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Contestants prepare for the 61st Apple Blossom Cotillion

BY KAREN ENGDAHL

The Shopper

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Although the rehearsal hadn't officially begun, Apple Blossom Cotillion participants were already tapping their feet, swaying to the sounds of "Crocodile Rock," and practicing moves on the sidelines of the Riverside Middle School gym.

"It's just so much fun!" said Emilia Battista. "It's a lot of work, too, but I love how everything is coming together!"

With only a precious few rehearsals left before the May 6 cotillion, the participants were energetic, enthusiastic and focused; their positive energy filled the room.

"The rehearsals are every Sunday from one until four but it goes really fast," said Cassidy Otis. "My favorite

part is when we dance with the little kids. They get so excited!"

Kayla Quimby agreed that rehearsing with the Young Cotillionaires was a highlight of the event. "They go so hard!" she said.

Suzanne Shaughnessey, director of the cotillion, is in her thirteenth year in that role. "I love when it gets to this point," she said. "Everything is starting to come together and they're really excited about what they're doing. I try to put together music and dance they wouldn't experience any other way. It's challenging to create a program that's interesting to the kids and to the community."

This year the theme is 80s and 90s rock and roll, including music that's new to the participants as well as old favorites.

"I used to dance to Elton John's 'Crocodile Rock' when I was a little

kid," said Otis. Other participants named "I Love Rock and Roll" and "We Got the Beat" as favorites.

"I just love the opportunity to sing and dance," said Nathan Wardwell, summing up the general sentiment of the group.

The 61st Apple Blossom Queen will be crowned Saturday, May 6 at Riverside Gymnasium in Springfield.

"The Apple Blossom Cotillion is both a community tradition and a fundraising event," said Larry Kraft, director of development for Springfield Hospital, which presents the event. Proceeds are used for the Dr. E. Sherburne Lovell Health Career Award and to support local health care services.

Tickets may be purchased at Tina's Hallmark Store and at Boccaccio's salons.



Cotillion group, 2017.

PHOTO BY KAREN ENGDAHL

BF Middle School band performs at Lincoln Memorial



BFMS Band in front of Lincoln Memorial.

PHOTO BY SIERRA LOUISE

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The Belkows Falls Middle School Advanced Band for the last two years has been fundraising in preparation for a unique opportunity to travel to Washington, D.C. to perform in front of the Lincoln Memorial. On April 11, 2017, that opportunity came a reality!

On a beautiful spring day, thirty-nine BFMS advanced band students, lead by band director Stan Rumrill, performed an hour-long concert for those in attendance at the Lincoln Memorial. The week-long trip from

April 10-14 also included a full itinerary introducing the students to the amazing Smithsonian Museums & Memorials, Arlington National Cemetery, Ford's Theatre, National Zoo and night tours around Washington, D.C.

The BFMS advanced band students would love to thank the following businesses that generously donated funds towards making this trip a reality for them: Allen Brothers, Together We Can, Durand Toyota Ford, Westminster Auto, J&H Hardware,

J&H Sporting Goods, JS Automotive, James Plumbing & Heating Oil, Dr. Timothy Johnson, Greater Falls Insurance, Village Square Booksellers, Halladay's Harvest Barn, Saxtons River Thursday Night Poker Group, Marquise & Morano LLC, J & M Auto, Vermont Hillside Lawn Services, Burtco Inc, Savings Bank of Walpole, Joy Wah Restaurant, Chroma Tech Corporation, Vermont Country Store, Jim McAuliffe, American Legion Pierce Lawton Post #57 and the George A Dascomb Fund.

Springfield Community Band starts rehearsals

BY KAREN ENGDAHL

The Shopper

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Nick Pelton lifted his baton, the band swung into a snappy rendition of "Puttin' on the Ritz," and the first rehearsal of the Springfield Community Band's 2017 season was underway recently at the Riverside Middle School auditorium.

For nearly 70 years, the Springfield Community Band has been a beloved summer tradition in Springfield and surrounding towns, providing weekly outdoor concerts featuring a wide range of music from popular hits to traditional band marches.

"This year we're going to revisit some of the favorites," said Pelton, who is in his seventh year as director. "One march we're playing tonight is 'On the Mall,' written for an event in Washington, DC."

Pelton, a saxophonist himself, says he enjoys the energy and versatility of the group.

"I played saxophone in the community band when I was a kid," he says,

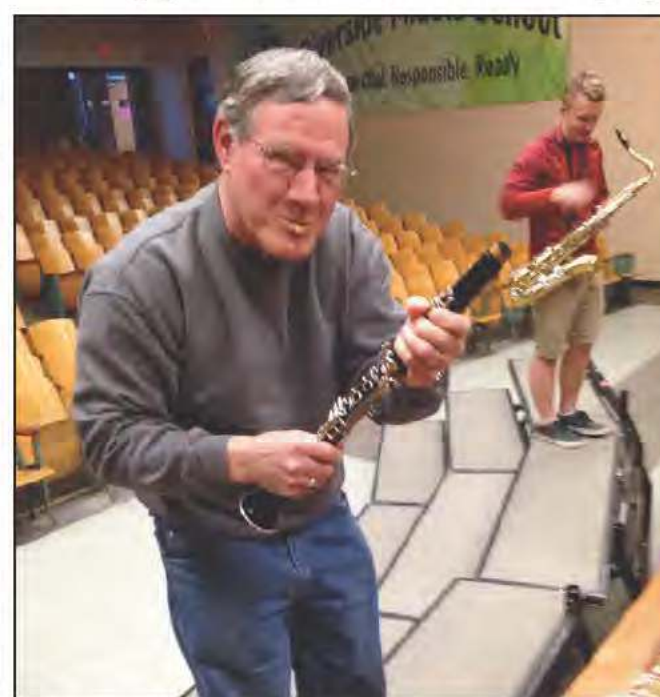
"and now it's great to help keep the tradition going."

The Springfield Community Band continues in the tradition of community bands begun in 1828 in Allentown, Penn. Springfield's band was formed in 1946 when some 19 high school and adult musicians got together under the direction of Wendell Cook. Since then the band has played under 12 more conductors.

The band typically includes from 20 to 30 musicians, from beginners to seasoned veterans. They rehearse weekly starting at the end of April and present their much-anticipated concerts starting in June.

"We have a lot of fun," said Sherry Willumits, flutist and registrar of the group. "We help and support each other, so people who are new to the group can feel comfortable playing the music."

The Springfield Community Band welcomes all musicians, whether current members, past members, or have thought about dusting off their instruments after a musical hiatus. All of the band members are there for the joy of making music together and enhancing their skills, and they encourage new members to come and join them to share the fun. Players that need help obtaining or restoring serviceable instruments, or just need additional information and encouragement, can contact Karen Bailey at 802-886-5478.



Rob Mackenzie assembles his clarinet.

PHOTO BY KAREN ENGDAHL

Walker Bridge in Ludlow to close



Travelers coming to/through Ludlow anytime during June 1 - August 31, 2017 will need to take detour routes while Walker Bridge, over the Black River and located near the intersection with Elm Street, is being replaced.

Traffic: The bridge will be closed for a 35-day period between June 1 and August 31, 2017. Two weeks before and after the bridge closure period, traffic will be maintained on the bridge with one-lane alternating traffic during the daytime hours.

Detour Route: During construction, a regional detour route will be signed using VT 103/VT 11/VT 100. The maximum length of the detour is 30 miles, which adds 18 miles to the current travel distance. A local route, which adds 0.7 miles to current travel distance, will also be signed. This local route, however, is not allowed for truck traffic. The local bypass involves residential streets and sharp turns that trucks may not be able to safely navigate.

From the North: From VT 155 southbound traffic would take VT 100 toward Londonderry. Turn left onto VT 11 and continue toward Chester. Bear left onto VT 103 north. Traffic coming westward on VT 131 would turn left onto VT 103 and proceed southward to Chester. Turn right on VT 11 in Chester and turn right on VT 100 in Londonderry and travel northward towards Ludlow.

From the South: Northbound traffic on VT 103 would turn left on VT 11 and travel westward toward Londonderry. In Londonderry, turn right on VT 100 toward Ludlow.

Detour routes provided by southcentralvtbridges.vtransprojects.vermont.gov/bridge_projects/ludlow/

MAP PROVIDED BY PARSONS BRINCKERHOFF OF WSP

INDEX

Editorial 6A
Church Services/Obituaries 7A
Arts & Entertainment 8A, 10B
Sports 1B
Outdoor News/Green Up Day 4B
Directory/Classifieds/Spotlight 5B
Legal Notices 5B - 7B
Calendar 6B - 9B

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J & H Hardware celebrates 10 years; YMCA benefits

BY MARY ELLEN CANNON
The Shopper

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – “Locals have been good to J & H Hardware,” Sam Haskins stated. In return, J & H Hardware, 20 Village Square in downtown Bellows Falls, will host a party to celebrate 10 years in business. A raffle and barbeque will benefit Meeting Waters YMCA in Bellows Falls. Join the fun May 6, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. by the store.

Heather Haskins, store manager, expressed gratitude to the local businesses contributing raffle items, which include Miranda Lambert concert tickets. Sable Harty, who manages the store with Heather, explained, “YMCA is all about after school programs and camps in summer. We all have children and want to give back to the community.”

The fire department will have a truck out for kids to climb on. Radio

station 100.5 will broadcast live by the store from 11 to noon. Intercept, a fun rock-n-roll band, rocks the street, 12:30 to 2 p.m. Intercept band members, plumbers during the day, are good customers.

Ten years ago Sam and Verna Haskins, driving through Bellows Falls, noticed the hardware store. She spoke of seeking part-time clerk work. He had read the store was up for sale. That was a Friday. On Tuesday with help from People’s Bank they were buying the business. “We kind of got thrown into it. It has worked out,” their daughter Heather said. “We” includes her brother Jeremy Haskins, who was honored by Lyndon State University in 2014 as alumnus of the year for his role in growing the local Vermont business. He expanded the store from 3,500 to 12,000 square feet and diversified. He said they “try to not turn customers away so they don’t have to leave town.”

Sam and Verna named J & H Hard-



J&H Hardware.

PHOTO PROVIDED

ware after their children Jeremy and Heather.

J & H Hardware, independently owned by the Haskins family, is a



Verna, Heather and Sam Haskins.

PHOTO BY JEREMY HASKINS

member of Do-It Best Corp., a U.S. cooperative. Membership allows J & H Hardware to buy at prices to stay competitive with the box stores. In

2012 The North American Hardware Association awarded J & H Hardware “Retailer of the Year.”

Jeremy took a job with Do-It Best

Corp. last August. To avoid conflict of interest, he no longer owns part of J & H Hardware. Expect to party with him rain or shine on May 6.

National Endowment for the Arts Rockingham Library project

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Rockingham Library is currently featured in the National Endowment for the Arts “50 States of Preservation” series, for completion of the re-housing project of 1,384 historic glass plate negatives in its Historical Collection. Glass plate negatives require special storage and handling to prevent the image from separating from the glass. The NEH article and photos can be viewed on the web at <https://www.neh.gov>.

The Library’s future plans include cataloging the collection and providing digitized access. Meanwhile, the Library’s Cataloged

Photograph Collection is accessible to the public. It includes historic images of town celebrations, residents



The library completed the re-housing project of 1,384 historic glass plate negatives in its Historical Collection.

PHOTO PROVIDED

and visitors, buildings, railroads, bridges and canals.

Director Celina Houlne says the photographs are “the most frequently consulted history collection in the Library, with an average of 250 requests per year.”

Also, Bellows Falls Union High School yearbooks, from 1930 forward, are available online at the Library’s website: www.rockinghamlibrary.org

For more information, go to rockinghamlibrary.org, call 802-463-4270, email programming@rockinghamlibrary.org or stop by the Library at 65 Westminster St., Bellows Falls, Vt.

RVTC’s the Collaboratory is open to community members

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Makers, creators, inventors, and tinkerers are invited to become members in the Collaboratory, a high tech makerspace at the River Valley Technical Center.

The RVTC makerspace is designed to be a space where people have access to cutting edge technology and where they can come together to share ideas and collaborate to make design ideas become a reality. During the day, the space is used for RVTC students. It has also been utilized for the Tech Time and Tech Camp Programs for middle school stu-

dents.

The Co-Lab is focused on high-tech design and engineering. Community Members will have access to 3D printers, a Laser Cutter and Engraver, a Vinyl Cutter, a high-end embroidery machine, hand and power tools, the Adobe Suite, and other online resources.

To start, the Collaboratory will be open to community members Thursday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m. starting April 27, and two Saturdays a month from 8 a.m. – noon starting April 29. Memberships fees are for an initial orientation and then a punch card can be purchased for

subsequent visits. The cost of the membership will cover most materials, software licenses, maintenance and upkeep of the equipment.

Register for an orientation and for membership through the RVTC Adult Education program website at: <http://rvtc.org>. Click on Adult Education, and Co-Lab Makerspace Registration. Please contact Kelly Broker-Campbell at 802.885.8347 or kbroercampbell@rvtc.org with questions. This space is made possible through support from the Vermont Agency of Education and the Springfield Regional Development Corporation.

Learn new ways to connect with people that have Alzheimer’s disease and dementia at Immanuel Retreat Center



BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - On Thursday, April 27 from 2 - 4 p.m. in Bellows Falls the Brattleboro Area Hospice & the VT Alzheimer’s Association will host a presentation on Alzheimer’s Disease and Dementia: Effective Commu-

nication Strategies for Caregivers. The presentation will take place at the Immanuel Retreat Center and Stone Church Arts (Currier House) at 12 Church St. in Bellows Falls. The presentations are free and the public is encouraged to attend.

Communication is more than just talking and listening—it’s about sending and receiving messages through attitude, tone of voice, facial expressions and body language. As people with Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias progress in their disease process and the ability of words is lost, families and caregivers need new ways to connect. Join us for this free program as we explore how communication takes place when someone has Alzheimer’s, learn to decode the verbal and behavioral messages delivered by someone with dementia, and identify strategies to help you connect and communicate at each stage of the disease.

For more information or to RSVP please contact Patty Dunn, Hospice Program Coordinator at 802- 257-0775 ext.102 or email patty.dunn@brattleborohospice.org.

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Connecticut Valley Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine (CVOSM) and Springfield Hospital are pleased to welcome Robert V. Cantu, MD, MS, as a new member of the orthopaedics team starting May 1st. Dr. Cantu received his medical degree from Tufts University School of Medicine, and completed his Orthopaedic Surgery Residency at University of Massachusetts and an Orthopaedic Traumatology Fellowship at Grant Medical Center, Columbus, OH. He has been in practice for over 20 years, and recently served as Director of Orthopaedic Trauma, and Associate Professor of Orthopaedics at Geisel School of Medicine, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center.

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Union Street School students expertly swing poi balls

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - As the school counselor, Jan Rounds is always mindful of innovative ways to stimulate the brain to improve students' ability to learn and have fun. Poi is a type of round fruit that grows from a long vine. The use of the Poi balls originated in New Zealand.

The story is, many years ago the women weren't allowed to speak at the town meetings. As a way of communicating their thoughts, the women would bring the poi and swing it during the meeting. The poi ball has evolved as a way of strengthening the brain when it's swung crossing in front of the body



Isaac, 4th grader in Ms. Semel's class braiding the tether for his poi ball.

PHOTO PROVIDED



4th graders Savannah, Kylie and Marie from Mrs. Ankuda's class.

PHOTO PROVIDED

in the shape of an infinity sign. The Vermont NEA granted a \$500 scholarship for the supplies for all 300 students to make their personal poi ball. The supplies purchased were based on the Springfield Cosmo's school colors of green and white.

Jakeb a third grader says, "When I use the poi ball, it calms me down, I can sit longer and concentrate."

During the state SBAC testing, at times you'd see students taking a break from testing. Students chose to use their poi ball out in the hallway

before going back into the classroom to complete testing. Fourth grader, Sabyn shared that she had been so worried prior to testing that she noticed feeling and acting grumpy. When Sabyn crosses the middle with her poi ball, her face begins to soften and a wide smile slowly creeps across her face. It was reported that children have been seen at their bus stops in the morning crossing the middle with their poi's. Does this mean calmer bus rides for Springfield students?

Springfield piano studio marathon winners



Terry Hartman left, and Gabe McNeil right, were the marathon winners.

PHOTO BY KAREN ENGDAHL

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Terry Hartman and Gabe McNeil were the first Springfield Piano Studio students to cross the finish line in the 26-week piano exercise marathon held at the Studio recently. The marathon, completed by all studio students, included 26 weeks of study in traditional piano exercises by composers such as Hanon and Czerny.

Each student received a T-shirt from a past runner's marathon as a reward for completing the race. The marathon finished the day of the 2017 Boston Marathon. Congratulations to all our "athletes!"

For more information about the Studio, contact Karen Engdahl at 802-885-1216

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A wheelchair at the library

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The Springfield Town Library has a wheelchair! The gift of an anonymous donor, the chair means library users who make it up the ramp and into the building can relax and enjoy the comfort of a self-propelling, easy rolling, standard chair. Note: no foot rests or seat belt, in case those features are important to you.

We look forward to seeing users with broken bones, aching joints, or breathing issues wheeling themselves around the building, into the elevator and between the stacks. Need to know more? Call the Library at 802-885-3108.



Library director Amy Howlett shows off the wheelchair at the Springfield Town Library.

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Vermont schools lead on recycling and composting



Students are learning to reduce, reuse, and recycle at school. PHOTO PROVIDED BY SHUTTERSTOCK

REGION – Vermont’s K-12 schools are at the forefront of implementing the Universal Recycling law and using food education and local resources to cut down on food waste. They are successfully reducing waste, managing recyclable materials and creating food scrap diversion programs in exemplary form.

“In their classrooms and cafeterias, Vermont’s youth are learning important hands-on lessons about how simple and routine it can be to reduce waste, rescue food, recycle materials, and compost. It becomes natural,” said Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Emily Boedecker.

Vermont schools make different choices about how they should best manage their waste; what works for one school might not work for another. Some schools compost on-site; some schools work with a local farm to manage food scraps; and some schools have hauler pickup of food scraps along with their recyclables and other waste. The wide variety of implemented solutions demonstrates the options and flexibility available to organizations and resi-

dents seeking to sustainably manage recyclables and organic waste.

Schools across the state are also working to address national food waste trends by using tools to decrease wasted food in their cafeterias and increase food donation rates. ‘Food Share tables,’ where students can place unwanted food to be shared with their classmates rather than throwing the food in the trash, are an increasingly popular tool.

Though most schools are not required to separate food scraps until 2020, schools have been ahead of the curve because of the dedicated students, teachers, parents, and school employees who have been working for years to decrease food waste and manage food scraps. Schools have also received critical support from their solid waste districts or alliances and a rich network of Farm-to-School programming.

With Earth Day nearing, here are two examples of the successful leadership and innovation happening in Vermont schools with the goal of inspiring others:

Flood Brook School in Londonderry: Flood Brook School established a food scrap diversion



Schools are taking initiative to compost and reduce food waste. STOCK PHOTO

system in 2015 by arranging weekly food scrap pickup from TAM Organics Inc., in conjunction with the hauler’s pick-up of food scraps from the nearby Londonderry Transfer Station.

Putney Central School: With the support of the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets’ Milk Cooler Program, some schools have

installed bulk milk dispensers, eliminating single-serving milk cartons from their waste streams and reducing wasted milk. At Putney Central School, 51,000 milk cartons were landfilled annually prior to switching to a bulk milk dispenser system.

These highlights represent a small sample of the achievements of many more schools across Vermont.

BRGNS looking for volunteers

LUDLOW, Vt. – Black River Good Neighbor Services is looking for volunteers to help with its annual spring rummage sale, which will be held at Fletcher Farm, 611 Route 103 South in Ludlow, on Friday and Saturday, May 19-20 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday May 21 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The sale will feature clothing, housewares, books, linens, furniture and all manner of goods.

“We’ve been stockpiling good quality items but now we need people to sort and arrange the merchandise,” said Audrey Bridge, executive director. “We need volunteers both to help set up and to staff the sale, and we need lots of people to donate baked goods for the bake sale.”

Bridge also pointed out that there would be new goods brought in for



Black River Good Neighbors is seeking volunteers for their rummage sale. PHOTO PROVIDED

Saturday morning. “We always have extra items that we use to re-stock since we can’t fit it all onto the tables for Friday.”

Black River Good Neighbor Services holds a spring and a fall rummage sale each year to sell gently used items that are donated by the community. Proceeds from the sales are used to purchase food for the food shelf or are used for financial assistance programs in the community.

BRGNS also runs a thrift store at 37B Main St. in Ludlow – behind the Ludlow Community Center, and a used furniture store at 105 Main St. – in the old firehouse. BRGNS’ programs serve Ludlow, Cavendish, Mount Holly and Plymouth.

For more information or to volunteer, please call Audrey Bridge at 802-228-3663.

Villagers

The Country Creeme at Downers 4 Corners in Perkinsville, Vt. has new owners, and they are now open! Stop by and give them a visit!

PHOTO BY SHAWN BOBAR PHOTOGRAPHY



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Can you free yourself of some investment-related taxes?

REGION – Tax Freedom Day generally falls around this time each year. This is the day when the nation as a whole has earned enough money to pay off its total tax bill for the year, according to the calculations made by the Tax Foundation. So you may want to use Tax Freedom Day to think about ways you can liberate yourself from some of the investment-related taxes you may incur.

Of course, Tax Freedom Day is something of a fiction, in practical terms, because most people pay their taxes throughout the year via payroll deductions. Also, you may not mind paying your share of taxes, because your tax dollars are used in many ways – law enforcement, food safety, road maintenance, public education, and so on – that benefit society. Still, you may be able to reduce those taxes associated with your investments, leaving you more money available to help you work toward your important goals, such as a comfortable retirement.

Here are some suggestions for making investing less “taxing.”

- **Contribute regularly to tax-advantaged retirement plans.** Contribute as much as you can afford to your IRA and your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. Traditional IRA earnings grow tax deferred, and your contributions

may be tax-deductible, depending on your income. (Taxes will be due upon withdrawal, however, and withdrawals made before you turn 59½ may be subject to a 10 percent IRS penalty.) Your 401(k) or similar plan also provides the opportunity for tax-deferred earnings growth. Roth IRA contributions are not deductible, but your earnings are distributed tax-free, provided you don’t take withdrawals until you’re 59½ and you’ve had your account at least five years.

- **Follow a “buy-and-hold” strategy.** If you sell investments you’ve owned for less than a year, and their value has increased, you will have to pay capital gains taxes at your personal income tax rate, which, in early 2017, could be as high as 39.6 percent. But if you hold investments for at least a year before selling them, you’d be assessed the long-term capital gains rate, which tops out at 20 percent. Be aware, though, that the Trump administration and Congress seem likely to change the tax rates. Early plans call for a maximum personal income tax rate of 33 percent, with the top rate for capital gains and dividends either staying at 20 percent, or possibly being reduced to 16.5 percent. In any case, you’ll still come out ahead, tax-wise, by holding your investments long enough to receive the long-term capital gains rate.

- **Consider municipal bonds –** If you are in one of the higher income brackets, you might benefit from investing in municipal bonds, which are typically used to finance public projects, such as roads, schools, airports and infrastructure-related repairs. Interest payments from “munis” are typically exempt from federal income taxes and may also be exempt from state and local taxes, depending on the state in which the bond issuer is located. Interest payments from some types of municipal bonds may be subject to the alternative minimum tax (AMT). Again, though, watch for developments from Washington, as both the Trump administration and some congressional leaders favor eliminating the AMT.

When charting your investment strategy, consider your risk tolerance, time horizon, family situation and estate plans. But investment-related taxes should also be in your strategic mix – so look for opportunities to keep these taxes under control.

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Ludlow American Legion
FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER

Friday, April 28th

Pot Roast
w/ All the Fixin’s and Dessert
\$12.00
To benefit the American Legion Auxiliary

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LOCAL HISTORY

BY RON PATCH

Ron Patch is a Chester native, Chester Historical Society president, Historian at Olive Branch Lodge #64 and a lifelong antiques dealer. He can be reached at 802-374-0119 or email knotz69@gmail.com

Ludlow Firehouse mystery —

Recently the Vermont Journal/Shopper editor Brandy Todt was contacted by Black River Good Neighbors in Ludlow, regarding a discovery they made in the old Ludlow firehouse on Main Street in Ludlow.

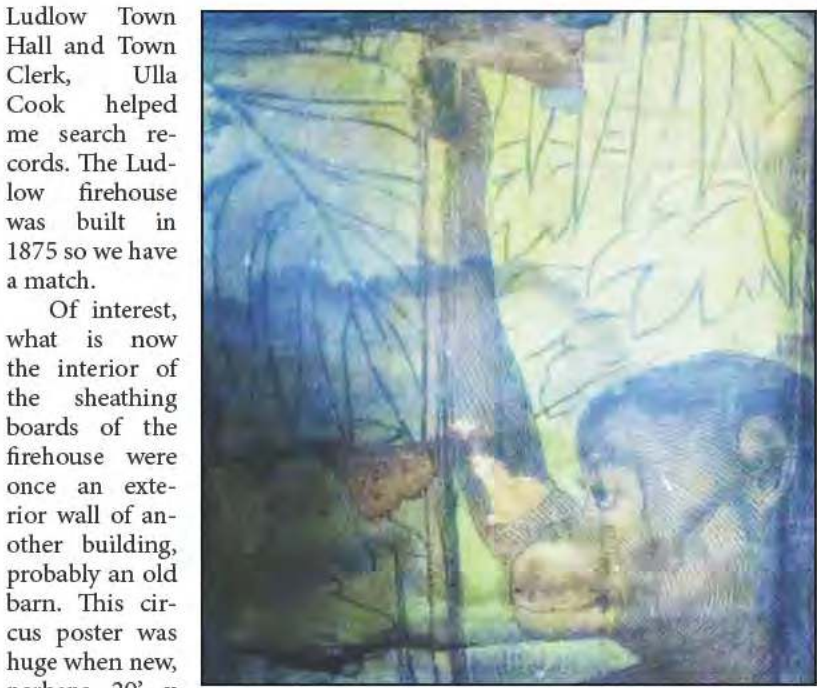
The old firehouse is very cold and drafty in the winter so they decided to insulate the walls. When workers removed an interior wall upstairs to insulate they discovered the remnants of an old circus poster pasted on the inside of the outer wall sheathing.

Brandy was going down to investigate and invited me to join her. I examined the poster and determined it was a lithograph dating to the 1870s-1880s. It was made in smaller sheets, which would have been numbered so they could be pasted down in the proper order.

These colorful and graphic circus posters were made with individual sheets of the same size. When pasted on the side of a building they were traffic stoppers. They used monkeys, lions, elephants and female aerial trapeze artists to entice the public. They were designed to capture the viewer's imagination and they did.

On the Ludlow poster there are scenes of monkeys in the jungle and young women wearing skimpy costumes performing aerial acts. Over-pasted on one section is, "Saturday, Aug 21" but no year. These stock posters were produced in volume without a date. This way the same poster could be used in any town or city by simply over-pasting the date that it would arrive in your area.

I searched old calendars from the 1870s and found Saturday, August 21, only occurred in 1875. A visit to



Monkey jungle scene.

PHOTO BY RON PATCH



Man with a mustache.

PHOTO BY BRANDY TODT



Saturday, Aug. 21.

PHOTO BY BRANDY TODT

American Legion

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FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER
5:30 PM TO 7:00 PM

April 28th
Roast Pork

Hosted by the
Sons of the American Legion

All dinners are \$11/person
which includes coffee/tea & dessert

Reservations are held until 6:30 pm

The Friday Night Dinner Committee
wishes to thank all those who support
our dinners and programs

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- Military: Helmets, Flags, Uniforms, Weapons, Daggers and Bayonets
- Antique Clocks & Clock Parts
- Guns
- Coins
- & More!

Call Ron Patch at 802-374-0119



Stone House Antiques garden party

Best day ever at the 4th annual Stone House Antique garden party in Chester on April 22 & 23. Antique gardening supplies were neatly arranged. Bring spring to your home with a treasure from the antique center! Be creative; use antiques to display spring flowers. A big thank you to all who attended the garden party!

PHOTOS PROVIDED

Celebrate springtime

CHESTER, Vt. - It's time to activate spring and summer floral displays around Chester by supporting the planter campaign organized by Chester Townscape, a committee of tax-exempt Chester Community Alliance. CT is once again soliciting contributions to purchase large containers that will be filled with soil and planted with flowers. These planters will be placed in key locations throughout the town to show that Chester is a thriving and welcoming place to visit, shop, and live.

Floral displays will soon grace a variety of very visible public places, such as the Village Green, Whiting Library, Post Office, Chester Railway Station, Depot gazebo, Town Hall, Pinnacle Recreation Center, as well as certain bridges.

Businesses and residents are encouraged to support these beautification efforts by donating to the public part of the effort and/or by purchasing a planter for their own business or property. The cost of each new, planted container is \$85, and the cost of replanting a previously purchased planter is \$50. However every sponsored pot or contribution to the effort will be appreciated and add to a coordinated look for the town that lasts well into fall.

To order, please contact Lynn Russell at 802-875-2707 or jrusell@att.net. Lynn can email a copy of the order form, but copies of the form are also available at Misty Valley Books and the Whiting Library. The check for a planter and/or a contribution should be made payable to Chester Community Alliance, Inc., marked for Chester Townscape in the memo line, and mailed to Chester Townscape, PO Box 561, Chester, VT 05143 by May 5. A swift response in donations will help secure pots and plants before planting takes place on May 18 to ensure a glorious display for Memorial Day Weekend.

Chester Townscape encourages wide-ranging support for this effort and welcomes volunteers to help with the watering - whether that help is on weekdays, weekends, or just occasionally. CT will gladly explain what is needed and fit that volunteer work into someone's schedule. Please contact Lynn Russell with watering assistance or suggestions to help Chester Townscape bring out the best in Chester.



Chester Townscape member Barb Westine. PHOTO PROVIDED



Glasses found

I found these eyeglasses on a rock in the Williams River by the School Street footbridge on April 21, 2017. They are prescription glasses. To claim them call Ron Patch at 802 374 0119.

PHOTO BY RON PATCH

Opening Week Special

Buy one Entrée Get 2nd at Half Price!

Valid on Lunch or Dinner Entrée

Cut this Ad out for Special. Offer Ends May 4, 2017.



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\$11⁰⁰ Includes Potato & Veggie of the Day

arts & entertainment

Making fabric pottery

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Calling all people who like to work with fabric. Elizabeth Ezold makes amazing fabric pottery and will be sharing her expertise at Gallery at the VAULT. Learn to sew beautiful multi-colored bowls in a variety of shapes and sizes on Saturday, May 6 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. You will use fabric strips, cording and coordinating thread. The bowls are eye-catching and functional. Students should bring a portable sewing machine with zigzag ability and have some basic sewing ability. A full materials list will be provided at registration.

Beth began doing crafts at age 10, with sewing her main focus. She has taught elementary school and always added crafts to the curriculum, and still loves to teach. After retirement, she found quilting and discovered the wonders of making fabric bowls.

"I have been making the fabric pottery for more than 5 years. Each bowl or mat is the chance to put fabric together in a new order, and each bowl's shape/size is a product of the moment I am making it" says Beth.



Beth Ezold with her fabric pottery.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Her creations include traditional quilts, landscape wall hangings, totes, commissioned pieces, children's toys, table runners, etc. She is also VAULT's new fabulous employee.

For more information please

call or come into Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main Street, Springfield. We are open 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Contact: 802-885-7111, galleryvault@vermontel.net or visit our web page: www.galleryvault.org.

"Yarn Kippur:" the shame and distress of unfinished projects

CHESTER, Vt. - We all have unfinished projects: The half-knit baby

sweater for the child about to graduate. The yarn that seemed so pretty in the

store, but really... what were you thinking? The afghan pattern that you meant to get to just as soon as you had three thousand hours to spare.

You probably caught a glimpse of one (or more) of these recently as you were digging in the back of a closet for shorts and T-shirts. You probably cringed and shoved it even further back. It's time to stop cringing. Six Loose Ladies is here to help.

On "Yarn Kippur" all fiber faux pas are forgiven. Search out your unwanted yarn, needles, patterns, tools. Bring them to Six Loose Ladies and exchange them for something exciting and new (to you).

Six Loose Ladies Yarn & Fiber Shop is located at 287 Main Street, Chester. Yarn Kippur is on Thursday, April 27 from 5 - 8 p.m. Free! A redistribution of fiber wealth.

Green-Up Day video contest

REGION - For Green Up Day 2017, The Skinny Pancake will sponsor a video contest encouraging students 18 and younger to create an original video of what Green Up Day means to them. The winning video will receive a visit from The Skinny Pancake for a crepe party.

The Green Up Day Video Contest is open to all Vermont residents under the age of 18. Students are encouraged to be creative and to show how they participate in Green Up Day with their family or community, or what it means to keep Vermont clean and green. Green Up Day, a statewide volunteer event to clean up Vermont's roadsides and public spaces, will be celebrated on Saturday, May 6.

All videos must be posted to Green Up Day Facebook page (www.facebook.com/GreenUpVermont/) by May 21 to be considered for the grand prize, a crepe party provided by The Skinny Pancake. Videos must be no longer than 60 seconds. The video with the most Likes and Shares will be the winner.



Have your child participate in the Green Up Day video contest.

PHOTO PROVIDED

OLLI program uncovers

American Revolution spies

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Damien Cregeau will present the OLLI-Osher Lifelong Learning Institute program on Tuesday, May 2 titled "Spies, Lies and Alibis: Spying During the American Revolution." It will be presented at 2:00 p.m. at the Nolin Murray Center next to St. Mary's Catholic Church on Pleasant St. in Springfield, Vermont.

Cregeau will give a fascinating PowerPoint presentation that will bring to light the various spy rings and independent spies in and around New York City who worked for General George Washington and the patriot cause during the American Revolution era, including the famous Culper spy ring led by Major Benjamin Tallmadge. He'll explore the lesser known figures and rings, such as the Dayton spy ring run by Col. Elias Dayton between Elizabeth, N.J. and Staten Island. Included will be the esoteric but heroic agents like Lt. Lewis Costigan and Sgt. Daniel Bissell, who both went behind enemy lines in NYC while still in the Conti-



Damien Cregeau, historian, will speak at OLLI on "Spies, Lies and Alibis: Spying During the American Revolution."

PHOTO PROVIDED

mental Army. He'll examine the spy tradecraft of the era, including the use of aliases or cover names, dead drops, invisible inks, as well as codes and ciphers.

Cregeau, an independent historian from Connecticut, has spoken throughout the northeast on colonial American, military and architectural history. He presented this talk to the New York Office of the F.B.I. in the summer of 2014.

The following OLLI program on May 9, just one week later rather than the usual two, will be Brian Lindner, Vermont Aviation historian, who will share information about Vermont Airplane Crashes. The May 9 program will be the final program of the semester.

Membership is for the semester, which includes nine programs. The programs are open to the public. Non-members are encouraged and welcome to attend individual lectures for a single program fee. Memberships, as well as single program fees, may be paid at the program.

The complete Springfield and statewide program list is available on the Internet at www.learn.uvm.edu/olli. Choose State-wide programs from the menu, and then scroll to Springfield.

Charlie Brown play

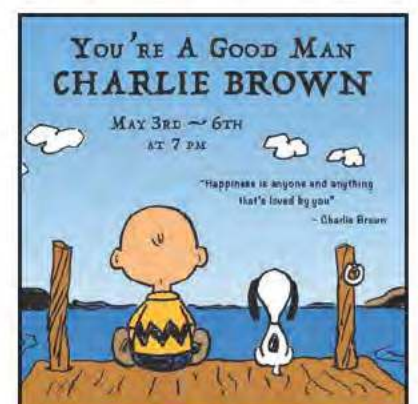
PUTNEY, Vt. - "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" with Director Jessa Rowan, Musical Director/Producer

Alli Lubin, and Backstage Manager/Production Assistant Sally Seymour will be presented by the 7th and 8th grades at The Grammar School on Wednesday through Saturday nights, May 3, 4, 5, and 6 at 7:00 p.m.

Charles Schulz's beloved comic comes to life in Clark Gesner's classic musical "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown." The whole crew is here: bossy Lucy is desperately in love with piano prodigy Schroeder who is completely oblivious to her feelings, perfectionist Sally is still making fun of blanket-toting Linus, Snoopy is in the doghouse, and inept but ever hopeful Charlie Brown is still searching for what it means to be a good person. Brief vignettes span the months from Valentine's Day to Beethoven Day, and from wild optimism to utter despair. Watch as these entertaining characters navigate the joys and pitfalls of childhood: chaotic baseball games, unrequited valentines, World War I flying beagles, and five-cent psychiatry.

"You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" does what all good theater is meant to do: it provides an opportunity for escape. We can return to a time when, as the final song in the show says, happiness was "two kinds of ice cream, catching a firefly or tying your shoes for the very first time. Happiness is anyone and anything that's loved by you."

Reserve seats by calling The Grammar School at 802-387-5364 ext.101. Purchase tickets at the door. The Grammar School is located on 69 Hickory Ridge Rd South, Putney, Vt.



You're a Good Man Charlie Brown. PHOTO PROVIDED

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sports



THIS AND THAT

BY BILL MURPHY

The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

The more things change, the more they remain the same:

An interesting example comes from the Marble Valley League. For the most part, the league has things right, as they allow schools to ask to compete in individual sports at the level they feel is most appropriate. Regardless of a teams' status in the MVL, just as it should be at the state level, your classification is determined by student enrollment, by sport, but, the MVL allows a team in a school, which has trouble competing with their division, to compete down.

Some teams in the MVL drop down and stay down because they never excel, but... there are times a school has a group of students, who excel at the lower level and then when realignment comes around again (generally every two years), they are moved up, so they don't become dominant of schools, not their size.

Unfortunately, often the catch is, the strong athletes in a program graduate and a much lesser ability group is left to face the iron. Bellows Falls softball has been in this situation in recent years. They had a couple years (the springs of 2014 and 2015) when they played a Division III/IV schedule in the MVL and finished 8-6 and 13-3 in back to back years. The 13-3 record was when they were actually classified by the state in Division III and were seeded third in the state tourney, but they didn't win a post-season game.

However, when the new two-year cycle came out, based on their 21-9 two-year record and now Division II placement, the MVL powers that be decided, for the next two years, they needed to play a DII schedule, which even includes games versus DI schools.

Last spring, BF went 4-12 in softball and who knows what the record will be this time around. They are presently 1-2 and were headed out as we wrote to travel to Bennington to face Mount Anthony on Tuesday.

Among the seventeen Division II softball teams in Vermont, BF is the 11th largest. Union-32 has the largest enrollment in D II, with 272 girls and BF has 166. The 10th largest school has 186 students and the 12th has 157. Obviously BF is a small DII school.

BF played a pretty good game at Fair Haven Saturday without some vacationing bodies and fell 6-0. They walked off the field looking defeated, but they should have felt better about themselves. As we said, they played well.

BF has never won a state softball championship, and has a 14-27 lifetime play-off record in the sport. The last time they won a play-off game was 2008, when they advanced to the semi-final in DII and bowed to Harwood 4-2. The Lady Terriers were a seventh seed that season.

The reason for writing this was not to criticize the MVL and their set-up, but to show what a delicate balance this all is. The only thing I think I could suggest is, let a team spend a minimum of three years in a renaissance position before you move them up, unless the team still has a loaded roster returning. This scenario may be as difficult as the old proverbial line, which comes first, the chicken or the egg?

Pitching and defense - I am a big baseball fan. I don't care what level the game is at from high school through the pros, I love pitching and defense. I am capable of oohing and aweing at a big hit or two, especially a home run, but pitching and defense is my thing.

Most of you readers, like Mr. Saxtons River Pirate Dave Moore, want plenty of runs and plenty of hits, but give me a baseball ballet with precision.

Kendall Heath has pitched for Fall Mountain for three years now. The junior has begun this season in extraordinary fashion. His coach Tom Stockton tells us, "he's going to be special."

Fall Mountain is currently 3-0 with 6-1 and 2-0 victories over Kearsarge and Newport respectively with Heath on the mound, and on Monday they defeated Mascoma 9-3 in a game. Heath's junior classmate Justin Beauregard spaced eight hits in. FM has three more games remaining this week with home contests with Conant (Wednesday) and Monadnock (Friday) and a road game at Belmont in between.

Heath pitched a no-hitter against Newport and allowed one-hit versus Kearsarge, (Stockton says "he shook off a pitch call on that one") and in his fourteen innings, has allowed the one hit, while striking out 31 of the 42 batters he has retired.

New Hampshire has introduced a pitch count in baseball this spring, (Vermont already has played with one for a few years) and that limits Heath's outings. If a pitcher tosses 1-25 pitches said pitcher needs no rest, if they throw 26-50 pitches, they will need a days rest, while 51-75 pitches means a pitcher will need two days rest and if they throw more than 76 tosses, three days rest will be needed.

Former athletes in charge of mountain teams

BY BILL MURPHY

The Vermont Journal / The Shopper

REGION - Matt McCarthy and Molly McManus were once area athletes who have lived the game they coach. Both are making their spring coaching debuts this spring, McCarthy as the head coach of Green Mountain Baseball and McManus, as the Fall Mountain Softball team.

Green Mountain is 1-1 in the early going and they sit right where they are expected to sit. They defeated Poultney 13-1 in their opener and then fell to always-tough South Royalton 8-2. Josh Woods pitched four strong innings in each of the games,

but he was a victim of a little tough luck against South Royalton, when he surrendered four earned runs, half of them in situations that could have played out differently. Woods had the Chieftains only hit in the Royals contest.

Chase Ordway-Smith (3 hits and 3 runs batted in), Mack Walton (2 hits and 2 RBI's) and Tommy Knockenhauer (a double and 2 runs scored) paced GM at the plate in the win and Walton pitched well in relief.

McCarthy's team has a busy week lined up presently as they host Woodstock Tuesday, head to Riven-dell Thursday and then host Springfield Saturday at 11 a.m.

McManus' team is off to a 3-1

start and has an even busier week the next few days. The Lady Wildcats already beat Mascoma on the road Monday 7-4 and still have three contests this week in back to back fashion. They host Conant Wednesday, travel to Mascenic Thursday and then are home again to Monadnock Thursday. All games begin at 4 p.m.

The Cats opened the season with an 8-3 triumph at Kearsarge and then easily defeated Hanover 20-0, before running into their only blemish, a 12-4 defeat at Newport. McManus played softball at Stevens, as well as soccer and basketball.

McCarthy interestingly enough attended two area high schools. He began his high school days at Green

Mountain and then moved during his spring semester, his sophomore year, to arch rival Black River, where he made the varsity baseball team that spring and became a two-year member of both the soccer and basketball squads the next two years.

When I asked McCarthy about the probable closing of Black River following the spring sports season of 2018, he said, "I don't get into politics, but that's really too bad."

Then when I asked would it be nice to have some of those student/athletes end up eventually at Green Mountain? He repeated,

"I don't get into politics," (then after quite a hesitation) he added, "but they always have a number of good athletes."

First track meet at Bellows Falls

BY BILL MURPHY

The Shopper

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Bellows Falls Terrier DJ Snide is shown in action and he is one of several top performers for the 2017 Tim Eno coached track and field team. Eno says, "We are going to be a competitive team. Our progress has been good so far and we should be one of the top three in the state in our division."

For the second time in as many

meets, Bellows Falls placed second to Brattleboro in last weeks' meet at Windsor in both the boys and girls competition. Of the eleven boys teams, the Colonels led the way with 158 points, followed by BF totaling 104, Newport 87 and the other eight schools way behind. The girls' meet was much closer as Bratt out totaled the Lady Terriers 145-136. Snide had three top five finishes, 2nd in the 100, 3rd in the Long Jump and 5th in the Pole Vault.

Shane Clark pictured, had a

strong day for BF winning three events. Clark captured the 110-meter hurdles, the Triple Jump and the Javelin, while placing second in the Pole Vault. Reno Tuttle also stood out taking firsts in both the Shot Put and the Discus.

The depth of the girls' team stood out to give them the strong showing as a team in their meet. Eno says, "The girls are nursing some injuries and will become stronger as we go along." Two relay teams were the only Purple and White first place

finishes. The 4 x 100 Relayers comprised of Jasmine Boucher, Brigid Hodsdon, Abby Cravhino and Tess Kinney were top dog as was the 4 x 800 group of Lia Clark, Sophia Hyslop, Macie Streeter and Baylee Davis.

The Tuesday and Wednesday Weight Relay Events in BF this week were postponed and will be held at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday. The running half of the Relays, known as the Annual Fenn relays will be staged Friday in Brattleboro at 4 p.m.



BF Shane Clark.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE



BF DJ Snide.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE

Seven wrestlers battled for State Champion

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - It was a bright and brisk day when seven young wrestlers headed north. The K-2 team from Springfield was ready to battle for the title of State Champion in Saint Johnsbury, Vermont. They didn't disappoint -- months of hard work at practice with coaches Don Beebe, Floyd Buck, Steve Meier, and Dan Preston were paying off in at least one raised arm for every wrestler on the team.

Jameer Cosby displayed exuberant sportsmanship in all three of his matches, including one well-executed win; Dave Crocco III's placed fifth out of nine wrestlers, showing much improvement and increased

determination this season. Seth Markwell finished with a very respectable pair of wins, and Garrett Brickey placed third after four wins.

Three boys walked onto the mats for the final championship round - Dmitri Jasinski battled a very tough opponent to place second after some excellent mat-work; both Tristan Perry and Jace Beamon took home the coveted CHAMP shirts and medals.

Coaches could not be prouder of these boys, all first-year wrestlers! Their hard work, dedication, and commitment to each other and to themselves is showing this year, building a foundation for years to come.



Wrestling team with Coach Floyd Buck at K-2 States.

PHOTO BY COACH STEVE MEIER



Jace Beamon leads the way to finals.

PHOTO BY VERMONT WRESTLER



Tristan Perry, one of the Champions, goes for the pin.

PHOTO BY VERMONT WRESTLER

WE ONLY HAVE ONE SPORTS WRITER!

Please note, we only have one sports writer to cover all of our local sports events. If you'd like to submit your own sports news or photos to our paper, please do!

Photos and press releases should be sent to Brandy at editor@VermontJournal.com by Monday 12 p.m. in order to get them into that weeks Wednesday publication.

Thanks for your understanding.

spring home improvement

Shopping local can benefit you and your community

StatePoint - If you have home improvement plans this spring, it's important to consider where you will be doing your shopping. For many people, the first stores to come to mind are big box retailers because of the widespread assumption that chains can offer better selection and better prices.

Keep in mind, though, that when it comes to items needed for your home projects -- whether it be new flooring, paint or a kitchen renovation -- more often than not, experts say that your

local independent retailer can offer a good or better selection, be competitive with pricing, and provide a superior customer service experience.

What's more, shopping at local businesses can benefit your household and the community. At a locally owned store, you will be more likely to find interesting items and products that set your home apart. And more of your dollars will stay put when you give them to business owners who pay taxes locally, hire locally and may be more inclined to support commu-



Whether its in or outside of the home, shop local for all of your home improvement needs.

STOCK PHOTO



Shop local for your spring home improvements projects and support your local businesses.

STOCK PHOTO

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spring home improvement

Smart kitchen upgrade ideas to help you save time

StatePoint - Most home cooks want the flexibility of preparing complicated meals with ease and convenience. However, even those with a deft culinary hand may be limited by their tools, space and appliances.

Smartly outfitting your kitchen can help you jump meal preparation hurdles, particularly if you are someone who is inclined to prepare multi-course meals. Consider space-saving appliances with versatile functionality that can do more than one job at a time. Just as you can multitask, so should your kitchen appliances.

Experts point out that it all boils down to the capabilities of your oven range. When pressed for time, you may have compromised on cooking times or temperature, leaving dishes to suffer through over- or under-cooking. Home chefs with this problem should consider upgrading to a double oven range, which would

allow you to cook multiple dishes at separate temperatures. Consider the flexibility of being able to bake cookies in convection mode at 350 degrees while simultaneously broiling chicken, all in one unit.

If you do plan to make this upgrade, consider your needs and options. For example, if an electric connection is the only option for cooking, consider Verona's 36 inch fully electric double oven range, which offers cooking performance one might not expect from a fully electric range. Also available in dual fuel and all gas options, the Verona double oven ranges are fully equipped with two easily pro-



Save time in the kitchen with smart appliances.
PHOTO PROVIDED BY STATEPOINT.NET

grammed multi-function ovens and provide multiple cooking modes, including baking, defrosting and broiling.

When form is just as important as function, consider ILVE's larger double oven range options in 40, 48 and 60 inch sizes. All sizes feature two multi-function ovens and added multi-tasking tools such as a rotisserie and warming drawer. Cooktop options such as a French top and removable griddle give even more flexibility to ambitious home cooks.

With a dual oven range, you may find that a separate built-in oven becomes unnecessary, freeing up valuable cabinet space and valuable dollars for other useful chef's tools and supplies. Additionally, upgrading your

most important appliances can help you work smarter, not harder.



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Green Up Day

ANDOVER, Vt. - Andover Green-Up day will be held on Saturday, May 6 from 9 a.m. to noon. Residents and friends are invited to beautify the town grounds, clean the roadsides, and spruce up the cemeteries. Please meet at the Andover Town Hall for coffee, donuts, and to chose your work assignment.

Participants are encouraged to bring gardening gloves and tools including wheelbarrows, rakes, clippers, loppers, and leaf blowers and join in the community spirit.

After the work is over, participants are invited to stay to celebrate a job well done and share lunch with friends and neighbors. Attendees should bring a potluck salad or dessert to accompany the hot dogs, chips, and soft drinks that will be provided. Refreshments are being provided by the Andover Project Committee and through the generosity of community members.

For information or questions regarding Andover's Green-Up Day contact Deb Moser at 802-875-5454.


CAVENDISH, Vt. - Green Up activities will be on Saturday May 6, starting at 9 a.m. on the Proctorsville Green and ending back

on the green with a barbecue at noon. In case of rain, Green Up Day will be held on Saturday, May 13.

LUDLOW, Vt. - Meet for complimentary coffee and donuts at the Ludlow Community Center at 9 a.m. on Saturday, May 6. Green Up instructions and routes will be given to participants. At 9:30 a.m. groups will disperse to their designated clean routes. Green Up Day BBQ at the Ludlow Community Center to reward volunteers for a job well done and a complimentary T-shirt at noon.

Designated Green-up routes:
Route #1 - Route 100 South from the Junction of Route 103/100 to the Transfer Station
Route #2 - Route 100 South from

the Town Line to the Transfer Station
Route #3 - High Street to Dug Road Bridge
Route #4 - Pleasant Street to the Little League Fields
Route #5 - Upper Cross Road & Okemo Access Road
Route #6 - Trailside to the West Hill Recreation Area
Route #7 - Kingdom Road & East Lake Road
Route #8 - Commonwealth Ave
Route #9 - Nelson Road
Route #10 - Bixby Road
Route #11 - Town Farm Road
Route #12 - South Hill Road
Route #13 - East Hill Road



Green up your town!

PHOTO PROVIDED

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. - Green Up Day is Saturday, May 6th! Families and interested parties can pick up the familiar green bags to clean up neighborhoods, roads, parks and playgrounds. Bags are available at the J&H Hardware store, the Saxtons River Market and the Town Clerk's Office. They'll also be available at the 2017 Wildlife Festival at Herricks Cove on Sunday, May 7.

Grab the official bright green bag and fill it with paper, cans, and roadside trash; it's fine to mix trash and recyclables at this time of the year. Helpful hint: wear bright clothes so cars will

see you. Gloves and boots protect against dirt and ticks. Once an area is clean, the green bags can be left by the side of the road for town-wide pick-up on May 8 or dropped off at the Saxtons River Fire Department, Rockingham Highway Garage, or the Bellows Falls Garage.

Need more information? Check out the statewide website at www.greenupvermont.org. Want to report an area that needs a special crew or volunteer to captain a team? Email GuyPayne@gmail.com or leave a message at 869-2600. Let's clean up litter and make our town look good.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Our Green Up event will begin at 8:00 a.m. on May 6. Meet at the parking lot in front of People's United Bank to sign-in to the event and pick up trash bags. Bags will also be available for pick-up at the Chamber office (56 Main Street, Suite 2, Springfield, Vt.) during the week leading up to the event.

Start planning the section of town you wish to bring a bit of beauty back to! Rake up trash, recycle bottles, plastics, paper, and maybe even plant a seed to mark the effort you put forth in making our town lively once again!

At the end of the morning, rejoin fellow workers at the Peoples United Bank parking lot at noon for a thank you cookout with hot dogs and beverages, courtesy of the Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Reminder: It is extremely important to remember to wear work gloves, long pants, and proper footwear to protect against ticks and debris along your clean-up journey. Remember to bring rakes, gloves, shovels, brooms, and anything else that might be helpful for clean-up. Professionals and volunteers will be on call throughout the day to assist you with any questions you may have. Most of all, remember to have fun! You are bettering our town and community by sharing your energy and spirit to assist with maintaining Springfield's beauty.

Thank you to all volunteers for helping to keep Springfield and Vermont green and gorgeous! Last year, Springfield had 175 volunteers! This year, our goal is to reach 200 participants for our annual Green Up day project!

TOWNSHEND, Vt. - Green Up Day is May 6! Please join the Townshend Community Hope & Action group on the Townshend common after your cleanup for free beef and veggies burgers from 12 - 3 p.m., and local band, Shelving Rock, will be performing in the Gazebo. The town truck will be parked in front of the elementary school to drop

off your full bags at that time. Bags can be picked up at the elementary school or town hall beforehand. Thanks to Heidi Russ, C&S, Grace Cottage Hospital, and the Calvary Chapel for their donations of food, time and energy! Thanks to the town of Townshend for their continuous support of Community Hope & Action events.

WESTON, Vt. - Green Up activities will start in Weston at the Recreation Area at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday May 6. Come and enjoy a cup of coffee and a donut before going out to pick up trash along the roads. You will also receive your bags and

road assignments at the recreation area. Weston chair, Kirby Foster will be there and you can call him ahead of time at 802-379-4412 if you have questions or want to reserve a road assignment. Remember to wear waterproof shoes or boots and gloves.

Wildlife Management Area — Herrick's Cove Wildlife Festival —

REGION - The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department and its partners will celebrate the acquisition of nearly 3,000 acres at Bird Mountain Wildlife Management Area (WMA) on May 6, 1-5 p.m. The celebration will begin at the Education Center at Edward Kehoe Conservation Camp on Route 30 in Castleton, with presentations on the incredible value of these lands for wildlife and outdoor recreation, and will conclude with

easy walks to tour the newly conserved property.

The event is free and open to the public, and families are encouraged to attend. Light refreshments will be served. Attendees should dress for the weather, wear sturdy shoes for walking, and bring sun protection and water.

The new conserved lands add the Herrick Mountain area in Ira and Poultney to the existing Bird Moun-

tain WMA in Castleton, for a total of more than 3,600 acres. The WMA includes the iconic Bird's Eye Mountain, a well-known nesting site and habitat for peregrine falcons. The area will be named Bird's Eye WMA. This is the largest addition to a Vermont wildlife management area in 15 years, and the second largest in the state.

Agency of Natural Resources Secretary Julie Moore will be in attendance to speak on the many values of these conserved lands. Louis Porter, commissioner of the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department, will be also in attendance to highlight the many benefits of the conservation project to Vermonters.

The area is intended primarily for exploration on foot. Although motorized or mechanical vehicles (including mountain bikes) will be prohibited, scooters for the disabled are allowed under the Americans with Disabilities Act, and snowmobile clubs are grandfathered.

A series of public input meetings will be scheduled as the long-term management plan is crafted.

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. - If you're a wildlife enthusiast itching for spring then be sure to check out the eighteenth annual Herrick's Cove Wildlife Festival on Sunday, May 7, in Rockingham.

Herrick's Cove, on the Connecticut River, hosts one of the most popular festivals in the area, with organizers reporting more than 2,000 people attending last year's event. The festival includes nature walks and live animals such as hawks, owls, coyotes, wolves, fish, turtles, and snakes.

"Vermonters really enjoy the wild animals and wild places that make the state so special," said Forrest Hammond, bear project leader with Vermont Fish & Wildlife. "This festival gives participants a chance to experience some of these animals firsthand and learn about the importance of conserving their habitats so future generations can appreciate them as well."

The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department will host several exhibits at the event, including animal mounts, interactive demonstrations, hands-on fishing activities hosted by the department's Let's Go Fishing program, information on



The Herrick's Cove Wildlife Festival is a great opportunity to connect children with Vermont's incredible wildlife.

PHOTO PROVIDED

bears and bats, a 4-H shooting event as well as fun games for kids. Other presenters include Jim Andrews on turtles, the Ascutey Mountain Audubon Society, The Nature Museum at Grafton, and TransCanada Corporation.

Activities are scheduled from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. There is a suggested

donation. Pets are not allowed.

Herrick's Cove is located just off Route 5, less than three miles north of Bellows Falls.

For more information, visit the Herrick's Cove Wildlife Festival's Facebook page or the website at www.nature-museum.org/herrick-cove-festival.

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Debra and David Norton, owners of Cavendish Canine Camp, have been in business 13 1/2 years. "For years and years I had wanted to open a dog kennel – either everything was way too expensive or wasn't quite the right spot," said Debra Norton. "Then I saw this piece of land, we could afford it" ... and the rest was history. Norton said she was mentored by Nancee Schaffner, former owner of Wundrland Pet Lodge in North Clarendon.

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"I love taking care of cats, we can take up to five at a time," Norton said. She grows catnip in summer for the cats and send it home with them. The facility averages 25-40 dogs per day between boarding and day care.



The business offers site visits, Monday-Friday, 3-4 p.m. Hours for daytime pickup and drop-off are 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. on weekdays and 8 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Reservations are required, as are up-to-date rabies/distemper/bordetella shots.

Cavendish Canine Camp is located 3 mi. south of Ludlow village, on 103 before the junction with Rte 131.



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All applications are due by Friday April 28th.

For more information, including job descriptions and an employment application, please visit
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Documents may be mailed to the Londonderry Select Board, 100 Old School Street, South Londonderry, VT 05155.

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GRAFTON, Vt. – Wilson & Lawrence Inc. is now hiring help for the summer tennis court reconditioning season. Please call 802-843-2436 for job applications, 8 am – 4 pm. (05/02)

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Fireplaces, chimneys and liners, chimney sweeps, patios, walls, steps, restoration and repairs. Fully

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REPAIR

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40 years Demolding & Stripping, Log Replacement, Chinking and Caulking 15-year warranty! Johnathan - 802-775-6086 www.vermontstaining.com TFN

substance abuse
counseling

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Substance abuse counseling - DUI - Recovery Support - Court. 802-289-3403, 44 School St, Parks Place, Bellows Falls, VT. Accepting Medicaid. 10/10/17

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Prebuy on Pellets/BioBricks (802) 747-9950 North Clarendon or (802) 824-3677 Londonderry or thestovedepot@comcast.net to reserve yours now! TFN

calendar

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

SATURDAY, MAY 13- WESTON, Vt. – The Wilder Memorial Library is pleased to offer gentle, restorative yoga, Saturday, May 13 at 10 a.m., at the Weston Playhouse in the beautiful living room space. Relax in a peaceful setting as you listen to the soothing sounds of the waterfall. This class will be taught by Pat Meredith from the Heart of the Village Yoga Studio in Manchester. Gentle, restorative yoga is truly for everyone, including those with low flexibility. Poses are

taught on the floor so there is very little standing and bending and no pressure on the knees, wrists and other joints. Blankets and pillows are used to help ease you into each posture. Please bring a yoga mat, blanket and two pillows. If you do not have a yoga mat one will be provided for you. Free and accessible for all. Sponsored by the Wilder Memorial Library. For more information email director@wildermemoriallibrary.org.

CHESTER, Vt. – Treat someone or yourself to a day of yoga, 9 a.m.-noon at the Fullerton Inn on Main St., for nourishing food and a healing mantra

circle that will be remembered all year long. Includes a goodie bag that will keep you inspired at home! Serving organic kitchari (healing vegan dish), fruits, yogurt and teas! There is a cost for the class. Space is limited, so register by May 1 online at www.buddhafulyoga.com/ or contact Liza at 802-875-2868, eaton.liza@gmail.com.

workshop that supports parents and caregivers in raising happy and healthy tweens and teens. For families of children in grades 4 – 8. You can sign up by calling Suzan Marshall at 802-498-0606 or Deb Witkus at 802-463-9927 x212. An online sign up form is available at www.facebook.com/greaterfallsconnections. Ends May 9.

Recreation Center. 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Come join the fun! Healthy snack served. Call Molly 802-376-6204.

CAVENDISH, Vt. –From 5:45 to 6:45 p.m., there will be a Tai Chi beginners’ class at DG Bodyworks, 7 Depot St. in Cavendish/Proctorsville, Vt., next to the Post Office at the corner of Rte 131 and Depot St. There is a monthly tuition cost. To learn more about the classes, please contact Djemila at 802-490-0225, by email: djem.translator@gmail.com or check for updates on FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/gemstaichi/>.

activities and playgroup held in the gym of the Community Center. All parents with young children are welcome. Contact Parks and Recreation Dept. at 802-885-2727.

SATURDAYS - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Edgar May Open Play Group 10 - 11:30 a.m. at Studio Momentum, 71 Main Street. An active playtime specifically designed for children aged 6 months through 5 years! Free to member families. Call 802-885-2568 or info@myreccenter.org.

Bellows Falls Women’s Club will hold its final meeting of the season at 1:30 p.m. at the United Church, 8 School St. Meetings will resume in September. For more information, contact Betty Haggerty, hubett@hotmail.com or call 802-463-4159.

Help Wanted

Lavalley Building Supply, Inc is searching for a customer service, front end representative. This is a full time, year round position with a full benefit (insurance, 401k, profit sharing) package. Computer skills a plus, experience preferred, but not necessary. Apply in person at 182 Pleasant Street Extension in Ludlow for more details.

Town of Landgrove, VT Planning Commission NOTICE

The Landgrove Planning Commission has scheduled a Public Hearing to consider the request from Tim and Anne McClaran for a two-lot subdivision at 24 Jacquith Road, Landgrove. (Parcel 02 00 22; Located in the RR District)

Wednesday, 10 May 2017 5:30 PM
Landgrove Town Office
88 Landgrove Road, Landgrove, VT

Additional information concerning this subdivision is available at the Town Office (802.824.3716) or landgroveza@gmail.com

GRAFTON, VERMONT WARNING FOR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MAY 24, 2017

The legal voters of the Town of Grafton, Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet for a Special Town Meeting in the Grafton Elementary School on Wednesday, May 24, 2017 at 6:00pm to take action on the following articles:

Article #1: Shall the Town of Grafton use \$130,548.00 from the 2016 unassigned fund balance to purchase a roadside mower unit

Article #2: To transact any other non-binding business that may legally come before the town.

GRAFTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

TOWN OF WESTMINSTER

P.O. BOX 147 WESTMINSTER, VT 05158
Tel. 802-722-4255 Fax 802-722-9816

Westminster Highway Department Position

The Town of Westminster Highway Department is seeking a qualified candidate to fill an open position. The candidate will perform duties under the supervisor of the Highway Foreman. Duties include, but are not limited, to maintenance, repair of the Town highway system and associated equipment. Candidate shall operate equipment and provide labor to facilitate highway grading, trucking, snow plowing and sanding town highways, brush clearing, road repair, light building and facility maintenance, and any other associated tasks required.

Candidate shall possess a current and valid Vermont Commercial Driver’s License (CDL), Class A or Class B, a High School Diploma, GED, or similar equivalent education.

Salary is commensurate with experience. The Town of Westminster offers an excellent benefit package. Job description and job application are located on the town website at www.westminstervt.org.

To apply, please complete job application and send to: Town of Westminster, P.O. Box 147, Westminster, VT 05158, RE: Highway Department Application or bring in person to the office at 3651 US Route 5, Westminster, VT.

Application for position will remain open until filled.

The Town of Westminster is an equal opportunity employer. It is the policy of the Town to provide equal employment opportunity to all applicants and employees without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, place of birth, age, disability, HIV status, or other status protected by state or federal law.

Dated at Westminster, Vermont, this 19th of April, 2017.
Selectboard

LUDLOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOARD Has an immediate opening

The Ludlow Elementary School Board seeks a Ludlow Town resident interested in serving as a member of our own local school board. The term of this position will be until Town Meeting Election Day held on Tuesday, March 6, 2018. The Board meets regularly, the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. and others as necessary. Members may fulfill additional responsibilities including board committees.

Please submit a letter of interest to the Two Rivers Supervisory Union Board to:
Meg Alison Powden
TRSU Superintendent of Schools
609 VT Route 103 South
Ludlow, Vermont 05149

TOWN OF LONDONDERRY REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Elevation of 2152 North Main Street, Londonderry
The Town of Londonderry is seeking bids for the elevation of a property located at 2152 North Main Street. This property was damaged by flooding during Tropical Storm Irene and is going through FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The Town of Londonderry, in concert with the Property Owner, are seeking bids for the work laid out in the below Scope of Work.

Interested bidders should contact Stephanie Thompson for project drawings and any other additional information, a full RFP, drawings, or questions.

Scope of Work

- Raise structure from existing foundation - either elevated by I-beams or moved on the site, for ease of access for foundation elevation work.
- Elevate the structure 26” above the Irene flood levels.
- Pouring of foundation, with necessary reinforcement materials, to obtain the required elevation level.
- Provide alternative pricing for block foundation.
- Removal of existing wood floor and replacement with a 5” reinforced concrete slab over a 1,350 sq. ft. area. Structure will be lowered onto the new slab. Additionally, damaged sheetrock, insulation and base, as affected by flooding.
- Back-fill on the site with crushed stone around the exterior of the foundation, covering an area of 12’ by 1,350 sq. ft.
- Raise or remove chimney and replace

Bids due- Sealed bids are due by the end of the business day on Friday May 12th, 2017. Bids may be mailed or hand delivered to the Londonderry Town Office, 100 Old School Street, South Londonderry VT 05155.

For additional information, contact:
Stephanie Thompson
Town Administrator
townadmin@londonderryvt.org
802-824-3356

UNION #39 SCHOOL BOARD Black River High School Has an immediate opening

The Union #39 School Board seeks a Mount Holly Town resident interested in serving as a member of our own union school board. The term of this position will be until Town Meeting Election Day held on Tuesday, March 6, 2018. The Board meets regularly, the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. and others as necessary. Members may fulfill additional responsibilities including board committees.

Please submit a letter of interest to the Two Rivers Supervisory Union Board to:
Meg Alison Powden
TRSU Superintendent of Schools
609 VT Route 103 South
Ludlow, Vermont 05149

NOTICE OF WATER FLUSHING VILLAGE OF LUDLOW WATER DEPARTMENT

Beginning Monday evening, May 1st through Wednesday, May 3, 2017 the Village of Ludlow Water Department will be flushing the water system and testing the fire hydrant system. The flushing will take place from 10:00 PM until 6:00 AM.

Residents may experience discolored water during this time. When the flushing is complete, please be sure to let your cold water run until your water runs clear. We appreciate your patience and understanding while we perform our annual distribution system maintenance.

If you have any questions please call the Water Department at 228-8431 or the Municipal Office at 228-2841.

Thank you.

LEGAL NOTICES

SECOND MONDAYS- QUECHEE, VT. – Upper Valley Stamp Club meets at the Quechee library located at 1957 Main St. For more information contact John Lutz at 802-728-6212.

TUESDAYS- WOODSTOCK, Vt. - The Freelance Family Singers Community Chorus will begin practicing for the chorus’s May 6 and 7 concerts. The weekly Tuesday rehearsals are held at the First Congregational Church, 36 Elm St., from 7 - 9 p.m. All ages may participate and there are no auditions. There is a small participation fee with scholarships available. For more information, call Ellen Satterthwaite at 802-457-3980.

THURSDAYS – CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – The Charlestown Rotary Club meets at the Charlestown Town Hall at 6:30 p.m. on Summer Street. For more information email rayandrosie@comcast.net.

RUTLAND, Vt. – Marble Valley Duplicate Bridge Club meets from 7-10:30 p.m. at the Godnick Center in Rutland, Vt. Snacks provided. Come join for a fun evening. More info call 802-228-6276.

SATURDAYS – MOUNT HOLLY, Vt. – The Mount Holly Artists Group meets at 10:30 a.m. in the community center room (under library) and set up a still life. The sessions are open to all and free of charge. All that is needed is pen and paper.

SUNDAYS - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Catamount Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol at 4 - 6 p.m. at Squadron Headquarters, 13 Airport Rd., North Springfield. Membership open at age 12. Call Commander, Maj. Fellows at 802-263-5544.

COMMUNITY MEALS

SATURDAY, APRIL 29- WESTMINSTER, Vt. – The First Congregational Church, 3470 U.S. Rte 5, will hold its roast pork supper fundraiser on April 29 with two seatings, one at 5 p.m. and one at 6:15 p.m. Dinner includes roast pork, stuffing, mashed potatoes, carrots, gravy, applesauce, coffee, tea, milk, and Boston crème cake for dessert. Come, bring the family and enjoy. For details, contact Christina Smith, 802-376-7330.

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. - The next semi-annual Boy Scout spaghetti dinner is being held on Saturday, April 29, 4:30-7 p.m. at the VFW on Lower Lovers Lane in Charlestown. Come in and enjoy all-you-can-eat spaghetti with your

LEGAL NOTICES

MEALS CONT.

SAT., APRIL 29 CONT. - choice of homemade meat or vegetarian sauce, salad, rolls, and a slice of pie and a beverage. Proceeds go towards summer camp costs.

SATURDAY, MAY 6- MOUNT HOLLY, Vt. - Belmont's Summer Supper series kicks off on May 6 and runs until Oct. 28 at the Odd Fellows Hall, 37 Lake St., Belmont, to benefit the MHVF Auxiliary, Colfax Lodge, Mount Holly fire Dept., Mt. Moriah Mason, the Historical Museum, the MHV Rescue Squad, and Gill Home, IOOF. Settings start at 5 p.m. All you can eat, served homestyle. Takeouts available with all dinners. Menu varies, call 802-259-2460 for details. Dates: May 6, May 27, June 24, July 22, Aug. 12, Sept. 2, Sept. 23, Oct. 7, Oct. 28. On July 4, the Odd Fellows will hold their chicken BBQ at 11:30 a.m., after the town parade.

SUNDAY, MAY 7- BELLOW FALLS, Vt. - The Bellows Falls Women's Club plans to hold high tea in the Windham Hotel lobby, 3-5 p.m. Tickets are available at Simone's Beauty Shop, Village Square Booksellers, and from member Barbara Whitehead. Refreshments will include fancy teas, sweets, and savories. Background music will be provided.

EVENTS

THURSDAY, APRIL 27- CHESTER, Vt. - The Nature Museum presents Bridget Butler, the Bird Diva, in a talk, "Bird is a Verb," 7-9 p.m. at the Newsbank Conference Center, 352 Main St. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. Butler will share tips and tricks for bird identification, talk about equipment & resources, teach participants about birding by ear, and describe various natural communities for different suites of birds. Light refreshments. For more information, contact carrie@naturemuseum.org.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28- SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Parents of Springfield High School Cosmo football team will hold a family fun bingo night, April 28 at the Elks Club, 49 Park St. Doors will open at 6 p.m., games start at 6:30 p.m. Prizes per game include merchandise donated by Bibens Ace Hardware, Woodbury Florist, Drew's All Natural, Boccaccio's and Cota & Cota, just to name

a few. There will also be a few cash games. No limit on cards. Food and non-alcoholic drinks will also be available. This is a perfect evening for grandparents, parents, children and grandchildren to enjoy an old fashioned family game night. Cosmo's football includes several athletes from Green Mountain High School. All funds raised will be applied to uniform replacement this fall.

WEST WINDSOR, Vt. - The West Windsor Historical Society is having a Nearly New Goods & Bake Sale fundraiser, on Friday, April 28, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturday, April 29 from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m., half price. This will be held at the West Windsor Town Hall, corner of Route 44 and Hartland-Brownsville Road. Proceeds will benefit the historical society. Donate baked goods may be dropped off Thursday at the Mary L. Blood Library, 3:30-5:30 or on Friday and Saturday, 8 a.m.-8:30 a.m. at the Town Hall. Sorry, no computers, printers or broken items. Questions? Please call Sherry, 802-484-9286.

WALPOLE, N.H. - Spring rummage sale, 4-6 p.m. First Congregational Church on

the Common, Walpole. Linda Smith, 603-756-4361.

SATURDAY, APRIL 29- SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The First Congregational Church, 77 Main St., will hold a yard and food sale, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

WALPOLE, N.H. - Spring rummage and food sale, First Congregational Church on the Common, Walpole. Bag sale, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Good quality spring and summer used clothing, household and tag sale items. New to the food sale will be homemade soups. Linda Smith, 603-756-4361.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The Edgar May Health and Recreation Center will be hosting its 4th Indoor Triathlon

Saturday, April 29, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. This event is perfect for those interested in trying their first triathlon due its safe and controlled environment, but also a unique event for a seasoned triathlete. Participants will swim for 15 minutes in the EdgarMay lap pool, ride a spinning bike for 25 minutes and then run on a treadmill for 20 minutes. There will also be a Mini-Tri, which is a 7-minute swim, a 15-minute bike, and a 10-minute run. The event is open to anyone age 10 and up and meets the 5-foot height requirement for the bikes. The

Mini-Tri is perfect for those that might be a little intimidated by a 15-minute swim. Sign up at myreccenter.org or by calling 802-885-2568.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY, APRIL 29-30- Governor's Youth Turkey Hunt and Jakes Day guided turkey hunt, Vermont-wide, both sponsored by the National Wild Turkey Federation. Contact Brett Ladeau, NWTF, 802-291-1822, Amy Alfieri, Fish & Wildlife, 802-759-2398.

SUNDAY, APRIL 30- WINHALL, Vt. - On Sunday, April 30, the Green Mountain Club (Manchester section) offers a hike to Angel Falls and back. Meet at 1 p.m. at the Winhall Campground entrance. Bring a snack, fluids, an extra layer, and if any chance of rain, a raincoat. Moderately easy hike. For details, distance, and directions to the meeting place and to RSVP, contact hike leader Joe Ninesling at 802-289-2801 or runraft@aol.com.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - 2nd annual wine tasting fundraiser sponsored by the Edgar May Health and Recreation Center at the Hartness House, 30 Orchard St. Sunday, April 30, 5-7:30 p.m. Please join us for an evening of fine wines and

delicious hors d'oeuvres. Six wines, presented by Dawn Rowlee of Farrell Distributing, will be paired with foods prepared by the Hartness Inn. Seating is limited. To purchase tickets please call The Edgar May at 802-885-2568 or visit us online at www.myreccenter.org.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3-SATURDAY, MAY 6- PUTNEY, Vt. - Spring musical, "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown!" at 7 p.m., performed by the 7th and 8th grades, Putney Grammar School, 69 Hickory Ridge Rd. South in Putney. Directed by Jessa Rowan. To reserve a seat, call 802-387-5364; purchase tickets at the door. The performances will run through Saturday, May 6.

THURSDAY, MAY 4-SATURDAY, MAY 6- WINDSOR, Vt. - Old South Church on Main Street will hold its spring rummage sale. It will offer clothing for men, women and children; white elephants, furniture, jewelry, glassware, books, toys, household items, linens, and more! We

are happy for donations of clean, useable items from the community, May 1-3. Note: we do not accept electronics. For details, call Old South Church, 802-674-5087. Thursday, May 4, 9:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Regular price. Friday, May 5, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Half price and bag

sale. Saturday, May 6, 9 a.m.-11 a.m. Everything FREE

SATURDAY, MAY 6- CASTLETON, Vt. - The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department and its partners will celebrate the acquisition of nearly 3,000 acres at Bird Mountain

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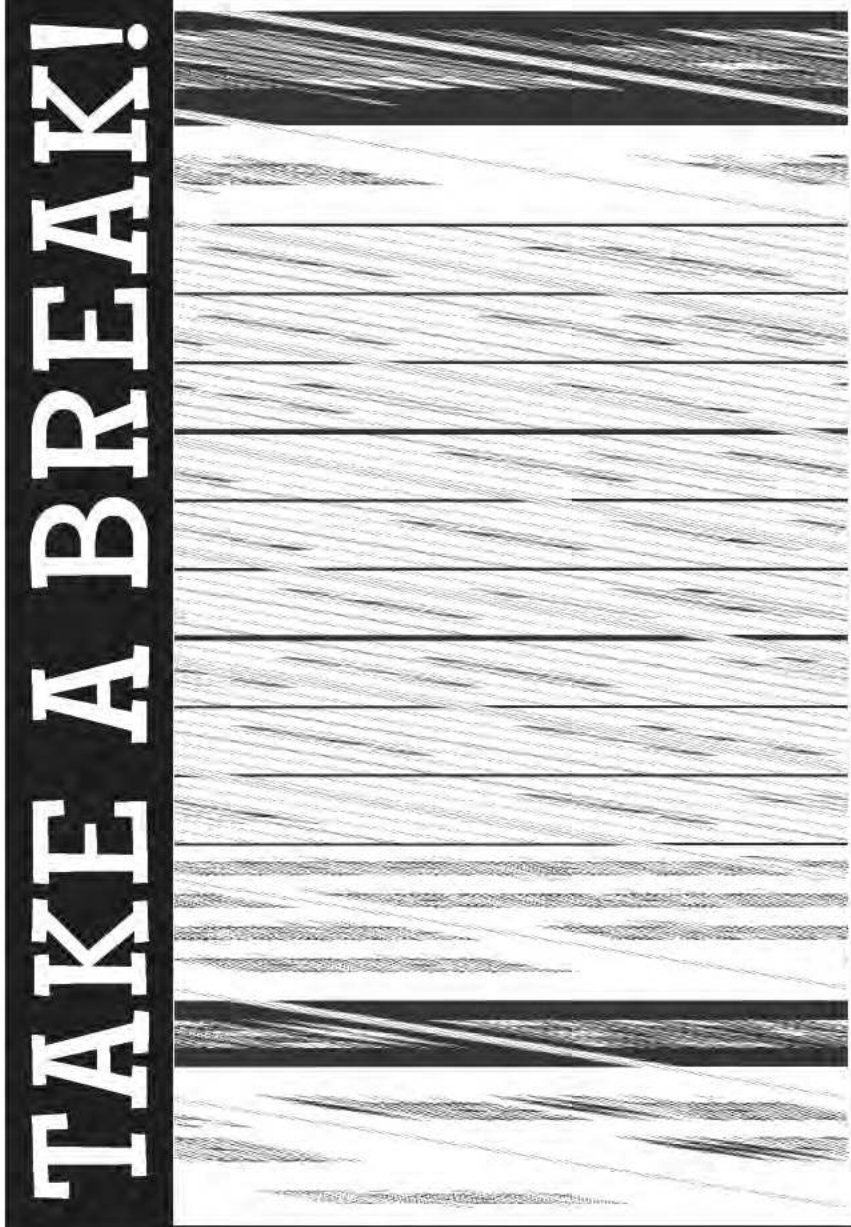
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King Crossword

ACROSS

1 From one end to t'other

5 Egg

9 Potential syrup

12 Vast time period

13 Water barrier

14 Biz deg.

15 Fast

17 Foreman foe

18 Diamond round- trippers

19 Stair part

21 Qua

22 Weak soup

24 Present

27 Island garland

28 Buy stuff

31 Lubricate

32 Past

33 Rage

34 Use an old phone

36 DIY buy

37 Leftovers recipe

38 Lucky number

40 Accomplish

41 California- Nevada lake

43 Propels

47 That guy

48 Landfill, essentially

51 Commotion

52 Swindles

53 Pond organ- ism

12

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8 Paris subway

9 Big success

10 Competent

11 Twosome

16 Storefront sign abbr.

20 "Monty Python" opener

22 Start

23 Laugh-a- minute

24 Deity

25 "Richard -"

26 Sudden assembly that some find entertaining

27 Michigan, for one

29 Raw rock

30 Church seat

35 Writer

37 "Who cares?"

39 Fodder plant

40 Simpson's interjection

41 Dissolve

42 Assistant

43 "Hey, you!"

44 Congers

45 Sitarist's rendition

46 Mast

49 Fish eggs

50 Literary col- lection

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) The often-skeptical Aries might find that an answer to a question is hard to believe. But check it out before you chuck it out. You might well be surprised at what you could learn.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your resolute determination to stick by a position might make some people uncomfortable. But if you're proved right (as I expect you to be), a lot of changes will tilt in your favor.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You might feel conflicted between what you want to do and what you should do. Best advice: Honor your obligations first. Then go ahead and enjoy your well-earned rewards.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) That financial matter still needs to be sorted out before you can consider any major monetary moves. Pressures ease midweek, with news about a potential career change.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) A work-place problem threatens to derail your well-planned project. But your quick mind should lead you to a solution and get you back on track without too much delay.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) An opportunity opens up but could quickly close down if you allow pessimism to override enthusiasm. A trusted friend can offer the encouragement you need.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You've come through a difficult period of helping others deal with their problems. Now you can concentrate on putting your energy to work on your own projects.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Forget about who's to blame and, instead, make the first move toward patching up a misunderstanding before it creates a rift that you'll never be able to cross.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Good news for the travel-loving Sagittarian who enjoys galloping off to new places: That trip you put off will soon be back on your schedule.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A mood change could make the gregarious Goat seek the company of just a few friends. But you charge back into the crowd for week-end fun and games.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A decision you made in good faith could come under fire. Best advice: Open your mind to other possibilities by listening to your challenger's point of view.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) You can avoid being swamped by all those tasks dangling from your line this week by tackling them one by one, according to priority. The weekend brings good news.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a fine business sense and a love of the arts. You enjoy living life to its fullest.

calendar

AUTOMOTIVE

EVENTS CONT.

SAT., MAY 6 CONT. - Wildlife Management Area (WMA) on May 6, 1-5 p.m. The celebration will begin at the Education Center at Edward Kehoe Conservation Camp on Route 30 in Castleton, with presentations on the incredible value of these lands for wildlife and outdoor recreation, and will conclude with easy walks to tour the newly conserved property. The event is free and open to the public, and families are encouraged to attend. Light refreshments will be served. Attendees should dress for the weather, wear sturdy shoes for walking, and bring sun protection and water.

CHESTER, Vt. - Phoenix Books Misty Valley, 58 Common St., will hold a storytime for all ages in observance of Children's Book Week, Saturday, May 6 at 11 a.m. We'll read a timeless tale or a new adventure from our

shelves. For details, call 802-875-3400, email Kristen@phoenixbooks.biz, or visit www.phoenixbooks.biz.

WESTON, Vt. - The Weston Community Church on the Hill presents a spring concert, "Soul of the Cello," with four-time Grammy winner, cellist Eugene Friesen, 7:30 p.m. at the church, 37 Lawrence Hill Rd., Weston. Friesen's solo show features electronics, storytelling, masks and soul-stirring music in this intimate setting. Tickets are sold at the door. For more info check our website at www.vtchurchonthehill.org.

LUDLOW, Vt. - LPCTV, community television for the Black River Valley-Okemo region, will hold its 6 annual Kentucky Derby Gala charity fundraising event on Saturday, May 6, at Willie Dunn's Grille at the Okemo Valley Golf Course in Ludlow, 5-8 p.m. The event will feature a dinner of "small plates" and entertainment, all included in

the ticket price. Entertainment will include several locally-sponsored "horse races" with charity betting, and viewing of the live Kentucky Derby.

SUNDAY, MAY 7- BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - A high tea will be held on 3-5 p.m. in the Windham Hotel lobby, 40 The Square in downtown Bellows Falls. The ladies of the Bellows Falls Woman's Club will be serving select teas, sweets, and savories. There will be live background harp music. Tickets can be purchased from Village Square Booksellers, Simone's Salon, and from Barbara Whitehead at 802-463-9395. Proceeds for this event are earmarked for the club's annually awarded high school scholarship.

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The Ladies Aid and Mission Society of the First Baptist Church of Bellows Falls is holding a Mother's Day quilt raffle. The drawing will be held Sunday, in time for Mother's Day. You

need not be present to win. Tickets are available at Village Square Booksellers in Bellows Falls or by calling Laurie Noyes at 802-463-9410.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Springfield Community Chorus performs for its 50th anniversary with a grand choral fanfare, featuring Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" from the Symphony No. 9, and a special piece by Vermont composer Zeke Hecker, commissioned for this occasion. The concert in Springfield will be at the high school auditorium on Sunday, May 7 at 3 p.m. This same concert will be presented in Bennington the previous evening, May 6 at 7 p.m. at the Mt. Anthony Union Middle School, 747 East Rd., Woodford. This concert is made possible, in part, by a generous grant from the Choral Arts Foundation of the Upper Valley.

RUTLAND, Vt. - The Paramount Theatre will close its HD broadcast series from the National Theatre of Great Britain this spring with Henrik Ibsen's classic play "Hedda Gabler" at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 7. Feeling trapped in her conventional marriage, Hedda watches her world unravel. Ruth Wilson plays the title role in a new version by Patrick Marber. Tickets are available at the box office at 30 Center St. Patrons may also charge-by-phone at 802-775-0903 or online at www.ParamountVT.org. The box office is open Thursday and Friday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; and from noon through curtain time on all show days.

your own garden, and your seed collection will begin to adapt to local conditions and gardening habits. Information on growing open pollinated and heritage varieties is available at the Library. Patrons may also borrow hand tools, rake, shovel, and hoe to get you started. Whiting Library hours are Monday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m.-8 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. We can be reached at 802-875-2277, by email at whitinglibrary@yahoo.com and through our website at whitinglibrary.org.

TUESDAY, MAY 2- ROCKINGHAM, Vt. - The Abenaki Snowmobile Club holds its regular business meeting on Tuesday, May 2 at 7 p.m. at the Bellows Falls Fire Department. For more information, you can contact George Berube at 802-869-2593.

THURSDAY, MAY 4- BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - On Thursday, May 4 at 6:30 p.m., join Henry Homeyer at the Rockingham Library for his presentation, "Beyond Perennials: Using Woody Plants, Stone, Art and Whimsy to Enhance the Landscape." Henry will also give tips for making trees and shrubs thrive, including old favorites and lesser known beauties. For over 17 years Henry Homeyer's columns have appeared in newspapers around New England. He is the author of four gardening books, some of which will be on sale after the event, along with his favorite weeding tool, the CobraHead. This program is open to the public. Donations to the Friends of the Rockingham Library will be accepted to help cover the costs of the programs. For more information, call the Library at 802-463-4270, visit rockinghamlibrary.org, email programming@rockinghamlibrary.org or stop by the Library at 65 Westminster St.

WEDNESDAYS - WESTON, Vt. - Come and enjoy a story hour with friends at the Wilder Memorial Library! 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Call ahead to check, 802-824-4307.

LUDLOW, Vt. - Weekly toddler and pre-school story time with a weekly theme, music, and activity. 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. at the Fletcher Memorial Library. Best suited for ages 5 and younger. Call Sacha at 802-228-3517 or email skrawczykvt@gmail.com to register for programs.

WINDSOR, Vt. - Preschool and Toddler Storytime every Wednesday from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Windsor Public Library, 43 State Street. Each week features a theme, music stories and a craft. www.windsorlibrary.org. 802-674-2556.

FRIDAYS- CHESTER, Vt. - Storytime at Whiting Library from 10:30 - 11 a.m. Come and listen to a story every Friday with your children. Call 802-875-2277.

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. - Minecraft Club at the Rockingham Library every Friday from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. A limited number of library computers are available. Registration is recommended if you will need to use a library computer. If you are joining the club with your own laptop and Minecraft account, you do not need to sign up.

FIRST FRIDAYS- ROCKINGHAM, Vt. - Bellows Falls Area Senior Center Book Club, in partnership with the Rockingham Free Public Library, 65 Westminster St., meets on the first Friday of every month at 9 a.m. Call the senior center at 802-463-3907 or the library at 802-463-4270 for details.

WEEKLY- CHESTER, Vt. - Whiting Library will host a pop-up exhibition from the National Archives, "The Bill of Rights and You," commemorating the 225th

anniversary of the ratification of this landmark document. This exhibit runs through April 28. Please call the Library for more information at 802-875-2277, whitinglibrary@yahoo and visit us Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The Rockingham Free Public Library will be hosting its annual book sale through Saturday, April 29. Book donations of all kinds are welcome, with the exception of encyclopedias, textbooks and dusty books. DVDs and audiobooks are also welcome. All proceeds from the book sale will benefit the Rockingham Library. For more information, call 802-463-4270, visit rockinghamlibrary.org, or stop by the library at 65 Westminster St. in Bellows Falls. Book sale hours are as follows: Saturday 9-4, M-T-W 10-7, Th-F 10-5:30, Sat. April 29 10-2.

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. - The Brooks Memorial Library, 224 Main St, Brattleboro, has a new display outside the children's room that explores, through images and text, the process of writing and illustrating the children's book, "Did Tiger Take the Rain?" by Bellows Falls author and artist C. W. Norris-Brown. "Did Tiger Take the Rain?" explains how rain is formed by forests and what happens to the land when forests disappear. Drawing on the author's background in anthropology and his world travels, the story is told to two children by the forest animals living near a village in Nepal. The display will remain up until May 27. Hours are Monday through Wednesday 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Thursday-Friday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, visit <http://brookslibraryvt.org/>. 802-254-5290.

MEETINGS

THURSDAY, APRIL 27- WINDSOR, Vt. - The Ascutney Trails Association's annual meeting will be held on Thursday, April 27, from 6-8 p.m. at the Windsor Town Welcome Center. We are looking for volunteers, new members, and directors. The director's meeting will begin at 6 p.m., followed by a presentation from Rick White, state lands forester responsible for the management of Ascutney State Park. Mr. White will be discussing the Ascutney Management Unit long range management plan. If you have a passion for Mount Ascutney and its history, and are willing to assist in the maintenance of present and future hiking trails, please join us! Light refreshments will be served. For more information you can link to our Facebook page by visiting www.ascutneytrailsassociation.org, or call Steve Giroux at 802-674-6369.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28- BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Drugged Driving: Greater Falls Connections will be hosting their monthly coalition meeting from 12-1:30 p.m. at Parks

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AUTOMOTIVE

calendar

MEETINGS CONT.

FRI., APRIL 28 CONT. - Place Community Center on 44 School St. in Bellows Falls. This month's discussion will focus on the latest state and national trends around driving while high, which is a particular area of concern with changing social norms around cannabis use. While the number of fatally injured drivers due to drinking alcohol has been on the decline, fatally injured drivers testing positive for drugged driving have been on the rise. Find out more about the work of GFC at www.greaterfallsconnections.org.

TUESDAY, MAY 9- MOUNT HOLLY, Vt. - Informational meeting on the "721 Merger," Mount Holly School gym, 6 p.m. Learn details about the vote scheduled for May 30, proposing the towns of Ludlow and Mount Holly join Mill River Unified Union School District. For more information, call 802-875-3365 or go to su.trsu.org.

TUESDAYS- ROCKINGHAM, Vt. - The Abenaki Snowmobile Club is holding our regular business meetings on the first Tuesday of each month (September through May) at 7 p.m. at the Bellows Falls Fire Department. For more information, you can contact George Berube at 802-869-2593.

WESTMINSTER, Vt. - Westminster Fire & Rescue Department monthly meeting on the first Tuesday at 7 p.m. Rescue training is on the second Tuesday and combined drill on the third Tuesday. More information found at www.westminsterfireandrescue.org.

SCHOOLS

TUESDAY, MAY 2- MOUNT HOLLY, Vt. - Preschool registration for

children who will be 3 years old on or before Aug. 31, 2017. Tuesday, May 2, 2017, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. by appointment. Please bring: a birth certificate and all immunization records. Children must attend for screening. Note to parents: please plan to spend some time completing the registration forms. Mount Holly Elementary School, 150 School St., Mount Holly, 802-259-2392.

SUPPORT GROUPS

FRIDAY, MAY 12- BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The Connecticut Valley Ostomy & IBD support group (COG) aims to bring people together who are managing with inflammatory bowel disease or who have had an ostomy of any type. No cost to attend. It is run by Margaret Heale (802-376-8249). Meetings are in the Fireplace Community Meeting Room at Rockingham Medical Group, 1 Hospital Ct.

MONDAYS - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - NAMI Vermont Connection Recovery Support Group is a mental illness support group. It provides a forum to share experiences and learn about opportunities and challenges regardless of diagnostics. HCRS, CRT Room, 390 River St. Meets every Monday from 1 - 2 p.m. Info: call 800-639-6480 or visit www.namivt.org.

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Overeaters Anonymous

Meeting from 7 - 8 p.m., 44 School Street, Bellows Falls 05101 Please call 802-376-3507.

TUESDAYS- SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Breast Feeding Support Group 2nd and 4th Tuesday at the Springfield Hospital Library Level D. 12 - 2 p.m. It is free and no registration is required. For more information call Erin at 885-7511.

LUDLOW, Vt. - Co-Dependents Anonymous meets on Tuesdays starting April 4, 6:30-7:45 p.m. in the basement of the Fletcher Memorial Library, 88 Main St. in Ludlow. Find out more about CoDA at codavt.org. For more information regarding this meeting, contact Sarah E. at sarahcoda2016@gmail.com.

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Just Us Moms Program (JUMP). Come with your children. Have dinner

with other moms in the area, learn about resources, and have fun while your children play, and eat dinner. 5 - 7 p.m. at Cherry Hill School. Contact Michelle 275-7871.

FIRST TUESDAY - WINDSOR, Vt. - Cedar Hill is proud to announce our new Alzheimer's caregiver support group. Meet fellow caregivers who really understand because they've been there, too, when things are difficult or isolating.

From 3:30-5 p.m. at 92 Cedar Hill Drive (off Rte. 5).

WEDNESDAYS - LONDONDERRY, Vt. - Weekly clean and sober 12-Step Meeting. Support Group meets at Neighborhood Connections next to the Londonderry Post Office at 5:30 p.m. every Wednesday.

THURSDAYS - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Mental health peer support group

from 2 - 3:30 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 77 Main St. The group's goal will be to provide a safe environment for people to give and receive support on mental health issues. Free and open to the public. Call Diana Slade at 802-289-1982.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) at Huber Building, 80 Main St. Weigh-in starts at 8 a.m. and the meeting begins at 9 a.m.

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River Theater Company, "You Can't Take it With You"

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. - River Theater Company of Charlestown, N.H. will present the classic comedy, "You Can't Take it With You" by Kaufman and Hart in the Charlestown Town Hall Theater Saturday, April 29, at 7:30 p.m., Friday, May 5, and Saturday, May 6 at 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday, May 7 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are available at the door or at the Jiffy Mart in Charlestown, N.H., Marro Home Center in Claremont, N.H., Joanie Joan's Baked Goods Company in Walpole, N.H., and at Village Square Booksellers in Bellows Falls, Vt. This production promises to be upbeat and enjoyable family entertainment, appropriate

for ages 12 and up.

Fireworks, Russians, snakes, visitors who drop in and never leave, guests who show up on the wrong day, questionable ballet routines, unfinished scripts, and FBI agents arresting everyone in the house! This is just a typical day at the Sycamore house. It's all in good fun, and there is plenty of laughter to go around. This much loved Pulitzer Prize winning play, set in the 1930's, with its lovable characters, was also made into a film, which won Academy Awards for Best Picture and Best Director.

The large cast features actors hailing from both sides of the river:

Charlestown, Walpole, Acworth, Alstead, Claremont, Springfield, Saxton's River, Bellows Falls, and Mount Holly. They include Ray Boas as the wise and very relaxed Grandpa, Fran Kemp as Penny as the whimsical would-be playwright and artist, and Samaira Aldrich and James Durrett as the young couple from very different families who fall in love. They are supported in the other roles by Elijah Barnes, Mike Cirre, Michael Conant, Daniel Curtis, Liz Durrett, Mike Delaney, Gregory Higgins, John Luther, Alex Maskell, Stanley Marro, Carolyn Norback, Ruth Pratt, Fred Ramen, Irene Ramen, Tara Sad, Rich Smith, Liz Wilbur, and Mike Wright.

The production is co-directed by River Theater Company Board member Jeanie Levesque and her husband, Bill Lockwood. Both have been involved in many area productions. Stage manager is John Blair, Carolee Williams is coordinating the many props this production requires, and Sam Maskell is providing design and graphics expertise.

For more information call Jeanie Levesque at (603) 445-7037, or jeanie@rivertheater.org, or visit River Theater Company's new website at www.rivertheater.org.



Ray Boas, Samaira Aldrich, Ruth Pratt, and Rich Smith rehearsing a scene from River Theater Company's production of "You Can't Take it With You." PHOTO PROVIDED

Grand choral fanfare

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Springfield Community Chorus will present a grand choral fanfare for their 50th year celebration on Sunday, May 7 at 3 p.m. at the high school auditorium. Not only will the chorus be collaborating with the Bennington County Choral Society to sing the "Ode to Joy" from Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 with a full orchestra accompanying, but the chorus will also perform an original piece, "When Music Sounds," written by Vermont composer Zeke Hecker. This piece was especially composed for the 50th year celebration. Zeke lives in Guilford. The SCC's conductor, Ken Olsson, will be directing both of these pieces.

A former SCC chorus director, Candace Montesi, will return to conduct some of her favorite pieces: "Distant" by John Rutter, "The Silence and the Song" by Mark Paterson, "Stars I Shall Find" by David

Dickau with words from a poem by Sara Teasdale, and several others. Ken Olsson, director of the chorus, will be accompanying Candace.

The Bennington County Choral Society is directed by Cailin Manson Marcel Manson. Check their web

page for their season of concerts, www.benningtoncountychoralsociety.org.

This concert is made possible, in part, by a generous grant from the Choral Arts Foundation of the Upper Valley.



Springfield Community chorus.

PHOTO PROVIDED

River Singers 25th anniversary spring concert

GRAFTON, Vt. - The 95-voice River Singers, led by Mary Cay Brass, is celebrating its 25th anniversary of singing together with their spring concert on Saturday, May 13, 7:30 p.m. at the White Church. Special guest conductor, Dr. Kathy Bullock, from Berea College in Kentucky, will lead the choir in a set of rousing, emotionally poignant songs from the African American spirituals and gospel traditions.

This 25th anniversary year will be the seventh time the group has hosted Dr. Kathy Bullock. Dr. Bullock teaches ethnomusicology and African American music and leads the 80-voice Black Music ensemble at Berea College. She has also designed study abroad programs in Ghana, Zimbabwe and Jamaica. In addition to her choral teaching skills, Dr. Bullock is a rockin' gospel piano player who will have the walls of the church shaking!

In this spring's concert, the choir will be celebrating sacred music from many world traditions: two hauntingly beautiful Islamic chants from Bosnia and Afghani-



The group will host Dr. Kathy Bullock for the seventh year.

PHOTO PROVIDED

stan, a lovely Hebrew "Blessing" and two songs from the early New England shape note repertoire. In addition, the group will sing the Blue Green Hills of Earth, an ode to our precious earth from Paul Winter's Missa Gaia - accompanied by saxo-

phonist, Bill Ballard and pianist, Andy Davis.

The River Singers always include songs from the Balkans where director, Mary Cay Brass had a Fulbright Scholarship and where she regularly leads Village Harmony music camps.

This concert presents two foot-stomping dance songs from Macedonia and Bulgaria accompanied by Brass on accordion as well as choir members Walter Slowinski and Bill Ballard on clarinet and sax and Laurie Rabut and Mary Lea on fiddles.

Rounding out the concert there will be songs of peace, hope, resistance and finally an epic South African song with a complex dance, which all 95 singers have mastered!

The concert will be a benefit for the CONTACT Program (Conflict Transformation Across Cultures) at SIT in Brattleboro where peace makers come from all over the world to share and learn peace making skills. In gratitude for our benefit, the CONTACT Program invites one singer from the choir to attend on scholarship. This year's recipient is tenor John Bouffard.

For more information see www.marycaybrass.com

Lyle Brewer to appear at the Windham Ballroom

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - At only 31 years old, Lyle Brewer is as accomplished as many musicians twice his age. Revered in his adopted home town of Boston as one of the most sought after guitarists for both studio and live work, Mr. Brewer has released several albums of his own, the most recent of which, Juno, was chosen Best Local Album by the Boston Globe in 2015. He performs at the Windham Ballroom at Popolo on Sunday, May 7.

His music is entirely instrumental but in a unique way says more than pages of careful lyrics. As versatile a player as he is a stylist, Mr. Brewer's talent reaches across the genres from blues to country to jazz. In fact, he studied jazz performance at The New England Conservatory of Music but it would be an error to call him a jazz guitarist. He counts among his influences guitarists as

varied as Joe Pass, Duane Allman, and John Scofield.

"Lyle can play anything," remarks veteran songwriter and exemplary player, Peter Mulvey, "so the question with him is 'what, then, will I play?'" Mulvey says he loves how fearlessly Mr. Brewer chooses to play what's simple and pretty but continues, "of course he also shreds with the best of them."

Mr. Brewer's versatility leads to him being known in many ways; Bellows Falls entrepreneur, Josh Hearne, notes that Mr. Brewer might be best known as guitarist for area favorite, singer-songwriter, Ryan Montbleau. In a feature on Mr. Brewer, USA Today noted his centrality in the Boston music scene is "as integral to it as Harvard Square is to Cambridge."

A multi-instrumentalist who picked up the guitar late, Mr. Brewer recently started a scholarship in his mother's name to help young aspir-

ing guitarists take lessons with his old guitar teacher.

"I just have to play," Brewer said in a 2015 interview with the Boston Globe, "It's hard to talk about this stuff without coming off as corny or pretentious, but it's freedom. It's being able to express yourself, to become a different person."

Currently in preparation for his recording of compositions by J.S. Bach and funded by the Passim Iguana Grant, Mr. Brewer has made time for a few shows, among them this rare solo performance in Bellows Falls at the Windham Ballroom.

Tickets are can be purchased in advance and at the door if still available. Doors are at 7:00 p.m. for a 7:30 p.m. show. Tickets are available at popolomeanspeople.com and dinner reservations if desired in Popolo's adjacent dining room should be made by phoning the restaurant at 802-460-7676. For more info please contact info@popolo.us.

"The Economics of Happiness" film

LONDONDERY, Vt. - "The Economics of Happiness," an award-winning documentary film, spells out the social, spiritual and ecological costs of today's global economy and makes a strong case for localization. Doreen Fabiano and Carlene Lindgren, local activists for the environment and other issues facing our

world today will host the screening of this 68 minute film on Friday, May 5 at 6 p.m. at The Meeting Place at Neighborhood Connections. Q&A will follow.

The documentary was produced by Local Futures, a non-profit organization dedicated to the revitalization of cultural and biological diversity and

the strengthening of local communities and economies worldwide.

Space is limited, so call to register at 802-824-4343. The Meeting Place is located in Londonderry's Mountain Marketplace, next to the Londonderry post office. Check out our web site at www.neighborhoodconnectionsvt.org.

Annual Wallingford Bike Safety Day

WALLINGFORD, Vt. - On Saturday, May 13, from 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., the

Wallingford Community Bike Safety Day, will host its 19th annual event, at the Wallingford Elementary School. This fun, interactive and collaboratively sponsored event always has something for all ages; from free helmet fitting to an obstacle course, and from bike safety inspections to 911 rescue vehicle / law enforcement interactions, Etc. In addition, (as a tradition), there are always terrific prize give-a-ways, face painting, refreshments and much more; because of the generous support of sponsors & volunteers.

As a piece of history, the "Bike Safety Day" was started in the late 90's, by Wallingford's Brad Kelley. Over the years he enlisted the aid of Rotary, many local businesses, and volunteers to fund, facilitate and diversify this project.

To date, major sponsors are the Wallingford Rotary & the GE Volunteers, rallied by Rodney Ward. The event is modeled from a program initiated by the Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Institute and New England Medical Center, Boston, Mass.

For more information, to make a donation, or to get involved as a volunteer, contact Rotarian Co-Chair, Adrian Eisler 802-446-7011 or GE Co-Chair Rodney Ward at 802-446-3672.



Audition for Robin Hood

CLAREMONT, N.H. - Repertory Theatre Company last day of auditions for the summer production of Robin Hood is Sunday, April 30 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. held at the Claremont Opera House.

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