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Contaminated soil an issue for potential community garden

BY JOE MILLIKEN
The Shopper

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The potential site for a community garden at 66 Atkinson Street in Bellows Falls has been found to contain traces of lead and hydrocarbons, with additional environmental testing needed to be conducted.

The now-empty lot at 66 Atkinson Street is the former location of the Meeting Waters YMCA building, which was leveled during the winter of 2021 due to its dilapidated condition. Prior to housing the YMCA, the building was once a Methodist church, and one of the oldest churches in Bellows Falls.

Rockingham town manager Scott Pickup recently stated that the soil testing revealed that both lead and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), were found to be contaminating the soil, and has triggered a second round of testing from a local engineering firm. The vacant lot is currently maintained by the Town of Bellows Falls.

According to various environmental website sources, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons can be formed as a result of incomplete combustion of anything from crude oil, gasoline, and wood, to garbage, and even charbroiling meat.

The Town of Bellows Falls took ownership of the building and property, in part, when its former



The potential community garden lot at 66 Atkinson Street. PHOTO BY JOE MILLIKEN

owner Christopher Glennon accumulated an unpaid property tax bill. There was also a growing concern of a public safety hazard so close to the school, in which the town also incurred thousands of dollars of expenses to ensure the building was secure and not a danger to the nearby school. Glennon had initially purchased the building in hopes of creating an arts-related community center.

In the spring of 2022, the Bellows Falls Trustees, Rockingham Selectboard, and the Saxtons River Village Trustees held a joint meeting to discuss options and determine a solution for the town-owned space. Representatives from the Central School also attended the meeting and expressed interest in the new landscape with the elimination of the run-down building.

When the building was

torn down, there were multiple options being considered for the open space adjacent to the Central Elementary School, such as a school-maintained garden, but it was decided to create a community-based garden, built by a local group dedicated to the building of practical trades called BF Trades.

BF Trades Inc. was formed in 2021 as a 501(c)3 organization, designed to focus on local vocational education. In March of 2022, the group submitted a proposal for \$75,000 on a 10-year lease to build the community garden. However, the town and village were looking to recoup a minimum of \$85,000, and were looking to sell the property to an entity that would pay taxes on the property.

Springfield citizens establish conservation committee

BY PAULA BENSON
The Shopper

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Selectboard interviewed two candidates applying for a development review board (DRB) position via an executive session, before reconvening and launching into their regular meeting on Monday, Oct. 23.

The first item on the agenda revealed the change in ownership of Joe's Discount Beverages, with the board's approval of liquor and tobacco licenses for Agora Spirits LLC out of Claremont, N.H., the purchaser. The new owners were at the meeting and told the board they plan to keep the name as is.

Jim Fog was reappointed to the budget advisory committee, and Michael Kollman was appointed as a regular member of the DRB, both at the recommendation of town manager Jeff Mobus. Joe Wilson was named as DRB alternate.

The board voted to establish a conservation committee of seven members, whose mission will be "to preserve, create, and maintain vibrant natural habitats for a sustainable Springfield."

According to a statement from Carrie Kel-

low, the group of residents came together for the "cause of conserving our natural resources, and to [educate] all of the community on the benefits and possibilities we have available to us to protect and maintain these natural resources."

The group's focus will be education and public outreach, and by coordinating with local conservation organizations, will identify vulnerable areas and habitats, and organize volunteers to tackle improvements and redevelopment. The committee will work with the selectboard, planning commission, and other town entities, to assist and provide recommendations on conservation considerations.

Mobus presented the board with a request for \$25,000 from the town budget, to go toward the removal of 100 large, diseased trees at the cemetery that are currently posing a threat to public safety and risk damaging historic gravestones if they come down in a storm. Board member Michael Martin questioned the fiscal responsibility of the cemetery commission, and after some discussion, the board approved Mobus' request, contingent on the commission's contribution of \$22,500, based on the quote from the lowest bid.

Mobus and the board reviewed the regional priority project list, a compiled list

of 10 proposed area projects eligible for state and federal funding. Included on the list are proposals for road improvements, affordable housing, addressing village water and wastewater concerns, and other redevelopment projects.

In partnership with the Mount Ascutney Regional Commission (MARC), the Springfield Regional Development Corporation (SRDC) will provide the list to the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) in consideration for grant funding. Eligible projects need to clearly benefit the region, show economic development potential, and be nearly "shovel ready," as board member Walter Martone explained.

Mobus presented his Budget Message FY 2024-2025, which is available to view within the Oct. 23 meeting packet on the town website. Mobus admitted the town is facing many challenges this year, in part because the number of priority projects is larger than in any previous fiscal year. With the rising cost of fuel and materials, continuing supply chain issues, and a dearth of qualified employees, the urgency of some municipal projects will need to be weighed against the need to maintain the town's infrastructure,

See **BOARD** on Page 2

Springfield Elks support Union Street School's fifth grade flag program

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Elk's Lodge was invited to Union Street School to recognize and celebrate the fifth grade teachers and students who promote and encourage honoring our American flag through their Flag Program.

Exalted Ruler Carollee Murchie and Americanism Chair Jackie Driscoll-Page presented to each of the nine flag students T-shirt uniforms, which were designed by two of the flag students and donated to the program by the Elks Lodge.

The flag program was established at Union Street School in 2000, when former employee Jerry Weeks organized a team of students to learn about the flag, flag etiquette, and to raise and lower the flag each school



Union Street School fifth grade flaggers.. PHOTO PROVIDED

day. In 2018, school counselor Jan Rounds took over as the advisor to the group, as it evolved into being a student-driven program. Students in this program exemplify the characteristics of responsibility,

respect, kindness, and working together. As spring approaches, the nine fifth grade students will begin to train their fourth grade replacements to continue the program.

Kurn Hattin annual dinner for sponsors

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – Following in the footsteps of tradition, Kurn Hattin Homes for Children hosted its annual Adopt-A-Cottage night in recognition of the organizations and individuals who sponsor the cottages where the children live on campus. This event is beneficial in so many ways. It gives the staff and children an opportunity to show their appreciation to those who have "adopted" their cottage, while also providing an opportunity for sponsors to get acquainted with the children and see firsthand the impact of their contributions.

The event began with invited guests enjoying dinner and an ice-breaking activity with the children who live in the cottage they sponsor. The activities, which might include sharing an interesting personal fact or taking part in a communal art project, set the stage for lively conversation and interactions. When dinner was over, staff and students wel-



Kurn Hattin students pose with Warner Cottage Houseparent, Nicole Clark, and Adopt-a-Cottage representatives from Cota & Cota Tammy Manning, and Jesi Bashaw and Casey Cota. PHOTO PROVIDED

comed visitors into their cottages for dessert and an opportunity to socialize, learn about the daily lives of the children, and see firsthand how their sponsorship dollars are being utilized.

The Adopt-A-Cottage sponsorship program provides funds for basic necessities of cottage life, as well as something special each year. This year, the focus was on the outdoors. The donated funds will go toward purchasing each cottage a gas grill for outdoor

cooking, with remaining funds being allocated for new basketball hoops on campus.

Thank you to everyone who supports the Kurn Hattin Homes' Adopt-A-Cottage program: Cota & Cota, Savings Bank of Walpole, Keene Elm-City Rotary and Dave & Lisa Therrien, Streeter Contractors LLC, and Mascoma Bank. For more information about this program, please contact Kim Fine at kfine@kurnhattin.org or 802-721-6914.

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November Youth Programs at Springfield Town Library

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Youth services librarian at Springfield Town Library Jeni Clary has a full line-up of great youth programs in November. Preschool Story Time will now be held on Wednesdays, at 10 a.m., starting on Nov. 8. The themes for this month are: “Trees and Leaves,” “Fishes Tales,” “We are Thankful,” and “All Aboard! Train Stories.”

The Golden Dome book club resumes on Tuesday, Nov. 7, at 4 p.m. The Vermont Golden Dome Book Award (formerly the Dorothy Canfield Fisher Book Award) was created to honor excellence in children’s literature. Each year since 1957, Vermont students in grades four through eight have selected their favorite book from a list of nomi-

nees. Students will receive a copy of the first shared title at the meeting, and plan to read at least five of the year’s nominated titles before voting for their favorite in the spring.

There will be programs for the school aged children on Thursdays, at 3:30 p.m. The theme for Nov. 2 is “Board Game Bonanza.” Join Jeni on Thursday, Nov. 9, for a Magic Flashlight Craft. Legos at the Library will be held on Thursday, Nov. 16. Bring your favorite children to try and draw animals while looking at them in a Viewmaster in this wacky and fun Far-Out Safari art project on Thursday, Nov. 30.

On Saturday, Nov. 11, from 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., youth in grades 7-12 are invited to “Race down

Rainbow Road” and enjoy pizza while playing Mario Kart on the extra-large TV in the young adult area of the library. Youth are invited to join the teen advisory board, to help plan programs of interest to their age group.

Please note that the library will close at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 22. It will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 23, through the weekend for the Thanksgiving holiday. The library will resume normal hours on Monday, Nov. 27. For future reference, the library will be participating in the Dec. 1 holiday events in Springfield. Check the library website to stay current on all the library has to offer, or call 802-885-3108.

Digital Literacy Workshops at Rockingham Library

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The Rockingham Free Public Library (RFPL) will host free basic digital literacy training workshops for the community to help close the digital divide. RFPL is among 215 public libraries nationwide awarded funding by the Public Library Association (PLA) this year to conduct digital literacy workshops using new www.digitallearn.org resources. The PLA Digital Literacy Workshop Incentive, supported by AT&T, provides support to libraries of all sizes to conduct workshops using DigitalLearn training materials, to help patrons build skills and confidence using technology.

Classes will be offered twice a week, and patrons

can progress their skills through the workshops. Classes are free and open to the public. Registration is not required, but is encouraged. For more information, please contact reference and historical collections librarian Pamela Johnson-Spurlock at reference@rockinghamlibrary.org, or visit www.rockinghamlibrary.org.

Below is a listing of all the workshops. Each workshop will be offered twice within the same week.

Computer Basics, Monday, Nov. 13, and Wednesday, Nov. 15, at 10:30 a.m.

In this workshop, attendees will learn how to navigate the Windows 10 operating system, manage applications using the task manager, find and manage files and folders, save and delete files, and more.

Internet Basics, Monday, Nov. 20, and Wednesday, Nov. 22, at 10:30 a.m. In this workshop, we will introduce newly connected users to basic terminology, functionality, and navigation of internet browsers, search engines, and websites.

Email Basics, Monday, Nov. 27, and Wednesday, Nov. 29, at 10:30 a.m.

Attendees will create a Gmail account, learn how to perform basic email functions like sending, receiving, and replying to an email, recognize, and deal with spam, organize and delete emails, and search for messages.

Cyber Security, Monday, Dec. 4, and Wednesday, Dec. 6, at 10:30 a.m.

Learn how to be safer online with accounts and passwords, and an overview of frauds and scams.

Video Conferencing Basics, Monday, Dec. 11, and Wednesday, Dec. 13, at 10:30 a.m.

In this workshop, attendees will learn how to create an account on a popular video conferencing platform (Zoom), and build confidence when using features of the platform in an online meeting.

These programs are free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.rockinghamlibrary.org, email reference@rockinghamlibrary.org, call the library at 802-463-4270, or stop by the Library at 65 Westminster Street, Bellows Falls, Vt.

VINE Sanctuary Veg2Vegan Challenge

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The 30-Day Veg2Vegan Challenge is an opportunity for vegetarians to try going vegan in November, sponsored by VINE Sanctuary and AfroVegan Society.

Vegetarians considering the transition to a vegan lifestyle now have the opportunity to try it for 30 days. The 30-Day Veg2Vegan Challenge, proudly sponsored by VINE Sanctuary and AfroVegan Society, is the ideal

program for those looking to explore a cruelty-free, plant-based diet.

Making the shift to veganism is more achievable than it may seem. During the month of November, participants receive information, inspiration, and support for the process of replacing dairy and eggs with plant-based alternatives. Along with handy tips and delicious recipes, challenge participants gain a community

of support for their vegan journey.

Why should individuals consider joining the 30-Day Veg2Vegan Challenge? Compassion for all beings; by opting for a vegan lifestyle, individuals contribute to a world marked by compassion, where animals are not subjected to exploitation. This challenge helps in comprehending the positive impact one can create.

Environmental respon-

sibility; going vegan significantly minimizes one’s carbon footprint, conserving vital resources and contributing to the fight against climate change. Participants will discover how their dietary choices can be a boon for the planet.

Enhanced health; A balanced vegan diet has the potential to reduce the risk of chronic ailments, boost energy levels, and provide a clear conscience, knowing that choices support personal wellbeing.

Community and support; by becoming part of a community of likeminded individuals, participants can join hands in making this transformation smoother. They can share experiences, recipes, and tips with fellow participants, and provide

mutual encouragement.

Expert guidance; VINE Sanctuary and AfroVegan Society are committed to supplying participants with a wealth of resources, recipes, and expert advice to ensure a seamless transition.

Ready to take up the challenge? Visit the challenge’s website, www.veg2vegan.org, to sign up and receive free daily emails with recipes, inspiration, and invaluable resources.

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BOARD

From Page 1

such as roads, bridges, culverts, and retaining walls.

On a positive note, Mobus pointed out that they were very close to being awarded a FEMA grant, which will cover 90% of the cost of the Weathersfield Dam demolition. If approved, there would be no impact on the tax rate, because Springfield voters appropriated a fund for the project 30 years ago, an indication of how long projects can take to get funded, noted Mobus.

In conclusion, Mobus stated, “While no one wants to tell the taxpayers that a project must be delayed, it is important that we be responsible and efficient with our available resources to move Springfield forward.”

Additional agenda items from Mobus included an update on the status of the bridge on Greeley Road. Mobus stated that he’d met with the public works department, and they agreed that, if feasible, an emergency repair to the bridge was warranted. The next step is to meet with engineers and work up a cost estimate and plans to present to the board.

This year’s extensive water project is winding down, reported Mobus, saying that new lines are in and being used. He said there will be a flow test scheduled to determine additional capacity, but everything is looking good thus far.

The board moved to approve a bid of \$25,000 to clean the chimney at the community center, a task that hadn’t been done in decades, creating a dangerous situation when using the boiler. This means the heat cannot be turned on until the chimney has been swept. Mobus hoped to have that job completed in the next few weeks.

The selectboard is scheduled to meet twice in November, on Nov. 13 and Nov. 27.

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Deer hunting

BY RON PATCH

802-374-0119
ronpatch27@gmail.com

Deer hunting today compared to deer hunting 50 years ago has changed.

To begin with, 50 years ago you could only shoot one deer each calendar year. If you got a deer in October bow season, you couldn't shoot a buck in rifle season. You were done. Today you can shoot four or more deer with bow, rifle, muzzle-loader, and permits.

Deer hunting 50 years ago was serious business. When rifle season ended, some hunters began counting the days to next year. As summer progressed into fall, you began hearing from other hunters how they had seen a large buck in someone's field.

Dad had two weeks of vacation each year. Dad took one week in the summer, to work on our property in Shrewsbury. The second week he saved for the first week of deer season.

As rifle season neared, excitement grew. We'd hunt rabbits and birds in the month of October, always watching for deer signs, and getting to know the lay of the land.

About the worst thing that could happen to a serious hunter was to get his deer early the first morning. Now, after all of the planning, over a period of months, his hunt was over. Yes, he got his deer, but what to do with the coming week? The fun was the hunt. He could only hunt bear now. In those days, few ever saw a bear. Imagine how he felt the third or fourth day of his week off, when he saw a trophy eight pointer over 200 pounds, and couldn't shoot it.



Frank Clark's pet deer in Popple Dungeon in 1916 Fish & Game law book. PHOTO PROVIDED BY RON PATCH

put on our outer clothing until we were ready to leave the house. If you did, you would be too warm, and sweat.

The conversations as we scurried around the house so early in the morning were exciting. I was the youngest and looked up to Dad. Brian would always say, "This is it!"

Many mornings were 10 degrees above zero. As we sat in the cold, sweat would freeze and so would we. This is why we didn't fully dress until we left the house. Dad always made us each two fried egg sandwiches for our lunch. A thermos of coffee was always at hand.

A cold fried egg sandwich with ketchup wasn't that great, but I was happy to be part of the hunt. We had a 1962 Scout. Dad drove with Brian in the front passenger's seat. I rode in the back.

We would meet back at the Scout around noon. We'd have our egg sandwiches and report what we had seen. Dad had seen several deer but no horns. Brian would tell how another hunter nearby got a nice four pointer.

Then we laid out plans for the remaining daylight. Brian would go to the old rusted out Model-T in the woods, Dad up top, where two stone walls intersected, and me down low in the hemlocks. This was our strategy, and it often worked.

Sometimes Ma would write a permission slip to the school excusing me from school as I was out hunting.

This week's old saying is from Kim Kendall: "Old men get bony asses."

The same is true of my buying antiques. The fun is hunting for them. There's nothing like getting into an old attic. Selling antiques isn't very exciting – buying is. I think many antiques dealers would agree. It's about the hunt.

We hunted in Mount Holly and Shrewsbury for years. Dad would be up by 4 a.m., preparing breakfast for Brian and me.

The spider

Dad's parents were born in the late 1800s. He grew up hearing old names and terms for items that some would not recognize today. He always cooked bacon in the "spider."

In my grandparents' time, a spider was used for frying. A spider is a cast iron skillet with three equally spaced legs on the underside. These cast iron legs can be two to four inches long. In the fireplace, the spider was placed on the hot coals. The legs kept the bottom of the spider off the coals so the food didn't burn.

Back to deer hunting

I can still see Dad in his white long johns. We didn't

oversees renovations, and then leases it to a qualified operator. The business stays on the tax rolls, the new operator is provided a viable operation unencumbered by debt, and Bellows Falls keeps its diner.

Over the last few years, moisture has penetrated the diner's steel and porcelain exterior, foundations have cracked, wood has buckled and rotted, and the limited seating and cramped quarters have daunted prospective operators. It is no secret that a 32-seat lunch car faces a challenging future in today's competitive food service world. What will the future bring, and what should it look like for the Miss Bellows Falls?

By the beginning of 2024, restoration work should be underway, and by May of 2025, the diner's 81st anniversary of arriving in Bellows Falls, the hope is that the diner will reopen. The Rockingham Free Public Library, the Historic Preservation Office of the Town of Rockingham, and RFP join together in a series of conversations about the diner's past and its future with free events at the library, at 65 Westminster Street.

Rockingham For Progress invites interested persons to follow their story at www.rockinghamforprogress.org or on their Facebook page. This program is free, open to the public, and accessible to those with disabilities.

Tales from Miss Bellows Falls Diner

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Former owner of Miss Bellows Falls Diner and host of "Travels with Charlie" on FACT-TV, Charlie Jaras brings us an evening of stories and anecdotes from employees and customers alike on Thursday, Nov. 9, at 7 p.m., at the Rockingham Library.

In just over five months reviving, restoring, and rejuvenating, the Miss Bellows Falls Diner, built 80 years ago and shuttered since the pandemic, has gone from a mere idea to a fast-moving project. Now the project organizers want to invite interested citizens to continue the conversation.

In early 2023, community organization Rockingham For Progress (RFP) reached out to the Preservation Trust of Vermont, Windham Regional Commission, and the Brattleboro Area Development Corp. These groups helped RFP develop a plan for a community-supported enterprise, whereby a nonprofit purchases the building,



RON PATCH

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community news

OPINION

Divided Sky holds open house –

LUDLOW, Vt. – Divided Sky Residential Recovery Program, located at 262 Fox Lane in Ludlow, held their open house on Friday, Oct. 6. Divided Sky's mission is to deliver supportive and compassionate programming with dignity and respect for individuals and their families affected by addiction, by providing a safe environment for men and women to build the foundation necessary for a sober, productive, and healthy life.



Divided Sky facility.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Divided Sky utilizes an abstinence-based, 12-step program, which incorporates mindfulness and solution-based programming to encourage its guests to learn coping strategies, life

skills, and communication skills taught in workshops and daily lessons. Their program offers acceptance and commitment workshops, 12-step facilitation, recreational activities, spiritual support, art and music, nutrition, and emotional

sobriety skills, with 24/7 staff support and nutritious food prepared on site.

For more information, visit www.dividedsky-foundation.com, or email questions@dividedsky-foundation.com.

LVRS first responder class –

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – There are still openings for the Vermont Emergency First Responder (VEFR) course hosted by Londonderry Volunteer Rescue Squad (LVRS). If you are interested in helping out in the community, now is your chance. To be eligible for this VEFR certification course, you must be 16 years old or older. The registration deadline is Nov. 4.

Emergency First Responder class is a perfect way to introduce yourself to EMS and EMS culture. The primary focus is to learn how to initiate immediate life-saving care to critical patients. A certified VEFR will have the skills and knowledge to provide life-saving interventions while waiting for additional, and more skilled, EMS personnel to arrive. A VEFR will also be able to assist higher level personnel

at the scene and during transport.

The course will be taught in-person over five nights, Mondays and Tuesdays, from Nov. 6-20, from 6-9:30 p.m. There is a fee payable to LVRS. This fee will be reimbursed for those who become VEFR certified and become full members of LVRS.

To enroll, please go to www.londonderryrescuevt.org and click on the orange field at the top of the home page.

Foxy Fund receives grant from Banfield Foundation

REGION – Banfield Foundation has awarded the Senior Solutions Foxy Fund \$5,000, to assist with extraordinary expenses incurred by the fund as a result of this past July's flooding throughout Vermont.

The Foxy Fund is Senior Solutions' program to assist seniors with food and veterinary care for their pets. The July disaster created unanticipated and costly situations for clients with pets. Thom Simmons, who oversees the program, said that in some cases, seniors could no longer live in their homes, and were housed temporarily in hotels and lodges that did not permit pets. These pets then needed

to be boarded while suitable housing was found. In other cases, pet food supplies were destroyed by the raging floodwaters, including a Ludlow sheep barn that was wiped out of hay. In still other cases, pets that had survived the rising waters were caked in mud and needed grooming and other veterinary care.

"The Foxy Fund met the challenge, but it also left our funding precariously low, given our ongoing commitment to providing pet food and financial veterinary assistance to low-income seniors. We are extremely grateful that Banfield Foundation stepped in at the perfect moment to help us out."

Since 2015, Banfield Foundation has been making preventive care pos-

sible for the pets that need it most. Through grants and partnerships, they provide medical supplies and resources to nonprofit partners in need; support pets, people, and communities in crisis; and enable veterinary professionals to deliver compassionate and inclusive preventive veterinary care in underserved and diverse areas across the United States and around the world. They also leverage the expertise and passion of Banfield Pet Hospital, part of Mars Veterinary Health, and its associates to care for pets in need. The Banfield Foundation is committed to living their collective purpose: "a better world for pets." For more information, visit www.banfield-foundation.org.

Featured pet: Zero

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Not only is Zero handsome, but he is one smart cookie! This boy knows sit, lay down, and paw. He walks well on the leash as well. Zero is a sweet boy that does lack some confidence. This 1-year-old has been nothing but a gentleman. He is very clean in his kennel. He does sometimes like to sing and can be quite vocal when he plays with other dogs. He does well with other

dogs, and lived with a dog in his previous home. He was friends with the kitties in his previous home too. Zero would do best in a home with teens and up as he was overwhelmed by the 6-year-old child in his previous home.

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



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- President, American Nurses Association (VT)
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Dear Editor,

What is going on, readers of the Vermont Journal and The Shopper? My name is Nick, and I'm the host of Almost Canon Podcast, a radio-like show that can be found on apps like Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and Amazon Music.

We are a small, up and coming podcast, produced

out of southern Vermont. We focus on subjects that revolve around the "unknown." Whether it's mysterious creatures like Bigfoot or Dogman, alien abductions, demonic possessions, cursed castles, haunted mansions, dark rituals, scary folklore, mythical cites, lost treasure, and everything in

between.

We also provide a safe place for those who have experienced the "unknown" to share their stories and encounters. We have talked with individuals like master diver and underwater archaeologist Annette Spaulding about her discovery of the "ghost of Charon lake," as well as other strange things she's experienced beneath the surface; award winning, high altitude cinematographer Thom Pollard about his part in discovering the body of George Mallory on Mount Everest, as well as his voyage aboard the reed

ship known as Viracocha 2; Vermont's very own paranormal author and keeper of mysterious lore Joseph Citro; Bennington YouTuber Brad Martin of Green Mountain Metal Detecting; as well as so many others.

While most of our work comes from the Almost Canon Studio, we also head into the field from time to time, and one project we've been planning for several months involves a local professional who is a friend of the show, and a very interesting location she found along the Williams River.

This is potentially a first of its kind investigation, and we are extremely confident in favorable results. We can't say much more than that now, but follow Almost Canon on Facebook at Almost Canon Podcast, as well as Instagram at @AlmostCanonPod for more. We also encourage listeners to contact us with their own encounters with the "unknown" at almostcanonpod@gmail.com.

Nick Willard, Host
Almost Canon Podcast

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Subject to space. May be edited for clarity, grammatical errors, and libelous statements. Must be kept under 400 words. Must include name and town for publication. EFFECTIVE MARCH, 2023, we will be charging for POLITICAL LETTERS. Viewpoints do not necessarily reflect the views of The Vermont Journal & The Shopper.

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CHURCH SERVICES

obituaries

ASCUTNEY, VT.

Open Bible Baptist Church, 168 Cemetery Rd.
Sunday services are being held in the church. Sunday school is at 9:45 a.m., Sunday morning service is 11 a.m., and the afternoon service is 1:30 p.m. Wednesday evening service is at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call the church at 802-674-2266 or visit www.obbcvt.org.

BELLOWS FALLS, VT.

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

CAVENDISH, VT.

Cavendish Baptist Church, 2258 Main St.
Sunday services are 10 a.m. online or in person. Online services are on Facebook at 10 a.m. Go to www.facebook.com/Cavendish-Baptist-Church-258814894244302. More at www.CavendishBaptist.com or call 802-226-7131.

CHARLESTOWN, N.H.

Charlestown Bible Church, 37 Hammond Rd.
Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship at 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting at 7 p.m. To hear a sermon or learn more go to www.charlestownbiblechurch.org. Call 603-826-5121 for more info or to request a personal Bible study.

Charlestown Seventh-day Adventist Church, 242 Main St.

Saturday Services include Bible Study at 9:30 a.m. and Worship Service at 11:15 a.m. and a healthy lunch for all after the service. All are welcome, call 603-276-2383 for more information.

LUDLOW, VT.

Ludlow Baptist Church, on the Green, 99 Main St.
Weekly worship services are in-person. Sunday school is at 9:30 a.m. for all ages, and Sunday worship is at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday's prayer meeting is at 6:30 p.m. For more information, go to www.LudlowBaptist.org.

SPRINGFIELD, VT.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 33 Fairground Rd.
Sunday Services 8:30 a.m. - Holy Days as announced. Services alternate between Clergy Officiated, Traditional Rite I and Contemporary Rite II, Holy Eucharist, and Licensed Lay Led Rites I and II Morning Prayer. All are invited regardless of religious affiliation. Call David at 802-885-2972 with questions.

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

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

Unitarian Universalist Church, 21 Fairground Rd.

Sunday Services are at 10 a.m., in person and on Zoom. For more information, go to www.uspringfieldvt.org.

United Methodist Church, 10 Valley St.

Sunday worship is 9:30 a.m. For more information, call 802-885-1916. Everyone is welcome.

WALPOLE, N.H.

St. John's Episcopal Church, corner of Westminster and Elm St.

Sunday services are 10 a.m. in person or via Zoom. For more information, go to www.stjohnswalpole.org, email pastor@stjohnswalpole.org, or leave a message at 603-756-4533.

Walpole Unitarian Church, corner of Union and Main St.

Sunday Service begins at 10 a.m. Services are also available via Zoom. For links and updates, go to www.walpoleunitarianchurch.org.

In memory of
Teri McAllister (Hillary)

It has been one year as of Nov. 4 she has been gone. We had our good times and bad times together when we were younger. She is missed and loved.
Love,
Arlene (Clinton).

Nancy Band, 1962-2023

LITCHFIELD, N.H. - Nancy Elaine Band passed away on Oct. 26, 2023, at the age of 61 in Litchfield, N.H. She is survived by parents Thomas and Elaine Bowen of Saxtons River, Vt.

Nancy was a loving individual who cherished her family, children, and grandchildren. She will be deeply missed by her husband Geoffrey Band, her children Nicholas and Rachael Walcott, and Benjamin and Jackie Walcott.

She is also survived by her best friend and sister Katherine Gallagher Clark, her husband Steven Clark, and her nephew James Thomas Gallagher. Nancy was preceded in death by her sister Elizabeth Batchelder Beutler.

Nancy attended Maynard High School in Maynard, Mass., and later pursued a career in financial services. She excelled in her field, leaving a lasting impact on her colleagues and clients.

In memory of Nancy



Nancy Band, 1962-2023.
PHOTO PROVIDED

Band, contributions can be made to Our Family Foundation "Our Promise to Nicholas" at P.O. Box 10106, Bedford, NH, 03110. This charitable organization held a special place in Nancy's heart.

Nancy's warm presence, love for her family, and dedication to her career will be remembered by all who knew her. May she rest in peace, and may her family find solace in the cherished memories they shared together.

Raymond Latelle, 1923-2023

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Raymond C. Latelle, 100, passed away peacefully with his family at his side on Oct. 28, 2023, at the Cedar Hill Health Care Center in Windsor, Vt.

He was born on March 7, 1923, in Berkshire, Vt., to the late Doria and Alice (Dupre) Latelle.

Ray graduated from Springfield High School, Class of 1941. In 1942, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps Cadet Program. Before being accepted for pilot training, he attended Davidson College in North Carolina and the Air University at Maxwell Field, Ala. Ray flew the B-25 Mitchell Bomber, and felt that having served during World War II was an honor and privilege.

In 1946, he returned to civilian life. Having a Commercial Pilot's License, he considered joining and flying for one of the major airlines, but decided to return to working for the Fellows Gear Shaper Co., and pursue a career in engineering. He worked in several design engineering departments. He was a field application engineer, and later went into sales. He was manager of sales and service in charge of the Asian market, and did extensive travel assisting sales representatives in that region. Ray retired in 1986 as manager of sales and technical services, after 44 years of service with Fellows.

Ray was involved in a variety of community activities throughout his life. In the 1950s, Ray was a Boy Scout leader for the Elks Scout Troop. He was instrumental in the design and building of the 40-meter ski jump at Springfield Hartness Park, and was president of the Springfield Ski Club. The Ski Club had a hill next to the Union Street School, which had a rope tow and offered night skiing. He enjoyed all outdoor sports, but skiing was the main family sport. Skiing at Okemo with other Springfield families was always most enjoyable. Ray had a passion for cars, and he truly enjoyed touring in his sports car. He was an avid Red Sox and Patriots fan. Ray served 17 years as a board member of the



Raymond Latelle, 1923-2023.
PHOTO PROVIDED

Springfield Savings and Loan.

Ray continued to fly as a sport, and was an active member of the Springfield Soaring Club. He had a Sweizer Model 1-26 glider, and shared ownership in another glider. He enjoyed taking friends up for a flight, many for their first time in an aircraft. He was an excellent carpenter, and designed and built his own home and sugarhouse.

Ray was the longest tenured member of the Springfield Elks Lodge #1560, having joined the club in 1942 before enlisting in the U.S. Army Air Corps.

Ray was predeceased by his wife Helen, after 66 years of marriage, a grandson David, and two brothers Romeo and Leon. He is survived by his daughter Jean Rae Latelle, his son Dr. Bruce C. Latelle, two grandchildren Stacy and Justin, and two great-grandchildren Lincoln and Anastasia.

The family would like to thank Lea Norway for her care and compassion with Ray, and the nurses and staff at the Cedar Hill Health Care Center.

A visitation will be held on Friday, Nov. 3, from 10-11 a.m., at the Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, with a funeral service to follow starting at 11 a.m.

Burial will take place in the Oakland Cemetery following the service.

In lieu of flowers, please send a donation in Raymond's name to the Springfield Humane Society, 401 Skitchewaung Trail, Springfield, VT 05156.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Davis Memorial Chapel, located at 99 Summer Street, Springfield, Vt.

Christine Brannon, 2023

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. - Christine Brannon of Charlestown, N.H., died Oct. 7, 2023. She was 77.

Christine was the only child of the late Elizabeth and Dr. Francis E. Temple of Rhode Island. She lived in Warwick, R.I., before moving to Charlestown with her husband Jack, son Mark, and daughter Kelley. Jack passed away in 1989, leaving Christine a single parent. She did an excellent loving job in bringing up their children after his passing. Her love of all animals and horseback riding also meant the world to her.

Christine attended the University of Rhode Island, received a Master's of Arts in teaching from Rhode Island College, and worked in local schools before retiring in 2021.

Christine also leaves behind her cousin Margo Ann D'Angelo and husband John of Warwick, R.I., her cousin Edward J. Temple and wife Anne of Abing-



Christine Brannon, 2023.
PHOTO PROVIDED

don, Md., and her brother-in-law James Brannon and wife Carol of Ames, Iowa.

Christine is sorely missed by all who came to know her. She was a loving person who is now at home with the Lord our God.

There will be a funeral service on Saturday, Nov. 11, at 11 a.m., at the Union Episcopal Church, 133 Old Church Road in Claremont. Burial will follow at the Pine Crest Cemetery, Old Claremont Road in Charlestown.

Kevin W. Switzer, 1955-2023

WALPOLE, N.H. - Kevin W. Switzer, 68, of Main Street, passed away unexpectedly on Oct. 13, 2023, at Keene Center in Keene, N.H. He was born on July 19, 1955, in Northfield, Vt., to Lawrence V. Switzer and Norma Fuller Switzer. He attended school in Walpole, and was a 1973 graduate of Fall Mountain High School.

Kevin worked for many area businesses, including the Sawyer Farm, Valley Farm, R.N. Johnson, Tractor Supply, and lastly, Jake's. It was at R.N. Johnson and Jake's where he found his true calling, greeting and waiting on customers! He was known for his sense of humor and parting comments, such as, "Have yourself a wonderful day now!"

On July 29, 1995, he married Gail Thompson Leining, who survives. He is also survived by his mother of Whitefield, N.H., brother Lawrence V. Switzer Jr. of Walpole, aunts, uncles, cousins, and his dear lifelong friends Andy and Jim Sawyer.

At Kevin's request, there



Kevin Switzer, 1955-2023.
PHOTO PROVIDED

will be no services. Donations in his memory may be made to Walpole Volunteer Fire and Rescue or Monadnock Humane Society.

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

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calendar

LEGAL NOTICES

NOV. 3 – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The First Baptist Church of Bellows Falls will hold their First Friday Supper on Friday, Nov. 3, from 5-6:30 p.m., at the church, 9 Church Street. The menu will be turkey, potatoes, vegetables, rolls, dessert, and a beverage. Vegan and gluten-free options are also available. Dine in or take out. The meal is free; donations to benefit Our Place Drop-in Center will be accepted. If you want more information, call Jane French at 802-463-4311.

CLAREMONT, N.H. – A ballroom dance will be held at the Claremont Senior Center's beautiful Owens Hall, 5 Acer Heights, on Nov. 3, from 6:30-9 p.m. Live music will be provided by the Gerry Grimo East Bay Five-piece Dance Combo. Pay at the door. There will be no dance instruction this night. Bring your favorite non-alcoholic beverage. Snacks and water will be provided. The dance is for the benefit of

the Claremont Senior Center. For information, call Betsy Child at 603-504-6671.

NOV. 4 – N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The North School Preservation Society will hold their Holiday Sale and Fundraiser on Saturday, Nov. 4, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., rain or shine, at 5 School Street.

NOV. 11 – CHESTER, Vt. – There will be a Christmas Holiday Sale held inside the Gassetts Grange on Saturday, Nov. 11, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. There are still tables available for those who would like to sell items at the fair. If you are interested in renting a table, please call Donna at 802-591-4290.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Springfield Elks Lodge #1560, with support from VFW Post #771 and American Legion Post 18, will host a Veteran's Day Lunch on Nov. 11, from 12-2 p.m. This lunch is free to all veterans, and available to non-veterans

for a fee. Curbside pickup is available. There will be two menu options. Option one is meatloaf, mashed potatoes, garden salad, a roll, and cookies. Option two is baked ziti, garden salad, a roll, and cookies. Please sign up before Nov. 4 by stopping by the lodge at 49 Park Street, or by calling 802-885-3100.

LANGDON, N.H. – The Fall Mountain Craft Fair will take place on Saturday, Nov. 11, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., at Fall Mountain Regional High School in Langdon, N.H. This annual event features over 60 local vendors, concessions, and childcare, and benefits the Fall Mountain France and Spain 2024 trips, the French and Spanish Clubs, and the Art Club.

NOV. 23 – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Toonerville Trail Turkey Trot 5k Run and Walk will be held on Nov. 23, starting at 9 a.m., at the Toonerville Trail. This event is a fundraiser for Meals on Wheels of Greater Springfield, and Springfield High School cross country. The registration fee is discounted if you register in advance. To register, go to www.runlikeardy.com/races/toonerville-trail-turkey-trot.

SUNDAYS – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Bellows Falls Loyal Order

of Moose will be hosting a community breakfast on the first and third Sunday of every month downstairs at the Bellows Falls Moose Lodge, 59 Westminster Street in Bellows Falls, from 8-10 a.m. All you can eat for a minimal cost.

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 – 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.

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

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Mondays at 6:30 p.m. there

will be Pub Trivia Night at Vermont Beer Makers on River Street in Springfield. Up to five people per team. Free entry.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Free Gentle Hatha Yoga classes for ages 50 and over are held on Mondays from 10-11 a.m., at the Springfield Senior Center, 139 Main Street. All equipment is provided.

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.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Senior Solutions is again sponsoring two Fall Prevention Tai Chi classes in the Great Hall, on Pearl Street in Springfield, on Tuesdays. The advanced class will meet from 9:30-10:30 a.m. The beginner class will meet from 10:40-11:40 a.m. When practiced regularly, Tai Chi not only helps to lower the risk of falling, but also improves concentration, leg strength, balance and coordination, reduces joint pain and stress, and builds a sense of belonging. For more information or to register, contact Sue Rubel at suerub@aol.com, or Sophia Blanchard at SBlanchard@seniorsolutionsvt.org.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Free Chair Yoga classes for ages

50 and over are held on Tuesdays from 9-9:45 a.m., at the Springfield Senior Center, 139 Main Street. All equipment is provided.

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

LUDLOW, Vt. – Aqua Sculpt, Wednesdays at 10:35 a.m. at the Spring House at Jackson Gore. Call 802-228-1419 for more information.

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.

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.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD HELP WANTED TRANSFER STATION/RECYCLING FACILITY MANAGER

The Town of Springfield, VT is seeking an experienced individual to fill a full-time Transfer Station/Recycling Facility Manager position at the Transfer Station/Recycling Facility. This position is the first line supervisor over the operations and maintenance of the Transfer Station/Recycling Facility. The Facility Manager is responsible for the supervision and direction of all Town employees and volunteers at the Facility and manages daily operations of the Facility. The Facility Manager is responsible for the basic maintenance and safety of the Facility. Applicant must have proven ability to lead and supervise employees both by example and direction and possess the knowledge of materials, equipment and techniques commonly used at the Transfer Station/Recycling Facility. Applicant must have proven knowledge of general bookkeeping skills. Applicant must have a High School or (GED) Degree and/or experience which demonstrates the ability to carry out the duties of the job. Pay Grade 18, Pay Scale \$20.96 - \$22.67 per hour. This is an exempt position with an excellent benefits package. Apply at the Human Resources Office, 96 Main Street, (802) 885-2104 (tosh@vermontel.net). Applications and a complete job description can be found at springfieldvt.gov/jobs. The Town of Springfield is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

HELP WANTED TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD MAINTENANCE WORKER I

The Town of Springfield, VT is seeking a highly motivated individual to fill a full-time position within the Public Works Department. Desired candidate must have the ability to perform heavy manual labor and tasks requiring physical strength, coordination and dexterity. Strenuous physical effort is demanded in walking, bending, standing and lifting of heavy tools and materials. Often requires repetitive activities requiring limited skill and training. Use of equipment used on streets, water & sewer utilities when necessary, cemeteries and other Town properties. The Maintenance Worker I position is supervised by the Public Works Director or the Operations Supervisor, or their designee and may be required to work independently on occasion. Requires an understanding of job safety, a valid motor vehicle operator's license is required. Grade 11, pay scale of \$16.64 to \$17.91 per hour. This is a non-exempt union position with benefits consisting of Health-care, (1) Personal Day, (13) Paid Time-Off Days, Short-Term Disability, Long-Term Disability & Life Insurance and an excellent Retirement Program. Apply at the Human Resources Office, 96 Main Street, (802) 885-2104 (tosh@vermontel.net). Applications may also be downloaded from the Town's website <https://springfieldvt.gov/office2.com/jobs>. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The Town of Springfield is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD HELP WANTED MAINTENANCE WORKER III

Hiring Bonuses

The Town of Springfield is offering a \$7,500.00 hiring bonus for any full-time CURRENT CDL HOLDER or willing to train the right candidate to obtain a CDL B who is hired by the Town of Springfield.

The Town of Springfield, VT is seeking an experienced individual to fill a full-time Maintenance Worker III position within the Public Works Department. Desired candidate must have the ability to perform skilled technical work in the operation and servicing of light and heavy construction equipment. The MWIII serves as the principal operator of all light and heavy-duty construction equipment in a skillful and accomplished manner. Applicant must have the ability to make technical, operating, on-site decisions often in the absence of supervision; must have the ability to plan and work out operations on-site relative to use of light and heavy equipment and must have the ability to lead a work crew in the proper accomplishment of a task. A valid motor vehicle operator's license and a valid CDL (B) are required. This position is non-exempt and requires the employee to be on rotational call. Pay Grade 16, Pay Scale \$19.54 - \$21.11 per hour with an excellent benefits package. Apply at the Human Resources Office, 96 Main Street, (802) 885-2104 (tosh@vermontel.net). Applications and a complete job description can be found at springfieldvt.gov/jobs. The Town of Springfield is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

NOTICE OF WATER FLUSHING VILLAGE OF LUDLOW WATER DEPARTMENT

Beginning on Wednesday, November 8, 2023 through Thursday, November 9, 2023 the Village of Ludlow's Water Department personnel will be flushing the water system and testing the fire hydrant system. The flushing will take place between the hours of 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Businesses and residents may experience discolored water during this time. Please be sure to let your cold water run until your water runs clear.

Thank you for your patience while we perform our annual distribution system maintenance.

If you have any questions, please call the Water Department at 802-952-8410 or the Municipal Office at 228-2842.

TOWN OF CHESTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY WATER/WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR

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

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

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

TOWN OF CHESTER NOTICE OF HEARING FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

Scott Lemaire and Whitten Road, LLC have applied for a Conditional Use Permit to establish a 6-cabin campground at the property located at the end of Whitten Road in the Town of Chester.

The Town of Chester Development Review Board will conduct a site visit at 2:30 PM on Monday, November 20, 2023, meeting opposite the driveway for 318 Whitten Road, and will hold a hearing on this application at 6:00 PM on Monday, November 20, 2023, at the Chester Town Hall at 556 Elm Street in Chester. The application, exhibits, 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 27th day of October 2023.
Preston Bristow
Zoning Administrator
(802) 875-2173
zoning@chestervt.gov

TOWN OF CHESTER Whiting Library Board of Trustees

The Whiting Library is seeking an individual to be appointed to the Board of Trustees. This position involves attending monthly meetings; working with other trustees overseeing the general operations of the library; assisting with budget preparations; promoting and advocating for the library in the community; and other necessary duties. Letters of Interest must be emailed to Matthew Gorsky at mgorsky@whitinglibrary.org no later than November 13, 2023.

TOWN OF CHESTER NOTICE OF HEARING FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

David Doucette has applied for a Conditional Use Permit to host weddings at the property located at 76 Goldthwaite Road in the Town of Chester.

The Town of Chester Development Review Board will conduct a site visit at 3:30 PM on Monday, November 20, 2023, at 76 Goldthwaite Road and will hold a hearing on this application at 6:00 PM on Monday, November 20, 2023, at the Chester Town Hall at 556 Elm Street in Chester. The application, exhibits 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 27th day of October 2023.
Preston Bristow
Zoning Administrator
(802) 875-2173
zoning@chestervt.gov

TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN TRANSFER STATION ATTENDANT

The Town Charlestown is seeking a qualified individual to fill the position of Transfer Station Attendant.

This position is part time and year-round. Weekly schedule is Tuesday through Saturday.

Duties include but not limited to:

1. Maintaining the recycling area and insuring the proper disposal and classification of all recycled materials.
 2. Assisting residents and commercial users in the appropriate placement of refuse and recyclables.
 3. Assist the Road Agent in all matters related to the operation of a solid waste/recycling facility.
- Additional requirements are a good working ethic, positive attitude, hard worker and a team player.

Interested candidates should complete an application and submit to: Charlestown Town Office - Human Resources Department, PO Box 385, Charlestown NH 03603 or email Ddezan@charlestown-nh.gov. An application may be found at www.charlestown-nh.gov or at the Town Office 233 Main St. Charlestown, NH.

The Town of Charlestown is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

LEGAL

classifieds

BUYING/SELLING

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

Fires right up. Asking \$900. Call 802-885-2370.

MERCURY MARQUI, 2004, mint condition. This car was owned and maintained by one owner. 113,000 miles, clean inside and out. \$4,500. Please call for photos 802-770-0569.

with excellent communication and technical skills. Previous experience preferred. Competitive salary and benefits. For detailed job description submit cover letter and resume to: kkellingtonbrngs@gmail.com.

Chef wanted. Part-time, 4-5 days/month, includes menu planning, prep work, cooking, and serving local community meals. A program of Black River Good Neighbor Services, meals are offered twice monthly. Experience with large quantity cooking necessary, 20-24 hours/month. Competitive salary offered. Please contact Krey Kelington at 802-228-3663.

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. - FT/PT

Second shift available, hours between 3-9, Direct Care for Elderly in Family-owned Assisted Living. Call 603-826-0840.

PT Manager for the Chester Andover Family Center Thrift Shop, 25-30 hours per week, \$25/hour. Full job description at www.chester-andoverfamilycenter.org. Email resume to cafc302@gmail.com.

Looking for a reliable person to snowplow and take care of sidewalks. Snow Blowers on site to use. Easy plowing, apartment complex. Must be able to salt and sand. Salt provided for walkways. Willing to do a contract price or per plow. Readsboro, Vt. Call 802-

388-6174.

Seeking a maintenance position for an apartment complex, full/part

time with a monthly salary along with hourly billables. Call 802-338-6174 for details.

ESTATE SALE

Estate sale Friday and Saturday, Oct. 27 and 28, from 9 am - 5 pm, 76 Elm Hill, Springfield, VT. Years of collecting, quality antiques and modern décor, no junk. 802-885-3050.

GUNS WANTED

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

HELP WANTED

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: Non-profit Windsor County social service agency seeking full-time Assistant Director. Professional, self-motivated and knowledgeable

FIREWOOD

Firewood for sale, 1 ton log load truck, 1 cord at 8-10 foot length, \$130 a cord. You cut and split. Delivered to Chester and Londonderry. 802-875-2646.

Free firewood, must have your own pickup truck and saw, Windham, Vt. 802-875-2646.

FOR LEASE

One open horse stall for lease in Springfield, Vt. Call 802-288-6042.

FOR SALE

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - 2012 Bashan Edge Sport 150 Scooter, new tires, battery, air filter, lights all work, includes cover, lockable luggage, color yellow, odometer is 2,233.



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Town of Plymouth, Vermont Lister Position Available

The Town of Plymouth has an opening for a part-time Lister. Applicant must be a resident of the Town of Plymouth. This position is approximately 15-20 hours a week with a flexible schedule. Initially, there will be in-depth, outside, training provided to maximize Listers time with a review within six (6) months.

- A Lister plays an important role in the Town as it is the official who is charged with determining the value of real property in the Town on which the Select Board will set a tax rate.
- Listers will appraise all taxable property in the Town at the fair market value. The estimated fair market value is the price that the property will bring in the open market when offered for sale.
- Listers must set all real property in the Grand List at one percent of its listed value on April 1 of the year of its appraisal.
- Listers will provide an annual abstract of the Grand List to the Town Clerk for forwarding to the Vermont Department of Taxes Division of Property Valuation and Review. Timely filing is necessary for the receipt of State Highway and Education Aid.
- Listers hold grievance hearings for tax payers who wish to grieve their appraised value. The decisions of the Listers may be appealed to the Board of Civil Authority, and the Listers may appear before the Board to defend the appraised values in question.
- The Listers sit as part of the Board of Tax Abatement to determine whether a taxpayer may have his or her taxes abated.
- Many of the Listers' job responsibilities have requirements concerning timing, notification, and format, as well as substance, which must be strictly adhered to. Towns have lost appeals because procedural details were overlooked. You must carefully read, understand and follow the statutes.
- Assist the public by answering questions and explaining everything from the valuation process to homestead/house site values as well as the appeal process.
- Be able to unravel complex questions regarding mapping and parcel data.
- Data organization and filing from appeals, bills, purchase requests, etc.
- Building permit data entry and spreadsheets when the CAMA System AssessPro is in place.
- Be able to find a value for each parcel in ownership of multiple parcels.
- Correspondence
- Stay up-to-date by attending classes, seminars and webinars.
- Knowledge of NEMRC, VTPIe, word, and excel a plus, but not mandatory.

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

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

Art Crafts Gifts

GALLERY AT THE VAULT

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

See <http://galleryvault.org> for workshop details and to register:
Painting the Vibrant Colors of Fall in Watercolor
with Rob O'Brien 11/4
Make Holiday Crafts, Decorations, & Gifts
with Chris Mix 11/5 (on Zoom)
Joyful Calligraphy Workshop with Jorika Stockwell 11/11

Current Shows:
Painted Silk Scarves by Teresa Hillary
Wonders of Fall by VAULT Artists
(01/24/24 - TFN - 13)

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(11/22/23 - 52)

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Dr. Denise Natale 58 Parker Avenue, Proctorsville, VT 05153, 802-226-7977 Hours: Tuesday 1pm-6pm, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 10am-6pm.
(08/14/24 - TFN - 52)

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(11/08/23 - 13)

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(11/22/23 - 13)

Okemo Valley TV

LOCAL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

- ESBR Student Videos
- History Lesson: Israel, Islam, & Judaism
- A Specker Family Fiddle Session
- Talk w/ Paula: Seasonal Affective Disorder
- Local church services

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)
(01/03/24 - TFN - 13)

arts & entertainment

Saxtons River Art Guild workshop

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The Saxtons River Art Guild (SRAG) announces a one-day workshop on using watercolor pencils given by Lynn Zimmerman on Saturday, Nov. 4, from 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., at the United Church of Bellows Falls, 8 School Street. The workshop theme is “Amazing Watercolor Pencils: Oh, What They Can Do!”

Watercolor pencils are amazing tools for exploring the essentials of art. We'll test several different techniques for their use while we investigate fundamental art concepts. By the end of class, you will have created a

reference book of the many ways these pencils can be used. If you have your own set of watercolor pencils, a list of suggested supplies will be sent upon registration. However, if you wish, you do not need to bring anything; all high-quality tools and materials will be supplied, including watercolor pencils. Artists of all levels are welcome. The workshop fee is discounted for members. There will be coffee and tea available, please bring a lunch.

To register for the workshop, please email Carolyn at poohbear@ne.rr.com. Please let Carolyn know if

you need a list of supplies. Masks and Covid vaccinations are required to attend the SRAG workshops.

Lynn Zimmerman studied at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art and the Rhode Island School of Design. She has worked as a graphic designer and illustrator for more than 30 years. Lynn offers instruction in watercolor, oil, and gouache painting, as well as drawing, book arts, and collage. Her emphasis is on gently supporting each student along his or her creative journey.

Joyful Calligraphy at Gallery at the VAULT

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Gallery at the VAULT is delighted to have Jorika Stockwell back with a new calligraphy workshop, entitled “Joyful Calligraphy,” on Saturday, Nov. 11, from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Jorika is a pleasure to work with, and highly knowledgeable.

Learn several different styles and scripts of calligraphy through writing the word “joy.” You will cover basic pen skills, or if you already know calligraphy, you will learn some interesting twists. At the end, you will create a simple greeting card from your

most joyful work.

Pilot parallel 2.4 millimeter pens will be available for purchase in class, or bring your own 2-3 millimeter flat pen/nib. Ink is provided. There is a small materials fee, and the registration fee is discounted for members. Register by Wednesday, Nov. 8.

Gallery at the VAULT is located at 68 Main Street in Springfield. The gallery is open Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Fridays,



VAULT calligraphy workshop. PHOTO PROVIDED

from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. For more information, call 802-885-7111, email galleryvault@vermontel.net, or visit www.galleryvault.org.

Wild Goose Players presents “Claire in the Chair in the Cimetière”

PUTNEY, Vt. – Wild Goose Players will present “Claire in the Chair in the Cimetière” at Next Stage Arts in Putney, Nov. 10-19, directed by David Stern.

“Claire in the Chair in the Cimetière” is a whimsical comedy about life and death,



A display of props and cast photos.

PHOTO PROVIDED

and finding one's purpose in the unlikeliest of places.

When 27-year-old Claire moves into the local cemetery, she believes her “real life” will finally begin.

Her twin sister Blaire has arranged for everything: food, water, soap, books, clothes. Everything has been prepared for Claire's long life with the dead.

Except she hasn't told the local gravedigger, tombstone maker, and undertaker that she's not dying. Each one of whom, it turns out, have a pressing need for Claire's life to be as short as possible.

Find out if death is the ultimate punchline in “Claire in the Chair in the Cimetière,” a sparklingly dark comedy that reminds us that in the midst of life, there is death. Or maybe it's the other way around? Tickets can be found at www.wildgooseplayers.com/tickets.

Springfield Community Players: “Clue”



The cast of “Clue: On Stage.”

PHOTO PROVIDED

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Community Players are proud to present “Clue: On Stage,” based on the screenplay by Jonathan Lynn, written by Sandy Rustin.

The show revolves around quirky guests invited to a dinner party at Boddy Manor. “Clue” is a hilarious farce-meets-murder mystery, which is inspired by the 1985 Paramount movie, based on the Hasbro Board game.

The story takes place during the Red Scare, which caused hysteria over the perceived threat posed by communists

in the U.S. Our six quirky guests arrive for a dinner party on a dark stormy night at Boddy Manor. As the story unfolds, we find out they are all being blackmailed, and the murders begin. As the body count rises, Wadsworth (Miles Ledoux), Miss Scarlet (Maritza Garcia), Professor Plum (Tom Field), Mrs. White (Ashlee White), Mr. Green (Craig Woodbury), Mrs. Peacock (Jet [Janet] Trimboli), and Colonel Mustard (Scott Magnuson) race around Boddy Manor trying to find the killer.

Patty Greene-Pawelczyk makes her debut as a director with “Clue: On Stage.” She stated that she is fortunate to have such a hard-working, talented cast, this made her job so much easier. They are not only working hard to bring you a great show, but a fun stage. Come join us for a night of laughter, mystery, and yes, murder. Was it Mrs. White in the study with the rope?

Show dates are Nov. 11 and 18, at 7:30 p.m., and Nov. 12 and 19, at 2 p.m. Doors open a half hour before show time.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.springfield-communityplayers.org, by phone 802-885-4098, and at the door on the day of the performance.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

4				6				5
	3		8					6
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8	1				2			6
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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword

<p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Netting</p> <p>5 Composer Porter</p> <p>9 "I'm not impressed"</p> <p>12 Dog food brand</p> <p>13 Send forth</p> <p>14 Chopper</p> <p>15 "Arrivederci"</p> <p>16 Marathon fraction</p> <p>17 Blemish</p> <p>18 Difficult</p> <p>19 JFK info</p> <p>20 Gentle soul</p> <p>21 Victory</p> <p>23 Greek X</p> <p>25 Quick run</p> <p>28 Cry of distress</p> <p>32 Exact moment</p> <p>33 Broadcast again</p> <p>34 Rouse</p> <p>36 Caviar provider</p> <p>37 "Xanadu" band</p> <p>38 "Blue?"</p> <p>39 Family fight</p> <p>42 Zodiac animal</p> <p>44 Frost</p> <p>48 Hostel</p> <p>49 Future tulip</p> <p>50 Tex. neighbor</p> <p>51 Scribble (down)</p>	<p>DOWN</p> <p>1 Jet speed measure</p> <p>2 Director Kazan</p> <p>3 Practice pugilism</p> <p>4 Bamboozled</p> <p>5 Solidify</p> <p>6 Skip</p> <p>7 Fragrant flowers</p> <p>8 Summer on the Seine</p> <p>9 Crib cry</p> <p>10 Physical</p> <p>11 Basil or thyme</p> <p>20 Bread and butter, so to speak</p> <p>22 Chip giant</p> <p>24 Seraglio</p> <p>25 Resort</p> <p>26 "Wham!"</p> <p>27 Estuary</p> <p>29 — de cologne</p> <p>30 "Top Gun"</p> <p>31 target</p> <p>35 "Take your time"</p> <p>36 Panda's diet</p> <p>39 South Pacific nation</p> <p>40 Eve's grandson</p> <p>41 "Do — others —"</p> <p>43 Sax range</p> <p>45 Gumbo veggie</p> <p>46 Friend</p> <p>47 Beams</p> <p>49 Some coll. degrees</p>
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