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# THE **FREE** Vermont Journal

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## Plymouth introduces STR ordinance

BY PAULA BENSON  
*The Vermont Journal*

**PLYMOUTH, Vt.** – Short-term rentals (STR) were once again on the agenda at the Monday, May 15, Plymouth Selectboard meeting. Board member Rick Kaminski reported that the revisions to the ordinance the board had previously discussed had been applied to the latest packet. Kaminski said, “We spent a lot of time with our attorney to adopt this legally. We’ll have to adopt it tonight, then post it with a notice of adoption that states under Vermont law, short-term rentals may be disapproved by a majority vote of voters in the town.” Kaminski explained that the adoption won’t go into effect for 60 days, giving the public a chance to request a special referendum.

Kaminski also detailed what was included in the STR packet; the ordinance itself, which is a three-page document, a two-page application form, a notice going to all property owners, and a violation complaint form. “These will all be on the website,” Kaminski stated. He added, “If you see a homeowner not following the rules, there is a form that can be filled out, anonymously if you want. And it will be sent to the violator.” After a second offense, the town will send a letter notifying the homeowner that they will be fined \$100 each day until the violation is corrected.

Keith Cappellini specifically asked if the details from the last meeting had been incorporated, regarding Knoxbox recommendations and insurance requirements. Kaminski said they were.

Former STR administrator Steve Radonis objected to the changes, and called Frank Vetere’s appointment to the STR position a conflict of interest, because Vetere is a STR owner. Radonis claimed that many residents wanted the Knoxbox requirement, and that those opposed were mostly non-Plymouth residents.

Radonis addressed Kaminski. “The constituents you represent voted by a margin of two thirds for

this. So, who do you represent here? The voters, or the homeowners who don’t live in town?” Radonis stressed, “Frank is an intelligent, smart person, but I think there is a conflict of interest.”

Cappellini commented that the voters gave the selectboard the power to implement the ordinances to the best of their ability, and that’s what they were doing.

Joining the meeting via Zoom were three residents who raised a hand during the discussion but were not recognized. Adriana Curchet, Jireh Billings, and Tess Malloy wrote online, “Frank being a short-term rental owner is a conflict of interest, in the opinion of these three voters. He should recuse himself. Please note on the record we raised our hand to speak and were not recognized. We object to someone voting who has a conflict of interest.”

The board also discussed bids for the purchase of new accounting software, finally landing on Patriot, a company Michael Coleman, Chair of the Planning Commission, and Lister Naomi Moyer recommended.

Moyer commented, “I think the readability of the program is good, and I really like that they will be educating us. It’s a simpler system, and I was surprised by the quality.”

“This will end up being helpful for citizens and realtors,” said Board Chair Jay Kullman.

The town will incur the cost of transferring files to the new database, but Coleman reported the expense to be under \$3,000. Coleman also mentioned they “can call [Patriot] any time of the day,” and felt the town might receive better customer service from a smaller company. “This will consolidate all town databases, rather than re-entering information into multiple sites,” Coleman added.

Kullman moved to accept the Patriot proposal by New England Municipal Group, to be put in place by June, and thanked the listers for the work.

Kaminski presented a suggestion that the town

start a Bridge Reserve Fund. He mentioned Stickney Bridge is a current project, and Billings Bridge will be next on agenda, with more to be expected in the future. The town plans to apply for a grant, which requires some matching funds. “We wanted to move some money from the highway department to create the Bridge Reserve Fund,” Kaminski reported. “Plymouth has six wooden bridges,” Kaminski stated, “and one already needs repair. So, we thought about starting a plan to look at the bridges that will require replacement sooner rather than later.”

Kullman replied, “We’ll need to wait until town meeting so voters can approve reappropriating funds. This means running a deficit budgetarily this year and increasing taxes next year to pay for this. I think it’s a good idea, but we need the voters to vote on it before we can move money.”

Kaminski shared that the Stickney Bridge repair work should be completed before Memorial Day.

The board also discussed camping on Hill Hollow Road, and disclosed that, although they won’t be “heavy-handed” about it, the town will start posting signs forbidding long-term camping in the area. Citing complaints from residents who do not feel comfortable with the campers that are seemingly heavily armed, conditions which are not sanitary, disruption to the river, and other concerns, it was agreed that the town would begin to address the problem.

Kullman announced the board was considering canceling the meeting on June 5, stating that they didn’t have a lot of pressing business. After some discussion about renaming roads, it was decided that the item could wait until June 19, which will be the date of the next Plymouth Selectboard meeting.

## Cavendish discusses water contamination

BY PAULA BENSON  
*The Vermont Journal*

**CAVENDISH, Vt.** – After returning from a 30-minute executive session to “discuss a personnel matter,” board member George Timko addressed those present at the May 8 meeting of the Cavendish Selectboard. “I’d like to make a motion that the board hire Rick Chambers as the new Town Manager, starting May 15, 2023.”

Previously, Chambers was the Water and Wastewater Superintendent in Springfield for 27 years, and is a resident of Cavendish.

A conversation between resident Margo Caulfield and Town Clerk Diane McNamara, regarding the removal of a pine tree near the Stone Church, revealed the issue was not yet settled. Caulfield asked what more was needed from her, and McNamara said the question remained as to whose land the tree is on. McNamara apologized that the item was not on the meeting agenda, but said she and Bruce McEnaney of the town planning commission had determined the tree sat right on the border. “There are no records,” McNamara stated, “and the town isn’t going to pay for a survey.”

Caulfield countered, “The thing is, if the tree goes down [landing on the church] it’s going to cost thousands and thousands of dollars.”

Board member Mike Ripley suggested waiting to hear from McEnaney, and putting the item on the next selectboard meeting agenda for further discussion.

Doris Eddy was at the meeting to request approval for the Cavendish Streetscapes Committee to use the Proctorsville Green on June 24 for an event. Eddy also reported that a professional arborist had offered to donate his time to trim the trees on the green, if the town could dispose of the limbs. The board agreed,

and approved Eddy’s request to appoint Chambers as deputy health officer, now that former town manager Brendan McNamara had vacated the position.

McNamara introduced the discussion of town-wide concerns regarding continuing issues with the drinking water. “There are two separate issues going on,” McNamara explained. “The more important one is the elevated manganese level, which was detected in October but did not get reported until March. That delay is very concerning. The second [issue] is the yellow or brown colored water showing up in various places. That is being worked on.”

“Regarding the high manganese level, our water operator is of the belief that this was somewhat of an anomaly,” McNamara continued. “About the delay in reporting, I contacted the woman at the state, who said there was confusion as to how our lab was reporting the results, which led to a delay by the state to issue the public notice. I really do not have any other explanation than that.” McNamara said the state had since spoken with town water operations and the lab about how to be sure it won’t happen again.

McNamara reported, “The last manganese test, that was sampled on April 10, showed no detectable levels of manganese leaving the facilities, so any results between January and now have all shown normal levels.”

“There was a question about having the town’s water sample calendar schedule, and I do have that, which I can copy and give to people,” McNamara offered. She also mentioned a website with each state’s water testing results, including the town of Cavendish. “I think we should post that link on our website,” McNamara suggested, addressing the board.

One resident, Daniela Clark, pressed McNamara and the board on the water issue. “I thought you were going to bring one of the water department members in. It seems like someone needs to answer these ques-

tions,” voiced Clark.

“Well, you know, our water operator really is not a public speaker,” McNamara responded. “I really didn’t feel comfortable dragging him in front of the selectboard and having him on television, to try and explain something that he’s not really well-versed in speaking about.” McNamara mentioned the town was “town-managerless at the time,” and said the issue will be addressed once Chambers officially “takes over as town manager and is brought up to speed.”

“What about the tests Brendan said were done in-house?” Clark asked, and further questioned what type of tests were conducted, and on what schedule. McNamara reiterated that once Chambers had a chance to review everything, the issue would be revisited.

Martha Harrison of the Mount Ascutney Regional Planning Commission presented the board with a request to accept a municipal grant to update the Capital Budget Plan. Harrison articulated that Cavendish had been awarded the grant, for \$17,280, stating she would do much of the work, and the town match would be 10%.

McNamara asked what the time frame was to spend the money, and Harrison said she believed it would be two years, but said she hadn’t seen the agreement yet. Harrison gave the board information on additional municipal energy grants they may be interested in.

The award-winning Grafton Cheese Company was granted a second-class liquor license to sell beer and wine at a new retail location at the old Black River Produce building on Route 103.

The board officially appointed Chambers to serve as representative of the solid waste management district, and John Saydek as representative to the MARC VTrans town advisory committee.

After approving a request to host a town Memorial Day event at Hillcrest Cemetery on May 30, the board motioned to adjourn. Next month’s selectboard meeting will be Monday, June 12.

## Penny Sale major success

**LUDLOW, Vt.** – The Ludlow Rotary Club’s (LRC) 65th Annual Penny Sale on April 29 was a “total and complete success,” according to Kim Lampert, LRC Event Chairperson. “We had a full house that was bidding on over \$20,000 worth of goods donated by area businesses and individuals.”

During the multiple rounds of gift awards, Lampert noted that the audience was very active in purchasing tickets for each round’s awards.

She praised the many

businesses and individuals who provided the hundreds of gifts for the Penny Sale. “Without their continued support, this fundraiser would not have been possible,” she added. Lampert especially thanked Benson’s Chevrolet, Cota & Cota, Mary Meyer’s Corporation, Ludlow Electric, and the Vermont Journal for the “extra level of support” they provided for the Penny Sale.

At the conclusion of the event, raffle tickets winners were selected.

The proceeds from the Penny Sale are a major por-

tion of the annual scholarships the LRC awards to area graduating high school students.

Lampert summarized her feelings about the success of the Penny Sale, noting, “It’s always fun seeing people gather at this event from year to year. Hope to see you next year for our 66th Annual Penny Sale, held on the last Saturday in April!” She also expressed her gratitude for the support provided by all the members of the Ludlow Rotary Club.

## Ludlow Green Up success

**LUDLOW, Vt.** – On May 6, the Ludlow community stepped up to Green Up the town, with the most support the effort has seen in the last five years. This year took a lot of coordination between town staff, community members, and businesses in order to cover over 150.4 miles. Thanks go out to George B. Tucker and family, Windsor County Youth Services, Okemo Mountain Resorts, Magris Talc, William Raveis, M&T Bank,

Baitz Property Management, and all other local business and community members that pitched in to help make this Green Up Day a shining success. A special thanks to Patti Potter and her staff at the transfer station, who did an awesome job with helping to break down over 2,800 pounds of roadside debris to be properly recycled.

Congratulations to Ludlow fifth grade student Penelope D., who did an awesome job with designing this year’s Green Up

poster that was distributed throughout the State of Vermont. Thanks also to Kate Alberghini, the Executive Director of Green Up Vermont, for adding the plaque to the outdoor water bottle filling station at Dosey Park. After the morning refreshments were consumed, which were provided by Dunkin Donuts and the Ludlow Shaw’s store, many volunteers came back for a catered barbecue, provided by Fox Run Hospitality, which really tied the entire event together.

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# DAR honors GMUHS student

CHESTER, Vt. – Philip Malazarte, son of Arvi and Jill Ann Malazarte of Chester, has been chosen by his teachers and peers as Green Mountain Union High School's (GMUHS) newest Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Good Citizens Award Recipient. The DAR Good Citizens Program and scholarship contest is intended to encourage and reward the qualities of good citizenship. The recipient must have the qualities of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism.

Philip is a very active student at Green Mountain. He has been in drama

productions since middle school, recently having had a lead role in "Mamma Mia" this spring. He has started a volleyball club, and is a member of the National Honor Society. Philip is also a member of student government, and participates in poetry slams and district choir concerts. He spends a lot of his time in the ceramics room making pottery. Philip will be attending Castleton University this



Philip Anthony B. Malazarte. PHOTO PROVIDED

fall, majoring in nursing. Recently, Philip was honored at the DAR meeting held at the Rockingham Town Library, where he was able to read his essay to the members.

Green Mountain Union High School would like to congratulate Philip on this honor.

# ACHCA awards leaders

LUDLOW, Vt. – The American College of Health Care Administrators (ACHCA) honors Theresa Southworth, NHA, Administrator, and January Reichert, RN, Director of Nursing, of the Trustees of the Gill Odd Fellows Home of Vermont in Ludlow, Vt., and the entire team, with the 2023 Eli Pick Facility Leadership Award. Only 2% of facilities na-

tionwide met the initial selection criteria. This is an award that recognizes administrators whose teams have achieved dimensions of organizational qualities that few others have been able to reach. Theresa, January, and The Gill Home staff were one of 31 facilities in 16 states that met all the eligibility requirements to be awarded this facility leadership award nationally. This honor was previously

awarded to The Gill Home in 2014 and 2015.

Eligibility for this award is based on three years of skilled nursing facility (SNF) survey data, including health, fire safety, and complaint surveys, and top quartile performance on designated quality measures. The criteria also include at least a 70% or greater facility occupancy, and a three-year avoidance of a special focus facility status.

# Londonderry Community Lunches return

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – The Second Congregational Church in Londonderry, Vt. is thrilled to announce the return of the very popular community lunches. Lunch is provided for free, along with dessert and entertainment. The first community lunch of 2023 will be held on Thursday, May 25, at 12 p.m. World

renowned chef Patty Pettit will be preparing a sumptuous feast for all. Servers will cater to your every need, and the very amazing accordion player Becky Graber will be on hand to provide music and get your feet stomping and your hands clapping.

No need to sign up – just show up. All are welcome. Bring yourself, bring your family, bring your friends –

but please don't bring your pets. If you need a ride to the event, you can call the church office to request one. A free will offering will be gathered at this event. The Second Congregational Church is located at 2051 North Main Street (Vermont Route 11), Londonderry, Vt. Call the church office at 802-824-6453 with any questions.

# Community members wanted for Facilities Committee

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Ludlow Mount Holly Unified Union School District

Board is looking for community members to serve on the facilities committee.

The school board hired Energy Efficient Investments, Inc. to perform an energy audit on both the Ludlow Elementary School and the Mount Holly Elementary School. The audit was presented to the board at the April meeting, and contained suggested improvements for the purpose of energy efficiency, ADA compliance, and equipment and material end of life. The

committee will also consider other possible building improvements during this process.

The board would like someone from the Ludlow and Mount Holly communities to serve as members on this committee. If you are interested, please reach out to Kelly English at the Two Rivers Supervisory Union at 802-875-3365, or kelly.english@trsu.org.

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Please visit [www.DownToTheRootsVT.com](http://www.DownToTheRootsVT.com) for more details.

# Pig Roast and Square Dance returns to Weston

WESTON, Vt. – The Weston Community Association, in association with the Farrar Park Association, the Weston Women's Club, and The Hub, is pleased to announce the 2023 return of its popular Memorial Weekend Pig Roast and Square Dance on Sunday, May 28, from 5-7 p.m.

The celebration takes place at the Weston Green, with dancing on Park Street, and the musicians performing under the por-

tico of The Weston Playhouse. The Green is located on Route 100, in the center of Weston.

The team from Mount Holly's popular smoked barbeque, Squeels on Wheels, will prepare the meal. Pulled pork barbeque plates, including rolls, sides, soft drinks, and dessert, will be served beginning at 5 p.m., with discounts for children. Hot dogs will also be available. New this year will be ribs, either as an alternate entrée at the roast, or as full and half racks for take home. Desserts will be prepared and contributed by the Weston Women's Club and The Hub restaurant.

The Cold River Band will again supply the music, which will be performed from 5-6:45 p.m. Try your hand – or feet – at square dancing.

Everyone is invited. Mark the calendar, bring the family, bring your friends.

Tens of thousands of people enjoy events each year at Weston Community Association properties, including the Playhouse, museums (Farrar-Mansur House, Old Mill, and Craft Building), and Cold Spring Brook Park. In this, the Association's 101st year of community service, we again invite everyone to join us and celebrate Weston with friends, family, and neighbors on the Sunday of this Memorial Day Weekend.

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# Chester Fishing Derby

**BY RON PATCH**  
802-374-0119

ronpatch27@gmail.com  
The 2023 Chester Fishing Derby was held this past Saturday, May 13, at the Chester Reservoir. As usual, George Wilson was set up registering kids for prizes.

The weather was perfect, other than a brisk wind blowing down the reservoir. This headwind made casting difficult. It was fun watching the kids. No one fell in this year.



View from the dam to the road.

PHOTO BY RON PATCH

Prizes were for the first fish, the largest fish, and first to catch their limit of five fish. George had 44 kids registered. Each kid was given a ticket for the raffle at the end of the derby.

Avalynn Heybyrne caught the first trout. Hunter Kurjiaka and Silas Murphy both caught nice trout. Moms, dads, and grandparents helped their kids. George estimated 100 people were present.

I saw many familiar faces and some newcomers. Some of the younger kids had more fun playing in

the spillway than fishing. I love seeing kids entertaining themselves.

After prizes were awarded, George held the raffle for additional prizes. Kids waited patiently to see if they had a winning ticket. I've concluded kids haven't changed much over the years.

**Some Rod & Gun history**

The first fishing derby I remember is 1956. I attended many more as years went by. It never occurred to me, then or since, how many years Chester Rod & Gun has hosted these derbies.

In the minutes from a 1955 Chester Rod & Gun secretary's book, I found an interesting entry for April 12, 1955. This entry sheds light on how long the derby has been held.

"April 12, 1955

The matter of stocking the kids' brook was discussed. A motion was made and 2nd. The secretary made an application to the state for some trout for this brook. It was also decided to stock it from the swimming pool to

Henry Thomas camp this year."

Meetings were held at the Grange Hall, now a tea shop, or what was once VITICA. When the Grange raised the rent from \$4 to \$5, the meetings were moved to the American Legion Hall, lastly Free Range on the Park.

The kids' brook is the Lovers Lane Brook behind Buttonwood Farm. Mrs. Kelly, who owned Buttonwood, had some of her hands clear the brook of brush so the kids could fish through her field.

The swimming pool mentioned is not the pool we have today. The old swimming pool was located further up on the same side. It was a rough concrete bottom pool, with water taken in from the brook. I remember catching trout in the swimming pool in May, before the pool was chlorinated.

April 1955, I would have been three and a half years old. How many years the derby was held before 1955 I do not know. If those re-



Anglers along the road and dam.

PHOTO BY RON PATCH

ords exist I haven't seen them.

It takes dedicated volunteers to make this happen, as it has for the last 70 years. Let's not forget that the state has stocked the trout all those years. And the Town of Chester provides the reservoir. It makes a wonderful small town event.

I saw a young mother at the derby. She had a newborn on her chest, in a pouch worn around her neck or shoulders. Excuse me, I don't know the names of things mothers have today. I could tell by the way she was cradling the baby's head it was a newborn. We briefly spoke, with me commenting how great it was that she had the

baby outdoors so early.

*Instead of an old saying I offer a fishing story. I was about 5 years old when my parents took me fishing at Amherst Lake. We parked alongside the road and went down over the rocky bank. Dad and I fished, and other than getting hung up a lot, didn't catch any fish.*

*There was a man fishing to our right. He started reeling in with his pole bent over. I said, "You ain't got nothing mister, you're hung." "Come here," he said. He handed me his pole and let me reel the fish in. You don't forget these things.*

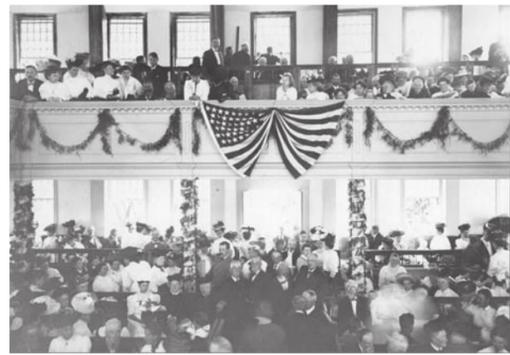
# Rockingham Meeting House Association gathering

**ROCKINGHAM, Vt.** – A Rockingham Meeting House Association spring meet-up will be held on May 21 at 4 p.m., at the Rockingham Meeting House, located at 11 Meeting House Road in Rockingham Village.

Since 1911, the Association has worked with the town selectboard to steward the building that is the birthplace of the town, now a National Historic Landmark and Vermont's oldest public building. The "old town barn" is open to the public every summer

through fall. Both public and private events are reg-

ularly held throughout the season.



RMH Association will hold their spring meet-up on May 21. PHOTO PROVIDED

Fueled with major funding from the National Park Service Save America's Treasures Program, and matched with support from the town and from private donations, the meeting house is at the beginning of a major conservation and restoration project. A vigorous RMH Association stands at the heart of the conservation program, to steward the beloved building to ensure it has more centuries of life.

The purpose of the May 21 gathering is to review the Association's future course in advocating for and raising funds for the conservation program, as well as participate in restoration decision-making and educational programming. A new board will be elected, empowered to elect officers.

Information on the progress of the preservation

project will be available, but this meeting is not intended to be a detailed review of preservation plans.

Everyone who is interested in the future of this

landmark should be convinced that this is a chance to step forward. The Association looks forward to seeing and hearing from lots of people.

# Bremer Prize awarded to GMUHS student

**CHESTER, Vt.** – Congratulations to Green Mountain Union High School freshman Violet Haight for winning the Frances Bremer History Prize. This prize has run for the past two years through the generous contribution of local history buff Paul Bremer.

Bremer created this prize in memory of his late wife, who was a teacher, author, and lover of history. This prize is awarded for an

outstanding research project in history. This year's recipient was also awarded the Vermont History Prize at the state History Day competition held in April. Violet's project was titled "Vermont's First Ski Tow," and centered on a thoughtful look at an industry central to the economic heart of the Vermont landscape.



Violet Haight. PHOTO PROVIDED

"It's been through the addition of MAPLE that we have been able to get the kids to talk."



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# opinion

# COMMUNITY NEWS

Dear Editor,

The staff of Neighborhood Connections would like to express our sincerest gratitude to the Town of Londonderry and the Town of Peru for their recent allocation of ARPA funds to our organization. We are thrilled to receive this support, and grateful for the recognition of our important work.

These funds will allow us to

continue offering the Mountain Town Connector transportation program and other social services free to the community. This is especially critical as we work to address the ongoing challenges the pandemic has posed.

We are honored to be part of such a supportive community, and are committed to providing high-quality,

accessible programming to all who need it. Once again, thank you to the towns of Londonderry and Peru for supporting Neighborhood Connections and investing in our mission.

Sincerely,  
Neighborhood Connections

Dear Editor,

The Senate adjourned our 2023 legislative session at 8:23 p.m. Friday evening, May 12, three hours earlier than the House, which needed to act on the last bills the Senate had messaged. With an impressive number of new legislators re-energizing the legislature, we accomplished a great deal in our brief four and a half months. We realized many of our top priorities – passing important bills addressing our housing crisis (S.100), child-care (H.217/S.56), workforce (in the FY24 budget and H.452), reducing climate change (S.5), and protecting Vermonters' health and safety (lots of bills). And, in the last week of the session, we successfully overrode the Governor's veto of S.5, the Affordable Heat Act, our signature climate change mitigation bill. Simply, this bill puts in place the planning process to help us affordably transition off expensive and polluting fossil fuels and onto cleaner renewable energy systems.

In the last few weeks of the session, many bills made their passage towards the Governor's desk to be signed (or not) into law. Here is a sampling of what we passed: an update to the 50 year old bottle bill (H.158) which expands the types of redeemable bottles and enables the creation of more redemption centers; an elections

bill which creates the opportunity for Vermont to adopt ranked choice voting (H.429), first as an option for towns and later for statewide elections; measures to increase firearm safety in an effort to help prevent suicide and domestic violence (H.230); bills (S.37 & H. 89) which further protect reproductive liberty for Vermont providers and out-of-state patients; a household hazardous waste bill (H.67) which helps divert more toxic products from further contaminating our environment and entering our landfills; a universal school meals bill (H.165) which reduces stigma and improves academic performance by guaranteeing two meals a day for all students; a bill which creates VT Saves (S.135), a program which will help more Vermonters save for the future; and of course, the "Big Bill," (H.494) the FY24 budget.

One of the last pieces of business that the legislature conducts is the passage of the budget. Every appropriated line in the FY 24 budget and revenue bills tells a story about some aspect of Vermont which impacts us in different and important ways. How we raise and spend our taxpayer money articulates what the legislature values and has prioritized for the people of Vermont – from supportive

housing, to paving, to mental health.

I am not only proud of what we accomplished, but how we accomplished it. The Vermont Legislature works well together. The vast majority of our decisions are made unanimously. When we disagree, we tend to not be disagreeable. We are a big tent with 180 legislators – each with strong opinions, representing a wide range of life experiences and expertise. No one forgets why we are there – to improve the lives of Vermont and Vermonters. We debate, we compromise, and we move forward to make progress for Vermonters. Our legislature is a model for how democracy, at its best, functions.

I appreciate hearing from you. I can be reached by email at [aclarkson@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:aclarkson@leg.state.vt.us) or, now that the legislature has adjourned, you can reach me by phone at home at 802-457-4627. To get more information on the Vermont Legislature, and the bills which have been proposed and passed, visit the legislative website, [www.legislature.vermont.gov](http://www.legislature.vermont.gov).

Sincerely,  
Alison Clarkson  
Windsor District Senator

Dear Editor,

The Vermont legislative session for 2023 has come to an end. There is no good news for those few Vermonters that might expect their elected representatives to respect our hard-earned tax dollars. The Democrat supermajority has passed an \$8.5 billion budget, the largest in the history of the state. Windsor County state senators Alison Clarkson (D), Becca White (D), and Dick McCormack (D) have sponsored and helped pass Senate Bill 5, which will

raise your price of propane and oil an additional minimum of 70 cents per gallon, up to \$4 per gallon. The stated intention of this bill is to curb global climate change. The results of the implementation of this law will do no such thing. It will increase the size of our state government, potentially crash the electrical grid, freeze Vermonters out of their homes, and fatten the wallets of the so-called "green" corporate lobbyists who now run things

in Montpelier. In this same session these three Windsor County state senators, along with the majority of members in their party, have voted to give themselves generous pay and benefit increases. The benefit compensation is far beyond what most Vermonters can ever hope to afford. They voted themselves an estimated \$50,000 each increase in benefits alone.

If the 2023 session is any indication, the supermajority will do even more damage to those of us struggling to stay in our homes and take care of our families. Elections have consequences.

Sincerely,  
Stu Lindberg  
Cavendish, Vt.

## Cryptocurrency 101

**What is cryptocurrency?**

In earlier times of human history, financial exchanges were accomplished through barter – "hey, Joe, I'll give you one of my chickens for that really cool flint spearhead you made." But barter doesn't scale well, and as communities expanded, money developed as a necessary medium of exchange. Minted coins, and eventually printed currency, allowed individuals to transact business more easily. Recent years have seen a shift from physical to digital possession of money – most of us don't keep our savings in vaults in our home. Instead, our money is represented in digital form, in accounts at financial institutions.

Whether payments are made with a debit card or a credit card, or simply transferred from one account to another, physical currency is typically absent from many of our regular financial transactions. Digital transfers work because financial institutions function as trusted intermediaries – they police the transactions, and offer reassurance and some degree of protection to all parties involved.

Many people see cryptocurrency as the next step in currency evolution. It takes the existing digital transaction system, and removes financial institutions as the trusted intermediaries. Of course, without some central authority to police the transactions, how can you trust that a transaction is legitimate? The answer to that question is largely based on a technology called "blockchain."

**What is blockchain?**

Blockchain is a decentralized network of digital ledgers that contain all the transactional data associated with a cryptocurrency. Blockchain technology actually has applications well beyond cryptocurrency – the digital ledgers can track activity and data for countless purposes, including real estate transactions and medical records. The purpose of this discussion is to focus on cryptocurrency applications.

Digital ledgers make up the individual "blocks" in a blockchain. Think of each block as a ledger page; the larger the block, the more data it can contain. Some aspects of the block are transparent – anyone can view the blocks to see the balance in an account. But no one can actually access the funds without the corresponding key or password.

Each block gets a unique digital signature – called

a "hash" – that's created by an algorithm. Essentially, block data is converted into a unique text string. Each block also includes the digital signature, or hash, of the previous block, so every block contains information from the previous block as well. This is the "chain" in a blockchain. This is incredibly important, because if anyone were to tamper with the data in a block, the digital signature for that block would be changed, and all subsequent blocks would be invalid.

Since there's no central authority, blockchain relies on a decentralized network to validate transactions. Cryptocurrency blockchains typically have thousands of participants, known as "recordholders" or "nodes." Each time a new block is created, every node gets a copy and has to verify that the block is valid. Each node has a full, complete copy of the blockchain. Someone tampering with a block would not only need to overcome the digital signature issue described above, but would need 51% of the nodes to agree that the tampered changes were valid in order to be successful.

**Types of cryptocurrency**

Bitcoin, launched in 2009, was the first cryptocurrency, and probably remains the best known. But there are thousands of cryptocurrencies today. Like Bitcoin, many of these cryptocurrencies were created with the purpose of operating just like traditional currencies, facilitating financial transactions – but without any central governing authorities. In other words, they consider themselves first and foremost to be a method of saving and payment.

Some cryptocurrencies are more than just digital currency – they provide the foundation and supporting infrastructure for creating and maintaining applications on a blockchain platform. The cryptocurrencies associated with these platforms facilitate the use of the platforms, for example, to compensate the "nodes" that maintain the blockchain architecture. One of the best-known cryptocurrencies of this type is Ethereum – Ethereum's Ether cryptocurrency supports a platform that enables the creation of decentralized applications, including smart contracts.

There are other types of cryptocurrencies and other ways to categorize them. One specific category of cryptocurrency worth mentioning is "stablecoins." Stablecoins try to reduce price fluctuations. They may do so by attempting to peg their value to either a government-backed currency, like the U.S. dollar, or to some other external benchmark. These cryptocurrencies may maintain a reserve of the currency or benchmark assets they are tied to, or may attempt to maintain stability by using algorithms to control supply of the cryptocurrency.

**Exchanges and wallets**

Many people acquire or trade cryptocurrency through a cryptocurrency or digital currency exchange.

There are two general types of exchanges.

**Centralized cryptocurrency exchange (CEX)**

These exchanges work much like a traditional broker. You open an account just as you would with a traditional broker, and deposit funds into the account. The exchange acts as an intermediary. You can generally purchase cryptocurrency from the exchange at the price listed, but the exchange itself is the owner of record in the cryptocurrency blockchain – your ownership is only reflected in the exchange's database.

**Decentralized cryptocurrency exchange (DEX)**

These exchanges utilize blockchain technology to eliminate the intermediary, and allow you to trade directly with other individuals on a peer-to-peer basis. Decentralized exchanges typically facilitate trading different cryptocurrencies, but not purchasing cryptocurrency with U.S. dollars.

Cryptocurrency transactions require a special wallet. A crypto wallet has a unique address, like an account number. The wallet doesn't actually store cryptocurrency; instead, it stores two passwords, or "keys." The first key is a public key – this key is available to anyone, and allows cryptocurrency to be credited to your account or wallet; it's really just a "hashed" version of your wallet address. The second key is a private key and is essentially your personal password, showing that you're the owner of the account, wallet, and public key. Your wallet may connect and read the cryptocurrency blockchain to provide you with your current cryptocurrency balance.

Crypto wallets can be software-based; these wallets are typically connected to the internet, which presents both advantages and disadvantages. Wallets can also be hardware-based, such as a USB drive; these wallets are typically kept offline when not in use. There are even paper-based wallets, which may seem confusing, but they really just refer to a physical place to access the public and private keys.

Cryptocurrencies are not a traditional investment, are highly speculative, and carry higher risk and volatility. Cryptocurrencies are not typically subject to the same reporting and data integrity requirements that apply to more traditional investment products. The IRS is treating cryptocurrency as an asset subject to capital gains taxation, rather than as a currency. The reserves of stablecoins may not be subject to rigorous audits, and the quality and quantity of collateral may not, in some cases, correspond to the issuer's claims. Stablecoins that maintain their value through algorithmic mechanisms are potentially subject to failure due to market pressures, operational failures, and other risks.

*Written by Huntley Financial Services. For more information, contact Mark Huntley at 802-228-5774.*

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:** 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. **EFFECTIVE MARCH, 2023, we will be charging for POLITICAL LETTERS.** Viewpoints do not necessarily reflect the views of The Vermont Journal & The Shopper.

### Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ♦♦♦ Moderate ♦♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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### King Crossword

**ACROSS**

- 1 Actor Baldwin
- 5 Hindu hero
- 9 ISP alternative
- 12 Without help
- 13 Burden
- 14 — Jima
- 15 Woody's son
- 16 A/C measures
- 17 Moving vehicle
- 18 High point
- 19 Belief
- 20 Fury
- 21 "There's no — team!"
- 23 Mil. morale booster
- 25 "Bottoms up!"
- 28 Perfect place
- 32 Martial arts mercenary
- 33 "Rubber Capital"
- 34 Cancel out
- 36 Heirs
- 37 Workout unit
- 38 Scratch (out)
- 39 AAA jobs
- 42 Scuff tool
- 44 Bigfoot's cousin
- 48 Mimic
- 49 Initial chip
- 50 Cupid's alias
- 51 CSA soldier
- 52 Rhone city
- 53 Baseball's Tommie

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**DOWN**

- 1 Now, in a memo
- 2 Traditional tales
- 3 Jazzy
- 4 Fitzgerald
- 4 Ginger snaps vessels
- 5 Small song-birds
- 6 Picnic invaders
- 7 Hawaiian garment
- 8 Ninny
- 9 Prima donna
- 10 Booty
- 11 One and only
- 20 Athlete's first season
- 22 Hopping mad
- 24 Pancake order
- 25 Blitzler's channel
- 26 Hasten
- 27 Chang's brother
- 29 Expert
- 30 Charged bit
- 31 Reply (Abbr.)
- 35 Name derived from a person
- 36 Tennis great
- 39 Tropical tuber
- 40 Frank
- 41 Entanglements
- 43 Teensy bit
- 45 Thus
- 46 Low digits
- 47 "Got it"
- 49 Hearty quaff

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# CHURCH SERVICES

# obituaries

## BELLOWS FALLS, VT.

**Living Hope Assembly of God, 582 Rockingham Rd.**  
Pastor Matt and Brenda Farkas welcome 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 Fellowship Facebook page, and Living Hope Fellowship Youtube. Services can also be found at [www.sapatv.org](http://www.sapatv.org) and [www.fact8tv.com](http://www.fact8tv.com).

**United Church of Bellows Falls, UCC, 8 School St.**  
Worship service starts at 10 A.M. every Sunday. All are welcome to attend – no matter who you are or where you come from. New people are welcome into the church family. Following the service, there will be a time of refreshments where you can get to know other members of the community. Many other services are offered throughout the week, so there's something for everyone. If you have any questions or want to learn more, call 802-463-4323, visit the church, or find them on Facebook.

## 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](http://www.facebook.com/Cavendish-Baptist-Church-258814894244302). More at [www.CavendishBaptist.com](http://www.CavendishBaptist.com) or call 802-226-7131.

**St. James United Methodist Church, 570 Main St.**  
Please join us Sundays at 8:45 a.m. with Pastor John Hawkins. All are welcome. For more information, call 802-674-3443 or go to [www.facebook.com/stjamesumcproctorsville](http://www.facebook.com/stjamesumcproctorsville).

## CHARLESTOWN, N.H.

**Charlestown Congregational Church, 71 Main St.**  
Sunday service starts at 10 a.m. All are welcome. For more information, call 603-826-3335.

## CHESTER, VT.

**Chester Baptist Church, 162 Main St.**  
Worship is Sundays at 10:30 a.m. For more information, including online streaming, go to [www.chesterbaptist.org](http://www.chesterbaptist.org).

## 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](http://www.firstbaptistslondonderryvt.org/streaming-worship.html). For more information, visit [www.firstbaptistslondonderryvt.org](http://www.firstbaptistslondonderryvt.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](mailto:unitedchurch@tds.net) for more information. Visit [www.unitedchurch.us](http://www.unitedchurch.us) to receive Covid updates on services and meetings.

## SPRINGFIELD, VT.

**Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, 90 Park St.**  
Sunday Liturgy is 9:30 a.m. and Saturday vespers at 5 p.m. The church is now at full capacity with state restrictions lifted. For more information, call 802-885-2615 or Parish Council President Thomas Barton at 802-263-5719.

**First Congregational Church, UCC, 77 Main St.**  
Sunday services are at 10 a.m. in person. Masks optional. Singing is encouraged! For more information, call 802-885-5728, email [fcucc@vermontel.net](mailto:fcucc@vermontel.net), or go to [www.firstchurchspringfield.org](http://www.firstchurchspringfield.org).



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## Jessica J. Blake, 1986-2023

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Jessica Josephine (Nunes) Blake, 37, passed away on May 9, 2023, after a long medical battle. She was born on March 19, 1986, to Anthony Nunes and Vickie Coyle.

Jessica graduated from Springfield High School and shortly after married Westley Blake on Dec. 4, 2004. They have been married for 18 years.

She worked at the Ascutney House, Brookwood, HCRS, and also as a para-educator.

She enjoyed spending time with her family. She had many hobbies such as building fairy gardens, gardening, and making excellent meals for her family.

Jessica cared greatly for her family and the ones she loved. She was always there to support anyone who needed a helping hand. She will be remembered for her kind loving heart.



Jessica Blake, 1986-2023. PHOTO PROVIDED

She is survived by her husband Westley Blake, her sons Aiden and Colin Blake, her daughters Brianna and Zoey Blake, her step-daughter Alexis Hill, and by her mother Vickie Coyle.

A Celebration of Jessica's Life will be held at a later date.

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

## North Springfield Baptist Church, 581 Giddings Street, North Springfield.

All are welcome and invited to join us for worship on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. For more information, please email the church office at [office@nsbvt.org](mailto:office@nsbvt.org) or call 802-886-8107. We are handicap accessible.

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

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

## Unitarian Universalist Church, 21 Fairground Rd.

Sunday Services are at 10 a.m., in person and on Zoom. For more information, go to [www.uuspringfieldvt.org](http://www.uuspringfieldvt.org).

## 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](http://www.walpoleunitarianchurch.org).

## WESTMINSTER, VT.

### The First Congregational Church of Westminster, 3470 US Route 5

Sunday services are at 10 a.m. in our historic church and on Zoom. For more information, call 802-518-0321, email us at [westminstercongonline@gmail.com](mailto:westminstercongonline@gmail.com), or find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/First-Congregational-Church-of-Westminster-Inc-1506511432980057](http://www.facebook.com/First-Congregational-Church-of-Westminster-Inc-1506511432980057).

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## Claudia J. Giese, 1951-2023

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – Claudia J. Giese passed away suddenly on May 9, 2023, in Farmington, Conn. She was 72 years old. Claudia was born Aug. 15, 1951, in Chicago, to the late Clarence and Alberta Giese. At the age of 7 she moved with her parents to Vienna, Austria, and attended local schools there. After Claudia graduated high school, she went on to study foreign language interpretation at the University of Vienna. In 1973, Claudia and her brother moved to California, where she graduated with a bachelor's degree in English from Santa Clara University. Claudia moved to Boston in 1977, and then eventually settled in Vermont, where she worked for a travel agency in Brattleboro and Springfield. In 1985, at her parents' home in Guilford, she married Matthew Conklin.



Claudia Giese, 1951-2023. PHOTO PROVIDED

Claudia was a big reader, mostly nonfiction. She also was an active gardener, and loved the outdoors, nature birds, and the forest, going for daily walks with her friends. She also loved her cats, Topsey and Turvey, they were special to her. Claudia also was an expert in sudoku, enjoyed classical music, and put up with Matt's rock and roll. She loved to collect little trinkets, and they are everywhere in the house; she is still felt.

Claudia's other interests included being active in Westminster Cares as a volunteer, Meals on Wheels, traveling to Italy, Britain, Australia, and all over the U.S.A. Claudia's love for her family and all the experiences with her parents and siblings were extraordinary. She learned a lot from her family, and to see Claudia with family and friends was

beautiful. She was a devoted older sister, always loving, supportive, and caring. She will be missed.

Claudia is survived by her husband Matthew and her sisters Ericka Stever of Weehawken, N.J., and Sarah Giese of Albuquerque, N.M. Claudia was predeceased by her parents Clarence and Alberta Giese, and her brother Ben Giese.

"I was so lucky to meet and love Claudia. She had a kind soul, everyone she met just knew she was a wonderful person. Claudia was sweet, kind, honest, and sincere, and that only begins to tell her character. She had a way with people. She is my core and my light, my heart, and she is in heaven giving joy to all the souls around her. For me, Claudia was heaven sent. I can only say thank you for being my wife and loving partner." – Matt

There are no calling hours. A funeral service will take place on Friday, May 19, at the First Congregational Church of Westminster at 12 p.m. on Route 5 in Westminster, Vt. A reception will follow in the church hall.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to Westminster Cares.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home, 55 Westminster Street in Bellows Falls.

## Keith Young Graveside Service

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – A graveside service for Keith Young, who passed away on Dec. 29, 2022, will be held on June 4, at 1 p.m., at the Oakland Cemetery in Springfield, Vt. A recep-

tion will follow at the Copper Fox, 56 Main Street in Springfield.

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

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# calendar

# LEGAL NOTICES

**MAY 18 –**  
LUDLOW, Vt. – Black River Good Neighbor Services will be serving a free, homemade meatloaf and mac and cheese lunch beginning at noon in the Ludlow Community Center cafeteria, located at 37 Main Street. All are welcome.

**MAY 20 –**  
ALSTEAD, N.H. – Charles F. Andros, former apiary inspector for Vermont and New Hampshire, will hold a beekeeping workshop from 1-4 p.m., at 18 McLean Rd. in Alstead, N.H. Topics of discussion will include finding queens, re-queening colonies, pollen collection, swarm control, and bee venom therapy. Bring a veil if you have one. Registration is required. To register, call 603-756-9056, or email lindenam@gmail.com.

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – Charlestown Senior Center,

223 Old Springfield Rd., will hold an indoor yard sale from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. Books, dishes, toys, and many more treasures will be for sale. This is a fundraiser for the senior center, and all offers of a donation will be accepted on most items.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Moose Lodge, 39 South St. in Springfield, will be hosting a roast pork dinner from 3-5 p.m. This event is free to all people 65 years old and up. If you wish to attend, please sign up at the Springfield Senior Center, local senior housing lobbies, or by calling 802-885-5370. Delivery is also available for those unable to attend.

WALPOLE, N.H. – The First Congregational Church of Walpole will hold their Spring Rummage Sale from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. This sale will be focused on clothing for all seasons. Their bag sale will be held from 12-1

p.m. Fill a large or small bag for a nominal fee. There will also be a bake sale.

**MAY 21 –**  
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Singer-songwriter Erin Ash Sullivan and folk-pop-Celtic-blues duo Meadowlark will perform at Stage 33 Live, 33 Bridge St., at 3 p.m. Tickets may be purchased in advance online, or at the door for an additional fee. All proceeds benefit the musicians. There is limited seating available. The event will be recorded and filmed. More information and tickets are available at www.stage33live.com.

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – The Charlestown Historical Society's May program will be held at the Charlestown Town Hall at 2 p.m. This program will include the sharing of dozens of scrapbooks and photo albums from the Hemlock Hi-Toppers 4-H club, dating back to the 1970s, donated by the family of Betty Reavis, a founding leader of the club.

**MAY 22 –**  
LUDLOW, Vt. – The Black River Valley Senior Center, located at 10 High Street in Ludlow, will be serving BBQ chicken, salad, and cookies at 12 p.m., for a small donation. Reservations are required. Takeout is not available.

**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 –**  
PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – On Mondays at 6:15 p.m., join Mikayla for a yoga class. Contact Lori Wright at 603-401-8123 or visit www.dgbodyworks.com for more information. Private classes are available.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Mondays at 6:30 p.m. there will be Pub Trivia Night at Vermont Beer Makers on River Street in Springfield.

Up to five people per team. Free entry.

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – The Rockingham Library hosts a chess club each Monday from 3-5:30 p.m. led by Mike Sola. Drop-ins and all levels of player are welcome. This program is free and open to the public.

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

**WEDNESDAYS –**  
CHESTER, Vt. – 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.

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

**THURSDAYS –**  
WALPOLE, N.H. – Alcoholics Anonymous

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

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Genealogy enthusiast Wayne Blanchard will be at the Rockingham Library on Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. If you own a laptop, please bring it along. Both beginners and seasoned genealogists are welcome.

**FRIDAYS –**  
CHESTER, Vt. – Bone Builders Class in Chester every Friday, 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.

**SATURDAYS –**  
WESTON, Vt. – Kinhaven holds concerts and events during the summer each weekend throughout the months of June, July, and August, on campus in our concert hall. Featuring world-class classical musicians, these concert are offered free to the public. Join us at 6:30 p.m. every Saturday for a complimentary wine and cheese before the 7:30 p.m. concert. More information at www.kinhaven.org.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Town of Springfield  
Selectboard  
96 Main Street  
Springfield, Vermont

This is a Public Notice that the Town of Springfield intends to convey a 0.13 acre parcel located at 31 Pearl Street (Parcel 026/2/21 recorded in Springfield Town land records Volume 680, Page 181). This property is being conveyed as-is and subject to the terms of the Unsafe Building Order of the Springfield Selectboard dated March 27, 2023 and recorded in Volume 678, Pages 269-270. The structures on the property are to be demolished and the parcel returned to residential housing.

Pursuant to Title 24: Chapter 33: Subchapter 9; § 1061. Conveyance of real estate, the Town must give Public Notice at least 30 days before the proposed conveyance. Unless a petition is filed with the Town Clerk signed by at least five percent (5%) of the registered voters objecting to the sale, the Selectboard may authorize the conveyance.

Town of Springfield  
Selectboard  
May 11, 2023

**Ludlow Elementary School**

**FALL 2023  
KINDERGARTEN  
REGISTRATION**

May 24th from 12:00 to 3:00 PM, by appointment. Call the main office (802) 875-5151 about registering your child for the fall. Children must be five years old on or before August 31, 2023. Please bring a birth certificate and immunization records.

Town of Springfield  
Unsafe Building Order  
Springfield Code, Chapter 8, Article II

To (Property Owner): Shella Fredyma  
720 Harris Road  
Baltimore, VT 05143

Building Locations: 316 South Street, Springfield, VT 05156  
Parcel I.D.: 033/2/23

Whereas, on February 27, 2023 Paul Stagner, Chief, Springfield Fire Department presented to the Springfield Selectboard his complaint that the damaged structure at 316 South Street may be unsafe in violation of Springfield Town Code, and as a result of such complaint, pursuant to Springfield Code Section 8-23, the Selectboard designated a committee consisting of Chief and Health Officer Paul Stagner, Deputy Chief and Deputy Health Officer John Clafin, and David T. Hindinger, III, PE SE, a Vermont Licensed Structural Engineer (hereinafter the "Committee"), with the direction that the Committee inspect said building and file a report to the Selectboard.

Further whereas, on March 27, 2023, the Selectboard received the report of the Committee, a copy of which is attached, with Committee member Paul Stagner present, the Selectboard examined the report and Committee members and the Selectboard determined as follows:

Findings

Because of faulty construction, abandonment, decay, lack of proper or any other cause, the structure is susceptible to fire and constitutes a fire hazard. The structure has been damaged by fire, wind or other causes so as to have become dangerous to life, safety or the general health and welfare of the people of the Town. The structure has parts thereof which are so attached that they may fall or injure members of the public or property. The structure, by reason of age, neglect, want of repair, action of the elements, destruction, either partial or total, by fire or other casualty or cause is dilapidated, ruinous, decayed, filthy, abandoned, unstable or infested with vermin or dangerous so as to constitute a material menace or danger in any way to adjacent property or to the public.

Further, the structure parts of which, exclusive of the foundation, show thirty-three and one-third (33 1/3) percent or more of damage or deterioration of the supporting member or members or fifty (50) percent of damage or deterioration to the non-supporting, enclosing or outside walls or covering.

The Springfield Selectboard finds that the building and related structures as set forth herein are determined to be dangerous or structurally unsafe as defined in Springfield Code Section 8-19 and is declared to be a public nuisance and shall be demolished and repaired as set below.

Order and Notice

Based upon the Findings and pursuant to Springfield Code Section 8-24, the Springfield Selectboard orders as follows:

- 1) Order that the structure be vacated immediately.
- 2) Order that the structure be Demolished within 90 days of this order.

Enforcement

Pursuant to Springfield Code Section 8-30, the Selectboard may enforce the terms of the order either by resorting to appropriate judicial remedy, where such remedy is available or by correcting the defect or causing the building or structure to be demolished, paying the cost and recovering the cost from the owners. In the event that the Town resorts to remedy, it shall have a lien against the remaining real property to recover its costs. Such lien to be enforced consistent with the provisions for enforcement of liens under 9 V.S.A subsection 1924.

Right to Appeal

Pursuant to Springfield Code Section 8-27 any party entitled to notice of the Order may appeal the Order of the Selectboard at any time within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order, or within ten (10) days of the last date of publication, if service of notice is by publication, by filing a Notice of Appeal, in writing, with the Springfield Town Clerk at 96 Main Street, Springfield, Vermont 05156. Upon the filing of a Notice of Appeal, the Selectboard shall at their next regular meeting or at a special meeting take testimony, make findings and issue an Order on appeal.

Springfield Selectboard

Dated: 3/27/2023

*Kurt C. Parris*

Dated: 03/27/2023

*SE*

Dated: 3/27/2023

*Steve DeW...*

Dated: 3/27/2023

*Ereest Hamel*

STATE OF VERMONT

SUPERIOR COURT  
Windsor Unit

PROBATE DIVISION  
Docket No.: 23-PR-02154

In re ESTATE of: John F. Martens

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the Creditors of: John F. Martens

late of Chester

Decedent

Decedent's Town of Residence

I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period.

Dated: 5/3/23

Signature of Fiduciary  
*Daryl Martens*  
Daryl Martens

Executor/Administrator		Mailing Address	
Daryl Martens		Parker & Ankuda P.C., PO Box 519	
Phone Number	Email	City, State, Zip	
802-885-2582		Springfield, VT 05156	

Name of Publication: Vermont Journal - The Shopper - Windsor County

Publication Date: May 17, 2023

Name of Probate Court: Vermont Superior Court, Windsor Unit, Probate Division  
Address of Probate Court: 12 The Greene  
Woodstock, VT 05301

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO ORDINANCE REGULATING OUTDOOR STORAGE OF JUNK AND JUNK VEHICLES IN THE TOWN OF MOUNT HOLLY

WHEREAS, the Town of Mount Holly has, by authority granted in 24 V.S.A. §§ 19811 et seq., 2246 and 2291, the powers to adopt, amend, repeal and enforce ordinances, and to manage and regulate outdoor storage of junk and junk motor vehicles within its boundaries; NOW THEREFORE, to protect the public health, safety and well being and to promote the responsible use of resources and protection of the environment, the Select Board of the Town of Mount Holly hereby adopts an amended ordinance to regulate outdoor storage of junk and junk motor vehicles.

The principal provisions of the amended ordinance include requirements regarding placement, discard, or abandonment of junk and junk vehicles; requirements regarding operation of a junkyard; and enforcement procedures and penalties for violations of the ordinance. The amended ordinance makes minor adjustments to the existing ordinance adopted in 2006, including adjustments to penalties associated with ordinance violations.

The full amended ordinance contains the following key articles:

1. Definitions
2. Requirements
3. Enforcement and Penalties
4. Additional Provisions for Junk Motor Vehicles
5. Severability
6. Effective Date

The amended ordinance was adopted on May 9, 2023, at a Regular Select Board Meeting, and will become effective 60 days after its adoption by the Select Board unless voters of the town petition for a permissive referendum in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 1973.

Mount Holly voters are hereby advised that an ordinance or rule adopted by a municipality may be disapproved by a vote of a majority of the qualified voters of the municipality voting on the question at an annual or special meeting duly warned for the purpose, pursuant to a petition signed and submitted in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 1973. Such a petition for a vote on the question of disapproving an ordinance or rule shall be signed by not less than five per cent of the qualified voters of the municipality, and presented to the legislative body or the clerk of the municipality within 44 days following the date of adoption of the ordinance or rule by the legislative body.

Town Holly residents may review the full text of the ordinance at the Mount Holly Town Office, Mount Holly Post Office, Belmont Post Office, Mount Holly Library, and Belmont Store, as well as at [www.mounthollyvt.org](http://www.mounthollyvt.org).

Questions may also be submitted to the Mount Holly Select Board at [mounthollyselectboard@gmail.com](mailto:mounthollyselectboard@gmail.com), via mail at P.O. Box 248 Mount Holly, VT 05758, or by calling (802) 259-2391.

# LEGAL NOTICES

# classifieds

## BUYING/SELLING

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

## FOR SALE

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - 17 foot Chesapeake Bay wooden kayak, handmade, \$300. Call 802-591-3144, leave message.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - 1975 Corvette, needs work, \$3,500. Call 802-591-3144, leave message.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - PureWick Urine Collection System. New, in box. Call 802-885-4900.

## GUNS WANTED

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

## HELP WANTED

JP TRUCKING & HODGKINS & SONS IS HIRING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS: Class A CDL driver for dump truck and lowboy. SKILLED laborers. Must be dependable and able to follow through with the required paperwork. MUST have good

work ethic. Hourly rate depends on experience. Great benefits, uniforms, vacation pay, sick pay, medical insurance, retirement, boot stipend. Equipment use discount. Please stop in the office at 485 Old Drewsville Road, Walpole, N.H.

Grace's full time experienced drywall, light carpentry, \$28 and up. 802-674-5892.

Grace's full time mechanic's helper, laborer, yard work, and parts cleaner. 603-381-0929.

Crissy Webster Counseling Services, LLC is expanding and hiring. Seeking a dynamic and flexible Clinician I or II to work in a small private practice in the Springfield, VT area. This person must have a Master's Degree in a related counseling field, must be on the roster or eligible to be on the roster for non-licensure or licensure in the State of Vermont, pass a background check with fingerprints, and be able to work with all ages across the spectrum, including children and families. This position offers supervision towards licensure, group supervision, medical / dental benefits, 401K options, and paid time off. Job Type: Full-time. Salary: \$50,960.00 - \$58,240.00 per year. Benefits: 401(k), Dental insurance, Health insurance, Life insurance, Paid time off, Vision insurance, Flexible schedule. 156 Wall St., Suite 12 Springfield, VT 05156: Reliably commute or planning to relocate before starting work (Required). Work Location: In person and telehealth.



## OTHER

SAVE THE DATE - SOUTHERN VERMONT MINERAL & GEM SHOW & SALE. May 20 & 21. Grace Christian School, Kocher Dr., Bennington, Vt. Sat 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Info: Bill @ 802-375-6782.

## WORK WANTED

Do you need the use of a pickup truck for any reason, particularly interested in barn, house, garage, yard, and apartment clean ups.

Will do dirty work. Call 802-228-4916.

## YARD SALE

Garage Sale, Saturday, May 20, from 9-4, and Sunday, May 21, from 9-2. Antiques dating late 1880s and early 1900s, wooden sap buckets, pottery, cross-cut saws, Hitchcock chairs, flow blue, and more interesting items and collectibles. 130 Summer St., Springfield, VT. (05/23)

Submit your classified online!  
VermontJournal.com

### TOWN OF ANDOVER ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing before the Zoning Board of Adjustment of Andover, Vermont will be held on Tuesday, June 6, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Andover Town Hall to consider the following application for a conditional use permit: Application #: 5.1/38.43/23/4/12, Applicant/Owner: Dustin Sherman, Property Location: 125 Sherman Ln, Andover, VT, Reason for hearing: Application to request a conditional use permit to erect greenhouses for cannabis cultivation.

Dated at Andover, Vermont, this 12th day of May, 2023. Jonathan W. Stevens, Secretary, Andover Zoning Board Adjustment

### STATE OF VERMONT SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION Windsor Unit Docket No: 23-PR-02381 IN RE ESTATE of: DAVID R. LIEBTAG NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the Creditors of DAVID R. LIEBTAG, late of CHESTER, VT I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period.

Dated: May 12, 2023 /s/ GARY MILLER, Executor/Administrator 120 FIORI HILL DR S HILLSBOROUGH, NC 27278 Publication: Vermont Journal / Publication Date: May 17, 2023

### TOWN OF CHESTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

#### WATER/WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR

The Town of Chester has a full-time employment opportunity available in its Water/Wastewater Department. This job is specific to the position of Operator of the Wastewater Plant and Municipal Water System.

- Minimum requirements are:
- \* High School Diploma or equivalent
  - \* Minimum of a VT GD 2 Domestic WW Operator Certification preferred but will train the right applicant
  - \* Minimum of a Grade 3 Water Certification or the ability to obtain the Grade 3 Certification within 2 years
  - \* Two years applicable experience in all phases of water/wastewater system operation and maintenance preferred
  - \* Significant knowledge of Vermont regulatory and reporting requirements to ensure compliance with all conditions of water and wastewater permits preferred.
  - \* Ability to deal with the public in a positive manner
  - \* General contracting and basic maintenance skills a plus
  - \* Willingness to work alongside other departments

Starting salary will be determined based on experience with a competitive benefits package. The position will remain open until filled. Please submit Employment Application and Resume to the Chester Town Manager's Office, 556 Elm Street, P.O. Box 370, Chester, VT, 05143.



### TOWN OF CHESTER POLICE LIEUTENANT

The Town of Chester is seeking an experienced law enforcement individual to serve as Police Lieutenant. This person will have a strong desire to provide the highest quality police services to the department and to the community. The Chester Police Department serves a population of approximately 3,144 residents and covers an area of approximately 56 square miles.

The Lieutenant is responsible for immediate supervision and control of all Department personnel and is personally responsible for their efficiency and effectiveness. The Lieutenant is second in command of the Department and is subject to the direction and control of the Chief. The applicant must possess strong leadership and administrative abilities with ten (10) years minimum full time law enforcement experience. Consideration will be given to total years of service in as much as they translate into evident knowledge and experience. Preference will be given to having previously held the rank of Sergeant.

Chester offers a competitive starting wage with shift differential, as well as an excellent benefit's package including participation in VMERS Group C retirement, MVP health insurance, paid sick time, vacation time, and personal time. Uniforms and police equipment are provided. Visit [www.chestervt.gov/employment-opportunities](http://www.chestervt.gov/employment-opportunities) for full requirements and a more detailed job description. Submit a resume to: Town of Chester ATTN: Chief Thomas Williams P.O. Box 370 Chester, VT 05143 Interested applicants can also contact the Chester Police Department at (802) 875-2035 for more information. The Town of Chester is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

### NOTICE TO BIDDERS Chester Village Wayfinding System RFP

The Town of Chester, VT will receive sealed bids for Chester Village Wayfinding System RFP. The sealed bid must be received in its' entirety by the Town of Chester Town Manager, 556 Elm Street, P.O. Box 370, Chester, VT 05143, by Friday, June 9, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. at which time they will be publicly opened and read.

The project work site is located within (or near) the Village boundary of Chester, Vermont. The project includes the provision of all labor, materials, machinery, tools, scaffolding, equipment, and other means of construction necessary and incidental to the fabrication and installation of wayfinding signage.

Copies of the RFP may be obtained from the Chester Town Manager, 556 Elm Street, Chester, VT 05143, or can be found on the Town's web page at <https://www.chestervt.gov/>, under the link for "Bids & RFPs". There is no fee for these documents.

Questions regarding the Contract Documents should be directed to Julie Hance, Town Manager, in writing, at [julie.hance@chestervt.gov](mailto:julie.hance@chestervt.gov).

Addenda, if any, will be issued only to those persons whose name and address are on record with the Town as having obtained a bid packet. Addenda to the bid, when issued, will be on file in the Town Clerk's Office at least five days before the bid opening date. If you have obtained a bid packet through the Town's web site and would like to be on record for any Addenda, please email [julie.hance@chestervt.gov](mailto:julie.hance@chestervt.gov) with your name, bid packet obtained and email address.

The Town is seeking pricing on a lump sum basis, with deduct unit prices. Each bid must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the amount of ten (10) percent of the lump sum base bid in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders. The successful bidder will be required to furnish a Performance Bond and a Labor and Materials Bond, each in the full amount of the contract price.

All bids must be made on the official bid form or an exact copy by reproduction and enclosed in a sealed envelope. No bidder may withdraw his/her bid within sixty (60) calendar days after the actual date of the opening thereof. After sixty days an offer may be withdrawn in writing.

The Town of Chester reserves the right to reject all bids, to waive all informalities and the right to disregard all nonconforming, non-responsive or conditional bid documents.

### TOWN OF LUDLOW, VERMONT

#### 2 POSITIONS AVAILABLE

#### EQUIPMENT OPERATOR/TRUCK DRIVER

The Town of Ludlow Highway Department invites applications for the position of **Equipment Operator/Truck Driver**. This is a full-time, year round position. Principal duties will include plowing snow, sanding and salting roads, road construction and maintenance and other related duties. Must possess a valid VT Commercial Driver's License and have experience operating a dump truck with plow, sander, loader and excavator, backhoe and/or grader. General knowledge of vehicle maintenance, fundamental construction and maintenance procedures, public works, and equipment operation are a plus.

Municipal Benefit Package includes health & dental insurance, retirement plan and paid vacations **PLUS** a \$2,000.00 Sign-On Bonus. Employment applications are available at the Ludlow Municipal Office or on-line at [www.ludlow.vt.us](http://www.ludlow.vt.us). Please submit completed applications to the Ludlow Municipal Office PO Box 359, Ludlow, VT 05149, (802) 228-2841 or email to [tmanager@tds.net](mailto:tmanager@tds.net). Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The Town of Ludlow is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

### Town of Londonderry, VT Job Opening - Minutes Taker

The Town of Londonderry, Vermont is accepting applications for a new part-time (~10 hours per month) position for a person to take minutes for Selectboard meetings and other board and commission meetings as assigned. Requires attendance at evening and occasional daytime meetings and timely drafting of accurate, thorough, and informative minutes.

Job description and required application form is available on the Town web site: [www.londonderryvt.org](http://www.londonderryvt.org). The starting date is after 6/30/2023, and the position is open until filled. The Town of Londonderry is an equal opportunity employer.

#### Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

#### King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

## Art Crafts Gifts

### GALLERY AT THE VAULT

Vermont State Craft Center  
68 Main St., Springfield 802-885-7111  
Art Crafts Gifts & Workshops  
OPEN Wed. 11-5, Fri. 11-7, Sat. 11-5

Annual Meeting May 18 5:00.  
All invited-Claymation Demo, Refreshments

Vermont Open Studio Weekend May 27 & 28, 10-5  
<http://vermontcrafts.com>. Maps and info at VAULT Free  
May 27 noon-2 Origami Demo with Gloria Dufield  
May 28 12-1:30 Artist & Frame Maker Richard Emery

Ice Out Paintings by Dan O'Donnell Until June 7

Call to artists: Open Wall Show *On the Wild Side*  
[galleryvault.org](http://galleryvault.org)  
(07/26/23 - TFN - 13)

## Builders/Contractors

### APEX VENTURES, LLC - HOUSE PAINTING & PROPERTY SERVICES

Booking exterior painting for the Spring + Summer. Houses, decks, porches, garages + barns. Also offering Commercial + Residential Cleaning Services + Lawn Care with an Electric Push Mower. Email [adam@apexventures.one](mailto:adam@apexventures.one) for a free quote. (08/09/23 - 13)

### HAMMER FOR HIRE LLC

"Not just for bangin' nails."

We handle a variety of projects, from home repairs, restorations on up to full renovations, and new construction too. Our clients can expect professionalism, proficiency, customer care, and quality. Call or email today at 802-376-3275 [edwin.mortensen@gmail.com](mailto:edwin.mortensen@gmail.com). Follow us on Instagram @nedthehammer (11/22/23 - 52)

### PETER JORDAN CONSTRUCTION

Over 25 years of experience in all phases of construction. Framing, finish carpentry, custom showers and tile work, hardwood flooring, decks, and siding. Fully insured and registered with the State of Vermont. Lead Paint Certified. Located in Proctorsville. 802-558-5267. (05/17/23 - 13)

### NEW ENGLAND HOME BUILDING AND REMODEL

802-779-3414 - Located in Weston, VT

Kitchens, Additions, and Remodels. Finish Carpentry and Cabinet Work. Property Maintenance. Fully Insured, Free Estimates.

Like us on FACEBOOK and INSTAGRAM!  
[www.newenglandhomebuildingandremodel.com](http://www.newenglandhomebuildingandremodel.com)  
(11/22/23 - 52)

## Campground

### CATON PLACE CAMPGROUND

2419 EAST ROAD, CAVENDISH VERMONT  
SEASONAL SITES AVAILABLE FOR 2023! REASONABLE RATES!  
802-226-7767, [Catonplacecamp@gmail.com](mailto:Catonplacecamp@gmail.com).

Full hook up sites, pull thru, and tent sites. Views of Okemo! Large Private Sites! (08/09/23 - 13)

## Chiropractor

### FOUR SEASONS CHIROPRACTIC, PC

Dr. Denise Natale 58 Parker Avenue, Proctorsville, VT 05153, 802-226-7977 Hours: Tuesday 1pm-6pm, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 10am-6pm. (08/11/23 - TFN - 52)

## Cleanouts

### A BARE CLEANING

We do cleanouts of every sort, small and large. One room to entire estates. Free estimates, fully insured, lots of references. Call Reg at 802-376-4159. (08/09/23 - 26)

## Excavating

### BOB N SON DIRT WORKS

Excavation/backhoe work, driveways graded/shurpak, ditches, and 45-foot lift rentals, keeping the homeowner in mind. Free estimates. Insured. Call or text Bob 802-345-3112. (07/12/23 - 13)

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## Okemo Valley TV

Watch on TV: Community Channel: Comcast 1076 & VTel 166 Education / Gov't Channel: Comcast 1086 / VTel 167  
Watch Online: OKEMOVALLEY.TV (live streams & video-on-demand) & YOUTUBE

Okemo Valley TV now has its own app on all of the main streaming platforms! Apple TV, Roku, Amazon Fire TV, Google Play, and mobile (iOS & Android) (07/05/23 - TFN - 13)

# sports & outdoor **LEGAL NOTICES**

## Cosmos tenacious against Bulldogs

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Friday, May 5, the Springfield Cosmos hosted the Burr and Burton Bulldogs, and the end result was phenomenal. The Bulldogs may have won in buckets, but Cosmos Nation won in school spirit, sportsmanship, hard work and gratitude.

From tip off to the ending buzzer in the fourth quarter, the game was intense and overwhelming. Burr and Burton set the tone of the game, and the Cosmos worked hard for the entire game to keep up with them.

Throughout the entire game, Salls was working to be one step ahead of his opponent, senior Dylan Skandera. The Bulldogs fought to keep their lead, but could not keep it for long because of Salls' determination, and his team's defense, perseverance, and quick thinking. The Bulldogs controlled the inside with rebounds, as they overpowered the Cosmos with their height.

E. Toner and T. Jackson battled in the paint with sophomore Bulldog Lane



The Cosmos played the Bulldogs. PHOTO PROVIDED

Sargent offensively and defensively, and kept the Bulldogs to scoring 30 points to the Cosmos' 27. Bulldogs coach Don Benasich commented that the Cosmos were the toughest team the Bulldogs have played this season.

## Green Mountain Gardeners scholarship

REGION – The Green Mountain Gardeners (GMG) are now accepting applications for the Lib Thieme Scholarship. This \$1500, four-year scholarship provides assistance to a graduating high school senior for college or vocational studies in environmental sciences, landscape design, conservation, agriculture, or ecology. Selection will be based on financial need and potential community impact.

Application forms are available from the guidance departments at local public or private high

schools, or by emailing Eileen Widger, Chair of the Scholarship Committee, at tewidger@gmail.com. The application deadline is May 30.

The scholarship honors Elizabeth Thieme, a founding and longtime member of the Green Mountain Gardeners. An innovative and "hands-on" gardener who loved the company of young people, Lib's generosity helped establish the

scholarship that continues to be funded through club events.

Join the GMG Mountain Garden Walks tour on July 15, and contribute to the next scholar committed to horticulture, conservation, and preservation of the Vermont environment. More information on the garden tour and the Lib Thieme Scholarship can be found at [www.greenmountaingardeners.net](http://www.greenmountaingardeners.net).

## Springfield Lions donate to VINE

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On May 3, the Springfield Lions Club hosted patrice jones of VINE Sanctuary at their biweekly meeting. VINE Sanctuary is one of Springfield's best-kept secrets, housing hundreds of animals. The animals come to the sanctuary in many different ways. Some have been seized due to cruelty or neglect, and some have been abandoned or discarded. Many animals are former pets that became too costly or hard to take care of, or the owner just lost interest. However they ended up at VINE, they now have a safe place to live where they are well cared for.

VINE receives some funding from grants, but also



Lion Char Osterland presents patrice jones with a donation for VINE Sanctuary. PHOTO PROVIDED

depends on community supporters to keep the sanctuary going. Volunteers also play a key role in the sanctuary's success.

The Springfield Lions Club donated \$300 to the sanctuary, and Lion Char Osterlund visited the sanctuary and presented the check to patrice jones and a beautiful cow named Rose. For more information about VINE Sanctuary, visit [www.vinesanctuary.org](http://www.vinesanctuary.org).

For more information about the Springfield Lions Club, please contact the Lions at [springfieldvermontlions@gmail.com](mailto:springfieldvermontlions@gmail.com), or see the Lions Club Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/svtlions](http://www.facebook.com/svtlions).

### Town of Plymouth, Vermont Highway Department Position Available

The Town of Plymouth has an opening for a Town employee in its Highway Department. This is a full-time, year-round position. Duties will include snow plowing, sanding and salting roads, road construction, maintenance and other related duties. Applicant must hold a valid VT CDL and have experience operating a dump truck with a plow and sander.

Competitive salary as well as a great Municipal Benefit Package to include health & dental insurance, retirement plan, paid holidays, and paid vacation. Overtime is required in the winter for storm events and compensation is 1.5 times the hourly rate.

Please submit a completed application to the Plymouth Town Clerk's Office at 68 Town Office Road, Plymouth, Vermont 05056 or email [clerk@plymouthvt.org](mailto:clerk@plymouthvt.org). Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The Town of Plymouth is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

### TOWN OF PLYMOUTH PUBLIC NOTICE OF HEARING BEFORE THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

A public hearing before the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Adjustment of the Town of Plymouth will be held on Tuesday, June 6, 2023, at 7:00 P.M., in the Town Hall Municipal Building, 68 Town Office Road, Plymouth, VT, to consider an application for Conditional Use and Permit and possible Variance for:

Applicant: Ninevah Foundation  
Location: Farm & Wilderness Road Plymouth, VT 05056  
Proposal: To Create a Planned Unit Development at the Farm & Wilderness campus.

Dated May 3, 2023  
Michael Coleman, Chair

### TOWN OF PLYMOUTH, VERMONT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Plymouth Select Board will hold a public hearing on Monday, June 5, 2023 at 6:00 PM in the Town Hall Meeting Room at the Municipal Building for proposed private road/ private driveway name changes.

Notice is hereby given of a public hearing by the Plymouth Select Board to hear comments regarding proposed changes of road names.

Note that the Planning Commission does not possess the authority to change the name of town highways. The purpose of this hearing is to hear comments regarding the Planning Commission recommendations. The Select Board will consider the recommendations and subsequently take official action to add or change road name or right-of-way names.

The following town highway's, private roads / driveways have two (2) or more structures. The Planning Commission has recommended naming the following:

- Gilmore Road  
Class IV road from Kingdom Road to Dix Hill Road
- Caroline Road  
Pvt road off Great Roaring Brook Road- Sculti 4 lot subdivision
- Duck Pond Drive  
Pvt road off Rt 100- Michael gravel pit subdivision; 5 lots
- Plymouth Vista Estates Road  
Pvt road off Rt 100A- Sweetser subdivision; 5 Lots
- Moore's Pond Drive  
Pvt road off Lynds Hill Road- 3 Lots; 3 Camps

Comments regarding the proposed changes may be submitted verbally at the Public Hearing. Written comments may also be submitted via email to Mike Coleman, Plymouth Planning Commissioner at [MColeman@PlymouthVT.org](mailto:MColeman@PlymouthVT.org).

Plymouth Select Board: Jay Kullman, Rick Kaminski, Keith Cappellini.



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## Westminster Community Plant Sale

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – The Westminster Community Plant Sale and Bake Sale will be held on Saturday, May 20, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. This year there are a variety of carefully potted beauties for your gardens. All plants are carefully sourced to be pest-free. They are field-grown, hardy, weed-free specimens, potted with love and care. Come early for the best selection, and get homemade wonderful baked goodies.

In perennials we have peonies, day lilies, hostas, phlox, echinacea, rudbeckia (black-eye Susans), shasta daisies, creeping geraniums, jacob's ladder, ground phlox, false solomon seal, lupine, lamb's ear, columbine, goat's beard, dutchman's breeches, rhu-barb, wild ginger, forget-me-nots, iris, sedum, lady mantle, coreopsis, lily of the valley, astilbe, creeping ranunculus, allium, catmint, monk's hood, anemone/windflower, and many specialties you must come and see. Come be surprised.

We will also have a few selected herbs and shrubs. Other specials include potted dahlia (tender tuber – not perennial), assorted veggies, nasturtiums, and sunflowers.

There is a discount for volume – buy more, save more.

Sale begins at 9 a.m. at the Westminster West Library. Please bring cash or check. All proceeds go to the Westminster West Library.

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# arts & entertainment

## Tom Ghent at UU Meetinghouse

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Acclaimed singer-songwriter and session musician Tom Ghent will present a concert of his original material at the Unitarian Universalist Meetinghouse on Saturday, May 20, from 4-6 p.m. The evening is a prelude to a series of free public concerts hosted by the UU Meetinghouse that will run from June through August on the first two Sundays of each month.

Tom began his career in New York City during the folk heyday of the 1960s. On the advice of friend, Kris Kristofferson, Tom found his way to Nashville, where he hit his stride as a songwriter and session artist. He

has since performed with numerous country and folk legends such as Joan Baez, Steve Goodman, and Mickey Newbury, and appeared as a solo artist at the Hollywood Bowl and the Monterrey Pop Festival.

Tom's songs have been recorded by Kristofferson, Mama Cass, Rita Coolidge, and Gene Watson, among many others. His 1971 release, "Yankee's Rebel Son," is considered by some as one of Nashville's greatest records, and the album's breakout hit, "Whiskey Whiskey," has been recorded over 60 times.

Saturday's performance will be held outdoors, but will be moved inside in

response to inclement weather. Seating will be provided.

For those unable to attend the concert, Tom will be performing a short set earlier in the day during the UU's 12th annual May Festival, which will be held rain or shine from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Local mainstays Springfield Springers and Bill Brink will also perform.

The Unitarian Universalist Meetinghouse is located at 21 Fairground Road in Springfield, Vt. For more information on the upcoming concert series, please visit [www.uuspringfieldvt.org](http://www.uuspringfieldvt.org).

## Rock the Lot

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – SAPA TV will be filming live music in their parking lot, located at 335 River Street in Springfield, beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 23. The artists scheduled to play vary in origin and sound, with homes ranging from the Mojave Desert to New England, and with genres from folk, to rap, to rock, to soul. Admission is free, but a donation is sug-

gested in order to help give back to the artists who are lending their time and talents.

Come join SAPA TV to bask in some tunes, or, if you're looking to get creative, to help film the show and run the sound. As a community television station, SAPA encourages hands-on participation from anyone interested in doing the work. It's a great oppor-

tunity for those wanting to learn more about live sound and videography.

These shows will be sober events – no drugs or alcohol will be allowed. However, there will be a food truck present at most, if not all, of these dates.

There are six shows planned for this series – May 23, June 7, June 21, July 5, July 19, and July 31.

## Karen Becker at NXT Gallery

PUTNEY, Vt. – The NXT Gallery presents an art exhibit by Karen Becker titled "Bearing Witness, Part 2." The exhibit will run from May 21 to Aug. 13, at the NXT Gallery, located at 15 Kimball Hill in Putney. The opening reception for the exhibit will be held on May 21, from 3-5 p.m.

The majority of the exhibition is devoted to Becker's love of nature, which is being severely threatened by the climate crisis. The animals and trees represented here are all bearing

witness to the devastation that is unfolding due to industrialization and war.

The exhibit is dedicated to Becker's parents, Marianne and George Becker, for their lifelong courage, generosity, kindness, and devotion to the arts in southern Vermont. Her parents instilled in her a deep appreciation of nature and beauty, and the courage to express her inner world. They fully and lovingly supported her art.

This is a retrospective of artworks Becker made during the past 40

years, including her favorite maple which inspired paintings for 35 years, and imaginary canyons. She uses many different media, including watercolors, pastels, and gouache. On display are her drawings of animals and birds, which combine mono-prints and charcoal drawings. In addition, there are fantasies, including "The Sphere Series."

Karen Becker has exhibited her artwork in New York City, Boston, Maine, and Vermont. She received a BFA in Graphic Design

## "Showboat" at Ludlow Town Hall

LUDLOW, Vt. – The classic musical "Showboat" will be FOLA's next presentation on Saturday, May 20, at 7 p.m. in the Heald Auditorium at Ludlow's Town Hall.

Featuring Ava Gardner, Kathryn Grayson, and Howard Keel, "Showboat" is the musical that changed Broadway theatre. With music by Jerome Kern and lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein, it is the story of a Mississippi gambler, his wife, and the crew of a showboat touring cities along the Mississippi. A major part of the story concerns intermarriage between races and how they were dealt with around the turn of the century. This version of the show was released in 1951 by MGM, and directed by George Sidney, based on Edna Ferber's novel.

The supporting cast featured Joe E. Brown, Marge Champion, Gowar Champion, William Warfield, Robert Sterling, Agnes Moorehead, and Leif Erickson.

The plot centers around young Magnolia

(Grayson) falling in love with a Mississippi gambler, Gaylord Ravenal (Keel), much to the dismay of her mother (Moorehead), but happiness of her father, Captain Andy Hawks (Brown). This is followed by their marriage. All moves along happily for the new pair, until Gaylord begins to lose gambling and goes into debt. At this point, Magnolia is pregnant. Gaylord leaves her, feeling she would fare better without him.

In order to get by, following the birth of her daughter, Magnolia begins a career as a singer and becomes well-known.

A major sub-plot involves Julie (Gardner), who has been passing as white, her husband, and the local sheriff who accuses Julie of miscegenation, or mixed-race marriage, which was illegal in the south. Julie



The musical "Showboat." PHOTO PROVIDED

portrays a singer and actress who then must leave the showboat but follows the career of Magnolia.

The musical highlights include the famous "Old Man River," as well as "Make Believe," "Why Do I Love You," "Life Upon the Wicked Stage," and the classic old-timer, "After the Ball."

As with all FOLA movies, everyone is welcome and there is no fee. Donations are appreciated to help defray the costs of the film. Water is provided by the United Church of Ludlow. Information is at [www.fola.us](http://www.fola.us) and 802-228-3238.



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## VAULT celebrates Vermont Open Studio

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The 31st year of Vermont Spring Open Studio Weekend will be held Saturday, May 27, and Sunday, May 28, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. each day. Visitors will have the opportunity to plan a tour that brings them through the small towns of Vermont to artist studios. Gallery at the VAULT, located at 68 Main Street in Springfield, is an information center where you can pick up a map, find out more about artist studios, shop the creations of 125 artists, and enjoy new exhibits.

VAULT will host two artist demonstrations during this open studio weekend. Stop by on May 27, from 12-2 p.m., for Gloria Dufield's origami demonstration. On Sunday, from 12-1:30 p.m., Richard Emery will show you his unique method of turning pine scraps into stones that frame his mirrors and paintings.

Gallery at the VAULT is open on Wednesday and Saturday from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Friday from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m., with special

open studio Sunday hours, and is next door to Copper Fox Restaurant. See [www.galleryvault.org](http://www.galleryvault.org)

The Vermont Crafts Council affirms that creative problem solving is an essential human skill that will be strengthened with engagement with non-dig-

ital materials, clay, wood, metals, glass, felt, thread, cloth, paper, and paints. The history of craft traditions in Vermont presents a window into past community life that is again being embraced by a new generation seeking a grounded connection to human,

handmade, functional artwork that is used in everyday life.

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# community news

## Edgar May receives grant from Flutie Foundation —

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Edgar May Health and Recreation Center is pleased to announce it has received a \$10,000 Community Impact Grant from the Doug Flutie, Jr. Foundation for Autism. These funds will be used to provide adaptive swim lessons, and support individuals with physical or developmental disabilities and their families as they learn how to be safe in and around water. With the support of the Flutie Foundation, Edgar May will now be able to support hundreds of individuals in our region as they learn how to be safe, comfortable, and confident in the water.

Edgar May believes swimming is an important life skill for all individuals to learn. A person who learns how to swim has the ability

to build a lifelong skill and an enjoyment of the sport. Whether the individual is a child, an adult, or even a senior, swimming can help them improve their overall health and wellness.

“Our facility’s warm water therapy pool offers a tremendous opportunity for individuals with developmental and physical disabilities to acclimate to a water environment in a calm, quiet, safe environment,” says Zoe Lirakis, Adaptive Swim Coordinator. “In addition to the therapy pool, Edgar May offers a competition-sized swimming pool and a beach-entry wading pool. Both the therapy and swimming pools are equipped with ADA-compliant lifts.”

The Flutie Foundation Community Impact Grant

allows Edgar May to offer free adaptive swim for families of adults or youth that have a physical or developmental disability, to help integrate them into the water environment while they receive basic water safety skills from a certified water safety instructor. Adaptive swim for adults begins May 9, and will be held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month from 2:30-4 p.m. Adaptive swim for youth begins May 13, and will be held on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month from 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Interested participants will need to reserve a time for adaptive swim by emailing Zoe Lirakis at zlirakis@edgarmay.org.

Starting in July, Edgar May will also provide adap-

tive swim lessons for small groups. These lessons will be provided to a wide range of abilities. For more information on adaptive swim lessons, go to [www.edgarmay.org/adaptive-swim](http://www.edgarmay.org/adaptive-swim).

“We are very excited to begin our adaptive swim program with support of the Flutie Foundation. Edgar May is committed to creating an inclusive environment in our facility and our programs, and this initiative will allow us to expand our ability to help everyone access water in a safe and enjoyable way,” says Christian Craig, Executive Director of the Edgar May Health and Recreation Center.

“The Flutie Foundation Signature Grants help our partner agencies address a variety of significant needs

in the autism community,” says Nick Savarese, Executive Director of The Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism. “Programs like these are helping people on the autism spectrum live life to the fullest, and we are proud to support their efforts.”

The Edgar May Health and Recreation Center is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization committed to improving health and wellness of all in our region. In addition to three swimming pools, a fitness center, and an outdoor climbing tower, Edgar May offers a wide range of programs and opportunities to live an active and healthy lifestyle. To learn more about Edgar May, visit [www.edgarmay.org](http://www.edgarmay.org).

org.

The Doug Flutie, Jr. Foundation for Autism, based in Framingham, Mass., awards grants annually through a competitive application and review process. The signature grants that the Flutie Foundation distributed this year support traditionally under-served, under-funded, culturally diverse communities reflected in the Foundation’s areas of interest – providing a path for educational and vocational skills, supporting recreational and active lifestyles, and ensuring people with autism are safe, supported, and informed. For more information about the Flutie Foundation, visit [www.flutiefoundation.org](http://www.flutiefoundation.org).



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## Eric Richardson receives nursing award —



Eric Richardson is the recipient of the 2023 Eileen Austin Neal Spirit of Nursing Award.

PHOTO PROVIDED

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Springfield Hospital is pleased to announce Eric Richardson, RN, as the recipient of the 2023 Eileen Austin Neal Spirit of Nursing Award.

This award was created in 2004 in honor of Eileen Austin Neal, RN, who worked at Springfield Hos-

pital for 64 years and retired in 2005. Judy Mittica, RN, was the first recipient of this award, at the request of Eileen. Photos of Eileen, along with her cap and uniform, and a list of the all the recipients since 2004, can be seen in the Springfield Hospital lobby on Level C.

Criteria for the award includes communication, care for patients, nursing professionalism, and teamwork. Nominations are accepted from throughout the organization, and are reviewed and voted on by a committee that includes the previous year’s recipient and a member of Eileen’s family, among others. This year’s nominees included Elena Bender, RN, Windham Center; Olga Carey, RN, Emergency Department; Heidi Clough-Agoes, RN, Windham Center; Sherry Cobb, RN, Inpatient Care Unit; Mary Esden, RN, Inpatient Care Unit; Ernest Frost, LPN, Windham Center; Tracie Harris, RN, Case Management; April Lawrence, RN, Perioperative Services; and Paula Tudor, RN, Windham Center.

Eric has been working at Springfield Hospital since 2014, and is currently working in the perioperative services department. Contained within Eric’s nomination are the following words from one of his colleagues: “Eric has a natural ability to provide quality care without trying to. He has a calming way about him that makes patients feel comfortable and relaxed. When patients return for other procedures, they are at ease knowing Eric will be there.”

“Congratulations to all of our 2023 nominees, and to Eric as the 2023 award winner. As we celebrate National Nurses Week and National Hospital Week, we are pleased to express how extremely proud we are of our nurses, and the entire hospital staff at Springfield Hospital, and grateful for the care and service they provide to our patients, 24/7/365,” says Robert Adcock, CEO of Springfield Hospital.



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SPRINGFIELD HOSPITAL

# Gynecology

25 RIDGEWOOD ROAD  
SPRINGFIELD, VT  
802-885-7561



**Kira Balkcom, MD, FACOG**  
**Board Certification**  
American Board of Obstetrics & Gynecology

**Education**  
Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT - BA  
University of Vermont,  
College of Medicine - MD

**Residency**  
Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Christiana Care Health System  
Newark, DE



**Thusitha Cotter, MD, FACOG**  
**Board Certification**  
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**Education**  
University of Toronto  
BS, Biochemistry  
Memorial University of Newfoundland  
Canada - MD

**Residency**  
Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center  
Lebanon, NH

### Our Services

We provide gynecology services for women throughout all stages of their lives, from adolescence through menopause and beyond. We offer comprehensive evaluation and medical/surgical treatment for all gynecologic conditions.

- Bleeding issues, including abnormal bleeding, heavy periods, and peri- or post-menopausal bleeding
- Uterine fibroids
- Cervical or endometrial polyps
- Mild to severe endometriosis
- Adenomyosis
- Pelvic pain and painful periods
- Pelvic scar tissue (adhesions)
- Pelvic masses and simple or complex ovarian cysts
- Pelvic congestion syndrome
- Tubo-ovarian abscess
- Ectopic pregnancy
- Essure removal
- Permanent sterilization
- Infertility evaluation and medication management
- Preconception counseling
- Early pregnancy dating ultrasounds
- Contraception
- Vulvovaginal skin conditions and infections
- Polycystic ovarian syndrome
- Menopause
- Management of cervical dysplasia
- Well woman preventative care

Prompt Appointments Available  
Phone 802-885-7561



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