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Rockingham, Saxtons River support grant to study local fire departments –

BY JOE MILLIKEN
The Shopper

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – In a recent Rockingham Selectboard meeting, the board agreed to match a $5,000 contribution that the Saxtons River Village had also contributed to in order to apply for a federal grant that will study the operations of three local fire departments; the Bellows Falls Village Fire Department, the Rockingham Volunteer Fire Department, and the Saxtons River Volunteer Fire Department.

According to Saxtons River Village Trustee Ellen Clark-Lawrence, who spoke at the meeting, the federal study would examine the totality of the three fire stations' specific needs and situations, response times, and coverage area.

There is a growing concern in Saxtons River particularly because their fire station needs attention, as the second floor of the building has been condemned. The department receives funding from the Village of Saxtons River, but they do not pay their firefighters and they currently have staffing concerns. The town has been looking at the issue in recent years and has received building renovation estimates.

The Rockingham Volunteer Fire Department gets its funding from the town, as well as various fundraising efforts, while Bellows Falls pays for its fire department through village taxes. Bellows Falls is also the only department of the three that pays its firefighters, and has the only full-time paid fire chief, Shaun McGinnis.

Manpower within all three departments has been an ongoing issue and may agree it needs to be addressed. Because some firefighters are not allowed to leave their jobs during the day along with other circumstances, typically, the same few firefighters have been responding to a majority of the calls.

"Daytime coverage is difficult for everyone and more and more business owners are not letting employees leave, especially if employees of municipalities aren't permitted to leave for calls," McGinnis said in a recent interview. "Each department needs to submit an accurate and updated list of manpower that includes age, qualifications, where they work, and the number of calls they respond to each year."

When you compare Rockingham to other towns of similar size in the area, those towns have one fire department, whereas Rockingham has three within the town. Therefore, if there can't be a merger of the three departments, they can still work towards communicating more and working together.

"It just makes more sense, especially financially," McGinnis added. "We should focus on what is best for the community and not each individual department. Hopefully, this study can help guide us in the right direction."

Grant to assist the Bellows Falls Village Fire Department, the Rockingham Volunteer Fire Department, and the Saxtons River Volunteer Fire Department.
PHOTO PROVIDED BY BELLOWS FALLS FIRE DEPARTMENT FACEBOOK PAGE

Bellows Falls purchases dryer for biosolids

BY BETSY THURSTON
The Shopper

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – On Tuesday, Jan. 11 the Bellows Falls Village Trustees approved the purchase of the Shincci Sludge Dryer and contract with Resource Management Inc. of Holderness, N.H.

Last fall, Municipal Manager Scott Pickup told the board that RMI was ending their contract with Shincci-USA. The only other representative for Shincci-USA was located in Yuma, Ariz.

The village had choices to make; purchase the machine from RMI and begin a new contract, end the contract with RMI and begin a new one with the Arizona firm, or purchase a new dryer and compare prices on a stainless steel model.

The purchase decision had weighed heavily on receiving Vermont's certification for Class A biosolids.

At the meeting on Jan. 11, Pickup announced they had received certifications for both Vermont and New Hampshire Class A biosolids. This is a designation set by the EPA for land use. The biosolids can be used for fertilizer on farms, vegetable gardens, and used by home gardeners as compost.

Bellow Falls purchases dryer for biosolids.
PHOTO PROVIDED

Pickup explained that the contract with RMI included off-setting the cost for disposal, saving the village $350 per month plus any hauling fees if wet sludge needed to be disposed.

There were concerns with the storage of the Class A biosolids. The department proposed a long-term solution to build a dry storage building large enough that trucks could haul waste from it. Pickup said the goal was to apply for state ARPA funding for the dry storage which was separate from federal ARPA funding.

James McAuliffe wondered where the Class A fertilizer was stored currently. Pickup said the department was placing it into bags and that farmers picked it up at the facility.

Pickup said another concern was locating domestic replacement parts for the Shincci dryer system. The village had only minor parts available for replacement at this time.

He said there were also concerns with floodproofing the building and the storage. Further work was needed to protect the machinery and biosolids with flood gates and thresholds.

The trustees approved the agreement unanimously between the Bellows Falls Village Corporation and RMI. The capital improvement note for the Shincci dryer system was $268,450.

The trustees meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Lower Theater of the Bellows Falls Opera House.

Wendell Perkins joins Grace Cottage Foundation Board

TOWNSHEND, Vt. – Wendell Perkins CFA has joined the Grace Cottage Foundation Board of Directors.

Perkins attended the University of Warwick in Coventry, England, and graduated with a BA from Colby College. He also holds an MBA in Finance from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and earned his Chartered Financial Analyst designation from the CFA Institute in 1995.

Perkins began his career as an Equity Trader at an investment firm in Portland, Maine. He then worked as a Credit Analyst at Westinghouse Credit Corp. in Chicago and as a Quantitative Analyst for the State of Wisconsin Investment Board. He was the Founder and Principal Owner of Optique Capital Management in Milwaukee from 1997-2011 and advisor to the Johnson Foundation at Wingspread. He was Senior Managing Director and Senior Portfolio Manager at Manulife Investment Management in Boston until his retirement in 2019.

Perkins and his husband Mark O'Meara, a Registered Nurse at Grace Cottage, own a farm in Andover, Vt., where they tend sheep, poultry, rabbits, and honeybees.

Wendell Perkins.
PHOTO PROVIDED

"As an investment professional, I have worked with numerous foundation boards over the years. I am very pleased to be able to add my expertise to that of the other Foundation Board members in overseeing the investment of Grace Cottage's Endowment Funds," said Perkins. "This is a wonderful opportunity to serve an outstanding organization."

The Nature Museum offers webinar on invasive species

GRAFTON, Vt. – The Nature Museum is offering a webinar, "Invasive Snake Worms – Why Care and What To Do," Thursday, Feb. 3, from 7–8:30 p.m.

Healthy soils are key to our healthy landscapes, farms, and gardens. In this webinar, Dr. Josef Görres will inform us about the emerging threat that invasive snake worms pose to our soils and what we can do to be vigilant soil stewards to face this new challenge.

Snake worms are getting more attention as landscape professionals and homeowners learn more about them. Dr. Görres will present on the ecology, phenology, and geographical distribution. Why do we worry about these worms, where do they come from, how do they move around, and what can be done? He will also discuss research on biological control and other horticultural management strategies.

Invasive species destroying landscapes, farms, gardens, and more.
PHOTO PROVIDED BY THE NATURE MUSEUM

About the webinar, University of Vermont Associate Professor, Dr. Josef Görres said, "Vermont's economy depends on agriculture and thus soil is a central resource. My teaching and research connect ecosystem services with agricultural economics for the sustainability and prosperity of farms in Vermont. My teaching interests in undergraduate soil science courses are to provide students with a survey of soil science that includes current issues to give them an appreciation of the role of soils in the environment, fundamental knowledge about soils, and a working knowledge of professional materials."

Interested parties can learn more about Dr. Görres at www.uvm.edu/cals/pss/profiles/associate-professor-josef-gorres. This webinar is on a sliding scale and can be registered for at www.nature-museum.org.

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Embracing and maintaining wellness in Rockingham

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – Now that the holidays are over, reconnect with Certified Wellness Coach Carol Jones from the comfort of your home. Explore ways to embrace and maintain wellness beginning Jan. 28 and continuing every other Friday through March 25 from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. via Zoom or your phone.

Jones is a graduate of the Wellness Coach Training Program at the Mayo Clinic. She has been coaching clients around multiple aspects of their health since 2014. She collaborates with individuals in transforming their values and desires into action and lasting change over time. She lives in Bellows Falls, Vt.

To sign up for a Zoom invitation, contact programming@rockinghamlibrary.org or call the Rockingham Library at 802-463-4270. Programming is sponsored by the Rockingham Library and is free and open to the public.

Putney's Vermont Weaving Supplies wins Business Plan Competition

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. – On Friday, Jan. 14, 2022, the Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation organized a virtual event to announce the winner of the 2021 Windham County Economic Development Program Business Plan Competition. WCEDP Council members joined the panel of judges, representatives from Vermont's Department of Economic Development, and BDCC's business team in congratulating Putney's Vermont Weaving Supplies, owner Dena Moses, and her growing team, on their win.

Fifteen companies applied for the competition, with six submitting final business plans. The Business Plan Competition was launched on Sep. 1, 2021 and was reviewed by a panel of judges unaffiliated with BDCC. "We'd like to commend all of the contestants for their hard work and the high quality of their submissions," said Eyad Salha, BDCC's Business Technical Assistance Provider.

During the webinar, Moses provided an overview of her winning business plan and her vision for growing her company. "Whether or not I had won, the process of analyzing different parts of my business and putting together a plan has been critical," shared Moses. Her business is built on 25 years of experience as a weaver, trainer, and supplier, but took off in new ways during the pandemic.

The 2022 WCEDP Business Plan Competition was judged by a panel of local entrepreneurs and commercial lenders: Brian Holt, Co-Owner, 1A Coffee; Leda Scheintaub, Entrepreneur, Owner, Dosa Kitchen; Andrew Rackear, Entrepreneur; Ellen Capy, Founder, Mocha Joe's; Peter Carvell, Senior Commercial Banking Officer, Brattleboro Savings & Loan; Michael Alexander, Owner, RecycleAway.

The 2021 Windham County Economic Development Program business plan competition was developed specifically to encourage and support growth-oriented, scalable businesses. These criteria were prioritized in an effort to create new job opportunities to help replace the wages lost due to the closure of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Plant.

Windham County Economic Development Program was created to help relieve the economic impact from over $60 million in annual lost wages due to the closure of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant. Since the program launched, WCEDP funds have helped existing businesses, reinforced economic development infrastructure, and generated new businesses and entrepreneurial opportunities.

Southwestern Vermont Medical Center offers tool for sending meals to front-line staff

BENNINGTON, Vt. – As the Covid-19 pandemic continues to challenge the community and front line clinical teams and employees at Southwestern Vermont Healthcare, the SVHC Foundation has heard many requests from members of the public regarding how they can help. In response to this outpouring of concern, the SVHC Foundation has redeployed the Meal Train as a way citizens can show their support. Interested supporters can visit www.mealtrain.com/v1w8yz to purchase a meal for as few as two staff members or as many as 30.

"This program was such a success when we launched it in the spring of 2020, and it had a tremendous impact on the morale of our staff," said Leslie Keefe, vice president for Corporate Development. "Today, our physicians, providers, nurses, and employees are working harder than ever and often under extreme conditions, so we wanted to once again make this program available as a way for the community to show their gratitude."

Numerous restaurants in the SVHC service area are participating. Visitors to the Meal Train website volunteer to purchase a meal for a particular department electronically and call the restaurant to order the food to be delivered.

The program is being marketed in part through a partnership with the Southwestern Vermont Chamber of Commerce. All restaurants will make no-contact deliveries to the hospital and the Covid Resource Center in Bennington, and the regional campuses throughout the SVHC service area. A designated staff member will come outside to receive the delivery, so no restaurant personnel need enter the buildings. Donors of meals are not permitted to deliver meals to the recipient locations themselves. Instructions on the Meal Train site offer a list of participating restaurants but donors can choose restaurants that are not listed, especially for the regional campuses.

"Our healthcare professionals will be uplifted to witness how much the community appreciates them," Keefe said. "This program will have a tangible and meaningful impact while also supporting our local restaurants. On behalf of the SVHC family, we are deeply grateful for the support."

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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

Boys will be boys ——

"Billy, Me and my Brother."

PHOTO PROVIDED BY RON PATCH

Here's a fun, real photo postcard.

First you'll notice a handsome goat hitched to a small wagon with two boys. From a technical standpoint, this is about as good as a photograph can get. The photographer understood how to use sunlight to his advantage. It is extremely sharp with the best tonal qualities. In the hands of a competent photographer these postcards are works of art.

This postcard was never posted and was protected in a postcard album for a hundred years, so it survives in amazing condition. It dates 1910-1920.

The goat

The goat is a stocky critter with a long beard. His long horns have a slight twist. Notice the bit in his mouth. Across the side of his face is a leather strap. Another strap around his neck connects to the harness strap around his girth. The harness is professionally made, unlike the wagon.

The wagon

The wagon is a hoot. It's a homemade jitney, possibly made by the boys.

Notice the two thin boards, probably from something like an apple crate, that reinforce the rear wheel. This could have been problematic at higher speeds or over rough ground.

Equally important is the floor of the wagon. It too is made of wood and bends slightly under the weight of the two boys. The older brother holds the reins. Both boys are barefoot. The boy in the rear appears to be wearing overalls.

I think some readers in their 50s or older will remember these creative endeavors.

What could go wrong?

If the goat got to running very fast, I think the rear wheel would self-destruct. This would create a problem. Another problem would be if the floor broke under the excess weight. The driver would be laid almost on his back, still drawn by the goat. The younger boy would get the worst of it. The floor in front of the younger boy would hit the ground and dig in, catapulting the younger boy forward. In my family the youngest was expendable.

While I don't remember the following incident, I remember hearing about it. My older brother Brian and, I think it was, Milan Cook, built something like a soapbox derby car. After a few trial runs they went to the top of High Street to Cassista's to make a Mario Andretti run. I don't remember who was driving. At the entrance to our driveway on High Street was a large elm tree. Crash!

I remember building a go-cart when I was 14, using the motor from an old chain saw.

My father worked at J&L. He made a sprocket and welded it to the rear axle. We put a bicycle chain from the rear sprocket to the sprocket on the chain saw. In order to start it, I put a block of wood under the rear axle so the wheels were off the ground.

Then all you had to do was start the chainsaw. Sitting on the go-cart, you would rock the go-cart back and forth until it dropped off the wood block and then you hit the trigger. Zoom, how it would take off, burning gravel!

It didn't have any brakes and it kept breaking down so I traded it to another kid for an English bike.

Postcard information

In very faint white letters at the bottom left of the postcard is: "Billy, Me, and my Brother." On the back where the message would have been written is: "Photo made by Porter C. Thayer, Williamsville, Vt."

Williamsville is not far out of Newfane. While I collect local postcards, some out of the area cards I just can't refuse, this being one. It takes me back to a time when I was a boy.

Many people don't realize real photo postcards are exactly that, a photo. Instead of printing the photo on paper like you are familiar with today, they were printed on heavier postcard stock.

Many of these postcards were produced from dry plate glass negatives. Collecting postcards became the rage beginning about 1906 into the 1920s. Everyone collected them.

You could mail friends or family members far away a photo from home, and with a message. It was the emailing of the day.

The Chester Historical Society meeting scheduled for January is canceled. We'll see where we are in February with the Covid-19. I'll keep you posted through this column.

This week's old saying: "It's better to die on your feet than to live on your knees."

Vermont updates "Test at Home" program for K-12

MONTPELIER, Vt. – The Agency of Education and the Department of Health announced new "Test at Home" guidance about testing and quarantine protocols at Vermont's K-12 schools. This program replaces the in-school "Test to Stay" program for presumptive close contacts of positive Covid-19 cases with an "at-home" based rapid testing process.

State officials said the speed at which the Omicron variant spreads means that the current strategy is too slow and logistically burdensome to be workable for many schools. This new approach addresses the current state of the pandemic in Vermont by allowing schools to respond more quickly, and reducing the burden of contact tracing and testing on staff, which will help schools stay open and functioning as normal as possible.

Like "Test to Stay," the "Test at Home" initiative makes use of rapid antigen tests to keep students and staff safe and in school. "Test at Home" moves the location of the testing to at-home, before school, giving families flexibility and reducing the logistical burden on schools, families, and students. Schools still have access to in-school antigen tests, as well as PCR and other tests, to respond to students who become symptomatic at school, or who may have difficulty testing at home.

Under the new procedures, when an individual tests positive at a school, or a school is informed that a student or staff member is positive, the school will inform families of children in class with someone who tests positive for Covid-19 and the following steps should be taken:

If a student in that classroom is vaccinated, or if a staff member is vaccinated and has received their booster dose:

- They may remain in the classroom and do not need to quarantine, and they will be given two rapid antigen tests to take home for use on the fourth and fifth days after learning of their possible exposure.

If a student is unvaccinated:

- They or their parents can pick up rapid test kits from the school and test the student at home each morning for five days. During that five-day period, the student can continue to attend school, if they test negative each day. They do not need to bring proof of the negative test to school.
- If they choose not to test, they must stay at home for five days and can return to school after five days if they have no symptoms. Taking a PCR or LAMP test is recommended on or after day five.

Students who are identified as close contacts outside of school, as well as school staff who are not fully vaccinated (primary vaccine and booster shot) and have a possible exposure, can also pick up rapid tests from their schools and follow the same five-day protocol. Additionally, in the coming weeks, school nurses will be provided rapid PCR-like tests so that they can quickly test any symptomatic students or staff on-site.

School testing guidance and information can be found on the Agency of Education website at www.education.vermont.gov/covid19/testing.

Springfield Art & Historical Society postpones event

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The "Springfield honors torn down J&L building" event has been postponed. The Springfield Art & Historical Society will host the presentation Feb. 19 at 2 p.m. at the First Congregational Church in Springfield. Masks will be required.

New Year tax scams

REGION – Happy New Year! Scammers have been tuning up for weeks and their efforts are coming to life.

With the tax year ending, many are collecting paperwork for filings and anticipating receipt of necessary forms. Beware of email messages, text messages, and telephone calls from government agencies such as the IRS and the Social Security Administration. The notices may carry alerts regarding unpaid tax bills, incomplete paperwork, benefits change, or a need to update files. Often the messages carry dire warnings of fines or arrest if you fail to comply immediately.

Just the receipt of such a warning can be emotionally traumatizing and establish a degree of fear. These notifications should be seen as a four-letter word in your vocabulary: scam!

Government agencies use the U. S. Postal Service for communications, not text messages, emails, or phone calls. They will not threaten you with comments like "Failure to immediately respond will result in imprisonment."

There a few very simple steps to take:

- Take a deep breath, stop, and think.
- If you receive a phone call, hang up and don't worry about being rude; if it's a text or email, simply close the device window; don't immediately erase the message.
- Use a reliable contact number and call the agency or department that allegedly issued the notice to ask if they are reaching out to you, and if not, report the scam. You will likely be asked for details including the means used by the scammer.
- After reporting the contact, erase the text or email. Never try to respond using the contact information in the scam message. Too often, the intended victim, at best, opens herself or himself to additional targeting; at worst, the intended victim provides personal information that can be used in identity theft.

Questions or concerns? Contact me at egreenblott@aarp.org. Elliott Greenblott is a retired educator and coordinator of the AARP Vermont Fraud Watch Network. He hosts a CATV program, Mr. Scammer, distributed by GNAT-TV, Sunderland, Vt. www.gnat-tv.org.

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obituaries

Nellie K. Millay, 1924-2022

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Nellie Kazak Millay, 97, passed away at her home in Springfield on Jan. 14, 2022 surrounded by her loving family. She was born July 21, 1924 in Springfield, Vt., the daughter of Joseph and Antonina (Rudkowski) Kazak. She attended Springfield schools and graduated from Springfield High School class of 1942.

On Dec. 7, 1944, she married Harold S. Millay, the love of her life, in Springfield, Vt. He predeceased her in 2012.

Nellie dedicated her life to her family, living in the home which she and Harold built in their childhood neighborhood. She cherished her family and loved spending time with all of them.

Nellie found fulfillment in her handcrafts, singing and playing music, and sharing auctions and flea markets with Harold. She spent time outdoors gardening and mowing her acreage.

In later years, Nellie cherished her independence. With wit and humor, she filled her time regaling family and friends with stories about her life and community.

Her commanding spirit and loving core will be forever missed.

Nellie is survived by her son Bryan (Mary) Millay, Southampton, Mass.; and daughters Diann Casey, Venice, Fla.; Karen (Rich) Stover, Venice, Fla.; and Marleen (Michael) Jenkins, Poultney, Vt. She is also survived by ten grandchildren, eleven great-grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews, and dear friends.

Nellie K. Millay, 1924-2022.
PHOTO PROVIDED

In addition to her husband, Harold, she was predeceased by her siblings; Anany, Joseph, Mitrofan, Mike and Lena.

A graveside service will be held at the Oakland Cemetery, Springfield, Vt. on a date to be determined. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Nellie's memory to a charity of one's choice.

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

Leonard T. Carlisle, 1929–2022

CHESTER, Vt. – Leonard Tucker Carlisle was born Oct. 4, 1929 in Chester, Vt., to William H. "Tuck" Carlisle and Margaret (Holman) Carlisle. He passed away peacefully in his sleep Sunday, Jan. 9, 2022 at the Gill Odd Fellows Home. He grew up in Chester and then Cavendish.

He started school in Chester Stone Village's one room schoolhouse. They didn't have running water or electricity so, every day, there were chores to do, carrying water and filling the wood box. When they moved to Cavendish they had electricity and he loved playing with the light switch on the wall.

Leonard joined the United States Navy Nov. 22, 1946, in the Korean War, active duty in Japan and San Diego, and was discharged Sept. 21, 1951. He hitchhiked across the country to return home to Vermont.

Leonard was part of the work crew that built the Proctorsville Gulf Road, worked on the Roundy farm as a young teen, drove a bread delivery route, and in 1956 he started at General Electric in Ludlow, transferring to the new plant in Rutland, where he benched dies and trained many new bench hands for over 35 years, retiring in 1991.

When still a young boy, his family moved to Cavendish where he met his future wife, Joan Gilson, when Joan was 13 years old. Joan was the little sister of Leonard's friend Ronnie, and they spent their days trying to "get away from" Joan. That changed after Leonard returned from his stint in the Navy, and he and Joan began dating. They married in Proctorsville on Feb. 7, 1953. They had four daughters.

Leonard was a proud Vermonter all his life. He was proud of being a universal blood donor, giving many gallons through many years. He was a lifelong Red Sox fan, listening to the games on his pocket transistor radio and earplug, going to Fenway Park, and going to Cooperstown to see the Baseball Hall of Fame. He was a member of the American Legion and Loyal Order of the Moose. He loved to play cards - especially cribbage; play horseshoes at GE lunch hours, winning many tournaments; teaching his daughters how to play these, and badminton, and softball along with all the neighborhood children; swimming at the swimming hole and skating at the fire station. He was an accomplished carpenter, renovating his home (an original Sears package house) to add a second floor to make room for all his daughters. He helped renovate the Holy Name of Mary Community Building, and helped with some renovations at the Cavendish Baptist Church and painting at the Gill Home. He was quite an artist, drawing and carving statues, making wooden toys, and showing them to all. His cars had moving steering wheels and doors that opened. His animals had manes and tails made from Joan's old leather pocketbooks. He enjoyed deer hunting. He was a whiz at jigsaw puzzles. He attended all the ballgames of his daughters and grandchildren. He made ice igloos for his daughters to play in. He loved babies and children. Leonard and Joan went to the Cafe at Delight, the restaurant co-owned by daughter Sheryl, every day for lunch for years, delivering his delicious pies that were on the menu, making many friends and helping with end of day duties. He was a terrific dad, grandfather, husband, father-in-law, uncle and friend to all. All of us were very lucky to have him in our lives.

Leonard T. Carlisle, 1929-2022.
PHOTO PROVIDED

He is survived by his four daughters, Roxanne (Mike) Mackey, Theresa (Peter) Southworth, Sheryl (Howard Paul) Guica, and Lisa (Scott) Spooner; his grandchildren Desiree Guica, Adrienne Guica, Bradley (Kim) Southworth, Aaron (Ashley) Southworth, and Cole Spooner; his great-grandchildren Alessia Guica, Cadence Paul; Connor, Tucker and Lucas Southworth; sister-in-law Patricia (Verne) Mossey; brother-in-law Allen Coleman; many nieces, nephews.

He was predeceased by his parents; his wife of 63 years Joan in 2016; his sisters Edna (Arthur) Stocker and Clarissa Coleman; his brother Glenn "Johnnie" (Jannette) Carlisle; brother-in-law Ronnie (Goldie) Gilson; sister-in-law Janet (Ozzie) Pikkarainen; mother/father-in-law Jesse and Clarinda Gilson.

Services will be in the spring in Cavendish. Clifford Funeral Home is assisting with all arrangements.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Subject to space. May be edited for clarity, grammatical errors, and libelous statements. Must include name and town for publication. Viewpoints do not necessarily reflect the views of The Vermont Journal & The Shopper.

OPINION

Dear Editor,

Yesterday my son asked if we could add Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday to the short list of holidays that we start with a cup of hot chocolate. Up to now, it's been Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day, and the kids' birthdays.

What my son really said was, "I was talking with Mom, and she says that Martin Luther King would want us to have hot chocolate on his birthday."

Mom does know best as usual. Hot chocolate is a great way to start Martin Luther King's birthday.

The facts are, my family is learning to honor the Martin Luther King holiday just as highly as we honor Christmas and Veterans Day.

2019 was the 400th anniversary of slavery in America. Martin Luther King, who lived and died to lead our nation to overcome that dreadful foundation, does command our attention on this day. A cup of hot chocolate is the least we could do, right?

Sincerely,
Sean Whalen
Weathersfield, Vt.

Dear Editor,

We want to thank all of the homeowners, property owners, and businesses in Ludlow, Cavendish, and Plymouth who so generously responded to our request for financial support again this year. Without your help, the Black River Valley Senior Center would not be able to offer the services it does to the residents of your towns throughout the year.

While our major fundraising effort is in the early part of November, we graciously accept financial donations throughout the year. Thank you all again!

Sincerely,
Black River Valley Senior Center Board of Directors
Ludlow, Vt.

Dear Editor,

The 2022 Vermont Legislative Session is off and running. As this is the second year of our Biennium, we dove right in on Tuesday, Jan. 4. Sadly, this is also the second year in which the Covid-19 pandemic is impacting our ability conduct our business in person at the Vermont Statehouse. Given the anticipated post-holiday surge of Covid-19 cases, coupled with the tidal wave of the Omicron variant just hitting Vermont, it seemed the prudent move to begin our 2022 Session remotely to protect the health and safety of the public, our members, and staff. While we are disappointed to have to delay in-person work, it is wonderful that we have an effective electronic alternative and can meet via Zoom.

As a result of the Legislature's pivot to online meetings, the public now has the greatest increase in access to our work in our history. Every Committee meeting is available to watch in real time on YouTube. Those links can be found on our Legislative webpage: www.legislature.vermont.gov. If you are interested in following an issue, I encourage you explore this website. Each Committee webpage has the Agenda for the week, the YouTube links, the bills in that Committee, and all the Reports and Documents supporting the Committees work. Never has Vermont's legislative work been so transparent and accessible.

Our Legislative priorities revolve around four key areas: Workforce, Housing, Climate Change, and the continued work of responding to Covid-19's persistent challenges and the needs of Vermonters. Plus, it is a year with a number of things we must do: Re-Apportionment (precipitated by the Census), vote the two Constitutional amendments out of the Legislature and to the public for November's election, act on the Climate Council's recommendations, and respond to the recommendations made by some key off-Session Task Forces which addressed: Pensions, Education Finance and the Weighting Formula, and Health Care Affordability. In addition, addressing Social Equity issues is a priority. Of course, there are the perennial requirements for a Legislative Session like the Budget and Judicial Retention. And, we only have five months to do this work, as we usually adjourn in mid-May.

This Session I continue to serve you in the Senate as vice-chair of Senate Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs, and on Senate Government Operations. In addition, I am the Majority Leader in the Senate. I have been appointed to work on the Senate Re-Apportionment Committee and State Workforce Development Board. I am also a member of the Climate Solutions Caucus, the Women's Caucus, and the Social Equity Caucus.

We have a lot to do in short order. In response to Covid-19's continuing impact on our ability to gather safely in person, Senate Government Operations moved swiftly to enable the safe functioning of democracy. We set a new record, passing out three bills in the first four days of Session, two of which have passed the Senate Floor already, and one of which has made it to the Governor's desk to be signed. For a second year, we needed to make it possible in 2022 for Towns to move Town Meeting, to vote by Australian Ballot, to hold Informational Meetings and public meetings remotely, and for local candidates to not have to collect signatures.

I appreciate hearing from you. I can be reached by email at aclarkson@leg.state.vt.us or by phone at 802-457-4627. To watch Legislative Committees in action and to get more information on the Vermont Legislature, the bills which are being debated now, and those which have been proposed and passed, visit the legislative website www.legislature.vermont.gov.

Sincerely,
Alison Clarkson
Vermont State Senator, Majority Leader
Windsor County District

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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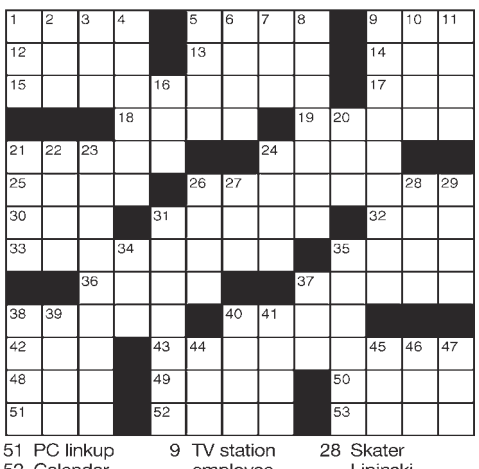
King Crossword



ACROSS
1 Hula swivelers
5 Kvetch
9 Comedian Margaret
12 Inky stain
13 Stead
14 Bond rating
15 Sooner State native
17 "The A-Team" actor
18 Trails
19 Rose parts
21 Halloween disguises
24 Rating unit
25 iPhone downloads
26 Skunk relatives
30 "— was saying ..."
31 Passion
32 — tai
33 Olympic winner
35 Poet of yore
36 Dutch cheese
37 Arm bones
38 Peer in a box
40 The Emerald Isle
42 Branch
43 Intermediary
48 "Patience — virtue"
49 Thus
50 Corn recipe
51 PC linkup
52 Calendar squares
53 Fill up

DOWN
1 "Veep" airer
2 Sort
3 D.C. figure
4 Celery servings
5 Drain blockage
6 Intends
7 Actor Stephen
8 Groan-inducing humorist
9 TV station employee
10 Injure
11 Feed-bag filler
16 Possesses
20 Tic- — -toe
21 Sir's counterpart
22 Church section
23 Peter Parker's alter ego
24 Coin aperture
26 Prudish
27 Takes too much,in med. lingo
28 Skater Lipinski
29 Faction
31 Fear-stricken
34 Big fuss
35 Censors
37 Internet address
38 Hoosegow
39 Celestial bear
40 Jittery
41 Altar vows
44 Roth svgs. plan
45 Extinct bird
46 Picnic crasher
47 Born

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SERVICES obituaries

Lucinda M. Adams

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Lucinda "Cindy" M. Adams, 79, of Springfield, Vt. has passed away after a courageous battle with dementia.

Cindy was born in Windsor, Vt. to Elba and Lucy (Rogers) Jillson. She attended schools in Weathersfield and Springfield, Vt.

She held many jobs including running multiple businesses, and worked for C&S Wholesale in Brattleboro for many years.

She was a strong and loved woman that loved to watch birds and do needle work.

Cindy is survived by her sisters, Janice Jillson of Rio Randro, N.M., and Nancy Dulac of Barre, Vt., her ex-husband Eugene Adams of Perkinsville, her son Richard Adams and his wife Cindy of Springfield, her daughter Joy Streeter Fletcher and her husband Shannon of Springfield, and her grandchildren, Heather Storer, Teresa Clark, Kyle Adams,

Lucinda M. Adams.
PHOTO PROVIDED

and Anthony Thompson. She is also survived by 14 great-grandchildren and by many nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her daughter Betty Jean, her life partner Frank Wilson, her brother Nelson Jillson, her sister Rita Griffin, her son-in-law Jeffrey Streeter, and by her eldest grandson Thomas Thompson.

A graveside service will be held at a later date.

Davis Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Jeffrey P. Laskevich, 2022

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Jeffrey P. Laskevich, 62, of Springfield, Vt. passed away unexpectedly at his home on Thursday, Jan. 13, 2022. He was born and raised in Springfield, Vt., the son of John and Beverly Laskevich. Jeff graduated from Springfield High School in the class of 1977. He married his wife, Sharon Graves, in 1984. They set off on an adventure to Southern California in 1986 where they lived for eight years, creating many lifelong friendships.

Jeff was a Senior Manufacturing Engineer at MacDonald Douglas in Huntington Beach, Calif. On Aug. 17, 2013, Jeff was inducted into the International Space Hall of Fame in Alamogordo, N.M. for his role in the DC-X/XA Team. Jeff returned to Springfield with his growing family in 1993. He went on to spend 25 years working at Lovejoy Tool Company. Jeff was appreciated for his flexibility and dedication to the company. Jeff's love for learning was never ending, and at the age of 50 he decided to try a new venture. Jeff became a real estate agent and joined Barrett & Valley Associates where he helped many families find their homes here in his beloved community.

Jeff was known for his huge heart and generosity, offering a helping hand whenever possible. Jeff made a friend everywhere he went; he opened his life to anyone without judgment. His big smile and laugh were extremely contagious. Friends and family describe Jeff as the life of the party. He could always be found telling stories and singing his favorite songs.

As an avid hunter, Jeff simply enjoyed being in the woods. He loved watching the wildlife and would spend countless hours observing, scouting, and soaking in all nature had to offer. He shared this love with his daughters and anyone who showed an interest. He loved passing his knowledge on to others and sharing with them the peace he felt while there. In 1971, Jeff received his Marksman certification. Jeff also enjoyed many other

Jeffrey P. Laskevich, 2022.
PHOTO PROVIDED

hobbies including fishing, gardening, and road trips around the country.

Most importantly, Jeff loved his family. He was a devoted father to his daughters who cherished every moment spent with him. Raising three daughters with his wife was the accomplishment Jeff was most proud of. He was unconditionally supportive. Jeff often talked about how blessed he felt to have his family. He felt lucky to have gained three amazing sons and their spontaneous adventures were always filled with laughs. Jeff's grandchildren brought out his playfulness. He loved to give buggy rides around the farm and pull pranks, always keeping them laughing.

Jeff is survived by his wife of 37 years, Sharon; his daughters Jennifer Williams (Kevin), Sarah Edwards (Dan), and Laura Laskevich (Hayden Scott); beloved grandchildren Laurenna, Hannah, Ryker, and a bonus granddaughter; his mother Beverly Laskevich of Daytona Beach Fla., brother Stevan, sister Jayne, and many cherished family members and friends whom he considered to be family. Jeff was predeceased by his father, John, and two brothers, Michael, and John. He will be deeply missed by so many.

Jeff's family will be holding calling hours at Davis Memorial Chapel on Thursday, Jan. 20, from 6 – 8 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Green Mountain Conservation Camp Scholarship Fund, VT Dept of Fish & Wildlife, Attn: GMCC Scholarship Fund, 1 National Life Drive, Davis 2, Montpelier, VT 05602.

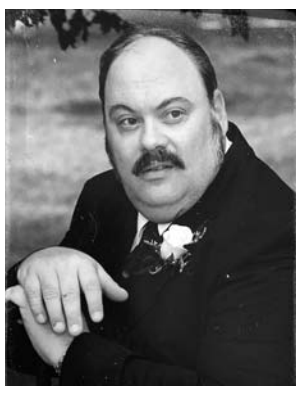
David M. Call, 1957-2022

N. HARTLAND, Vt. – David M. Call, born on March 5, 1957, passed away at 64 years of age on Saturday, Jan. 8, 2022, while in Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, N.H. after battling ongoing, non-Covid-19 medical problems.

David was predeceased by his father, David R. Call, and his sister, Debra C. Call.

He is survived by his wife, Kitty Call; their three beloved children, Angell Lyndes and husband Jeff, Bill Matthews and wife Daph, and Don Matthews and spouse Manny; his mother, Phyllis Call Regione; his identical twin brother, Phillip M. Call; his grandchildren, Ashley, Amber, Justin, Joe, and Billie Jean; his four great-grandchildren; as well as nieces and nephews.

David grew up in White River Junction, Vt., attended Hartford schools, and lived in Lebanon before moving to North Hartland, Vt., where he resided for the last 30 years with Kitty. They were married on Aug. 31, 2002, in Hartland. He proudly and honorably served 34 years with the Vermont Department of Corrections until he retired.



David M. Call, 1957-2022.
PHOTO PROVIDED

David requested no funeral services to be held, but with his blessing, a celebration of life in his honor will be held at a later date and time to be determined. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the American Diabetes Association or the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

Knight Funeral Home of White River Junction is entrusted with arrangements and online condolences are appreciated for David's family at www.knightfuneralhomes.com.

Judith L. Copping, 1952-2022

CHESTER, Vt. – Judith Lynne Copping passed away peacefully on Jan. 7, 2022, at home in Chester, Vt., after a courageous two-year battle with ovarian cancer. She was born on Aug. 16, 1952 to Lynne and Frederick Malone in Syracuse, N.Y. Her family moved to Manchester, Vt., in the early 1960s and Judi attended Manchester schools, graduating from Burr and Burton Academy in 1970. She later attended the University of Vermont.

She is survived by her husband, Steve, of 47 years, her son Alexander, her sister Kathy Malone, brother Chris Malone, and her Mom, Marilyn Egles, as well as many cherished nieces and nephews. She was sadly predeceased by her brother, Fred D. in 2014, and Dad, Frederick, in 2016.

Judi had a long career with the Vermont Country Store, starting as a waitress in her college years and retiring as a product research analyst, a job she was very proud of and greatly enjoyed. She volunteered for many years at the Council on Aging and served as a Trustee of the Whiting Library in Chester until her illness interfered.

Judith L. Copping, 1952-2022.
PHOTO PROVIDED

Judi was a kind, gentle, loving soul who touched many lives with her wonderful sense of humor and a keen wit that from a very early age could reduce grown men to tears of laughter. She was an avid reader and for a time owned her own antiquarian bookstore which she moved online and operated until this fall. She was a skilled writer and enjoyed knitting, genealogy, travel, cooking, and taking care of her beloved golden retriever, Roger.

When it is again safe to gather, we will invite friends and family to come together to celebrate her wonderful life.

Davis Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Jeremiah Losee, 1984-2022

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Nov. 2, 1984, Jeremiah came into this world a beautiful blonde headed boy, a pure joy to his family. For 37 years, he touched so many lives with laughter, joy, advice, strength, and wisdom. Every person he met was a friend. He was never afraid to speak his mind whether you wanted to hear it or not. He had a huge heart made of gold that filled his big body with life.

On Jan. 7, 2022 God spoke his name and called him home to take his place in Heaven. I am sure that his family in heaven welcomed him with open arms. His passing has left a hole in our lives that can never be filled, but I know that he would want his family and friends to remember him with happiness and laughter, not with tears and sadness. He loved life, he loved his family and friends.

Jeremiah was born to Peter & Lori Losee in Springfield, Vt. He attended schools in Cavendish and Green Mountain High School in Chester. At the age of 21, he found his career at NBC solids in Springfield, and continued to work for this business as name changed he followed the owners. He met so many people along this path and left his mark on them all.

Although his life was short, the impact he left has been huge and will always be remembered.

Jeremiah is survived by his parents, Peter and Lori Losee, by his pride and joy, his crowning achievement, his son, Lucas James Losee, his Fiance, Brittany Deyo, his sister, Amanda Smith and brother in law, Juston smith, two nephews, Kaleb Smith and Brett Lawton, three nieces, Hannah Lawton, Grace Smith and Emma Lawton,and his Godfather and Best friend, Tom (Smitty) Smith. He is also survived by Lucas's mom, Magen Adams and her daughter, Maddison Merrow and his unbiological grandson, Anthonni Dear. Many Aunts, Uncles,

Jeremiah Losee, 1984-2022.
PHOTO PROVIDED

Cousins and Friends and his work family at LBL Fabrications in Springfield, Vt.

He is predeceased by his paternal and maternal grandparents and one nephew, two uncles and a great uncle.

Jeremiah loved the outdoors and loved sharing his time outdoors with Lucas. Teaching him to fish, hunt, the values of life and nature, and how to protect our environment. He was also a huge Raiders fan through and through. In 2009 he decided to try his luck at racing at Claremont Speedway, the local short track and loved it! He was a two-time track champion and a rookie of the year. And again, his fire and determination and love of the sport left an impact on his racing family. He loved music, all genres, he loved gathering with his family around a fire and singing his heart out to the likes of Hank Williams Jr., Garth Brooks, Jamey Johnson and many more.

Calling hours were held on Saturday, Jan. 15, 2022, from 2 – 4 p.m. at Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in his memory to the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund, Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department, 1 National Life Drive, Dewey Building, Montpelier, VT 05620-3208.

Jeremiah 29:11 11 For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

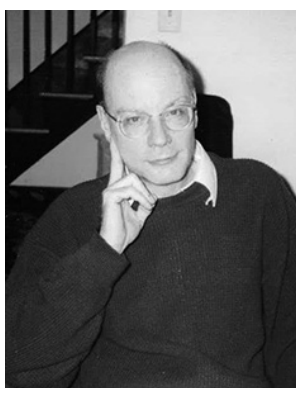
Robert J. Martin, 2021

ANDOVER, Vt. – Robert James Martin passed away peacefully at his home in Andover, Vt. on Dec. 11, 2021 after a long battle with cancer at the age of 75. Bob is survived by his brother William, William's wife Mary, and his brother Michael; Alice, his wife of 50 years and their children, Cathy, Paul, and Christopher, and Paul's wife Jody; and his granddaughters, Cassidy and Kylee.

Born in New York City to William and Mary Martin, he was raised with an appreciation of faith, humor, music, and learning. Bob met Alice early in their teens, but only became a couple after they had both finished college and met once again. He worked in the semi-conductor industry in California for a time, but returned to New York, where Alice and Bob were married and began their family life. Eventually, after attending colleges and universities in New York, California, and New Jersey he earned his Masters Degree in Electrical Engineering from Rutgers University.

While working full-time and completing the classes for his degree, he still made time to become a church lector and participate in several local leadership roles for the BSA. His enthusiasm and openness to learning new skills did not stop there. On one vacation, when his sons were younger, he learned, along with them, how to rock climb. He continued this skill for a few years, as did his sons into adulthood.

After over 40 years in the telecommunications industry, he retired to Vermont. Living in Andover for only a short time, by Vermont standards, Bob enjoyed meeting people and became acquainted with a number of persons who had the same interests as him: astronomy, singing with the Springfield chorus, lectoring at church, volunteering at the Whiting Library in Chester, and assorted other volunteer jobs in the Andover and Chester communities. As a retiree, he could pursue activities he had been meaning to get to over the years. He played a few tunes on the electric piano, sometimes practic-



Robert J. Martin, 2021.
PHOTO PROVIDED

ing the same errors repeatedly. An avid reader, his interests included, but were not limited to, the topics of science, science fiction, and woodworking.

He used his sense of humor to survive rough patches in life, ease into new situations, to see the good in people, and sometimes help them to see the good in themselves. Whether the person was a business associate during the time of many changes in the telecommunications industry, a neighbor, friend, family member, or just a brief encounter with a stranger, he usually left the person with at least a smile on their face and perhaps a different way to look at something.

When diagnosed with cancer in 2017, he handled it with the same humor and positive manner, meeting it head-on honestly, realizing the negatives, but focusing on taking advantage of optimistic approaches and medical opportunities available to him.

That attitude of faith, courage, perseverance, tenacity, and, of course, sense of humor was shared and cultivated by his father, mother, and two brothers as he grew up. As Bob would put it, a full life contains the sweet and the bitter, allowing us the time to be grateful for both as we learn and grow.

An 11 a.m. mass was held at the Annunciation Parish Church in Ludlow on Saturday, Dec. 18, 2021, followed by a brief gathering with light refreshments in the church meeting room. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you make donations to the Vermont Food Bank in Brattleboro, Vt.

Arrangements are under the direction of Davis Memorial Chapel.

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

All Church Services are online at www.VermontJournal.com.

OBITUARIES: A basic 200-word obituary is $75, and $0.50 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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EVENTS

JAN. 22 – JAN. 29 –
REGION – Join our free online coaching week for beginning singers, Saturday, Jan. 22 through Saturday, Jan. 29, starting at 1:30 p.m. each day. Participate in the live group classes and private coaching sessions via Zoom. Visit www.fearofsinging.com/coachingweek2022 to register. Perfect for non-singers, beginners, or anyone who wants to discover or rediscover their inner singer and the joy of singing.

JAN. 27 –
LUDLOW, Vt. – Fundraiser for Expeditionary School at Black River featuring comedian Rusty DeWees "The Logger" Thursday, Jan. 27 at 7 p.m. at Calcutta's Bar and Restaurant, located at Fox Run Golf Club. The event includes a light dinner and Calcutta's will provide a cash bar. Proceeds go to Year 3 of the Expeditionary School at Black River for local education. Tickets can be purchased on the ESBR website at www.esblackriver.org.

MONDAYS –
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Overeaters Anonymous 12-Step Recovery Program is Mondays, from 7-8 p.m., at the old St. Charles Catholic School building, 25 Cherry Street in Bellows Falls. The program is free. Call Celeste with any questions at 802-376-3507.

WESTON, Vt. – Bingo is Monday nights at 7 p.m. at the Weston Rod & Gun Club, 982 Route 100, 1.5 miles north of Weston Village. All are welcome.

TUESDAYS –
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Come check out TOPS – Take Off Pounds Sensibly. We are a nonjudgmental, affordable, and supportive weight loss group. The first visit is free. We are taking Covid-19 precautions so a mask is required while attending the meeting. All are welcome; youth must be at least 9 to attend and have parental permission. Meetings are every Tuesday at 25 Cherry Hill in Bellows Falls. Weigh-ins start at 5:45 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS –
CHESTER, Vt. – Knitting with Friends at Six Loose Ladies on the Chester Common, Wednesdays, from 10 a.m. to noon.

REGION – On Wednesdays at 5 p.m., join Lori Wright for Yoga Flow with Meditation, live or watch the video during your perfect time. A 45-minute gentle flow class with meditation to strengthen, improve flexibility, bring balance, relieve stress, and improve the immune system. Calm the "monkey mind" and help bring peace to your life, whether it is on or off your yoga mat. Contact Lori Wright at 603-401-8123 or email at loriwright163@gmail.com to register.

THURSDAYS –
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Meals on Wheels serves a senior community lunch every Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the meal site, which is located on the corner of Union and Southridge streets in Springfield. All-you-can-eat buffet includes milk, coffee or tea, and dessert. Suggested donation. For more information, call 802-885-5879.

WALPOLE, N.H. – Alcoholics Anonymous women's meeting, a 12-step recovery program for women who have a desire to stop drinking, is happening every Thursday at 6 p.m. at the St. John's Episcopal Church at the corner of Westminster and Elm streets in Walpole, N.H. For more information, call Viva at 802-732-8330.

FRIDAYS –
WALPOLE, N.H. – Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous Fridays from 7-8 p.m. in St. John's Parish Hall, Walpole.

SATURDAYS –
GASSETTS, Vt. – The Gassetts Grange and Green Mountain Express are excited to be holding their Round and Square Dances the first Saturday of every month, from 7-10 p.m., at the Grange Hall. Donation per person. There are snacks and drinks on sale in the kitchen and a 50/50 raffle drawing. We do ask for donations to be paid at the door. For more information, please call 802-591-4290 or 802-875-1051.

SPORTS

THURSDAY, JAN. 20 –

Girls basketball –
Bellows Falls at West Rutland, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, JAN. 21 –

Boys basketball –
Fall Mountain at Kearsarge, 6 p.m.

Leland & Gray at White River Valley, 7 p.m.

Mill River at Bellows Falls, 7 p.m.

Springfield at Mount Anthony, 7 p.m.

West Rutland at Green Mountain, 7 p.m.

Girls basketball –
Kearsarge at Fall Mountain, 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JAN. 22 –

Girls basketball –
Bellows Falls at Long Trail, 3 p.m.

Springfield at Fair Haven, 2:30 p.m.

West Rutland at Green Mountain, 12:30 p.m.

MONDAY, JAN. 24 –

Boys basketball –
Green Mountain at Rivendell Academy, 7 p.m.

Leland & Gray at Twin Valley, 7 p.m.

Sharon Academy at Bellows Falls 7 p.m.

Springfield at Windsor, 7 p.m.

Girls basketball –
Springfield at Hartford, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, JAN. 25 –

Boys basketball –
Fall Mountain at Hillsboro-Deering, 5:30 p.m.

Girls basketball –
Arlington at Green Mountain, 7 p.m.

Hartford at Springfield, 7 p.m.

Hillsboro-Deering at Fall Mountain, 6:30 p.m.

Rivendell Academy at Bellows Falls, 7 p.m.

West Rutland at Leland & Gray, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, JAN. 27 –

Boys basketball –
Green Mountain at Twin Valley, 7 p.m.

Woodstock at Springfield, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, JAN. 28 –

Boys basketball –
Leland & Gray at Long Trail, 6 p.m.

Mascoma Valley at Fall Mountain, 6:30 p.m.

Girls basketball –
Burr & Burton at Springfield, 7 p.m.

Fall Mountain at Mascoma Valley, 6:30 p.m.

Green Mountain at Rivendell Academy, 7 p.m.

Mill River at Leland & Gray, 5:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JAN. 29 –

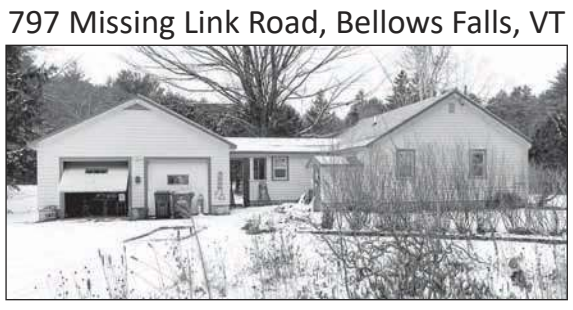
Boys basketball –
Green Mountain at Proctor, 1:30 p.m.

Rivendell Academy at Bellows Falls, 2:30 p.m.

Arlington at Leland & Gray, 11 a.m.

Game schedules are subject to change. For more information about an individual game or team, go to the schools' athletic department websites. If you would like to submit sports news or photos from a recent game, email editor@vermontjournal.com.

Foreclosure:
2BR Home on 1.86± Acres
REAL ESTATE AUCTION
Thursday, February 10 @ 11AM
Register & Inspect from 10AM
797 Missing Link Road, Bellows Falls, VT



2BR/1BA home with 832± SF on a 1.86± acre parcel. Full basement, concrete foundation, 2-car attached garage. Close to interstate.
Please respect privacy of occupants.
NAA Auctioneer THOMAS HIRCHAK COMPANY
THCAuction.com • 800-634-SOLD

WELCOME
JARROD JOWDY
SALES ASSOCIATE, LUDLOW OFFICE

Jarrod began to ski at the age of nine and spent many years frequenting Vermont ski resorts before becoming a full time resident of Ludlow in 2006. Originally from Danbury Connecticut, Jarrod earned his Connecticut Real Estate Sales license in 2004, became a Connecticut Broker in 2011, and a Vermont Broker in 2019.

Jarrod brings to Coldwell Banker Lifestyles not only his expertise as a successful Broker, but a wealth of real estate knowledge through a generation of his father's professional influence as one of Fairfield County's leading Real Estate Brokers since 1970, and Danbury's Zoning Board of Appeals Chairman for over fifty years.

Whether you are thinking of listing or purchasing, let Jarrod's lifetime of experience help to accomplish your goals!

JARROD JOWDY
SALES ASSOCIATE
Cell: 802.369.9153 Office: 802.228.5678
Jarrod@TheCBLife.com
Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated
COLDWELL BANKER | LIFESTYLES

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 23 mins.

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

BARRETT & VALLEY ASSOCIATES INC

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

Turn-Key Cape w/Tons Of Character!
Nestled In Heart of Chester
3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, 1.0+/- Acres
Chester, $349,000

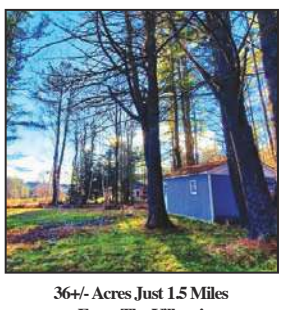
Fine Victorian Home
Fireplace & original Woodwork
3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
Rockingham, $219,000

Spacious Office Building & Small Apartment w/ Excellent Exposure
2 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
Rockingham, $199,900

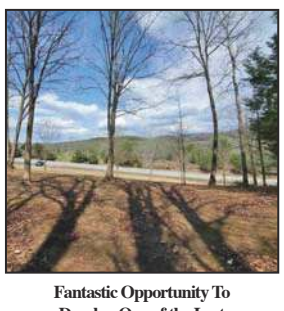
Fine Village Home!
Current Day Care w/ Over 3500 Sq. Ft
4 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, 0.13+/- Acres
Rockingham, $199,000

Fabulous 3 Unit Property
In Bellows Falls Village
Walk to Shops and Dining
Rockingham, $179,000

Great Investment Opportunity!
2 Family Residence
One 3+ BDR Unit, One 1 BDR Unit
Springfield, $150,000



36+/- Acres Just 1.5 Miles From The Village!
2 acres w/ Well, Septic & Garage!
Chester, $169,000



Fantastic Opportunity To Develop One of the Last Commercial Lots! 0.85+/- Acres
Rockingham, $68,000

Perfect Building Lot
Near Shopping, Restaurants, Schools
Existing Slab, Electric & Well
Springfield, $28,000

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

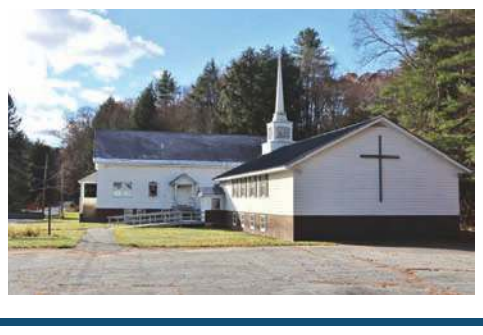
Professional Friendly Service
13 Clinton Street • Springfield, VT 05156
802-885-2500 • www.musevermont.com
Muse & Associates REAL ESTATE

Lori Muse, Broker/Owner

Carol Cole, REALTOR

Homes like these are a rare find with big, spacious rooms, high ceilings and lots of details. The first floor of this home offers formal dining room, formal and informal living room (with woodstove) newer kitchen with walk-in pantry, laundry room, master suite with full bathroom, a large front/center hall. Upstairs offers a second master bedroom with bath, sitting room, additional bedrooms, bath and in-law kitchen for configuration as one pleases. Outside offers wrap around porches, attached garage, deck area and a large Barn. The grounds consisting of 1+/- acres is a delightful walk including gardens, fire pit, former water feature. Well cared for and worth a look! **$399,000**

This well maintained commercial property is on the main highway with great visibility and in close proximity to the Toonerville, walking and bike path,for those needing a mid-day break. Ideal spacious professional office spaces, with a bit of the modern industrial, look so desired in today market, a break room and plenty of parking. The covered deck is great for coffee break time in the warm months. In addition this could, with a few alterations, become a delightful 2-3 bedroom home.Priced to sell, so call today. **$139,000**



This Church is ready to take on a new life and the possibilities are abundant. With lots of square footage, open concept spaces and multiple smaller rooms, this property can be configured in multiple ways. The church was originally constructed in 1920 with a large addition in 1973 connected at both levels with a hall. Some of the added features include a spacious kitchen with pantry, dining hall, chair lift to get from entry up ordown, entry ramp and ample paved parking. Situated on a level lot in North Springfield offers easy access. **$210,000**

LEGAL NOTICES classifieds

BUYING/ SELLING

BUYING-SELLING Coins, Paper Money, Vintage Sports-Postcards, Comics. See our displays at ANTIQUE CENTERS in Chester and Quechee. Open 7 Days. 802-379-2353. House calls available.

CAREGIVER

REGION – Experienced caregiver for the elderly, house sitter, and errand runner. I am available all shifts. Call Marie at 802-554-0041.

GUNS WANTED

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

HELP WANTED

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – Sojourns Community Health Clinic is looking for a Medical Receptionist for a busy multi-practitioner clinic. The ideal candidate will be someone who has the ability and willingness to manage multiple tasks, be flexible, and greets our patients with professionalism, grace, and compassion, whether in person or over the telephone. Additional skills required are: customer service experience, attention to detail, time management, and desire to be part of a team. This is a full time, 5 days a week position. Please send resume and cover letter to: Sojourns Community Health Clinic, 4923 US Route 5, Westminster, VT 05158. No phone calls or faxes please.

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Dental office assistant. Our friendly, professional dental practice is seeking a dental assistant to join our team. We are willing to train the right person, experience helpful but not required. Offering 401(k), vacation, and dental. Please send resume to jenngraffa@hotmail.com or mail Dr. David Heydenreich, 192 Rockingham St. Bellows Falls, VT 05101.

WALPOLE, N.H. – Assistant Manager needed at Walpole Valley Tire, an owner managed store. Primary duties will be as a Tire Tech, supervising changing area and customer interaction (as needed); managerial duties upon owner's absence. Please email wvtjobs@hotmail.com for an application or stop by store at 532 Main Street, Walpole, NH (next to Tractor Supply).

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Janitorial Position Available, United States Post office. $18.84 an hour, 1.5 hours a day, 6 days a week, Monday – Saturday. Flexible start time during hours of operation. Contact Aimee regional supervisor at 207-349- 0510 or Mario operations director at 651-274-6900.

OTHER

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Accepting bids for refinish of approx. 3800 SF VCT tile floor. All materials and equipment furnished. No experience required. Email gwi@vermontel.net for information.

PLACE A CLASSIFIED AND GET SEEN!
WWW.VERMONTJOURNAL.COM

Custodial Positions

Chester-Andover Elementary School has two full year custodial positions open. The part time position is Monday-Friday from 6pm-10pm. The full time position is Monday-Friday 1pm-9pm. Duties include custodial tasks as assigned - cleaning and maintaining facilities. A background check is required. Two Rivers Supervisory Union is an Equal Opportunity Employer. To apply please send your resume to keith.cry@trsu.org.

School Bus Driver

Green Mountain Unified School District has a position open for a Full Time Bus Driver starting immediately. Driving will be approximately 4 - 6 hours a day split between the morning and afternoon. This is a School Year Position. Requirements: CDL Class B with school bus and passenger endorsement, as well as current DOT Medical Card. Background Checks and a pre-employment drug test are required as well as being in a pool for random drug testing. EOE.

Job Type: Full-time Pay: $22.87 per hour

Send Resumes to: Michael Ripley at michael.ripley@trsu.org

TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM

BELLOWS FALLS UNION HIGH SCHOOL

ANNUAL MEETING: February 23, 2022
Bellows Falls Union High School
7:00 P.M.

****

TOWN MEETING: February 28, 2022
Bellows Falls Opera House
7:00 P.M.

ELECTION: March 1, 2022
Polling Hours 8:00 am – 7:00 pm
Masonic Temple
66 Westminster Street; Bellows Falls

January 24 2022 at 4:30 pm is the last day to file nomination petitions with a minimum of 30 signatures

POSITIONS AVAILABLE FOR MARCH 1 2022 ELECTION:

Number of Seats	Position Available	Term Length at Election	Current Holder of Seat & up for re-election
1	Town Moderator	1 year term	L Raymond Massucco
1	Town Clerk	3 year term	Kathleen Neathawk
2	Select Board	1 year term	Rick Cowan & Elijah Zimmer
1	Select Board	3 year term	Peter Golec
1	Town Treasurer	3 year term	Kathleen Neathawk
1	Lister	3 year term	Camilla Roberts
1	Lister	2 year term	(remainder of 3 year) Paul Obuchowski
1	Town Agent	1 year term	L. Raymond Massucco
3	Trustee Public Funds	3 year term	Patricia Fowler, 2 Empty Seats
2	Trustee Campbell Fund	3 year term	Empty Seats
3	Trustee Public Library	3 year term	Kathleen Hacker, Dale Kondracki and Ellen Taetzsch
1	Rockingham School Moderator	1 year term	L Raymond Massucco
1	Rockingham School Dir.	2 year term	Jason Benson & Empty Seat
1	BFUHS #27 Dir.	3 year term	Priscilla Lambert
2	BFUHS #27 Dir.	2 year term	Margo Ghia

The last day to register to vote in the **Rockingham Town and Rockingham Town School Annual Meeting** is March 1, 2022 during voting. The last day to register to vote for the **Bellows Falls Union High School** is February 23, 2022 **at meeting.** If you have questions, please call the Town Clerk's office at 463-4336 ext. 1102 or e-mail clerk@rockbf.org or asstclerk@rockbf.org

The last day to file an article petition signed by 5% of the registered voters to be included in the **Town Meeting Warning** is January 13, 2022 at 4:30 pm. A minimum of **182** signatures from Rockingham registered voters is required.

Like us on Facebook! @VermontJournal

TOWN OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE

In accordance with 24 V.S.A. Section 961(a), the Selectboard of the Town of Plymouth hereby gives notice of a vacancy created in the office of a Lister.

The Selectboard is placing this advertisement requesting interested individuals to be interviewed to fill this vacancy. The person appointed will serve until a Town election is held for said position.

If you are interested in being considered for this position, please submit your resume to the Town Clerk, 68 Town Office Road, Plymouth, VT 05056 or by emailing same to clerk@plymouthvt.org at your earliest convenience. Applications are due by Thursday, January 13, 2022.

Additional information pertaining to this Notice and its contents may be obtained by contacting the Town Clerk, 802-672-3655 during normal office hours – Monday through Thursday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Assistant Town Clerk-Treasurer Town of Weston

Immediate opening reporting to Town Clerk/Treasurer. Seeking detail oriented, flexible and self-motivated individual with good communication skills, fluent with computer programs Word, Excel, email and ability to learn other specialized computer software. Part-time, 4 days a week, 16 hours a week.
Duties include recording land records, vital records, and voter registration; collecting payments; general inquiries from the community; preparation of the annual Town Report; processing various licenses.

Please send resume and references to Kim Seymour, Town Clerk, P.O. Box 98, Weston, VT 05161
or by email to clerk@westonvt.org
Town of Weston is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Notice of Sale of Municipal Real Estate Town of Londonderry, Vermont

The Town of Londonderry, Vermont hereby gives notice pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 1061 that it desires to convey the following Town-owned real property to Pierre and Bettina Labeau: Parcel ID: #103001.000, being all and the same lands and premises which were conveyed to the Town of Londonderry by Tax Collector's Deed dated May 19, 2020, and recorded May 19, 2020, in Book 86, Page 385 of the Londonderry Land Records.

After a public solicitation of sealed bids, the Londonderry Selectboard voted to accept a high bid received from the intended purchasers in the amount of $2,799.00. The property is proposed to be transferred by Quitclaim Deed on or about March 9, 2022, subject to the condition that it be merged for tax assessment and zoning purposes with property owned by the intended purchasers, located at Parcel ID #103002.000. If five percent of the legal voters of Londonderry sign and file with the Town Clerk a petition objecting to the sale within 30 days of this Notice, the Town will hold a town meeting vote on the question of whether to convey the sale.

Shane P. O'Keefe, Town Administrator

yellow page BUSINESS DIRECTORY

$150 for 13 Weeks • $250 for 26 Weeks • $400 for 52 Weeks
Prices are based on a 20 word listing. An additional 50 cents for each word thereafter.

Art Crafts Gifts

GALLERY AT THE VAULT
Vermont State Craft Center
68 Main St., Springfield
Open Wed. & Sat. 11-5, Fri. 11-7
www.galleryvault.org
802-885-7111

1/5 to 1/29 – ***A Winter's Contemplation,*** Show of Watercolor Paintings by Jeanne Carbonetti

2/19 – ***Storytelling through Illustrations and Cartoons*** with Christine Mix. Online class. Fun step-by-step lessons that focus on character design, expressions, action drawing, and how to create stories through illustrations. Age 10 and up. $10. 1-3 p.m. Register by 2/16.
(02/08/22 - TFN - 13)

SAGE JEWELRY AND GIFTS
78 The Common, On the Green
Chester, VT 802-875-7243
www.sagejewelryvt.com

Handcrafted jewelry made on site, full jewelry repair service. Locally crafted gifts, cards, and much more!
(03/08/22 - 13)

Bakery

CROWS BAKERY & OPERA HOUSE CAFE
Celebrating 22 years in business with yummy Pastries, Cakes, Pies, Breads, Cookies. Full Breakfast & Lunch. 73 Depot St. Proctorsville 802-226-7007. crowsbakeryandcafe.com. Like us on Facebook.
(05/31/22 - TFN - 26)

Builders/Contractors

HAMMER FOR HIRE LLC
802-376-3275 ~ "Not just for bangin' nails."
We offer a variety of sevices, ranging from handyman projects, through small restorations to full blown renovations. Our clients expect a great experience from start to finish. Our professionalism matched with proficiency, customer care, and quality hit that mark. We are fully insured and ready for your next project, big or small.
Like us on FACEBOOK: Hammer for Hire LLC @nedmortensen2008
(06/14/22 - 52)

ROSE'S HOME IMPROVEMENT
Booking for winter & spring 2022 projects. 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.
(06/29/22 - 26)

PETER JORDAN CONSTRUCTION
Over 25 years of experience in all phases of construction. Framing, finish carpentry, custom showers and tile work, hardwood flooring, decks, roofing and siding. Fully insured and registered with the State of Vermont. Lead Paint Certified. Located in Proctorsville. 802-558-5267.
(03/22/22 - 13)

STEBBINS SPECTACULAR PAINTING CALL 87–STEBBINS
Interior specialists. Trusted by Stratton mountain resort, McDonald's, and Dartmouth college. Winner, best of Monadnock. Mention "Shopper" for 10% off winter interior work. Restrictions apply. 877-832-2467.
(01/18/22 - 13)

Chiropractor

FOUR SEASONS CHIROPRACTIC, PC
Dr. Denise Natale 58 Parker Avenue, Proctorsville, VT 05153, 802-226-7977 Hours: Tuesday 1pm-6pm, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 10am-6pm.
(08/16/22 - TFN - 52)

Masonry

DRC STONE DESIGN
Specializing in all Stone Masonry Applications including veneer, walls, patios, walkways. Fully insured. Free estimates. 32 years experience. Contact Dan Field at 802-384-0122 or stoneart49@gmail.com or visit drcstonedesign.com.
(03/08/22 - 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.
(09/20/22 - 52)

Okemo Valley TV

LOCAL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK
- Weekly Legislative Update w/ Rep. Charlie Kimbell
- Amherst Lake Dam Update
- Green Mountain HS Basketball
- A Look Back at GM Soccer Playoffs
- Weekly Local Religious Services

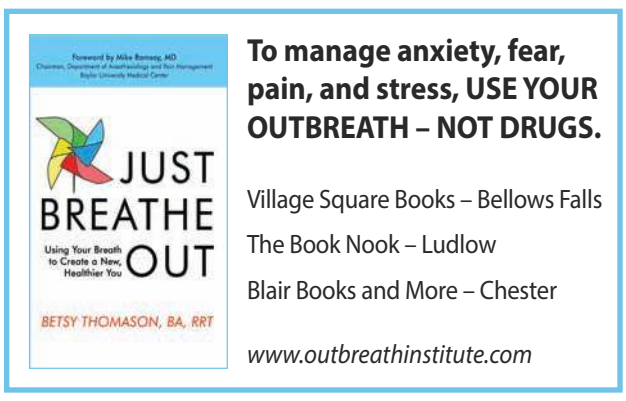
Watch on TV: Community Channel: Comcast 1076 & VTel 166
Education / Gov't Channel: Comcast 1086 / VTel 167
(TV Schedules available at okemovalley.tv/schedules & on cable TV program guide)
Watch Online: okemovalley.tv & youtube.com/okemovalleytv
(02/15/22 - TFN - 13)

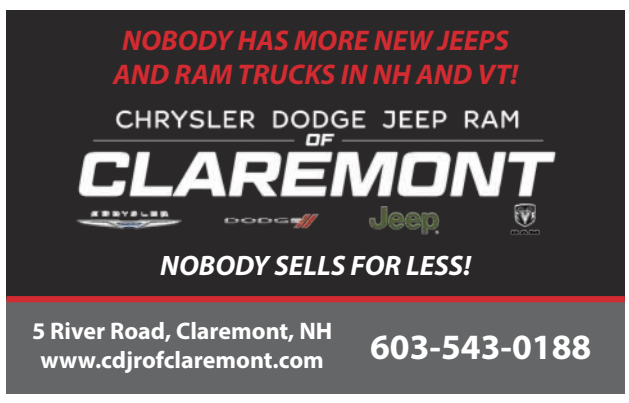
Scrap Metal Wanted

Call Chet for free removal of scrap metal. Also buying scrap cars. Call 802-875-3788.
(03/22/22 - 13)

Junking Johnson will remove your junk metal, appliances, and autos from Springfield to New York. Call Ed 802-824-8197.
(04/13/22 - 13)

new year new you





arts & entertainment

New Work Represented Artist Group Show

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Canal Street Art Gallery is showcasing their New Work Represented Artist Group Show, a presentation of new artwork from each of CSAG's current roster of artists. The show will open Friday, Jan. 21, and be on view to the public through Saturday, Feb. 26. CSAG is hosting a Third Friday Gallery Night on Jan. 21, from 5–7 p.m. to celebrate the show, where visitors can meet the artists and see the artists discuss their work.

CSAG's current roster is made up of 21 local artists, including Clare Adams, Spaulding Dunbar, Mindy Fisher, Nancy Fitz-Rapalje, Kathie Gatto-Gurney, Corinne Greenhalgh, Carol Keiser, Nicholas Kekic, Marcie Maynard, Jeanne McMahan, Lisa Eckhardt McNealus, Martha Nichols, Charles Norris-Brown, MC Noyes, Phyllis Rosser, Melissa Rubin, Matthew Saxton, Gretchen Seifert, and Rodrica Tilley and John Van de Does.

Canal Street Art Gallery is located at 23 Canal Street in Bellows Falls, Vt. and is open Wednesday to Saturday, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. For more information, go to www.canalstreetartgallery.com, call 802-289-0104, or email artinfo@canalstreetartgallery.com.

"Food & Shelter," a postmodern fairytale

PUTNEY, Vt. – The Wild Goose Players are proud to present the world premiere of "Food & Shelter," by award-winning playwright Sean Hurley. Written at the outset of the pandemic and safely rehearsed throughout, the Next Stage production opens Friday, Jan. 21, and will run through Sunday, Jan. 30, every night, at 7:30 p.m.

Food & Shelter begins with two strangers, who happen to be newlyweds, Bronwyn and Estevez, moving into a cabin in the snowy woods. Empty at first, the cabin actually contains everything they need - if only they can find it. But there's a price for the life-saving provisions: someone, or something, is determined to never let them leave. As the cabin reveals its secrets, Bronwyn and Estevez begin to confess their own. And although Estevez may be falling in love with Bronwyn, love is the last thing on her mind.

"I feel as if Arthur Miller came over to my house and asked me if I'd want to direct the world premiere of 'Death of a Salesman,'" says "Food & Shelter" director, David Stern. "This is perhaps the most exciting creative opportunity I have had in the theater since I began working 35 years ago. Sean's play is hauntingly beautiful, full of pathos and pain. It both affirms our beautiful, brief existence and grapples with the challenges that we face in trying to connect with each other."

Sean Hurley says, "When I began 'Food & Shelter,' I wrote toward a certain idea of light at the end of a certain kind of tunnel. That's always my starting point – a tunnel and a light. As I've learned to trust my own process, I've come to understand that as strange as the tunnel may seem at first, if I can find my way through, I won't be alone at the end of the journey."

Tickets are available at www.nextstagearts.org or by calling 802-387-0102. Proof of vaccination or negative Covid test within 48 hours required for entry to indoor shows. Masks required while inside the venue. For more information about Next Stage's Covid policies, email info@nextstagearts.org.

Free ice fishing day

REGION – Vermont's free ice fishing day will be Saturday, Jan. 29. Free ice fishing day is held annually on the last Saturday of January. Resident and nonresident anglers may ice fish on any Vermont body of water open to ice fishing, even without a fishing license, on free ice fishing day.

For tips on ice fishing and safety, go to www.vtfishandwildlife.com. Visit the virtual ice fishing festival for a video on fish identification, safety, and cooking.