

THE SHOPPER Newspaper

APRIL 27, 2022 | WWW.VERMONTJOURNAL.COM

VOLUME 60, ISSUE 48

Selectboard discusses Homeowners Assistance

BY BETSY THURSTON

The Shopper

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – At the Rockingham Selectboard meeting on Tuesday, April 19, the board discussed financials with Muncipal Manager Scott Pickup. Rick Cowan asked about the delinquent tax liability line item and if the number \$454,000 was correct. Pickup said that the amount included interest and penalties and that it grows until the town does a tax sale, but changes over time.

Cowan was interested in releasing a press release about the Homeowners Assistance Program, so that homeowners that are delinquent on taxes were aware of the program. Cowan said he had spoken to many who did not know about it.

The Vermont Housing Finance Agency is offering the Vermont Homeowner Assistance Program, which provides assistance for homeowners so that their primary residence avoids home foreclosure, displace-

ment, and other fines. For homeowners that experienced financial hardship due to Covid-19 after Jan. 21, 2020, the assistance includes overdue mortgage payments, homeowners association fees, property taxes, and utilities.

Pickup said the town had received a lot of calls and that “Pam [Willard] is very aware.” He said that people are applying for the assistance and that the town had received four payments. Pickup said the information is outside the Town Clerk’s office on the table and is shared in the first round of delinquent tax notices. Pickup said that this is “100% their [homeowners] responsibility to do that, see if they qualify and apply... It’s a self-help program.”

Elijah Zimmer asked about the deadline and cut-off date. Pickup said that it started around January. Susan Hammond said, “[When] the money runs out, it will stop.”

Cowan stated, “It’s a win-win. We don’t have to go [through] tax sale and

they get to keep their house. It’s a great opportunity.”

VHAP defines a financial hardship as a loss in income or material increase in living expenses from job loss, reduced hours, increased costs to child care, or the need to care for a family member. The program is open to income-eligible Vermonters who make less than or equal to 150% of the area median income. In Rockingham and Windham County, that is \$82,500 or less for one person, and up to eight people at \$155,050 for a family of eight.

For more information on qualifications and to apply, visit the VHFA’s VHAP website at www.publicservice.vermont.gov/content/vermont-homeowner-assistance-program, or call the helpline at 1-833-221-4208 Monday-Friday, from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Email homeownerassistance@vhfa.org for details.



Mary Wallace wins “Best in Show” for BF Woman’s Club

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The Bellows Falls Woman’s Club has selected Mary Wallace of Saxtons River and Bellows Falls Union High School

as the winner of their annual art show. Pictured is her mixed media piece, “The Orphan.”

PHOTOS PROVIDED

Springfield School District offers family wellness workshops

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – This has been another challenging year for parents and families of school age children. During the month of May, Springfield School District will host a free virtual family wellness series on a variety of topics from anxiety to routines and self-care. “Children have been through a lot in the past few years, and these workshops are designed to give parents and families some fresh ideas to support their children through transitions, anxiety, and finding balance,” said Dr. Missy Wilkins, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment.

On Wednesday, May 4 at 6:30 p.m., Scott Noyes will lead a workshop

on “Routines, Ritual, and Transitions.” Scott has been professionally working, playing, writing, and talking about children for thirty years. He has written several books and presents all over North America on positive discipline, intentional language, and helping adults understand children’s behaviors. In his workshop, Scott will offer fresh ideas for bedtime hassles, homework blues, and rousing the tardy. Using alignment, active listening, and a little child development know-how, parents and caregivers can support their children through tough times. Learn more about Scott’s work at www.empoweringprograms.com/aboutep.htm.

On Thursday, May 12 at 6:30 p.m., Lynn Lyons will speak on “Helping our

Families Emotional Health: Do’s and Don’ts as We Move Forward.” As we emerge from a time like no other, parents need strategies for instilling the skills their children and teens need to confront and reduce the negative impacts of anxiety, stress, and depression, both at school and home. Lynn is an anxiety expert and has been working with families as a therapist for over thirty years. Learn about Lynn at www.lynnlyons.com/.

Additional workshops to follow. Check the Springfield School District’s Facebook page and website for more information and event links. All events are free, virtual, and open to everyone. This series is funded by Title 1 Parent and Family Engagement funds.

HCRS hosts film screening of “The Upstanders”

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Health Care and Rehabilitation Services, southeastern Vermont’s nonprofit community mental health agency, announced that they will be hosting a special online screening of the documentary “The Upstanders.” The free showing of the 56-minute film will take place on Wednesday, May 4, at 12 p.m.

“The Upstanders” is unsettling and uplifting, causing us all to examine our behavior, inspiring us to do better, and stand up against victimization and cyber-bullying. The event will feature an online viewing of the film, followed by an informative panel discussion led by Jennifer Smith, Director, and Heather Wilcoxon, Assistant Director, both of HCRS Children, Youth, and Families Division, with special guests Vanessa Thayer and Matt Alden from Springfield Public Schools and

Steve Perrin and Chris Day from Brattleboro Union High School.

The film features in-depth interviews with kids, families who have lost their children to cyber-bullying related suicide, and the very best experts in the world from prestigious institutions including Stanford University and Child Mind Institute in New York City. “The Upstanders” also includes two members of Oprah’s 2020 Vision Tour: Jesse Israel of “The Big Quiet,” and Radha Agrawal of “Daybreaker,” and author of “Belong.” Through its experts, the film explores:

- The science behind cyber-bullying.
- Why kids are afraid to admit they are cyber-bullied and signs to watch for.
- Best ways to support your cyber-bullied child.
- How the community can show resilience and power to end bullying.

Woven through this film is the very personal, first-hand account of a family’s tragic loss that inspired new legislation to turn the tide against this very real epidemic.

According to Jennifer Smith, “This film highlights the profound and devastating effect that social media can have on young people, especially. It reminds us that, although social media is everywhere, all the time – we can take important and meaningful steps to reduce the impact cyber-bullying has on the young people in our lives. This film is great for parents, teachers – really anyone who has young people in their lives whom they care to protect.”

To register for this free event, contact Mary at mmoecken@hcrs.org or call 802-886-4567, ext. 2157.

Black River Acupuncture

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Black River Acupuncture in Springfield opened April 5 at 368 River St., Suite 140, in the building next door to Biben’s. The Black River Clinic is currently open on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Black River Acupuncture follows the “Community Acupuncture” Model. This model of acupuncture treatment believes that acupuncture should be accessible and

affordable to the community. Treatments are priced on a sliding scale. Wherever you are comfortable on that scale is what you pay for treatment. Community Acupuncture also involves all patients treated collectively in one room. At the Black River Clinic, there are six recliners in a large room with divider screens, dim lights, and soft music. Patients are treated with points in the

arms, legs, head, and ears and only need to roll up their sleeves and pant legs. Most patients fall asleep during the treatment and leave feeling relaxed. Acupuncture can be helpful in treating many common conditions, but it is especially helpful in treating pain.

Call Black River Acupuncture at 802-886-1153 for more information.

Dartmouth Health partners with Grace Cottage

LEBANON, N.H. – Dartmouth Health Connected Care is partnering with Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital, an independent, nonprofit critical access hospital and family health clinic in Townshend, Vt. to provide acute care TeleNeurology services to Grace Cottage patients. Through this partnership, Dartmouth Health TeleNeurology can quickly bring a neurologist to the patient’s bedside to assist the local clinical team with prompt assessment and treatment recommendations via telemedicine. The service began on

Monday, April 11, 2022.

“Using the latest technology to bring TeleNeurology services to Grace Cottage will ensure the very best care for our patients who experience neurological issues,” said Douglas DiVello, President and CEO of Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital. “This partnership allows us to provide world-class care from one of the nation’s leading academic medical centers to our patients and allows our medical staff to consult with Dartmouth Health neurology specialists, right here in rural southern Vermont.”

Dartmouth Health’s TeleNeurology provides a

board-certified neurologist 24 hours a day, seven days per week, to confer with the local bedside team. Through telemedicine, the local healthcare team can quickly connect with the Dartmouth Health’s TeleNeurology team to collaborate and assist with patient evaluation and treatment.

“It is important to us that the Center for Telehealth helps to deliver exceptional care to patients across northern New England, regardless of location,” said Kevin M. Curtis, MD, MS, medical director of Connected Care. “We are pleased to join the health

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DEADLINES

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

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Lester Peck receives VT pharmacists award

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Springfield Hospital’s Director of Pharmacy Services, Lester “Pete” Peck, R.Ph., Pharm.D. was honored with the Inaugural Challenge Coin Award from the Vermont Pharmacists Association at their spring meeting. The Vermont Pharmacists Association Challenge Coin recognizes a pharmacist who has contributed to the welfare of patients and the profession of pharmacy in both civilian and military/first responder settings. The VPA Challenge Coin reads,



Major Lester Peck. PHOTO PROVIDED

“Civilian-Pharmacist-Servicemember.”

“Congratulations Pete! We are honored to have you as a member of our staff and we thank you for your commitment to our patients and our service to our country,” stated Bob Adcock, CEO of Springfield Hospital. Major Pete Peck is the Pharmacy Logistics Officer for the 804th Medical Brigade United States Army Reserve. During Covid-19, Major Peck served on the Urban Augmentation Medical Task Force in New York City.

Springfield Library implements online catalog

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Springfield Town Library, a member of the Catamount Library Network, will be rolling out a new online catalog with many exciting new features on June 1. Once implemented, patrons will not only be able to search for the usual library materials but they will also be able

to search and immediately checkout many of the library’s online resources such as eBooks, downloadable audiobooks, newspapers, and more without searching another website or app. To prepare everyone for the change, the library will be offering online and in-person training sessions.

Participants who attend a class, led by Library Director Sue Dowdell, will be able to use the new catalog right away and provide feedback for improvements. The on-line Zoom class will be held on Tuesday, May 5 at 6:30 p.m. It will be recorded and uploaded to the library’s YouTube channel for later viewing. Five in-person small group classes will be held at various times and dates from May 9-18. Registration is required for all classes. Call the library at 802-885-3018 or sign up online at www.bit.ly/STL-OPAC. Contact springfieldlibrary@hotmail.com if you need further information. Funding for the new catalog interface Aspen Discovery is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a federal agency, through the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Vermont Department of Libraries.

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Employment Fair at Riverside Middle School

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The River Valley Workforce Investment Board is pleased to announce the 2022 Virtual River Valley Employment Fair, which is making its return in-person on May 11, 2022 at the Riverside Middle School in Springfield, Vt. from 3–6 p.m. Many local employers are actively recruiting for open positions and need well-qualified employees, so Windsor County and surrounding area residents of all ages and various employment levels will be able to search for full or part-time jobs at this free event. Additionally, the WIB will be offering a virtual event running from May

11 to June 11 at www.rivervalleyemploymentfair.org. The virtual event will include the following from a variety of local employers:

- URL links to current openings/website/careers page.
- Links to recruitment videos.
- Links to virtual hiring events.
- Contact information available for resume and cover letter submission.
- Information on changes to hiring practices during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Any additional updates.

As usual, this year’s Employment Fair has a dual focus, offering opportunities for jobseekers who are unemployed as well as those who are under-employed

and would like to explore training, professional development opportunities, or simply find a better job. The WIB is currently registering businesses, organizing sponsorships, and inviting county high schools, colleges, and the general public. By raising awareness of the job opportunities available to graduating high school and college students, companies will have access to well-qualified candidates ready to enter the workforce. Employer registration, jobseeker resources, and detailed information can be found by calling Derek Williams at 802-885-8302 or by visiting www.rivervalleyemploymentfair.org.

News from Westminster Cares

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – The Westminster Cares Board of Directors met April 6 at 4:30 p.m. via WebEx with President Lori Larue presiding. The following board members attended: President Lori Larue, Regina Borden, Miriam Lanata, Pete Harrison, Pat Goodell, Don Dawson, Cindy Moses, Doug Oftedahl, Kathy Elliot, and Director Donna Dawson.

Programs and Services Provided in March:

Meals-on-Wheels – Two new residents started in March. WC volunteers delivered meals five days a week to 26 different people. Those in need of weekend meals received two frozen meals each Friday.

Transportation Program – Currently back on hold through April.

Healthy Aging Programs – Both of our Strong Living exercise classes, with Karen W. and Ronnie F. as instructors,

are happening two times per week on Zoom. Gentle Yoga and Tai Chi classes are also being offered online. The Secrets of Healthy Aging Group has been on hiatus through April.

Assistance and Referrals – Volunteers picked up prescriptions at a local pharmacy and delivered them twice in March.

Friendly Visiting – On hold. However, friendly phone check-ins are happening via the Director and our Community Nurse.

Medical Equipment – In March we loaned out ten pieces of equipment and accepted returns of six pieces of equipment. We also were offered supplies of disposable items.

Community Nurse Program – In March our Nurse continued to consult with clients by phone and advise the Board on protocols for re-opening. There were no Blood Pressure Clinics as Senior Lunches have been cancelled indefinitely.

April Honorary and Me-

morial Donations:


In honor of Ronnie Friedman from Standish and Virginia Bourne. In memory of Almon Flagg from Ken Flagg. In memory of Dale McGivern from Silver Forest, Inc. In memory of Harold and Alice Shattuck from Barbara Greenough. In memory of Janet L. Young from Francis W. Rogenski. In memory of Walter Allbee from Frank and Shirley Aiken, Dennis and Debbie Albro, Dave and Claudia Allbee, Michael and Marjorie Audet, Agnes Beall, John and Patricia Cooper, Dan and Mary Davis, Jim and Colleen Grout, Hugh and Betty Haggerty, Pete and Judy Harrison, Warner and Kathleen Hodgdon, Philip and Andrea Howe, Reginald and Kathy Joslin, Steven and Sonja Kelsey, John A. Leppman, John and Celeste Majek, Ellwyn and Kathy Miller, Dick and Lori Miller, Calvin and Heidi Nystrom, Don and Ethel Pike, Robert and MaryLou Smith. Westminster Fire & Rescue Assoc.

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PARTNER
From Page 1

care team at Grace Cottage to offer the TeleNeurology services 24/7 and allow patients to get even more care close to home.”

Studies show that early and effective stroke treatment can save lives and prevent long-term disability. The American Heart Association recognizes a telemedicine consultation by a neurologist as a standard of care in bringing the expertise of a stroke center to a patient’s bedside, thus improving outcomes, shortening hospital stays, and lowering costs with a prompt and accurate diagnosis.

Dartmouth Health’s TeleNeurology offerings also contribute to reduced patient transfers by keeping patients closer to home and their loved ones.

To learn more about Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital, visit www.gracecottage.org. For information about Dartmouth Health Connected Care and Center for Telehealth, visit www.dartmouth-hitchcock.org/connected-care.

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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 ronpatch27@gmail.com

Charlie the Liar

Below is a story I wrote several years ago for my own amusement. Time got away from me this past weekend. Danny and I went to the postcard show on Saturday. Next thing I knew, it was time for another article. Caught short, I didn't have an article, so I submit this imaginative tale. It's a true story, full of lies, embellished by me.



L.J. Frededrick's hired man, drawing logs in South Windham. Circa 1914.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY RON PATCH

Charlie was an old man known for telling tall tales. You couldn't believe a word he said. Boys liked to go to his house, play checkers, and listen to his stories. We sat mesmerized as Charlie described how he fought off a giant bear with just his jackknife.

Deer and bear heads hung on the walls. Antique rifles stood in corners, further setting the stage. Oh, the stories he would tell how he got the bear. Here's one of Charlie's tales:

A traveling salesman, on his regular route, frequently stopped overnight in Chester and, as there was nothing to do in the evenings, fell into the habit of attending the usual gathering at the general store. There was often an old Indian there who had quite a reputation as a gunner. Over time, the salesman got to know him well.

After an absence of some time, the salesman finally made his way back to Chester, and, as usual, went to the store for the evening. The old Indian was there and this question naturally was asked: "How's the gunning this fall, Uncle?" The old Indian shook his head in a dismal sort of way and answered.

"Not very good, but I did have a little luck the other day. I took the old gun out and saw a fox lying beside a rock. I pulled up the gun to fire, and damn if another fox didn't come out and lie down on

the other side of the rock. I fired at the sharp edge of the rock, split the bullet, and killed both foxes.

The gun kicked so hard that it knocked me over into a brook behind me, my right hand landed on a muskrat and my left on a beaver. When I got up out of the water, my trousers were so full of brook trout that they burst a suspender button and it flew and killed a partridge."

Another story Charlie told was about the coldest winter on record. He was working in a logging camp on Stratton Mountain in the 1920s. The story went like this:

Charlie told how bitter cold it was in the woods that winter. This particular winter was so cold that when the men spoke their words froze in mid-air. No one could hear the others speak. It was spring before it was warm enough to thaw out the words. As Charlie said, "All of a sudden the woods come alive with the winter's conversations."

While you couldn't believe Charlie's tales, there is one story he told that was probably true. Charlie had a son. His son, like Charlie, was a hunter, trapper, and woodsman. It was in the 1930s or '40s when Charlie's son, now a grown man, decided to move out Montana way and hunt big game, grizzly bears, buffalo, and elk.

Well, so it was, the son went to Montana. Charlie never heard from him again. Even as late as 1960,

there was no word.

Charlie was an active member at Chester Rod & Gun Club and attended many shooting matches. He was one of the better marksmen in the area and quite often came in first or second.

Charlie would take his .45 caliber muzzleloader to these matches. The recommended amount of black powder was 80 grains. Charlie knew his muzzleloader well. He used 90 grains of black powder and used the same weight bullet used with 80 grains.

The result was a higher muzzle velocity and increased accuracy. The bullet travelled faster, farther, and flatter with the extra powder charge. Charlie experimented with different loads of black powder and discovered any more than 90 grains caused the bullet to tumble and lose accuracy. At 100 yards, with open sights, Charlie could put nine out of ten rounds in a three-inch diameter bulls-eye using his 90 grains of black powder.

Henry always liked visiting Charlie. They got along well.

I need someone to roto-till a very small garden for me. A walk behind tiller would be perfect. Know anyone?

This week's old saying is from Lee Decatur: "Life is easier if you plow around the stumps."

Kchi Pontegok Project awarded grant

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – A collaborative of the Elnu Abenaki Tribe and the Rockingham Historic Preservation Commission has been awarded a National Park Service Underrepresented Community Grant to support reassessing the historic landscape of the Bellows Falls petroglyph site, Kchi Põntegok.

In the language of the Indigenous Western Abenaki, Kchi Põntegok, pronounced "kit SEE POHN tuh guk," means "at the Great Falls" and inspires the project name. The site is a rare instance of petroglyphs in New England and marks a sacred place.

"It is good to see folks starting to understand the history of Kchi Pontegok," said Abenaki Chief Roger Longtoe Sheehan. "The Great Falls and the landscape around it is not just a few hundred years old but thousands and thousands of years old. This much older history is that of Indigenous Abenaki Peoples who have and still live here and consider Kchi Pontegok and the lands around it sacred. We hope other folks will start to understand why this history is important."

The site is located at the Great Falls along the Connecticut River in Bellows Falls Village near the Vilas Bridge. It is identified in the State of Vermont's archaeological site inventory and is

on the National Register of Historic Places.

Goals of the project are to affirm the sacredness of the Bellows Falls petroglyph site, address cultural representational inequalities, and to update the site's listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

"The Town of Rockingham and its environs have always recognized that we have history that extends back millennia before people of English descent settled here in the eighteenth century," said John Leppman, Historic Preservation Commission chair. "Artifacts such as the petroglyphs at the Great Falls remind us of this heritage. The Commission is delighted to have support from an Underrepresented Communities Grant to expand our vision of a heritage that is not only ancient but decidedly lasting and relevant."

Since the 1980s, when research of the petroglyph site was undertaken for the National Register, new studies have revealed greater detail and ways of understanding and interpreting the carvings. The Kchi Põntegok Project will include a review of current scholarship, archaeological field research, collection of oral histories and traditions, and archival research. The intent is to raise awareness of their place as an anchor in a sacred landscape of significance to the Indigenous Western Abenaki Tribe.

"I feel excited and honored that our partnership received this grant," said Walter Wallace, Commission Coordinator. "Excited because this is an important collaboration between the Abenaki and Euro-American communities in our region, honored because this is the first Underrepresented Communities Grant awarded by the National Park Service to a Vermont town."

The Underrepresented Community Grant program is supported by the Historic Preservation Fund to identify, plan, and develop nominations to the National Register of Historic Places increasing representation of Black, Indigenous, and communities of color listed on the Register. The HPF uses revenue from federal oil leases on the Outer Continental Shelf to assist with a broad range of preservation projects without expending tax dollars, with the intent to mitigate the loss of a nonrenewable resource to benefit the preservation of other irreplaceable resources.

For more information about the Kchi Põntegok Project, email clg@rockbf.org.

For more information about NPS historic preservation programs and grants and the Underrepresented Community Grant program visit their websites.

Conversation on petroglyphs

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – On Wednesday, May 11 at 7 p.m., join Dr. Michael J. Fuller for a conversation about the meanings of petroglyphs created around the world, while referencing a local site: the petroglyphs at the Great Falls in present-day Bellows Falls, known to the Abenaki as Kchi Ponteku, over Rockingham Library Zoom.

Dr. Fuller is a Professor Emeritus of Anthropology at St. Louis Community College in Missouri. He has participated in over 60 archaeological surveys and excavations in Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, and Oregon from 1970 to 2022. His ongoing research project involves the location and documentation of rock art sites in North America. He visited and documented the petroglyphs in Bellows Falls in 2014.

This program, co-sponsored by the Rockingham Historic Preservation Commission and the Rockingham Library, was made possible in part by funding through the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation and the National Park

Service.

To request a Zoom invitation to this program, email programming@rockinghamlibrary.org, call 802-463-4270, or stop by the library at 65 Westminster St., Bellows Falls, Vt.



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opinion

COMMUNITY NEWS

Dear Editor,

On April 20, the Town of Londonderry held a special meeting to discuss Article 22 placed on the warrant for Town Meeting, which will take place on Saturday, April 30, 9:30 a.m., at the Town Hall. Approval of Article 22 would raise and appropriate funding funds for an engineering study to remove the Williams Dam. The Londonderry Conservation Commission attended the special meeting, as did many other local residents. After a brief presentation by DuBois & King, who recently completed an alternatives analysis for the town, a public comment, question, and answer session was held.

Representatives from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Connecticut River Conservancy, and Trout Unlimited spoke to the ecological benefits of dam

removal, and to the significant amount of funding currently available for dam removal projects, which would potentially cover all costs with no burden placed on the taxpayers. Representatives from Londonderry's Fire Departments discussed the importance of maintaining adequate water supply for fire fighting in town and the challenges that river based dry hydrants present. The town's selectboard spoke to the liability associated with owning the Williams Dam. Others spoke about the aesthetic value of the dam. Many viewpoints were heard, and most importantly, everyone in attendance had the opportunity to voice them. For those that are just learning about the issue, there is a great deal of information available for review on the town's website.

The Londonderry Con-

servation Commission supports the removal of the Williams Dam. From an environmental stewardship and ecological perspective, the benefits of dam removal are clear. We believe that a properly permitted, designed, and constructed dam removal project will restore this segment of the West River, and we trust that the permitting and design process can address the issue of adequate water supply for our fire departments. We have spoken with many Londonderry residents who support the removal of the dam because of concerns about the environment, as well as the projected taxpayer burden associated with not removing the dam, which is estimated at \$767,000 for dam rehabilitation or \$1,300,000 for dam replacement. We encourage everyone to participate in Town Meeting Day.

Sincerely,
Londonderry Conservation Commission
Londonderry, Vt.

Dear Editor,

To the Chester Selectboard and community members:

Good evening and thank you for your service. I am here for one reason: Police advisory committee.

I have lost count as to the amount of times I have asked the selectboard and Julie Hance, Chester Town Manager, to begin this process. Last Jan./Feb. I was told after the town budget passed. Then I was told after a police study was conducted. This year I am told after the police union contract is finalized.

It is time to put this on the selectboard agenda. Burlington, Barre, Bennington, and Montpelier are some of the towns which already have an advisory or oversight committee. The Montpelier Police Review Committee published a comprehensive and professional report on strategies to improve police transparency and accountability, which includes the sharing of data, Fair and Impartial Policing assessment, officer misconduct, and oversight on the purchase of militarization equipment. Also included

is the recommendation for increased investments in community support programs such as police embedded social workers, or a crisis management team functioning with the police on calls.

Last year our town paid a \$50,000 settlement to a man who was pulled over with a gun simply for driving while black. Was the Chester Police Department held accountable for breaking the Fair and Impartial Policing law? No, they were not. Selectboard Chair Arne Jonynas apologized and no internal complaint was filed against the two officers involved. No internal complaint, no record on file. For one of those officers, the Chief failed to report this use of a forced stop to the state.

This is just one example of what we the public know about, because the Vermont Human Rights Commission found unanimously that the CPD had violated Vermont's Fair and Impartial Policing state law.

We now have a holding cell in our quaint little town. No state law exists for mu-

nicipal holding cells. How do we know the CPD is following their own holding cell policy? I would hate to see a holding cell incident that costs our town another \$50,000, or worse, costs someone their life.

A FT officer is leaving in September. A police advisory committee could be part of the interview process for a new hire, or, perhaps we should we spend that money on a police embedded social worker.

We have a right to know what the police in this town are doing. Are they meeting the current needs of the community? Are they following the law? Are we helping or hurting the young people in this town; are we helping or hurting our folks with SUD or mental health conditions?

It is time to put this on the selectboard agenda. Tell me what I should do to make this happen. I am formally requesting this to be put on the Chester Selectboard agenda before this summer.

Sincerely,
Leslie M. Thorsen
Chester, Vt.




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Virtual Zoom Thursdays 7-8pm

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for
Russell Allen
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at Higgins Hill Orchard

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share about dad. Lunch will be served.**

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Dear Editor,

This year, instead of producing several smaller, focused bills, the Senate Economic Development Committee created one omnibus economic development bill with a wide range of proposals. It took longer than expected to finish, and the House Commerce Committee is now considering it. The purpose of the bill

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.

is to “address the negative economic impacts of Covid-19 on Vermont’s economy, employers, workers, and families, and establish opportunities to grow Vermont’s economy.” It balances support for both individuals and businesses.

The bill, H.159, offers \$20 million in support of the pandemic’s hardest hit business sectors – special events, arts and culture, travel, lodging, tourism, agriculture, and child care – which are still struggling to recover. The Vermont Economic Development Authority will administer this money through short term forgivable loans of up to \$200,000. VEDA has experience with the PPP program and has the ability and expertise to look at individual circumstances and make decisions based on an applicant’s unique financial needs.

New and existing programs are also supported in this bill. Vermont’s Relocating Employee Incentive program addresses our acute labor shortage challenge. The SED bill further invests \$6 million into this program aimed at recruiting new workers to Vermont, and \$4.2 million in regional marketing meant to attract new

residents. A new Covid-19 wage replacement program is created to reimburse employers who voluntarily paid their employees who had to take time off because of the pandemic from Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2022. Reimbursement is paid out at 67% of an employee’s hourly wage and the maximum grant per employee is \$27.50 per hour and \$2,200 in the aggregate. Employers may also utilize the money to retroactively provide paid leave to employees. And, the SED bill boosts unemployment insurance benefits by \$25 per week.

Two important tools in our economic development toolbox designed to incentivize the revitalization of our downtowns and village centers are the Downtown and Village Tax Credit and Tax Increment Financing programs. This bill increases the total amount of downtown tax credits awarded annually to \$4.35 million from \$3 million, and creates a new project based TIF pilot program which will allow smaller communities to finance a single public infrastructure improvement with no more than \$5 million in public debt costs. This will expand the applicability of

this successful program.

This bill also increases the minimum wage to \$15 per hour by Jan. 1, 2024. This ensures that the base wage will be reset in two years and that the minimum wage will begin to grow from an updated foundation of \$15 per hour. And, finally, H.159 creates three task forces: 1) to study the most advantageous way to set up a legal sports betting system in Vermont; 2) to examine the potential enactment of a paid family and medical leave insurance program, and; 3) to review the historical activities and future possibilities of cultivating a more robust Vermont film industry.

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 at legislature.vermont.gov.

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

Green Mountain RSVP volunteers

REGION – Across the nation, AmeriCorps Seniors continues to bring diverse individuals and institutions together to tackle some of the nation’s toughest challenges. The AmeriCorps Seniors program in Windsor

County is known as Green Mountain RSVP. Our volunteers are people 55 and over who have time and talent to share. Please join Green Mountain RSVP in celebrating these accomplishments during April, which is National Volunteer Appreciation Month.

Green Mountain RSVP is pleased to recognize the AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers quietly serving our communities and helping our older neighbors age safely in their homes. AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers serve with local organizations dedicated to helping others. Their efforts have not been deterred by Covid,

winter weather, or even mud season.

Green Mountain RSVP volunteers work daily to combat the social isolation of homebound seniors, food insecurity, promote healthy aging by delivering Meals on Wheels, leading senior fitness classes, providing transportation and companionship to homebound seniors, staffing food pantries, and much, much more.

Green Mountain RSVP Volunteers we thank you for all you do. You are appreciated and make a difference every day.

Please check out www.rs-vpvt.org for more information or call 802-674-4547.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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 Karate level
5 Caprice
9 Perch
12 Writer Wiesel
13 Car
14 Man-mouse link
15 Time between vernal equinoxes
17 "Viva — Vegas"
18 Wesley of "Blade"
19 Striped critter
21 Symbol of strength
22 Chirp
24 Right on the map?
27 — chi
28 Evening, in an ad
31 Duo
32 Grass shack
33 Feedbag tid-bit
34 Big name in scat
36 Boom times
37 "Mad Money" network
38 Beetle
40 Bailey's boss
41 Italian river
42 "Untrue!"
43 "Jurassic Park" bird
47 Paris pal

DOWN

1 Porgy's love
2 Carolina college
3 Actress Taylor
4 Oolong brewer
5 Methods
6 Shade

7 Call — day abbr.
8 Code name?
9 Puzzle answer
10 Persia, today
11 To-do list item
16 "Toy Story" dinosaur
20 Understanding
22 Hosiery shade
23 Funny folks
24 Paris summer
25 Piercing tool
26 Start of summer or winter
27 Hoodlum
29 Bar bill
30 List-ending

35 Small batteries
37 Patients' shares
39 Kentucky Derby prize
40 Bit of butter
41 Houston acronym
42 Actor Epps
43 Anger
44 Marathoner's stat
45 Killer whale
46 500 sheets
49 Eggs
50 Allow

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CHURCH SERVICES

obituaries

Cynthia A. A’Pelt, 1958-2022

CHESTER, Vt. – Cynthia “Cindy” A. A’Pelt (Farrar) lost her courageous battle with ovarian cancer on Monday, April 18, 2022, at the age of 64. She was born on Feb. 5, 1958, to Stanley E. and Shirley (Woodcock) Farrar. She graduated Green Mountain High School in Chester, Vt., Class of 1976.

In 1976 she was married to her beloved husband, Charles W. A’Pelt Jr., a marriage in which they had been together for 45 years. Cindy was a mother of two daughters and had three grandchildren, who she cherished and loved deeply. She enjoyed spending time with her close friends (thank you for your support). One of her loves was traveling and visiting Maine; she also enjoyed playing cards, doing puzzles, and learning the history about her family tree. She enjoyed nature and taking photos of nature as well. And of course, her little



Cynthia A’Pelt, 1958-2022. PHOTO PROVIDED

dog, Jenna.

She was predeceased by Stanley E. Farrar and Denise R. A’Pelt. She is survived by her husband, Charles; daughters, Sarah and Sonya; granddaughters, Selena, Delilah, and Etina (Socks); sibling, Leonard Farrar, and sister-in-law, Nancy Farrar; and her brother-in-law, Edward Caron.

Davis Memorial Chapel is assisting with the arrangements.

Leonard T. Carlisle
Funeral Service

RUTLAND, Vt. – Funeral Services and calling hours for Leonard T. Carlisle, who died on Jan. 9, 2022, will be held, Friday, May 20, from 5-7 p.m. at Clifford Funeral Home in Rutland. The funeral will be held Saturday, May 21, at 11 a.m. at the Cavendish Baptist Church. Burial will follow at the Cavendish Cemetery. A reception will follow in Ludlow.



Leonard Carlisle. PHOTO PROVIDED

Russell Allen
Memorial Service

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – A Celebration of Life for Russell Allen will take place on Saturday, May 14, from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Higgins Hill

Orchard in Westminster, Vt.

The family asks that you bring memories to share about dad. Lunch will be served.

Rosemary Gallion, 1946-2022

N. WALPOLE, N.H. – Rosemary Gallion, 75, passed away at home on April 19, 2022, surrounded by her loving family. Rosemary was born May 3, 1946 in Huntington, Vt. Va., the daughter of Henry and Freda (Nash) Sadler.

After graduating high school in Barbourville W. Va., Rosemary married Wilson Gallion in Lebanon, Mo., 1962. She was a nursing aid, a housekeeper, and a homemaker.

Rosemary is survived by her husband, Wilson Gallion, her son, Charles Gallion of Florida, her daughter, Kellie and husband Rodney Harper of Bellows Falls, her brothers, James Sadler and

Henry L. Sadler Jr., half-brothers, Ira Webb Jr. and John Webb, her half-sisters, Anna Dove of Tennessee, Frances McGuire of Ohio, and Eda Jenkins of West Virginia. She also has three grandchildren, Brad, Kyle, and Shawn, along with four great-grandchildren, Jaden, Carter, Rieley, and Brody. Rosemary is predeceased by her half-brother, Jeff Webb, her sister, Glenda Kessick, and her parents.

Services were held at the Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home, 55 Westminster St., Bellows Falls, VT on Tuesday, April 26, 2022 at 11 a.m. A burial followed at the Rockingham Meeting House Cemetery.

John M. Merriam, 1942-2022

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – John M. Merriam 80, passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, April 18, 2022 at his home in Springfield, Vt. He was born Feb. 13, 1942 in Springfield, the son of John H. and Ellen (Kelley) Merriam. He graduated from Windsor High School class of 1960. John served in the Army National Guard.

On Jan. 11, 1964, he married Judy Lucuis in Springfield, Vt.

John worked with Miller Construction as a Heavy Equipment Operator for 52 years. He drove truck for St. Pierre for two years, delivered parts for Advance Auto Parts, and was currently working part-time with Miller Construction.

He enjoyed camping and working in his yard, bowling league for many years, and traveling to Pennsylvania to visit family. He enjoyed being Papa to his grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife Judy of Springfield, Sons Michael Merriam (Cheryl) of Pennsylvania, and Bruce Merriam of Springfield; two sisters, Elizabeth and Judy



John Merriam, 1942-2022. PHOTO PROVIDED

of Florida; nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. He is also survived by nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was predeceased by his parents, his son, Shawn Merriam, and also by nephews.

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

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to David’s House, 461 Mt. Support Rd., Lebanon, NH 03766, or at www.davids-house.org

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

Mary Louise Dobbs
DeCormier, 1928-2022

BELMONT, Vt. – Mary Louise Dobbs DeCormier, 93, passed away on April 24, 2022 at her cherished family home in Belmont, after a full and vibrant life. The wife of respected musical conductor Robert DeCormier, who passed in 2017, Louise was a creative force in her own right, performing throughout her life as an actress and singer. In later years, acting and writing continued as her passions, as did her fierce love and loyalty to her family and friends.

Born on Sept. 30, 1928, in Nutley, N.J. to Jack Montgomery Dobbs and Catherine Barnes Dobbs, Louise embraced a career as an actress from an early age, studying acting at the Neighborhood Playhouse School of the Theatre, and studying dance with Martha Graham.

She met the love of her life, Robert DeCormier, when he was accompanying Paul Robeson on guitar at an intimate recital, and shortly thereafter joined Robert on tour, marking the beginning of an extraordinary love affair and creative partnership that lasted throughout their lives. They married shortly thereafter in 1950.

In addition to touring together with the Freedom Theatre, Louise and Robert recorded several albums together including a series of children songs from around the world, as well as two albums of Woody Guthrie songs for children. She was a singer with Counterpoint, an acappella singing group founded and directed by Robert, as well as one of the Robert DeCormier Singers.

Louise and Robert were the guiding force for the Terezin project, which included concerts of requiems and children’s songs that had been written and



Louise DeCormier, 1928-2022. PHOTO PROVIDED

performed in the Terezin concentration camp during World War II.

Louise had several movie roles, including one in the 1993 film, “Ethan Frome,” with Liam Neeson, and in 1996’s, “The Spitfire Grill,” with Ellen Burstyn, and also starred in various productions at the Weston Playhouse. She was also a published author, having written a series of mystery books under a pseudonym earlier in her life.

Louise is survived by her daughter Robin DeCormier Timko and her husband George of Cavendish, Vt.; granddaughter Sally Greenberg and husband Adam; and grandson Aaron Greenberg and wife Sandra, along with great-grandchildren Ethan and Lucia of Geneva, Switzerland. She was predeceased by her husband Robert, and dear son Christopher.

A private Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Christopher DeCormier Memorial Scholarship. Checks can be made out to the Christopher DeCormier Memorial Scholarship, c/o The IMS Dept. of Anthropology, Arts and Sciences 233, University at Albany, 1400 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12222.

Valarie Tufts, 1945-2022

N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Valarie J. Tufts, 76, passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at the Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, N.H. She was born June 13, 1945 in Springfield, Vt., the daughter of Roy D. and Carrie (Thomas) Parker. She attended Springfield Schools.

On Dec. 28, 1960, she married Jerry Tufts in North Springfield, Vt. He predeceased her on July 18, 1996.

Valarie was a crafter and loved crafts of all kinds. She enjoyed the spring flowers and loved her little dog Penny. She was also a member of the Springfield Senior Center.

She is survived by her children, Christopher Tufts, Robin Tufts, and Cynthia Tufts; One brother, Richard E. Parker; two grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.



Valarie Tufts, 1945-2022. PHOTO PROVIDED

She was predeceased by her parents, her husband, two brothers, Reginald H. Parker and Stephen D. Parker, and one nephew, Travis Parker.

A graveside service will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2022 at 11 a.m. at the Pine Grove Cemetery in North Springfield, Vt. Reverend Malcolm Fowler will officiate.

Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield is assisting with arrangements.

ALSTEAD, N.H.

Third Congregational Church UCC, River St.

Sunday worship begins at 11 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.

ASCUTNEY, VT.

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

Sunday service is 9:30 a.m., held in the church with reduced occupancy or streaming online at www.facebook.com/brownsvillecommunitychurch and www.brownsvilleumc-vt.org.

Vision of Light Church of Spiritualism and Healing, P.O. Box 133, Windsor

The Sunday service is at 10 a.m. with Lay Pastor Dawn Hancy via Zoom. Sign up for the Vision of Light newsletter and Zoom links on Facebook @VOLChurch.

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.

Cavendish Baptist Church, 2258 Main St.

Sunday services are 10 a.m. online or in person. If you attend in-person, please wear a mask and practice physical distancing. Online services are on Facebook at 10 a.m. Go to www.facebook.com/Cavendish-Baptist-Church-258814894244302. More at www.CavendishBaptist.com or call 802-226-7131.

CHARLESTOWN, N.H.

Charlestown Congregational Church, 71 Main St.

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

LONDONDERRY, VT.

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

Worship service is Sunday at 10 a.m. at the church. Masks are suggested. Services will still be live streamed at www.firstbaptistslondonderryvt.org/streaming-worship.html. For more information, visit www.firstbaptistlondonderryvt.org or call 802-856-7266.

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.

Tyson Community Church, Corner of Rt. 100 and Dublin Rd., opposite Echo Lake Inn.

Services are Sundays at 10:30 a.m. No service last Sunday of the month. In-person and via Zoom. Email terry.bascom@pm.me or call 802-228-2480.

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.

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.

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

Death Notices, Funeral Services,
and Thank You Notices **under 50 words are free**

calendar

LEGAL NOTICES

APRIL 30 –
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Sound Investment is performing Classic Rock and Country music on Saturday, April 30 at 8 p.m. at the VFW Post 771, 191 River St., Springfield, VT. General public is welcome. Call 802-885-6008 for more information.

BELMONT, Vt. – There will be a spaghetti and meatball diner Saturday, April 30 at 5 p.m. at the Colfax Lodge for a donation. Take-out meals will be available starting at 4:30 p.m. Proceeds go to support the Grenier family. Contact Dennis at 802-259-2460 or ddevereux@vermontel.net for details.

MAY 3 & 4 –
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Auditions for the Main Street Arts performance of “The Books of Alice and Wonderland,” are scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, May 3 and 4, from 6:30–8:30 p.m. at Main Street Arts in Bellows Falls. For more information, visit www.mainstreetarts.com.

MAY 5 –
CHESTER, Vt. – The final Stone Village Poetry Experience Slam will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 5 at the First Universalist Parish of Chester (211 North St). Poets who have read and been judged during

all three events will be awarded first, second and third prizes by the judges who will be, as they always are, picked from the audience.

MAY 7 –
ACWORTH, N.H. – The Female Charitable Society Rummage Sale on Saturday, May 7 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Church on the Hill in Acworth, N.H. This event will be outside except for clothing that is hung up. Drop off contributions call Alva Grant 603-835-6848 or Liz 603-835-6313 to make arrangements. All donations must be clean and in good condition. No electronics please. There will also be a box for eyeglasses and frame donations.

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – Mother’s Day weekend comedy show, “Momologues,” comes to Main Street Arts on Saturday, May 7 from 3-5 p.m. Fifteen comics from around New England, a mix of mothers, fathers, and children, have prepared their funniest “mom-themed” comedy in an all-ages event that is a celebration of the incredible humans who brought us

into this world. Doors open at 3 p.m., and until the show starts at 3:30 p.m. audience members can peruse local goods. Every VIP, or mom, in attendance also gets a special gift upon entry. Advance tickets available at www.comedyformom.com.

MAY 8 –
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Fred Gillen Jr. will perform at Stage 33 Live in Bellows Falls on Sunday, May 8 at 7 p.m. Gillen’s music illustrates diverse influences from growing up in the 1970s. His live performances are spontaneous and full of storytelling. There is limited seating and a recommended donation. More information at www.stage33live.com. Carl Beverly opens with his distinctive rhythmic finger-picking style that grooves without straying far from his solid folk grounding.

MAY 12 –
LUDLOW, Vt. – Community Lunch at Black River Valley Senior Center on Thursday, May 12 at 11:45 a.m. Menu includes meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans and dessert. Located at 10 High Street in Ludlow. Call for reservations 802-

228-7421.

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. All you can eat for a minimal cost.

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.

Blanchard from The National Council on Aging will be at the Black River Valley Senior Center on the first and third Wednesday of the month, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., to help Medicare recipients find and apply for eligible assistance programs, services and support. Located at 10 High Street in Ludlow. For details, call 802-773-7917.

CHESTER, Vt. – Bone Builders Class in Chester every Wednesday, from 10-11 a.m. Classes will be held in the First Universalist Parish of Chester community room. Classes are free and open to all. Drop-in class, no registration needed. For details, contact Barbara at bwquilter1778@gmail.com.

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.

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-timePay: \$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.

TOWN OF LUDLOW, VERMONT
TRUCK DRIVER/LABORER

The Town of Ludlow Highway Department invites applications for the position of Truck Driver/Laborer. This is a full-time, year-round position. Principal duties will include plowing snow from roads and sidewalks, sanding and salting roads, road construction and maintenance and other related duties. Most possess a valid Vermont Commercial Driver’s License and have experience operating a dump truck with plow, dump body and sander, loader and backhoe. General knowledge of vehicle maintenance, fundamental construction and maintenance procedures, public works, equipment operation and mechanics required. Municipal Benefit Package including health/dental/ life/and disability insurance. Send resume, call Ron Tarbell, visit our website www.ludlow.vt.us or come into the Municipal Office for an application form: Ludlow Highway Department, PO Box 359, Ludlow, VT 05149, (802) 228-2841. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The Town of Ludlow is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT
WATER MAIN FLUSHING NOTICE

5/2/2022 THROUGH 5/6/2022
Periodically, in Springfield, Vermont, we clean water mains of harmless corrosion and accumulated foreign matter by opening hydrants and allowing the water to escape under high pressure. The flushing action is an important part of our program to maintain high quality water.
Although such flushing may produce temporary discoloration, the safety of the water is not affected in any way. HOWEVER, we advise you to schedule clothes washing and cleaning projects at other time.
All mains will be flushed between 7:00 AM and 6:00 PM, Monday thru Friday. During the time this work is performed, IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE ENTIRE SYSTEM WILL BE AFFECTED. It is suggested that restaurants, laundromats, etc. keep their use to a minimum until water clears. The water system will be riled and cloudy, but this condition will clear up upon completion of the work.
Springfield Water Department

TOWN OF LONDONDERRY VERMONT
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Londonderry Development Review Board will meet at 5:30 PM on Wednesday 5/18/22 at the Londonderry Town Offices 100 Old School St. to hold a public hearing for three applications:

John H. Hatheway and Ski Magic LLC have applied for a Site plan review for a new deck and terrace attached to the Magic base lodge.

Josh Wengerd, Andrew and Liz Cooper have applied for a conditional use permit for an accessory dwelling at 374 Middletown Rd.

Dan Rourke and Caitlin Cavagnino are applying for a set-back variance for an addition at 546 Tallwood Circle.

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.

FINANCE ASSISTANT

The Town of Charlestown NH Selectboard Office is seeking a part-time (20-32 hours/week) Finance Clerk. Job responsibilities include, but are not limited to; processing accounts payable weekly, log general ledger entries, revenue accruals, and corrections, etc. Assist with preparation of quarterly budget reviews and various quarterly fund financial statements. Assist with answering incoming phone calls, walk in customers. Applicants must be detailed oriented and should be comfortable using both Microsoft Word and Excel. Previous experience with Business Management Systems, Inc (BMSI) is a plus, but we are willing to train the right person. Interested persons may obtain an application in the Selectboard Office at 233 Main Street, Charlestown, NH, by calling 603-826-4400, or on the Town’s website www.charlestown-nh.gov. Please return applications/resumes to Ddezan@charlestown-nh.gov.
The Town of Charlestown is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

WARNING
WNUESD DISTRICT MEETING
Tuesday, May 24, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

WINDHAM NORTHEAST UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Serving the communities of Athens, Grafton, and (until June 30, 2022) Westminster, Vermont.

The legal voters of the Windham Northeast Union Elementary School District, are hereby notified to assemble at the Grafton Elementary School in Grafton, Vermont and meet to act on the following articles approved by the School Board of the WNUESD.

Article 1: The election of a Moderator to serve for a one (1) year term, or until the next Annual Meeting of this District.

Article 2: To elect a Treasurer to serve for a one (1) year term or until the next Annual Meeting of this District.

Article 3: To elect a Clerk to serve a one (1) year term or until the next Annual Meeting of this District.

Article 4: Shall the voters of the WNUESD modify the Articles of Agreement to remove all references to the Town of Westminster as of July 1, 2022, in compliance with the State Board of Education’s Rule allowing the formation of the Westminster School District and empowering the elected Board of that District to resume full operational authority of the schools and properties located in that town?

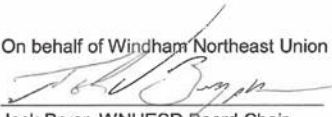
Article 5: Shall the voters of the WNUESD approve the disposition of its current fund balance as of July 1, 2021 as identified by the auditor of the District to be \$1,412,876 according to the formula recommended by the WNUESD and Westminster Boards: the formula is a grant of \$1,062,546 to the school district of Westminster and \$350,330 to be retained by the WNUESD for the purposes of tuition reimbursement, future reductions to the tax rate beginning in 2024, and physical improvements to the Grafton Elementary School.

Article 6: Shall the Voters of Athens and Grafton, being the voters of the WNUESD after July 1, 2022, modify the Articles of Agreement to add two additional District School Board members, elected by the District as a whole, with the provision that one new member shall reside in the Town of Athens and the other new member shall reside in the Town of Grafton? These members shall serve one term beginning July 1, 2022 until the next Annual meeting.

Article 7: Shall the Voters of Athens and Grafton, being the voters of the WNUESD after July 1, 2022, elect one additional member from the Town of Athens and one additional member from the Town of Grafton to serve beginning July 1, 2022 until the Annual meeting of the District, in conformance with Article 6, above?

Article 8: Shall the Voters of Athens and Grafton, being the voters of the WNUESD after July 1, 2022, authorize its Board of Directors to sign a long term lease for the Grafton Elementary School and accompanying lands for no less than 55 years with the Town of Grafton, so as to qualify for federal ESSER renovation grants?

Article 9: Shall the Voters of the WNUESD act on or consider other matters to be brought before the voters assembled in this meeting?

On behalf of Windham Northeast Union Elementary School District Board Members:

Jack Bryar, WNUESD Board Chair

Jack Bryar, Grafton
Krista Gay, Athens
David Major, Westminster
Elise Manning, Westminster
Hardy Merrill, Grafton
Lynn Morgan, Athens

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-pantry-garden.

CHESTER, Vt. – Knit Knite at Six Loose Ladies on the Chester Common Thursdays, from 5-8 p.m., and via Zoom, from 7-8 p.m.

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

SATURDAYS –
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Edgar May Health and Recreation Center offers 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. This free program will continue to run as long as there is interest from the community. For more information, call 802-885-2568, email info@edgarmay.org, or visit www.edgarmay.org.

GASSETTS, Vt. – The Gassetts Grange and Green Mountain Express are 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.

DAILY –
REGION – If you want to drink that’s your business, but if you want to stop, that’s ours. Contact Alcoholics Anonymous at www.aavt.org or call your local hotline at 802-885-8281 and join a meeting.

HELP WANTED

classifieds

AUCTION

N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Auction held on May 7, 2022, at 11 a.m. at 96 RT 106, N. Springfield, VT 05150. 802-683-7104. To be auctioned: Roy Flanders - Unit # 165 Orion Pfenning - Unit #197

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.

FIREWOOD

REGION – Quality hardwood. One cord for \$220, two cords for \$400. Delivered within 10 miles of Weathersfield. 802-263-9416 or 802-376-3041.

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

ANDOVER, Vt. – Firewood for sale. Beat fuel prices, cut to length, full cords. Please call 802-875-2076 (leave message).



GUNS WANTED

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

HELP WANTED

LUDLOW, Vt. – Server and dishwasher wanted at Café at DeLight for Mon, Tue, Fri, approximately 7-3. Must be neat, energetic, and work well with others. Call 802-228-2150.

LUDLOW, Vt. – Food Service Supervisor, Full time, Salary, Skilled Nursing Facility, 46 beds, Benefits, 401k, MVP. Gill Odd Fellows Home, 8 Gill Terrace, Ludlow, oddmain@gofhvt.net. EOE.

GARDENER – Do you love to garden and spend your time outdoors? A Weston based Fine Gardening company is looking for a plant loving, hard working, fun loving individual. Full or part time positions available. Flexible hours. Drivers license a must. Send inquiries to nldesignsvt@gmail.com.

CHESTER, Vt. – Concrete Laborer. Full-time, seasonal. Must have valid drivers license, be able to do heavy lifting up to 150 lbs, work 40-60 hours per week, and have dependable transportation to get to and from work. We offer competitive starting wages, overtime

pay, performance bonuses, 401K and paid holidays. If interested, contact Charlie at 802-875-3702 or recordconcrete@yahoo.com.

FENCE INSTALLER - Lots of variety installing all types of fences. Driver's license and chain saw experience required. Some overtime. Benefits after qualifying. Springfield Fence, 50 Rte 106, N. Springfield, Vt. 802-886-2221.

Aumands Furniture – Full Time Sales/Clerical and Full Time Furniture Delivery/Laborer. Drivers license required. Wednesday and Sunday off. Call 603-445-5321 for details or stop in at 2 Church St., North Walpole, NH.

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – Vermont Academy seeks a full-time maintenance technician to join our facilities and grounds team. General custodial and landscaping experience required. Electrical and mechanical experience preferred. This is a full-time 12 month position. Call 802-869-6210.

LIQUIDATION SALE

N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Physical Therapy Liquidation Sale May 12-14 from 9-3 pm, Sat 9-noon. PT equipment and supplies, office equipment and supplies, framed artwork, appliances, furniture, linens, décor, etc. All must go. 43 School St., North Springfield.

featured pets

Looking for some puppy love? These pups are three months old and looking for loving homes. Their breed mix is unknown, but look how cute they are! These are the males, and there are also two females. They are very sweet and adore people. They will be wonderful family additions or keep a single person company. If you would like to adopt one fill out an application on our website, www.spfldhumane.org and we will contact you to arrange a visit. Check out Facebook for more information on them.



Springfield Humane Society
401 Skitchewaugh Trail, Springfield, Vt.
802-885-3997
www.spfldhumane.org

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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

BELT	WHIM	SIT
ELIE	AUTO	ORA
SOLAR	YEAR	LAS
SNIPES	SKUNK	
OX	TWEET	
EAST	TAI	NITE
TWO	HUT	OAT
ELLA	UPS	CNBC
SARGE	PO	
NOTSO	RAPTOR	
AMI	SOLITAIRE	
SAC	EVEL	YMCA
ARE	SATE	SEAM

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Traditions of Lakota and Abenaki Peoples Photography show by Kathryn Adams, 5/14 1:00 Artist talk and stories.

Treasures of the Earth Open Wall Show until 5/11.

Letting Yarn Speak with Julie Crabtree April 30. \$65.

Paint a Spring Village Scene in Acrylic with Debra Craigue May 7. \$80.

Animation Art Camp July 11-15, 9-12. Ages 7-10. \$75.

Artful Flea returns open studio weekend, May 28 & 29.
(04/27/22 - TFN - 13)

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(06/01/22 - 13)

Builders/Contractors

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

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.
(05/11/22 - 13)

Builders/Contractors cont.

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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, interior & exterior painting, window & door replacements, storm door replacements, window cleaning, vinyl siding washing, pressure washing, drywall repairs, and odd jobs. 802-591-0019. Caven-dish, Vt.
(06/29/22 - 26)

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(06/15/22 - 13)

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(08/16/22 - TFN - 52)

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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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(09/21/22 - 26)

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(06/01/22 - 13)

MOORE MASONRY
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(09/20/22 - 52)

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 guide)

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 okemovalley.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.
(05/25/22 - 13)

Scrap Metal Wanted

Call Chet for free removal of scrap metal. Also buying scrap cars. Call 802-875-3788.
(06/15/22 - 13)

green up day

Andover

ANDOVER, Vt. – We are seeing signs of spring: the return of migrating birds and the first buds on trees. As usual, we are dismayed when snowmelt reveals trash along the roadsides. As in the past, Andover volunteers are encouraged to rid the roadsides of trash, and also to give our cemeteries a spring cleanup on May 7. In addition, this year

the state has challenged all towns to clean every mile of town roads. Last year, about 76% of all town roads in the state were cleared of trash and the hope is to get that number even higher this year. Trash bags will be available on Green Up Day at the Town Hall starting at 9 a.m. To get a head start, volunteers may obtain bags

from the Town Office. We ask that they advise as to which roads they plan to clear so that we may keep track for the challenge. Green Up trash can be placed in the dumpster in front of the town garage. Contact Deb Moser, Green Up Coordinator, at dmoser6468@gmail.com for details.

Ludlow

LUDLOW, Vt. – Green Up Day will take place on Saturday, May 7 at 9 a.m. at the Ludlow Community Center. Volunteers can receive their assignments, shirts, and bags early if they choose

too. Volunteers for Green Up Day will meet at 9 a.m. on the front lawn of the Ludlow Community Center for refreshments to go and t-shirts. At 9:15 a.m., instructions and routes will be handed out, and at

9:30 a.m. groups will disperse to designated Green Up areas. Contact Recreation Director Nick Miele at 802-245-4944 or ludlow-recreation@tds.net with questions.

Rockingham

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – Green Up Day is coming to Rockingham, Saturday, May 7. Families and interested parties can pick up the familiar green bags to clean up neighborhoods, roads, parks, and playgrounds. Bags are available at J&H Hardware, the Saxtons River Market, Town Clerk's Office, and Lisai's Market. Vermont's Agency of Natural Resources has granted

an exemption from Act. 148 – The Universal Recycling and Composting Act for Green-Up Day. For this event, trash and recycled containers can be mixed together in one bag. Once an area is clean, the green bags can be left by the side of the road for town-wide pick-up on May 9, or dropped off at the Rockingham Highway Garage or the Bellows Falls Garage. Trucks will no longer be stationed in Saxtons

River. Tires will not be accepted at the other locations. People are free to pick up green bags on their own and independently do their own clean up around their neighborhoods, parks, and roadways. Wear bright clothing; it is best to use gloves, check for ticks, and watch out for poison ivy. Do not pick up any needles, but notify the police of their locations. Need more information? Check out the statewide website at www.greenuptvermont.org. Want to report an area that needs a special crew or volunteer to captain a team? Please email Guy Payne, Green Up Day Rockingham Coordinator, at gpayne@gmail.com to let him know of your participation and the areas you'll focus on. We'd like to have the number of volunteers involved for this year – especially children – on record, so please contact Guy.

Springfield

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Join us on Saturday, May 7 for the 52nd Annual Green Up Day. We at the Chamber always look forward to hosting this annual event in Springfield and are calling for volunteers to assist us with cleaning up our town after the long winter. Our aim is to encourage 200 participants. Please join us and help our town reach this goal. Join us to Green Up downtown. We'll be in

the Springfield Food Co-op parking lot, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m., or Green Up your own neighborhood or somewhere else around town. Please remember to dress appropriately. It is extremely important to wear work gloves, long pants, and proper footwear to protect against ticks and debris along your clean-up journey, and we suggest wearing bright colors such as neon orange or pink for visibility. Bring rakes, shovels, brooms, and any tools that might come in handy for clean-up. Volunteers will be on call throughout the morning to assist you with any questions you may have. Most of all, remember to have fun. You are bettering our town and community by sharing your

energy and spirit to assist with maintaining Springfield's beauty. Our gratitude goes out to the Public Works Department. They will be going around to collect and properly dispose of all the filled bags and any trash items left on the sides of the roads. Please note that pick-up day is Monday, May 9 only. Thank you to all our neighbors, friends, and community partners that contribute their time and energy and volunteer with us every year. We appreciate everyone's help in keeping Springfield green and gorgeous. It takes a village. Official green trash bags will be available on the day of the event at Springfield Food Co-op parking lot, 6 Main St. They will also be available in advance at the Chamber office, 56 Main St., Suite 2. For more information, please contact the Chamber at 802-885-2779, email info@springfieldvt.com, or visit our website www.springfieldvt.com.

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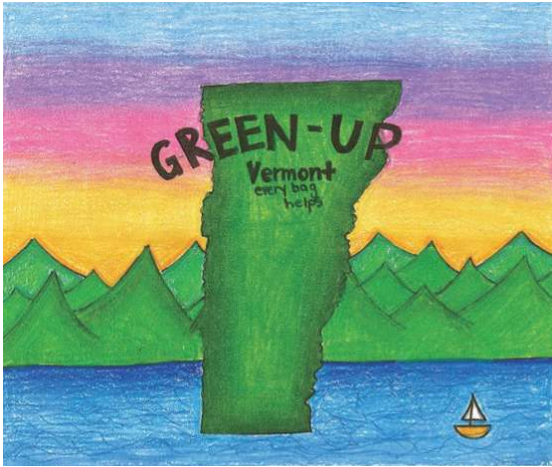
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Green Up Day, May 7, 2022.

ARTWORK BY MARINA HALLISEY,
A SEVENTH GRADER IN SHELBURNE, VT.

Fishing derby and spring cleanup day

CHESTER, Vt. – The Chester Rod & Gun Club will be hosting our annual Children's Fishing Derby on Saturday, May 14, from 9-11 a.m. at the Chester Reservoir. Don't miss this fun event for kids of all ages. Prizes will be awarded for different categories. The club will also be hosting our annual Spring Cleanup Day,

Saturday, May 21 starting at 9 a.m., to tidy up the grounds of the clubhouse, including raking, pruning back branches, cleaning up wads from the trap and skeet fields, cleaning up brass from the shooting ranges, and more. All are welcome. This is a great



Children's fishing derby, May 14. STOCK PHOTO



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Spring Home Improvement

“Landscape Gardening” with Henry Homeyer —

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. — Henry Homeyer, the “Gardening Guy,” will present the OLLI-Osher Lifelong Learning Institute program, “Landscape Gardening for Pollinators and Wildlife” on Tuesday, May 3 at 2 p.m. at the Nolin Murray Center next to St. Mary’s Church on Pleasant St. in Springfield, Vt.

Come learn how you can rethink the landscape and make your gardens and landscapes better for the birds, pollinators, and wildlife of all kinds, one step at

a time.

Homeyer, author and gardening consultant, is known throughout the area for his timely and informative gardening topic columns in the local newspapers. He will present photos of plants and discuss alternatives to invasive and nonnative plants. He will explain the need for native plants in our gardens to support and balance our ecosystems. We can make a difference by providing keystone species that best support our wildlife.

This program is co-spon-

sored by the Springfield Garden Club.

Registration can be done online by going to www.learn.uvm.edu/olli/springfield. For registration assistance, please call 802-656-5817.

This is the final program of the Spring ’22 semester. Interesting programs are planned for the Fall ’22 semester which starts in September. You can check the above website in late August for details and to pre-register.

Claim the 2021–2023 biomass stove tax credit

REGION – The new tax credit under Sec. 25(D) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code (“IRC” or “tax code”) will come into effect on Jan. 1, 2021 for qualifying purchases and installations completed on or after that date, through Dec. 31, 2023.

Credit amount: Creates a new tax credit of 26% of the purchase and installation costs (with no cap or lifetime limit) for tax years 2021 and 2022; moves down to 22% of purchase and installation costs in 2023 (under Sec. 25(D) of the U.S. tax code).

Qualifying products: Require qualifying products (any biomass-fueled heater) be at least 75% efficient per the higher heating value of the fuel that are used to heat a dwelling unit located in

the United States and used as a residence by the taxpayer, or to heat water for use in such a dwelling unit.

How to qualify for the tax credit: Install a qualifying Central Boiler outdoor wood furnace (Classic Edge 360, 560, and 760) between Jan. 1, 2021 and Dec. 31, 2023; and claim the tax credit associated with your qualifying purchase and installation on your federal filing for the tax year.

This summary informa-

tion is provided as a convenience and may not be relied upon as a substitute for professional tax advice. Central Boiler, Inc. is not a tax advisor. Taxpayers claiming a tax credit should consult a tax professional with any questions. Central Boiler is not responsible or liable for the taxpayer’s ability to receive tax credits.

Submitted by New England Outdoor Furnace.

Vermont Garden Club Day —

REGION – The Federated Garden Clubs of Vermont and its member garden clubs will be partnering with five Vermont nurseries and garden centers for Vermont Garden Club Day 2022, scheduled for Saturday, May 21 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. This first annual event will be a statewide celebration of gardening, garden clubs, and some of Vermont’s finest nurseries and garden centers. This event aims to reinforce the partnership between Vermont garden clubs and their members and Vermont garden centers which bring both traditional and exotic plant materials to the public. This partnership event will encourage citizens to take an interest in the beauty of private landscapes and community civic spaces, either on their own or through membership in one of Vermont’s local garden clubs.

fifteen local garden clubs in Vermont, and was established to promote and aid in the protection and conservation of our state’s natural resources, assist garden clubs in Vermont, and encourage educational programs in the fields of horticulture, ecology, forestry, landscape design, environmental studies, and floral design. Projects run by the FGCV include an annual scholarship award, civic beautification initiatives, and youth gardening programs. The FGCV is a member of The New England Garden Clubs, Inc., and a member of The National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Comprising of more than 700 members, the FGCV garden clubs are an asset to the communities they serve. Individual clubs sponsor garden tours of local prominent private gardens, provide scholarships for high school and

college level students, and conduct educational programs for the public on topics ranging from conservation to floral design.



Garden Club Day.

STOCK PHOTO

- Participating nurseries:**
- Equinox Valley Nursery and Garden Center, 1158 Main St., Historic Route 7A, Manchester, VT 05254
 - Horsford Gardens and Nursery, 2111 Greenbush Rd., Charlotte, VT 05445
 - Mettewee Mint Nursery, 4977 VT-30, Dorset, VT 05251
 - Morning Star Perennials & Nursery, 221 Darby Hill Rd., Rockingham, VT 05101
 - Rocky Dale Gardens, 806 Rockydale Rd., Bristol, VT 05443

These nurseries will host local Vermont garden clubs on their premises on Saturday, May 21, a weekend when waking Vermont gardens are beginning to burst into spring color. Veteran and nascent gardeners alike will be flocking to garden centers to seek out vegetable starts and annual plants, new shrubs and trees to replace those that didn’t fare well over the winter, and to source plantings for areas in their gardens that are in need of a new look. On that day, garden club members will have display tables with publicity materials about gardening, conservation, and club projects, offering helpful hints on design, native plants to consider, and the important role plants play in the ecology of our Vermont landscape.

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arts & entertainment

Paint spring village scene at the VAULT

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Gallery at the VAULT extends an invitation to paint a primitive spring village scene on a canvas board with Debra Craigue on Saturday, May 7 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

When spring is in the air, this old-time vision of a small country village will lighten your heart. No worries about drawing ability. Craigue has designed

a transfer pattern for each student. You can be as detailed as you wish.

Craigue will provide the canvas board and a wide variety of acrylic colors. Please bring your own small and medium size round and flat brushes and a magnifying glass for details. Register by Wednesday, May 4. As of this time, masks are required.

For more information,

call Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main St., Springfield, VT. The Gallery is open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Fridays from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Contact 802-885-7111, galleryvault@vermontel.net, or visit www.galleryvault.org for more information. Handicap accessible.

Final Chester poetry slam

CHESTER, Vt. – Mark your calendars, the final Stone Village Poetry Experience Slam will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 5.

Join the authors who’ve been reading and the poetry lovers who’ve been enjoying the readings at the First Universalist Parish of Chester at 211 North St.

This being the final of the slams, there will be even more poets. Poets who have read and been judged during all three events will be awarded first, second, and third prizes by the judges who will be, as they always are, picked from the audience. As always, the event will begin and end with

noncompetitive poets reading from their works.

By all accounts, the evenings have been a great success. Poets have ranged in age from high-school students to retirees, and poems have ranged in topics from lust, love, and loss to hopes and homelessness.

The events have been sponsored by the First Universalist Parish and Chester’s Whiting Library. Some of the poems have been refined at the Poetry Workshops that have been held as part of the Stone Village Poetry Experience. The final workshop will be held at the library at 177 Main St. at 7 p.m. on May 19.

For more information, contact slam-master Tuck Wunderle at Tuckerman@terrigenous.com or Deirdre Doran at whitinglibrary1@gmail.com.

“Momologues,” Mother’s Day weekend

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – The Mother’s Day weekend comedy show, “Momologues,” will show at Main Street Arts on May 7 from 3-5 p.m.

Fifteen comics from around New England, themselves a mix of mothers, fathers, and children, have prepared their funniest “mom-themed” comedy for an all-ages event to celebrate those who brought us into this world. Doors open at 3 p.m., and audi-

ence members will be able to peruse local goods until 3:30 p.m., when the show starts. Vendors include Halladays Flowers and Wild Perennial jewelry, who supply the perfect gifts for every mom. Every VIP, that is, every mother in attendance, also gets a special gift upon entry.

Hosted by Marisa Imon and Raegan Garside, this duo was inspired to put on the event upon realizing how many laughs they shared recounting experiences involving their moth-

ers. Garside says, “Hearing Marisa do a monologue about inane stuff her mom had said opened the floodgates of memories of similar stories about my mom. After riffing back and forth about the inadvertently funny stuff our moms had said and done over the years, the concept of “Momologues” was born.”

Advance tickets are available at www.comedyformom.com. Main Street Arts is located at 35 Main St., Saxtons River, Vt.

Fletcher Farm School classes—

LUDBLOW, Vt. – Spring events and classes are coming to the Fletcher Farm School for the Arts and Crafts.

Young Artist Scholarships: Applications for Young Artist Scholarships were sent to local schools in early April. The Fletcher Farm School will provide students with up to one-half of tuition for a five-day class to attend the class of their choice. Students from Ludlow and Cavendish will receive up to another subsidy from the Fletcher Farm Foundation. Parents will be responsible for paying a one-time per year registration fee, plus the materials fee for the class. These scholarships are also open to home-schooled students. Parents complete the application on behalf of the student, then return the

application to the child’s art teacher for their recommendation. Completed applications must be returned to the Fletcher Farm School by May 1, 2022. Scholarship recipients will be notified on May 16.

May 7 (a.m. only) – Acrylic Pour...What is it? – Sandi Cirillo – Reg. deadline 4/27/22. In this class students will be working with acrylic paint and canvas, experimenting with colors and textures. Paint is spread onto the canvas and moved around with your hands. The paint will blend the colors and create unique patterns on the canvas.

May 14-15 – Creating Custom Cabochon Settings – Debi Orton – Reg. deadline 5/4/22. Stones with rounded domes are referred to as cabochons. The most typical setting for cabochons is a bezel setting. A bezel is a strip of wire that is soldered to a backing and wraps tightly around the stone. Beginning silversmiths set calibrated cabochons using calibrated, pre-formed settings. Ideally, students will have taken one of our basic silversmithing courses, or have other experience working with stones and metal.

May 14-15 – Fundamentals of Basketry – Meg Kupiec – Reg. deadline 5/4/22. This two-day workshop will introduce students to the basic methods of weaving baskets. These building blocks can be applied to larger and more complex patterns. We will work with a variety of reed sizes and shapes to create two or three different style baskets. Lashing, twining, triple rod whale, over/under; all these weaving techniques

will be used to ensure that each person has their own unique basket to take home.

May 14-15 – Carve a Wooden Gnome – Wayne Miller – Reg. deadline 5/4/22. Because this is a beginner’s class, the gnome design chosen has no eyes or hands showing. We will start with a 2” x 2” x 5” piece of basswood that has already been roughed out. With the help of the instructor, students will proceed to carve a simple gnome figure. The basic kinds of cuts and safety procedures will be discussed and demonstrated. At the end of the class, students will have the option of painting their completed carving.

May 28-29 – Creative Metalworking – Piper Strong – Reg. deadline 5/18/22. Explore techniques in welding, brazing, and forming sheet metal into 3D shapes. The goal is to learn by creating your own small sculpture. You will explore organic and geometric forms, using a plasma cutter, torches, hand tools, and your own imagination. Two days will cover the basics and give you time to be creative and learn how to setup your own home studio. All abilities are welcome.

May 22 (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.) – Farmers’ Market Tote Bag – Janet Flinchbaugh – Reg. deadline 5/12/22. Get a jump-start on farmers’ market season with your own creation. Learn to cut stencil and/or use stencils the teacher has brought along to make a unique bag for yourself or a friend.

All of our summer classes are posted at www.fletcher-farm.org, and new classes are being added weekly.

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