TOWN MEETING RESULTS PRINTED NEXT WEEK!

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THE SHOPPER Newspaper

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Rockingham discusses Town Meeting, Articles up for vote———

BY BETSY THURSTON

The Shopper

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. - On Monday, Feb. 28, the Town of Rockingham Information Meeting was held in the Lower Theatre of the Bellows Falls Opera House with roughly 100 voters attending, 60 by Zoom.

L. Ray Massucco moderated, informing residents that the Secretary of State had stated that afternoon Zoom attendees were not eligible to vote and only those in-person could do so.

The School District started the meeting, as it was an even year, and Articles 1 and 11 were voted on unanimously.

James McAuliffe moved to Article 2, asking for \$9,697,976.38, a number that was 17.4% lower per pupil than last year. He asked for approval of the budget and to "bear with us" as they sorted through the problems from the business office. Articles 3 through 7 applied a surplus from 2020 to the next five years to offset taxes. Articles 8 and 9 created

fund balances for capital investments including roof work at Central and Middle Schools. Superintendent Andy Haas explained some of the received ESSER Funds would be utilized for heating and cooling systems but they must be Covid-related expenditures.

Massucco said Articles 3 through 13 would be voted upon by Australian Ballot on March 1. Article 2, to receive reports of Town Officers, was voted on unanimously.

Municipal Manager Scott Pickup said that Covid had impacted the town in both positive ways, enabling them to receive federal funding, and hurt them in other ways, like operations at the Opera House.

Dennis Harty asked about the budget, wanting to see actual numbers. Chair Peter Golec explained the audit was available in a separate handout, but that they used the numbers from last

Rick Cowan moved to Article 5, authorizing cannabis retail and provided a brief overview of Title 7, Section 863. He said Rockingham was one of 40 towns voting this year.

GFC Director Laura Schairbaum said the Cannabis Control Board would prohibit ads appealing to kids, claims on health benefits, and add warning labels. She encouraged Rockingham, if this passed, to establish a local commission supporting larger buffer zones.

Golec moved to Article 6 on the budget for FY23 of \$6,354,252 of which \$5,079,889 would be raised by taxes. He also discussed some of the higher numbers based on previous budgets including recycling that was due to increased staff and higher oil and construction costs on the paving projection.

Elijah Zimmer moved on to Article 7 approving \$94,603 for social services. Wright called a point of order and said the Ballot showed a different number on the specific amounts for social services than the Warning.

Harty said the voters were approving the sum

See **ROCKINGHAM** on Page 2

Pasta maker offers affordable, artisanal food

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – When Springfield resident Leah Grant left her Human Services management job last year, she had no idea that only months later she would have grown a following for her homemade, artisanal pasta.

Grant, a home care provider who homeschools her ten-year-old son, initially saw pasta making as a way to work on fine motor skills, coordination, and teamwork. After posting photos of her creations on personal social media pages, requests for orders followed, and Grant quickly recognized a niche to be filled.

No stranger to creating artisanal products - she formerly had a line of handmade soaps that she sold at local markets - Grant immersed herself in pasta. She joined online groups, watched videos, and asked a lot of questions of experienced pasta makers, working up to 14 hours a day to learn how best to adapt recipes and properly dry product. "I threw away a lot of flour!" she remarks. She researched and purchased pasta-making tools and dehydrators, and familiarized herself with Vermont cottage food laws to ensure all products met standards for consumer safety.

Although she is in talks to supply her pasta to several local stores, Grant remains dedicated to selling directly



Leah Grant.

h Grant.

PHOTO PROVIDED

to consumers. "Markups in stores are so high that the food can become inaccessible," she explains. "I want to be able to offer the community healthy food for a reasonable price."

An advocate for quality food, Grant exclusively uses premium ingredients, including flour from King Arthur and Bob's Red Mill, and locally sourced eggs. Customers can chose from plain, wheat, and flavored pasta (including Basic Garlic, Lemon Pepper, Spinach, Egg, and Roasted Red Pepper) in a variety of shapes. She is particularly proud of her gluten-free offerings, for which she receives a lot of interest. "Most commercial gluten-free pasta is tasteless - it needs a lot of sauce and breaks down so easily, and it can be expensive," says Grant. "People have been so thankful that my pasta is not only flavorful but is affordable. And I'm happy to be able to provide something that many people wouldn't typically

be able to access."

As for the name Imperfect Pasta? "As much as I try to get it uniform, there's no way I'm going to get it to look like boxed pasta, or for the gluten-free pasta

to not crack a little bit," Grant explains. "That's just the nature of homemade pasta." One culprit in particular is variable humidity, which can cause differences in appearance in the same recipe made on different

Pasta orders can be placed through the Imperfect Pasta Facebook page, www.facebook.com/Imperfect-PastaLLC. Orders are typically ready to be picked up or delivered within 2-24 hours, depending on availability. An ecommerce website is in the works, and Grant will be appearing at local markets in the spring. For more information about Imperfect Pasta, please contact Leah Grant at grantleah42@ gmail.com.

Springfield Informational Meeting hears few questions —

BY KYLE LAURITA BONOMETTI

The Shopper

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – At the Springfield Town Informational Hearing on Monday, Feb. 28, very few questions were asked in regards to any of the articles up for discussion. Town and School District Moderator Larry Kraft presided, reading the articles in question and recognizing speakers and residents with comments pertaining to the individual items

ual items.

Very little was discussed on the topic of any of the articles in question, with the exception of Article 4, which was accompanied by a presentation by Town Manager Jeff Mobus, Article 8, which was accompanied by a presentation by School Superintendent Zach McLaughlin, and Article 11, to which Schoolboard

members, represented primarily by Schoolboard member Troy Palmer, spoke to the budget for the 2023 year.

In regards to Article 4, Mobus gave an in-depth description of the proposed allotment of Town budget funds, a total of \$13,425,871, breaking down where the funds would go. His slideshow presentation described an increased tax amount of \$534,245 compared to 2022, to a total of \$10,614,341 to be raised by local taxes. The projects requiring the raise in taxes include retirement payouts and public works equipment replacement. Besides the primary Town budget, Mobus shed some light on Articles 5 and 6, which concern infrastructure in Springfield - namely road improvements and sidewalks that would be installed throughout the town.

McLaughlin discussed Article 8, which would

authorize the Town Treasurer, with approval, to borrow money for short-term expense coverage for the Springfield School District. McLaughlin emphasized that this is an article that has always passed in previous years, and would merely be a precaution in case something happens. According to McLaughlin, the last time Springfield needed to utilize these expense coverages was in November of 2014, and that it lasted only a few

Schoolboard member Troy Palmer was on hand to speak to Article 11, which concerns the School budget for the year. The proposed budget totals \$32,997,951, or \$19,288 per pupil. This projected spending is 5.75% higher per pupil than in 2022.

Palmer reminded voters that only "\$7.9 million of the \$33 million is raised

See **SPRINGFIELD** on Page 2

New taxi service starting in Springfield ———

BY BILL LOCKWOOD

The Shopper

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. have taxi service again. First time small business owners David and Kathleen Holton have come forward to replace the vital service that was ended by the recent sudden death of Kim Rhodes. His taxi service provided rides for many, especially elderly, residents of Springfield. Many had come to depend on him for rides to medical appointments, for groceries, for access to the Laundromat, and many other things for the past 23 years. Kathleen said, "Kim was essential, and the community came to realize that when he

passed." The Holtons feel proud to be starting their own business, and David says, "It's a job where we can be a service to the community." They have gotten the necessary certifications and are bonded. They have opened a storefront office on Main Street, joined the Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce, and have a silver 2012 Mazda 3, shined and cleaned to new car standards. It proudly displays signs with the name of their new business, Springfield Taxi Company. David says with the current Covid situation the cab will be "fully sterilized" between riders, and masks will be required. And they have managed



Springfield Taxi Co.

PHOTO BY BILL LOCKWOOD

to keep the phone number of Kim Rhodes' old service that so many of those who depended on his rides have memorized. Kathleen says, "People are already calling to set up rides."

David and Kathleen have both been area residents for some time, David being born in Springfield, and Kathleen moving here some years ago from Holyoke, Mass. They were married in Comptu Park before it underwent its recent renovations. Having each worked a number of other jobs over the years, they are both excited to now be opening a business of their own. Kathleen says, "We expect to live up to the community's expectation of quality service." Having both heard around town that some people are now "gouging the elders" who need rides, Kathleen says, "We love our community, and we want to make sure it is up and running again with no unfair treatment to the elders on our watch." David stresses the need to respect the dignity of those in need.

Kathleen also sees them

doing special promotions on occasion like "Quiz Cab," questions whose correct answer might give one a free ride or some other prize. She feels, "It will add that little element of fun and will add to connecting with the community." They also want to honor the memory of Kim Rhodes. They say they found out from his widow that he died with \$550 outstanding from riders he had given credit. He would let some pay him in the future for rides now. The Holton's want to have a donation box, and they will match up to \$250 in an attempt to set things right.

The Holtons hope the business will grow to allow them to purchase a second vehicle. Then they will both be drivers. To start, David will drive and Kathleen will take the phone calls. They also see a future where they might even have a mini van that is handicapped equipped.

The company expects to be fully operational by the first of March when residents can once again use 802-885-6990 to call a cab.

INDEX

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EMAIL YOUR PRESS RELEASES, ARTICLES, AND PHOTOS editor@vermontjournal.com 2 | March 02, 2022 The Shopper

Meals on Wheels celebrates 50 years

REGION - On a recent Monday morning, volunteers came rushing in the door of the Springfield Meals Center, busily loading their cars and preparing for another day's deliveries.

March 2022 marks 50 years since Meals on Wheels, the nation's premier nutrition program for seniors, was funded. For Vermont's aging population, it has become a lifeline for many of our neighbors - even more so during the Covid pandemic.

"Today we're delivering 109 meals," said Jane Nichols, a volunteer who was setting out meals that morning. "We prepare anywhere from 85-100 meals every day, and then get ready for the dozen or so people who attend our congregate meals at noon."

Meals on Wheels of Greater Springfield regularly brings meals to seniors who are unable to leave their homes or prepare their own food every day in Springfield, Chester, Andover, Baltimore, and Weathersfield. According to Director Sue Levine, there are about 95 local residents who rely on this service regularly, as well as some residents living with disabilities at the Vermont Center for Independent Living. In all, the Springfield meal site delivers more than 2,000 meals every month.

"We just added a gentleman in Chester to my route," said one volunteer. "He had been falling, and had two knees replaced, and was just very uncomfortable thinking about shopping and cooking. He is so incredibly grateful that we can make his life just a little

bit easier as he recuperates." That afternoon at the Bellows Falls Area Senior Center, staff, board members, and volunteers filed into the comfortable gathering room and the conversation turned to another day's successful Meals on Wheel's deliveries.

"You won't find a better meal for the price," declared volunteer driver Fred Yates. "They're balanced, nutritious, and delicious. It's a great service."

"And we have a good time. You won't find a friendlier bunch of people anywhere," added another volunteer, Wayne Johnson.

One quickly gets the impression that this is a team that is genuinely happy and dedicated to be serving the community as they do.

The Bellows Falls operation is unique in southeastern Vermont, in that it crosses the state border. "We cover Walpole and North Walpole, as well as Rockingham," said Senior Center director Teahan Kosut. With daily meals provided to more than 60 area residents who can not leave their home or prepare meals on their own, the faithful fleet of volunteers is a key element of the operation. In November 2021, the center hit an all-time record, providing 2,084 meals in one

"The program is focused on nutritional needs, but there is also the social aspect of having a familiar, friendly face come to the door," says Wendi Germain, the nutrition and wellness director of Senior Solutions, which provides support to the program. "For many, these drivers may be the only face they see all week. We so appreciate these volunteers. I cannot overemphasize how critical it is to have public support for these programs, through both volunteerism and donations." Wendi noted that Meals on Wheels operations across Vermont rely heavily on public donations to keep them running - with more than 50% of the funding coming from local donations.

Those wishing to volunteer to deliver or to sign up to receive meals from the Springfield site, can call Sue Levine at 802-885-5879. Donations to help support the operation in its 50th Anniversary year can be made by a check to MOW Greater Springfield and mailed to them at 139 Main St., Springfield VT 05156.

Those wishing to volunteer drive time for the Bellows Falls site should contact Teagan Kosut at 802-463-3907. Donations may be made directly to the Bellows Falls Area Senior Center and mailed to them at 18 Tuttle St, Bellows Falls, VT 05101.

The Community Closet official reopening -

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. -The Community Closet, an outreach ministry of Immanuel Episcopal Church at 20 Church St. in Bellows Falls, is reopening on Saturday, March 5. It will be open

regularly on Saturdays from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Parking for the Closet can be reached via the driveway at 9 School

Our mission is to provide clothing for children and adults at a minimal cost.

Household goods are free.

To celebrate this reopening there will be a free raffle of gift certificates to local

We will accept donations of gently used, clean clothing during our regular hours.

Bellows Falls Woman's Club —

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. -The members of the Bellows Falls Woman's Club will resume meeting in person on March 8, at the United Church, School Street, beginning at 1:30 p.m. Dr. Tim Johnson, local optometrist, will speak to the group about eye health and care. Masks are available and must be worn throughout the meeting. Distancing with seating will be accommodated as best possible.

Members are reminded to bring nonperishable food items for Our Place Drop-in Center. There is an appeal for canned fruits, vegetables, and soups. It is helpful to have cans with pop off tops. With monetary donations, which are also appreciated, the center buys food from the VT Food Bank at reduced prices. Throughout Covid, The Drop-in has continued to offer a takeout continental breakfast and lunch four days a week and also to assemble free food boxes.

The club sponsored a community service project centered on Valentine's Day. Bags of sweets and cookies, furnished by club members, were taken to several essential, municipal, and agency worker sites in the commu-

The local club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs whose signature project is domestic abuse awareness and prevention.

For more information about the work of the club, please contact Betty Haggerty at hubett@hotmail.

Bellows Falls Area Senior Center

Tai Chi or to review at a be-

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. -As of March 1, the Bellows Falls Area Senior Center is happy to announce that we are open for congregate dining. We serve a hot lunch Monday through Friday, starting at 11:30 a.m. Lunch is by a donation or fixed fee. Check out our menu on Facebook.

We have added a beginner level Tai Chi class for fall prevention on Tuesdays at 11:15 a.m. Learn fundamental exercises and skills while improving balance. The class is for those new to ginning or slow pace. This class is sponsored by Senior Solutions. The advanced Tai Chi course is offered on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. We also offer multiple Bone Builders programs -6 classes a week. Our new Line Dancing Move & Groove class is available on Fridays at 11:15 a.m., great fun and terrific exercise!

Chair caning meets Mondays at 1 p.m. If you have a chair that needs repair or would like to learn the art of chair caning, please stop by. The Knit and Stitch group meets Mondays and Wednesdays at 9 a.m. They can help you finish a project, repair an item, and even accommodate special orders such as baby blankets and gifts.

Nickle Bingo is held every Tuesday, starting at 12:30 with 20 games played. The Bridge Club meets Wednesdays at 12:15 p.m., we are always looking for more players, so please stop in. Cribbage, board games, and card games are open to all on Thursdays, in addition to Cornhole starting at 12:15 p.m.

Contact us for further information at 802-463-3907.



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ROCKINGHAM

From Page 1

requested and the Board could by rights allocate this money anywhere. He also said that voting by Australian Ballot, people might vote 'No' because of the Bonnie North moved to

transposed numbers.

approve Article 8, the Library budget of \$431,555, with \$379,250 to be raised by taxes. Director Ian Graham said the budget was the same as last year and he thanked the Town offices and Board for working together.

Susan Hammond moved on to Article 9 to approve \$75,000 for the acquisition of the railroad station. Development Director Gary Fox said this was a historic opportunity for the Town. He mentioned the Town's failure to secure Senator Leahy's earmarks in 2002-2005 because the station was privately owned and not eligible for federal funding. Fox discussed the 5 year Rail Plan that suptransit-oriented development and that Amtrak and Vermont Rail were looking to upgrade passenger stations and platforms, the Vermonter to add a round trip to Montreal, and the Valley Flyer to extend service to White River Junction from New Haven, Conn.

Morse said he would be more comfortable if there was a funder and Fox ex-

plained that a private partner was interested. He said in November the State would apply for federal funding on shovel-ready projects and the town needed to show its commitment.

Article 10 asked for \$150,000 for a new plow truck. Pickup explained that this was part of the equipment replacement schedule, but due to supply chain issues, it would take 1.5 years for delivery and they wanted to buy it now.

Jamey Berrick suggested the Town look at new lease vehicles and trading in after five years. He said he worked with hundreds of pieces of equipment and found better costs associated with leasing.

Cowan moved on to Article 11 for \$22,000 to fund the Meeting House Capital Reserve Fund. He said Rockingham was lucky to have this historic treasure and the Selectboard supported this action.

A discussion was held on the Australian Ballot Articles of 12 and 13. Steve Crofter questioned the legality of voting for the AB vote by Australian Ballot. Golec updated everyone on Act 162 and the revised Act 77 which clarified the question. He said the Board had two choices at their last meeting: to delay the Annual Meeting or vote on Articles 3 through 13 by AB with a special meeting for attendees to vote for future Australian Ballot. The latter was decided.

Susan Brace encouraged residents to vote down the AB, and said this could be the end of Town Meetings.

Deborah Wright suggested the Town and Village consider an Information Meeting held a month earlier than election day, so Articles could be discussed before the ballots were printed.

North agreed that Management should make decisions to foster greater participation.

Berrick said he had lived here for 31 years, but usually missed Town Meetings because he worked out of town. He appreciated the technology available to participate and "weigh in on the future of our community."

Election results will be announced at the Selectboard's Organizational Meeting on March 1.

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SPRINGFIELD From Page 1

locally," and that, "The rest comes from the Ver-

State Education mont Fund." He also pointed to the fact that, while the school budget does approach \$33 million, since only a fraction of that is raised from resident taxes, the school budget actually requires \$2 million less than the Town budget.

Of the 28 articles, Article 11 was the only article that prompted questions from the residents in attendance. Two residents questioned whether the taxes for the School budget would go down this year, to which Schoolboard members acknowledged that, depending on statistical reappraisal results, the tax rate is expected to go down 1.4 to 12.6 cents.

Representatives from several of the other organizations that stand to receive funding from the articles were in attendance, but no questions were asked of them.

Voting for the Springfield Town Meeting took place in the Riverside Middle School Gym on Tuesday, March 1 by Australian ballot. Voting results will be published next week, and posted online as soon as we receive them.

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The Vermont Journal/The Shopper March 02, 2022 | 3



LOCAL HISTORY

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 ronpatch27@gmail.com

Chester Horse Show

Here's a July 1937 newspaper clipping regarding the horse show at Buttonwood

With approximately 4,500 persons in attendance throughout the day and evening, the Chester American Legion Horse Show, which was held all day Monday, took on the appearance of a miniature World's Fair, according to Paul Adams, who was in charge of the arrangements. The number of tickets sold indicated that 2,500 were present during the day and 2,000 at night.

The event started out to be purely a horse show but the great number of farm folk who were expected to attend decided the program committee to include other events that would be of interest. So a draft horse class of 11 pairs was entered and judged for ability to do farm work. The prizes for this class were divided as follows: teamster control won by Alfred Chickering of Westmoreland for form; W.H. Bowler of Chester, best pair under 3,000 pounds and second in the free-for-all weight pull; first in the free-forall was Mr. Goodrich of Winchester, N.H.

Eleven pairs of oxen from several distant points added to the entertainment, as did exhibits of auto trailers, electric wire fencing, and a track meet under the supervision of Harold Potter. A cup was awarded in this

event. Many horses entered

In the horse show there were 45 entries representing the riding clubs of Vermont, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts, with 25 members of the Montpelier club present to lend their assistance. The judges for the event were Mr. and Mrs. P.R. Burrows, Newmarket, N.H., Judge Dean Davis, Barre, Vt., and Mr. Caswell of Indiana. Mr. Caswell had with him a registered Ara-



Winning cup from Field Day in Chester, Vt., 1937.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY RON PATCH

bian stallion, which he keeps at the Upwey Farms in South Woodstock. The animal drew a lot of praise for the many tricks he performed at the command of his master. He was equipped with complete Arabian regalia.

Throughout the day, 20 dogs were engaged in a raccoon drag, which was completed in eight heats. A display of fireworks in the evening drew 1,500 cars.

The events in the horse-show included a pony class for children, an open jumping contest at three and one-half feet, an egg and spoon race in which the riders carried an egg in a spoon, which entertained the audience with its comedy; at 1 p.m., a cavalcade of all animals entered in the show took place around the ring and the people had a good opportunity to observe the many entrants.

Following this there was a class for horses under 15-2 hands, hoop-spearing contest, and a handy-hunter class for jumpers.

Then came the class for horses over 15-2 hands, a parent-child class, and a saddle-pair class. An outside hunt of 3-4 mile over nearby hills was held in full view of the grandstand so that all were able to see the handling of the event.

The crowd was further entertained by a musical chair contest in which the contestants rode to the time of music and when the music stopped they had to dismount and find a chair.

There was one less than the number of riders and this proved very amusing.

Pair jumping, a knockdown-and-out jumping contest at three feet nine inches, a road hack trial, and a balloon race completed the program. A credible showing was also made by the team of horses from the Rockingham Town Farm.

From 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. the band of Claremont, N.H. Veterans of Foreign Wars entertained with a concert.

23 Ride to Grafton

On Sunday morning, a group of 23 left Chester by horse and went over the old Grafton Stage road through Houghtonville to the Grafton State Park where they were served with steak dinners. Five others joined the party for the trip back, which was made through Grafton and Chester Hill to Chester. Among those to make the trip were Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Switzer and Town Manager Morton Downing and family of Bellows Falls, and Sheppard Raymond of Greenfield, Mass., and Frank Adams of Boston, who brought their horses in special two-wheel trailers. From Bellows Falls also were Mr. and Mrs. Albert Spencer and son.

All of those connected with the trip or horse-show were enthusiastic in their praise of the way Paul Adams handled the arrangements and hopes were expressed that more interest would be shown locally in horses and riding.

Someone dropped me off a large bag of cat food with a note: "Please feed the cat. They are all God's creatures. It is a very hard life for feral cats. Thanks."

This week's old saying is from Shirley Harlow: "Read the bible and vote republican."

Whiting Library to host solar energy roundtable —

chester, Vt. – Curious about solar energy and if it might be a good idea for your home? Whiting Library will present a virtual roundtable discussion via Zoom on residential solar energy on March 8, from 7-8:30 p.m. If you're interested in renewable energy, come listen, learn, and ask questions.

This roundtable offers the opportunity to better understand solar technology and

will provide useful information for those considering converting to, or expanding, home solar systems. Topics will include the efficiency of solar energy in southern Vermont, incentives to reduce costs, battery storage, and the siting of solar arrays. The roundtable discussion will include representatives from Green Mountain Solar, Net Zero Renewable Resources, and SunCommon. Chester resident and

retired solar industry executive Tim Roper will moderate the discussion.

This free informational event is open to everyone, and will include time for your questions to industry experts. Attendees are encouraged to register in advance by calling 802-875-2277 or emailing whitinglibrary1@gmail.com. All registrants will receive a reminder email prior to the event

OLLI programming to resume March 8 ——

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Kurt Valenta will present the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute program, "The Otter: Creature of Two Habitats," on Tuesday, March 8 at 2 p.m. at the Nolin Murray Center next to St. Mary's Church on Pleasant Street in Springfield Vt

field, Vt. OLLI is pleased to begin in-person programs once again. The University of Vermont requires masks for their indoor events. The first two programs of the semester were postponed due to Covid concerns, but we feel confident that we can provide a safe event for this March 8 program. The first two programs will be rescheduled for later in the spring. There is still time to register for the complete semester at www.learn. uvm.edu/olli/springfield.

Valenta is one of the group's favorite presenters. He brings an enthusiastic enjoyment of the natural world. As a naturalist and educator he runs a nature studies program out of Enosburg Falls, Vt.

The otter is sleek, playful with boundless energy, and is comfortable on land as well as in water, in summer as well as in the cold of a frozen winter. Valenta will

examine what enables this fun-loving river dweller to be so versatile, and enjoy, with great abandon, his surroundings.

This program is cosponsored by the Ascutney Mountain Audubon Society.

The next program on March 22 will be "Gershwin, By George!" presented by music historian Robert Wyatt.

Pre-registration is highly recommended. However, if you arrive without having registered, we will not turn you away. We will hand you a form and an addressed envelope to send in payment after the program.

There is a Membership Series Special Fee. Nonmembers are welcome and encouraged to attend individual programs for a single program fee.

Registration can be done online by going to www. learn.uvm.edu/olli/springfield.

For registration assistance, please call 802-656-5817.

Due to the current situation of Covid-19, the University of Vermont expects all participants at UVM sponsored non-credit events, including OLLI, to be vaccinated. Masks are required to be worn indoors.



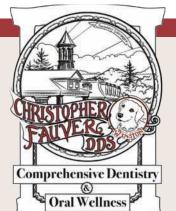




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Neighborhood Connections offering shopping ride to Claremont –

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – Are you in need of a ride to do your grocery shopping or would like to take a trip to Walmart? Call Neighborhood Connections at 802-824-4343 to sign up for our ride in the Mountain Town Connector transit van to Claremont, N.H.

Saturday, March 5.

The deadline to book a seat was noon on Wednesday, March 2. The Mountain Town Connector is wheelchair accessible and free of charge.

Neighborhood Connections is a nonprofit social services agency serving the area mountain towns in south-central Vermont.

RON PATCH

Buying Antiques

802-374-0119





opinion

Dear Editor,

Many of us are feeling relief that Omicron's surge has taken a steep nosedive. The possibility of a return to something more like 'normal' looks promising. It's great to be able to feel more comfortable and a bit safer than we did a month ago. However, for a significant number of people and businesses in our communities, the disruption of the last two years has been rough. Despite \$3.56 billion flowing into Vermont to support individuals, families, businesses, state and municipal functionality recovery for many continues to be slow.

Covid's waves of Delta and Omicron reinforced our reluctance to socialize and has devastated our hospitality, special event, and creative sectors and our congregant centers of community life. Our senior centers, childcare centers, fitness and yoga studios, gyms, churches, and synagogues – in addition to our restaurants, theaters, museums, art galleries, lodging establishments, and special events businesses (florists, tent companies, photographers, caterers), have all struggled trying to recover. Many businesses in other sectors have rebounded and are doing very well, which is wonderful.

In addition, the Covid refugees from urban areas, our need to house the homeless during Covid, and the removal of rental units for use as Short Term Rentals, have put pressure on our already tight housing market. Our vacancy rate in many areas is below 1%, making it almost impossible to find housing -

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR **SUBMISSIONS**

Subject to space. May be edited for clarity, grammatical errors, and libelous statements. Must be kept under 400 words. Must include name and town for publication. Viewpoints do not necessarily reflect the views of The Vermont Journal & The Shopper.

Noel Hoffmann

equally challenging for those who've been offered a job here, those who need to move, or those who've been evicted.

And, we still have people in the workforce having to miss work for Covid related reasons - not unemployed people – but people whose childcare has shut down, or their kids have had to stay home, or a family member got ill, or they got ill. Wages continue to be lost because of Covid. This experience of wage loss as a result of Covid starkly illustrates the need for a Paid Family Medical Leave Program. We are exploring how to move forward with this invaluable safety net so many other states have established.

To address these ongoing needs: economic recovery, housing, and wage replacement, the Senate Economic Development Committee is working on two omnibus bills which we hope will help. We expect to finish the work on them in the next two weeks. The first. an Economic Development bill, includes a range of measures designed to support the continued recovery of our hardest hit business sectors. We anticipate that direct financial support will be made available through a new forgivable loan program administered by the Vermont Economic Development Authority, which will provide the kind of individual attention many of these businesses need. Emerging out of Covid there is an energy we want to harness, as witnessed in the over-subscribed Capital Investment Program, which invests in projects with regional impact. We plan on investing more in cleaning up our brownfields, those contaminated sites, which, if mitigated will enable new development. We expect to build on our Relocating Worker incentives, and to extend our Tax Increment Finance program and offer a simpler, mini-scale TIF for smaller towns, to increase our very successful Downtown Tax Credit Program and to support our Creative Economy, so important to the vibrancy of our communities.

Our Housing initiatives

are in two bills, the first of which is now in the House for consideration. That bill, S.210, includes significant steps forward to improve the health and safety of our rental housing in Vermont. It invests significantly more in the very successful Vermont Rental Housing Incentive Program, which offers landlords the opportunity to renovate vacant, blighted, and non-code compliant housing stock with a matching grant program. It brings new housing units back on-line faster and for a fraction of the cost of a new unit.

The primary focus of our second bill (the Omnibus Housing bill) is incenting housing projects which increase density in our downtowns and village centers and expanding access to safe and affordable housing. It includes: enhanced opportunities and support for Accessory Dwelling Units, reduces barriers for towns to add Neighborhood Development Areas, streamlines the permitting process, creates a first generation home ownership program, supports the conversion of some commercial properties for residential use, extends our By-Law Modernization program, creates a Large Employer Housing Partnership program designed to encourage partnerships which would result in building more workforce housing, and proposes a Manufactured Home grant program to improve mobile home parks, remove abandoned mobile homes and repair and renovate existing ones.

I appreciate hearing from you. I can be reached by email: aclarkson@leg. state.vt.us or by phone at 802-457-4627. To watch Legislative Committee's 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

Springfield Rotary scholarship raffle winner —

SPRINGFIELD, Vt.-Springfield Rotary Club member Marty Cohn was the winner of the \$5,000 Scholarship Raffle conducted by the club. The drawing was held at Crown Point Country Club on Feb. 16.

For 70 years, the Springfield Rotary Club has helped Springfield High School students pursue higher education with their annual scholarship program in addition to other donations to organizations in the community. Throughout that time, the funds for these efforts were generated from the club's annual Penny Sale.

Since the pandemic forced the cancellation of the Penny Sale, the Springfield Rotary Club created a \$5,000



Club Treasurer Ed McQaide, raffle winner Marty Cohn, Emma McGuirk, and Club President Jim Fog. PHOTO PROVIDED

Scholarship Raffle to replicate the grand prize drawing of the annual Penny

According to Club President Jim Fog, the Springfield Rotary Club has raised close to \$600,000 since the inception of the Penny Sale and donated over \$200,000 in scholarships.

Fog said, "This year, Rotary club members sold raffle tickets and raised enough money to enable us to award two \$2,000 scholarships to graduating Springfield, Vt. High School students."

The application for the scholarship can be obtained from the high school guidance department.

Dear Editor,

The Springfield Rotary Club would like to thank the following sponsors who helped make our scholarship raffle a success. We raised enough money to fund our scholarships to graduating seniors this year, and community other

projects. Platinum: 802 Credit Union, Briar Patch Farm, William Carey, Carol Cole, Sue Dana, Buddy and Deanna Dexter, Amy Duffy Edward Jones, Jerry Farnum State Farm Ins., Gurney Brothers Construction, HB Energy, HB Fuels, Inn at Weathersfield, Lamb and McNaughton, The MacGillivray

Family, Ed and Pam Mc-Quaide, The Mobus Family, Muse and Associates, One Hundred River Street LLC, Parker and Ankuda, Springfield Family Eyecare, Springfield Reporter, Suzy's Little Peanuts, The Gnome, Ultimate Autobody, and Frank and Jocelyn Zezza.

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the late Art Bowman, Creative Contours by Mark Germain, Nicole Kollman, David Mobus and Polly Blais, Doug and Judi Priestley, Jonathan Springer, PDG 7870, Suzanne Stern, Bill Stevens Edward Jones, Kathie Stone, Tina's Hallmark, Claire Trask, Vittum Plumbing and Heating, and Young's Furniture and Appliances.

Bronze: Teresa Battist, Andrea Dent, Janice Izzo, Mary Lacross, Joy and David Regan, Jeff Smith, Bill Vermouth, Woodbury Florist, and Steve and Donna

Thanks again for your support of Springfield Rotary, our youth, and our community.

Sincerely, Jim Fog, President Springfield Rotary Club Springfield, Vt.

Dear Editor,

This is a poem I wrote about Vermont.

"The Sun In Vermont"

The sun is shining So bright and the Sky is so blue And the river its banks Are so full to and Montpelier is such A beautiful sunny warm place

And I'm feeling the heat

This beautiful hot place And Vermont is the place To be as the sun shines So brightly on me and I'm so happy I'm In Vermont today And I hope and pray I get to see the warm sun Shining in beautiful Vermont For one more day.

Sincerely, David P. Carroll Ludlow, Vt.



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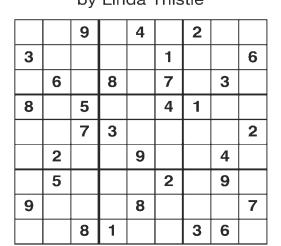
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by Linda Thistle

Weekly **SUDOKU**



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! © 2022 King Features Synd., Inc



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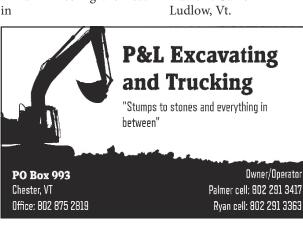
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SERVICES

obituaries

ALSTEAD, N.H.

Third Congregational Church UCC, River St.

Sunday worship begins at 10:30 a.m., led by Pastor Maureen Adams. Communion is the first Sunday of each month. For more information, email alsteadthirdchurch@ gmail.com, call 603-835-6358, or go to www.facebook. com/Third-Congregational-UCC-Church-of-Alstead-NH-120645387960916.

BELLOWS FALLS, VT.

Living Hope Assembly of God, 582 Rockingham Rd. Pastor Matt and Brenda Farkas welcomes all to Sunday worship at 10 a.m., the message at 10:30 a.m. with Children's Church for ages 3-7, and fellowship. Live streaming available at 10:30 a.m. at Living Hope Facebook page and YouTube. Services can also be found at www.sapatv.org and www.fact8tv.com.

CAVENDISH, VT.

St. James United Methodist Church, 570 Main St. Please join us Sundays at 8:45 a.m. with Pastor John Hawkins. All are welcome. Masks and social distancing are required. For more information, call 802-674-3443 or go to www.facebook.com/stjamesumcproctorsville.

CHESTER, VT.

First Universalist Parish of Chester, Route 103 North Services are Sundays at 10 a.m. in person or on Zoom. To request a Zoom link, email chestervtuu@gmail.com. Sunday services run from September to early June.

CLAREMONT, N.H.

Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church, 99 Sullivan St. Worship is Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday and Saturday at 5 p.m. in person. Masks are optional. For more information, go to www.hroc.org.

LUDLOW, VT.

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

Sunday services are held in person and streamed online at 10 a.m. Please be safe and care for each other. Email unitedchurch@tds.net for more information. Visit www. unitedchurch.us to receive Covid-19 updates on services and meetings.

SPRINGFIELD, VT.

Calvary Baptist Church, 156 Main St.

Sunday services are 9:30 a.m. in person. Please wear a mask, socially distance, and stay home if you're unwell. Services are still streamed at www.facebook.com/ calvarybaptistchurchspringfieldvt. For more information, go to www.calvarylovesspringfield.com.

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

Sunday mass is at 9 a.m., followed by coffee hour as well as weekday services. To watch the live streams, go to www.youtube.com and search Holy Family Parish Springfield Vermont. Streaming is available five minutes before the service starts. For more information, go to www.stmaryjoseph.com.

Unitarian Universalist Church, 21 Fairground Rd.

Join the Springfield UU Meetinghouse online on Sunday, March 6 at 10 a.m. for, "Sidney Poitier, the Man, the Myth, the Legend" with Sharon Mueller and Tina Feindel. Come join us as we take a deeper look at the spiritual life of Sidney Poitier, including a deeper understanding of who he was at his core, and the gifts he gave us. Please join us for a virtual coffee hour discussion after the service. Zoom: www.us02web.zoom. us/j/6130779853. Email uuspringfieldvt@gmail.com for more information.

United Methodist Church, 10 Valley St.

Sunday worship is 9:30 a.m. Everyone should wear masks and physically distance themselves from others. For more information, call 802-885-1916. Everyone is welcome.

WALPOLE, N.H.

Walpole Unitarian Church, corner of Union and Main St.

Sunday Service begins at 10 a.m. Vaccinated folks are welcome to attend service in person. Those who prefer to wear masks are welcome to do so. Services are also available via Zoom. For links and updates, go to www. walpoleunitarianchurch.org.

WESTMINSTER, VT.

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

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

WESTON, VT.

The Old Parish Church, 644 Main St.

A diverse, informal, and welcoming congregation. Sunday service begins at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom. For more information, contact Jon Bliss, minister, at 802-824-4452 or email easthillfarm@vermontel.net.

OBITUARIES



Basic 200-word Obituary \$75 **\$0.50/word** after 200

Black and White Photo \$10

Email to editor@vermontjournal.com



Douglas Raymond Reed Jr., 1970-2022

BALTIMORE, Vt. Douglas "Dougie" Raymond Reed Jr., 51, of Baltimore, Vt., died suddenly in a logging accident Feb. 24, 2022.

Born March 29, 1970 to Douglas and Nancy Reed of Perkinsville, Vt., he grew up attending Weathersfield Schools and graduating Springfield High School.

At the age of 11, Dougie went to work for Jack Fuller on his farm for .25 cents an hour. Dougie worked until he saved up enough money to buy each of his sisters a brand new cabbage patch doll (which were all the rage at that time). From there he worked at Bear Paw wood shop, Newsbank/Readex, and for his good friend Gregg Chico, among numerous other jobs. He was a jack-of-alltrades.

After a logging accident that almost took his life 13 years ago, Dougie opened his own business. Mountain and Valley Excavating was a proud accomplishment for Dougie and you never heard him complain about the toll this undertaking took on him physically.

To say Dougie was a generous man would be an understatement. He produced all the wood for SECVA as well as donated many cords of wood for fundraisers for area schools and programs. His generosity knew no bounds. When a neighbor down the road had a heart attack, Dougie packed up his kids they delivered and stacked wood for that man to be sure he was warm, no money needed.

He was a single father to Dillin and Morgan. They

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to editor@vermontjournal.com by Monday at 12 p.m.



Douglas Reed Jr., 1970-2022. PHOTO PROVIDED

were the light of his light of his life. He taught them to be caring and loving people. He was an awesome Father, Brother, Uncle, Friend and Son. He was always there when we needed him no matter what. You could always count on him.

He is survived by his children, Dillin Reed (Sam), and Morgan Reed; Parents, Nancy and Doug Reed; Sisters, Kathy-Jo Merlau, and Melissa Bates (Adam); Nephews, Matthew Reed (Sophie), Michael Reed, Cooper Merlau, and Leighton Reed; Aunts, Beth Gould, Patti Gould, Marianne Jones (Ralph), and Debra Reed; Uncles, Kevin Gould (Vicki), Frank Gould III (Karen), Dean Decell, Donald Reed II (Shirley), and many cousins. And his very special Great nephew, Jeremy Reed.

Preceded in death by his grandparents Frank and Marion Gould, Donald and Doris Reed Spafford, Bert Spafford, Uncle Paul Gould, Aunt Laurie Decell and several cousins.

Visiting hours will be held on Saturday, March 5, 2022 from 2-4 p.m. at the Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt.

Theresa Jean Sullivan, 1926-2022

ELIZABETH TOWN, Pa. - Theresa Jean Sullivan (Callahan) passed peacefully in Elizabethtown, Pa. on Feb. 9, 2022, surrounded by her loving family.

Known to friends and family as Jean, she was born in Greenfield, Mass. on April 30, 1926, and lived a life of service to others. Starting at an early age, Jean's service began with helping her parents with their restaurant and guest cabins. Later, she went on to nursing at Mercy Hospital in Springfield, Mass. and to providing seniors with Meals on Wheels.

Most important to Jean was raising three daughters. Her family was the light of her life, and the love she shared will provide wonderful memories that will always be held close. She participated in the Nurses' Health Study (Harvard Medical School), the first national study to focus specifically on women's health. She continued to participate in the study up until age 95.

Jean was a devout member of the Catholic Church where she also shared her gift of service to others. Additionally, she hosted numerous exchange students



Theresa Sullivan, 1926-2022. PHOTO PROVIDED

from various countries, who became like family.

Jean was preceded in death by her husband Paul Joseph Sullivan. Their 63 years of marriage was an inspiration to all the family.

Surviving Theresa are her daughters and spouses Lynn Browell (John Nash, Elizabethtown, Pa.), Kerry Lambert (Michael, Charlestown, S.C.), and Laurie Cloud (Michael, Chester, Vt.) as well as 7 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-greatgrandchildren.

Jean, affectionately known as "GG" by her great-grandchildren, will live forever in our hearts.

For condolences, please visit www.kostanskifuneralhome.com.

Richard P. Szidik, 1947-2022

CHESTER, Vt. – Richard Paul Szidik, age 74, passed away peacefully on Friday, Feb. 18, 2022 in the loving care of daughter Chelsea Chase, son Logan Szidik, and son-in-law Jacob Chase. He was born on April 12, 1947 in Hartford, Conn. to his late mother, Teresa Kulcsar (Szidik). He was raised by his mother and grandfather, Paul Szi-

He served in the United States Army in Vietnam, serving from 1967 until 1969 and serving with the Army Reserves until 1973. Richard retired from Cold River Materials as a Heavy

Equipment Mechanic. Richard enjoyed vegetable and flower gardening, swimming, and spending time outside in the summer. He enjoyed motorcycles, muscle cars, guns, and target shooting. He had great taste in music and loved blues-based rock and roll. He also enjoyed spending time with his family. Richard was best known for the stories he would tell of

his life. He is survived by son Logan Szidik, daughter Chelsea Chase, and son-in-law Jacob Chase, daughter Jessica Mcabee, and daughter April Szidik; Sisters Diane Kulcsar, and Sandee Gabriele (Kulcsar), brother David Kulcsar; ten grand-



Richard Szidik, 1947-2022. PHOTO PROVIDED

children, Hailey Mcabee, Matthew Pilkerton, Phoebe Keffer, Zachary Keffer, Selene Ordiway, Isabella Szidik, Autumn Katsouros, Addison Chase, Lincoln Chase and Eleanor Chase: four great-grandchildren, Kaelyn Williams, Jaiden Williams, Hazael Williams, and Chozen Williams. He is also survived by several nieces, nephews, and cous-

He was predeceased by one sister, Paula Kulcsar, on May 30, 1990.

Calling hours were held at Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield on Saturday, Feb 26.

A graveside service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Chester American Legion Post 67 at P.O. Box 806 Chester, VT 05143.

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CALENDAR

Vermont boys close out regular season

REGION – It was a tough night for local boys basketball teams on Thursday, Feb. 24 before tournament pairings were announced in Vermont.

The Springfield Cosmos fell at Otter Valley, 62-82, in a game much closer than the final score would indicate. Windsor traveled to Rutland, and Mount St. Joseph Academy sent them home with a 75-46 loss. Evan Chadwick's Bellows Falls team lost to the only undefeated team in the state, as Rivendell grabbed a 56-48 win.

The bright spot on Thursday, Feb. 24, was the Green Mountain win over Mill River on the road, 64-39.

The Otter Valley boys' basketball team put away rival Springfield with lightsout shooting from the charity stripe, winning 85-62, Thursday night.

The Otters led by just 10 points with three minutes to go, but free throw shooting iced the game. Otter Valley was 20-for-24 at the line in the fourth.

Elijah Tucker-Bryant led the Otters with 32 points, followed by 20 from Hayden Bernhardt, and 13 from Dylan Stevens-Clark and Owen Thomas.

Tanner Gintof led Springfield with 22 points and Luke Stocker had 17.

Otter Valley wrapped up

Playoffs Saturday, March 5

No. 9 seeded Springfield Cosmos travel to No. 1 seeded Lyndon Institute Vikings at 5 p.m. in Vermont girls Division III quarterfinals.

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MARCH 5 -

the regular season 4-16 and

the Cosmos finished at 1-19.

ketball team got off to a

slow start and fell to Green

Mountain 64-39, Thursday

night at Dean Houghton

only two points in the sec-

ond, allowing the Chieftains

Everett Mosher led Green

Mountain with 13 points,

while Eben Mosher, Austin

Kubisek, and Reid Hryck-

iewicz had 10 a piece. Ryan

Smith led Mill River with 19

Falls currently sits in the

fifth spot with a 15-5 record.

Green Mountain ends with a

solid 12-7, record good for

the 8th spot, while Harry

Ladue's Yellow Jackets finish

just behind Green Mountain

with an 8-11 mark in the 9th

1-18 in a very competitive

Division II group with seven

teams having double digit

Written by Eagle Times

The Cosmos ended up

position.

In Division III, Bellows

The Minutemen scored

Gymnasium.

to jump up early.

The Mill River boys' bas-

GASSETTS, Vt. - The Green Mountain Express and Gassetts Grange are proud to announce their Saturday Night Round and Square Dance on Saturday, March 5 from 7-10 p.m. at the Gassetts Grange Hall 5 miles north of Chester. There will be snacks and drinks on sale in the kitchen, and a 50/50 Raffle drawing. If you are not vaccinated, masks are recommended. Donation at door please. Have questions call 802-591-4290 or the Grange at 802-875-1051.

MARCH 12 -

GASSETTS, Vt. - Gassetts Grange is holding their Saturday Breakfast on Saturday, March 12, from 8–9:30 a.m. Menu includes eggs, bacon, sausage, home fries, pancakes, (blueberry & plain), toast, juices, sausage gravy, and biscuits. Cost per person. Eat in or take out.

MARCH 13 -

GASSETTS, Vt. - The Green Mountain Express and Gassetts Grange are holding a Non-Open-Mic Jam on Sunday, March 13 from 1-4 p.m. at the Gassetts Grange, 5 Miles North of Chester. There will be a 50/50 drawing and

maybe a Mystery Bag. If you are not vaccinated, masks are recommended. Donation per person requested at the door. We will have snacks, bottled water, and some sodas on sale. You can call Donna at 802-591-4290 or the Grange building at 802-875-1051 for details.

SUNDAYS -

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. -Bellows Falls Loyal Order of Moose will be hosting a community breakfast on the first and third Sunday of every month downstairs at the Bellows Falls Moose Lodge, 59 Westminster St. in Bellows Falls, from 8-10 a.m. Beginning Sunday, Feb. 20. All you can eat for a minimal cost.

MONDAYS -

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. Contact Lori Wright at 603-401-8123 or email at loriwright163@gmail. com to register.

THURSDAYS -

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. -Every Thursday afternoon, Upper Valley Land Trust holds community garden workdays at our Up on the Hill Conservation Area off of Richardson Road in Charlestown. The garden is run by the UVLT and all of the produce is donated to the Claremont Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry. No experience needed and all tools provided. Children welcome. An adult must accompany those under 15. Sign up to receive more information about scheduling and tasks at www.uvlt.org/food-pantrygarden.

SUNDAYS

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6-10 Unit Commercial Building Currently Occupied to 4 Busine Great Investment! Weathersfield, \$275,000



Use as Single Family Or 3 Unit Property In Bellows Falls Village Rockingham, \$165,000



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



Corner Village Building Lot In The Heart of Bellows Falls 0.15+/- Acres Rockingham, \$39,500



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



NOTICE OF TAX SALE **TOWN OF WINDHAM**

The resident and non-resident owners, lienholders and mortgagees of property in the Town of Windham, in the County of Windham and State of Vermont are hereby notified that the taxes assessed for such town remain either in whole or in part unpaid on the following described lands in such town, to wit:

- 1. Being lands and premises known as 365 Howard Hill Road (Windham Grand List Parcel number 010027.2) conveyed to William B. Sepe by Warranty Deed of Albert P. Chaleski and Sandralee Chaleski dated December 6, 2004 and recorded December 8, 2004 in Book 41, Page 133 of the Windham Land Records.
- 2. Being lands and premises known as 6186 Popple Dungeon Road (Windham Grand List Parcel number 020003.) conveyed to Peter Van Alstyne, Jr. and Billie Jean Van Alstyne by Warranty Deed of Cathy L. Prouty and Douglas C. Prouty dated June 7, 2006 and recorded June 9, 2006 in Book 44, Page 51 of the Windham Land Records.
- 3. Being lands and premises known as 458 Scott Pet Road (Windham Grand List Parcel number 040106.) conveyed to David J. Stobo and Julie A. Stobo by Warranty Deed of Peter E. Heyniger dated September 25, 2012 and recorded September 26, 2012 in Book 50, Page 453 of the Windham Land Records.
- 4. Being lands and premises known as 1.60± acres of land (Windham Grand List Parcel number 040330.) conveyed to John A. Simmons and David B. Runyon, Jr. by Warranty Deed of Norman P. Haller and Joy M. Haller dated October 14, 1981 and recorded October 27, 1981 in Book 21, Page 63 of the Windham Land Records.
- 5. Being lands and premises known as 34 Timber Ridge Road (Windham Grand List Parcel number 040403.) conveyed to John Norton by Warranty Deed of Gregory G. White dated July 2, 2003 and recorded July 16, 2003 in Book 39, Page 512 of the Windham Land Records.
- 6. Being lands and premises known as 994.05± acres of land, (Windham Grand List Parcel number 050004.) conveyed to Jack B. Dennis the following Deeds:
 - i. Quitclaim Deed of Jack B. Dennis and Therese M. Smith dated October 17, 2005 and recorded October 20, 2005 Book 43, Page 279 of the Windham Land Records; ii. Warranty Deed of Vermont Land Trust, Inc. dated December 28, 2010 and re corded January 20, 2011 in Book 48, Page 519 of the Windham Land Records; and iii. Quitclaim Deed of U.S. Talc Company, dated February 19, 2010 and recorded March 22, 2010 in Book 47, Page 657 of the Windham Land Records.
- 7. Being lands and premises known as 1397 Burbee Pond Road (Windham Grand List Parcel number 070144.) conveyed to Karen A. Watts by Warranty Deed of Alexander M. Lehmann and Sandra Lehmann dated August 17, 2018 and recorded August 18, 2018 in Book 56, Page 10 of the Windham Land Records.
- 8. Being lands and premises known as "Parcel 1", consisting of 1.70± acres of land, (Windham Grand List Parcel number 070201.) conveyed to Walter M. Webb III by Warranty Deed of Walter M. Webb II dated June 8, 1989 and recorded June 23, 1989 in Book 26, Page 369 of the Windham Land Records.
- 9. Being lands and premises known as 1401 Old Cheney Road (Windham Grand List Parcel number 100031.2.) conveyed to Gary Allen Cheney and Susan Shangraw Cheney by Warranty Deed of Benjamin W. Partridge, Jr. and Cora C. Partridge, dated July 20, 1985 and recorded July 22, 1985 in Book 22, Page 521 of the Windham Land Records.

10. Being lands and premises known as 179 Chase Road (Windham Grand List Parcel number 100076.) conveyed to Amy E. Graves, Daniel G. Hall and Alicia J. Merrill by Warranty Deed of Sherburne H. Hall, dated June 30, 2009 and recorded July 1, 2009 in Book 47, Page 184 of the Windham Land Records.

And pursuant to 32 V.S.A § 5254, such property will be sold at public auction at the Town of Windham Town Office, a public place located at 5976 Windham Hill Road, in Windham, Vermont on the 6th day of April 2022, at 9:00 A.M., to discharge such taxes with costs unless paid previous to that date.

Dated at Windham, Vermont this 24th day of February, 2022.

/s/ Paul Wyman_ Paul Wyman Collector of Delinquent Taxes Town of Windham



GRAFTON 802-843-2390

CHESTER 802-875-2323 **SPRINGFIELD** 802-885-8282

NEWFANE 802-365-4311

LEGAL NOTICES

classifieds

AUCTION

N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Auction held March 12, 2022 at 11 a.m. at 96 Route 106 N. Springfield. 802-683-7104. To be auctioned: Jeanne Clark #90

BUYING/

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

CAREGIVER FOR HIRE

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

FIREWOOD

FREE FIREWOOD - Hardwood & softwood. Free to pick up at Landing in Windham, Vt. Call 802-875-2646 evenings.

GUNS WANTED

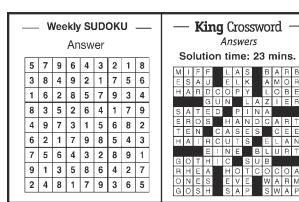
REGION - Guns wanted. Handguns, rifles, or shotguns. Top prices paid. Call Ray at 802-775-2859 or 802-236-7213.

HELP WANTED

LONDONDERRY, Vt. - Aggregate Crusher Operator: Looking to hire a safety focused candidate with a strong work ethic to join our crushing operation team. Must have a valid drivers license with

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD HELP WANTED MAINTENANCE WORKER I

The Town of Springfield, VT is seeking a highly motivated individual to fill a full-time position within the Public Works Department. Desired candidate must have the ability to perform heavy manual labor and tasks requiring physical strength, coordination and dexterity. Strenuous physical effort is demanded in walking, bending, standing and lifting of heavy tools and materials. Often requires repetitive activities requiring limited skill and training. Use of equipment used on streets, water & sewer utilities when necessary, cemeteries and other Town properties. The Maintenance Worker I position is supervised by the Public Works Director or the Highway Superintendent, or their designee and may be required to work independently on occasion. Requires an understanding of job safety, a valid motor vehicle operator's license is required. Grade 11 A at \$15.14 per hour or depending on experience - union position with attractive benefits and retirement. Apply at the Human Resources Office, 96 Main Street, (802) 885-2104 toshr@vermontel.net Applications may also be downloaded from the Town's website https:// springfieldvt.govoffice2.com/ Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. E.O.E.



acceptable driving record. Experience operating Excavator, front end loader, as well as crushers and screening plant. Call 802-824-3140 or email chavesexc@

LUDLOW, Vt. - Thrift Store Clerk, part-time, Black River Good Neighbor Services. Applications

available at the Thrift Store and at www.BRGN.org.

ZUMBA

LUDLOW, Vt. – Zumba classes Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. and Saturdays at 8 a.m. at the Spring House at Jackson Gore. \$12 per

TOWN OF LONDONDERRY VERMONT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Londonderry Development Review Board will meet at 5:30 PM on Wednesday 3/16/22 at the Londonderry Town Offices 100 Old School St to hold a public hearing on an application from Tom and Judy Platt for a variance at 2152 North Main St. in Londonderry, and an appeal from Russell Scott Williams of a finding by the Zoning Administrator of an un-permitted accessory structure on his property at 135 Overlook Dr.

This will be a socially distanced meeting with the option of remote attendance.

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 and information on how to attend remotely are available by emailing the town's Zoning Administrator at zoningadmin@londonderryvt.org or calling (802)824-3356 ex.102.

Mount Holly Planning Commission Notice of Public Hearing March 16, 2022

The Mount Holly Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing at 6:15 PM on March 16, 2022 at the Mount Holly Town Office and via Zoom to consider an Application for a Minor Subdivision, #2022-01.

Property Owner: John (Jeb) Porter Property Location: 194 Bowlsville Road S Application for: Minor Subdivision of an approximately 11 Acre lot into two lots (9.53+/- acres, 1.34+/- acres)

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89833821716?pwd=aD-BOWjJIcS9aQmorOXYwdENzZytBZz09

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 898 3382 1716

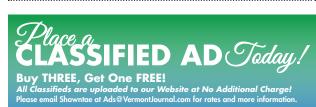
Passcode: 150038

Link to the Zoom meeting will be on the web site: http:// www.mounthollyvt.org/planning-commission/

Participation in this hearing is a pre-requisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

If you wish to make a public comment but do not have the ability to comment remotely during the meeting, please email your comment(s) in advance of the hearing to Mount Holly Planning Commission at planningcomm@mounthollyvt.org or mail to Mount Holly Planning Commission at P.O. Box 248 Mount Holly, VT 05758.

class or \$100 for 10 classes. Call 802-228-1419 for more information.



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 LUDLOW, VERMONT **POSITION AVAILABLE** PART-TIME POLICE DISPATCHER

The Town of Ludlow invites applications for the position of a Part-Time Police Dispatcher. Applicant must be organized and able to communicate effectively in written and in oral form. Must be able to work all shifts, including midnight. Computer experience is required. Send resume in confidence with references to the Chief of Police, Town of Ludlow, PO Box 359, Ludlow, VT, 05149 or email to: Jeffrey.Billings@vermont.gov . Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The Town of Ludlow is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

NOTICE OF TAX SALE

The resident and non-resident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of property in the Town of Weston, in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont, are hereby notified that the taxes assessed by such Town for municipal property taxes for the 2019, 2020 and 2021 calendar years and for school district property taxes for the 2019-2020, 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 fiscal years remain, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described property located in Weston,

It being all and the same lands and premises conveyed to James O.G. Drake, Trustee of the James O.G. Drake Trust dated February 13, 2003, by Warranty Deed of James O.G. Drake, dated February 24, 2003 and recorded on February 27, 2003 in Book 61 at Page 464 of the Weston Land Records. [unimproved land off Trout Club Road; Parcel #080055.00].

And pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 5254, so much of said property will be sold at public auction at the Weston Town Office, a public place located at 12 Lawrence Hill Road in the Town of Weston, on the 22nd day of March, 2022, at 10:00 o'clock in the morning, as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, unless previously paid. Dated at Weston, Vermont this 7th day of February, 2022

Sandra M. Goodwin, Collector of Delinquent Taxes

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

Student Art Show - Works of Art by Springfield's 3rd through 12th Graders until March 5

Women and Animals, a Parallel Path - Dioramas by Louis Scott-2/9 to 3/30.

Zentangle Workshop with Lyn Parker Haas, March 12 11-2. This is an easy-to-learn, relaxing, and fun way to create delightful images by drawing structured patterns. Cost is \$30. members, \$40. non-members. Materials fee: \$10. Register by March 9.

Pet Portrait Workshop with Mindy Fisher, March 19, 11-2. Paint your pet with acryla-gouache. All skill levels. \$37 + \$10 Materials.

Cheerful Calligraphy with Jorika Stockwell, March 26, 11-3. Learn several different styles and scripts of calligraphy through writing the word cheer. \$45. + \$2 Materials fee. Register by March 23 online or in person. (04/27/22 - TFN - 13)

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Builders/Contractors

1 Ton dump and mini excavator for hire. Snowplowing and sanding services in Plymouth, Ludlow, and Mount Holly. Call 802-558-2920 or email handymanvt@gmail.com. (05/25/22 - 13)

Builders/Contractors cont.

APEX VENTURES, LLC House Painting. Booking exterior painting for the Spring and

Summer in the Ludlow area. Houses, decks, porches, garages and/or barns. Email: adam@apexventures.one for free quotes.

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 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. 802-591-0019. 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)

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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.

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RAINBOW CLEANING SERVICE

Houses, offices, apartments, and auto. We clean everything! References on request, fully insured, free estimates. Contact Verina Field at 802-289-9188 or stoneart49@gmail.com. (05/04/22 - 13)

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Fireplaces, chimneys and liners, chimney sweeps, patios, walls, steps, restoration and repairs. Fully insured, free estimates. Contact Gary Moore at 802-824-5710 mooremasonry802@gmail.

Okemo Valley TV

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 auide)

Watch Online: okemovalley.tv & youtube.com/okemovalleytv

"Gavel-to-Gavel" coverage of local meetings (playing daily on Ed. / Gov. channel)

(Meeting Playback Guide available at bottom of okemovallley.tv/schedule) (05/11/22 - TFN - 13)

Property Management

GREAT BROOK LLC

Property Maintenance & Small Engine Repair. Call Chris at 802-886-2700 or 802-376-3150.

Scrap Metal Wanted

Call Chet for free removal of scrap metal. Also buying scrap cars. Call 802-875-3788.

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

arts & entertainment

BFOH presents, "No Exit," a short-film

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. -On March 9 at 7 p.m., the Bellows Falls Opera House will be showing, "No Exit," an independent short-film written by Josh Morelli and directed by Alex Stradling.

"No Exit," was produced by Fact TV and tells the story of three friends who are dealing with the aftermath of one very bad night. The film was shot in the Vermont and New Hampshire areas and stars local and upand-coming talent. A brief discussion panel will be held after the showing on opening night. Tickets and copies of the short-film will be sold

at the door. All proceeds go to Bellows Falls Area Community Television. The film is dedicated to the memory of Samson Morelli.

For more information about the film, contact Fact TV at 802-463-1613 or email alex@fact8.com.

Springfield Community Players kick off the season -

Springfield Community Players are hosting their first auditions of the 2022 season on March 12 and 13 at the Calvary Baptist Church, 156 Main Street, Springfield, Vt.

This season, the Springfield Community Players will be offering four shows to the community, and they are looking for new and old talent to join the organization. Shows this season will range from comedy, to musicals, to a resurgence of a longtime dormant show, "Godspell."

Shows for this upcoming season include: "Puffs" or

Local A+E 802-228-3600 editor@VermontJournal.com

"Seven increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School for Magic and Magic" directed by Gregory Villonw, "Gypsy" directed by Sara Vitale with musical direction by Parker Eastman, "Two on the Aisle, Three in the Van" directed by Todd Hutchinson, and "Godspell" directed by Donald Gray. In addition to this extraordinary lineup, Springfield Community Players will be hosting a series of concerts under the direction of Parker Eastman.

At this time, auditions will be held for the first two shows of the season only, "Puffs" and "Gypsy." Auditions for the comedy, "Puffs" will be held from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on both days and auditions for "Gypsy" from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. both days.

If you are unable to attend either day, please reach out

to director Sara at Sara@ LiLprod.com to coordinate a makeup time for "Gypsy," or to director Greg at gvillone88@ gmail.com for "Puffs" so that they can find an al-

ternative time. For "Puffs," please be prepared to do a cold read from the script. For "Gypsy," please be prepared to read from the script, sing a song of your choosing bring piano music if you like, and move a bit to a piece of music we will provide.

If there are any questions about auditions, upcoming shows, or becoming a part of the Springfield Community Players, please email springfieldcommunityplayers@gmail.com.

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Edgar May offers free Springfield Family Swim

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. -Starting March 5, the Edgar May Health and Recreation Center will offer Springfield residents the opportunity to come for a free swim every Saturday, from 1-3 p.m. Participants may need to show proof of Springfield residency.

The Springfield Family Swim originally launched in 2018 as a program of the Springfield Promise Community grant to provide residents with the opportunity to get active and connect with their community. After a two-year hiatus due to Covid-19, the Edgar May is excited to bring this popular program back to the Springfield com-

On Saturdays from 1-3 p.m., Springfield families can come swim in our competition-sized swimming pool as well as our beach-entry wading pool. Although it might still be cold and snowy outside, our pools are set to 83 degrees for a comfortable swimming experience. There will be two lifeguards on duty for the duration of the free swim. This free program will continue to run as long as there is interest from the community.

This year, the Edgar May Health and Recreation Center is celebrating our 15th anniversary. Our namesake, Edgar May, was especially passionate about starting a recreation center in Springfield that provided recreational opportunities for children and families in the community. Fifteen years later, we are proud to continue to offer programming and resources to live a healthy and active lifestyle to residents of all ages.

For more information, call 802-885-2568, email info@ edgarmay.org, or visit www. edgarmay.org.

Weston Pop-Up University—

WESTON, Vt. - After successful seasons in the past two years, Weston Pop-Up University returns in March with a new list of fun and informative courses. The ten-class schedule invites you to cook with the chef from The Hub at Weston, learn some Broadway dance steps, try some cartooning with a local artist, taste some wine with a local restaurateur, and more. The classes are led by local people who have expertise in an amazing array of areas - from vegetable gardening to artificial in-

telligence to how stage lighting works.

"This is our version of March Madness, a great chance to go online, learn new things, and have some fun together," said Deb Granquist, one of the organizers of Weston Pop-Up University. "We had an amazing turnout last year and look forward to a whole new lineup of fabulous courses this year. Hope to see you on Zoom!"

Last year, Weston Pop-Up University successfully turned to an online platform, and though courses will be on Zoom again this year, they'll be a lively and informative hour.

"It's a 'pop-up' because it emerges in the month of March and goes away in April," said Granquist. "It's called a 'University,' but it's really less formal - just a way to offer entertainment and learning opportunities to the people of our community through a month of programs led by local folks."

Everyone is invited to participate and classes are free. Registration is required; some of the classes are limited in size. You can see the whole lineup of classes and register at www.westonpopupuniversity.org.

Walpole Players present Radio Follies —

Rusty DeWees THE LOGGER DOWN FROM THE MT. **BELLOWS FALLS**

OPERA HOUSE March 12 at 7:30 pm Comedy and Music For the whole family... almost

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www.springfieldhospital.org Financial assistance available

WALPOLE, N.H. - If on March 12, 2022 in their Helen Miller Theater at you've been cooped up with Cabin Fever, the Walpole the Walpole Town Hall. Be Players have the perfect prepared for an evening of remedy. After a two-year intrigue, laughs, and a trip hiatus, the Cabin Fever to the Wild Wild West. Radio Follies will be back You'll recognize the familiar voices of Fibber McGee and Molly, Bob and Ray, Jack Benny, and make the acquaintance of Doc Savage and his not-so-able as-

The audience will be

seated at tables in a dinner theater setting. Please plan to bring your own food and drink to enjoy before and during the show (don't forget to bring your plates and We'd like to extend a big thank you to Mascoma

Bank in Walpole, where tickets can be purchased in advance. Tickets can also be bought at the door. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the show starts at 7 p.m. Check out the website

www.TheWalpolePlayers.org, the Facebook page, or call 603-345-0230 with

For the safety of our audience members, actors, and our community at large, everyone in attendance will be required to wear a mask upon entering the building. Once you are seated at your table, you may remove your mask, but your mask must be worn if you leave your seat at any time for any reason. We also request that audience members be vaccinated. We will not be requiring proof of vaccination status, but we will be checking temperatures at the door. Anyone with a temperature of 100.4°F or higher will be asked to leave, and a full refund will



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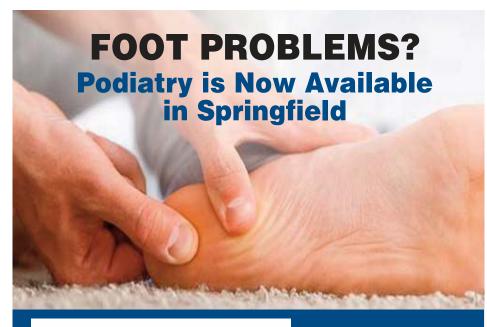




INFACE

Dr. Mercedes Smith Optometrist 2 Summer St Springfield, VT

(802)885-4190





Ian Odigie, DPM 802-885-5600