social service agencies, that the Bellows Falls Community Bike Project was supposed to receive \$5,000, not the posted \$2,500. Voters had approved \$5,000 at last year’s Town Meeting with the same amount to be promised going forward. Pickup agreed the actual funds were \$5,000 and that the Community Bike Project would receive that amount.

Laurel Green wanted to clarify that The Current had merged with the MOOver, and they were the ones receiving funds. She gave her support and said, “[I] look forward to being post-Covid so we can make better use of the bus system.”

McAuliffe wondered if Meeting Waters YMCA had any current activities in Bellows Falls. Development Director Gary Fox said the YMCA found a space in the Greater Rockingham Area Services Building at the health center and held after-school and summer activities.

Amy Howlett commended the Selectboard and municipal officers on the detailed Town Report and said it was “great to read what the money was used for and how many Rockingham residents benefited” and appreciated “a well-written report.”

On Article 10 regarding the vote on tax-exempt properties, McPhee asked if the town paid for the school tax on tax-exempt properties? Lister Paul Obuchowski replied that the town does absorb that tax.

Article 12 addressed whether Rockingham voters should adopt the town budget by Australian ballot, commencing with the 2022 town annual meeting. Town moderator L. Raymond Massucco clarified that due to Covid-19 the Selectboard was able to move for an Australian ballot this year specifically. This article would address future town meetings.

David Lambert commented, “If we make the vote on the town budget by Australian ballot permanently, it spells the end of Town Meeting as traditionally held in Rockingham.” He added that last year taxpayers amended the budget on the floor, but “if the budget goes to only [Australian ballot], then we won’t have an option of changing the budget... For those reasons, I will vote against that article tomorrow.”

Susan Brace agreed with Lambert. “It would seem to end town meeting as a real useful exercise in local democracy,” she said.

Jonathan Wright supported Australian ballot as it “allows more people to have the opportunity to vote on the budget.” He pointed out that average participation at the Town Meeting was about 100 people, while average numbers at the poll were closer to 700.

At the end of the meeting, board member Susan Hammond wanted to thank all previous staff who are longer employed with the town and “who dedicated many years to the town of Rockingham.”

Deborah Wright acknowledged the service of Putignano, Ben Masure, and Stefan Golec for their “due diligence on the budgets.”

On Tuesday, March 2, the majority of about 550 Rockingham voters passed all budgets as well as the Article 12 for voting by Australian ballot in 2022. On Tuesday at 7:45 p.m., new Selectboard members Bonnie North, Rick Cowan, and Elijah Zimmer were sworn in.

Selectboard meetings were set for the first Wednesday and third Tuesdays of the month at 6 p.m. with the next meeting scheduled for March 16 in the Lower Theater of the Bellows Falls Opera House.

Rockingham looks to “incremental development” for town revitalization

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – Restoring downtown buildings was identified as a top priority during last year’s Rockingham community visit, led by the Vermont Council on Rural Development. To sustain this momentum and address the need for small-scale development in downtown Bellows Falls, the town of Rockingham sought help through BDCC’s Southern Vermont Economy Project. BDCC identified the Incremental Development Alliance, which provides technical assistance to transform development plans into tangible action.

Last fall, BDCC introduced local Rockingham partners to IncDev to see how they could help the town proceed. Redevelop Bellows Falls Buildings Task Force, town of Rockingham, village of Bellows Falls, Windham Regional Commission, Bellows Falls Area Development Corporation, Great Falls Regional Chamber of Commerce, and others supported moving forward with IncDev. BDCC helped secure funding and promised staff support for outreach and meetings. Throughout this winter, IncDev has been providing technical assistance through a series of presentations, market research,

and trainings. The series began with an introductory lecture on small development, which can be viewed at www.youtube.com/watch?v=joNZwkk8Ze4.

Participants have included local volunteers and officials, as well as nonprofit leaders and property owners. More information and registration can be found at www.brattleborodevelopment.com/svep.

IncDev helps towns identify technical barriers to development, assess current real estate development opportunities, and understand the current market, and then recruit and train potential “developers” who are often just local residents with a home or business property they want to improve or expand.

IncDev is a nonprofit consulting agency whose goal is to help strengthen local communities by supporting incremental development. They advocate a pivot from the classic model of rapid, large-scale development to a locally driven model of multiple small projects, led by local actors, and executed over time. IncDev leads public trainings for anyone interested in becoming developers, the next of which is a Virtual Small Developer Boot Camp start-

ing April 20 and held over the 11-week period. You can learn more by visiting their website at www.incrementaldevelopment.org.

The work in Rockingham is just one way BDCC has continued community capacity-building and advancing local projects using virtual meetings and platforms to overcome restrictions due to the pandemic. When the arrival of Covid-19 dictated a shift in approach, SVEP pivoted to immediately focus on capacity building for communities with a slightly different bent: disaster recovery for the local and regional economies.

IncDev Technical Assistance to Rockingham was made possible through funding by local and statewide organizations. Support from BDCC’s Southern Vermont Economy Project, funded through USDA RCDI, is matched by contributions from the Vermont Council on Rural Development, Vermont Natural Resources Council, Preservation Trust of Vermont, Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, and Vermont Community Foundation.

Mary Lou Huffling honored for 40 years of volunteer service

LANGDON, N.H. – On March 6, New Hampshire State Representative for Sullivan County District 7, Judy Aron, presented a citation from Gov. Chris Sununu to Mary Lou Huffling, congratulating her on 40 years of volunteer services in her community. Huffling runs the Fall Mountain Food Shelf in Langdon, N.H. According to State Rep. Aron, “[Huffling] has worked tirelessly and lovingly to help feed our [New Hampshire] families in need... We truly are fortunate to have her and her volunteers working in our communities.”



PHOTO PROVIDED

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

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Gov. Phil Scott announces next phase of vaccine rollout

MONTPELIER, Vt. – The next phase of the state's vaccination efforts began March 8 for Vermonters with certain high-risk conditions. With additional supply coming to the state, Gov. Scott also unveiled a new track of the vaccine rollout starting this week to include school staff and childcare providers, as well as an expansion of the definition of first responders under Phase 1A.

"Our strategy since the start has been to protect those most at risk and to preserve life. We know age is a top risk factor, and we're already seeing the positive impacts of our strategy with deaths declining and decreasing case counts amongst our elderly population," said Scott. "With Johnson & Johnson receiving approval over the weekend, on top of increased supply from Moderna and Pfizer, we'll be able to scale up and move quicker to get more people vaccinated."

High-risk health conditions
People with high-risk conditions, which includes approximately 75,000 Vermonters, will

be divided into two segments: Phase 5A for Vermonters 55 years old and above with high-risk conditions are eligible to register as of March 8, and Phase 5B for Vermonters 16 and older with high-risk conditions can register beginning March 15. These groups will be able to register through the state's standard registration process once their category is opened.

In addition to previously announced high-risk conditions, this phase will also include current cancer, heart disease, pregnancy, and disabilities that involve chromosomal disorders, such as Down syndrome and those with compromised lung function. People with these conditions will not need to get documentation of these conditions to receive the vaccine. The full list of conditions can be seen at www.healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine.

Dr. Levine explained the state developed the list of conditions based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and was

refined using Vermont-specific data. "We're glad to be that much closer to protecting these Vermonters, who, as the data shows, are at higher risk for severe illness and death from Covid-19," said Dr. Levine.

School staff and child care providers

The state began offering teachers, school staff, and childcare providers the option of registering for clinics in their district. Alternatively, this group will be able to make appointments for the two-dose Pfizer or Moderna vaccine at Walgreens, which is part of the federal pharmacy

program. "As our mental health data shows, our kids are not doing well and there have been serious public health impacts due to the limitations of hybrid and remote learning," said Scott. "We know getting our kids back in school for in-person instruction five days a week is essential, and this is a step forward on that goal."

Vaccination progress

These announcements come as Vermont surpassed the milestone of 100,000 people receiving at least their first dose. State officials also welcomed the upcoming introduction of the new-

ly approved Johnson & Johnson vaccine into the state's vaccine supply.

"This third vaccine will be a game-changer," said Dr. Levine. "It means more of us can get vaccinated more quickly – our pathway out of this pandemic."

The Johnson & Johnson vaccine is rated as highly effective at preventing serious illness, as are the two vaccines we already have. It's a single shot that can be kept in normal refrigeration, which makes it easier to distribute and administer. Data for this vaccine showed 100% protection against hospitalization, ICU ad-

mission, and death. "This is the protection that matters most," Dr. Levine said.

For information about getting vaccinated and to register for an appointment if eligible, visit www.healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine.

Anyone who is unable to make their appointment online, needs help, or who wants to speak with someone in a language other than English can call 855-722-7878. The call center is open Monday through Friday, from 8:15 a.m.-5:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Siberian Husky sled dogs visit Kurn Hattin

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – The practice of using dogs to pull sleds with loads dates back to early history. The Kurn Hat-

tin children learned about this practice and sport first-hand when Rob Farley of October Siberians, a Vermont sled dog



Children enjoying their time with a Siberian Husky. PHOTO PROVIDED

team and Siberian Husky kennel, visited campus. After a presentation on the history, the dogs, running a kennel, and a demonstration of the equipment, the children enjoyed meeting the beautiful and friendly dogs. The children's joy



Children taking a turn on the dog sled.

PHOTO PROVIDED

in this experience was clearly evident in the smiles on their faces. Thank you to Terry and Marya Holcombe of Walpole,

N.H. for sponsoring this great opportunity for the children.

Follow their journey: www.kurnhattin.org.

Springfield Family Center Community Connection Hours

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, Springfield Family Center has had to shut down its indoor services to comply with social distancing regulations. A big part of what makes Springfield Family Center so special

is its role in the community as a place for people to gather and chat over a meal. We are trying out new ways to connect to the community and make spaces to meet, catch up, and participate in activities together through a variety of virtual events through Zoom called Community Connection Hours.

These events will range from recipe swaps, open mic nights, Springfield trivia events, arts and crafts workshops, morning coffee hours, and more. We hope these events will fill some of the social time that may be missing from your daily routine as the pandemic continues on. If you have an idea for a Community Connection event theme, or have an interest in hosting an event yourself, please reach out to us. We are happy to work to meet the needs and interests of the community as best as we can.

On Monday, March 15 at 10 a.m., join us for Coffee Hour. Make yourself a warm beverage and join us on Zoom for an hour of chatting and meeting new community members. Since this is our first event, we will hold a roundtable discussion about what future programs might look like.

On Wednesday, March 24 at 2 p.m., join us for a Recipe Swap. Bring your favorite recipes to share, and learn some new ones in exchange. This is a fun way to get new ideas for mixing up dinners, desserts, and snacks, while getting to know each other.

Check Springfield Family Center's website, www.springfieldfamilycenter.com, for more event updates.

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• Contracts must be signed before 5/1/21 and to be accompanied with a \$1,750.00 deposit. The deposit is fully refundable in the event the project does not go forward.
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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

Firemen's parades

A short chapter in our upcoming book, "History of Chester's Fire Departments," will cover firemen's parades in Chester in the early 1900s. We have a few photos of both Yosemite firemen and the School Street firemen participating in these parades. I will include photos we have as well as the histories you see here, along with entries from our Yosemite ledger. You can see the parades were a full day and evening of entertainment. I wish I could have been there. They must have been fun.

Sept. 22, 1905

"The concert and ball by the firemen next week Friday evening, September 29, will be held in the town hall, and the supper served in Rhoades dining room. Watch for large posters.

"Friday, Sept. 29, is the date for the firemen's annual parade, field day and ball, and the committees are working hard to make the occasion worthy a good attendance. The boys have set the day earlier this year in order to have the weather more comfortable than usual. Watch for big posters giving full particulars."

Oct. 6, 1905, Firemen's Day

"The program for the firemen's day last week Friday was carried out in one of the most pleasant days of the season, and the usual good crowd got together soon after noon to witness the sports. First came the peg race, with five entries. First money was awarded to Duffy Spencer, second, second to A.T. Fish and third to John Young.

"The bike race was won by Sidney Farnsworth, first, Harold Ainley, second, and Lewis Richardson, third. The tug of war was between Chester and Andover, ten men per side, and was won by Andover.

"Then came the baseball game between Springfield and Chester, which was

won by Springfield. Two prizes were offered, \$20 to the winner and \$10 to the losers. The game was the worst played of any one of the past and any of the past season, owing to the absence of three of Chester's best men.

"In the evening the concert by the Chester orchestra and other local talent was given to a large house at the town hall, following by the ball, which was attended by about 80 couples. Saxtons River cornet band furnished music during the day.

"At noon a dinner was served to the firemen and band, being contributed by the village people."

Sept. 15, 1906

"The annual field day of the Chester fire department will be Sept. 21, watch for posters."

Sept. 22, 1906

"The Firemen will have their sixteenth annual parade and inspection this Friday. The Grafton band will furnish music for the parade which Mr. Wooley will marshal. There will be a ball game in the afternoon between the fire companies, and ball with music by the Chester orchestra of seven pieces. H. M. Weeden, prompter. A turkey supper will be served in Thomas Storm's restaurant."

Sept. 29, 1906

"The Firemen had an unusually beautiful day Friday for their parade, and everything passed off successfully. The parade started at nine o'clock with the Grafton Cornet band at the head. Grafton Company Aid No. 1 showed up with most of its members and with the steamer and hose cart; Yosemite company made a good showing, and the sound of the bell on the old hand engine brought to the



School Street steam-pumper, circa 1907, in front of what is now Sarah Vail's office in Chester.

PHOTO PROVIDED

mind the days when our village was not guarded by the water power system, of which we are now so proud, nor did our town own the steamer that has stopped so many fire for us. This little engine when needed and responded with all its might.

"The ball game which took place in the afternoon between the two companies, was certainly excited and during the past baseball season there has not been such a good attendance nor so much noise and enthusiasm. Beard and Richardson were the battery from South Street, with Farr and Phelps for Depot Street. It looked during the first half of the game that South Street was being done brown, but they turned the tables in the seventh inning and won out by a score of 15-13. The Chester orchestra gave an hour's concert at 8 o'clock and made a decided hit with the music they furnished for the dance afterward. Several of the number were demanded the third time. The march was led by Mr. and Mrs. L.A. Carpenter. A turkey supper was served by Thomas Storms in his restaurant."

This week's old saying is from Henry: "You'll be old a lot longer than you'll be young."

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An evening with Carolyn Finney

GRAFTON, Vt. - Join The Nature Museum Thursday, March 18 at 7 p.m. for "An Evening with Carolyn Finney," the third program in their online Speaking of Nature series. Carolyn Finney, author, storyteller, professor of cultural geography, and former member of the U.S. National Parks Advisory Board, will be discussing her work on the relationship of diverse communities in environmental and nature-based organizations.

In her book "Black Faces, White Spaces: Reimagining the Relationship of African Ameri-

cans to the Great Outdoors," Finney urges us to develop greater cultural competency within environmental organizations. She looks beyond the discourse of the environmental justice movement to examine how the natural environment has been understood, commodified, and represented by both White and Black Americans. Finney examines the many forces that have affected cultural understandings of the "great outdoors" and how these determine who should and can have access to natural spaces.

Drawing on a variety of sources from film, literature, and popular culture, and analyzing different historical moments, Finney, a dynamic storyteller, reveals the perceived and real ways in which nature and the environment are racialized in America. Looking toward the future, she also highlights the work of African Americans who are opening doors to greater participation in environmental and conservation concerns.

Learn more by visiting www.nature-museum.org. Tickets for this program are on a sliding scale.

Ultimate Presentation for Red Sox Nation

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - On Thursday, March 18 at 6 p.m., join the Springfield Town Library for an online presentation of "The Ultimate Presentation for Red Sox Nation" with author Martin "Marty" Gitlin.

Take a fun and enlightening journey through Boston Red Sox history with the author of the "Ultimate Boston Red Sox Time Machine Book." This presentation features videos and

photographs of the greatest and most fascinating players, teams, events, and moments in franchise history.

The program also includes trivia questions for patrons to ponder and covers Sox history from the Royal Rooters, who launched Red Sox Nation, all the way to the four World Series championships and beyond. It will conclude with a question-and-answer period. Marty will

have autographed and personalized copies of his book available online following the program.

This event is free and open to the public. Contact Tracey at stlvtprograms@gmail.com or 802-885-3108 with any questions. Signup is required at www.eventbrite.com/e/the-ultimate-presentation-for-red-sox-nation-tickets-128012981273.

The town of Springfield is sponsoring this event.

An introduction to Grace Farm

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - An introduction to Grace Farm and its new CSA program will be held over Rockingham Library Zoom Thursday, March 18 at 7 p.m. In early 2019, Grace Mooney purchased her home and four acres of land in Athens, Vt. In 2020, she tilled up about half an acre of her backyard and installed a 50-by-14-foot caterpillar tunnel to help with season extension and summer tomatoes and peppers. She's currently building the infrastructure for a small livestock operation with pastured pigs, meat chickens, and laying chickens.

"2021 will be my first year of running my own farm, and I can't wait to work with my neighbors and friends to provide food for my amazing community," says farmer Grace Mooney. This Rockingham Library program is the perfect opportunity

to learn more about Community Supported Agriculture, the bio-intensive low till method of vegetable farming, and a young woman's passion for feeding her community.

This program is part of a series, "Resilient Communities: Libraries Respond to Climate Change," at Rockingham Library, sponsored by a grant from the American Library As-

sociation.

To receive an invitation to this Zoom discussion, email programming@rockinghamlibrary.org or call the library at 802-463-4270. Leave your phone number and email address. For those who do not have a computer, there is an alternative method of joining Zoom through a phone call. Please note that there might be a phone charge for this.

St. Patrick's Day Bake Sale

LUDLOW, Vt. - On Saturday, March 13, from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sunday, March 14, from 9 a.m.-12 p.m., The Church of Annunciation will be hosting a St. Patrick's Day bake sale. Come visit us at 7 Depot St. in Ludlow for Irish soda breads, teacakes, cookies, scones, and more. For more information, call 802-228-3286.



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opinion

COMMUNITY NEWS/OBITUARIES

Dear Editor,

I want to express my deepest appreciation to everyone who participated in Rockingham's Town Selectboard elections. It's been such a rough year on all of us. Pandemic fears and restrictions made voting in our town elections especially challenging – not to mention the brutal weather!

Nonetheless, the total vote wasn't a great deal lower than last year. I know all five of us on the

board this coming year will strive together to do our best to create the brightest possible future for Rockingham. Thank you again to everyone. To all those who gave their vote to me, thank you so much for your support.

Sincerely,
Bonnie North,
Rockingham Selectboard

Dear Editor,

We would like to thank the voters of Athens. This year was much different not having town meeting in person; but having Australian ballots instead, it did give a voice to all the voters that wanted to vote. We very much appreciate all of

your support. Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Road Commissioner Matt Perry
Selectboard member Janet Perry

Dear Editor,

The Chester Rod and Gun Club would like to thank the residents of Chester for voting to maintain tax exemption for our club so that we can continue to provide services to our community members.

The Chester Rod and Gun Club is a nonprofit organization, run by a board of volunteers. We have spent over a century teaching generations of Vermonters to enjoy the outdoors while hunting and fishing safely and respectfully. There are so many things that make Vermont and this community special, including our commitment to keeping the land open and productive, making sure streams and rivers are kept clean, and preserving our traditions of respecting and enjoying where we live.

Each year, the Chester Rod and Gun Club provides two or more scholarships to the Green Mountain Conservation Camp. For over 50 years, this program has been teaching our youth about forestry, ecology, botany, wildlife management, and outdoor skills. We also sponsor an annual youth fishing

derby at the Chester Reservoir that introduces and rewards our children to the virtues of patience and perseverance while enjoying a day outside.

In addition, the Chester Rod and Gun Club holds one of the longest standing safety records while teaching youth programs, classes for women, maintaining rifle and pistol ranges, and holding weekly skeet and trap sessions. The ranges are provided free of charge for training of law enforcement officers, and for our women and men in the military. In addition, we open the use of the ranges free to the residents of Chester from the third Saturday in October to the end of the calendar year.

We want to express our gratitude to our community for continuing to help us make these services possible.

Sincerely,
Troy Rietta
Chester Rod and Gun Club president

Louise Schiffmacher, 1931-2021

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – Louise Schiffmacher passed away Feb. 9, 2021 at Elmwood Center in Claremont, N.H., after a period of declining health. She was born July 9, 1931, in Monsey, N.Y., to Clarence and Florence (Vanderbeek) Blauvelt. Louise was married to the late Robert "Bob" Pelton for 25 years. They were parents of three children, Susan Goding (Chris), Donald Pelton (Donna), and Ellen Pelton. She later married Richard T. Schiffmacher, who passed away Aug. 20, 2006, and was buried in the Pinecrest Cemetery in Charlestown, N.H., where Louise will be buried also. They had 23 years to-

gether.

She is survived by her three children, six grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. Louise was employed by Springfield Hospital for 14 years, then Sunapee Real Estate, and her last employment was with Sullivan County Developmental Services. She was a longtime member of the Living Hope Fellowship in Rockingham, Vt., Charlestown, N.H. Senior Citizens, and the Red Hats. Her hobbies were oil painting, sewing, and adult coloring.

Arrangements are private. Fenton & Hennessey, 55 Westminster St., Bellows Falls, Vt., will be assisting.

Stuart M. Savel, 2021

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. – Stuart Mark Savel of Brattleboro died peacefully March 1, 2021 at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, N.H., following unexpected complications from an elective heart catheterization. He was 72 years old.

Stuart was born in Newark, N.J., the son of Murray and Selma Savel, whom he dearly loved. Stuart and his younger sisters Caroline and Nancy grew up surrounded by a large, loving, extended Jewish family and community. Not particularly religious, Stuart remained a strong supporter of Judaism, Jewish history, philosophy, and culture his entire life.

He wasn't a big fan of formal schooling, but Stuart was a natural-born learner and teacher. He taught himself photography, automotive repair, chess, math, and science while growing up. He graduated from Columbia High School in South Orange, N.J. in 1967. He was an early student and teacher of computer science and technology. His first computer was from Radio Shack, and he pressed its buttons with the eraser end of a pencil. He skillfully and lovingly taught his daughter and grandchildren mathematics along with many, many life lessons.

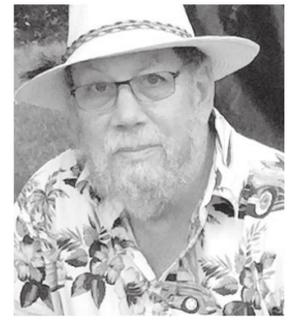
Stuart attended the University of Wisconsin, the University of Massachusetts, and the New School in New York. He was a draft resister and peace activist and moved to Vermont after being indicted for draft evasion in Newark in 1968. He was thankful to the Vermonters serving on the draft boards of Putney and Westminster who let the draft die and left resisters alone. He graduated from Windham College in 1972 and taught philosophy there for semester or two.

Not wanting to "Jersey" Vermont, Stuart joined the back to the land movement. He remembered seeing other "long-hairs" across the Square in Bellows Falls and crossing the street to meet some local hippies thereby joining a lifelong community of like-minded friends and folks across southern Vermont. Stuart loved smoking marijuana. Stuart taught himself woodworking, furniture making, post-and-beam construction, and design. After injuring his back in vehicle accidents, he got a certificate in design from Harvard and attended Boston Architectural Center. He worked as an architectural designer for more than 20 years.

Introduced by mutual friends, he met soul mate and best friend Jean Anne Kiewel in 1976. After meeting, they rarely spent a night apart and were married for 42 years. Stuart was Jean's business, as well as life, partner. He enthusiastically supported and encouraged her law practice, especially her work against domestic and sexual violence and poverty, as well as legal work for friends and community.

Stuart found a special location in the woods of Chester, Vt., and built Jean and their daughter Ilana a magical craft mahogany and oak post-and-beam home with Gaudi-inspired braces and beams whimsically hand-carved by a friend. Stuart worked from his woodshop and art gallery on the green in Chester, and then his home office in Chester while being Ilana's after school caregiver. Loving Jean, and loving and parenting Ilana, and loving, teaching and helping raise their grandchildren, Abram and Lilian, were Stuart's greatest joys.

Stuart was a best friend to Ilana, son-in-law Amos, Abram and Lilian, too. Though often grandiose and sometimes stubborn, at his core he was calm and wise, a peacemaker and mediator. He is described as generous, humble, and highly intelligent in the tributes coming to the family. Many members of his family and community sought his support and counsel on a wide variety of subjects. He had a mischievous sense of humor. He was known for his joyful, infectious laugh. Stuart and Jean participated in a peaceful, loving, and supportive quarantine with each other and treasured their special time together. Stuart hugely



Stuart M. Savel, 2021.
PHOTO PROVIDED

loved the parties and gatherings at the family home and was looking forward to being vaccinated so he could resume regular potlucks, parties, family dinners, and music festival attendance with his family and community. Jean nurtured him into becoming a music fan. He was especially that when the family and friends played the music. He loved kayaking, camping, skiing, and traveling with Jean and the family. His restored vintage Volkswagen camper was his pride and joy. He learned how to, and then taught, Ilana and a number of her classmates at Chester-Andover Elementary School, to downhill and cross-country ski while volunteering for the school ski program. He was looking forward to completing his heart rehabilitation so he could more fully participate in those activities again.

Stuart lived with severe back pain for many years and rarely complained. His therapy was smoking marijuana. After receiving his Parkinson's diagnosis in 2011, Stuart delved into learning about cannabis as medicine. Drawing from many sources, including a whole new community that he grew to love, he trained himself in optimal growing techniques as well as the best strains and applications for targeting and controlling his symptoms. His doctors were surprised at and supportive of his success. He became an expert artisanal breeder and grower and freely shared his knowledge and plants to help others. Stuart was a leader of the homegrown cannabis for pleasure, as well as medicine, movement. Stuart was very proud of his and Vermonters' recent legacy of legalization of our right to grow our own cannabis.

Stuart was recovering from Trump exhaustion at the time of his death. He followed politics avidly and had strong progressive opinions. Inspired first and foremost by his mother, then many other strong women in his life, Stuart was a feminist. He was thrilled when women were elected leaders of the Vermont Legislature and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez took leadership in the Texas freeze disaster recently. He predicted and hoped AOC is headed for the White House.

Stuart is survived by Jean Anne Kiewel, his wife; Ilana Jean Newton, his daughter; Amos Newton, his son-in-law whom he loved as a son; Abram Newton, his grandson; Lilian Newton, his granddaughter; Nancy Savel and Caroline Ehrlich, his sisters; Estelle Wasserman, his maternal aunt; D. Jean Kiewel, his mother-in-law; Donald Perlstein, Edward Kiewel, and James Kiewel, his brothers-in-law; Kim Ehrlich, Cortney Kiewel, Erin Kiewel, and Kirsty Fugat, his nieces; Sean Ehrlich, Benjamin Perlstein, Elliot Cook, and Mark Monahan, his nephews; Mollie Cook and Violet Cook, his grandnieces; many cousins; the extended Newton family; numerous close friends; his former home in Chester, several beautiful homes and buildings, furniture, and cabinetry around southern Vermont and beyond.

Jean and the family are forever grateful for the world-class respectful care provided by Stuart's medical team and the staff at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center recently and over the years. Burial will be at the convenience of the family. A celebration of Stuart's life and party will be held for Stuart's community when the weather permits and Covid eases. Donations in Stuart's honor and memory may be made to the Bread and Puppet Theater.

AAUW offers scholarships

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. – The Brattleboro Branch of the American Association of University Women is again offering scholarships of up to \$1,000 each to qualified female candidates who are residents of Windham County. This year's scholarships will honor Sylvia (Hunter) Eaton and Dorothy Birge Keller, recently deceased AAUW Brattleboro members.

Both graduating high school seniors from area high schools, preparatory schools, or home schools and women continuing their higher education are eligible to apply. Applications will be judged on academic performance, community involvement, and financial need.

The applicant must be accepted or enrolled as an undergraduate student in a one-year certificate or two- or four-year accredited

college degree program for 2021-2022. Applicants must have been legal residents of Windham County for a minimum of two years.

Guidance counselors in area high schools have posters and application forms. They can also be obtained from area college financial aid offices or by contacting the AAUW scholarship committee at 802-490-2310.

Applications must be postmarked by Monday, March 22 and can be sent to AAUW Scholarship Committee, c/o Melanie Crosby, 41 Harmony Place Dr, Brattleboro, VT 05301.

Now in its 94th year, the Brattleboro branch is part of a national organization that advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

NEFCU 2021 STEM scholarships

REGION – New England Federal Credit Union is accepting applications for its 2021 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics scholarships. Three scholarships of \$3,000 each will be awarded.

To be eligible for NEFCU STEM scholarships, applicants must be New England Federal Credit Union members. In addition to NEFCU membership, applicants must be pursuing one of these fields of study: biological sciences, physical sciences, mathematical sciences, computer and information sciences, geosciences, engineering, technology areas associated with the preceding fields of study.

Scholarships will be awarded to applicants who best demonstrate commitments to their fields of study. Application forms will be

available online at www.nefcu.com, at any branch, or by calling 802-879-8790. Completed applications must be postmarked no later than April 30, 2021. The mailing address is Scholarship Committee, NEFCU, P.O. Box 527, Williston, VT 05495.

New England Federal Credit Union, headquartered in Williston, Vt., is a member-owned financial institution serving communities in 12 counties of Vermont: Addison, Bennington, Caledonia, Chittenden, Franklin, Grand Isle, Lamoille, Orange, Rutland, Washington, Windham, and Windsor; and four counties in New Hampshire: Cheshire, Grafton, Merrimack, and Sullivan. For more information about membership requirements and benefits, visit www.nefcu.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Subject to space. Must be kept under 400 words. Must include name and town for publication.

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The Take a Break games will be back next week!

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obituaries

Shirley R. Koledo, 1928-2021

BOSCAWEN, N.H. – Shirley R. Koledo, 92, passed away Wednesday evening, March 3, 2021 in Boscawen, N.H., where she had resided the past 20 years.

She was born Dec. 9, 1928 in Springfield, Vt., the daughter of Harold and Eva (Fowler) Ross. She attended Springfield schools and graduated from Springfield High School in 1946. On Nov. 5, 1949, she married John Koledo in Springfield. Sadly, he passed away Sept. 22, 1997 after 48 years of marriage.

Shirley was a bookkeeper at the former First National Bank in Springfield, Vt. She had also worked at Johnson & Dix Fuel Corporation and the former Bruce's Furniture in Springfield, Vt. She loved baking, knitting, bird watching, and spending time with her grandchildren. She was a volunteer at Springfield Hospital and later at Concord Hospital in Concord, N.H.



Shirley R. Koledo, 1928-2021.
PHOTO PROVIDED

She is survived by her daughter Cheryl Saltmarsh and her husband Craig of Boscawen, N.H.; her grandchildren Carter, Cole, and Charlie Saltmarsh; and several nieces and nephews.

A private graveside service will be held in the spring in Oakland Cemetery in Springfield. Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt., is assisting with arrangements.

Norma J. Lasonde, 1938-2021

N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Norma Jean (Patch) Lasonde, 82, of North Springfield, Vt., passed away peacefully Feb. 26, 2021 after a battle with Parkinson's disease.

Norma was born Aug. 11, 1938, to Arnold and June (Emery) Patch of Springfield, Vt. In high school, she had a horse she loved to ride and worked summers at a farm. After graduating from Chester High School in 1956, she attended Mount Ida College where she studied journalism.

Norma worked at the Vermont National Bank in Bellows Falls, Vt., where she had a long career in banking. She began as a bank teller and rose to branch manager during her many years at the Vermont National Bank.

Norma married Louis Lasonde in 1959 and had a daughter, Luann. Norma and Louis called Bellows Falls home until they retired and moved to Saxtons River, Vt., to enjoy their golden years together.

Norma had many interests. She

loved animals, gardening, local history, reading, music, braiding rugs, cross stitch, collecting Bellows Falls memorabilia, and bird watching. She was a longtime member of the Friends of the Rockingham Free Public Library and a supporter of the SPCA and Humane Society. She enjoyed visiting the Jenne Farm in Reading, Vt., and trips to Newport, R.I., with friends and family.

Norma was predeceased by her parents, her husband, and her nephew Kevin Patch. She is survived by her sisters Cheryl Patch and Amber Patch-Drotar; Amber's sons Sean, Paul, and Evan Vidulich; her brother Brian Patch and his son Jeffrey Patch; her brother Ronald Patch and his son Sean Patch and daughter Carrie Patch Jewell; her daughter Luann Preddy, son-in-law Joe Preddy; and grandchildren Jake Preddy and Lauren Preddy.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Humane Society in memory of Norma.

Samuel K. Nocerino, 1949-2021

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – Samuel Kirk Nocerino, 71, died Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at the Jack Byrne Center at DHMC in Lebanon, N.H. Sam was born June 2, 1949, in Queens, N.Y., a son of John and Jane (Fountain) Nocerino. He grew up in Stamford, Conn. and graduated from Stamford High School, Class of 1967.

Sam honorably served his country during the Vietnam War as a cook in the Army. During this time, his love for cooking grew. He used his knowledge of the kitchen and worked in many capacities in the hospitality business working at various institutions over the years. Sam was married to Linda Dalzell in 2003 in Woodbridge, Conn. They later moved to Proctorsville where he worked at Shaw's in the delicatessen before retiring. After Linda retired in 2016, they bought a recreational vehicle and traveled across the United States.

Sam loved to cook and was

known to his friends as the Italian chef. He was a proud member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and Up with People. He was a devout fan of the New York Mets.

He is survived by his beloved wife Linda; two sons Samuel Nocerino and his wife Illeana of Florida and John Nocerino of Detroit, Mich.; a brother Ernest Nocerino of Stafford Springs, Conn.; and three stepchildren Janet Domenico of Raleigh, N.C., Gary Stevens of Wendell, N.C., and Alexandra Hudson of Las Vegas, Nev.

Knight Funeral Home in Windsor assisted with arrangements. Condolences may be expressed to Sam's family in an online guestbook at www.knightfuneralhomes.com.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Cardio Vascular Critical Care Unit, Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, NH 03756.

Gloria J. Snide, 1951-2021

CHESTER, Vt. – Gloria J. Snide, 69, passed away at her home Monday morning, March 1, 2021 surrounded by her loving family. She was born Oct. 6, 1951 in Springfield, Vt., the daughter of Alice Westover. She attended Springfield schools and graduated from Springfield High School.

On Jan. 14, 1978, Gloria married Gordon C. Snide Jr. in Springfield, Vt. Gloria was employed as a nurse's aide at the Springfield Health & Rehab Center in Springfield, Vt., for over 20 years, retiring in 2010.

She enjoyed gardening, having a large garden, and selling vegetables with her husband. She also enjoyed mowing the lawn with the riding mower, reading, and doing puzzles.

She is survived by her husband Gordon of Chester, daughter Ann Marie Nadeau of Springfield, two grandchildren Damian and Maria, and by many nieces, nephews, and cousins, and one sister by choice Janet Colbert.



Gloria J. Snide, 1951-2021.
PHOTO PROVIDED

A graveside service will be held in the spring at the North Street Cemetery in Chester, Vt., and will be announced at that time. Memorial contributions may be made to American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22478, Oklahoma City, OK 73123 or at www.cancer.org.

Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt., is assisting with arrangements.

Angus R. Johnson, 1959-2021

SHARON, Vt. – Angus "Gus" Roy Johnson, 61, of Sharon, Vt. passed away Feb. 22, 2021 after a four-year battle with multiple myeloma. Angus was born Dec. 16, 1959 in Springfield, Vt. He spent his early years in Vermont until his mother, Katherine Johnson, and his siblings Duncan and Jenny moved to Rockport, Mass. Angus moved back to Vermont in his later teen years. He lived with the Moore's in Sharon, Vt. and later became a live-in property caretaker for many years in Sharon.

Angus worked many jobs and explored many places throughout his life. In the mid-1970s to the early '80s, he spent time hitchhiking and exploring California, Canada, Utah, and Wyoming.

In the mid-'80s, Angus was a warehouseman for P&C Foods in White River Junction, Vt. He later moved to Florida where he worked for a tropical fish company. Upon his return to the Upper Valley, Angus met with his good friend, Pete Lecuyer, who helped find him a job with C&S Wholesale Grocers and later a job at White River Paper, now Swish White River.

Angus was well known to many people of differing social circles. His friendly and outgoing nature, along with his quick-witted sayings and a genuine heart of gold and concern for others, endeared him to many. Angus's love of travel blended with his duties as truck driver's assistant and guide, where he would meet and greet people throughout New England and upstate New York. His generosity was well known, and Angus was noted for bringing gifts and sharing whatever he might have with others.

Angus never owned a television or computer; instead his interests were rooted in the natural world that were instilled in him from his father, Donald Johnson. Like his father, Angus was a voracious reader. He was a self-taught naturalist with an encyclopedic knowledge of nature. He loved exploring the woodlands and mountains of Vermont. He was an expert at identifying flora and fauna. Angus spent many hours with his nephews teaching them the wonders of the outdoors. He also kept tropical fish for many years until the later stages of his illness.

Angus was quite adept at iden-



Angus R. Johnson, 1959-2021.
PHOTO PROVIDED

tifying and collecting marbles and local antique bottles. He also had amassed an impressive stone collection from all his many walks including heart-shaped stones and a very unique "beating" heart stone.

Angus is survived by his brother Duncan Johnson of Bellows Falls, Vt., sister Jenny Upham (Brad) and nephews Davious and John of East Lansing, Mich., sister Holly Moore (Blaine) of Sharon, Vt. and nephews Jason and Shane Moore, sister Beth Thompson of East Corinth, Vt. and nephews Ricky and Roy Thompson (Beverly) of South Jordan, Utah, and nephews Todd and Trevor Johnson, and brother Ian Johnson, three great-nieces (Evelyn Johnson, Sienna Moore, and Molly Thompson), three great-nephews (Kaden Moore, Hunter Thompson, and Jake Thompson), as well as many good friends including his friend for decades Chris Gramling (partner Diane Laware) of Sharon, Vt. He was predeceased by his mother Katherine Ray Johnson and his father Donald Douglas Johnson.

A funeral is planned for late spring. Please check the Boardway & Cilley Funeral Home in Chelsea, Vt. website for details, www.boardwayandcilley.com. A private message of sympathy for the family can be shared at www.boardwayandcilley.com.

The family is especially grateful for the excellent hospice care provided by Barbara and Peter Lecuyer at their home in White River Junction, Vt. The Lecuyers allowed Angus to live out his last months on earth in a warm and inviting atmosphere with plenty of opportunities to meet with family and his good friends.

James R. Perry Sr., 1943-2021

CHESTER, Vt. – James "Jim" Robert Perry Sr., 77, of Chester, died Feb. 6, 2021 after a brief battle with cancer. He was born March 26, 1943 in Glens Falls, N.Y., but lived in Chester, Vt. for most of his life and considered it his home.

Jim was an honest, hardworking, and dedicated family man. You could always count on him to lend a hand and were blessed if he called you "friend" or considered you to be family.

He could be seen rolling through the streets of Chester, making the roads safe during his tenure with the Highway Department. He also dedicated years to the Chester Water Treatment Plant. When enjoying free time, he loved roaming the hills and valleys looking for deer or a good fishing spot, brewing his own beer, and working around his home while bird watching. He was very creative – there wasn't anything he couldn't fabricate to get a project done. His talents were many, and days with us were too few. To say he will be missed is an understatement beyond measure.

He is survived by his beloved wife Paula (Crowson); children Angela Rickert, James R. Perry Jr.



James R. Perry Sr., 1943-2021.
PHOTO PROVIDED

(Laurie), Janet Nelson, and Keri Damone (James); as well as his sister Jean Douglas and half-brother Leon Parker. His loving grandchildren include Zachary Stebbins (Shaena), Megan Rowe (Dalton), Casey Stratton (Jacob), James R. Perry III, Brandon Perry, Jenna Nelson, Jordyn Nelson, James Damone, and Hannah Damone as well as many great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

Jim was predeceased by his mother Grace (Litts) and her husband Fred (Parker).

No services are planned at this time.

Adeline F. Barker, 1938-2021

S. LONDONDERRY, Vt. – Adeline Flora Barker, formerly of Smith Haven Lane, died peacefully Saturday, Feb. 20, 2021, at the Gill Home in Ludlow. She was born July 17, 1938 in Oneida, N.Y., the youngest daughter of Ralph and Ruth (Rowley) Soper. Her father was a Seventh Day Baptist minister and moved the family to Arkansas when Addy was a child.

While Addy was attending nursing school in Little Rock, she met the love of her life, Richard Barker from Londonderry, who was in the Air Force. They were married Feb. 15, 1959. After Dick's tour in Marquette, Mich., they and their daughter, Andrea, returned to Londonderry.

Addy was the first employee (receptionist) of Mountain Valley Medical Clinic, retiring 31 years later in 2006 as office manager. She was a member of the Eastern Star (Jamaica Order) and Londonderry Volunteer Rescue Squad. She was very active with her church family from the First Baptist Church in South Londonderry and had been their beloved organist.

Adeline is survived by her two daughters, Andrea Foster of Hardwick, Vt. and Tammy Sisson of Missouri; two brothers, Harley



Adeline F. Barker, 1938-2021.
PHOTO PROVIDED

Soper of Beaumont, Texas and Herbert Soper of Winston-Salem, N.C.; five grandchildren, Arianna Dawley Anton, Nicole Foster, Allison Foster, Collin Moulton, and George Moulton; and three great-grandchildren, Madelyn and Riley Anton, and Azailya L'Esperance; sister-in-law Betty Barker; and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband and six siblings.

There will be a celebration of life at a later date. The Fenton & Hennessey Funeral Home, 55 Westminster St., Bellows Falls, Vt., is assisting with the arrangements. The family would like to thank all who cared for Addy.

Richard A. Neilsen Sr., 1934-2021

WALPOLE, N.H. – Richard A. "Dick" Neilsen Sr., 86, of Keene, N.H. and a former well-known longtime resident of the Walpole, N.H. community, passed away Saturday, Feb. 27, 2021 at the Pheasant Wood Care Center in Peterborough, N.H.

His parents, Annette (Gosselin) and Laurence M. Neilsen Sr., welcomed their son into the world Dec. 30, 1934, in Springfield, Vt. Dick grew up in Springfield and was a graduate of Springfield High School.

He proudly served his country in the United States Marine Corp.

Dick attended Keene Teachers College and went on to earn his Master in Education from the University of New Hampshire. He spent his professional career in the education system, starting as a teacher in Hinsdale, N.H., before becoming a successful and well-respected principal at the Villas School in Alstead, N.H.

An active member of his community serving others in need, Richard was a longtime member of the Walpole Lions Club. A man of great faith, Richard was a parishioner at St. Joseph Parish in Walpole, serving as Eucharistic minister and lecture at the Sunday masses.

Having a wonderful voice, Richard was a longtime member of the Cheshiremen Barbershop Chorus in Keene, providing enjoyment to many as a member of the chorus as well as several quartets.

He enjoyed tennis and golfing, and was a member of the Hooper Golf Club in Walpole. Well-known as an antique car enthusiast, Richard could be seen driving around town in his classic 1966 Mustang, participating in many of the local parades and events. In his earlier years, he was a coach with the Walpole Baseball Little League. He also taught driver's education and was never hesitant to offer loving criticism to his own children's driving skills long after they had their driver's license.

Another one of Dick's passions was traveling. He and his wife, Jane, took many cruises, trips



Richard A. Neilsen Sr., 1934-2021.
PHOTO PROVIDED

around the U.S. and around the world. Many of their vacations were to attend Barbershop Chorus conventions and competitions.

He will be greatly missed by many in his community; however more so by his beloved family: his children Richard A. Neilsen Jr. and his wife Mellony of Leland, N.C., Jason E. Neilsen and his wife Diane of Marlborough, N.H., Kristin M. Boule and her husband John of Penacook, N.H., Peter C. Neilsen and his partner Bonnie Sargent of Penacook; his grandchildren Ian, Jason, Catie, Aiden, Lizzy, Emalie, Lexi; his great-grandchildren Reynald IV, Mila, Kingsley; and many nieces, nephews, and extended family members including the LeDrew and Neilsen families in Charlestown, N.H. Richard was predeceased by his wife of 45 years, Jane I. (Gonyou) Neilsen, May 4, 2007; two brothers Laurence M. Neilsen Jr. and Alfred "Skip" Neilsen; and a sister Jean LeDrew.

A mass of Christian burial was celebrated Friday, March 5, 2021 in St. Peter's Church in North Walpole, N.H. Burial followed in St. Peter's Cemetery in Drewsville, N.H. In lieu of flowers, for those who wish, donations may be made in Mr. Neilsen's memory to the National Barbershop Harmony Society, 110 7th Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37203, or by going online to www.barbershop.org.

To offer online condolences to the family or to share special memories, please visit www.fletcherfuneralhome.com.

OBITUARIES:

A basic 200-word obituary is \$50, and \$0.20 per word thereafter. A black and white photo is an additional \$10. Email to editor@vermontjournal.com by Monday at 12 p.m.

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Londonderry, VT

calendar

LEGAL NOTICES/HELP WANTED

Chester-Andover Elementary School KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Chester-Andover Elementary School has begun the process of registration for children who will be eligible for Kindergarten for the 2021/2022 school year. Children must be 5 years old on or before August 31, 2021.

Please contact the school office at 875-6832 or kim.leonard@trsu.org to let us know your child will be attending.

Spring Hill Construction
Saxtons River, VT 802-376-2027

Full time Positions Available: Carpenters and Carpenters helpers

Qualifications required:
Dependable, Quality minded, Hard working,
Willingness to learn/improve skills of the trade,
Drivers license and reliable transportation

Pay and benefits commensurate with experience
Serious applicants only need apply

Please email questions, qualifications, and Resume
to kevin@springhillvt.com



Town of Westminster
P.O. BOX 147 WESTMINSTER, VT 05158
Tel. 802-722- 4524 Fax 802-722-9816

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD (DRB) WESTMINSTER TOWN HALL Westminster, Vermont Legal Notice

The Westminster Development Review Board will meet at 6:30 pm on Monday, April 5, 2021 to consider the following:

Application #21-43 (Raney Dairy Farm, LLC – Peter Shumlin (Owner & Applicant)) – property located at 200 Westminster West Road. The Applicant is requesting a Minor Subdivision to create two lots from the 161.6 acre farm. This Application will be reviewed under Section 311 Site Plan Review, and Section 447 Rural Residential District Zone; and Article VIII Subdivision of Land of the adopted 2017 Zoning Bylaws.

Application #21-44 (Jerry Hiam (Applicant) for Eleanor Riley (Owner)) – property located at 78 Dorsch Hill Road. The Applicant is requesting a Change of Use creating from the two-car garage, a one-car garage with stairs leading to a second floor apartment created by raising the original roof. This Application will be reviewed under Section 215 Zoning Permit Procedure; Section 311 Site Plan Review, and Section 446 Residential District Zone of the adopted 2017 Zoning Bylaws.

Participation in the proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to make any subsequent appeals.

The application is available for review in the Westminster Town Hall, 3651 US Route 5 Westminster, Vermont 05158, Monday – Friday from 8:30 am - 4:00 pm.



TOWN OF WESTMINSTER
P.O. BOX 147 WESTMINSTER, VT 05158
Tel. 802-722-4255 Fax 802-722-9816

TOWN OF WESTMINSTER, VT Highway Road Crew Employment Opportunity

The Town of Westminster is seeking a qualified Highway Road Crew member who will primarily be responsible for the maintenance and repair of the Town Highway system. The Highway Crew member will operate equipment and provide labor to facilitate highway grading, trucking, snow plowing, sanding highways, brush clearing, road repair, light building and facility maintenance, and maintenance of the highway equipment.

The successful applicant shall possess a current and valid Vermont Commercial Driver's License (CDL), Class A and/or Class B license, a High School Diploma, GED, or similar equivalent education.

This is an hourly position that will be commensurate with experience. The Town of Westminster offers an excellent fringe benefit package to all of its employees.

An extensive employment description can be requested by calling the Town Hall. The application is located on the Town of Westminster's website at www.westminster-vt.org, and/or obtained by emailing Assistant@westminstervt.org, attention Highway Road Crew Employment Application, or at the Town Offices.

To apply for this position, please complete the employment application and mail to:

Town of Westminster
P.O. Box 147
Westminster, VT 05158
Attn: Highway Road Crew Employment Application

Applications for this position are due no later than **March 26, 2021 by 4:00 pm.**

The Town of Westminster is an equal opportunity employer. It is the policy of this municipality to provide equal employment opportunity to all applicants and employees without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, place of birth, age, disability, HIV status, or other status protected by state or federal law.

MARCH 11 –
LONDONDERRY, Vt. – On Friday, March 11 at 4 p.m., join South Londonderry Free Library for "Preparing for Financial Longevity" with Rhonda Lathrop as part of the Spring Wellness in our Community programming. Rhonda P. Lathrop is a financial

advisor with Merrill, Bank of America. Her role is to help clients visualize, articulate, and pursue their financial and lifestyle goals. Please register with Rhonda in advance at Rhonda.P.Lathrop@ML.com or 802-362-0985. There is no cost to participate, but donations are welcome.

Hodgkins & Sons NOW HIRING Truck Driver Needed

Hodgkins & Sons, Inc. has an immediate opening for a full-time CDL Truck Driver Class A preferred. Must be willing to do different phases of construction work and be a team player. Hodgkins & Sons offers full benefits.

Call 802-463-4800 for an application or stop by our Walpole, NH office.

In Search Of

The Town of Charlestown, NH is scheduling auctions of the following properties and is in search of Executor/Executrix of Estate, Heirs, or other related parties regarding the following properties:

33 Morways St – former owner Robert W. Bryant (of Athens, VT)
150 Wetherby Road – former owner Frederick L. Poisson, Sr
4 Connecticut River Park – former owner Maryann Lacroix-Thornton
564 Morningside Lane – former owner Gail G. Crawford
77 Cobb Road – former owner Timothy R. Hicks

If you are related to the above individuals or know someone who may have rights to these properties, please contact the; Office of the Selectboard, Town of Charlestown, 233 Main Street, PO Box 385, Charlestown, NH 03603. Please contact the Selectboard Office as soon as possible, property auctions are scheduled for Saturday, May 1, 2021.



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

We have a variety of opportunities including:

- Assembly Operator
- Extrusion Machine Operator
- Facilities & Equipment Manager
- Human Resources Generalist
- Manufacturing Buyer

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

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin.

TOWN OF LUDLOW, VERMONT POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The Select Board for the Town of Ludlow, VT invites applications for the following positions for FY 2022:

All terms are one year except where noted.
Black River Senior Center Representative
Council on Aging/Senior Solutions Representative
Deputy Health Officer (paid position)
Development Review Board (DRB):
One, two-year term (appoint in July)
Development Review Board (DRB):
Three, one-year terms (appoint in July)
Emergency Management Director
Emergency Management Assistant
Fence Viewers (3 positions)
Pound Keeper/Animal Control Officer (paid position)
Recreation Committee: One, 3-year term
Recreation Committee: Three, 1-year terms
Mount Ascutney Regional Planning Commission - Representative
Mount Ascutney Regional Planning Commission - Alternate
Mount Ascutney Transportation Advisory Committee - Representative
Mount Ascutney Transportation Advisory Committee - Alternate
Surveyor of Wood & Lumber
Tree Warden
Deputy Tree Warden
Weigher of Coal

All interested parties should submit a letter of interest by mail or email no later than March 23, 2021 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

MARCH 13-14 –
LUDLOW, Vt. – On Saturday, March 13, from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sunday, March 14, from 9 a.m.-12 p.m., The Church of Annunciation will be hosting a St. Patrick's Day bake sale. Come visit us at 7 Depot St. in Ludlow for Irish soda breads, teacakes, cookies, scones, and more. For more information, call 802-228-3286.

MARCH 15 –
REGION – Lori Wright

from DG Bodyworks will be offering a four-week online workshop, "Letting Go and Decluttering Your Life," designed to de-clutter your life, literally and metaphorically. The sessions will be held Mondays, March 15, 22, 29 and April 5 at 5:30 p.m. and will help you explore what you are holding onto and can let go of to move forward – letting go of what you no longer need and freeing up space for new possibilities. Contact Lori at

loriwright163@gmail.com or call 603-401-8123 to register.

MARCH 17 –
CHESTER, Vt. – On Wednesday, March 17, the Chester American Legion Post 67 will serve a St. Patrick's Day dinner of corned beef and cabbage from 12 p.m. until all the food is gone. To-go dinners will be available at the door. Per the governor's orders, there will be limited seating for dining at the Legion. Masks are required. Call 802-875-6009.

MARCH 18 –
GRAFTON, Vt. – Join The Nature Museum Thursday, March 18 at 7 p.m. for "An Evening With Carolyn Finney," the third program in their online Speaking of Nature series. Carolyn Finney, author, storyteller, professor of cultural geography, and former member of the U.S. National Parks Advisory Board, will be discussing her work on the relationship of diverse communities in environmental and nature-based organizations. For more information, go to www.nature-museum.org.

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – The Londonderry Conservation Commission will host a virtual event featuring Chris Schadler of Project Coyote Thursday, March 18 at 7 p.m. The presentation is titled "What's Up With Those Wily Coyotes?" with a question and answer session afterwards. More information about Chris may be found at www.projectcoyote.org/about/chris-schadler. Zoom login may be found at www.tinyurl.com/Zoom-LCC.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Thursday, March 18 at 6 p.m., join the Springfield Town Library for an online presentation of "The Ultimate Presentation for Red Sox Nation" with author Martin "Marty" Gillin. Take a fun journey through Red Sox history. Marty will have autographed copies of his book available online following the program. Contact Tracey at stvtprograms@gmail.com or 802-885-3108 with any questions. Sign up at www.eventbrite.com/e/the-ultimate-presentation-for-red-sox-nation-tickets-128012981273. Sponsored by town of Springfield.

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – Roger Hirschberg has managed to get 40 letters to the editor published in esteemed newspapers as The New York Times, Washington Post, Boston Globe, and the Los Angeles Times. Neighborhood Connections will host a Zoom presentation on "How to Write an Effective Letter to the Editor" Thursday, March 18 at 3 p.m. If you would like to register, call 802-824-4343.

WEDNESDAYS –
REGION – Lori Wright from DG Bodyworks is offering a 45-minute slow flow yoga class via Zoom Wednesdays at 5 p.m. for all levels to improve flexibility and strength, reduce stress, and bring balance. Choose to attend the class live or watch the recorded session at any time during the week at your own perfect time. Contact Lori at loriwright163@gmail.com or call 603-401-8123 to register.

TOWN OF WESTON NOTICE OF SITE PLAN REVIEW HEARING

The Kinhaven Music School has submitted an application for a site plan review for their campus on Lawrence Hill Rd in the town of Weston Vt. The Planning Commission will hold a hearing on this application on 4/5/2021 at 7:00 PM on Zoom

Those interested in seeing the application or attending the online meeting should email the Zoning Administrator at zoning@westonvt.org.

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §§ 4464(a)(1)(C) and 4471(a), participation in this local proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

NOTICE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUST OF THE VILLAGE DISTRICT OF NORTH WALPOLE, NH

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A REHEARING CONCERNING ARTICLE VI SECTION B OF THE ZONING ORDINANCES, WILL BE HELD AT NORTH WALPOLE VILLAGE HALL AT 5:00 PM ON MARCH 22, 2021, AT 70 CHURCH STREET, NORTH WALPOLE, NH. CONCERNING A REQUEST BY MR. GREGORY GAY.

APPLICANT PROPOSES TO REQUEST A VARIANCE TO BUILD AN OFFICE BUILDING AT 8 LEN-TEX LANE, NORTH WALPOLE, NH IN THE INDUSTRIAL ZONE.

SIGNED: SHANE M. LAKE, CHAIRPERSON, NW ZBA

TOWN OF LONDONDERRY VERMONT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Londonderry Development Review Board will meet at 5:30 PM on Wednesday 03/17/2021, to hold a public hearing for an application from Redesign Construction Inc. of Londonderry, to change a two-family home at 2430 Middletown Rd into an apartment and an office.

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. Sections 4464(a)(1)(c) and 4471(a), participation in the local proceedings is a prerequisite to take any subsequent appeal. Application materials are available by emailing the town's Zoning Administrator at zoningadmin@londonderryvt.org.

*Due to the ongoing COVID 19 health emergency, the meeting will be held through the means of remote electronic access as permitted under act 92, signed into law by Vt. Governor Scott on March 30, 2020. Notice of this will be provided at the time of legal posting of the meeting agenda, which will take place at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Please check the town's website-www.londonderryvt.org, or contact the Zoning Administrator prior to the meeting on how to participate remotely by video or telephone.

ANIMAL LICENSE NOTICE

Animal Licenses are now available at the Town Clerk's Office. All dogs and wolf-hybrids six months or over must be licensed by April 1 each year and wear a collar and tag at all times. A dog or wolf-hybrid without a tag is presumed to be unlicensed and is not protected by law. A tag must not be used on any dog or wolf-hybrid other than the dog or wolf-hybrid in the license bearing the corresponding number.

HOW TO REGISTER YOUR DOG WHILE TOWN OFFICE IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC DURING COVID-19

Licensing your dog can be done through the mail, email or one of two mail slots at Town Hall. Mail slots are located in the lower level white door that faces Main Street and in the second level brown door at the top of the outside stairs. First check on your dog's rabies certification indicated on last year's license or by calling the town clerk's office at 802-885-2104 or email the town clerk at tosclerk@vermontel.net. New dogs and dogs with expired rabies certificates will require you to provide us with a rabies certificate valid through April 1, 2021.

Fee for fixed dogs is \$14.00
Fee for dogs that are not fixed is \$18.00

Once we receive payment (cash or check payable to the Town of Springfield) and an updated rabies certificate, if needed, either through the mail or in one of our mail slots, we will mail to you your dog(s) tag(s) and the two-part license with a request that you sign one half and keep it for your files and sign the other half and return it to us, in the stamped envelope provided, either by mail or door mail slot.

Dogs licensed after April 1, 2021 will be assessed a late fee.

Barbara A. Courchesne
Town Clerk, CVC
96 Main Street
Springfield, VT 05156

REAL ESTATE

classifieds

AUCTION

N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Auction held March 13, 2021 at 11 a.m. at 96 Route 106 N. Springfield. 802-683-7104. To be auctioned: Camriell Raymond unit #1 John Pivornas unit #194 Orion Pfenning unit #197

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.

FOR RENT

LUDLOW, Vt. – Great office space in the village of Ludlow, 2 blocks from town, was an engineering office. 2,500 sq. ft. 2 baths, 2 stories, lots of off street parking, utilities included, plowed and sanded by landlord. \$1500/month. 802-226-7494.

FOR SALE

CHESTER, Vt. – Nordic Track Grand Tour Exercise Bikes. Identical Pair. Great condition. Needs good wifi connection. \$399 each or best offer. Must be picked up in Chester. Not shippable. Call 904-806-3936.

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – 2 snowmobiles on trailers. Arctic Cat F7 & Sabercat 500, older with reverse, studs, mirrors, low mileage, loadrite trailer, all registered and serviced regularly. All for \$10,000. Call

802-226-7494.

GUNS WANTED

REGION – Guns wanted. Handguns, rifles, or shotguns. Top prices paid. Call Ray at 802-775-2859 or 802-236-7213.

HELP WANTED

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – P/T Experienced Floral Designer. 24-32 hrs/week. Floral design

knowledge required. Must be able to work independently, be flexible, reliable, and have customer service skills. Call Bette at 802-886-8315.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Woodbury Florist & Landscaping seasonal job opening. Greenhouse / Garden Position. Available Spring 2021. 32-40 hrs/week. Retail experience & plant knowledge helpful. Looking for someone who can work independently, be flexible, is reliable, and has customer service skills. Call Bette at 802-886-8315.

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Natural Patches of Vermont, a natural health care product manufacturer, is seeking an Office Manager and Bookkeeper. Part-time, 24hrs/wk. Pay based on experience. Previous office administrative experience preferred. Send your resume to info@naturalpatchesofvermont.com.

Mason/Tenders wanted. Pay based on experience. Contact Moore Masonry at 802-824-5710 or email mooremasonry802@gmail.com.

your 2020 tax return with the purchase of a wood boiler. Deduction price includes cost of the system and installation. Contact New England Outdoor Furnaces at 603-863-8818.

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Lori Muse, Broker/Owner Carol Cole, REALTOR








Accessibly Located in an established neighborhood, this three bedroom cape offers affordable living in a maintainable size. Kitchen has added sideroom/pantry, living room with wood floors, first floor full bath. Two bedrooms on the first floor. Upstairs with storage and bedroom and view of local hills. Basement with room for more storage. Back yard with space for outdoor living. **REDUCED AGAIN TO \$95,000**

This 10+ acre piece of land is located on an accessible country road in Weathersfield, Vermont. Includes a driveway in and a clearing for the house. Also includes permits for septic, conduit from road to clearing for utilities. Situated on the VAST trail for snowmobile access. Views into New Hampshire with clearing. A nice neighborhood and priced right. **\$69,900**

Beautiful 3 acre parcel in Weathersfield with easy access to the Golf course, hiking, trails and much more. This surveyed parcel has state Water & Wastewater permits filed with the town of Weathersfield. Electrical service availability is at the road. Lovely location awaits your house plans. **\$80,000**



Take away this vintage 1968, 50X12 mobile home and move it to your own site. Includes an open concept living/kitchen and a bedroom on each end of the home. Full bath. Improvements have been some new windows, metal roof. **\$7,500**



This home has history (1700's-1800's) and charm. Prepare yourself for some work; however, what a great reward in the end. This home offers a large first floor with eat-in kitchen, formal dining room, living room, den, master bedroom, another office or bedroom and a laundry room. Attached shed for workshop space or storage. If you choose to finish the upstairs, there's three more rooms. Large village lot (.8+/- acres) in North Springfield offers room for play or gardening. Two car garage across the road. **\$95,000**



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Fantastic Opportunity!
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3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
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3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
Grafton, \$350,000



Great Opportunity!
Busy Car Wash
Start Your Own Business
Springfield, \$250,000



Large, Versatile Commercial Space
Set On Open 1.48+/- Acre Lot
New Heating System
Rockingham, \$125,000



Investors Take Note!
2 Spacious 3 Bedroom Units
Private Office Space On Third Floor
Rockingham, \$109,000



4 Bedroom Residence & Restaurant!
Also Commercial Storage
A Unique Village Property!
Rockingham, \$90,000



Breathtaking Views!
81+/- Acres with
Small Cabin
Townshend, \$329,000



Level Building Lot
Easy Drive To
Stratton or Mt. Snow
Jamaica, \$38,500

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

High volume of news submissions this week!

The Take a Break games will be back next week!

We apologize for the inconvenience



yellow page BUSINESS DIRECTORY

art crafts gifts

GALLERY AT THE VAULT

Vermont State Craft Center, 68 Main St., Springfield, VT
Open Wed. & Sat. 11-5, Fri. 11-7

New Exhibit - Heart Beat. A Walk in the Forest, a show of works by Charles Norris-Brown

New Open Wall Show Resilience 3/10 to 5/5

Upcoming Classes:

4/10 - Painting Spectacular Flowers in Watercolor workshop with Robert O'Brien

4/17 - Gem Trees workshop with Lyn Parker Haas

5/15 - Braiding with Roving workshop with Sue Carey

See www.galleryvault.org for details to participate in Open Wall Show, to sign up for classes, and to shop online.

Curbside available 802-885-7111

galleryvault@vermontel.net
(05/11/21 - TFN - 13)

bakery

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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.
(06/01/21 - TFN - 26)

builders/contractors

HAMMER FOR HIRE LLC

802-376-3275 ~ "Not just for bangin' nails."

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.

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(06/15/21 - 52)

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(06/08/21 - TFN - 13)

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Additions, Renovations, New Construction, Home Repairs. Kitchens and Bathrooms. All aspects of construction from frame to finish. Fully insured, references available.

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www.newenglandhomebuildingandremodel.com
(03/16/21 - 13)

chiropractor

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Dr. Denise Natale 58 Parker Avenue, Proctorsville, VT 05153, 802-226-7977
Hours: Tuesday 1pm-6pm, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 10am-6pm.
(08/17/21 - TFN - 52)

cleanouts

A BARE CLEANING

Basements, attics, houses, barns. Household items and junk removed. Free estimates, insured. Call Reg at 802-376-4159.
(06/08/21 - 13)

faith management

TEACHING FAITH MINISTRIES

Looking for more meaning in your life? Learn the basics of Christianity by checking-out our beginner series. A Change of Mind. Interested in the correct teaching of End Times prophecy? Then check-out our comprehensive The Last Days series. Go to the Ebooks section at www.teaching-faith.com for those and many more e-books to help you stretch your mind, body, and soul. Everything at the site is freely available for your use!
(05/25/21 - 13)

forest management

NEW ENGLAND FORESTRY CONSULTANTS, INC.

We offer a full range of forestry services from UVA management plans & timber sole administration to trail building & wildlife habitat improvement. Contact Ryan C. Gumbart at rgumbart@cforesters.com.
(05/18/21 - 13)

home improvement

ROSE'S HOME IMPROVEMENT

Booking for winter needs. Also offer carpentry, kitchen & bathroom remodels, interior & exterior painting, window & door replacements, window cleaning, vinyl siding washing, pressure washing, drywall repairs, and odd jobs. 802-226-7077 or 802-591-0019. Cavendish, Vt.
(07/06/21 - 26)

masonry

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(06/08/21 - 13)

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.
(09/07/21 - 52)

old tools wanted

\$\$\$ CASH PAID FOR OLD TOOLS \$\$\$

Planes, axes, hatchets, Stanley Tools, chisels, tool chests, etc. One tool or entire shop. Nothing with a cord or a battery. Call 802-579-5891.
(06/15/21 - 26)

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We're Different - Green Bee has earned an Organic Land Management Professional Accreditation and can tailor a customized plan for managing your property to meet your goals. Large or small, all properties will benefit from utilizing this approach.

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(07/13/21 - 26)

property management

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(06/01/21 - 26)



Health & Wellness

Physical • Nutritional • Spiritual • Emotional • Intellectual • Environmental • Social

The eyes are the windows to your health

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – An eye exam is so much more than just a checkup for glasses and contact lenses. During your visit, your eye doctor is looking for signs of numerous conditions that may not only affect the eyes but tell a larger story about your overall systemic health. Your doctor will review your medical history, check your

visual acuity, evaluate the surface of the eyes, and perform a dilated exam to observe the structures inside the eyes.

Some conditions your eye doctor can detect in a standard comprehensive eye exam include diabetes, high blood pressure, glaucoma, cataracts, dry eye syndrome, macular degeneration, liver disease, brain

tumors, autoimmune disease, Multiple Sclerosis, cancer, and stroke.

Adults over 40 and school-age children should have their eyes checked annually. Prevention and early detection are key to healthy outcomes.

Article written by Mercedes Smith, O.D., Springfield Family Eyecare, Springfield, Vt.



Mercedes Smith, OD

Your sight is our vision!
 802-885-4190 2 Summer St. Springfield, VT

Spring wellness to support South Londonderry Free Library

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – From March through May, there will be wellness programming to benefit South Londonderry Free Library. Please register for sessions in advance via email or phone call to presenter – contact information is listed below. Details and instructions for virtual presentation will then be provided. There is no cost to participate, but donations to the South Londonderry

Library are always welcome.

Wellness programming schedule:

- March 11, 4-4:50 p.m., “Preparing for Financial Longevity” by Rhonda Lathrop
 - March 20, 11-11:45 a.m., “Kitchen Cupboard Medicine” by Lini Mazumdar and Helena Wu
 - March 24, 4:30-5:10 p.m., “Vocalizing for Optimal Health” by Bidi Dworkin
 - April 17, 11-11:45 a.m., “Spring Tonics – How find, use and make them” by Lini and Helena
 - April 21, 4:30-5:10 p.m., “Vocalizing for Optimal Health” by Bidi Dworkin
 - April 22, 4-4:50 p.m., “Are you Financially Fit? Purchasing your first home?” by Rhonda Lathrop
 - May 8, 11-11:45 a.m., “Growing a Wellness Garden” by Lini and Helena
 - May 19, 4:30-5:10 p.m., “Vocalizing for Optimal Health” by Bidi Dworkin
 - May 20, 4-4:50 p.m., “Protecting your wealth from health care costs” by Rhonda Lathrop
- Lini Mazumdar* is an Ayurvedic nutrition counselor

and a certified herbalist. Lini lives on Anjali Farm in South Londonderry, Vt., where she grows wild-craft medicinal plants to make a line of herbal products called Lotus Moon Medicinals. Contact LiniMazumdar@yahoo.com or 802-824-4658.

Helena Wu is an herbalist, flower essence and Reiki practitioner, organic gardener, and retired homebirth midwife. She has been teaching, growing herbs, and making remedies for over 30 years. Contact MamaWu@MamaWusgoodmedicine.com or 802-824-9950.

Bidi Dworkin is a somatic voice work teacher and singer who lives in South Londonderry. The benefits of ongoing vocal practice are infinite! Contact Bidi.Dworkin@gmail.com or 802-345-5980.

Rhonda P. Lathrop, CFP, CS-RIC, is a financial advisor with Merrill, Bank of America. Her role is to help clients visualize, articulate, and pursue their financial and lifestyle goals. Rhonda is a resident of South Londonderry, Vt. Contact Rhonda.P.Lathrop@ML.com or 802-362-0985.

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Did you know that alcohol is the leading cause of accidental death for youth ages 15-24? What can parents do about it?

Have a conversation with your child about alcohol use. Parents are the single greatest influence on their child and have a major role in determining whether or not their child will experience alcohol or other drug related problems.

Set a good example: it will help to increase the chance that your child won't make risky decisions about alcohol or other drugs.

Be aware of other influences. As a parent or guardian, you can't control all the information your young child receives about alcohol. However, as the single greatest influence, you have the unique ability to prepare them for the peer pressure and onslaught of pro-alcohol messages to come.

For more information please call The Black River Area Community Coalition 228-7878 or visit www.parentupvt.org.

Girls on the Run Vermont spring 2021

REGION – Girls on the Run Vermont's 2021 spring coach registration is open and seeking additional coaches across the state of Vermont. Girls on the Run is a physical activity-based, positive youth development program that inspires girls in third through eighth grade to be joyful, healthy, and confident. The eight-week program incorporates running to teach critical life skills, encourage personal development, and foster team building and community service. Volunteer coaches utilize a curriculum to engage teams of girls in fun, interactive lessons. Lesson content covers topics such as empathy, friendship, identifying and managing emotions, and more. Teams meet twice a week for 90 minutes and the program culminates with all teams participating in a celebratory 5k run/walk event.

Girls on the Run Vermont has implemented safety and program modifications to ensure the wellbeing of coaches and girls this season due to Covid-19. Coaches are trained in all aspects of GOTRVT policies including these new guidelines. The program will be offered in-person with the ability to pivot to a virtual space should weather or community illness dictate. The nonprofit organization is currently seeking coaches to facilitate the program with small teams capped at 12 girls. The season starts the week of April 5 statewide.

Coaches do not need to be runners but are required to be a minimum of 18 years old to serve as an assistant or 21 years old to serve as a head coach. All volunteer coaches must complete a background check and attend a training session.

For more information, visit www.gotrvt.org/coach.

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Foreword by Mike Ramsay, MD
Chairman, Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Management
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