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see pages 4 and 5

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GMUSD Board in chaos over mascot

BY PAULA BENSON

The Vermont Journal

CHESTER, Vt. – After years of contentious debate over the use of “Chieftains” as the moniker of the Green Mountain Unified School District (GMUSD) sports teams, the school board’s most recent vote, at the May 18 meeting, ended in a tiebreaker. The board was split 5-5, which left it to recently appointed Board Chair Deb Brown to cast the deciding vote.

Brown read from a prepared statement. “In the event that this decision came to me as a tie, I have given it more consideration than you can possibly imagine. I see some merit in both arguments, and sincerely want to do what is best for our school and town.”

The motion was presented as, “We are not in violation of the law regarding NonDiscriminatory Mascot and School Branding.”

Brown further stated, “A ‘yes’ vote means we are not in violation, ‘no’ means we are.” Brown then presented her yes vote and commented, “I sincerely hope that after tonight, we can put this issue behind us and put all of this energy into educating our students.”

Immediately after the decision, board member Keith Hill asked to speak,

and declared, “As a state employee, a professor of a state college in Vermont, I cannot be part of this board any longer. I resign from the board.” Hill stood, gathered his belongings, and walked out.

Board member Kate Lamphere, who was joining via Zoom, also quit the board, saying, “As a licensed social worker in the state of Vermont, who has dedicated my entire career to the mental wellbeing of Vermonters, I cannot be a part of a board after making this decision. So, I am formally resigning from the board.”

Vermont enacted VT S0139 in May 2022, a law which prohibits public schools from “having or adopting a name, symbol, or image that depicts or refers to a racial or ethnic group, individual, custom, or tradition and that is used as a mascot, nickname, logo, letterhead, or team name of the school.”

GMUSD had retired the Chieftain’s problematic logo in 2021, and in January 2023 the school board voted to change the name, then reversed that decision one month later.

Prior to the emotional conclusion of the meeting, Superintendent Lauren Fierman, joining via Zoom from Burlington, presented business as usual, discuss-

ing grants, budget notes, funding, and overages.

Fierman announced that June 16 will be the last day of school, and Graduation Day for the high school. She reported that construction at Chester-Andover Elementary School (CAES) will close the campus from June 19 to June 27, with additional dates announced as the work continues through the summer.

Fierman also shared that John Broadley, former BFUHS Assistant Principal, had signed on as the new GMUHS Principal, and that the board had narrowed down the candidate field for Cavendish Town Elementary School (CTES) Principal to two finalists, Amanda Tyrrell and Donna Bazyk. The board will hold a meeting on Wednesday, May 24, which, Fierman said, will be “an open forum for teachers, parents, and community members to meet the two candidates,



The GMUSD School Board continued to debate the controversial Chieftains mascot.

PHOTO BY PAULA BENSON

ask questions, then provide the board with feedback.” Information on both Tyrrell and Bazyk can be found on the TRSU website. Additionally, Fierman reported that GMUHS will welcome a new Assistant Principal, Kate Leathe, who was at the meeting.

Several residents spoke during the two public comment portions of the meeting, illustrating the split within the community regarding the Chieftains controversy.

John Clark, President of the Green Mountain Alumni Association and Chester Historical Society, related the history of the name. “The Chieftains name was adopted in 1971,” Clark said. “[There was] a contest, in which a winning essay by Randy Benson was chosen. The name was then voted on by the students at the time.”

Clark claimed he’s received “hundreds and hundreds” of calls from residents expressing how much the 52-year history of the name means to them. Conversely, Clark reported,

“Out of 3,000 alumni, I’ve only had two calls in the negative.”

After the 6-5 vote, Chester resident Matthew Gorsky, who has been an outspoken critic of the Chieftain’s name and logo, addressed the board via Zoom, stating briefly, “I’ll let you know now, due to the board’s vote, this will be going to the state level.”

Another resident asked, “What are you saying to the indigenous people?” further stating, “this is defini-

nately going to the state.”

One resident read a portion of a statement from educator, activist, artist, and citizen of the Elnu Abenaki Tribe, Melody Walker Brook. “We need role models in our societies, and we need students that feel empowered to take on a world that often does not support them. Everyone that promotes that actively perpetuates a broken system. I challenge you to do better.”

Muddying the situation further, four minutes before the meeting was adjourned, board member Katie Murphy, who was attending via Zoom, asked Brown if she could reverse her yes vote, claiming she had “spotty internet” and misunderstood the wording of the motion. Murphy said she believed the Chieftains name was in violation of the state policy because it references people.

“You can’t change your vote after a determination has been made,” Brown stated firmly.

When Brown suggested a revote, the remaining board members refused, since two people had exited the meeting already. “Then, the vote stands,” Brown declared.

GMUSD School Board will hold a special meeting Wednesday, May 24, with its next regular meeting scheduled for June 15.

Chester begins forming housing commission

BY NICK GIBERTI

The Vermont Journal

CHESTER, Vt. – Tackling Chester’s housing problems was on everyone’s minds at the May 17 meeting of the Chester Selectboard.

During the citizens’ comments portion of the meeting, Chester resident Kathy Guirtino expressed her concern about the growing number of “unhosted” short-term rentals (STR) in Chester – that is, STRs where there are no full-time residents, and instead only an empty house which is occasionally occupied by renters. “I think that it’s important that we act soon to put a cap on the number of un-

hosted short-term rentals,” Guirtino expressed to the board. “The unhosted [rentals] are just an empty house taking away from a neighborhood...and the community in general.” She suggested putting a moratorium on new STRs in Chester, as she said has been done in Morristown, which would allow those already-existing STRs to continue to operate, but would not allow any more to be set up in the town. This, Guirtino suggested, would give Chester time to finish its STR survey, and form its housing commission, while curtailing the ever-growing number of STRs and dwindling housing for locals. “I may not have neighbors

pretty soon,” Guirtino told the board, “I may just have a lot of empty houses with strangers coming and going.”

Selectboard Chair Arne Jonynas replied to Guirtino, saying that once the housing survey is completed, the board will have a “clearer picture of what we have in this town as far as hosted and unhosted [rentals],” and that at that point, the board will “revisit [the] discussion as far as what action to take, if any.”

The board then heard from George Legace, Vice President of Ruck Up, Inc., an all-volunteer, local veteran advocacy group, concern-

ing their coin drop application. In approving the application, Jonynas noted, “The fact that it’s local is very important, it’s helping people in our community... I think that means a lot to people when they support something like this.” This will be the second of Chester’s two coin drops approved annually, scheduled for Aug. 19, with a rain date of Aug. 20.

Turning again to housing, Town Manager Julie Hance sought the board’s permission to begin forming a housing commission, to “start really looking at and addressing housing in [the] area.” Hance presented the board with a draft of a housing commission charter for

their consideration, which they will look over before the next meeting. “What I really was hoping to get from the board tonight is the authority to go ahead and start advertising for commissioners,” Hance told the board, noting that it would be several months before the commission was fully staffed and ready to begin its work.

The housing commission would first be tasked with gathering information and data about housing in Chester, as well as performing new surveys to fill any gaps in information, in order to assess housing needs. “At the end of the day,” Hance said, “[the housing commission] is not going to be develop-

ing housing.” However, she said, their role would be discussion, planning, data collection, and project management, as well as outreach to and meetings with voters, whose input will be necessary for many decisions going forward.

The board was supportive of the effort, and gave Hance approval to begin the process of finding and choosing commissioners. The board will review the draft charter they were given, and return at the next meeting with any changes or revisions they wish to discuss.

The Chester Selectboard’s next meeting will be Wednesday, May 31, at 6:30 p.m.

Thanks to Cavendish volunteers

CAVENDISH, Vt. – Thanks to the many volunteers who raked, clipped,



Volunteers cleaning up Cavendish. PHOTO PROVIDED

dug, and trimmed the Proctorsville Green, and the two gardens at the Cavendish Town Elementary School and Cavendish Post Office, for our annual Cavendish Streetscapes Clean Up Day. Many hands make for a lighter load and lots of laughs.

Structure fire in Plymouth

PLYMOUTH, Vt. – The Plymouth Fire Department quickly responded to a structure fire on Frog City Road on Tuesday, May 16, at 11:56 p.m. Upon arrival, the Plymouth crew took immediate action to protect the homestead, which was located about 20 yards away, and was just starting to ignite. Had the fire department arrived several minutes later, the entire home would have been fully engulfed. While protecting the homestead, mutual aid

was called and responded shortly thereafter, bringing the fire under control. Proctorsville Volunteer Fire Department responded with Tanker 1 and two firefighters to the scene, and also provided a cover engine to Ludlow Fire Department. All of the departments involved at the scene were Plymouth, Bridgewater, Ludlow, Proctorsville, and Woodstock. All fire department apparatuses and personnel returned to their firehouses around 4 a.m.

Ludlow Art Walk



Artwork will be posted in businesses in Ludlow. PHOTO PROVIDED

LUDLOW, Vt. – Since May 21, artworks by students from Ludlow and Mount Holly Elementary Schools have adorned businesses along Ludlow’s Main Street. Three pieces created by each student from both schools are hung in the

windows of Benson’s Chevrolet, Shaw’s, Goodman’s American Pie, Gamebird, The Hatchery, Cristal’s Studio Salon, DJ’s Restaurant, and The Book Nook, creating an “art display walk” through Ludlow. The works will remain on display until June 8.

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DEADLINES
The deadline for all content is **Thursday, May 25 at 12 p.m.** for the May 31 publication.
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EMAIL YOUR DISPLAY ADS AND CLASSIFIED LISTINGS
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EMAIL YOUR PRESS RELEASES, ARTICLES, AND PHOTOS
editor@vermontjournal.com

New Explore Okemo Valley App

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce (OVRCC) is adding a new feature to benefit its members and visitors. The new Explore Okemo Valley App is now live.

This app aims to enhance Okemo Valley Chamber members' ability to connect with customers and the community. It resembles the chamber's website in branding, colors, buttons, and features. The app will also offer a more focused connection for those things folks are looking for by showcasing everything the region has to offer. The primary categories include "Dine," "Stay," "Play," "Shop," and "Services."

The app can be accessed via the Apple & Android stores for free. For more

information, go to www.yourplaceinvermont.com/explore-okemo-valley-app.

Listings on the Explore Okemo Valley App are an exclusive free benefit for current Okemo Valley Chamber Members only. All members are enrolled with the standard Silver Listing at no additional cost. Members can also upgrade their listing for more content, additional categories, buttons, images, video, social media links, and push notifications.

Chamber members who also want to run a banner ad, sponsor a category header image, or become a splash screen sponsor, all for a fee, can complete an online order form at www.yourplaceinvermont.com/explore-okemo-valley-app-form.

Any local businesses not yet a member of the Okemo Valley Chamber, who wishes to benefit from this new opportunity, may join online at www.yourplaceinvermont.com/online-application.

The Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce is a non-profit, member-driven association, and the voice of over 300 businesses and the communities of 12 towns and villages in south central Vermont along the Vermont Scenic Route 100 Byway, surrounded by Okemo, Ascutney, and Magic Mountains. OVRCC provides advocacy, support, and unified regional marketing to promote and enhance businesses in the region, as well as the four-season economy. For more information, contact Carol Lighthall, Executive Director of the Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce, at clighthall@yourplaceinvermont.com, or 802-228-5830.

Gill Home basket raffle

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Gill Odd Fellows Home will be holding a basket raffle on June 3 at the Black River Senior Center, 10 High Street in Ludlow, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., to benefit the Gill Odd Fellows Home Activities Department. Buy tickets and put

them into the basket item that you would like to win. The tickets will be drawn at 2 p.m., and everyone is welcome to be there for the drawing. You do not need to be present to win your basket; someone will contact you if you are lucky enough to win. Come see the wide

variety of baskets, from baby, to pet, to jewelry, to toys, to spa items, and much more.

There will also be a separate raffle with a single prize of a "\$100.00 bill, and \$100.00 worth of scratch-off tickets." There will be a limit of 100 tickets sold for this raffle.

Watters yard sale

CHESTER, Vt. – After nearly 50 years of artful living in their 1844 stone house in the Stone Village Historic District on North Street, Route 103 in Chester, longtime local residents Lew and Bonnie Watters are moving. They are holding a cleaning out yard sale on Memorial Weekend, beginning

Saturday, May 27, and going through Monday, May 29, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Items will include useful housewares, tools, furniture, toys, and games, all clean and in good condition. High quality new sewing fabric, trims, notions, yarns, and stuffing from years of creating original cloth dolls will be sold. Also

featured will be original art in all media, as well as prints and frames. This event is being held in conjunction with their Stone Village neighbors, who will be offering a wide assortment of interesting and unique wares.

Come browse, and buy. Only cash or good checks will be accepted.

Alzheimer's Group walks

LUDLOW, Vt. – An astounding 13,000 Vermonters and 6 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's, a brain disorder that slowly destroys memory and thinking skills. No cure exists, but several new drugs have been shown to reduce the progression of the disease, says Howard

Goodrow, Alzheimer's Association Vermont Chapter Executive Director. Despite Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval, these medications are neither covered by Medicare nor Medicaid.

Speaking on May 9 to the Ludlow Rotarians, Goodrow said that primary care physicians are reluctant to diagnose Alzheimer's. "One in three senior citizens will die with some form of dementia," he says.

As bad as Alzheimer's is for those with the disease, the toll it takes on caregivers and other loved ones is significant. Goodrow says an estimated 11 million Americans are providing unpaid care for someone with the disease.

To build awareness and support for care and research, the association's "Walk to End Alzheimer's"

events are held annually in more than 600 communities nationwide. Four walks have been scheduled in Vermont next September, according to Jazmin Averback, Chapter Development Manager, including Rutland on Sept. 23 and the Upper Valley on Sept. 30.

The local chapter has also created the "Reason to Hope" gala on May 19, and a "Longest Day" event to be held on sections of Vermont's Long Trail during the Summer Solstice on June 21.

For more information about Alzheimer's, go to www.alz.org/vermont. Anyone interested in learning more about Rotary or its Tuesday luncheons at DJ's Restaurant, contact Membership Chairman Kevin Barnes at 802-228-8877.

Written by Glenn Heitsmith.

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The Vermont Information Center Division is seeking motivated self-starting individuals to work at the Hartford Information Center on 91 South, the Sharon Information Center on 89 North and the Randolph Information Center on 89 South.


This is a great opportunity for someone looking for a flexible schedule. The position is as needed.

The Department of Buildings & General Services is seeking individuals with strong interpersonal skills to promote Vermont and welcome visitors at our Welcome Centers. Duties include a combination of customer service tasks involving greeting and providing information to visitors, map reading, and record keeping. Candidate should possess knowledge of and ability to use Microsoft Office software. These positions also require housekeeping/custodial tasks such as cleaning rest rooms, mopping, snow removal (including shoveling and/or use of snow blower) and the ability to lift up to 50 pounds.

There is no set schedule for the position, but shifts may include evenings, holidays, and weekends.

For more information, contact Bevan Quinn at bevan.quinn@vermont.gov

You must apply online to be considered.
 Apply at www.careers.vermont.gov,
 Sharon req #22062, Randolph req #47137, Hartford req #46843
 application deadline: 6/11/23.



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obituaries

Linda A. Blaisdell, 1941-2023

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – Linda Anna (Auclair) Blaisdell of Rockingham passed away on May 12, 2023, in Springfield. Linda was born on Sept. 13, 1941, in Montreal, Canada, to Alfred and Doris (Tomney) Auclair. In 1966 she immigrated to the United States. Linda is survived by her children Loren C. Blaisdell of Alstead and Catherine (Darin) Murray of Marlborough, N.H., as well as her grandchildren Samuel Murray and Eve Murray. Linda was predeceased by her parents, and her husband Manley C. Blaisdell.

There will be no services at this time.



Linda Blaisdell, 1941-2023.
PHOTO PROVIDED

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

Lucille M. Gramling, 1936-2023

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Lucille M. Gramling, 86, passed away peacefully at her home in Springfield, Vt. on May 7, 2023. She was born Sept. 29, 1936, in Windsor, Vt. Growing up, she attended the one-room schoolhouse in Amsden, and Springfield schools, graduating from Springfield High School in 1954. She married Thomas J. Gramling on Sept. 4, 1954.

Lucille was a mother, homemaker, and church participant. She loved learning new things. Some of her interests were oil painting, pottery, sketching, and decorating cakes, and she was an avid gardener. At one time she wrote a column, "My Side of the Mountain," for a local newspaper. She held various jobs and, together with her husband, owned and operated the Amsden General Store.

Later in life, Lucille became a licensed minister, serving as an interim pastor and providing funeral services for many years.

She is survived by her husband of nearly 69 years, Thomas J. Gramling Sr. She is also survived by her sons Thomas (Sarah) Gramling Jr. of Springfield, and Shane (Regina) Gramling of Auburn, Ala.; and her daughters Dawn (Bob) Crary of Per-



Lucille Gramling, 1936-2023.
PHOTO PROVIDED

kinsville, and Phalia (Vern) McMoarn in Chester, Maine.

Other survivors include siblings Galen (Dot) Crandall II, Barbara Williams, and Ruth (David) Martin, as well as 16 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren. Lucille was predeceased by her parents Margaret (Ingraham) and Galen Crandall I, and her sister Merle Laurene.

In honoring Lucille's request, immediate family members will hold a private funeral service at a later date.

The family requests that donations in Lucille's name be made toward Calvary Baptist Church Camp Scholarship in Springfield, Vt. For more information, please see www.calvarylovespringfield.com/give, or send to Calvary Baptist Church, 156 Main Street, Springfield, VT 05156.

John Lawlor

Celebration of Life

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – John Lawlor, 71, who passed away on Dec. 22, 2022, in Bellows Falls, will have a Celebration of Life at the Masonic Hall in Bellows Falls on Saturday, May 27, from 1-4 p.m. A graveside service will also take place on May 30, at 11 a.m., at Oak Hill Cemetery in Bellows Falls.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home.

Jean M. Ostrowski, 1926-2023

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Jean M. Ostrowski passed away on May 15, 2023, at the Springfield Hospital.

Jean Marie Gay was born on Dec. 18, 1926, the third child in a family of eight children from Gageville, Vt. Jean was the daughter of R.L. Gay Sr. and Marguerite Harrington Gay. In 1961, she married Edward Stanley Ostrowski, of North Walpole, N.H., where they resided with Edward's dad John Bartholemew Ostrowski. In 1963, Jean gave birth to John "Jack" Ostrowski in Bellows Falls, Vt. Her family included her son Jack and his wife Lisa of Charlestown, N.H.; her grandchildren Jenna Marie and her husband Matthew Blanchard of Claremont, N.H., Joshua Ostrowski and his wife Cristina of Sullivan, N.H., and Ryan Ostrowski of New Jersey; and her great-granddaughter Siena Maria Ostrowski.

She is also survived by brothers Robert Gay II and Richard Gay from Gageville, Vt., and sister-in-law Janice Gay. Jean was predeceased by her sisters Nancy (John) Sullivan of Gageville, Vt.; Anne (John) Curtin of Phoenix, Ariz.; Helen (Jim) Hurley of N.Y.; Gloria (Chuck) Quinn of Essex; and her brother Gilbert Gay. Jean had the joyful blessing of several nieces and nephews.

Jean graduated from Bellows Falls High School in 1944, and went to work for Gay's Express, HP Hood



Jean Ostrowski, 1926-2023.
PHOTO PROVIDED

Company of Bellows Falls, and worked with her brothers at Gay's Fuel Service for over 25 years as their first secretary. She enjoyed her work there.

Jean loved to keep up her large garden with Edward and his dad Bartholemew Ostrowski, as well as cook for her family at their home in North Walpole, N.H. Jean prepared many meals of venison, fresh trout, asparagus, homegrown vegetables, and pies. She was greatly loved and will be missed by her family.

Calling hours were on Wednesday, May 17, from 5-7 p.m. at the Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home, 55 Westminster Street in Bellows Falls. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Thursday, May 18, at 11 a.m. at St. Peter's Church in North Walpole, N.H. Burial followed at St. Peter's Cemetery in Drewsville.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home.

Dan Churchill, 1937-2023

CAVENDISH, Vt. – It is with sadness that we report the passing of CHS president and treasurer Daniel (Dan) Churchill.

Born and raised in Proctorsville, at the age of 14 Dan became a "teenage pharmacist." He worked for the Polard's store until 1964, coming home on weekends from college to fill and compound prescriptions. While he would have liked to make pharmacy his career, the family finances were such that he focused on his second love, electricity.

As a young child, he remembered when their house was wired. He found it fascinating, and followed the technician from room to room. This ultimately resulted in his working for General Radio for four years while studying at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, which led to his being an engineer at RCA for 25 years.

In 1970, he started Commercial Radio Company to provide specialized expertise to companies, universities, and individuals in need of service for radio transmitters and other apparatuses. Pur-

chasing the old Duttonsville School, he refurbished the building to be his home and business.

Upon returning to Cavendish, Dan became very involved in a variety of civic duties, including being a member of the Cavendish Selectboard, Planning Commission, and Board of Civil Authorities, as well as the town's representative on the boards of the Black River Senior Center and the area Agency on Aging. He was one of the founding members of CHS, as well as a member of the Masons.

One of Dan's great interests was dowsing and spiritual healing. He attended classes at Lily Dale, and was a member of the American Society of Dowsers. Dan often did readings for community members as well as around the state.

A man with many talents and interests, one person described Dan as a "one of a kind eccentric genius, and very kind."

A memorial is being planned for Sunday, June 4, at 2 p.m., at his home in Cavendish, Vt.

Raymond Hutchinson Jr., Graveside Service

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – A graveside service for Raymond Hutchinson Jr., who passed away Jan. 12, 2023, will be held June 14, at 1 p.m., at the Hillcrest Cemetery in Proctorsville, Vt.

Peter W. Kelleher, 2023

CAVENDISH, Vt. – It is with deep sadness that the family of Peter W. Kelleher announces his peaceful passing on April 21, 2023, at the age of 64, following a lengthy illness. Peter is survived by his loving wife, Robin; daughters Danielle Kelleher, Jennifer Henriquez, and Sydney Kelleher; siblings Peg Lary, Nancy Warren, Paula Burgess, Kathryn Reed, James (J) Paul Kelleher Jr., and Daniel Kelleher; many cousins, nieces, and nephews; as well as his numerous animals and pets, which he lovingly called his "mini-farm." He is predeceased by his parents, Elaine Kelleher (née Mitchell) and James Paul Kelleher.

Originally from Bangor, Maine, Peter became a technical engineer, a field in which he thrived and excelled. Working country wide, he first settled in Massachusetts, where he raised his two eldest daughters, and ultimately, found his home in the Vermont mountains, which he shared with his wife Robin and daughter Sydney.

Peter will be remembered for being a technical genius, able to "MacGyver" a functional gadget out of anything. He once made a locating FOB device from a thrift store box. Some of his family's most cherished memories are his creative solutions to problems and simplified explanations for how anything worked. He also was an avid ham radio lover, even building an entire operating sta-



Peter W. Kelleher, 2023.
PHOTO PROVIDED

tion in his home. With the help of his Ham Radio buddies, he once built a 40-foot tall, 12-inch diameter radio tower, with a rotating antenna, that could communicate with different countries. This was one of Peter's proudest accomplishments.

Peter was active in his church, serving as a board member, attending Bible study groups, sharing his famous "Seafood Chowda" at potlucks, and seldom missing Sunday services. He was also an active member in the community. Most importantly, Peter was known for his great strength in the face of obstacles. His quick wit, kind heart, and genuine smile will never be forgotten.

A memorial service will take place on June 17, at 2 p.m., at the Cavendish Baptist Church, located at 2258 Main Street, Cavendish, Vt. Donations in memory of Peter can be sent to Cavendish Baptist Church, P.O. Box 425, Cavendish, VT 05142.

Richard Vittum, 1946-2023

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Richard Vittum, age 77, on May 18, 2023, surrounded by family, after a hard fought battle with leukemia.

Richard was born April 20, 1946, in Springfield, Vt., the son of Gerald and Thelma Vittum. Richard graduated from Springfield High School in 1964, and served his country, serving in the Army from 1965–1967. Richard labored for years as a machinist in the machine tool industry, and later a quality inspector in sheet metal fabrication.

Richard's true passion was his time in the woods hunting with his boys and family, where he created lifelong memories and stories to be cherished for generations. Richard also had a love for kayaking in local ponds, cuddling with

his dogs Duncan, Elmo, and Mocha, and most importantly spending time with his family.

Richard is survived by his wife Lorrelie (Lolly); his sons Troy and Aaron; his daughters-in-law Robin and Renee; his granddaughter Chelsea; his grandsons Jarid, Jordan, and Noah; his granddaughters-in-law Tiffany and Tori; his step granddaughter Greyson; his step grandson Will; his great-granddaughter Annabelle; his sister Judy Henning; and many nieces and nephews.

Richard was predeceased by his parents Gerald and Thelma, his brothers Gerry and Larry, and his sister Donna.

Richard will forever be remembered for his infectious smile and laugh, and his unwavering love for his family.

Christy A. Gilchrist, 1948-2023

CHESTER, Vt. – Christy A. (Davis) Gilchrist, 74, of Chester, Vt., and Satsuma, Fla., passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, at the Jack Byrne Center for Palliative Care in Lebanon, N.H. on Friday, May 12, 2023, following a brief period of declining health.

Christy was born in August 1948 to Jeannette M. and Ferris L. Davis in Springfield, Vt. She grew up playing in the forests and streams of North Springfield, where she met her future husband, Maurice H. Gilchrist, while constantly tagging along with her older brother Ferris (Dusty) Davis and his friends on their many outdoor adventures. Christy attended Perkinsville Elementary School, and then Springfield schools, graduating from Springfield High School in 1966. After graduation, she began working at Jones and Lamson Machine Co. in Springfield, where she worked until 1983. On July 29, 1967, she married her childhood friend Maurice H. Gilchrist in Springfield. They celebrated 55 years of marriage last July. Together, Christy and Maurice owned the Tyson General Store in Tyson, Vt., from 1983-1985, but the time it took away from family was not something they were willing to compromise, so they sold the store and came back to Springfield. Christy spent the rest of her career working in office administration for several machine shops in Springfield, eventually retiring in 2013.

Christy loved to work in her flower gardens, and had an eye for creating gorgeous outdoor planters around her home. She loved the ocean and going on family hikes in Vermont, and made an annual hike out to Little Rock Pond in Wallingford, Vt. for a Father's Day picnic with family. Christy was passionate about her volunteer work with the North School Preservation Society, and spent countless hours with her husband Maurice and other members of the NSPS sorting the donations for and working at the yard sales, and maintaining the histori-



Christy Gilchrist, 1948-2023.
PHOTO PROVIDED

cal school building in North Springfield. When Christy rarely sat down, she enjoyed visiting with close friends both here in Vermont and in Florida, and could be counted on for many shared laughs, or to be a compassionate listener with a strong shoulder to lean on. Most of all, Christy loved her family. She was a constant source of love and support to them all, and when it came to family, she possessed seemingly limitless energy to be there for them no matter what was needed.

Christy is survived by her husband of 55 years, Maurice; her daughter Stacie (Gilchrist) Otis, of Chester, Vt.; her grandchildren Kayla Gilchrist of Burlington, Vt., Evan Otis of Chester, Vt., and Erin Otis of Burlington, Vt.; her sister Suzette Bedson (William), of Weathersfield, Vt.; and several nieces and nephews.

Christy was predeceased by her parents, her brother Ferris (Dusty) Davis, and her son Todd M. Gilchrist.

The family will be holding a private Celebration of Life for family and friends at a later date.

Davis Memorial Chapel is assisting with the arrangements.

The family would like to thank the incredible doctors, nurses, and staff at DHMC, the Jack Byrne Center for Palliative Care, and all of her friends that reached out during this difficult time. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Christy's honor to the North School Preservation Society, c/o Ginny Rickert, P.O. Box 107, North Springfield, VT 05150.

Gregory J. Kelley, 2023

SUNAPEE, N.H. – Gregory James Kelley (Rouse), formerly of Sunapee, N.H., passed away on March 23, 2023, in Daytona, Fla., after a battle with pancreatic cancer. He leaves behind his mother Gerri Mansfield and her husband Richard Reed, his son Shane Kelley and his wife Kristy and their son, the newest joy in his life, his grandson Everett Kelley, his daughter Jessica Cohen, his sister Michelle Farrell and her husband Sean, his niece Paige Farrell and nephew Burke Farrell, his uncle Steve Wood and aunt Sandi, and his step-sister Tamara Rouse.

Greg was a very kind and loving man. He worked for Stephen Moore in his younger years, where he learned



Gregory Kelley, 2023.
PHOTO PROVIDED

many of his skills that he carried forward into his own business in Sunapee, N.H., where he was always busy. He was a true craftsman. His clients had such respect for Greg because of his quality of work.

The last three years he traveled all through the United States with his significant other, and what an adventure it was, "living the dream!"

Greg was a huge outdoorsman. He loved fishing, hunting, kayaking, and hiking. His dream was to teach his grandson all of these skills.

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

He is sorrowfully missed by all who knew and loved him.



Richard Vittum, 1946-2023.
PHOTO PROVIDED


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CHURCH SERVICES:

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

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Decoration Day

BY RON PATCH

802-374-0119
ronpatch27@gmail.com

Memorial Day is upon us. I wasn't in the service, but I am very patriotic. Perhaps had I served I would have a different opinion. Memorial Day has always been a holiday close to me. I think most readers know I am a military historian.

I knew several World War I soldiers, and one or two Spanish-American War veterans, when I was younger.

I think many people see Memorial Day as a time to have a barbecue, or Toyota to have a sale. I try to attend Chester's Memorial Day service, held every May 30. It pleases me that Chester holds Memorial Day services on the traditional May 30. Chester doesn't celebrate Memorial Day on a contrived date to create a three-day weekend. That would be disrespectful of the dead.

Memorial Day history

The first national observance of Memorial Day occurred on May 30, 1868. Then known as "Decoration Day," the holiday was proclaimed

by Commander in Chief John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic to honor the Union soldiers who had died in the Civil War.

Official recognition as a holiday spread among the states, beginning with New York in 1873. By 1890, every Union state had adopted it. The World Wars turned it into a day of remembrance for all members of the U.S. military who fought and died in service. In 1971, Congress standardized the holiday as "Memorial Day," and changed its observance to the last Monday in May.

My mother always called Memorial Day "Decoration Day," as did many of her generation.

During the Civil War, battlefield tactics began to change. The rifled musket was produced in such numbers that every soldier carried one. No more Napoleonic style warfare, where men lined up to face an opposing army with inaccurate smoothbore muskets. The rifled musket was extremely accurate, and at longer distance than its predecessor, the smoothbore.

These new weapons and tactics led to trench warfare at the siege of Petersburg, Va. Here, trenches and oth-

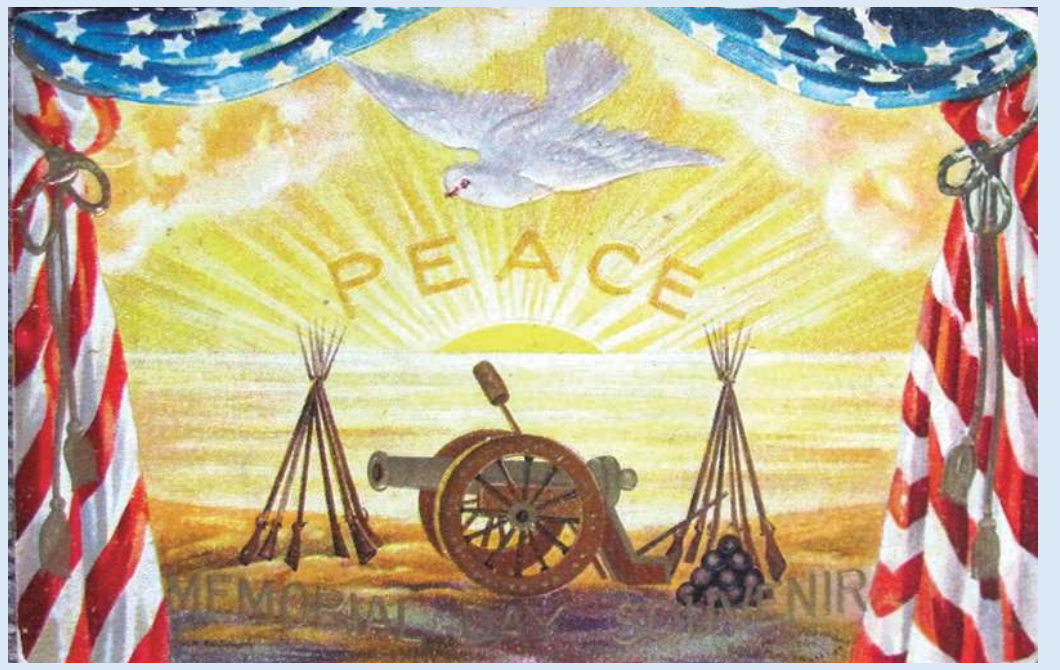
er defensive obstacles were built to protect Confederate forces, and Richmond, the capital of the Confederacy. The siege at Petersburg by Union forces lasted many months.

It was April 2, 1865, when Capt. Charles Gould and his men of the Fifth Vermont Regiment finally broke through the Confederate defenses. A week later, Robert E. Lee surrendered to Ulysses S. Grant, ending the war. The Fifth Vermont played a pivotal role in this victory.

The Siege of Petersburg was a preview of the coming of World War I. Trench warfare in World War I caused unspeakable death and destruction. A famous poem written by a World War I soldier I include below. I always buy a Memorial Day poppy when I see one. Now you know what the poppy symbolizes.

Flanders field:

"In Flanders fields the poppies blow



Memorial Day postcard from 1911.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY RON PATCH

Between the crosses, row on row,

That mark our place; and in the sky

The larks, still bravely singing, fly

Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago

We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,

Loved and were loved, and now we lie,

In Flanders fields. Take up our quarrel with the foe:

To you from failing hands we throw

The torch; be yours to hold it high.

If ye break faith with us

who die We shall not sleep, though poppies grow In Flanders fields."

I went to the Kendall church this past Sunday, May 21. It was a small gathering, just Lee, Kim, myself, and Mark Dutton. We don't talk about politics or other subjects that might divide us. We got to talking about Decoration Day, when Mark told this story. Mark grew up in the Dutton District in Springfield.

Mark remembers when he was young, maybe 5 years old, all of the kids in the district having a Decoration Day march. The kids

carried banners or signs, whatever was handy. Some kids pulled their little red wagon. Some dressed in costume of some sort. Mark remembers 13 or more kids participating. Mark said they looked forward to it each year. It sounded like fun.

The photo with this article is a 1911 patriotic postcard. Who doesn't want peace?

This week's old saying is from Douglas MacArthur when he retook the Philippines: "I have returned from whence I came."

Athens Memorial Weekend Plant Sale

ATHENS, Vt. - The Athens Brick Meetinghouse Committee, in conjunction with the Athens Historic Preservation Society, will hold our 6th Annual Memorial Weekend Plant Sale on Saturday, May 27, from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., at the 1817 Brick Meetinghouse in Athens, Vt.

After a long winter, the committee relished the idea of this annual outdoor spring event come Memorial Day weekend. Visitors will find a variety of perennials, annuals, and vegetable seedlings on the lovely meetinghouse lawn, as well as delightful garden related raffle prizes. Experienced gardeners will be there to answer questions and offer gardening advice.

The Athens Brick Meetinghouse is historically significant to the Windham County region of Vermont, and particularly the twelve surrounding towns, which comprised the "Old Athens Circuit" - Grafton, Rockingham, Townshend, Londonderry, Weston, Chester, Acton, Springfield, Landgrove, Windham, Putney, and Mount Holly. Circuit preachers from Athens traveled out to these towns to perform religious services. Quarterly camp meetings with the Methodist congregants from these towns often lasted two days at the Athens Meeting-

house, which was known as the "Mother Church." This national historic landmark, located at 2 Meetinghouse Road just off Route 35, will be open for viewing the Meetinghouse sanctuary and vestibule during this May 27 event. All proceeds go to support ongoing efforts to preserve this unique historic gem. Donations made to the Athens Historic Preservation Society are fully tax deductible, and will support the preservation of the meetinghouse.

For more information, or to make plant or other donations, contact Sherry Maher at 802-275-2835, or follow Athens Meetinghouse on Facebook.



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Cavendish Memorial Day program

CAVENDISH, Vt. - Following a three-year hiatus due to Covid, Cavendish will resume its Memorial Day activities this year. The sixth graders of Cavendish Town Elementary School (CTES) marked the intent of "Decoration Day" this past week, by cleaning the town's cemeteries and laying flags on veterans' graves.

The Memorial Day program will take place on Tuesday, May 30, starting with a program at CTES at 10 a.m., which will be followed by a parade to Hillcrest Cemetery. The public is invited to participate in this event.



CTES students place flags on the graves of veterans. PHOTO PROVIDED

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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: ♦♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Beer ingredient
5 Adj. modifier
8 Taverns
12 "The Middle" actress
14 Heaton
15 Denny's rival
16 Susan of "Dead Man Walking"
17 Donated
18 Business mag
19 Rose and fell on the sea
20 Chicago cagers
23 Seethe
24 God of war
25 Adirondack lake
28 Martini ingredient
29 "Star Wars" baddie
30 Pirate's chart
32 Arabian nomad
34 Minus
35 Melodies
36 Blitzen's boss
37 Two-piece suit
40 Jazzy style
41 Greek vowels
42 Revolutionary War battle
47 Hamlet, e.g.
48 Stumble on

DOWN

1 AWOL pursuers
2 Bond rating
3 USPS delivery
4 Nature walks
5 Outlet letters
6 God, in Roma
7 Eighth U.S. president
8 London landmark
9 Melville cap- tain
10 Peregrinate
11 Raced
13 Hostels
19 Sharif of "Funny Girl"
20 Purse
21 "Topaz"
22 Sultry Home
23 Loses color
25 Clerics' rob- ing room
26 "So be it"
27 Group of actors
29 Futile
31 Unpaid TV ad
33 Elevated
34 Portable PC
36 Daytime drama
37 Hotel furniture
38 Slanted type (Abbr.)
39 Welles role
40 Edge
43 Coach
44 Eggs
45 Berlin's country (Abbr.)
46 Museum display

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calendar

LEGAL NOTICES

MAY 1-31 – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The Edward Jones branch office in Bellows Falls, located at 16 The Square, will be accepting donations for Parks Place Community Center's "Time for a Change" diaper bank, from May 1-31. The branch is open Monday-Thursday from 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. The items needed for the diaper drive include diapers size 4, 5, and 6, pull ups of all sizes, and baby wipes. Diapers of any size will be accepted. Please note that monetary donations cannot be accepted.

MAY 27 – ACWORTH, N.H. – The Acworth Woman's Club will hold its Annual Yard, Bake, and Plant Sale from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Tamrack Farm, 513 Route 123A in Acworth, N.H. This exciting event will feature a wide variety of delightful treats, including homemade pies, breads, cookies, and other delectable goodies, all lovingly prepared by their talented members. Additionally, visitors can browse and purchase beautiful plants grown in members' own gardens, perfect for adding a touch

of nature's beauty to any home or garden. The sale will also offer a treasure trove of amazing finds, including jewelry, clothing, home goods, and much more. All items can be purchased by donation, providing an excellent opportunity for attendees to acquire unique items while supporting local causes and charities. For more information, please contact Mary Hildreth at bzrdb8@live.com or 603-835-2669.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Sound Investment will be performing classic rock and modern country music at VFW Post 771, 191 River St., beginning at 7:30 p.m. This event is open to the public.

JUNE 2 – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – First Baptist Church, 9 Church St., will hold their First Friday Supper from 5-6:30 p.m. The menu consists of chicken, pasta salad, green salad, dessert, and a beverage. Vegan and gluten-free options are available. For takeout, call 802-463-3220 between 3:30-5 p.m. Proceeds benefit Westminster Cares.

JUNE 3 – LUDLOW, Vt. – There will

be a basket raffle at the Black River Senior Center, 10 High St., from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., to benefit the Gill Odd Fellows Home Activities Department. Participants will pay for a sheet of 25 tickets, which can be placed in the baskets they would like to win. Baskets include baby items, pet items, jewelry, toys, spa, and more. You do not have to be present for the drawing to win the basket. There will also be a raffle for a prize of a \$100 bill, and \$100 worth of scratch-off tickets, for which only 100 tickets will be sold.

JUNE 5 – LUDLOW, Vt. – Back by popular demand, Rust and Ruin will be performing retro 70s tunes at the Black River Senior Center, 10 High St., from 1-3 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Reservations are suggested. To make a reservation, call 802-228-7421. Everyone is welcome.

JUNE 10 – The Black River Senior Center and Black River Academy Museum, located next to each other on High St. in Ludlow, will be hosting the Black River High School Alumni Gathering from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. There will be food, games, and music, and the new BRHS exhibit will be open for viewing.

JUNE 17 – BENNINGTON, Vt. – The date has been set for the American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Bennington County. The annual event will be June 17, and work is beginning now to build the celebration that will bring together passionate supporters who embody the American Cancer Society mission. To learn more about Relay For Life, visit www.relayforlife.org.

JUNE 19 – LUDLOW, Vt. – The Black River Senior Center, 10 High St., will host bingo from 1-3 p.m. Refreshments will be served, and a

door prize will be given. Reservations are suggested, as seating is limited. Call 802-228-7421. All are welcome.

SUNDAYS – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Catamount Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol meets Sundays, from 3:30-5:30 p.m., at Hartness Airport in Springfield. The Civil Air Patrol is the auxiliary unit of the U.S. Air Force tasked with the mission of supporting America's communities with emergency response, diverse aviation and ground services, youth development, and promotion of air, space, and cyber power. Cadets as young as 12 and senior members of any age make up this diverse group of volunteers.

MONDAYS – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Free Tobacco Quit class led by Sarah Doyle, Mondays, from 6-7 p.m., at Parks Place, 44 School Street Ext., Bellows Falls. Dinner included. Call or text Sarah at 802-289-0045 or email sdoyle@springfieldmed.org.

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Overeaters Anonymous 12-Step Recovery Program is Mondays, from 7-8 p.m., at Parks Place, 44 School St Ext. in Bellows Falls. The program is free. For more information go to www.oa.org.

WALPOLE, N.H. – Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. in St. John's Parish Hall, Walpole.

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

TUESDAYS – CHESTER, Vt. – Bone Builders Class in Chester every Tuesday, 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.

LUDLOW, Vt. – Zumba classes, Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. at the Spring House at Jackson Gore. All fitness levels welcome. Call 802-228-1419 for more information.

LUDLOW, Vt. – Aquatic Aerobics, Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. at the Spring House at Jackson Gore. Call 802-228-1419 for more information.

WEDNESDAYS – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Frances Barsky leads a weekly creative writing workshop at the Rockingham Library from 1-2:30 p.m. Bring a laptop or a pen and paper.

THURSDAYS – CHESTER, Vt. – Bone Builders Class in Chester every Thursday, 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. – Knit Knite at Six Loose Ladies on the Chester Common Thursdays, from 5-8 p.m., and via Zoom, from 7-8 p.m.

LUDLOW, Vt. – Cardio & Sculpt, Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. at the Spring House at Jackson Gore. Call 802-228-1419 for more information.

LUDLOW, Vt. – Aqua Sculpt, Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. at the Spring House at Jackson Gore. Call 802-228-1419 for more information.

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

GRAFTON, Vt. – A free playgroup for children from newborns to age 5 will be held at Grafton Elementary School on Thursday mornings, from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Activities will include songs, games, and arts and crafts. Contact Heather with any questions at 802-843-4792.

FRIDAYS – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – On Fridays from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m., John Bohannon will teach Tai Chi and Qi Gong at the Rockingham Library in Bellows Falls, Vt. No special equipment or clothing is required.

SATURDAYS – LUDLOW, Vt. – Zumba classes, Saturdays at 8 a.m. at the Spring House at Jackson Gore. All fitness levels welcome. Call 802-228-1419 for more information.

LUDLOW, Vt. – Yoga, Saturdays at 10 a.m. at the Spring House at Jackson Gore. Call 802-228-1419 for more information.

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – On Saturdays at 9 a.m., join Lori Wright for a yoga class. Contact Lori Wright at 603-401-8123 or visit www.dgbodyworks.com for more information. Private classes are available.

SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS

LUDLOW, Vt. – Yoga classes at the Spring House at Jackson Gore. Yoga Stretch with Kathy Saturdays at 10 a.m. and Slow Flow Yoga with Lisa Sundays at 10:15 a.m. Drop in rates apply. Open to all. For details, call the Spring House at 802-228-1419 or visit www.okemo.com.

DAILY – REGION – If you want to drink that's your business, but if you want to stop, that's ours. Contact Alcoholics Anonymous at www.aavt.org or call your local hotline at 802-885-8281 and join a meeting. You are not alone.

TOWN OF CHESTER NOTICE OF HEARING FOR FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION REVIEW

Richard Rondinone III has applied for Flood Damage Prevention Review of a driveway replacement bridge across the regulatory floodplain of Kingdom Valley Brook at 1638 VT RT 11 E in the Town of Chester.

The Town of Chester Development Review Board will conduct a site visit at 5:30 PM on Monday, June 12, 2023, at 1638 VT RT 11 E and will hold a hearing on this application at 6:00 PM on Monday, June 12, 2023, at the Chester Town Hall at 556 Elm Street in Chester. A copy of the application and additional information may be obtained from the Zoning Administrator.

Participation in this hearing in person, via Zoom videoconference, or in writing is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

A link to participate in this hearing via Zoom videoconference may be found on the Town of Chester website home page at www.chestervt.gov.

Dated at Chester, Vermont this 18th day of May 2023.

Preston Bristow
Zoning Administrator
(802) 875-2173
zoning@chestervt.gov

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.

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 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.

STATE OF VERMONT

SUPERIOR COURT WINDHAM UNIT PROBATE DIVISION DKT NO. 23-PR-01500

In re ESTATE of: Sandra L. Wiles

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the Creditors of: Sandra L. Wiles, late of WINDHAM COUNTY, VERMONT:

I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the descendant, or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the date 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 as described above within the four (4) month period.

Dated: May 16, 2023

/s/ Marcia J. Wiles
Executor
c/o Moore Law Offices, LLC
Bellows Falls, VT 05101
(802) 463-4327
assistant@moorelawvt.com

Name of Publication: Vermont Journal
Publication Date: May 24, 2023
Address of Probate Court: Vermont Superior Court
Probate Division Windham County
30 Putney Road, 2nd Floor, Brattleboro, VT 05301

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 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. The starting date is after 6/30/2023, and the position is open until filled. The Town of Londonderry is an equal opportunity employer.

Town of Londonderry, Vermont Public Hearing Notice

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to 24 V.S.A § 4444, the Londonderry Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on June 12, 2023, at 7:00 PM at the Londonderry Town Office, 100 Old School Street, South Londonderry, and via Zoom remote meeting software at:

Web site address: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9076503251> or Via telephone: (305) 224-1968 (Meeting ID: 907 650 3251)

The purpose of the hearing is to take public comments on the proposed comprehensive revision of Londonderry's Zoning Bylaw to establish Unified Development Regulations, including the Zoning Map. The proposed changes affect all property in the town of Londonderry.

The list of section headings of the proposed Regulations are as follows:

1. GENERAL
2. ZONING DISTRICTS
3. DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS
4. ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT
5. DEFINITIONS

Copies of the full text of the proposed regulations are available for review at the Twitchell Building/Town Office, 100 Old School Street, South Londonderry, VT and www.londonderryvt.org link for online access. The Planning Commission has prepared a report summarizing the changes that is also available at the locations listed above.

The Planning Commission encourages residents and property owners to also submit written comments on the proposed Unified Development Regulations in advance of or at the public hearing. Comments may be sent to Londonderry Planning Commission, 100 Old School Street, South Londonderry, VT 05155 and/or PlanningCom@londonderryvt.org.

LEGAL NOTICES

classifieds

AUCTION

N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Auction held on June 10, 2023, at 11 a.m. at 96 Rt. 106, N. Springfield, VT 05150. 802-683-7104. To be auctioned: Chris Gregory #161
Jessica Norton #63

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.

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.



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

ASCUTNEY, Vt. – Woodworking equipment for sale at 55 Skyline Blvd. in conjunction with the park-wide yard sale on May 27 and 28 at Country Estates Mobile Home Park.

SUBMIT YOUR CLASSIFIED ONLINE!
VermontJournal.com

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.ludlowvt.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. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The Town of Ludlow is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD

The Town of Springfield Development Review Board will hold their public hearings at 6:30 pm, Tuesday, June 13, 2023, to review the following development proposals: (1) Home business located at 181 Parker Hill Road, (2) Multi-family residential located at 365 Summer Street, (3) Multi-family residential located at 33 Pleasant Street, and (4) the continuation of a hearing for a short-term rental located at 481 Parker Hill Road. Persons wishing to participate in the public hearing may do so in person, via zoom video conferencing, or by submitting written comments. Participation in this hearing in person, via Zoom video conference, or in writing is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal. Please contact the Town Planner (802-376-6102 / toszoning@vermontel.net) for copies of the meeting agenda and zoning applications.

Town of Plymouth, Vermont

NOTICE OF ADOPTED TOWN ORDINANCE

Please note that the Town of Plymouth Select Board voted to adopt/amend a Short-Term Rental of a Dwelling Unit Ordinance (the "STR Ordinance") on May 15, 2023.

Under Vermont law, the STR Ordinance may be disapproved by a referendum vote of a majority of the qualified voters of the Town. In order to require a referendum vote on the adopted Ordinance, a petition requesting a vote on the question of disapproving the adopted Ordinance must be submitted to the Select Board or Town Clerk. The petition must be signed by not less than five percent (5%) of the qualified voters of the Town and submitted no later than 44 days from the date the Ordinance was adopted by the Select Board, which was May 15, 2023. If a petition meeting those requirements is submitted, the Selectboard shall call a meeting within 60 days from the date of receipt of the petition to hold a referendum vote to determine whether the voters will disapprove of the Ordinance.

If no petition is submitted within the required time, the STR Ordinance will take effect 60 days from the date the STR Ordinance was adopted by the Select Board, which will be July 14, 2023.

For any questions about the STR Ordinance, please contact the Short-Term Rental Administrator, Frank Vetere at fvterere@gmail.com / 802-855-1682 or Short-Term Rental Coordinator, Margot Martell at mmartell@plymouthvt.org / 802-672-5002. If you have questions and/or comments they may also be mailed to the Plymouth Town Office located at 68 Town Office Road, Plymouth, Vermont 05056.

The full text of the adopted ordinance may be found on the Town of Plymouth website: www.plymouthvt.org under Town Administration/Ordinances.

TOWN & VILLAGE OF LUDLOW DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The ZOOM electronic DRB board meeting is on June 12 at 6:00 P.M., to hear the following appeal:

Applicant: Okemo Trailside Community Association, Inc. f.k.a. Okemo Trailside Master Association

Application No: 128-98-PUD, Amendment #68; 496-23-Act250

Property Location: Okemo Trailside Condominiums REASON FOR HEARING: Application is for Okemo Trailside to comply with the Ludlow Fire Department fire protection improvements at Trailside condominiums; Application to correct a Notice of Violation dated Feb. 22, 2022. The project is in the Mountain Recreational district.

The meeting Agenda will be available on the Ludlow's Web page, www.ludlowvt.us.

Additional information about this application is available in the Planning and Zoning office at the Town Hall.

Jarrold Jowdy
Board Clerk, DRB

TOWN & VILLAGE OF LUDLOW DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

The Development Review Board for the Town & Village of Ludlow will meet at the Ludlow Town Hall Auditorium on June 12, 2023 at 6:00 P.M., to hear the following applications:

Applicant: Tygart Mountain Sports – Patrick Ross

Application No: 51-92-PUD, Amendment no. 15

Property Location: Lamere Square Unit 2C

Ludlow, VT 05149
Parcel Number: 220433-000

REASON FOR HEARING: Application to amend a Planned Unit Development Permit to convert 2nd floor office space into retail space. The project is in the Village Residential Commercial District.

The meeting Agenda will be available on the Ludlow's Web page, www.ludlowvt.us.

Additional information about this application is available in the Planning and Zoning office at the Town Hall.

Jarrold Jowdy
Board Clerk, DRB

CHESTER CHURCH SERVICE

FIRST UNIVERSALIST PARISH OF CHESTER, ROUTE 103 NORTH

On May 28, Jim Antal will be delivering a talk entitled "Defiant Hope – Our Faithful Response to the Climate Crisis." Inspired by love for the gift of creation, now is the time for people of faith to join with others – especially young people – to address the greatest moral challenge humanity has ever faced. May our generation distinguish itself by the defiant hope that drives us to address the climate crisis. Jim Antal serves as Special Advisor on Climate Justice to the General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ. From 2006-2018, Antal led the 350 UCC churches in Massachusetts as their conference minister and president. He has preached on climate change since 1988 in over 400 settings, and has engaged in non-violent civil disobedience on numerous occasions. His book, "Climate Church, Climate World," just released in a revised and updated second edition, is being read by hundreds of churches. Sunday service is at 10 a.m.

NOTICE OF WESTON DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD HEARING

Hells Peak LLC has submitted an application for a special exception to Weston's building height bylaws at 19 Hells Peak Rd. The application will be reviewed under Section 525 and 708 of the Weston Zoning Regulations.

The hearing on this application was originally scheduled for May 3, 2023, but it was postponed from that date to June 7, 2023. The hearing will start at 5:00 PM at 19 Hells Peak Rd, and then move to the Weston Town Offices, 12 Lawrence Hill Rd at 5:30. Anyone interested in seeing the application, submitting written comments, or attending the meeting online should contact the Zoning Administrator at: Town of Weston P.O. Box 98, Weston Vt. 05161 or Zoning@westonvt.org.

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yellow page BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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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**
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(07/26/23 - TFN - 13)

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(11/22/23 - 52)

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(08/09/23 - 13)

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(08/11/23 - TFN - 52)

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(08/09/23 - 26)

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(07/12/23 - 13)

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(05/24/23 - 13)

Okemo Valley TV

LOCAL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK
• Legislative Wrap-Up with Rep. Tasha Buss
• "Her Ring", ESBR Play
• High School Lacrosse
• LES 6th Grade Identity Project
• Hall of Fame Inductee Bruce Stryhas
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)

opinion

OUTDOOR NEWS

Dear Editor,

As a former board member of the Cavendish Elementary School, and a resident of Proctorsville, I am both angry and sad that the current GMUSD Board voted yesterday to retain their racist mascot. I have a special feeling for American Indians, demeaned by the board's action.

Years ago I was the assistant director of a small school in Minneapolis for

adjudicated Indian youth, one of only three non-Indians at the school. It was an experience I will never forget, learning about the wonderful aspects of Indian life, but also the lasting injuries of hate, prejudice, and small everyday petty slights, like someone moving down the lunch counter so as not to sit too close to an Indian.

The board's heartless, and even illegal vote this week

led to the resignation of two Cavendish members who opposed the continued use of the racist mascot, and a third leaving the meeting in protest. Are we teaching our children it is all right to be openly racist, and to disregard legally-enacted laws of our state?

Barbara Dickey, Ph.D.
Proctorsville, Vt.

Dear Editor,

Let me be brief. S.5, beautifully titled "The Affordable Heat Act," should be labeled "Vermont Resident Super Tax To Sooth The Progressive Soul." Are these legislators kidding? Vermont has the absolutely lowest pollution rate of any state in the U.S., including Puerto Rico. So to further make a progressive point, add an oil tax that will make the Montpelier, Burlington, Manchester,

and Middlebury elite happy on the backs of farmers, loggers, police officers, and firefighters that need every nickel to live! Politicians should be ashamed!

Then, how about adding a tax to an even larger portion of bottles and cans that we are already recycling at our landfills, in order to keep the proceeds paid at the register!

Senator Clarkson and all other local elite politicians

are driving home grown Vermonters and their children out of the state. You just can't afford the taxes, energy costs, and food costs as it is! Now add a 70-cent oil tax, and more bottle and can taxes.

Voters need to step up and stop this elitist political madness!

Neil Martin
Ludlow, Vt.

Chester Plant Sale

CHESTER, Vt. – Generous pots of different healthy, proven perennials, shrubs, and select annuals and vegetables will be available at the Chester Plant Sale, to be held on Friday, May 26, and Saturday, May 27, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., and on Sunday, May 28, from 12-3 p.m., on the side lawn of St. Luke's Church, located at 313 Main Street in Chester, Vt. The

later timing of the annual event allows for larger and more attractive plants – all organized by kind and growing needs. The plants offered are top notch, well priced, and ready to go into the ground without additional hardening. Helpful labels on each plant and flower photos make garden additions easy. Knowledgeable gardeners will be on

hand and eager to give advice on plants and garden design.

Favorite offerings include varieties of iris, hostas, daylilies, perennial geraniums, Lady's Mantle, ostrich ferns, raspberries, herbs, some shrubs and trees, and so much more, some in very limited quantities. Also on hand will be other garden-oriented items; dahlia tubers, gladiolus corms, "Gardener's Log" notebooks, original floral notecards, and seasonal produce, such as cut rhubarb. Come visit and take home delights for you and your garden.

Please contact Lillian Willis with any questions at 802-875-1340 or lbwillisct@comcast.net.

Dear Editor,

On May 4, 2023, members of the Vermont Justice organization held a rally at the statehouse to bring awareness to the accepted practice of denying healthcare to incarcerated individuals. Vermont law 28 VSA 801 (a) clearly states the following: "The department shall provide healthcare for inmates in accordance with prevailing medical standards." A quick look up for the VitalCore Kansas-based provider states the following under cost containment: "VitalCore controls costs by ensuring that the patient receives the right amount of care the first time." And there is an emphasis on their staff being trained to make medical judgment calls, and only sending patients off site when needed.

Last week, VPR hosted a call in to the DOC commissioner, defender general, and commissioner of health. We spend \$23 million annually on prison

healthcare, and it is going up to \$33 million in June. According to one caller, her grandson suffered a broken foot while incarcerated, and she stated he never had an X-ray or treatment in spite of multiple sick slips asking for care. He is now out of prison with a painful non-union fracture. The defender general openly admitted that short-term incarcerations often do not yield treatment because, in many cases, an incarcerated individual has to bring a lawsuit.

Much has been reported in the news of our inmate death toll rising. And there does not seem to be a change in attitude or blame for these untimely deaths. Now, we are signing a contract with a new/old healthcare provider: Wellpath, LLC, another for-profit, to the tune of \$33 million annually. In addition to wrongful death suits and more than 1,000 federal lawsuits against this company, CNN investigated in 2019 and found that Wellpath "provided substandard care

due to its focus on containing costs, leading to numerous deaths and other serious outcomes." Same philosophy, different company.

Our DOC commissioner has stated as a value that "people in custody are, first and foremost, people." With that being said, stop denying people the healthcare our law and tax dollars provide. When an inmate needs a specialist, or an X-ray, or an MRI, stop denying that care. Stop the allowance of medical care only when litigated. Litigation takes years, and allows a disease process to march on. Also, don't change the medications our incarcerated folks come in on to something cheaper. Their community providers know their patients the best, not the telehealth provider who cares for hundreds of inmates remotely, with the main objective of denying or diminishing care for corporate profit.

Leslie Thorsen
Chester, Vt.

West River Farmers Market

TOWNSHEND, Vt. – The West River Farmers Market will open for its first day of the season over Memorial Day Weekend on Saturday, May 27.

Come to the market between 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., at the Junction of Route 11 and Route 100 in Londonderry, to shop fresh organic produce, eat delicious food made to order, and enjoy live music by The Poor Cousins.

The farmers market features over 45 vendors selling agricultural products, authentic crafts, fine art, artisan foods, and much more, all made locally by devoted members of our community.

Please note that dogs are not allowed in the market area unless certified as service animals.



Saturday, May 27 is opening day of the West River Farmer's Market.

PHOTO PROVIDED

If you park along Route 11, for everyone's safety, please do not block traffic.

The market will be open every Saturday from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., rain or shine, through Saturday, Oct. 7,

Indigenous People's Day weekend. Contact Market Manager Lauren Ingersoll at 802-379-2326 or westriverfarmersmarket@gmail.com with any questions regarding the market.

Getting started with seed saving at Dream Barn Hollow

CHESTER, Vt. – Do you love gardening? Growing your own food? Have you taken the process to the

next step? On Thursday, June 8, at 3 p.m., there will be a Seed-Saver Workshop at Dream

Barn Hollow, located at 2868 Vermont Route 11 West in Chester, Vt.

Ruth Fleishman will be teaching basic practices and principles to get you started saving seeds of self-pollinating, annual vegetables – the easiest for seed saving – in your own garden or community garden plot. Ruth Fleishman lives in West Hartford, Vt., and has been saving seeds in her home garden since 2009. After many years of just growing lots of food, saving seeds added a fascinating new dimension to her gardens, and a new layer of self-reliance.

Ruth is one of the original members of the Upper Valley Seed Savers, a group that meets on the second Thursday of every month. From May to October, they meet in members' gardens.

Ruth says, "We learn as we go, from each other, from books, and most importantly, from what happens in our own gardens. We welcome new members!"

Her presentation will be followed by the monthly Seed Saver's meeting, a potluck supper, and a tour of the gardens at Dream Barn Hollow. For more information, contact Ruth Fleishman at ruthfleishman7@gmail.com, or Alice Harwood at dreambarnhollow@gmail.com.

\$2000 TAX CREDIT

Install a Classic Edge HDX or M255 PE model to claim up to a \$2,000 tax credit on your federal income taxes the year of installation. Is 20 minutes worth \$2,000?

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outdoor news

Edible gardening and landscaping

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – On Saturday, June 3, at 1 p.m., landscaper and naturalist John Root will discuss how to establish and maintain a variety of trees, shrubs, vines, canes, and herbaceous perennials that can be grown in New England for bountiful harvests of fruits, nuts, and vegetables. Participants learn how

to establish and care for these plants using organic methods of cultivation. Nutritional and medicinal benefits of the plants are explained as well. Questions and comments are welcome throughout the presentation, and handouts with a list of edible perennial plant species, resources for further study, and rec-

ommended plant nurseries will be distributed at the conclusion of the program.

This program is free and open to the public. For more information, email programming@rockinghamlibrary.org, call 802-463-4270, or stop by the library at 65 Westminster Street in Bellows Falls.

JAMBA opens first trail

JAMAICA, Vt. – The Jamaica Area Mountain Bike Alliance (JAMBA), a chapter of the Vermont Mountain Bike Association (VMBA), formed in 2019 with the goal of bringing quality single-track mountain bike trails to the Jamaica area. While trail networks are being built and expanded all over the state, and fellow chapters such as Northshire Area Trails Systems (NATS) and Southern Vermont Trails Association (SoVTA) are making great progress, the Jamaica area is woefully underserved – but not for long. On Friday, June 2, JAMBA's first trail officially opens at

Ball Mountain Lake on US Army Corps of Engineers land. According to JAMBA Chairperson Heidi Pancake, "We're thrilled by this amazing opportunity to be the first VMBA chapter to partner with the Army Corps of Engineers. This is the first of hopefully many trails here at Ball Mountain."

The trail, aptly named "Having a Ball," is the upper of two companion trails. "We're fundraising for the lower section. Sustainable Trailworks of Poultney, who designed and built the stellar Slate Valley Trails network, built 'Having a Ball,' and are standing by to

work their magic on the next section." Support JAMBA's efforts by sending checks to P.O. Box 17, Jamaica, VT 05343, or by making a Paypal donation via www.jambavt.org/donate, or the VMBA website, www.vmba.org/donate, and choosing Jamaica Area Mountain Bike Alliance in the dropdown menu under "Chapter Donations." Join them at 1412 Ball Mountain Lane in Jamaica on June 2 at 2 p.m. to celebrate JAMBA's first trail, and ride it until you know every twist and turn.

Young Professionals Group hike and meet-up

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Join Young Professionals Group for a hike on May 28, and a meet-up on

June 1. Whether you've previously attended a Young Professionals meet-up or not, all are welcome. Please

visit our website for more information, www.springfieldvt.com. We hope to see you there.

DEC invites public comments on Basin 10 Plan

REGION – State and regional planners hosted two meetings in May about the state's Draft Tactical Basin Plan for the Ottauquechee and Black Rivers and adjacent Connecticut River Tributaries (Basin 10). This Plan has been developed to protect and restore rivers, lakes, and wetlands in southeastern Vermont, from Killington to Springfield.

"Tactical basin plans are the guidebooks for achieving healthy watersheds – from identifying surface waters that need restoration and protection, to outlining action items to achieve water quality goals," said Department of Environmental Conservation

Commissioner John Beling. "Attending these public meetings allows community members to collaborate on strategies for protecting their local lakes, rivers, and wetlands."

The public comment period for this water quality plan runs from May 10 – June 10. Please submit comments by email to Marie.Caduto@vermont.gov or 802-490-6142. Public comments can also be submitted by mail to Marie Caduto, Basin 10 Comments, 100 Mineral Street, Suite 303, Springfield, VT 05156. State officials will respond to each comment in a summary written later this summer.

The Tactical Basin Plan identifies actions that will protect or improve rivers, lakes, and wetlands through cost-effective projects, including floodplain restorations and dam removals. The plan includes 57 priority strategies focused on water quality and aquatic

habitat. One such project is to work with lake communities to mitigate stormwater runoff from development and private roads reaching the lakes.

"The new Basin 10 plan includes climate adaptation and social equity strategies to protect these two beautiful river valleys, as well as improving access for users and residents," says Pete Fellows, Natural Resources Planner for Two-Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission.

Visit the Basin 10 website, www.dec.vermont.gov/water-investment/watershed-planning/tactical-basin-planning/basin10 for more information about the Draft Tactical Basin Plan and an interactive StoryMap.

Weston fishing derby

WESTON, Vt. – The Annual Fishing Derby for the Weston Rod & Gun Club will be held Saturday, June 3, from 7-9 a.m., at the

Weston Recreation Area off Lawrence Hill Road. Children ages 15 and under may participate. This event will include break-

fast foods, prizes, and trophies for biggest catch. The Let's Go Fishing Program instructors return this year, too. Please bring

your own equipment, and join in the early morning fun for the entire family. The fish will be waiting.

Townshend Farmers Market

TOWNSHEND, Vt. – On Friday, May 26, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. is the opening of the Townshend Farmers Market. There will be a terrific group of returning vendors along with some new folks, including Wren's

Grove, Elevated Tacos, Lucia Rising Flowers, Bread From the Earth, Taft Hill Farm, The Litchfield Homestead, Grace Farm, Some No Name Farm, Maple's Mama Confections, Two Otters Native American Art, Grandview

Gourmet, Stoney Mountain Farm, Slipstream Farm, Rising Forest Pottery, NANU, Masterman Ceramics, Sacred Hound Design, Kate's Creations, and delicious wood-fired pizza, with beer and wine available.

New this summer is Crop Cash Plus, which enables you to buy any EBT items including dairy, eggs, meat, and cold prepared foods.

Bard Owl will be performing their original and traditional Americana music.

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arts & entertainment

Open Studio Weekend

WEATHERSFIELD, Vt. – Weathersfield artist Robert O'Brien will be exhibiting new watercolor paintings, prints, note cards, and other art related items during Open Studio Weekend, Saturday, May 27, and Sunday, May 28, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. both days. Open Studio Weekend is sponsored by the Vermont Crafts Council, www.vermontcrafts.com, and features 145 studios statewide. Robert's studio is Studio #90, and is located at 2811 Weathersfield Center Road in Weathersfield Center. Look for the bright yellow Open Studio road signs for directions.

The event is free and



"Altea Rose," a painting by Weathersfield artist Robert O'Brien.

PHOTO PROVIDED

open to the public, and refreshments will be served. Robert's studio will be part of Tour Loop 11, which includes local studios in Weathersfield, as well as Chester, Ludlow, and Springfield. Maps are available at local information

centers, and at the Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main Street in Springfield.

Take a ride and enjoy the beautiful spring weather in Vermont on Memorial Day Weekend, and remember that supporting the arts supports the local economy. For more

information, call 802-263-9394.

Jazz Center Sextet

PUTNEY, Vt. – Twilight Music kicks off its 20th annual Twilight On The Tavern Lawn series of folk, world beat, jazz, folk rock, pop, and bluegrass summer concerts on Sunday, May 28, with the Vermont Jazz Center Sextet. The seven concert series continues every other Sunday through Aug. 20. All concerts begin at 6 p.m. in downtown Putney, on the Putney Tavern lawn – bring a lawn chair or blanket. In case of rain, the concert will be held at Next Stage, located at 15 Kimball Hill. Co-pre-

sented with Next Stage Arts Project, the series is sponsored by the Town of Putney, Green Mountain Well, Soundview Paper Company, Rod's, and many other Putney area businesses and organizations. The concerts are free to the public, though donations are accepted, and food will be available. For more information, call 802-387-5772 or visit www.twilightmusic.org.

The Vermont Jazz Center Sextet is the Vermont Jazz Center's (VJC) community outreach ensemble. Trumpeter Rob Freeberg, alto saxophonist Bill Ballard, tenor

saxophonist Ron Kelley, pianist Cathy Martin, bassist Wim Auer, and drummer Steve Rice have developed programs which are performed in schools, assisted-living homes, and libraries, bringing live jazz into less formal settings. Through these performances and clinics, people who might not attend concerts at the VJC are given the opportunity to hear and learn about the music of Duke Ellington, Miles Davis, Art Blakey, and others, with original music and arrangements often written by members of the ensemble.

LAHS upcoming programs

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – Please join the Londonderry Arts and Historical Society (LAHS) for its annual meeting on June 1, at 5:30 p.m., at its headquarters, the Custer Sharp House. Long-time area residents Vince Clark, Patti Gilbert Hughes, Jim Fleming, and Susie Rowley Wyman, will participate in a panel discussion on growing up here. "They don't make

them like they used to!" will be a lively, entertaining, and heartwarming program.

Also coming this summer at LAHS:

- "Custer Sharp Art," summer art classes for students of all ages.
- "KidsArt@Custer Sharp," LAHS's annual show displaying the amazing talents of Flood Brook students from K-8. The show will be on display from Memorial

Day Weekend – June, with an artist reception on June 3 at 1 p.m.

- "North Derry: from the Williams Bridge to the Mountain Market Place," LAHS's annual history show, running from July 1 – mid-August.
- The Local Artists Exhibit and Sale, from mid-August – Columbus day.

To register for "Custer Sharp Art," or to learn more

about our other programs, please go to the Londonderry Arts and Historical Society website at www.lahsvt.org. You can also reach us via email at LAHS1780@gmail.com

The Londonderry Arts and Historical Society, at the Custer Sharp House, 2461 Middletown Road, is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., from Memorial Day – mid-October.

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Watercolor workshop at the VAULT

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Popular artist Robert O'Brien is offering a one day workshop, "Spring Landscape in Watercolor," on Saturday, June 3, through Gal-

lery at the VAULT.

In this course, students will learn to paint the beautiful New England spring landscape in watercolor. You will imbue some of these land-

scapes with bursts of floral color. Composition and values will be emphasized. The class will begin with a demonstration by Rob, followed by class painting. A critique will be held at the end of the session. This class is open to all levels, with some watercolor experience suggested. The class will be held at the Great Hall in Springfield.

There is a fee for this class. Please register by Saturday, May 27, and include your phone number. A supply list

is provided upon registration.

For more information, please call Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main Street, Springfield. We are open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Fridays from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Contact 802-885-7111, galleryvault@vermontel.net, or visit the gallery's web page, www.galleryvault.org. The gallery is handicap accessible.



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Kiran Ahluwalia at The Putney Inn

PUTNEY, Vt. – Next Stage Arts announces that Kiran Ahluwalia will perform at The Putney Inn on June 2, as part of the Bandwagon

Summer Series. The event will start at 6 p.m. and tickets are available online discounted in advance, or at the gate. Children under 12 can attend for free. The show is also included in the Bandwagon Series Pass.

"Indian vocalist Kiran Ahluwalia is doing something revolutionary inside the medium of Indian music – giving it a modern take, while presenting the power and vibrancy of thousands of years of tradition," says Keith Marks, Executive Director of Next Stage Arts.

Kiran Ahluwalia is a two-time JUNO (Canadian Grammy) winner, and one of global music's most compelling cross-pollinators. Her six-piece band, led by ace guitarist Rez Abbasi, crafts songs that bring together the disparate traditions of Indian music, West African blues, and jazz. Together they create a unique sound that is ethereal, raw, urgent, and elegant at the same time.

The Bandwagon Summer Series is a family-friendly, outdoor cultural performance series running from early May through mid-October. The series will showcase more than 20 performances, ranging from a diverse group of musical styles, circus arts, dance, and theater at ball fields, farms, and parks throughout Windham County. A dedicated play area will be available at all shows for children. Refreshments are sold on-site, including the return of the hugely popular Barr Hill cocktails. Attendees are encouraged to bring a picnic and a blanket or fold-up chair to enjoy the concerts.

The Bandwagon Summer Series is sponsored by Brattleboro Reformer, Landmark College, Oak Meadow, Barr Hill, Vermont Public, The Porch, and Southern Vermont Solar.

For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit www.nextstagearts.org.

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arts & entertainment

Bellows Falls features Open Studio Tour

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Vermont Crafts Council's Open Studio tour will be held on Memorial Day weekend. This year, the annual statewide tour boasts 150 artists and galleries putting their studios on display throughout the state. The studios are open from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., on Saturday, May 27, and Sunday, May 28.

Bellows Falls will be hosting seven artists in their open studios, within walking distance from each other. Artists participating are glass blowers Nick Kekic and Chris Sherwin, the studios of painters and wood sculptors Phyllis Rosser, Robert McBride, and Mindy Fisher, watercolorist Joan Cannon, as well as the River Artisans Cooperative, and Canal Street Art Gallery. "We will be highlighting artists, events, shops, and restaurants that contribute year-round to the vital and cultural richness and

economic stability of the community," says Robert McBride, Founder and Director of The Rockingham Arts and Museum Project (RAMP).

Bellows Falls is a walkable community. It is a pleasant walk between the studios through downtown. Give yourself time to grab lunch or a snack at Moondog, Rockingham Roasters, or Flat Iron Cooperative Café. Village Square Booksellers and Arch Bridge Books, as well as J&H Hardware and Halladays are all worth checking out. The Bellows Falls Opera House shows movies on the big screen with surround sound. Wunderbar offers fine dining in the evening.

Bellows Falls Downtown Development Alliance (BFDDA) is working closely with local businesses to engage residents and visitors to explore the work being created by local artists, and to promote the "BF vibe."

BFDDA will post all community events participating in the May celebration on their website, www.bellowsfallsvt.org/things-to-do-in-the-bellows-falls-region. Bellows Falls artisans have also created a great source for sharing and finding art information in the area, <http://www.facebook.com/ArtinBellowsFalls>.

For more information about Open Studios in Bellows Falls, contact the Rockingham Arts and Museum Project (RAMP) by calling 802-463-3252, emailing ramp@sover.net, or visiting www.ramp-vt.org. The Vermont Crafts Council is online at www.vermontcrafts.com. For more information on Vermont Crafts Council's Open Studio Weekend with 150 artisans and galleries participating, go to www.vermontcrafts.com/visit-open-studio.

"Light Attaching to a Girl" tour

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Wayward Ark Productions and the Monadnock International Film Festival are joining forces to bring Laina Barakat's feature debut "Light Attaching to a Girl" to theaters in Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine during May and June.

Billed as a coming of age story, the film weaves documentary and narrative structures to create a story that festival goers have found "tender, intimate and revealing." Suffocated by an overbearing father and two older sisters who soak up any attention that comes

their way, Clare is desperate to escape. She plans a trip to Iceland by herself, where she can experience nature and make her own decisions for the first time in her life. "Light Attaching to a Girl" poetically drifts between the interior and exterior life of an adolescent, as she reckons with haunting memories of her childhood even as she takes her first steps into adulthood.

After premiering at RiverRun Film Festival in Winston-Salem North Carolina, the film has screened at festivals around the country, and garnered awards for best new director, score,

and cinematography. Internationally, the film was awarded a Jury Prize from the AVIFF Cannes Art Film Festival in France, where it screened on May 21.

The screening tour will come to Bellows Falls, Vt. on June 8 at 6:30 p.m. Barakat and Emmy award winning producers Jennifer Latham and Karina Lyons will attend all screenings for question and answer sessions.

Full film and tour information are available at the film's website, www.waywardarkproductions.com.

John Gorka at Next Stage

PUTNEY, Vt. – Next Stage Arts Project and Twilight Music present contemporary folk singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist John Gorka, plus folk duo Lizzy Mandell and Barry Stockwell, at Next Stage on Sunday, June 4, at 7 p.m.

John Gorka is perhaps the quintessential iconic singer-songwriter of the 1980s folk scene. After releasing his first album with Minnesota-based Red House Records in 1987, he recorded five albums with Windham Hill's Will Ackerman's High Street Records between 1989 and 1996. Since then, he has released five more solo albums on Red House, plus one with label-mates Lucy Kaplansky and Eliza Gilkyson under the name Red Horse.

Twisting, turning, and tying words and phrases, John Gorka works every nuance of language to capture a wide array of topics and experiences woven into memorable melodies. Vermont-based singer-songwriter Lizzy Mandell's debut album, "Made for Flying," won Times Argus/Rutland

Herald Tammie Awards for best singer-songwriter and best album in 2012. After releasing a collaborative album, "Free Now," she is currently working on her second solo album, and performing select concerts with The Stockwell Brothers guitarist and vocalist Barry Stockwell.

Next Stage is located at

15 Kimball Hill in downtown Putney, Vt. Tickets can be purchased online in advance, or at the door for an additional fee. There is also a virtual ticket option. For information, call 802-387-0102. Advance tickets are available at www.nextstagearts.org. Next Stage will provide a beer, wine, and cocktail cash bar.

Whiting Library spring art exhibition

CHESTER, Vt. – The Whiting Library, located at 117 Main Street in Chester, has mounted a new community art exhibit presented by the Stone Village Art Guild through Wednesday, June 28.

The exhibit can be viewed during library hours – Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Stop by the library and take in a variety of art forms – including watercolor, pastel, and mixed media – from talented local artists. There will be an artist reception on Saturday, May 27, from 12-2 p.m.

The Stone Village Art



The Whiting Library will host a spring exhibition through June 28. PHOTO PROVIDED

Guild is a welcoming group of artists. The artists in the guild come from both near and far. The group consists of artists of varying insights and starting points, using a variety of mediums. The group meets on Wednesdays from 3-5 p.m. at the Unitar-

ian Universalist Church in Chester's Stone Village. All artists, with all levels of experience, are welcome to join the group.

For upcoming library events, please visit www.whitinglibrary.org or call 802-875-2277.

"Grease," presented by FOLA

LUDLOW, Vt. – On Saturday, May 27, at 7 p.m., in the Heald Auditorium at the Ludlow Town Hall, Friends of the Ludlow Auditorium (FOLA) will offer the classic movie, "Grease."

"Grease" is a 1978 American musical romantic comedy film, directed by Randal Kleiser in his feature directorial debut, from a screenplay by Bronté Woodard and an adaptation by Allan Carr, based on the stage musical of the same name by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey. The film depicts the lives of greaser Danny Zuko (John Travolta) and Australian transfer student Sandy Olsson (Olivia Newton-John), who develop an attraction for each other during a summer romance.

The story, smoothed out and set in Southern California, involves a greaser named Danny (Travolta) who has a sweet summertime romance with Sandy, an Australian girl (Olivia Newton-John; making her character Australian was easier than coaching her American accent). When summer ends, they part forever – they think – only to find themselves at the same school, where Danny's tough-guy image makes it hard for him to acknowledge the squeaky-clean Sandy.

The film re-creates a 1950s that exists mostly in idyllic memory. There are hot rods, malt shops, school dances, songs from the original Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey musical, and new songs written to fit the characters.

Film critic Roger Ebert noted, "The musical is being revived not because it is invaluable, but because it contains an invaluable cultural icon: the singing, dancing performance of John Travolta. It is now clear that, slumps or not, comebacks or not, Travolta is an important and enduring movie star, whose presence can redeem even a compromised 'Grease.'"

The movie is free and open to everyone; donations are appreciated. Water is provided by the United Church of Ludlow. For information, call 802-228-3238, or visit www.fola.us. Doors open at 6:30 pm.



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