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Send images as a JPEG.

Beer and sunshine Pop Up on a winter’s night

BY KAREN ENGDAHL
The Shopper

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Two of Vermont’s fastest growing industries, alternative energy and micro brewing, teamed up to showcase their products in an innovative pop-up store on Springfield’s Main Street the evening of Dec. 15. Representatives from SunCommon, a solar energy developer, and Trout River Brewery, Springfield’s own microbrewery, were on hand to informally discuss topics that captured the imaginations of all who attended: beer and sunshine.

Becca White, community orga-

nizer for SunCommon, addressed a wide range of issues while talking with pop-up visitors. “People have strong opinions about solar energy,” she said. “Some people think the solar panels are an eyesore, other people disagree.”
“I actually think they look ‘sculptural,’” said Char Osterlund as she sipped her Trout River Rainbow Red Ale. “It’s great to see people move toward renewable energy.”
Other pop-up visitors echoed her enthusiasm, with some seeking detailed information about solar solutions for their own homes. Adding a festive note to the gathering was Kel-

en Beardsley, one of the founders of the local Trout River Brewery, pouring free samples of several popular beers.
White, who has been working in the Springfield area for the past two years, said she was proud of the initiative the community has taken with solar power. “We’ve gone from seven solar homeowners to 19 in just two years,” she said proudly. “And when we measure community interest in terms of attendance at our events, we’re even with the organizers in Montpelier.”
Rather than rely on print media, White has used social media plus

the pop-up location and other local events to spread the word on solar energy.
“We just had a presentation with emergency responders about the potential of solar generators,” she added. “The disaster in Puerto Rico really brought into focus the need for alternative energy sources in an emergency.”
“Another outreach activity we came up with started when I noticed the heart of downtown Springfield doesn’t have a good spot to sit and enjoy coffee and a donut in the morning,” she said. “So to fix that problem, we created pop-up events featuring a

free cup of local coffee and a treat.” Several morning coffee pop-ups are scheduled for the month of December, including Dec. 21 and 29 from 8-11:30 a.m.
“The pop-up events will stop after January,” White said, adding she

will be moving on to organize similar events in the Windsor area. For more information about SunCommon, visit the Facebook page @SunCommonSpringfield. For more information about Trout River Brewery, visit @troutriverbrewery.

Lia Clark Elks Student of the Month

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - It is a pleasure to announce that Lia Clark has been named the November Elks Student of the Month for Bellows Falls Union High School. Clark, a junior, is the daughter of Tim Clark and Kristen Swartwout of Saxtons River.
Clark is incredibly friendly and outgoing. She goes out of her way to greet people and ask how they are doing. Always willing to help, she will drop whatever she is doing to offer assistance where she sees a need. She has a genuine kindness towards others and works hard to get people to join in activities.
Clark comes to school every day with an open mind and a desire to learn. She is an active participant in class discussions and activities, and is willing to put in the time needed to improve her skills. She is a dedicated student who combines natural abil-

ity, fantastic time management, and an internal drive to succeed.
Not only devoted to learning, Clark is active in various aspects of the BFUHS community. As a student athlete, she demonstrates a competitive nature in a positive way, as she encourages her teammates and competitors to do better. Clark joins many extracurricular activities and commits fully to them all. She has shown that she is someone people can count on to carry out a task, and she often goes above and beyond the expectations of others. Clark is currently the president of the BFUHS Class of 2019 and the “Voice of the Terriers” as she does the morning announcements.
Clark is a perfect candidate for this award, and BFUHS and the Elks are honored to have her represent us this month with this award.

SRCC seeks nominations

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Every year the Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce honors a Citizen of the Year and an Organization of the Year for their outstanding leadership, civic pride, and commitment to the betterment of Springfield and the surrounding area. We invite you to join us in recognizing those who are fostering growth and prosperity in our region.
Do you know a person who has been making a difference in the

neighborhood? Maybe someone who is always immersed in important community activities, or someone who has been devotedly involved with our local government? Are you thinking of a business or organization that always goes above and beyond? A company that supports worthwhile causes and is committed to giving back to the community?
Show appreciation by nominating them for an Award of the Year! Winners of the 2017 Citizen of the Year and 2017 Organization of the Year will be announced at the Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce’s annual meeting and 100th Year Celebration on Saturday, Jan. 27, 2018. Help us give thanks to folks who matter! Nomination forms are available on our website: www.springfieldvt.com. Deadline for submissions is Friday, Jan. 5, 2017.
For more information, or if you have questions, contact the Chamber of Commerce at 802-885-2779 or email springfieldrcoc@vermontel.net.

Previous Citizens of the Year
Rosanne “Bunni” Putnam - 2014
Richard “Buddy” Dexter - 2015
Christian Craig - 2016

Organizations of the Year
Boccaccio’s - 2014
HB Energy Solutions - 2015
Hartness House Inn - 2016

All previous citizens and organizations at www.VermontJournal.com

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BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Women’s club members Sally MacPhee, Barbara Whitehead, Wendy O’Dette-Jordan, Barbara Comtois, and Ruth Keefe helped decorate the health center waiting room. President Dianne Potter and Betty Haggerty also worked on the project.
From left to right, Vice President Betty Haggerty, President Dianne Potter, and Officer Jillian Cenate. The Women’s club made donations to the Police Department’s Angel Project, which provides toys and clothing to area children during the holidays and also helps in the upkeep of Caesar, the police department dog.

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Warming Shelter offers safe haven for homeless

BY KAREN ENGDAHL
The Shopper

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Once left to sleep under bridges or in abandoned buildings, homeless people in the Springfield area are now able to stay overnight in a warm place thanks to the ongoing efforts of dozens of volunteers and community groups. For the past five winters, the Springfield Warming Shelter, located at the North Springfield Baptist Church, has provided a place for up to eight people to spend the night during

the coldest months of the year. Each night four volunteers staff the shelter in two shifts to support the needs of the guests.

“The biggest reward I get from volunteering is just seeing the difference it makes to give people something to eat and a warm place to sleep,” said Barbie Pine, long time shelter volunteer. “Most people are so grateful.”

Working with her on a six-hour shift, her husband, Dennis, echoed her sentiments. “Lots of people in this community want to help,” he said. “I think a lot of people know this kind of

thing could happen to them at some point. Some people just need help through a hard time.”

Shelter Manager Kathy Mason added, “We feel especially good about the major success stories, like when a guest stays here for an extended period of time while working and saving for a deposit on an apartment. Many people who are homeless have jobs, but it takes a long time to put together enough money for housing. Housing costs are a big problem in this area.”

Mason cited other factors influencing local cases of homelessness,

including general effects of poverty, substance abuse, and mental illness.

“We spend time with guests letting them know about services in the area,” she explained, “and most of them are very receptive.”

Mason and the Pines agree that staffing the shelter is the biggest challenge the organization faces. “We need to cover 120 shifts a month,” Mason said, “and right now we’re doing it with 65 volunteers. We especially need more coverage for the 12:30-6:30 a.m. shifts Thursday through Sunday.” Mason noted the volunteer

force has increased significantly since the Warming Shelter started using Facebook. “We’re reaching more young volunteers through social media,” she said.

Another challenge is transportation for guests who don’t have cars. “Bus service is tricky because there are some gaps between the shelter hours and the times the buses run,” explained Dennis Pine. “That can leave people literally waiting in the snow for a half-hour or more.”

Despite the challenges inherent in the work, all agreed the rewards are

well worth it. “The Springfield community has been very generous,” said Mason. “High school kids recently ran a coat drive and also brought in cash donations; people give food and bring meals; we’ve had lots of donations of things like toiletries and socks.” Right now, she says, bed linens such as sheets and pillowcases are needed.

For more information about volunteering and/or donating to the Warming Shelter, contact Mason at 888-264-3001 or Facebook @springfieldvtwarmingshelter.

Savings Bank of Walpole joins New Hampshire Mutual Bancorp

WALPOLE, N.H. - New Hampshire Mutual Bancorp, a mutual holding company, was formed in 2013 when two New Hampshire-based community banks, Merrimack County Savings Bank (the Merrimack) and Meredith Village Savings Bank (MVSb) formally affiliated – the first relationship of its kind in New Hampshire. In 2015, MillRiver Wealth Management became the third subsidiary when it was created from the investment services arms of MVSb and the Merrimack.

With New Hampshire roots reaching more than 150 years, this alliance enhances the ability of each company to better serve its customers and communities. As part of the alliance, each affiliate bank retains its name and state charter, with separate management teams and separate boards of directors that will continue to oversee the operations of their respective organizations.

In addition, after over 40 years with the organization, NHMB President and CEO Samuel L. Laverack has announced his retirement effective June 30, 2018. Gregg R. Tewksbury, the current President and CEO of Savings Bank of Walpole, has been selected to succeed Laverack. In this role, Tewksbury will lead the combined organization with the guidance of the boards and management teams of NHMB, SBW, MVSb, the Merrimack, and MillRiver. He will maintain offices within all partner banks.

“One of the benefits of this alliance is the ability to tap into the leadership and expertise that Gregg will bring to our organization as a steward of mutual banking values in New Hampshire – and most importantly, in the individual communities served by our partner banks,” noted Laverack.

Effective July 1, 2018, Mark Bodin, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer at Savings Bank of Walpole, will be promoted to President of Savings Bank of Walpole. “Mark is a skilled banker and principled leader, and I am confident that he will carry on the values that have served Savings Bank of Walpole and our community for nearly a century-and-a-half,” said Tewksbury.

Rick Wyman, Philip Emma, and Paul Provost will remain presidents of Meredith Village Savings Bank, Merrimack County Savings Bank, and MillRiver Wealth Management, respectively. Through the holding company, these healthy, independent community banks are in a position to optimize the strengths and competitive advantages of each orga-



The Savings Bank of Walpole.

PHOTO BY ROBERT MILLER

nization. With combined resources, the overall company can better serve customers with significantly greater loan capacity, leading-edge products and services, and enhanced technology-based delivery systems.

Laverack and Tewksbury noted that they personally share a strong, mutual respect and trust and that the banks themselves enjoy similar corporate structures, histories and cultures. They pointed to the advantages of their complementary yet distinct market areas, and their fundamental commitments to delivering high quality customer services.

The management and boards of directors of each institution are committed to maintaining each bank’s status as an independent community

bank and its mutual form of ownership. Laverack and Tewksbury share a firm belief that a mutual form of ownership clearly serves bank customers and communities best. A mutual holding company has no stockholders, which allows it to invest its profits more conservatively for long-term sustainability and sound growth. In addition, decision-making can be based on the longer-term benefits to the community, customers and employees as opposed to the immediate needs of stockholders and the market.

Tewksbury noted, “Our stability over the last few turbulent years has reinforced our belief in the mutual approach to ownership. Adding Savings Bank of Walpole to the fold at

New Hampshire Mutual Bancorp makes it even more certain that we will prevail for generations to come.”

Laverack added, “We’re here to stay as local, mutual banks that will thrive, not just survive, for the future benefit of our customers, staff, and communities.”

As a result of this alliance, all of the organizations will be in a position to optimize the strengths and competitive advantages of each organization and to grow market share in their distinctive markets. With combined resources, the overall company will better position each affiliate bank to serve its customers with significantly greater loan capacity and leading edge products and services, and to implement enhanced technology-based delivery systems. It is anticipated that the organizations will be able to expand while managing expenses as they jointly develop new products and services. It is further anticipated that each affiliate bank will share some resources, thus affording each bank greater capacity for future growth. However, this will occur over time - years in most cases - as the needs and opportunities are identified.

The relationship will become effective upon final regulatory ap-

proval and a vote by the Corporators of NHMB and SBW. Hogan Lovells, U.S. LLP served as legal counsel to

NHMB, and Gallagher, Callahan & Gartrell, PC served as legal counsel to SBW.



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Early Christmas memories in Chester

BY RON PATCH
The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

CHESTER, Vt. - In the past I have written one of my favorite first grade Christmas memories. That was when Hessie had pulled a sleigh through the snow-covered playground at Chester Elementary School. That was in 1957.

I remember Mrs. Hammond, our first grade teacher, telling us that Santa was known to make practice runs before Christmas Day, and we should go out to the playground and see if we could find any sleigh tracks.

All of us kids followed Mrs. Hammond out to the playground. Then in the fresh snow Mrs. Hammond pointed out some sleigh tracks. Us kids followed the sleigh tracks all

around the playground, some saying that they had seen Santa in the sky the night before.

Someone brought a Christmas tree into our classroom a week or so before Christmas vacation. Mrs. Hammond asked us kids to bring in one decoration from home to put on our tree. Well those decorations were not enough. We needed more decorations.

We made Christmas decorations out of construction paper of different colors in long strands of rings. Each ring was about two inches in diameter. We would insert a piece of colored paper into an existing ring and, with some glue, paste the ends together. We made sure we connected different colored rings together.

We had those short little scissors.

I'm sure you remember those little scissors with the blunt ends so we wouldn't get hurt. We kids would sit at the worktable cutting, pasting, and chattering all the while.

We also made little tree ornaments out of salt and flour mixed with a little water. We used cookie cutters to cut them out. We sprinkled sparkles on them to make them sparkle on the tree. We thought we had the best Christmas tree ever!

Mrs. Hammond had different pages from coloring books all with a Christmas theme. There was of course Santa but also Rudolph and the elves. We colored those pages and taped them to the walls all around the room.

Now the last day of school was exciting. All of us kids had put our name in a box so we could draw names. Even this box had been covered with Christmas paper. The name you drew is who you got a present for.

We were limited how much we could spend on a present. It might have been 25 cents or 50 cents at the most. Some of us got our present at



Little Ronnie Patch in first grade.
PHOTO PROVIDED BY RON PATCH

excited to be going home.

In my house, we celebrated Christmas on Christmas Eve. My father always said that his family had always celebrated Christmas Eve. It was a tradition that went way back. Actually, it worked pretty well. On Christmas Day, we all went down to my sister, Norma's house in Bellows Falls on Green Street.

Norma and others cooked and baked all day. There were huge amounts of turkey, ham, potatoes with gravy, and every other food you can imagine. One thing I remember well was fudge in the candy dish on the coffee table. I would sneak back to get more. In my house when my mother made fudge, it would be gone in no time with us kids around.

To leave it out on a table was unheard of.

There was my side of family there as well as Norma's husband, Louie's side. Louie had lots of relatives. I remember Buster and Ida and Marion. Some of these people I only saw once a year so I never really knew them. I remember one elderly woman getting a little tipsy every year. As dinner was served, everyone was talking and laughing. The little kids like me sat at a card table and the adults sat at the dining table.

In 1957, Christmas wasn't a big deal like it is today. Not many presents under the tree, and the trees were scrawny. Remember the needles dropping to the floor? Christmas was a time for family.



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LOCAL HISTORY

BY RON PATCH

Ron Patch is a Chester native, Chester Historical Society president, and a lifelong antiques dealer.

He can be reached at 802-374-0119 or email knotz69@gmail.com

Why I love Vermont

During the snowstorm of December 12, I decided to go hiking in the woods. Here I attempt to describe what I heard and saw.

First you'll notice the snow is coming straight down, there is no wind. As you work your way deeper into the woods there is no clutter noise from civilization. No highway or manmade sounds.

About a mile into the woods, the snow switches its direction and blows in from the east. The only signs of life you've seen are an occasional set of squirrel tracks. You stop to rest and hear the snow pelting the brim of your felt hat.

The silence is deafening. The thousands of snowflakes hitting branches and beech leaves create a very subtle but noticeable noise. It's similar to ringing in your ears. Stand still and take it in, and look around at nature's wonders.

Move along a quarter of a mile or so and stop to look around. You'll hear a woodpecker in a nearby tree. As you look up and search the trees for it, the snowflakes prick your face. Then you notice something way up near the top of an old oak tree. What's that?

Moving closer to get a better view, you realize it's a large squirrel nest made of sticks and leaves. Carefully built in the crotch of a limb, the upper part is concealed in snow. You wonder if the builder is at home, sleeping through the storm.

The fresh snow has cascaded over and hidden many obstacles to trip over: branches, rocks, and old stumps. It's best to have winter boots that have flexible soles - you can feel obstacles better with flexible soles. Stiff waffle style soles may give you traction but they are very slippery if you step on a hidden branch an inch or so in diameter. That branch will be frozen over with frost or ice and is very slippery. Later in the winter when the snow is deeper a fall would not be as dangerous as those obstructions will be buried deep in the snow.

There's a smell in the woods during a snowstorm that is difficult to describe. It's a very faint aroma that would be best described as similar to the smell fresh clothes have when just taken off the clothesline.

You have no concept of time or distance travelled. You become one with nature, concentrating only on where you step. Your winter jacket, if wool, will be white by now but you are warm and comfort-



Snowy woodland view with stonewall.

PHOTO BY RON PATCH



Stone foundation to old cabin.

PHOTO BY RON PATCH

able. Your heart rate has increased, and you learn to climb a slippery ridge by timing your breathing with your footsteps. It seems you go on forever.

Stonewalls are capped with a fresh snowy layer as you enter a stand of hardwoods. Here you stop and scan the hardwoods. The winter wonderland before you is breathtaking. You take photos with your camera but you really wish you could paint.

If you venture into a stand of pines or hemlocks, you find where the deer have bedded down during the storm. They curl up in the snow under the thick evergreen boughs and wait for it to subside. You'll see the pockets in snow where they were bedded down. Within an hour of your leaving, the deer will return to bed down again.

The snow cover on the pond hides a very thin layer of ice. All of the critters in the woods know the ice isn't safe, and rather walk around the perimeter than ven-

turing out on the ice. You wonder how a deer, fox, or coyote knows the ice is unsafe but a dog doesn't. A couple hours later, as you retrace your steps back to your starting point, you notice the footprints you left in the snow earlier in the day have already start to fill. Your cheeks are rosy, and you are warm all over. It's incredible. Give it a try sometime.

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Ludlow Fire Department warns about carbon monoxide dangers during the winter

LUDLOW, Vt. - With the winter season in full swing, Ludlow Fire Chief Peter Kolenda is issuing a warning to homeowners about a silent and deadly killer. Consumers can avoid the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning by having their fuel-burning appliances inspected by a qualified technician every year, and by purchasing and installing CO detectors that meet the requirements of the Underwriters Laboratories standards.

Carbon monoxide poisoning from the use of fuel burning appliances kills over 100 people each year and sends many more to hospital emergency rooms for treatment. Burning any fuel produces carbon monoxide, which is a colorless, odorless gas. The initial symptoms of CO poisoning are similar to the flu, and include dizziness, fatigue, headache, nausea, and irregular breathing. High-level exposure to carbon monoxide can cause death.

"Modern heating equipment is sophisticated and requires special training and tools for proper maintenance," Kolenda said. "We recommend that you should not service your own appliances, but instead have a qualified professional perform an inspection."

A yearly inspection of your home by a professional should include a careful look at the following sources of carbon monoxide:

Furnaces, hot water heaters and stoves:

If they burn natural gas, heating oil, wood, or other kinds of fuel, these appliances are potential sources of carbon monoxide.

Chimneys, flues, and vents:
Have flues and chimneys inspected before each heating season for leak-



Enjoy cozy warmth while protecting your family this winter.

STOCK PHOTO

pollutants up the chimney, stovepipe or flue, and is necessary for the complete combustion of any fuel.

Charcoal grills:

Be aware that charcoal grills can also be a potential source of carbon monoxide. Never use charcoal grills in enclosed spaces such as a home, garage, vehicle, or tent, and never bring grills with live coals indoors after use. Never use charcoal grills as an indoor heat source.

What to do in a CO emergency

If you are suffering from chronic flu-like symptoms, see your doctor and ask him/her if it could be a low-level CO poisoning. If you have a CO detector, and it alarms, open the windows and ventilate your home with fresh air and have your heating system checked by a professional. If your alarm sounds and you are feeling drowsy or dizzy, leave the house immediately and call 911 from a neighbor's home. You may need medical attention for carbon monoxide poisoning.

"While carbon monoxide poisoning is a deadly threat, the hazards can be avoided by having a yearly professional inspection of your home fuel burning appliances and by installing a CO detector that meets the most recent UL standards," Kolenda said.

For more information on CO dangers, please visit www.homesafe.com. The Ludlow Fire Department staff wishes everyone a happy and safe winter season.

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opinion

Op-Ed: Vermont healthcare system changing for the better

My career as a family practice physician working in Vermont spans nearly two decades. I have been a practicing physician at Porter's Brandon Primary Care Office (formerly Neshobe Family Medicine) for 18 years, and I have seen many changes in medical practice over these years. One of the most positive changes I have seen is the creation of OneCare Vermont, a collaborative initiative between the University of Vermont Medical Center and Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center.

One of the key aspects of OneCare is to reward primary care providers like me to work with our patients to keep them healthy rather than treating them only when they are sick. This approach is an effort to move away from the current fee-for-service system and move us to a value-based system focused on improving quality and promoting wellness by focusing on primary care for Vermonters. Below is an example of how I have put this new model of care into actual practice here in our community. The

patient I discuss below has given me permission to share his story.

A success story: Treating the Whole Patient

Thirty years ago, when I was applying to medical school, I wrote an essay titled "Treating the Whole Patient." I recently came across this paper while going through some boxes, and had a lot of flashbacks and realizations. Being a primary care provider has been in my DNA since I first began thinking about becoming a physician, and I have had the honor of spending a career treating the whole patient. I carry that desire through my work now, as Chief Medical Officer for Porter Medical Center, where I have the opportunity to ensure that the work we are doing as an organization is in service to, not just the whole patient, but our entire community of Addison County. Finally, I am absolutely certain that I have more tools, training, and resources now than ever before to do this work. I am convinced that the goals of payment and delivery

system reform - to increase quality, access, and affordability - can only be accomplished by bringing as many resources as we can provide to the patient, to help them engage in improving their health.

When my patients are healthier, I will know that we have succeeded in this work. I want to share a story about a patient who has truly improved his health. I have been treating a patient with diabetes and heart disease for several years. I will call him Joe. Due to uncontrolled glucose levels over time, Joe required amputation below the left knee and a partial foot amputation on the opposite side. He walks without a cane, having adapted admirably to his metal fake leg, and is able to drive himself to his appointments. He recently needed to have a knee replacement in his right (good) leg due to breakdown of that joint over time. Because of his underlying complex health conditions, I referred him to an orthopedic surgeon at the UVM Medical Center to be evaluated for

surgery.

Joe was sent home without a surgical appointment scheduled, because his blood sugar levels were too high to safely operate. When I met with Joe and reviewed the note from the surgeon, the patient and I made a plan together to utilize resources for him that we are now able to access, thanks to programs like the Blueprint for Health and OneCare Vermont - our statewide accountable care organization.

This patient was able to access a care coordinator, a dietician, and a physical therapist, all within our office, which is his primary care medical home. Together as a care team we developed a plan to get Joe's blood sugar under control. The patient actively participated in his shared care plan and plant-based diet, and succeeded in getting his diabetes control to the level required by the knee surgeon in order to proceed with knee replacement. Not only was Joe able to have the knee replacement surgery, he changed his lifestyle dedica-

tion to wellness and is back to health maintenance visits every three to four months. This is one patient and one story, but know that primary care providers across the state are engaging in these reforms with the absolute same goal: to improve the lives of the people we serve.

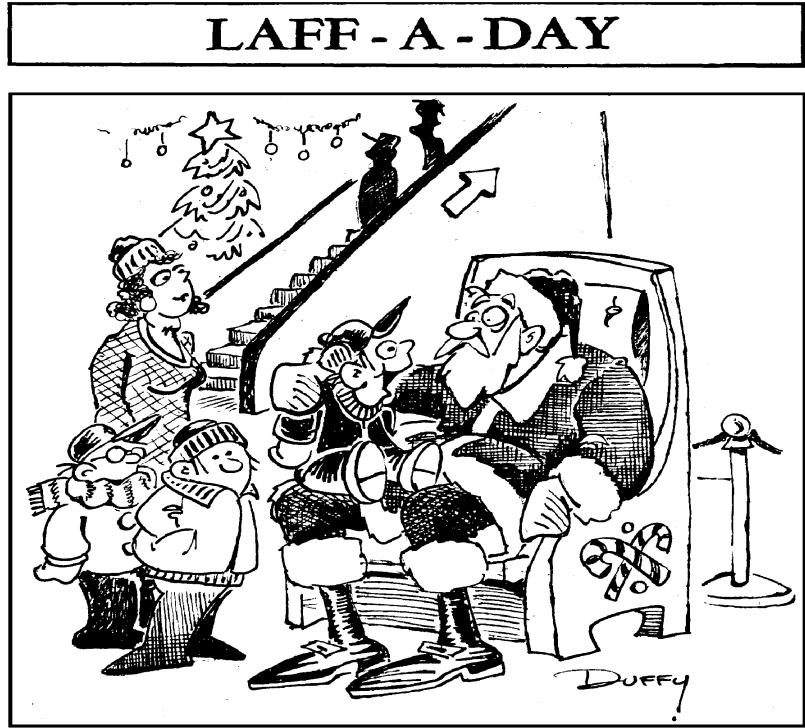
We can all continue to treat the whole patient, but now we get to do it with a lot more tools and resources, upheld by a team approach to coordination of care and prevention of illness. I realize that we have seen numerous programs come and go intending to improve both the delivery system and reduce the cost of health care. I believe that the OneCare Accountable Care Organization will be successful and will support primary care providers like me who are true believers in health promotion and keeping our patients well rather than sitting back and waiting for them to come to us when they are sick.

It is a partnership between providers and patients that will make the difference and fundamentally

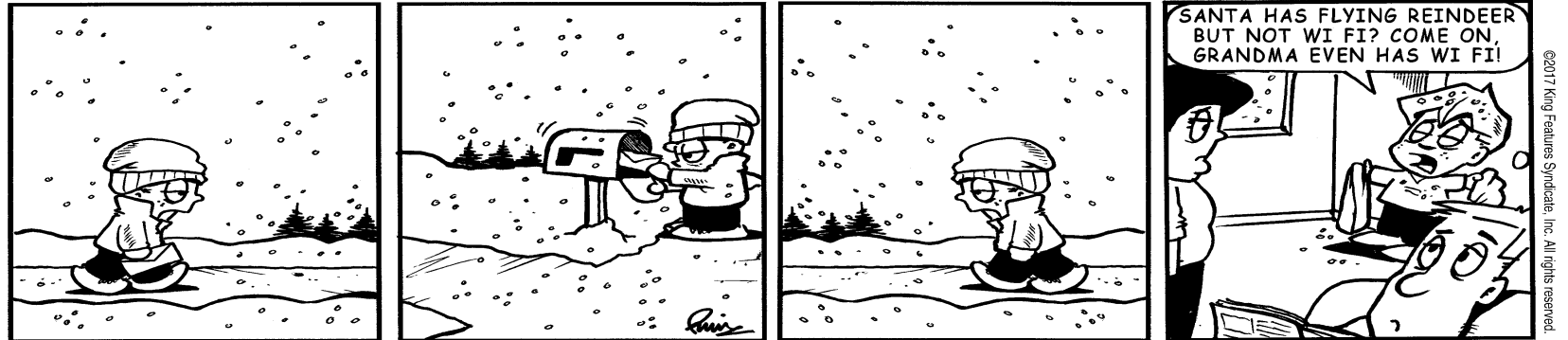
change how care is delivered. It aligns the incentives of the provider and the patient, and that does make all the difference in my opinion. It is now time to stop talking about healthcare reform and start working on it - and that work has begun here in Vermont. OneCare is investing in primary care and is promoting the type of medicine that I love to practice and that our patients need.

That is why Porter Medical Center is "all in" on healthcare reform and an active participant in the OneCare program. It is the right thing to do for our patients, our community, and our organization. It is a win-win for everyone and a promising investment in supporting the mission of UVM Health Network-Porter Medical Center.

Article written by Dr. Carrie Wulfman. Wulfman, a Primary Care Provider at UVMHN, Primary Care-Brandon, in Brandon, Vt. Article originally written for Community Forum.



Amber Waves



Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

All of the residents, staff, and Board Members would like to thank the Thrifty Attic for our 2017 grant we just received. They were kind enough to grant us all of our requests this year with \$706. This will include a new bingo game and accessories, a combination DVD/VCR player, Bluetooth speakers for our Kindles, and a Robo Fish water activity. All of these items will enhance the every day lives of our residents. The Thrifty Attic has been kind to us for many years. In the past, they've helped us with purchasing a new dishwasher and a new whirlpool tub. They are a marvelous organization. We are very grateful for them and their generosity.

Sincerely,
Theresa Southworth
Administrator
Gills Odd Fellows Home
Ludlow, Vt.

Dear Editor,

"Happy and healthy holidays to my friends and acquaintances," from Gramp Spaulding.

If you would like to send a card, it can be sent to 8 Gill Terrace, Ludlow, Vt. 05149.

From,
John L. (Gramp) Spaulding
The Gill Odd Fellows Home
Ludlow, Vt.

Dear Editor,

The South Londonderry Free Library would like to thank the Thrifty Attic for its generous donation for library improvements, including a new computer and copier. The wonderful ladies that manage the Thrifty include Sally Waite, Marion Laselle, Andrea Ogden, Wendy Arace, Shirley Barton, Pat Slade, and Mary Licatta.

Stop by the library and see what this grant has enabled the library to offer to all of you!

South Londonderry Free Library
S. Londonderry, Vt.

Dear Editor,

As many in Ludlow know, the most recent Act 46 / 706B Merger vote was very confusing to many people. Countless voters have called me or stopped me around town saying they now realize they voted incorrectly. With that being said, a number of us felt we should seek a revote.

So, petitions will be circulating around Ludlow this week seeking signatures of registered Ludlow voters who either were confused by the ballot, did not vote the first time, or who already voted "no" to keep BRHSMS open as a public school (so the great things the teachers and staff are doing can be further enhanced so the school becomes a school others want to attend thereby increasing our enrollment).

The middle high school is a really big part of our community. With school choice, students from lower income families might not be able to attend the school of their choice due to transportation challenges, and that certainly is not providing them more educational opportunities. And with school choice for grades 7-12, we will have no control over high school tuition. BRHS has always been a small school and our children do not get lost in the shuffle; they have teachers and staff who know them, know their families, and really care about them.

I fear the economy of Ludlow will be hurt if the public school closes. Young families no longer want to settle in a town that has no high school and do not want their teenagers on a bus 30, 40, or 50 minutes each way to a nearby school.

So, if you are interested in signing the petition for a revote in Ludlow, please contact me at 802-228-4530, and I can put you in touch with folks who are circulating the petition.

Thank you, and Merry Christmas.
Sharon E.P. Bixby
Ludlow, Vt.

Dear Editor,

Are you at all frustrated with the political direction Vermont is currently on? If so, read on. A group of us have formed the Green Mountain Party to address the abundance of concerns in Vermont that are being ignored. Check the link to our party: www.sec.state.vt.us/elections/parties.aspx.

Term limits are eight years or two terms, whichever is longer. It's standard for our party, and we'd push the state to adopt this from select boards to the Governor.

Our seven-point plan is directed at the following:

1. Ethics - Bring our D- to an A+. Give our ethics commission some money to operate, investigatory powers, and enforcement powers. This alone will save us millions and increase efficiency by multiples.

2. Take big money influence out of state government - We'd tax out of state lobbyists, PAC money heavily. PAC money is just legalized bribery funding propaganda and enriching those who peddle the propaganda. We don't need billionaires running our state. Soros, Koch, Bloomberg. Pick your billionaire, we don't need them, they don't even live here.

3. Stop the gross negligence with our tax money - We aim to improve schooling and healthcare, just a few years ago we were 25 percent and 30 percent cheaper than today. It'll be easy when citizens work together, and we ignore the lobbyists.

4. Drugs - Our approach has failed on almost every attempt. We need a concerted focus, multipronged strategy to get this scourge from ruining our society further. Crack babies being born every day in Vermont is just something that doesn't work for anyone.

5. Jobs - We have a climate that is not conducive or friendly toward business development and growth. We need a good education for our citizens. We need business education.

6. Schools - We can do better, and for far less money. The state is gutting our communities and taking control of our towns. Lobbyists have the most power in our state. We can provide a quality college education for 70 percent less than the universities through use of state certified college-level educators and community building use.

7. Homes - Our current regulatory climate is abusive to anyone earning an average wage. We can efficiently provide an affordable house for less than \$600 per month, the cost to rent a studio apartment. Three bedrooms, 1,000 square feet; six homes to an acre. We only have to allow and encourage it. No subsidies and no tax money are needed, just a willing heart.

Regular politicians will tell you this is the most important election coming up. We'll suggest you'll get more of the same next year and the year after. Want our system to change? Help us organize in your town so we can be a significant party in 2018. It only takes 3-4 people and about 15 minutes.

Does this interest you? Please help us come to your town. We need more towns organized by Jan. 1, 2018. Help change Vermont in a positive direction. Contact us now at 802-496-4470 or info@greenmountainparty.com.

Sincerely,
Neil Johnson
State chair, Green Mountain Party

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammatical errors & libelous statements. Must be kept under 400 words. We reserve the right to publish at our discretion. Deadline Friday at 12 p.m. Email to editor@vermontjournal.com. Mail to Vermont Journal PO Box 228 Ludlow, VT 05149.

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obituaries

Mark Phelps, 1964 - 2017

CHESTER, Vt. - Mark Phelps Sr., 53, passed away on Monday, Dec. 11, 2017 at the Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, N.H. He was born April 17, 1964 in Springfield, Vt. the son of Charles and Elizabeth (Childs) Phelps. He attended Springfield schools, graduating from Springfield High School class of 1983. He later attended the Vermont Police Academy. On Jan. 8, 2008, he married Debra E. Duprey in Negril, Jamaica.

Phelps was a law enforcement officer in the area for 30-plus years, serving as an officer with the Bellows Falls and Springfield Police Departments, and was most recently Sergeant with the Chester Police Department. He was also a K-9 Officer for several years with his canine partner Riggs. Phelps had also served with the Springfield and Chester Fire Departments and taught in the Protective Services program at River Valley Technical Center.

Phelps enjoyed camping, scuba diving, hiking, snowshoeing, and four wheeling. He loved country music and was a New England Patriots fan.



Mark Phelps, 1964 - 2017. PHOTO PROVIDED

Phelps was a hard worker all his life. He was a devoted husband and father and lived every day to its fullest.

He is survived by his wife Debra E. Phelps of Chester; son Mark Phelps

Jr. of East Longmeadow, Mass.; his parents Charles and Elizabeth Phelps of Springfield; step-sons Jason Albert of Chester and Christopher Albert of Denver; sister Susan Dana of Springfield; brother Jason Phelps of Springfield; sister-in-law Pam Perry; and brother-in-law Ken Bugosh of Littleton, Colo. He is also survived by aunts, uncles, many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

A memorial service was held on Monday, Dec. 18, 2017 at the American Legion Post # 67 in Chester, Vt. Reverend Susan Moody officiated. A celebration of his life followed the services.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in his memory to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund Supporter Services, 901 E Street, NW, Suite 100, Washington, D.C., 20004-2025 or to the Springfield Humane Society, 401 Skitchewaug Trail, Springfield, VT, 05156.

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

Blue Christmas worship service

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The Association of Springfield Area Churches has been sponsoring a Blue Christmas worship service since 2008. In the past it has been held at the First Congregational Church. This year it will be at the United Methodist Church on Thursday, Dec. 21 at 7 p.m. It is important for those who are grieving the loss of loved ones to have the opportunity to take time at Christmas to celebrate their lost loved ones. With all the holiday activities and celebrations, some find a hard time participating because they just don't feel that happy. The long nights of winter amplify our emotions and so this special worship service is held on the longest night of the year.

The Blue Christmas worship service provides an opportunity to celebrate the lives of loved ones by lighting candles, listening to music, and reflecting on the gift that their lives has been to us. The worship service will be hosted by Rev. Gerry Piper and Rev. George Keeler. Area clergy and lay leaders who would like to participate in leading this service of worship can contact Rev. Piper. All are invited to join us.

Rose M. (Wilkins) Juaire, 1952 – 2017

PUTNEY, Vt. – Rose “Tiny” Juaire, 65, passed away on Tuesday, Nov. 28, at Dartmouth Hitchcock Hospital, following a period of declining health. Having fought pulmonary fibrosis for several years, she succumbed after several pneumonia infections. Juaire died with grace, strength, and resilience – just as she lived.

Juaire was born March 29, 1952. After having been raised and educated in Brattleboro, Vt., she was employed at several area businesses before working for many years as a R.N.A. at the Brattleboro Retreat, Vernon Green, and Maplewood Nursing Homes. Juaire greatly enjoyed her grandchildren and

her dog, as well as crocheting and visiting with family and friends.

Juaire was predeceased by her biological parents, Patrick and Virginia McCullough, her adopted parents, Casper and Luna Wilkins, and her brother Merlin “Tracy” Wilkins.

In addition to her husband of 25 years, Joseph Juaire, she is survived by her children Ginger Cavanagh of Saxtons River, Vt., Frank Wilkins of Turners Falls, Mass., and a stepdaughter Noela and husband Mike Sullivan of Guilford, Vt; siblings Sandy Wofford of Modesto, Calif., and Lucy Smart of Rochester, N.H.; grandchildren Israel and Grace Cavanagh, Jakob, Jarod, and

Jasmine Wilkins, and Jake and Ryder Sullivan, and several nieces and nephews.

Arrangements are under the direction of Atamaniuk Funeral Home. A memorial service in celebration of Juaire's life will be held on Dec. 28, 2017 from 2 – 4 p.m. in the chapel at All

Soul's Church, 29 South Street, W. Brattleboro, VT. The Rev. Susan Webster-Toleno will officiate. Please bring a photograph or story to share if you would like. A light reception will follow.

Interment in North (Hunt) Cemetery in Vernon, Vt. will take place at a later date.

Ryan Goodrich, 1982 - 2017

He loved being outdoors, enjoyed snowmobiling, four-wheeling, and spending time with family and friends. He adored his nieces.

He is survived by his parents Palmer and Laurie Goodrich of Chester, sister Lindsey Pollard and her husband Shawn of Chester, and their children Riley and Olivia. He is also survived by several close extended family members, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

He was predeceased by his pa-

ternal grandparents, Palmer and Catherine Goodrich, and maternal grandparents Richard and Janice Crowson.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 23, 2017 at the American Legion Post #67 in Chester, Vt. Contributions may be made in Goodrich's memory to the snowmobile club of one's choice. Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield is assisting the family with arrangements.

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Ruth M. Tift, 1932 - 2017

WINDSOR, Vt. - Ruth Marie (Stone) Tift died Dec. 15, 2017 at Cedar Hill Continuing Care Center in Windsor, Vt. at the age of 85. She was born Nov. 22, 1932 in Granville, Vt., where she attended Granville's one-room schoolhouse. She graduated from Rochester High School.

In 1951, she married William K. Tift, her beloved husband of 58 years, who predeceased her in 2009. Vermont natives, the couple later lived in New Mexico while William served in the Air Force, then in Enfield, Conn. and finally, for many years, in Stuart, Fla., where they enjoyed flying in a small airplane that William, and aviation enthusiast, built himself. The Tifts loved to travel. Over the many years of their marriage, they visited most of the 50 United States.

Tift was predeceased by her parents, Edwin and Caroline (Brown) Stone

(Mongeur), as well as sister Frances (Stone) Corliss. She is survived by two brothers, Albert Stone of Louisville, Tenn., and Lawrence Stone of Brookfield, Vt.; two sisters Muriel (Stone) Frost of East Randolph, Vt. and Carole (Stone) Bacon of North Springfield, Vt.; and a stepbrother Reginald Mongeur of Randolph, Vt.

Though she had no children of her own, Tift had many nieces and nephews on both sides of the family of whom she was very fond, as well as they were of her.

Interment will be private at a later date. A celebration of Tift's life will be held in the spring at a time to be announced. Contributions may be made in her memory to Cedar Hill Continuing Care Center or Historic Homes of Rummeneide in Windsor, Vt. Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt. is assisting the family with arrangements.

Madelyn Sears, 1940 - 2017

LUDLOW, Vt. - Madelyn Sears, 77, passed away on Tuesday evening Dec. 12, 2017 after a battle with cancer. She was born Aug. 12, 1940 in Bellows Falls, Vt. the daughter of Herbert L. and Mary A. (Bousquet) Aldridge. She graduated from Springfield High School class of 1958 and from the Shelburne Beauty Academy in Burlington, Vt.

She lived in Ludlow, Vt. for 50 years. On June 22, 1979, she married William Sears in Ludlow, Vt. Sears was an amazing seamstress and enjoyed knitting and quilting as well.

She is survived by her husband William Sears of Ludlow; three daughters Michele L. Pool of Burlington, Vt., Charlene M. Durgin of Middlebury, Vt., and Alicia A. Pool of Fayetteville, Ark.; 1 step-son William R. Stone of Massachusetts; two sisters Barbara J. Wiggins of Sunapee, N.H. and Elaine M. Snow of Ludlow, Vt.; four granddaughters Lindsay, Whitney, Chloe, and Lacey; and one great-granddaughter Ellie.

A graveside service will be held at the St. Mary's Cemetery in the spring of 2018. Arrangements are under the direction of the Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt.

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Top year-end investment tips

REGION – Take a little time to make some strategic saving and investing decisions before Dec. 31.

Look at the forest, not just the trees

The first step should be a review of your overall portfolio. It can tell you whether you need to rebalance. If one type of investment has done well, it might now represent a

greater percentage of your portfolio than you originally intended. To rebalance, you would sell some of that asset class and use that money to buy other types of investments to bring your overall allocation back to an appropriate balance. Your overall review should also help you decide whether that rebalancing should be done before or after Dec. 31 for tax reasons.

Make sure your asset allocation is still appropriate for your time horizon and goals. You might consider being a bit more aggressive if you're not meeting your financial targets, or more conservative if you're getting closer to retirement. Diversification and asset allocation don't guarantee a profit or insure against a possible loss, of course, but they're worth reviewing at least

once a year.

Know when to hold 'em

Don't forget to consider how long you've owned each investment. Assets held for a year or less generate short-term capital gains, which are taxed as ordinary income. Depending on your tax bracket, your ordinary income tax rate could be much higher than the long-term capital gains rate, which applies to the sale of assets held for more than a year.

Your holding period can also affect the treatment of qualified stock dividends, which are taxed at the more favorable long-term capital gains rates. You must have held the stock at least 61 days within the 121-day period that starts 60 days before the stock's ex-dividend date; preferred stock must be held for 91 days within a 181-day window.

Make lemonade from lemons

Now is the time to consider the tax consequences of any capital gains or losses you've experienced this year. Though tax considerations shouldn't be the primary driver of your investing decisions, there are steps you can take before the end of the year to minimize any tax impact of your investing decisions.

If you have realized capital gains from selling securities at a profit



Prepare your savings and investments before the clock sets to 2018.

STOCK PHOTO

and you have no tax losses carried forward from previous years, you can sell losing positions to avoid being taxed on some or all of those gains. Any losses over and above the amount of your gains can be used to offset up to \$3,000 of ordinary income (\$1,500 for a married person filing separately) or carried forward to reduce your taxes in future years. Selling losing positions for the tax benefit they will provide next April is a common financial practice known as "harvesting your losses."

Time any trades appropriately

If you're selling to harvest losses

and intend to repurchase the same security, make sure you wait at least 31 days. Otherwise, the trade is considered a "wash sale," and the tax loss will be disallowed. The wash sale rule also applies if you buy an option on the stock, sell it short, or buy it through your spouse within 30 days before or after the sale.

If you have unrealized losses that you want to capture but still believe in a specific investment, there are a couple of strategies you might think about. If you want to sell but don't want to be out of the market for even a short period, you could sell your position at a loss, then buy a similar exchange-traded fund that invests in the same asset class or industry. Or you could double your holdings, then sell your original shares at a loss after 31 days.

If you're buying a mutual fund or an ETF in a taxable account, find out when it will distribute any dividends or capital gains. Consider delaying your purchase until after that date, which often is near year-end. If you buy just before the distribution, you'll owe taxes this year on that money, even if your own shares haven't appreciated. And if you plan to sell a fund anyway, you may minimize taxes by selling before the distribution date.

Know where to hold 'em

Think about which investments make sense to hold in a tax-advantaged account and which might be better for taxable accounts.

Similarly, if you have mutual funds that trade actively and therefore generate a lot of short-term capital gains, it may make sense to hold them in a tax-advantaged account to defer taxes on those gains, which can occur even if the fund itself has a loss. Finally, when deciding where to hold specific investments, keep in mind that distributions from a tax-deferred retirement plan don't qualify for the lower tax rate on capital gains and dividends.

Be selective about selling shares

If you own a stock, fund, or ETF and decide to unload some shares, you may be able to maximize your tax advantage. For a mutual fund, the most common way to calculate cost basis is to use the average cost per share. However, you can also request that specific shares be sold. Which shares you choose depends on whether you want to book capital losses to offset gains, or keep gains to a minimum to reduce the tax bite.

Depending on when you bought a specific security, your broker may calculate your cost basis for you, and will typically designate a default method to be used. For stocks, the default method is likely to be "first in, first out;" the first shares purchased are considered the first shares sold. Most mutual fund companies use the average cost per share as your default cost basis. With bonds, the default method amortizes any bond premium over the time you own the bond. You must notify your broker if you want to use a method other than the default.

Article written by Huntley Financial Services. For more information, call Mark Huntley at 888-922-1035. To read the full article, go to www.vermontjournal.com.

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THIS AND THAT

BY BILL MURPHY

The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

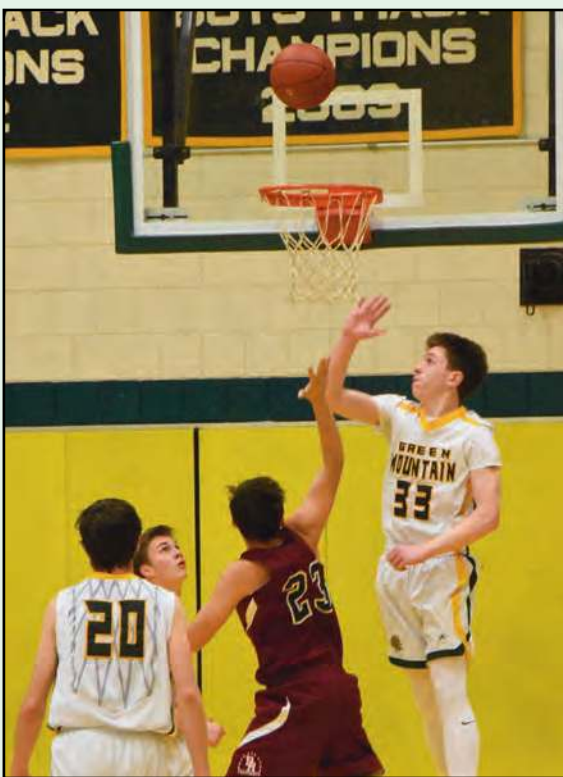
The holiday cheer is in Chester, Langdon, and Keene this time of year. That's where three holiday basketball tournaments are held. Players from Springfield, Fall Mountain, Black River, and Green Mountain have the opportunity to join the fun. Tournaments certainly make the holiday season bright.

There are five area schools that play high school basketball and all of them field both a boys and girls varsity team. Three of those area teams of each gender have the opportunity to compete in these events. The Green Mountain boys and girls both are taking part in the Green Mountain Holiday Tournament, which also has the Springfield boys and the Black River girls as part of the action. Meanwhile, the Fall Mountain girls are in their own holiday event. The Fall Mountain boys travel to Keene for the umpteenth year in a row for the tournament run by the Keene State Men's Basketball program.

The Green Mountain tourney is already underway. The Black River girls opened the affair versus Mount Saint Joseph of Rutland Tuesday, Dec. 19, at 3 p.m. with the Lady Chieftains facing Twin Valley at 6 p.m. as the other bracket of the girls' tourney. The Springfield boys faced off against Mount Saint Joseph at 4:30 p.m. in the opening boys' encounter. Green Mountain and Twin Valley meeting at 7:30 p.m. is the other half of the male bracket. The finals of the Green Mountain tourney are held this Thursday, Dec. 21 at the same times with the consolation games in the earlier time slots and the title games in the later two time slots. In each instance, the girls play the first contest in the pair of games, and the boys the second.

Fall Mountain jumped on the opportunity to host their own holiday girls' event they have offered for years. This decision was likely forced because the tourney's popularity was hampered by Keene's inability to play the games during the week between Christmas and New Year's. They had always staged the event a week earlier, which is not a popular time for the school's interest. The tourney, which will be held in the Wildcat Den, is called the MG Holiday Basketball Tournament and will feature eight girls' teams. Each team will play three games with the event slated for Dec. 26, 27, and 28.

Action begins on Dec. 26 at 2:30 p.m. with Littleton meeting Mascoma, followed by Monadnock facing Stevens at 4 p.m. In the evening bracket, Newport and Hinsdale meet in the first game, and Fall Mountain welcomes Sunapee in the primetime game. Following the opening round, the tournament will be broken down into two separate new tournaments with two championship teams crowned. The teams that lose in the first round will stage a competition on Dec. 27 and 28 in the 2:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. time slots, while the winners bracket will follow the same format, in the 5:30



The Green Mountain boys are hosting their own Holiday Tournament with Mount Saint Joseph, Springfield, and Twin Valley as the three other teams. Eric Church is shown getting up in the air in the opener against Black River.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE



The Springfield boys' basketball team plays in the Green Mountain Holiday Basketball Tournament. The Cosmos have fallen to Fair Haven and Bellows Falls in the first couple of contests this season. The team hopes to get production out of Austin Rowe (pictured) and his teammates to put a few notches in the win column.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE

chester, N.H. and Keene High was part of an eight-team event throughout the 60s. In the later years of the decade, Bellows Falls became a part of a newly created Christmas Tournament in Brattleboro, and the teams were Bellows Falls, Brattleboro, Stevens, and Greenfield. All those early tourneys were for boys only.

Believe it or not, girls' basketball was not given much attention until about 1970. Girls' games were played in the afternoon and until about that date, the sport was a six-player game. Only two players were allowed to play offense and had to stay on one end of the court. Two other players were only allowed to play defense and stayed on that end of the court to protect the basket. Then each team had two guards, who were allowed to play on both ends.

The game moved ahead when the rules changed, and the ladies were allowed to play the conventional game around 1970. Not only did Bellows Falls have strong teams year after year, but the school's booster club brought the sport even further along when they staged a December tournament, which showcased the best high school teams in Vermont. I think Bellows Falls, Springfield, Champlain Valley Union, and Essex were the initial teams, and the event was the roots of the sports growth in the Green Mountain state.

Now, it is time to sit back and enjoy the action in the 2017 version of these holiday events.

A couple of nuggets left over from the fall

They both concern the Bellows Falls Purple Dawgs team. The experience these athletes gain under the extension of the Connecticut Valley Football League umbrella is priceless. When Pee Wees began basically 50 years ago, middle school aged kids were included in the base league. As years went along, the size of the older players and the age difference compared to the younger ones became a growing concern, and eventually a separate team was added.

The Purple Dawgs enjoyed yet another successful campaign (8-0) in the fall of 2017, but then unfortunately, some of their competition is going away. The Vermont Principals Association has eliminated football as a middle school sport, transferring the activity to a flag variety. Windsor, Woodstock, and Springfield must go that route. The Bellows Falls program, being independent from school sponsorship and control, will continue to play with a New Hampshire schedule and no league affiliation.

The 2017 Purple Dawgs put up some incredible numbers, which were passed along to us by Kevin Vancor. They outscored the opposition 282-38. They shut out five teams. They had only one turnover all year. Their closest game was a 22-0 victory over Hanover. They were successful in a head to head meeting with undefeated Lebanon 37-12. The Purple Dawgs scored on all six of their possessions in that contest. Some kind of numbers, huh?

If you would like to reach me for feedback about a column or pass on information write to bmurphy@vermontjournal.com.

Fans excited about Green Mountain girls' basketball —

BY BILL MURPHY

The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

CHESTER, Vt. - The Green Mountain girls' basketball team has people around the area excited about this season. The team has split a pair of 12-point games early this winter: a 12-point loss to Division III favorite Windsor 48-36 and then a nearly similar win against West Rutland. The almost identical scoreboard read 49-37 in the Lady Chieftains' favor. Coach Terry Farrell is almost as excited as the fans as he said, "This team should be able to compete with any team in our division."

When asked about the defeat to Windsor, the coach said, "In both games so far we have been in foul trouble early. We have to be careful and adjust to not let that happen in the future."

On the topic of Hannah Buffum, a transfer student this year, Farrell

said, "She is the type of player who makes the players around her better."

The Lady Chieftains have had balanced scoring in both contests early this season. In the loss to Windsor, Rachel Guerra and Maya Lewis had 8 points, Anne Lamson and Hannah Buffum had 7. In the victory over Westside, Paige Karl and Lewis tallied 12, and Buffum added 11 points.



According to Coach Farrell, Hannah Buffum (33) who brings out the best in her teammates.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE

Bellows Falls Elks sponsor basketball Hoop Shoot —

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The annual Elks Basketball 2017 Hoop Shoot was held at Kurn Hattin Homes on Sunday, Dec. 10. There was a good showing of players and volunteers for this wonderful annual event, from the Bellows Falls and Fall Mountain regions. Shooters from age 8-13 participated in the competition, and the first, second, and third place high scorers each received a marble based trophy.

The next tournament in this very competitive shoot out will be held at Windsor High School for the district competition.

Chairman Smokey Aumand said, "These kids are truly amazing. They practice before the season starts, and are ready to show what they have."

Co-Chair Ric Aumand said, "Everyone is welcome to attend, and celebrate with the champions at the Windsor Elks with a light lunch right after."

The district event will be on Saturday, Jan. 6, 2018 from 10 a.m. - noon. From there the first place shooters will go on to the Vermont State Championship, being held at Barre, Vt., Jan. 27, 2018. Then those champions will move on to the Regionals, being held in Maine on March 23-25, 2018.



1st place winners Siri Harrison (12-13 girls), Chan Dowang (12-13 boys), Jaden Bazin (8-9 boys), and 2nd place girls' shooter Mary Jane Cheeney. Volunteers Ashley Gideous, Rhonda Sichling, Mya Cheeney, and Michaila Aumand, and Chairman Smokey Aumand.

PHOTO BY JIM SMITH

Fall Mountain boys looking for next win, girls go undefeated —

BY BILL MURPHY

The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

LANGDON, N.H. - The Fall Mountain boys' basketball team is off to a slower start than the team expected. They stand at 1-3 going into their winter break. In New Hampshire, holiday tournament games do not officially count on a team's record. Thus, the Wildcats participation in the 2017 Zero Gravity Tournament at Keene State will not improve their state standing. However, according to Coach Justin Cassarino, "It will give us a chance to work on some things. The goal we have set is to get to the champion-

ship game, and that would build our confidence, which is needed at this time."

On the flipside of the coin is the Fall Mountain girls' basketball team who will be hosting their own tournament after Christmas. The Lady Wildcats are unbeaten heading into the tournament. The tourney won't count on their state standing either,



In an earlier game of the season, Lucien Hagland has his eyes on the hoop...and a qualifying post-season play.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE

but the eight-team affair should still have plenty of exciting action with four games played Tuesday to Thursday next week at the Wildcat Den. The Lady Wildcats' first tourney game is against Sunapee on Dec. 26 at 7 p.m.



Chryssabella Craig is just one player of a deep Fall Mountain roster, whose depth, will often be the difference between winning and losing.

PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE

Springfield Elks annual hoop shoot —

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Springfield Elks Lodge #1560 held their annual Hoop Shoot for boys and girls ages 8 to 13 at Riverside Middle School on Dec. 9, 2018.

In the 8 to 9-year-old group for girls, the first place winner was Savannah Dezaine. Second place was Hailey Magill. For the boys in the same age group, the first place winner was Matthew Durphey with Kaiden McCarthy in second place.

For the 10 & 11-year-old girls, the winner was Kiko Boyens and second place went to Amelia Murchie. For the boys, the winner was Caden Benson with James Gultekin coming in second.

The 12 & 13-year-old winners for girls was Gabriella Anders in first with Madison Glidden in second. For the boys, the winner was Dylan McCarthy and second place

was Tanner Gintof.

The first and second place winners were presented with nice Elks trophies, and all participants were presented with Elks miniature basketballs. Chairman Victor Baskevich

announced that the first place winners will next compete in the southern district Elks Hoop shoot on Jan. 13, 2018 in Springfield, Vt. at the Springfield High School starting at 10 a.m. The public is invited to attend.



First and second place winners are shown left to right. Front: Matthew Durphey, Kaiden McCarthy, Savannah Dezaine, Amelia Murchie, Haley Magill, Caden Benson, and James Gultekin. Back: Elks Exalted Ruler Vicki Siliski, Co-chairman Steve Wierzbicki, Madison Glidden, Gabriella Anders, Tanner Gintof, Dylan McCarthy, Kiko Boyens, and Elks Chairman Victor Baskevich.

PHOTO PROVIDED

merry christmas

Elf on the Shelf



Jack sits and enjoys a cup of elf coffee and “A Christmas Carol” as Christmas quickly approaches.

Stay tuned! We will PRINT WEEKLY pictures throughout December!

Visit us on Facebook and Twitter @VermontJournal for our DAILY POSTS of Jack bringing Christmas spirit, and mischief, to the office.

PHOTO BY SHAWN TAE STILLWELL

Holiday gifting with SEVCA’s Good Buy thrift stores

REGION - Ever have the feeling of being overwhelmed by the craziness of holiday shopping? How about getting back to basics? You don't have to spend a lot when you shop at SEVCA's Good Buy Thrift Stores in Hartford, Springfield, and Bellows Falls, but you're sure to find something wonderful for everyone on your list. And you'll be doing your part for the environment by reusing items that still have a lot of life left in them.

Your purchases are helping SEVCA do great things in our community - like providing volunteer opportunities for people who need work experience to get that first job, or people with disabilities who want to show they have a lot to contribute, too. SEVCA's thrift stores also give free furniture and clothing to local families in crisis every year - donations are often used to help a formerly homeless family furnish their new apartment, or to provide clothing for someone who just lost everything in a fire. Supporting the thrift stores with your donations and your purchases is a great way to contribute to your local economy and the well being of your neighbors at the same time.

What will you find at the Good

Buy Store? Clothing for the whole family, small appliances, glassware, fine china, furniture, paintings, books, CDs, toys, and loads of holiday decorations. Telos Whitfield, store manager at the Springfield and Bellows Falls locations, said that someone recently came into the store and bought a fully decorated artificial Christmas tree! She says the thrift stores honor many holiday traditions, and often have Hanukkah and solstice decorations on offer as well.

“The stores offer a real treasure hunt for our shoppers!” Telos exclaimed. “It's really enjoyable for people to discover something really wonderful that they never expected to find.” The stores have an antiques and collectibles section that is packed with such treasures. A few examples at the Springfield store: a vintage print of George Washington, an Elvis collector's plate, an art deco bureau, an old steamer trunk, and an edition of the “First Ladies Cookbook: Favorite Recipes of all the Presidents of the United States.” There is also original artwork, fine china, and jewelry.



Volunteers at SEVCA's Good Buy store. PHOTO PROVIDED



Nancy from Springfield shopping at SEVCA's Good Buy store. PHOTO PROVIDED

Many new or almost-new items are available in all the stores, according to Director of Good Buy Thrift Stores Darline Rhoades - and some of the best quality clothing is put out just for the holiday season, including a substantial selection of brand name clothing donated by faculty, staff, and students at Dartmouth College. “This means that our customers can purchase high-end, quality clothing that they couldn't otherwise afford,” she says, “and that

makes them feel good!”

Stop by and check out what's for sale from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday. You can find our store locations and contact information at www.sevca.org/thrift-stores/locations. SEVCA also gladly accepts donations of items in good condition (except for beds and mattresses), and can even arrange to pick up a furniture donation at no cost to you. Anyone with questions about what to donate should call ahead and ask a staff member. Contact us in Springfield 802-885-7074, White River Junction 802-359-4183, or Bellows Falls 802-463-9084.

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Holly wishes everyone a happy holiday season!

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CHESTER, Vt. - For November and December, Bonnie's Bundles Dolls has exhibited at the Whiting Library in Chester. The show features a nearly 50 years timeline that tells the story of cloth doll artist, Bonnie Watters. Watters has sold nearly 15,000 dolls in 49 years. The Watters are grateful to the library for everything, but especially for the opportunity to make and embroider doll faces with children in the after-school program.

Bonnie and Lew will be offering ten percent off on any purchases of dolls, from the ones at the exhibit to the ones at her Stone Village gallery, through Dec. 31. This gift will be given back to the Whiting Library.

Holly and her sisters wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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merry christmas

Vermont birders encouraged to join Audubon Christmas Bird Count

REGION - This holiday season marks the 118th annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count, a favorite tradition among Vermont's birding community. The counts are conducted from Dec. 14 to Jan. 5 each year.

Even novice birdwatchers can participate because every event is led by an experienced birder. Organizers and participants include birders and biologists from Audubon Vermont, the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department, and many other groups.

"The Christmas Bird Count is a great way to join with friends and family to be part of an historic national bird monitoring project that helps provide a snapshot of where birds are wintering from year to year," said John Buck, wildlife biologist for Vermont Fish & Wildlife. "Participating in the count can be especially rewarding during years when there are irruptions, or mass migrations of an unusual species to Vermont, such as redpolls or snowy owls."

In Vermont, more than a dozen count areas and dates are available where birders gather together to conduct the Christmas Bird Count. The dates and contact information for each event are listed at www.vt.audubon.org/audubon-christmas-bird-count-0.

"The Christmas Bird Count is one of the longest-running citizen science projects in the country and possibly in the world," said Mark LaBarr, conservation program manager for Audubon Vermont. "Not only does it provide important data for scientists, but it's also a great time for folks who participate."

The Christmas Bird Count originated in 1900 with ornithologist Frank Chapman, an officer in the Audubon Society, who updated what had been a traditional Christmas morning bird hunt to include a census of the wintering locations of various bird species. The count started with just 27 observers and has grown into one of the largest birding events in the world, with tens of thousands of people participating every year.

Festive holiday tips

StatePoint - It's the most festive time of the year. Be sure to fill your home with the classic scents, sounds, and sights of the holiday season in the following ways.

1. Start a Holiday Cookie Tradition. Bring the family together by baking cookies. Not only will it fill the home with a scrumptious aroma, it's a fun activity that can involve everyone. Let kids get creative and decorate their own batch. In the spirit of giving, make some extras to share with friends, neighbors, and more.

2. Sing carols. Carol from the comfort of home. To experience a sense of community, organize an at-home holiday sing-along. An elegant, compact digital piano such as Casio's Privia PX-770 is great for this seasonal tradition.

3. Display greetings. For a festive feel, creatively decorate your home using your holiday cards with greetings from loved ones. String cards together and hang them in the doorway, decorate the fridge, or display them on the mantle.

4. Get into the spirit. Frosty pine, sugar cookies, cinnamon, and more. Fill your home with the spirit of the holidays using essential oils and candles of classic holiday scents. Or, keep it natural and boil cinnamon sticks with orange and cloves.

5. Enjoy your favorite flicks. From classic dramas to contemporary comedies, the holiday genre is eclectic. Set up a home theater and enjoy your favorite films with some hot chocolate under a cozy blanket. To get an upgraded movie theater-like experience at home, check out the projectors from Casio's LampFree line-up, which offer brilliant images. At your next holiday party, consider projecting movies silently while playing holiday music for an extra boost of cheer.



Vermonters with an interest in bird watching are invited to take part in the annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count.

PHOTO PROVIDED

"This is an enjoyable way to spend a winter day and it's also a great opportunity to see different birds and learn more about them," said Buck. "It's also a great opportunity to enjoy the company of fellow birders, and for birders of all levels to learn something new."

People who are traveling out of Vermont for the holidays may be able to join a local Christmas Bird Count wherever they are by checking www.audubon.org/content/join-christmas-bird-count.

Vermont Counts

- Brattleboro - Contact Cory Ross, coryross24@gmail.com
- Rutland - Dec. 30, 2017 Contact Rutland Audubon, birding@rutland-county.audubon.org
- Saxton's River - Contact Don Clark, sapsbks@gmail.com
- Springfield - Contact Hugh Putnam, putnams@vermontel.net or call

802-886-8430

• Winhall/Windham - Contact Ruth Stewart, birder_rws@outlook.com

• Woodstock - Contact Sally Laughlin, slaughlin@myfairpoint.net



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 Thursday, December 28th - Vinnie on Guitar
 Friday, December 29th - Vinnie on Guitar
 Saturday, December 30th - Jacob on Piano
 Sunday, December 31st - Jacob on Piano

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Stone Church Center presents "Listening from Heart and Soul" for New Year's

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Attunement is the practice of listening from a deeper level than the mind. We listen for wisdom, for intuitive flashes, for a sense of knowing and understanding that goes beyond our usual mental engagement. Learn attunement with Liz Rogers, M.S. at Stone Church Center's Currier Hall, 12 Church St., from 2 - 5 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 31.

In this New Year's Eve workshop, we come together to deepen our abilities to receive information that can serve both ourselves - and the whole - in ways we might not fully comprehend in the usual sense. Utilizing meditative practices, journaling, and time in nature, we will explore various methods for inviting the wisdom of the world to inform and expand our awareness, our decisions and our stories.

Bring a journal, as well as warm clothes and sturdy footwear for our brief time out-of-doors. You are also invited to bring a question/decision that

may be challenging you lately, but this is not required.

Rogers spent seven years as a member of the Findhorn Community in northern Scotland. There she learned, practiced, and eventually taught the process of attunement that has been cultivated by the Findhorn community since the early 1960s that now serves as the foundation for all decisions of the community. Rogers is also a psy-

chotherapist experienced in Process Work as founded by Arnold Mindell, and is currently pursuing her doctorate in clinical psychology.

Cultivate the practice of Attunement for the New Year. Please register by Dec. 23. Register in person at Village Square Booksellers in Bellows Falls, by phone at 802-460-0110, or online at www.stonechurchcharts.org.

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outdoor news

Tuck It! The Dash for Cash —

LONDONDERRY, Vt. - Time always seems to move a bit faster as the calendar demarcates another year in the books. This New Year's Eve, it'll be going even faster as Magic Mountain Ski Area holds the inaugural skiing and snowboard speed event "Tuck It! The Dash for Cash," presented by Long Trail Brewing. Prize money will be on the line as well for the fastest skier or snowboarder in the east.

It's a straight-down-the-course, all tuck position, starting on Lower Black Line with a speed zone radar-gunned section on Hocus Pocus, all viewable right from Magic's base lodge and deck. There will be a miles per-hour read-out display for each speed racer for all spectators to see. There will be multiple age categories for prizes as well as it is an event to test anyone's personal-record for speed while on skis or snowboard.

Overall 1st place prize is the winner's trophy, \$500 cash, plus new

custom-designed Silo Skis ordered to winner's specs, plus a season pass to Magic for the 2018-19 season.

Overall 2nd place is \$300 cash, plus prizes and a Freedom 4-pack of Magic tickets.

Overall 3rd place is \$200 cash, plus prizes and a Freedom 4-pack of Magic tickets.

Then there will be medals and other prizes for top three finishers in each age category 12-17 years old, 18-34 years old, and 35+ years old, and one snowboard category.

Tuck It! will be a two-run event counting only the best single MPH score of either run, with the speed event taking place between 1 -3:30 p.m. on Dec. 31. The awards ceremony will take place during après ski on the deck and rolls right into New Year's celebration at Magic, which includes live music at the Black Line Tavern, dinner, DJ, and dancing at night followed by Midnight Fireworks to toast the New Year. All are

welcome to participate in Tuck It! with registration limited to the first 100 skiers/boarders. Registration is available at www.magicmtn.com/events

Tuck It! is presented by Long Trail Brewery, and sponsored by Silo Skis, Citizen Cider, Cornerstone Risk Management.

"There haven't been a lot of pure speed events in eastern skiing for many years," said Geoff Hatheway president of Magic Mountain. "So, this is a great throwback, exciting event for both the racers and spectators. We hope to keep building it into a bigger and bigger event each year and we thank our sponsors like Long Trail Brewing, Silo skis, Citizen Cider and Cornerstone Risk Management for partnering with us."

More information on the new, still retro, Magic Mountain can be found at www.magicmtn.com or call 802-824-5645.

Athletes battled for the cash purse at Rails 2 Riches —

KILLINGTON, Vt. - Vermont's Killington Resort hosted the East Coast's largest and most lucrative rail jam, Rails 2 Riches, on Saturday, Dec. 9, 2017. The event dished out more than \$25,000 in prize money to skiers and snowboarders with seven New England athletes on the podium, taking the cash home.

"Year and after year we are thrilled with the Rails 2 Riches event - it's an incredible opportunity for local and international skiers and riders to check out what Killington Parks has to offer," says Mike Garceau, youth marketing and actions sports manager of Killington Resort and Pico Mountain. "Nearly 100 athletes from the USA and Canada participated in this invitation only event and each one left excited to come back for next season's contest."

"This is my fourth year competing in Rails 2 Riches," says Maggie Leon, a Killington athlete and student at the University of Vermont. "I come back every year because it's really cool to see more and more girls that I don't always have a chance to ride with. We are all friends and it's really cool to see all of us compete and get to hangout for the day."

Results



Winners from the Killington Rails 2 Riches.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Male Snowboard

1st Nate Haust (Calif.)
2nd Storm Rowe (Vt.)
3rd Max Lyons (Vt.)
Best Trick: Tim Major (Vt.)

Female Snowboard

1st Lauren Tamposi (N.H.)
2nd Maggie Leon (Vt.)
3rd Savannah Shinski (Mich.)
Best Trick: Lauren Tamposi (N.H.)

Male Ski

1st Sandy Boville (Ontario, Canada)
2nd Emile Bergeron (Ontario, Canada)
3rd Brian Gardiner (N.H.)

Best Trick: Dale Talkington (Utah)

Female Ski

1st Marion Balsamo (N.M.)
2nd Brooke Potter (Colo.)
3rd Shondra Charbonneau (Ontario, Canada)
Best Trick: Brooke Potter (Colo.)

Mini Shred Madness is the next rail jam scheduled at Killington Resort and is for children 13 years and younger on Jan. 13, 2018. This event is all about having fun, learning, and safety. Killington Park team riders will be onsite offering help and motivation to all participants.

Red Cross winter storm safety tips —

REGION - As the winter weather continues to escalate outdoors, the American Red Cross offers ten steps people can take to stay safe.

1. Layer up! Wear layers of lightweight clothing to stay warm. Gloves and a hat will help prevent losing your body heat.
2. Bring pets indoors. Don't leave your furry friends outside. If they can't come inside, make sure they have enough shelter to keep them warm and that they have access to unfrozen water.
3. Remember the three feet rule. If

you are using a space heater, place it on a level, hard surface and keep anything flammable at least three feet away - things such as paper, clothing, bedding, curtains, or rugs.

4. Supervise your heating sources. Turn off space heaters and make sure fireplace embers are out before leaving the room or going to bed.

5. Don't catch fire! If you are using a fireplace, use a glass or metal fire screen large enough to catch sparks and rolling logs.

6. Protect your pipes. Run water, even at a trickle, to help prevent

your pipes from freezing. Open the kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors to allow warmer air to circulate around the plumbing. Keep the garage doors closed if there are water lines in the garage.

7. Regulate the temperature. Keep the thermostat at the same temperature day and night. Your heating bill may be a little higher, but you could avoid a more costly repair job if your pipes freeze and burst.

8. The kitchen is for cooking. Never use a stove or oven to heat your home.

9. Use generators outside. Never operate a generator inside the home, including in the basement or garage.

10. Be careful with generators. Don't hook a generator up to the home's wiring. The safest thing to do is to connect the equipment you want to power directly to the outlets on the generator.

For more information, visit www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/types-of-emergencies/winter-storm.

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U.S. Forest Service encourages snowmobile travelers to be cautious —

REGION - With additional snow expected in the coming weeks, the U.S. Forest Service is looking forward to a successful snowmobile season and wants to encourage all riders to put safety first. Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF) officials are recommending that snowmobilers exercise caution when operating on the national forest, and all lands, in Vermont this winter. GMNF officials remind snowmobile enthusiasts to heed to all gates and signs and to stay off roads and trails that are closed.

Weather permitting, snowmobile use is allowed on designated trails within the GMNF for four months beginning on Saturday, Dec. 16, 2017 and ending on April 15, 2018. "We are concerned about user safety. Patrols which are aimed at enforcing rules and regulations, monitoring trail con-



Snow mobiles use caution and share the trails this winter.

STOCK PHOTO

ditions and providing visitor information will occur throughout the forest," said John Sinclair, forest supervisor for the Green Mountain and Finger Lakes National Forests. The GMNF will continue to work closely with state and local law enforcement agencies, as well as the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers (VAST) to make sure that users of the trail system are respectful, responsible, law abiding, and safe.

The GMNF and VAST cooperate to maintain more than 470 miles of National Forest System trails that are part of the larger statewide snowmobile network. VAST is one of a few snowmobile associations in the United States that has a co-operative partnership agreement with the U.S. Forest Service. "All of these trails allow mixed uses, so people are snowshoeing, hiking, and cross-country skiing, as well as using snowmobiles. Snowmobilers should travel responsibly and yield to other users," said Sinclair. The maximum speed is 35 miles per hour on state and federal land and Vermont has a tough "Snowmobiling While Intoxicated" Law that covers alcohol, as well as drugs.

The U.S. Forest Service is also warning the public of the dangers associated with riding, hiking, and skiing on frozen water bodies. Trail users are encouraged to be mindful of fallen trees and other hazards they may encounter. Operators must maintain control of their snowmobile while riding; keep to the right at all times, wear helmets, and stay on designated trails only. All snowmobiles must be legally registered, have liability insurance, and operators must purchase a VAST Trails Maintenance Assessment decal. Officials also encourage winter trail users to pack a flashlight, cell phone, food, and extra warm clothing in case of an emergency.

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Just off Main Street in downtown Ludlow, turning south at the only light in town, you'll find The Wine & Cheese Depot housed in an unimposing, charming Victorian. Owned and operated by Leslie Stuart since 1996, this enchanting wine and cheese shop is well worth veering off the beaten path. The shop features a carefully cultivated selection of wine from around the world and artisanal cheeses from Vermont and elsewhere, most which are cut to order.

What sets Stuart's shop apart from other wine retailers is the experience of discovery when you shop there. The Depot carries over 500 labels with special emphasis on smaller wine producers that "clearly represent the varietal and terroir of the region and cover every price point." Working with distributors, continually trying new things and visiting wineries when possible, Stuart's inventory reflects her ongoing efforts and is always changing. And she loves to share her discoveries with her customers. "It's fun to steer people towards a label or varietal that they don't know. With wine, like food, you have to be open to try new things."



Indeed, Stuart herself has been open to new things and in 2013, partnered with Chef Wendy Neal to open Stemwinder, tucked just behind the shop. With wonderful lighting and an intimate, charming atmosphere, what started as a small plates and wine bar has blossomed into a restaurant with a full menu featuring locally sourced veggies and meats, local cheese board and nightly specials. The bar has also expanded from wine and beer only to include cocktails made with Vermont spirits.

Stuart is also happy with the changes that are happening with Ludlow's food scene. "I'm excited about the expanding food options in Ludlow with so many great places to dine. It helps everyone with Ludlow becoming a real destination for foodies."

The Wine & Cheese Depot is open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For extended holiday hours call 802-228-4128. Stemwinder is open Tuesday through Saturday from 5 p.m. to close. Reservations are suggested at 802-228-5200.

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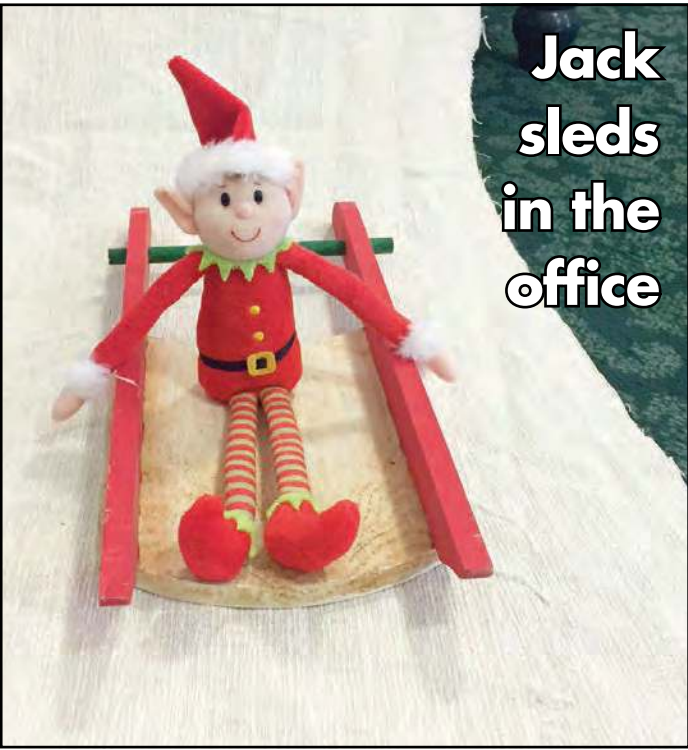
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calendar

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

TUESDAYS-
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - River Voices Poetry meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Flat Iron Exchange building on the Square. All poets welcome. Discussion of all aspects of the poem. 802-463-2204. TFN

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. - 9:30-11 a.m. Play Group at Saxtons River Elementary School. Come

on over for crafts, activities and to play! Call Molly 802-376-6204. TFN

WEDNESDAYS -
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The Bellows Falls Area Senior Center Knit and Stitch group meets Wednesdays at 9 a.m. They can help you finish a project, repair an item and even take on special projects. The group is happy to donate “Knitted Knockers” to breast cancer survivors, stop by and ask for Betty for more

information. Call: 802-463-3907. TFN

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Play Group at First Baptist Church of Bellows Falls/Rockingham Recreation Center. 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m. Come join the fun! Healthy snack served. Call Molly 802-376-6204. TFN

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: www.facebook.com/gemstaichi/. TFN

CHESTER, Vt. - Liza Eaton, founder of Buddhaful Yoga, will be offering a Gentle Flow Kundalini Yoga class for beginners every Wednesday 9:30-11 a.m. You will be encouraged to go at your own pace and listen to your body. Held at the Fullerton Inn, on the Chester Green. For more information visit www.buddhafulyoga.com or call

802-875-2868. TFN

THURSDAYS -
CHESTER, Vt. – Strength-building chair yoga class with Liz Eaton, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Fullerton Inn, Main Street, Chester. This is a strength building yoga class in the hatha tradition for anyone looking to build bone density, physical strength, flexibility and endurance. Come as you are and do what you can. Use a chair, yoga mat, or both! Drop in anytime or purchase a few classes at once. No experience necessary. For details, contact 802-875-2868, eaton.liza@gmail.com or www.buddhafulyoga.com. TFN

CHESTER, Vt. – Meditation class with Liz Eaton takes place on Thursday, 10:45-11:15 a.m. at the Fullerton Inn, Main Street, Chester. Learn simple yet profound meditation techniques for beginners (all levels welcome). There is no fee for this class; donations are appreciated. For details, contact 802-875-2868, eaton.liza@gmail.com or www.buddhafulyoga.com. TFN

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Edgar May Open Play Group 10-11:30 a.m. at Studio

Momentum, 71 Main St. 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. TFN

WINDSOR, Vt. - Play Group 9:30 - 11 a.m. Come and enjoy an open gym, ball games and sometimes even a bounce house! Call Windsor Recreation Center 802-674-6783. TFN

LUDLOW, Vt. – Okemo Valley TV offers “Train the Trainers” workshops on fourth Thursdays at no cost, 6-7 p.m. at the Okemo Valley TV studio, 37C Main St. in Ludlow. Everyone who wants to learn the “ticks and tricks” of TV-video production is welcome. Reserve a space at pcoady@lpctv.org or call 802-228-8808. TFN

FRIDAYS -
CHESTER, Vt. - Liza Eaton, founder of Buddhaful Yoga, will be offering Kundalini Yoga Dance every Friday 9:30-11 a.m. Held at the Fullerton Inn, on the Chester Green. For more information visit www.buddhafulyoga.com or call 802-875-2868. TFN

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Fridays, 9-11 a.m. creative movement 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. TFN

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Free Open Art Nights, second Fridays from 7 p.m., open to people of all ages. Try something new, make mistakes, learn, and try again at the Art Gym on 62 Clinton Street, Springfield. Visit www.facebook.com/springfieldartgym/. TFN

SATURDAYS -
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Edgar May Open Play Group 10-11:30 a.m. at Studio Momentum, 71 Main St. 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. TFN

WEEKLY –
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Come swim with a great group of adults in our masters swim group at the Edgar May Center. The group meets on Mondays at 7:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 8 a.m. The group is comprised

of a wide range of abilities including new swimmers. Call 802-885-2568 or visit www.myreccenter.org. TFN

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Youth swim lessons are offered on Saturday and Sunday mornings and Tuesday afternoons. Current classes available including our Parent and Toddler class in our warm water therapy pool as well as levels 1, 2, and 3. Our adult swim lessons are on Thursday mornings and feature three levels: Stroke Development, Stroke Improvement, and Stroke Refinement. We also offer a special class, Swimming for the Petrified, by appointment call 802-885-2568 or visit www.myreccenter.org. TFN

REGION - Bone Builders to combat osteoporosis. Free and open to 55+. Call 802-674-4547. Monday and Wednesday: Brownsville Town Hall 9 -10 a.m., Martin Memorial Hall in Acutney 10-11 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday: Cavendish Baptist Church 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday: Andover Community Church 3 – 4 p.m. TFN

CLUBS

MONDAY, JAN. 1 -
STRATTON, Vt. – Join the Green Mountain Club, Manchester Section on Jan. 1 for a New Year’s hike at Stratton Pond. Meet at 10 a.m. at the Winhall Post Office to car pool to limited parking area to start the hike. This will be with snowshoes or traction depending on conditions with a total distance of 6 miles, and several hundred feet of total elevation change. Bring extra clothing, hand warmers, fluids, snacks and lunch. RSVP to Marge Fish at 802-384-3654 or marge.fish@gmail.com

SUNDAY, JAN. 7 -
RUPERT, Vt. – Join the Green Mountain Club, Manchester Section on Sunday Jan. 7 to snowshoe to the Thoreau Cabin in Merck Forest. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at Shaw’s parking lot in Manchester Center or at 10 a.m. at the Merck Forest Welcome Center. Once we reach the cabin, if unoccupied, we can have our break and lunch in the cabin with a fire going, otherwise we will do so outside. Bring extra clothes, lunch and snack, fluids. Will need snowshoes or traction, depending on conditions. RSVP to Keld Alstrup at 802-362-1422 or alsgrupkeld@gmail.com

FRIDAY, JAN. 12 -
DORSET, Vt. – Join the Green Mountain Club, Manchester Section on Friday Jan. 12 for a snowshoe/ski on Mother Myrick Mountain. Meet at the parking lot at the top of Nichols Hill in Dorset at 9 a.m. This is a challenging ski/snowshoe up 3356 feet at a fast pace, keeping the group together. There is a spectacular view from the ridgeline, 30 minutes beyond the summit. Bring extra clothes, extra gloves or mittens, fluids, snacks and lunch, and hand warmers. RSVP required. Contact Katie Adams at 802-516-978-4016 or ktkadams@comcast.net

THURSDAY, JAN. 18 -
LANDGROVE, Vt. – Join the Green Mountain Club, Manchester Section on Thursday Jan. 18 for a snowshoe hike along the 2-mile loop of Lower Little Michigan in the MVTA trails system. This is a good beginner snowshoe with a couple hundred feet of elevation change over the 2 miles. Meet at the parking lot at the end of Little Michigan Rd in Landgrove at 10 a.m. Bring extra clothes, fluids and snack. RSVP to Marge Fish at 802-384-3654 or marge.fish@gmail.com.



STATE OF VERMONT WINDSOR COUNTY, SS NOTICE OF SALE 132 Ranta Road, so-called Ludlow, VT

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Ludlow, in the County of Windsor are hereby notified that the taxes and/or water and sewer taxes assessed by such Town for the years 2016-2017 are, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described lands in such Town, to wit:

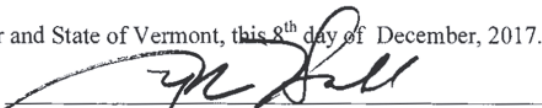
Being a portion of the same lands and premises deeded by the Final Decree of Distribution in Re: The Estate of Gwendolyn J. Debish, Ronald J. Theissen, Administrator to John Debick by deed dated January 5, 2012 and recorded in Book 357 at Page 310 of the Ludlow Town Land Records, consisting of a building and 8.9 acres, more or less, of land located at 132 Ranta Road, Ludlow, Vermont.

and so much of said lands will be sold at public auction at Ludlow Town Office, a public place in such Town, on the 18th day of January, 2018 at Ten O’ Clock in the forenoon, as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, unless previously paid.

You have the right to request in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the tax sale date set forth above, that only a portion of the property be sold to satisfy the delinquent tax bill. Should you wish to proceed with this request, you must follow the procedure set forth in 32 V .S.A. §5254; clearly identify the portion of the property to be sold, and include a certification from the Act 250 district coordinator and the town zoning administrator that the portion identified may be legally subdivided.

If you qualify under 24 V.S.A. §1535, you may be able to receive an abatement of the property taxes, interest and collection fees you owe to the town. Abatement means that your taxes could be reduced or eliminated. You have the right to appear before the Board of Abatement and explain why you think your taxes should be abated. To apply for an abatement, you must write to Ulla Cook, Town Clerk, P. O.Box 307, Ludlow, VT 05149.

Dated at Ludlow, County of Windsor and State of Vermont, this 8th day of December, 2017.


Frank Heald, Collector of Town and
Town School District Taxes, Town Water and Sewer Taxes

STATE OF VERMONT WINDSOR COUNTY, SS NOTICE OF SALE 62 Andover Street, so-called Ludlow, VT

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Ludlow, in the County of Windsor are hereby notified that the taxes and/or water and sewer taxes assessed by such Town for the years 2015-2016, 2016-2017 are, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described lands in such Town, to wit:

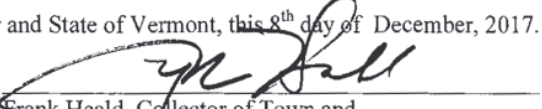
Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Richard E. Bauries to Joseph Sutowski and Betty Sutowski by deed dated December 30, 1981 and recorded in Book 78 at Page 581 of the Ludlow Town Land Records, and also deed dated December 27, 1982 and recorded in Book 80 at Page 598 of the Ludlow Town Land Records.

and so much of said lands will be sold at public auction at Ludlow Town Office, a public place in such Town, on the 18th day of January, 2018 at Ten O’ Clock in the forenoon, as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, unless previously paid.

You have the right to request in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the tax sale date set forth above, that only a portion of the property be sold to satisfy the delinquent tax bill. Should you wish to proceed with this request, you must follow the procedure set forth in 32 V.S.A. §5254; clearly identify the portion of the property to be sold, and include a certification from the Act 250 district coordinator and the town zoning administrator that the portion identified may be legally subdivided.

If you qualify under 24 V.S.A. §1535, you may be able to receive an abatement of the property taxes, interest and collection fees you owe to the town. Abatement means that your taxes could be reduced or eliminated. You have the right to appear before the Board of Abatement and explain why you think your taxes should be abated. To apply for an abatement, you must write to Ulla Cook, Town Clerk, P. O. Box 307, Ludlow, VT 05149.

Dated at Ludlow, County of Windsor and State of Vermont, this 8th day of December, 2017.


Frank Heald, Collector of Town and
Town School District Taxes, Town Water and Sewer Taxes

STATE OF VERMONT WINDSOR COUNTY, SS NOTICE OF SALE 741 East Lake Road, so-called Ludlow, VT

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Ludlow, in the County of Windsor are hereby notified that the taxes and/or water and sewer taxes assessed by such Town for the years 2016-2017 are, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described lands in such Town, to wit:

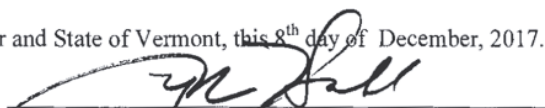
Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Viola R. Currier and Francis A. Forte to Lawrence Crainich and Annmarie Crainich by deed dated March 11, 1983 and recorded in Book 81 at Page 494-495 of the Ludlow Town Land Records. Lawrence Crainich conveyed his interest in said premises to Annmarie Crainich by Quit Claim Deed dated January 26, 1995 and recorded in Book 154 at Page 74 of the Ludlow Town Land Records.

and so much of said lands will be sold at public auction at Ludlow Town Office, a public place in such Town, on the 18th day of January, 2018 at Ten O’ Clock in the forenoon, as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, unless previously paid.

You have the right to request in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the tax sale date set forth above, that only a portion of the property be sold to satisfy the delinquent tax bill. Should you wish to proceed with this request, you must follow the procedure set forth in 32 V.S.A. §5254; clearly identify the portion of the property to be sold, and include a certification from the Act 250 district coordinator and the town zoning administrator that the portion identified may be legally subdivided.

If you qualify under 24 V.S.A. §1535, you may be able to receive an abatement of the property taxes, interest and collection fees you owe to the town. Abatement means that your taxes could be reduced or eliminated. You have the right to appear before the Board of Abatement and explain why you think your taxes should be abated. To apply for an abatement, you must write to Ulla Cook, Town Clerk, P. O. Box 307, Ludlow, VT 05149.

Dated at Ludlow, County of Windsor and State of Vermont, this 8th day of December, 2017.


Frank Heald, Collector of Town and
Town School District Taxes, Town Water and Sewer Taxes

STATE OF VERMONT WINDSOR COUNTY, SS NOTICE OF SALE 0 Evergreen Acres, so-called Ludlow, VT

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Ludlow, in the County of Windsor are hereby notified that the taxes and/or water and sewer taxes assessed by such Town for the years 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2016-2017 are, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described lands in such Town, to wit:

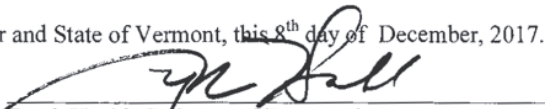
Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Paul Burns to Jerome Rodriguez, Paul Burns and Kevin Romano by deed dated December 4, 2002 and recorded in Book 228 at Page 590 of the Ludlow Town Land Records.

and so much of said lands will be sold at public auction at Ludlow Town Office, a public place in such Town, on the 18th day of January, 2018 at Ten O’ Clock in the forenoon, as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, unless previously paid.

You have the right to request in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the tax sale date set forth above, that only a portion of the property be sold to satisfy the delinquent tax bill. Should you wish to proceed with this request, you must follow the procedure set forth in 32 V.S.A. §5254; clearly identify the portion of the property to be sold, and include a certification from the Act 250 district coordinator and the town zoning administrator that the portion identified may be legally subdivided.

If you qualify under 24 V.S.A. §1535, you may be able to receive an abatement of the property taxes, interest and collection fees you owe to the town. Abatement means that your taxes could be reduced or eliminated. You have the right to appear before the Board of Abatement and explain why you think your taxes should be abated. To apply for an abatement, you must write to Ulla Cook, Town Clerk, P. O.Box 307, Ludlow, VT 05149.

Dated at Ludlow, County of Windsor and State of Vermont, this 8th day of December, 2017.


Frank Heald, Collector of Town and
Town School District Taxes, Town Water and Sewer Taxes

LEGAL NOTICES

CLUBS CONT.

TUESDAYS-
LUDLOW, Vt. – Ludlow Rotary Club meets every Tuesday and is hosted by DJ’s Restaurant, 146 Main St. from 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Enter via side door opposite bank drive-through. Visit www.ludlowrotary.com or contact club President, Tesha Buss at teshabuss@gmail.com. TFN

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. TFN

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. TFN

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

COMMUNITY MEALS

TUESDAYS-
PERKINSVILLE, Vt. – Monthly potluck, third Tuesdays at the Perkinsville Community Church vestry located at 33 Church St. Bring a hot dish, salad or dessert and have a nice visit. For more information contact Lorraine Zigman 802-263-5245 or email lzigman@comcast.net. TFN

SATURDAYS-
CHESTER, Vt. – Gassetts Grange holds a buffet breakfast every month on the 1st Saturday at 8-9:30 a.m. It consists of eggs, bacon, sausage, home fries, toast, pancakes (blueberry and plain), real maple syrup, juice, coffee, tea, and hot cocoa. All are welcome! Admission at the door. Hope to see you there. We are located on Route 103N, just above junction of 103 and Route 10. Any questions, call Dave at 802-875-2637. TFN

WEEKDAYS-
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The Bellows Falls Area Senior Center serves lunch 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Monday through Friday to area seniors. The Senior Meals menu for the week is available by calling 802-463-3907. The Bellows Falls Area Senior Center is located at 18 Tuttle St. We are wheelchair and walker accessible with plenty of parking. TFN

EVENTS

FRIDAY, DEC. 22, 2017-
PUTNEY, Vt. – Next Stage Arts Project presents Sean Altman’s JEW/MONGOUS, at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 22. Tickets at the door, available online, through the Next Stage website www.nextstagearts.org or at the Putney Coop or Turn It Up in Brattleboro. Next Stage is located at 15 Kimball Hill, Putney, VT, and features a newly renovated, accessible performance space. All faiths and the faithless are welcome but due to occasional potty-mouthedness, Sean Altman’s JEW/MONGOUS is not appropriate for kids under 16 unless you’re training them to be sailors. Ex-Rockapella star Sean Altman’s unkosher comedy song concert JEW/MONGOUS is “tuneful and sharply witty” according to the Los Angeles Times.

SATURDAY, DEC. 23 –
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Saturday, Dec. 23 from 2–6 p.m., parents can get some

last minute holiday stuff taken care of while the children are occupied at the pool. Besides swimming, there will be games, a holiday craft, a gift-wrapping station, and movie during dinner. Children can bring along gifts that they have made or purchased and use our wrapping station. Space is limited to 25. We provide up to four hours of supervised fun, healthy snack, and pizza from the Subway restaurant for dinner. Registration and advance payment required. Call member services at 802-885-2568 or register online.

WEDNESDAYS –
CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – Weekly bingo will not be held at the Charlestown Memorial VFW Post 8497 for Dec. 20 and 27. We wish all our loyal patrons and volunteers a Merry Christmas. Have a happy New Year and we’ll see you Jan. 3, 2018.

THURSDAYS –
LUDLOW, Vt. – Gypsy Reel plays regularly at The Killarney, in Ludlow. Music always begins at 6:30 p.m. and continues until 8:30 p.m. or later (depending upon football schedule). Fine ale, good pub food, and great music in the

traditional Irish style. TFN

GASSETTS, Vt. - Bingo will be held every Thursday night at the Gassetts Grange. Starts at 6:30 p.m., doors open at 5 p.m. Supper, raffle and 50/50 tickets are on sale. Come and join in. Call Donna at 802-591-4290 or you can call the hall at 802-875-1051. TFN

SATURDAYS-
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Internet and jazz jam Saturday at the Flat Iron Exchange, located in the square. No cover charge, just a tip jar to listen to some great jazz music. Enjoy a coffee and relax. 5-7 p.m. TFN

FARMERS’ MARKETS

FRIDAYS-
WESTON, Vt. – We are happy to announce the start of the new Weston Winter Farmer’s Market at the Walker Farm Playhouse. Starting Dec 1, Friday hours are from 3 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Your favorite dairy, eggs, cheese, meat and bread vendors will be on hand as well as prepared foods, artisans and crafts people. Come and support by purchasing local and fresh! Dates for December

are Friday Dec. 22 and 29. Lots of fun and real close to home. Shop and enjoy local!

LIBRARIES

TUESDAYS –
CHARLESTOWN, N.H. - Story time for toddlers and Pre-K at the Silsby Free Library from 10:30 a.m. Children and parents are invited for stories, songs and finger plays. Session includes playtime, an activity and a story time. Free and open to all. TFN

SPRINGFIELD, Vt.– Springfield Town Library story time, 43 Main St., 10 a.m. Free and open to the public with stories, songs, and activities for the youngest readers. For more information, call the library at 802-885-3108. TFN

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. - Crafts, Stories and Play Time toddlers and preschoolers. Enjoy stories, songs, crafts, and activities. Rockingham Free Public Library 10:30-11:30 a.m. Contact 463-4270. TFN

WEDNESDAYS –
WESTON, Vt. - Come and enjoy a story hour with friends at the Wilder Memorial Library, Lawrence Hill Road in Weston!

11 a.m.-noon. Call ahead to check, 802-824-4307. TFN

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Rockingham Library hosts a series of six films by and about women for everyone, sponsored by the Women’s Freedom Center on the second Wednesday of each month through February. These events are free and open to the public. For more information, go to rockinghamlibrary.org, call 802-463-4270 or stop by the library at 65 Westminster St., Bellows Falls, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. on Thursday & Friday and 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. on Saturday.

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. TFN

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. TFN

THURSDAYS-
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Join the genealogy group at Rockingham Free Public Library every Thursday, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. when genealogy enthusiast Wayne Blanchard takes you on a quest to discover your family roots. If you own a laptop, please bring it along. Many free databases are available at the library. Beginners and seasoned genealogists are welcome. Free and open to the public. For details, call 802-463-4270, email programming@rockinghamlibrary.org or go to www.rockinghamlibrary.org. TFN

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

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Minecraft Club at the Rockingham Free Public 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. TFN

BELLOWS FALLS, 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. TFN

SATURDAYS-
ALSTEAD, N.H. - Stop by the Shedd-Porter Memorial Library for cinnamon buns the last Saturday of each month and visit with friends or neighbors. The cinnamon buns are from McGuire’s Bakery and are available for a small fee. All the proceeds go to benefit the library. The library is at 3 Main St., Alstead.

SUBMIT YOUR EVENTS ONLINE!
VermontJournal.com

STATE OF VERMONT
WINDSOR COUNTY, SS
NOTICE OF SALE
105 Ranta Road, so-called Ludlow, VT

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Ludlow, in the County of Windsor are hereby notified that the taxes and/or water and sewer taxes assessed by such Town for the years 2016-2017 are, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described lands in such Town, to wit:

Being all and the same lands and premises decreed to April Taylor Dunich and Wayne Taylor by Decree of Distribution In Re Estate of Jeannette Taylor dated February 19, 2014 and recorded in Book 376 at Page 379 of the Ludlow Town Land Records.

and so much of said lands will be sold at public auction at Ludlow Town Office, a public place in such Town, on the 18th day of January, 2018 at Ten O’ Clock in the forenoon, as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, unless previously paid.

You have the right to request in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the tax sale date set forth above, that only a portion of the property be sold to satisfy the delinquent tax bill. Should you wish to proceed with this request, you must follow the procedure set forth in 32 V .S.A. §5254; clearly identify the portion of the property to be sold, and include a certification from the Act 250 district coordinator and the town zoning administrator that the portion identified may be legally subdivided.

If you qualify under 24 V.S.A. §1535, you may be able to receive an abatement of the property taxes, interest and collection fees you owe to the town. Abatement means that your taxes could be reduced or eliminated. You have the right to appear before the Board of Abatement and explain why you think your taxes should be abated. To apply for an abatement, you must write to Ulla Cook, Town Clerk, P. O. Box 307, Ludlow, VT 05149.

Dated at Ludlow, County of Windsor and State of Vermont, this 8th day of December, 2017.

Frank Heald, Collector of Town and Town School District Taxes, Town Water and Sewer Taxes

STATE OF VERMONT
WINDSOR COUNTY, SS
NOTICE OF SALE
818 South Hill Road, so-called Ludlow, VT

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Ludlow, in the County of Windsor are hereby notified that the taxes and/or water and sewer taxes assessed by such Town for the years 2016-2017 are, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described lands in such Town, to wit:

Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Norma D. Guy, Betty Ann Demers, Ferne E.A. Bradder and Sandra J. Prokop to Paul A. Azzinaro and Katherine A. Azzinaro by deed dated August 10, 2001 and recorded in Book 207 at Page 584 of the Ludlow Town Land Records.

and so much of said lands will be sold at public auction at Ludlow Town Office, a public place in such Town, on the 18th day of January, 2018 at Ten O’ Clock in the forenoon, as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, unless previously paid.

You have the right to request in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the tax sale date set forth above, that only a portion of the property be sold to satisfy the delinquent tax bill. Should you wish to proceed with this request, you must follow the procedure set forth in 32 V .S.A. §5254; clearly identify the portion of the property to be sold, and include a certification from the Act 250 district coordinator and the town zoning administrator that the portion identified may be legally subdivided.

If you qualify under 24 V .S.A. §1535, you may be able to receive an abatement of the property taxes, interest and collection fees you owe to the town. Abatement means that your taxes could be reduced or eliminated. You have the right to appear before the Board of Abatement and explain why you think your taxes should be abated. To apply for an abatement, you must write to Ulla Cook, Town Clerk, P. O. Box 307, Ludlow, VT 05149.

Dated at Ludlow, County of Windsor and State of Vermont, this 8th day of December, 2017.

Frank Heald, Collector of Town and Town School District Taxes, Town Water and Sewer Taxes

STATE OF VERMONT
WINDSOR COUNTY, SS
NOTICE OF SALE
0 Route 103 North (Open Land), so-called Ludlow, VT

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Ludlow, in the County of Windsor are hereby notified that the taxes and/or water and sewer taxes assessed by such Town for the years 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2016-2017 are, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described lands in such Town, to wit:

Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Wayne L. Hammond and Raymond H. Webb to Karen J. Hammond by deed dated July 24, 2003 and recorded in Book 245 at Page 432 of the Ludlow Town Land Records.

and so much of said lands will be sold at public auction at Ludlow Town Office, a public place in such Town, on the 18th day of January, 2018 at Ten O’ Clock in the forenoon, as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, unless previously paid.

You have the right to request in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the tax sale date set forth above, that only a portion of the property be sold to satisfy the delinquent tax bill. Should you wish to proceed with this request, you must follow the procedure set forth in 32 V.S.A. §5254; clearly identify the portion of the property to be sold, and include a certification from the Act 250 district coordinator and the town zoning administrator that the portion identified may be legally subdivided.

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Dated at Ludlow, County of Windsor and State of Vermont, this 8th day of December, 2017.

Frank Heald, Collector of Town and Town School District Taxes, Town Water and Sewer Taxes

STATE OF VERMONT
WINDSOR COUNTY, SS
NOTICE OF SALE
87 Pleasant Street Extension, so-called Ludlow, VT

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Ludlow, in the County of Windsor are hereby notified that the taxes and/or water and sewer taxes assessed by such Town for the years 2015-2016, 2016-2017 are, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described lands in such Town, to wit:

Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Matthew Myron Josselyn and Darla Bea Josselyn to Douglas P. Ficken and Julie Barr Ficken by deed dated December 9, 1999 and recorded in Book 191 at Page 376 of the Ludlow Town Land Records.

and so much of said lands will be sold at public auction at Ludlow Town Office, a public place in such Town, on the 18th day of January, 2018 at Ten O’ Clock in the forenoon, as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, unless previously paid.

You have the right to request in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the tax sale date set forth above, that only a portion of the property be sold to satisfy the delinquent tax bill. Should you wish to proceed with this request, you must follow the procedure set forth in 32 V.S.A. §5254; clearly identify the portion of the property to be sold, and include a certification from the Act 250 district coordinator and the town zoning administrator that the portion identified may be legally subdivided.

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Dated at Ludlow, County of Windsor and State of Vermont, this 8th day of December, 2017.

Frank Heald, Collector of Town and Town School District Taxes, Town Water and Sewer Taxes

calendar

LEGAL NOTICES

EARLY ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE FOR THE DEC. 27 & JAN. 3 EDITIONS

All advertisements must be emailed and finalized by
Thursday, Dec. 21 for the Dec. 27 edition
AND
Thursday, Dec. 28 for the Jan. 3 edition
ads@VermontJournal.com

Thank you, and Merry Christmas from your friends at The Vermont Journal and Shopper

STATE OF VERMONT
WINDSOR COUNTY, SS
NOTICE OF SALE
19 Gill Terrace, so-called Ludlow, VT

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Ludlow, in the County of Windsor are hereby notified that the taxes and/or water and sewer taxes assessed by such Town for the years 2015-2016, 2016-2017 are, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described lands in such Town, to wit:

Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Laura C. Lienhard f/k/a Laura C. Gillette to Jennifer J. Newsome by deed dated August 2, 2007 and recorded in Book 314 at Page 282-283 of the Ludlow Town Land Records.

and so much of said lands will be sold at public auction at Ludlow Town Office, a public place in such Town, on the 18th day of January, 2018 at Ten O' Clock in the forenoon, as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, unless previously paid.

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Dated at Ludlow, County of Windsor and State of Vermont, this 8th day of December, 2017.

Frank Heald, Collector of Town and Town School District Taxes, Town Water and Sewer Taxes

STATE OF VERMONT
WINDSOR COUNTY, SS
NOTICE OF SALE
190 Andover Road, so-called Ludlow, VT

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Ludlow, in the County of Windsor are hereby notified that the taxes and/or water and sewer taxes assessed by such Town for the years 2015-2016, 2016-2017 are, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described lands in such Town, to wit:

Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Dorothy Pjura and Frances Orzech to Keith Sylvestre by deed dated August 18, 1982 and recorded in Book 80 at Page 34-35 of the Ludlow Town Land Records.

and so much of said lands will be sold at public auction at Ludlow Town Office, a public place in such Town, on the 18th day of January, 2018 at Ten O' Clock in the forenoon, as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, unless previously paid.

You have the right to request in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the tax sale date set forth above, that only a portion of the property be sold to satisfy the delinquent tax bill. Should you wish to proceed with this request, you must follow the procedure set forth in 32 V.S.A. §5254; clearly identify the portion of the property to be sold, and include a certification from the Act 250 district coordinator and the town zoning administrator that the portion identified may be legally subdivided.

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Dated at Ludlow, County of Windsor and State of Vermont, this 8th day of December, 2017.

Frank Heald, Collector of Town and Town School District Taxes, Town Water and Sewer Taxes

MEETINGS

TUESDAYS-
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The Bellows Falls Woman's Club meets on the second Tuesday of each month, through May, at the United Church. The hall is accessible to all. Women interested in joining and helping with club projects may contact Barbara Comtois, membership chairman, at 802-344-0025. The Bellows Falls Woman's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

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 can be found at www.westminsterfireandrescue.org. TFN

WEDNESDAYS-
LUDLOW, Vt.- Black River Area Community Coalition meets third Wednesdays in the Community room of the Fletcher Memorial Library, Main St. in Ludlow, starting at 5:30 p.m. More information, visit www.braccvt.org. TFN

SUPPORT GROUPS

TUESDAYS-
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Breast Feeding Support Group second and fourth Tuesdays at the Springfield Hospital Library Level D. Noon-2 p.m. It is free and no registration is required. For more information call Erin at 802-885-7511. TFN

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

WINDSOR, Vt. – Cedar Hill Alzheimer's caregiver support group. Meet fellow caregivers who really understand because they've been there, too, when things are difficult or isolating. First Tuesdays from 3:30–5 p.m. at 92 Cedar Hill Drive (off Route 5). TFN

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Wellness/Lifestyle Change Support Group, meets the second

Tuesday of each month from 5:45-7 p.m. at the Springfield Health Center, 100 River St. Free. Register by calling 802-886-8946 or email cht@springfieldmed.org. TFN

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - TOPS Chapter Vermont #12 meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at Sacred Heart Social Center, 39 Green Street in Bellows Falls. Come to TOPS (take off pounds sensibly) a non-profit, non-commercial, weight loss support group that really works. Every week there are interesting programs that touch on topics that help us in our quest for weight loss. We share healthy recipes for main meals and snacks. Your first meeting is free. Bring a friend; you won't be disappointed. Visit our website www.tops.org for more information. TFN

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. TFN

LUDLOW, Vt. – Eating behavior support group meets Wednesdays at 6 p.m. at the

STATE OF VERMONT
WINDSOR COUNTY, SS
NOTICE OF SALE
245 Solitude Road - MI 01, so-called Ludlow, VT

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Ludlow, in the County of Windsor are hereby notified that the taxes and/or water and sewer taxes assessed by such Town for the years 2016-2017 are, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described lands in such Town, to wit:

Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Mark McWilliams to Solitude 101, LLC by deed dated August 7, 2009 and recorded in Book 334 at Page 233 of the Ludlow Town Land Records.

and so much of said lands will be sold at public auction at Ludlow Town Office, a public place in such Town, on the 18th day of January, 2018 at Ten O' Clock in the forenoon, as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, unless previously paid.

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Dated at Ludlow, County of Windsor and State of Vermont, this 8th day of December, 2017.

Frank Heald, Collector of Town and Town School District Taxes, Town Water and Sewer Taxes

STATE OF VERMONT
WINDSOR COUNTY, SS
NOTICE OF SALE
151 Nelson Road, Lot 1 & 2, so-called Ludlow, VT

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Ludlow, in the County of Windsor are hereby notified that the taxes and/or water and sewer taxes assessed by such Town for the years 2015-2016, 2016-2017 are, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described lands in such Town, to wit:

Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Frank E. Punderson, Jr., Trustee to Gregory Dunnett by deed dated November 20, 1995 and recorded in Book 158 at Page 166-167 of the Ludlow Town Land Records.

and so much of said lands will be sold at public auction at Ludlow Town Office, a public place in such Town, on the 18th day of January, 2018 at Ten O' Clock in the forenoon, as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, unless previously paid.

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Dated at Ludlow, County of Windsor and State of Vermont, this 8th day of December, 2017.

Frank Heald, Collector of Town and Town School District Taxes, Town Water and Sewer Taxes

Women's Center for Binge and Emotional Eating on 70 Main St. This free group is intended to help you understand your eating and/or weight-related struggles. The group is led by trained therapists who specialize in eating behavior. To join call 802-975-0435 or email shiri@fitwoman.com. TFN

ASCUTNEY, Vt. - Twin State Depression Support Group meets on the third Wednesday at Martin Memorial Hall, Lower Level (Handicapped-accessible), 5259 Route 5, Ascutney, (near Exit 8 off I-91) at 6:30 p.m. Do you know or think you may be depressed? Have a friend or family member who has depression? Then this group is for you! Support, empathy, sharing, education, confidentiality, peer-led. Contact TwinStateDSG@gmail.com or 641-715-3900 (ext. 650055#). TFN

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Twin State Depression Support Group meets on the fourth Wednesday at Turning Point Recovery Center (Handicapped-accessible), 7 Morgan Street, Springfield at 6:30 p.m. Do you know or think you may be depressed? Have a friend or family member who has depression? Then this group is for you! Support, empathy, sharing, education, confidentiality, peer-led. Contact TwinStateDSG@gmail.com or 641-715-3900 (ext. 650055#). TFN

THURSDAYS –
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Mental health peer support group, 2-3:30 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 77 Main St. The group's goal will be to provide a safe and healthy environment for people to give and receive support around mental health issues. The group is free and open to the public. Call Diana Slade at 802-289-1982. TFN

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. TFN

PERKINSVILLE, Vt. – Twin State Depression Support Group Board of Directors will now meet every other month in 2018 on the third Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at 2520 Route 106 in Perkinsville. Please come join us. New local phone number is 802-795-0098. This is a voice mail line. Updates regarding meetings will be posted during bad weather. Messages will be checked daily. The 2018 schedule is: Jan. 18, March 22, May 17, July 19, Sept. 20 - the one exception will be in November - that date to be announced.

DEADLINE FOR THE DEC. 27 EDITION

Please have your short calendar events and press releases emailed in by
Thursday at 12pm

PRESS RELEASES TO
editor@VermontJournal.com

CALENDAR EVENTS TO
calendar@VermontJournal.com

Thank you, and Merry Christmas from your friends at The Vermont Journal and Shopper

church services

PET OF THE WEEK

SPRINGFIELD, VT.

CHURCH OF CHRIST, ROUTE 11, CHESTER RD.
Sunday school starts at 10 a.m. Worship service at 11 a.m. Wednesday Devotional is at 6:30 p.m. Enter through the back downstairs door. Check out the Facebook page: Springfield Church of Christ.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH, 90 PARK ST.

Vespers on Saturdays at 5 p.m. and Liturgy on Sunday at 9:30 a.m. For more information, call 802-885-2615 or go to www.htocvt.org.

NORTH SPRINGFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH, 69 MAIN ST.

On Sunday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve, there will be 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. worship

services. The 10 a.m. service will be family-centered with a pageant, carols, sacred dance, and candle lighting. The 7 p.m. service will have sacred dance, carols, Scripture, candle lighting, and music with piano, cello, and flute. All are welcome to join us. Call 802-886-8107, email nssbc@vermontel.net or go to www.nsbvvt.org for additional information and directions. Adult Bible study on Sundays

at 9 a.m. before the worship service at 10 a.m., followed by fellowship and coffee hour.

PRECISION VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH, 69 ROUTE 106

Adult Bible Study on Sundays from 9 -9:45 a.m. Services start at 10 a.m. Located right next to Cota & Cota.

SPRINGFIELD ASSEMBLY OF GOD, 269 RIVER ST.

Sunday school at 10 a.m. Sunday service begins at 11 a.m. Sunday evening service at 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible study for all ages at 6 p.m. The church also has a bus to pick up children for Sunday school. Call anytime during the week to schedule a pick up. Call 802-885-4261.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, 10 PLEASANT ST.

Sunday Masses at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m., Tuesday at 7 p.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration. Thursday and Friday at 9 a.m. Confession on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. Contact the rectory at 802-885-3400.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, 21 FAIRGROUND RD.

There will be no Sunday service on Dec. 24. www.uuspringfieldvt.org or call 802-885-3327.

WALPOLE, N.H.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, CORNER OF WESTMINSTER AND ELM ST.
Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. Services begin at 10 a.m.,

followed by coffee hour. For more information about Art After School program, our outreach efforts, call 603-756-4533.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WALPOLE / UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, 15 WASHINGTON SQ.

Sunday school at 10 a.m. with coffee hour at 11 a.m. Wheelchair accessible with ramps and elevator. Call 603-756-4075 or email walpolechurch@yahoo.com.

WALPOLE UNITARIAN CHURCH, CORNER OF UNION AND MAIN ST.

Sunday Service begin at 10 a.m. Minister is Rev. Elaine Bomford who will be present twice a month. The first Sunday of each month is Family First Sunday with breakfast and spiritual activities for the whole family. Check www.walpoleunitarianchurch.org.

at 10:30 a.m. Fellowship lunch on first Sunday of each month. Non-denominational. Visit www.christianfamilycirclechurch.com and like us on Facebook

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, 3470 ROUTE 5

On Sunday, Dec. 24, we will celebrate Christmas at our Christmas Eve Service at 5:30 p.m. Come and join us. No morning worship on Dec. 24. The service will include great music, carols, and the Christmas story. Weather permitting we will end the service outside in front of the church among the luminaria with a candle-lit carol sing.

WEST WINDSOR, VT.

BROWNSVILLE COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 66 BROWNSVILLE-HARTLAND RD.

Sunday worship 9:30 a.m. followed by fellowship and refreshments. Nursery care provided during church service for children 5 years and younger. ADA accessible. Call 802-484-5944, email bcchurchvt@gmail.com, or go to www.brownsvilleumc-vt.org.

WESTMINSTER, VT.

CHRISTIAN FAMILY CIRCLE CHAPEL, 1512 BACK WESTMINSTER RD.

Sunday song service begins at 10 a.m., Sunday school

P&M Auto Sales

Quality Used Cars and Trucks

Specials of the Week

<p>2011 Ford Escape XLT AWD 4 Cylinder Auto</p>	<p>2009 Dodge Ram 4 Door Crew Cab Auto V8 4x4 Fully Loaded</p>
<p>2013 Chevy Malibu 4 Door Sedan FWD V6 Auto Fully Loaded</p>	<p>2012 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo, AWD Auto Leather Sun Roof Fully Loaded</p>

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for a Confidential Interview**
802-886-9510 office
SSimpson@SpringfieldAutomart.com

pet of the week

Meet Sookie
I am an adorable 5-month-old mixed breed dog. No one knows my mix, but everyone loves to guess. What do you think I am?!

I am deaf so I need an owner that is willing to learn how to train a deaf dog or one with experience. I love food, so I am more then willing to work for it! I'm house-trained and I'll be good in a home with other dogs, but I prefer not to live with cats. Come meet me!

Stop by sometime Wednesday thru Saturday from noon to 4:30 p.m.

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

*Serving the towns of
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Londonderry, Ludlow,
Springfield, Weathersfield,
Weston, and Windsor*

WARNING
SPECIAL MEETING
LUDLOW-MOUNT HOLLY UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

The legal voters of the Ludlow-Mount Holly Unified School District ("LMHUUSD"), comprising the voters of the Towns of Ludlow and Mount Holly are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Ludlow Elementary School, in Ludlow, Vermont on the 18th day, January, 2018, in the Presidential Hall, at 6:00 p.m. to transact the following business:

Article 1.	To elect a temporary presiding officer and clerk from among the qualified voters.
Article 2.	To adopt Robert's Rules of Order or other rules of order to govern the parliamentary procedures of this and subsequent meetings of the LMHUUSD.
Article 3.	To elect the following officers to serve from their election and qualification for one year or until the election and qualification of their successors: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moderator• Clerk• Treasurer
Article 4.	To determine and approve compensation, if any, to be paid LMHUUSD officers.
Article 5.	To establish the date of the annual meeting.
Article 6.	To establish provisions for the payment of any expense incurred by the LMHUUSD,
Article 7.	To authorize the LMHUUSD to borrow money pending receipt of payments from the State Education Fund by the issuance of its notes or orders payable not later than one year from date; provided, however, that the newly formed LMHUUSD is authorized by Vermont Statutes to borrow sufficient funds to meet pending obligations.
Article 8.	To determine and approve compensation, if any, to be paid to School Board Directors,
Article 9.	To determine whether to authorize the Board of School Directors, pursuant to provisions of 16 V.S.A. 563(10) & (11)(C), to provide mailed notice to residents of the availability of the Annual Report and proposed school budget in lieu of distributing the Annual Report and proposed budget.
Article 10.	To transact any other school business thought proper when met.

DATED this 15 day of December 2017,

Rebecca Holcombe, Ed.D.
Secretary of Education

AUTOMOTIVE

church news

First Baptist Church rebuilt with community help

S. LONDONDERRY, Vt. - First Baptist Church of South Londonderry has been under reconstruction after a fire destroyed their previous building in August 2010. With the help of a matching gift donation, they are making the final push to finish the building project. In the first two years, much time was spent cleaning up the site and making plans for the new church. The town of Londonderry provided a space to meet, and Daniel Pratt of Robert Carl Williams Associates helped with the insurance and design.

The next two years were spent on purchasing the adjoining property. Raymond Smith Excavating tore down the house, put in the driveway, built the retaining walls, dug the foundation, dug the drainage, donated materials, and trucked materials out. Scott Howe of Big Rock Gravel removed the fill and donated stone and surfac. Cobb Lumber cleared trees, did site work, and donated large stones, gravel, and topsoil. Jeremy Brodney of Brodney Enterprises did all of the engineering and surveying for the church building as well as the layout for the water storage tanks, drainage, and handi-cap access to the building.

Bids for construction of the building went out in the spring of 2014. First Baptist Church awarded the contract to Russell Construction Services of Rut-

land. Work started immediately. Russell Construction completed the whole exterior of the building and framing of the interior, which was completed October 2015. During the construction of the exterior, Doug Friant of Vermont Timber Works provided the timber frame entrance and interior timbers.

In the spring of 2016, Dustin Washburn of Southern Vermont Sprinkler Services was hired to put in the required sprinkler system. Frost Well Drilling put in the pump, expansion tank, and water softener. Gary and Taylor Barton of Barton Electric did the electrical work.

SERVE, a group of youth and adults who come every summer from Hope Community Church in King of Prussia, Pa., has done lots of projects over the years including painting, installing a deck, doing cleanup, and working on landscaping. Another group of men from Calvary Baptist Church in Lexington, Ky. came and closed in their porch ceilings, built a deck and stairs, and installed interior timber frame.

M&M Plumbing & Heating worked on the project. They got the boilers in and working in December, and they had radiant heat in the basement floor for the winter. Jeff Duda of Blue Flame Gas donated his labor in hooking up propane lines in the building. Jerri Smith and Dale

Griswald installed the propane tank and lines.

Builders Installed Products insulated the building, Green Mountain Drywall did the sheet rock, Bennington House of Tile and Carpet helped out with some of the flooring, Tile Slate Marble tiled the flooring in the entryways, and First Line Security installed their fire alarm

system. Forbes Construction did the window trim on their stained glass windows and chair rails.

Mark Wright, of Rugg Valley Landscaping, donated 15 evergreen plants and 15 lilac shrubs. Barry Pearson, Jr. of Shine Hill Painting painted the sanctuary. Payne Junker repaired the weathervane. Larry

Prouty used his carpenter skills to finish the building. Others who have helped include David Stevens, Michel La Liberté, Wayne Blackey, Bruce Thomas, and Mark Miller. First Baptist Church appreciates all the time and effort that volunteers have put into the building.

Donations towards the rebuilding project can be made

online or mailed to First Baptist Church at P.O. Box 278, South Londonderry, VT, 05155 with "building fund" in the memo.

For more information about the construction or building, including a video tour, take a look at the website, www.firstbaptistlondonderryvt.org or call 802-856-7266.

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DEALER SAVINGS \$1,041

SALE PRICE
\$35,996*



2017 CHEVY SILVERADO

CREW CAB, LTZ PACKAGE
STOCK #7251
MSRP \$57,465
EMPLOYEE PRICE \$51,738
LESS REBATES \$4,500
DEALER SAVINGS \$1,241

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4X4 CREW CAB
LT Package, Like New, Fully Loaded, Only 16,000 Miles, Heated Seats

DURAMAX DIESEL

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2016 CHEVY TRAX

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2016 SUBARU IMPREZA

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AWD, LS Package, One Owner, Only 26,000 Miles

SALE PRICE \$16,995

2015 CHEVY COLORADO

CREW CAB
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SALE PRICE \$26,995

2015 FORD F-150

SUPER CREW CAB
4x4, Fully Loaded, One Owner

SALE PRICE \$29,995

2015 CHEVY 2500 HD

EXTENDED CAB
4x4, Duramax Diesel, LT Package, One Owner, Only 44,000 Miles

DURAMAX DIESEL

2015 CHEVY EQUINOX

LT Package, AWD, Sun Roof, One Owner

SALE PRICE \$16,995

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4 DOOR CREW CAB 4X4
LTZ Package, Fully Loaded, Duramax Diesel, Sun Roof, One Owner

SALE PRICE \$50,995

2017 CHEVY MALIBU

LT SEDAN
STOCK #7337

MSRP \$27,195
LESS 20% OFF \$5,439
DEALER SAVINGS \$761

SALE PRICE
\$20,995*



2017 CHEVY MALIBU

LT SEDAN
STOCK #7293

MSRP \$28,045
LESS 20% OFF \$5,609
DEALER SAVINGS \$641

SALE PRICE
\$21,795*



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LT SEDAN
STOCK #7292

MSRP \$26,895
LESS 20% OFF \$5,379
DEALER SAVINGS \$621

SALE PRICE
\$20,895*



2015 FORD FIESTA

HATCHBACK
SE Package, Auto

SALE PRICE \$9,995

2014 GMC TERRAIN

SLE 2, Navigation, Only 44,000 Miles

SALE PRICE \$17,995

2014 GMC 2500

CREW CAB
SLT Package, 4x4, One Owner, Fully Loaded

SALE PRICE \$29,995

2014 BUICK REGAL GS

AWD, 2.0 Liter Turbo, Sun Roof, Fully Loaded

SALE PRICE \$18,995

2014 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA

SE Package, Fully Loaded, Only 23,000 Miles

SALE PRICE \$11,995

2014 CHEVY CRUZE

LT Package, Auto, One Owner, Only 15,000 Miles

SALE PRICE \$12,995

2014 GMC 2500 HD

CREW CAB
4x4, SLT Package, Fully Loaded, One Owner

SALE PRICE \$29,995

2013 CHEVY TAHOE

LTZ Package, Fully Loaded

SALE PRICE \$29,995

2012 FORD FUSION

SEL Package, Leather, Sun Roof, Only 27,000 Miles

SALE PRICE \$11,995

2012 CHEVY CRUZE

LT Package w/ RS Package, Fully Loaded

SALE PRICE \$8,495

2012 SUBARU OUTBACK

2.5 I LIMITED
AWD, Fully Loaded

SALE PRICE \$13,995

2011 HONDA PILOT

EXL Package, AWD, Leather, Sun Roof, One Owner

SALE PRICE \$16,995

2011 NISSAN FRONTIER

4 DOOR CREW CAB
4x4, SL Package, Sun Roof, Leather Interior, Extra Clean

SALE PRICE \$11,995

2010 CHEVY EQUINOX

LT Package, AWD, Fully Loaded, Only 93,000 Miles

SALE PRICE \$9,995

2010 TOYOTA COROLLA

S Package, Fully Loaded

SALE PRICE \$8,995

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Fully Loaded, Only 84,000 Miles

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2008 CHEVY EQUINOX

AWD, Sport Package, V6, Fully Loaded

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EMPLOYEE PRICE \$32,744
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DEALER SAVINGS \$1,000

SALE PRICE
\$26,744*



2017 CHEVY CRUZE HATCHBACK

LT PACKAGE
STOCK #7232

MSRP \$25,005
LESS 20% OFF \$6,251.25
DEALER SAVINGS \$758

SALE PRICE
\$17,995.75*



2017 CHEVY MALIBU

LS SEDAN
STOCK #7356

MSRP \$24,875
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BF Legion donates stove to church

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Local community member, Bellows Falls American Legion Post #37 donated a much-needed stove to Faith Christian Church. Pastors Brenda and Matt Farkas were ecstatic to receive such a wonderful gift. Pastor Matt Farkas said, "This is something that we've been needing for the past year, and now we have received a blessing again."

Commander Smokey Aumand chimed in and stated, "Our American Legion post was made aware of the need and acted swiftly to help out a much needed community member." Brenda Farkas is looking forward to cooking up a storm for those in need of a good hot meal and friendly fellowship in the church community. Faith Christian Church is located just north of Bellows Falls on Route 5. Pictured are Pastors Brenda and Matt Farkas with Commander Smokey Aumand in back.

PHOTO BY AL CUSHMAN

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<p>2017 GMC Terrain SLT</p> <p>NCP0910, mileage 42,626, 4 cylinders, all wheel drive</p> <p>\$329mo*</p>	<p>2015 Chevy Silverado 1500 1LT</p> <p>NCT17458A, mileage 46,742, 4X4, crew cab, V8</p> <p>\$499mo*</p>	<p>2015 GMC Sierra 1500 SLE</p> <p>NCC18000B, mileage 19,301, V8, 4X4, Double Cab</p> <p>\$499mo*</p>	<p>2015 GMC Sierra 1500 SLE</p> <p>NGT17067B, mileage 30,734, 4X4, Crew Cab, V8</p> <p>\$549mo*</p>	<p>2014 GMC Sierra 1500</p> <p>NCT17208A, mileage 80,559, double cab, V6</p> <p>\$299mo*</p>
<p>2015 GMC Sierra 1500 SLE</p> <p>NCT17305A, mileage 27,898, 4X4, Double Cab, V8</p> <p>\$499mo*</p>	<p>2015 Chevy Silverado 1500 1LT</p> <p>NCT17397A, mileage 57,737, 4X4, Double Cab, V8</p> <p>\$499mo*</p>	<p>2014 Chevy Silverado 2500 HD LTZ</p> <p>NCT17416A, mileage 36,555, 4X4, Crew Cab, V8</p> <p>\$799mo*</p>	<p>2015 GMC Sierra 1500 SLE</p> <p>NCP0915, mileage 35,798, V8, 4X4, Double Cab</p> <p>\$499mo*</p>	<p>2015 Chevy Silverado 2500 HD High Country</p> <p>NGT17281A, mileage 51,629, 4X4, Crew Cab, V8, Diesel</p> <p>\$849mo*</p>
<p>2017 Chevy Trax LT</p> <p>NCP0857, mileage 11,797, 4 cylinder, AWD, four door</p> <p>\$279mo*</p>	<p>2017 Chevy Trax LS</p> <p>NB17042A, mileage 412, front wheel drive, four door</p> <p>\$249mo*</p>	<p>2014 GMC Sierra 1500 SLE</p> <p>NCC17136C, mileage 57,015, 4WD, V8, double cab</p> <p>\$459mo*</p>	<p>2013 GMC Sierra 1500 SLE1</p> <p>NCP0913A, mileage 70,217, V8, 4X4, Crew Cab</p> <p>\$449mo*</p>	<p>2014 Toyota Tundra</p> <p>NCT17470A, V8, 4X4, Double Cab, mileage 74,915</p> <p>\$429mo*</p>
<p>2013 Chevy Silverado 1500 LT</p> <p>NCT17374B, mileage 83,925, 4X4 Crew Cab, V8</p> <p>\$449mo*</p>	<p>2015 Chevy Silverado 1500 WT</p> <p>NCT17382A, mileage 46,849, 4X4, Double Cab, V8</p> <p>\$399mo*</p>	<p>2017 Dodge Grand Caravan</p> <p>NCP0916, Four Door, V6, mileage 16,527</p> <p>\$399mo*</p>	<p>2009 RAV4</p> <p>NCT18077A, mileage 109,990, 4X4, 4 cylinder</p> <p>\$149mo*</p>	<p>2014 Toyota Tundra SR5</p> <p>57L V8, NCT17415A, mileage 44,039, V8, 4X4, Crew Cab</p> <p>\$579mo*</p>
<p>2012 Chevy Silverado 1500 WT</p> <p>NCT18044B, mileage 56,595, 4X4, regular cab, V8, Four wheel drive</p> <p>\$329mo*</p>	<p>2016 Ford Edge Titanium</p> <p>NCP0908, mileage 41,616, AWD, 4 cylinder, 4 door</p> <p>\$399mo*</p>	<p>2016 Toytoa Sienna</p> <p>NGT17304A, V6, four door, 7 Passenger, mileage 29,319</p> <p>\$399mo*</p>	<p>2016 GMC Sierra 1500</p> <p>NCP0920A, mileage 11,351, 4X4, Double Cab, V6</p> <p>\$499mo*</p>	<p>2014 Chevy Silverado 1500 1LT</p> <p>NCT17265AA, mileage 44,165, 4X4, Double Cab, V8</p> <p>\$449mo*</p>

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