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VOLUME 18, ISSUE 02

Petition results in a re-vote on Ludlow, Mount Holly unified school merger

BY SHARON HUNTLEY
The Vermont Journal

LUDLOW, Vt. – Ludlow residents submitted enough signatures to the Ludlow Town Clerk's office, a total of 137, to petition the Ludlow Elementary School Board to call for a re-vote on the article that formed the Ludlow, Mount Holly Unified Union School District. As a result, during the recent Ludlow Elementary School Board Meeting on Jan. 3, 2018, the re-vote was warned and the date for the re-vote has now been set for Tuesday Feb. 6, 2018 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Ludlow Town Office.

The push for a re-vote is a result of reported widespread confusion in regards to the initial vote for the merger. Despite having four informational meetings prior to the initial vote, community members commented that they were confused about what their vote really meant. Some voters also reported to School Board Members that they had been told how to vote "to save their school" before they entered the polling station, which impacted their vote.

The initial vote, which took place on Nov. 28, 2017, resulted in a "yes" vote, approving the merger with 344 "yes" votes versus 172 "no" votes. In order to overturn the outcome of



Black River HS.

PHOTO BY SHARON HUNTLEY

the vote, there must be a two-thirds majority, based on the numbers from the first vote tally. In other words, not only must the re-vote garner a two-thirds majority of "no" votes, the physical number of "no" votes must reach at least 230. This is an issue that members of both Ludlow Elementary and U39 School Boards felt might be confusing to voters.

To help clarify both sides of the issue for voters, Ludlow Elementary School will host an informational meeting tentatively scheduled for Monday, Jan. 29. It's a meeting that LES School Board Chair Lisa Schmidt hopes will be well attended. "There's just a limbo...I am sad that we have to go through this again. If people clearly didn't understand then I hope that people will get the information they need to make [their] vote."

The merger was the result of a need to comply with Act 46, which requires school districts to self-evaluate, talk to other districts, and propose how best to address declining enrollments and promote

equitable educational opportunities and financial efficiencies. There were several financial incentives that Ludlow, Mount Holly Unified Union District would receive as a result of the merger, such as trailing tax rate decreases over the first four years and keeping the Small Schools Grants, renamed the Merger Support Grants, for the elementary schools totaling approximately \$134,000. Approval of the merger, as proposed by the local study committee, also resulted in the guaranteed closure of Black River Middle School/High School by June of 2020, a particularly emotional issue for many residents. Following the closure, Black River Middle School and High School students are granted school choice, with state tuition dollars following the student to their selected school.

News of a re-vote was of concern to Uli Donohue, the Chair of The Black River Independent School Committee (BRISC). This committee has been making strides to form an independent school called Black River Academy in Ludlow, but which would rely on school choice tuition dollars to be viable. According to Donohue, "If a revote in Ludlow on the Act 46 merger between Ludlow and Mount Holly school districts results in a 'no' vote, there will be no school choice for children in Mount Holly or Ludlow for middle and high school and therefore tuition will continue to be paid only to the public Black River Middle and High School, this will make the effort to open Black River Academy as an independent school impossible."

Should a re-vote overturn the original outcome, that moves the fate of the district into the hands of the State Board of Education, which is required, according to Act 46, Sec. 10, to "realign districts into more sustainable models of governance to meet the goals set out in Act 46, Sec. 2." The Secretary of Education, Rebecca Holcombe's proposal for this action is due to the State Board of Education by June 1, 2018, which must act by Nov. 30, 2018.

Response from the Agency of Education confirmed that their Secretary Holcombe's upcoming proposal, and the State Board's ultimate requirement, would address the district, but was non-committal on the details. "If the Ludlow School District is not a voluntary member of a new unified union school district (i.e. multi-town district responsible for PK-12) that will be operational by July 1, 2019, then both the Secretary's proposal and the State Board's final Statewide Plan will address the district BUT we cannot predict in advance what, if any changes, it will require..."

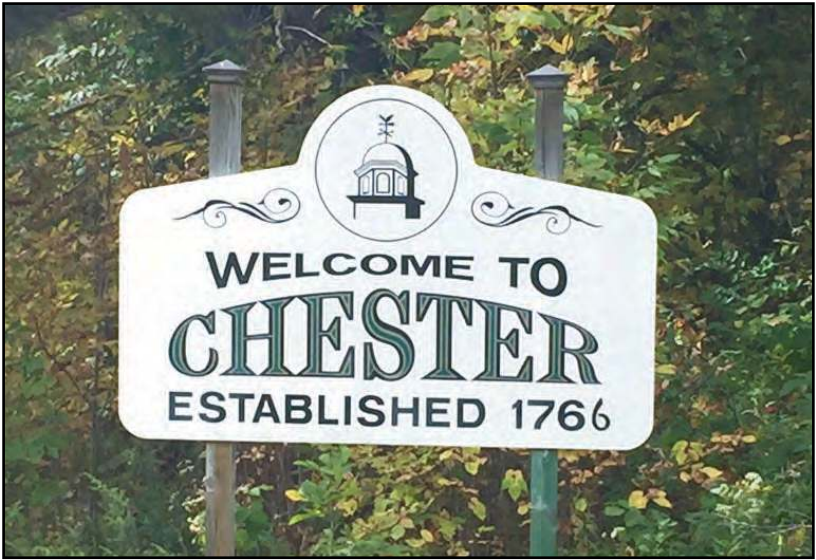
Holcombe's office however went on to state, "It is impossible to predict what actions the State Board will require in the Statewide Plan

See **BRHS** on Page 2A

Chester Select Board hears presentation from Okemo Valley Regional Chamber

BY LYZA DANGER GARDNER
The Vermont Journal

CHESTER, Vt. - A focus on fiscal concerns continued at the Jan. 3, 2018 Chester Select Board meeting, as the board hears the Jan. 17 date for sign-off on a final budget. Also that evening, the Master Plan Steering Committee was disbanded - having fulfilled its purpose - and a new committee, the Master Plan Implementation Committee, for moving into the action phase of Master Plan projects, proposed.



Town of Chester gets presentation from OVRCC.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Availability of the final 2017 actuals for revenue and expenses were few days off yet, putting budget discussions in somewhat of a holding pattern. Recognizing that more discussions - and likely citizen input - would arise once those final figures were available, the board agreed to hold a special, budget-specific meeting on Jan. 8 at 6:30 p.m.

The board voted to dissolve the Village Master Plan Steering Committee, thanking members profusely, and were supportive of the continuity provided by the proposed implementation committee. Specific details - term lengths, for example - were not yet solidified for the new committee, and its establishment was postponed until those logistics could be clarified.

During public comments, Shawn Cunningham of the Chester Telegraph requested that board members consider sending letters to the state legislature supporting the eligibility of non-print news agencies to serve as the paper of record for Vermont towns.

Marji Graf from the Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce reported on the organization's recent progress and challenges. "We connect business to resources," explained Graf, noting that Okemo Valley has to compete against other resort areas, like Jay Peak and Manchester.

Graf lamented that many area businesses weren't taking advantage of the programs the chamber has on offer, including a web-based "marketplace" for selling goods, events calendar, and the yearly printed visitor's guide. There appeared to be a pair of core issues: getting the word out and encouraging business owners to engage.

See **CHESTER** on Page 2A

Cavendish Select Board revisits traffic issues at Routes 103 and 131 intersection

BY THOMAS FOSTER IV
The Vermont Journal

CAVENDISH, Vt. - The Cavendish Select Board met on Jan. 8, 2018 to discuss the upcoming year and what it could mean for the small town. One of the key points of discussion revolved around the intersection between state Route 103 and Route 131 and the traffic issues associated with it. The intersection acts as the primary route between Cavendish and the nearby towns of Ludlow and Chester, and the recent accident involving a school bus makes the matter all the more pressing.

The source of the traffic issues can be traced to the closure of a local bridge. The Depot Street Bridge in Proctorsville was closed on Dec. 23, 2015, due to deterioration and structural damage. The bridge acted as a traffic decongestant by also connecting to Route 103, although "that intersection at Depot Street and Route 103 is also a dangerous one," commented Town Manager, Brendan McNamara. The bridge closure has inconvenienced local commuters and the school transportation system for the area.



Town of Cavendish revisits dangerous intersection.

PHOTO PROVIDED

McNamara recollected when he was the facility and transportation supervisor at Green Mountain Union High School when the bridge first closed in 2015. He commented on its negative impact to the school bus transportation route between Cavendish and Chester. This forced the department to determine a safe maneuver for the bus to make when turning onto Route 103. It proved to be a challenging task, which he fears only added to the array of complications that the intersection

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to space and may not include
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Send images as a **JPEG.**

GFWC Okemo Valley Women’s Club Tree of Remembrance lights up Ludlow

LUDLOW, Vt. - I’m sure everyone has seen the beautifully lit tree in Veteran’s Park in Ludlow. It’s to remind us of our loved ones past and present that we in Ludlow are remembering. It is the major fundraiser for GFWC Okemo Valley Women’s club scholarship for a deserving senior at Black River High School. By making a donation to the Tree of Remembrance and naming the people you would like to remember, you will be helping a senior at Black River High School.



Andover Mountaineer Snow Riders donate to CAFC

CHESTER, Vt. - On a clear Sunday morning in December, the Andover Mountaineer Snow Riders held a pancake breakfast to benefit the Chester Andover Family Center. Nick and Stephanie Baker are seen here presenting the proceeds from this event, a check for \$534 and many bags of non-perishable food items, to CAFC volunteer, Bonnie McPadden. The CAFC Board of Directors is very appreciative of this generous donation, which will support our food shelf and benefit the many Chester and Andover residents who depend on us for supplemental food.

PHOTO PROVIDED

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KILLINGTON PICO AREA ASSOCIATION

January newsletter

KILLINGTON, Vt. - I trust all had a wonderful holiday and a happy and safe New Year. Although the stretch through the holiday season was bitterly cold, the mountain had some of the best skiing and riding conditions in recent memory. Our Welcome Center saw steady traffic during that time, with many visitors stopping in - taking information on alternative activities in our region as well as dining options available for lunch and dinner.

I just wanted to remind all member business owners that your 2018 KPAA Membership dues should have been paid as of Jan. 1. This is an important date because your membership is directly tied to your employees merchant/regional pass.

If you have a question about this, please call Director Mike Coppinger at the Welcome Center at 802-773-4181 or email mike@killingtonpico.org.

We have recently installed display

cases in the welcome center that had been long kept in storage that were designed and built by Steve Fuchs. We are inviting area member businesses to create a display to be showcased in the welcome center. Businesses will have this space for one month. Using these handsome display cases is a wonderful and unique way to market your business to visitors that stop in. Please contact Mike Coppinger, if you are interested in this opportunity.

Robert “Bob” Perry was a respected, long-time photographer and videographer for Killington for over 30 years. He spent nearly half his life taking photos and video, capturing skiers on Killington and Pico Mountain. Through this labor of love, you can truly see the development of the mountain and the ski resort. Upon his passing in 2003, a group of his friends sought to preserve his work and had it converted onto DVDs so others may enjoy the fruits of his labors. Through funds set aside in



Tree of Remembrance lights up Ludlow.

STOCK PHOTO



Welcome Pyramid Holistic Wellness Center to KPAA.

PHOTO PROVIDED

his estate, a flat screen TV was purchased for the welcome center and now shows a continuous 4-hour video of these classic photos and film. We invite any and all to stop in and watch these treasures. You may even see yourself from years ago!

Upcoming events and happenings

On Jan. 13 is Mini Shred Madness at Killington Resort. Join us in the park and compete for prizes in a friendly and fun environment. Grom skiers and riders, 13 years and under will get a feel for park riding and experience the rules and navigation of the park.

On Feb. 10 is the first annual Sip and Spell at Summit Lodge organized by the Shelburne Memorial Library. It’s an adult spelling bee! The event begins with a pasta bar and registration at 6 p.m. Contestants compete in a spelling bee for prizes. Proceeds go to the Friends of Shelburne Memorial Library.

Meet newest member

The KPAA would like to welcome one of our new members for 2018, the Pyramid Holistic Wellness Center of Rutland, Vt. They offer an

integrated approach to wellness encompassing mind, body, and spirit. Services include: Himalayan salt cave and products, massage therapy, sound therapy, Tarot, psychic and medium sessions, aura photos, homeopathy, personal fitness, infrared sauna, ionic foot baths, natural wellness services and marketplace, mental health counseling, beautiful gifts, gemstones, and handmade jewelry.

They are located at 120 Merchants Row, Rutland, Vt. For more information, find them online at www.pyramidvt.com or call 802-775-8080.

BRHS

From Page 1A

[which is due on Nov. 30, 2018]. That said, the Legislature stated that the best means of creating a sustainable structure capable of meeting the goals is through a unified union school district.”

Schmidt shared her concerns over the state’s plans for Ludlow should the merger fail, “I’m fearful... you get redistricted, it just

makes sense, and we’re gonna be put right with TRSU...and now we don’t have a say. They’re all huge risks and which risk do you want to take? Voting yes is a risk, voting no is a risk.”

Schmidt also shared her frustration with Ludlow’s town demographics. “Closing the school and doing choice is not because they’re [Black River Students are] not getting a good education. It’s because we don’t have the numbers.”

The informational meeting to

discuss both sides of the issue is tentatively scheduled for Jan. 29, 2018, time and location to be determined. The re-vote is scheduled for Tuesday Feb. 6, 2018 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Ludlow Town Office.

CHESTER

From Page 1A

As Graf worked through her presentation, questions arose specifically around the status of the Chester information booth, located near the Hearse House in the center of the village. Conveniently positioned along state Route 11, the small building is increasingly thronged by summer travelers - not least because of its reliable public restroom. But it also stocks brochures, which fly off the shelves when the information booth is open.

Its summer popularity poses some challenges. The building’s restroom is not connected to the town sewer; instead it discharges into a holding tank, which requires periodic pumping. And those periods are getting shorter: while once the tank required pumping perhaps twice per season, in 2017, it was pumped six times.

“It’s an indicator that more people are coming to Chester - we were [pumping] twice a year and now we’re at six; that’s a good measurement, a tangible measurement,” said board co-chair Heather Chase, while emphasizing that other metrics were, of course, needed to quantify the economic impact.

The town is reluctant to consider hooking the building up to the sewer - an expensive project - because the building is actually owned by the Okemo Valley Chamber. The chamber pays the taxes, but the town is responsible for maintenance and upkeep. Though no action was taken during the meeting, the idea of the town taking possession of the building was raised as a possible solution for the tension.

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Cavendish to host Home Weatherization workshop

CAVENDISH, Vt. - The Cavendish Energy Committee will host a weatherization workshop on Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2018 at 6 p.m. in the town office meeting room, 37 High Street in Cavendish. Residents of Cavendish or any other town are invited to attend.

The workshop will consist of a presentation and discussion by Steve Spatz, residential energy consultant with Efficiency Vermont, who will talk about how to best weatherize homes and how to finance the project. You can greatly reduce your heat loss and lower your bills by improving air sealing and insula-



Learn weatherization techniques like weatherstripping doors. STOCK PHOTO



Caulk, wrap, or insulate your windows. STOCK PHOTO

CAVENDISH

From Page 1A

tion. You should also consider a new energy-efficient heating system if it's in your budget, or take steps to make your current system more effective.

Spatz's presentation will be both informational and educational, focusing on the steps to take in order to weatherize your home. There will be plenty of time for questions, and at the end of the workshop you will understand more about the way homes use energy and what you can do to make your home more efficient.

You can also get information necessary to secure a home energy assessment or audit, and you will also better understand what steps you can take to make improvements.

Refreshments will be served. For more information about the evening, please call Cheryl Leiner at 802-226-7820 or Peter LaBelle at 802-226-7250.

now holds.

With the bridge still out of commission, the Select Board has been in communication with the state to remedy the situation, but it has proven to be an arduous task. Bruce McEnaney, assistant to the town manager, believes the issue could be easily resolved through speed reduction tactics.

"We need mechanical signage," McEnaney said, "or flashing lights at that intersection." He argued that positioning a patrol car in the vicinity of the intersection during dusk hours could prove to be a sufficient solution as "the blue lights slow people down." He also noted that other traffic or warning signs should be posted.

The town had requested these changes last year, but were denied. Since then, traffic studies have been conducted by the state, yet they had observed a decrease in traffic issues. However, the Select Board has argued that the results were not a fair representation due to the fact that the state's study took place on a Tuesday afternoon, a timeframe with minimal traffic in comparison to the busier winter weekend evenings. In the meantime, the Cavendish Select Board has agreed to revisit the issue and continue discussion with the state of Vermont to find a solution.

The Select Board then discussed the possibility of removing the town constable position since the former town constable, Seth Perry, resigned last year. It was argued that the police presence in Cavendish is more than satisfactory, and they've been running for seven months without anyone in that position. The issue will be brought to a vote at the Cavendish town meeting in the coming months, which allows the town to decide. The proposed cut would save the town approximately \$8,400 a year.

The Select Board meets later this week to begin the discussion of the upcoming town budget, which they estimate will require about five meetings to complete.



Kids celebrate Chinese New Year

S. LONDONDERRY, Vt. - The South Londonderry Free Library is celebrating the Year of the Dog with a special Chinese New Year Program for kids on Saturday, Jan. 20 at 10:30 a.m. Artist Casey Junker Bailey will explain the customs of the season and help children make colorful decorations to welcome in the New Year. The workshop is free of charge and appropriate for all ages. All materials will be provided. For more information, contact the Library at 802-824-3371.

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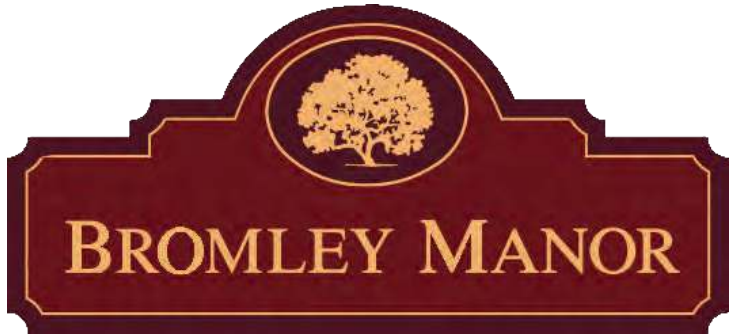
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Governor Phil Scott sets agenda focused on economic growth and affordability

MONTPELIER, Vt. – Governor Phil Scott delivered the 2018 State of the State address Thursday, Jan. 4, 2018, highlighting progress made in 2017, and recommitting to an agenda focused on economic growth and affordability, while protecting the vulnerable.

Gov. Scott highlighted the impact of key proposals and initiatives passed last year, including a budget that did not raise taxes and fees, a \$35 million housing bond focused on increasing availability of housing for working Vermonters, investments in downtown development, clean water, early care and learning and higher education, and expansion of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) districts.

While recognizing the progress made, Gov. Scott called for urgency in addressing the state's demographic challenges, and asked for collaboration on policies and proposals that will strengthen and expand Vermont's workforce.

"Whether employees are needed for a business to grow or just to keep its doors open, there's a common theme here: we need more workers. And



Governor Phil Scott. PHOTO PROVIDED BY PHILSCOTT.ORG



Vermont State House in Montpelier. PHOTO PROVIDED

young professionals, and strengthen the economy. He concluded by calling on all elected officials, and all Vermonters, to lead the nation in restoring civility to our political discourse.

"The solutions we were elected to find are achievable, but we must not let our work be clouded by politics. We must resist the instinct to retreat to ideological corners," he said. "We have an opportunity to set an example with our actions. We can commit to meaningful dialogue and be guided by our shared principles. We can work together towards consensus whenever possible, and compromise when its required."

To read Gov. Scott's full address, read the transcript at www.vermont-journal.com/politics/state-of-the-state-2018.



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Ludlow American Legion FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER

Friday, January 12

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we cannot afford to ignore this any longer," said Gov. Scott. "Reversing these trends should be the top priority of every elected official, regardless of party or political beliefs," he added.

The governor also called for continued action and outlined proposals to make Vermont more affordable, attract and retain working families and

Funding available for programs that increase access to college and career education

REGION - The J. Warren & Lois McClure Foundation has announced available funding for the 2018-19 school year for efforts that improve equitable access to the postsecondary and career education that leads to Vermont's most promising jobs. A supporting organization of the Vermont Community Foundation, the McClure Foundation envisions a Vermont where no promising job goes unfilled for lack of a qualified applicant.

The McClure Foundation's primary interest is in funding projects with statewide impact that are aligned with multi-sector postsecondary attainment or workforce development efforts. For the 2018-19 school year, McClure Foundation funding will prioritize projects that accomplish one or more of the following: identify and/or eliminate barriers to postsecondary access and success for low-income and first-generation youth and adults; strengthen the pathways between education and employment; and change the narrative to ensure public recognition of postsecondary



"The most important thing we can do in life is to help others. We have received, we have given; and it is only in giving that we have influence beyond the span of our own lives." - J. Warren McClure. PHOTO PROVIDED BY WWW.MCCLUREVT.ORG/MISSION

ROAST PORK DINNER

Saturday, January 13th

5:00pm till gone

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ADULTS \$12.00
CHILDREN under 12 \$6.00

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education and college and career readiness as a shared value.

A primary goal of the McClure Foundation's grant making program is to improve education and training pathways to jobs listed in Pathways to Promising Careers, a resource published in partnership with the Vermont Department of Labor. Pathways identified 54 promising jobs expected to pay at least \$20/hour and have at least 100 openings over the next decade. The resource is available online at www.mcclurevt.org/pathways.

Nonprofits and municipal entities interested in applying for funding can submit a Letter of Interest (LOI) by 5 p.m. Feb. 6, 2018. Additional information about the grant round is available at www.mcclurevt.org.



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January, 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 OPEN MIC NIGHT	2 HARPOON TRIVIA NIGHT w/ Rick Davis 6:30-8:30 pm	3  Trade your Patch or Purchase ours for \$5	4 IRISH SESSIONS W/ GYPSY REEL 6:30-9 PM	5  tgif	6  Art 5-8pm
7  WINGS	8  Open Mic Night	9 HARPOON TRIVIA w/ Rick Davis 6:30-8:30 pm	10  Join our Mug Club	11 IRISH SESSIONS W/ GYPSY REEL 6:30-9 PM	12  tgif	13  NFL
14  Divisional Playoffs	15 OPEN MIC NIGHT	16 HARPOON TRIVIA NIGHT w/ Rick Davis 6:30-8:30 pm	17  Trade your Patch or Purchase ours for \$5	18 IRISH SESSIONS W/ GYPSY REEL 6:30-9 PM	19 LIVE MUSIC w/ Sean McNally & Friends 9pm -12am	20 LIVE MUSIC w/ Sean McNally & Friends 9pm -12am
21  Conference Playoffs	22  Open Mic Night	23 HARPOON TRIVIA w/ Rick Davis 6:30-8:30 pm	24  Join our Mug Club	25 IRISH SESSIONS W/ GYPSY REEL 6:30-9 PM	26  w/ CK3 9pm - 12am	27  5-8 pm w/ Sean McNally
29  WINGS	30 OPEN MIC NIGHT	31 HARPOON TRIVIA NIGHT w/ Rick Davis 6:30-8:30 pm				

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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

The attic

This is a story that requires an introduction.

The Interstate highway system removed barriers that had kept Vermont isolated from the rest of New England. In 1969 Interstate-91 went only as far as White River Junction. At that time in Vermont there were still many old Vermont farms. Many of those farmers were in their 80s, or older in 1969. They were from another time and were the salt of Vermont.

They were born and lived their entire lives on the family farm as their parents had. There was no reason to live elsewhere. Their 150-acre farms provided most everything they needed. They sold milk, cheese and butter, maple syrup, lumber, firewood, eggs or a side of beef. They were pretty much self-sufficient.

Many of these old Vermonters lived on a farm that had been in the family nearly 200 years. As the first generation became too old to continue farming, one of their children would take over the farm. The grandparents were cared for and helped out with chores. Gram would help with kitchen duties: baking, cleaning, canning and childcare. Gramp would help with the animals in the barn or bring in firewood.

As the younger generation took over the home they wanted more modern furniture than their parents had. This was repeated as each younger generation took over the farm.

The attics of these generational homes revealed an interesting history. The first generation owned furniture and accessories that would date from 1780-1820. When their children took over the farm many of these furnishings went to the attic.

This second generation wanted a more modern and stylish home and purchased furnishings reflecting the Empire style. Along about 1860 when the second generation was aging, their children would take over and take care of their parents. They too, wanted more modern furnishings. Again the second generation's furnishings were moved to the attic.

The new style furnishing for the third generation was Victorian. Marble top bureaus, tall Victorian beds and all things mass-produced. Times were better for this generation. Railroads had come to Vermont and farmers could now ship their products anywhere.

About 1900 the third generation would retire and their children took over. This fourth generation didn't care for the dark walnut furniture of their parents. Instead they chose golden oak furniture to furnish their home. So the furniture of the third generation was moved to the attic.

This process would be repeated one more time just after the Depression. The attic was getting full. Those antiques sat quietly in the attic waiting for an antiques dealer to come along and give them a new home.

It was in the 1960s that my generation didn't want to make farming a career. My generation wanted something different than their parents had. This was the beginning of the end of the family farm. As my generation moved away and their parents passed on, these old generational homes were sold and the contents liquidated. I was fortunate to have been called in to buy antiques from these old family homes. There was no better way to learn their history.

When ascending the attic of these old homes I was always struck with the volume of antiques. In those early days few people in Vermont wanted antiques so most anything could be bought reasonably. The supply was much greater than the demand.

As you stepped into the attic you first notice an old Civil War musket hanging on the wall. There too is the soldier's sword. Mrs. T. tells me his uniform is here in one of the trunks. As you look for it you find a box of antique toys from the 1800s.

You find a box full of brass ladles and pewter: bowls, teapots and plates all made in the 1700s. Then you find a large wooden chopping bowl of chestnut with original robin's egg blue paint. Mrs. T. says her great-grandfather, John, made it as a wedding present for her grandmother. The closer to the eaves you get the older the items become.

You find a six-drawer Chipendale chest (Circa 1780) with its original finish. There's a two-draw-



Partial contents of antiques from a local attic. Most circa 1830.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY RON PATCH

er blanket chest with its original black & red paint (Circa 1800). A Queen Anne tap-table (Circa 1770) with oval scrubbed top and red painted base sits upside down on a Hepplewhite tavern table. Facing the wall are a few picture frames. As you turn them around you see ancestral portraits (Circa 1830). Mrs. T. tells you they are her great-grandparents. Another frame contains a 1820s sampler.

Continuing you find an old blanket box. When opened you find early quilts and old dolls and other items precious to a previous owner. Many of these items have handwritten notes attached telling who once owned them or what they were.

Over by the center chimney are three antique document boxes stacked on top of each other. Each is handmade and each painted a different color. You open the first and find it full of old documents from the late 1700s to early 1800s that have been neatly tied in bundles, old deeds, family records and letters.

I learned a lot from these old-timers, how things were made and how they were used. Some of the old-timers had fun trying to stump me (not difficult in those days.) I was in my early 20s and had much to learn. They'd say, "Bet you don't know what this is." When I didn't know, they enjoyed telling me what it was. I was learning first hand.

One day I was trying to buy a heavy anvil over on the Upper Falls Road in Perkinsville. I bent over and grunted as I lifted its 150 pounds. The old-timer said, "That ain't how you pick up an anvil. You grab the left front foot with your left thumb and forefinger and the right rear foot with your right thumb and forefinger. Then you pick it straight up and touch the horn to your nose. If you can do that I'll sell it to you." Of course that wasn't possible. I asked the old man to show me. His reply, "Oh, I'm too old now but when I was a young pup like you, that's how we done it. Ayuh." I was 20 at the time and a little gullible. I wasn't sure whether to believe him or not.

Generational homes will never exist again. I was lucky to have witnessed them. The real treasure was the people I met.

This week's old saying is from my mother. "He's not afraid of work. He can lay down and go to sleep right beside it."


Remeber when...

Remember when the Men's Bellows Falls Baseball team won the Champions of Vermont in 1917.

Can anyone identify any of the men in this picture?

Email us with comments or identifications at editor@vermontjournal.com

PHOTO PROVIDED



CHAMPIONS of VERMONT 1917

"With Iron in His Blood" the railroad doctor, Edward Sanborn French

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The Springfield Art and Historical Society will kick-off its 2018 programs on Saturday, Jan. 20 at 2 p.m. with an illustrated talk appreciating the life and times of Edward Sanborn French. This program will be presented by Walter Wallace and held at the SAHS facility, 65 Route 106, North Springfield.

From the early years of the last century until his passing in 1968, French got up to do what needed to be done to keep New England and the nation's railroads and economy on track. Born in Portland, Maine, he graduated from Dartmouth College in 1906, settling in Rochester, Vt. He quickly developed a reputation as a no-nonsense fixer in leading northern New England short-line railroads out of bankruptcies, including the Springfield Electric Railway. When, in 1920, he was elected president of the newly re-organized Springfield Terminal Railway, he relocated to Springfield.

For the next 40 years, from his home on Summer Street, he became a leader in Vermont's granite and talc industries, elected 21st president of the Boston & Maine Railroad, and was appointed to the Boston Federal Reserve Board during the Great Depression. With a national reputation as a leader in progressive railroading, he worked to make sure the country's railroads met the challenges of wartime production and transportation during World War II.

Following the war, he continued to chair the board of Jones & Lamson machine tool, serving as president from 1955 onward. At an alumni award ceremony in 1955, Dartmouth College President Ernest Hopkins observed that Edward Sanborn French was born into a railroad family "with iron in his blood" who served well his home, New England, and the nation.

For more information, call 808-886-7935 or email sahs@vermontel.net. This program is free and open to all.



French at his desk.

PHOTO PROVIDED

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opinion

Op-Ed: Lawmakers turning against Scott’s \$35 million housing bond

Gov. Phil Scott’s proposed \$35 million bond for affordable housing seemed to have broad support only months ago, but now the proposal appears to be on life support.

In January, when Scott introduced the bond idea to help alleviate the Vermont housing crunch, taxpayer subsidized housing sounded like a bipartisan plan. Right now, a Senate committee is barely keeping S.100, the housing bond proposal, alive.

Both Scott and officials at the Agency of Commerce and Community Development touted the housing bond as a basis to employ 1,000 workers, build 500 additional housing units, place 1,000 residents into improved housing and create \$100 million in new construction and renovation projects statewide. The concept seemed to dovetail neatly with several of the governor’s agenda items: helping build jobs and the economy while protecting vulnerable citizens.

What a difference two-and-half months make, at least when it comes to devising a way to pay for it all. The Senate Appropriations Committee delayed the bill following the Senate Finance Committee’s vote to pay for the bond through a controversial \$2 per night hospitality occupancy fee.

Senate President Pro Tem Tim Ashe, D/P-Chittenden, said he wasn’t sure if the bond plan will remain. Many Democrats and even some Republicans agree with Ashe.

Soon-departing state Rep. Job Tate, R-Mendon, a member of the House Committee on General, Housing and Military Affairs, doesn’t like the housing bond. He told Vermont Watchdog the approach is symptomatic of how the state is creating a “culture of dependency” on taxpayer-subsidized rents.

“Anybody who’s concerned about Vermont’s future and our young people will have to admit that housing is a major issue,” Tate said. “But one of the problems I have is the method by which the state tries to solve this problem – through the VHCB, [the] Vermont Housing and Conservation Board. It raises a red flag for me.”

VHCB makes deferred loans for

the acquisition, rehabilitation, and construction of affordable housing by quasi-government nonprofit housing organizations. Since 1987, more than 11,000 permanently affordable homes have been subsidized, thanks to Vermont taxpayers and VHCB.

But critics like Tate say Montpelier’s approach to the housing problem is to build homes that must be subsidized by taxpayers in perpetuity. VHCB has over \$200 million in assets, but they are the taxpayer’s assets, said Tate. Moreover, VHCB collects nothing on behalf of the taxpayers and doesn’t raise rents with any regularity.

“They are building a culture where taxpayers buy into housing projects which we then have to subsidize forever. This, in turn, means keeping population incomes below a certain level just so they can stay in these homes,” he said.

State Rep. Jim Condon, D-Colchester, a member of the House Committee on Ways and Means, told Watchdog the bond may not make it out of committee. Ironically, the bond may founder in part due to Scott’s repeated call to House and Senate lawmakers to avoid new taxes and fees.

“The housing bond appears to be dead in the water at the moment,” Condon told Watchdog. “The funding mechanism proposed, the \$2 a night extra tax, is a non-starter for me.”

Tate argues that rents would be lowered organically if landlord-tenant laws were reformed to give relief to landlords. He added that public-private partnerships might offer a better way to fix the affordable housing problem.

“Creating this constant culture of subsidizing housing as the only method to help people is absurd,” Tate said. “We need to get the free market involved; if there’s a demand for affordable housing, then there’s someone out there, privately, who can help feed the demand.”

Article written by Lou Varricchio. Varricchio is Vermont bureau chief for Vermont Watchdog.org. You can contact him at lvarricchio@watchdog.org

Op-Ed: Senator Nitka’s notes from the State House

The Governor’s State of the State speech was given today to a crowd packed into the well of the House of Representatives. In attendance were the governor’s cabinet members and staff, the five Justices of the Supreme Court, the heads of agencies, the 150 members of the House with a few exceptions, the 30 members of the Senate and the public from around the state. Police officers from various forces and departments were present, along with several dogs to assist the Capitol Police and the Sergeant at Arms with security. There were many television cameras and all ilk of reporters from TV, to radio, to newsprint, to digital on hand to spread the word about the content of the speech.

The governor’s opening words setting the stage were: “Since 1778, Vermonters, elected by their neighbors and bound by a common oath, have gathered to open the legislative session. They

left farms, families and businesses, traveled over rugged mountain gaps and winding valley roads, from every corner of our state to come together to solve problems and shape the future.”

This is certainly true when you meet members serving from towns such as Derby on the Canadian border to Pownal on the Massachusetts border. It is generally a positive day filled with hope for what the Governor feels needs to be accomplished during the session.

One of the Governor’s proposals is to eliminate the income tax on Veterans’ pensions. This is currently done in some states and has been proposed as a possibility in Vermont several times in the past but never materialized. It is not known to me at this time what the amount of lost revenue might be. The deadline for submitting new Senate bills has passed but there is still time to introduce a new bill in the House that could address this.

Another proposal is related to the

National Guard and our state’s need to increase our workforce. There are 3,500 Guard members in our state and one-third of them are not Vermonters. The Governor states that when they leave the Guard, they leave Vermont. The Governor will propose a package that will include offering tuition free college in Vermont to those who commit to serve in our National Guard.

Also proposed is to work with the Secretary of State to expedite professional licensing so Veterans receive credit for the skills and training they received while in the service which might entice them to stay in the state. The Governor also mentioned a “bold, sophisticated state of the art campaign to identify and persuade working age individuals, families, and entrepreneurs to locate to Vermont.” The details of this will be presented in his Budget Address later in the month.

Marijuana voting on a bill and amendments was taking place in the House before and after the address.

That bill will next come back to the Senate. In the Appropriations Committee where I serve, we are taking testimony on the Budget Adjustment bill. In my second committee, Judiciary, bills that persons have testified about are: S-105, which proposes to prohibit forced arbitration of consumer disputes and employment disputes recontracts.

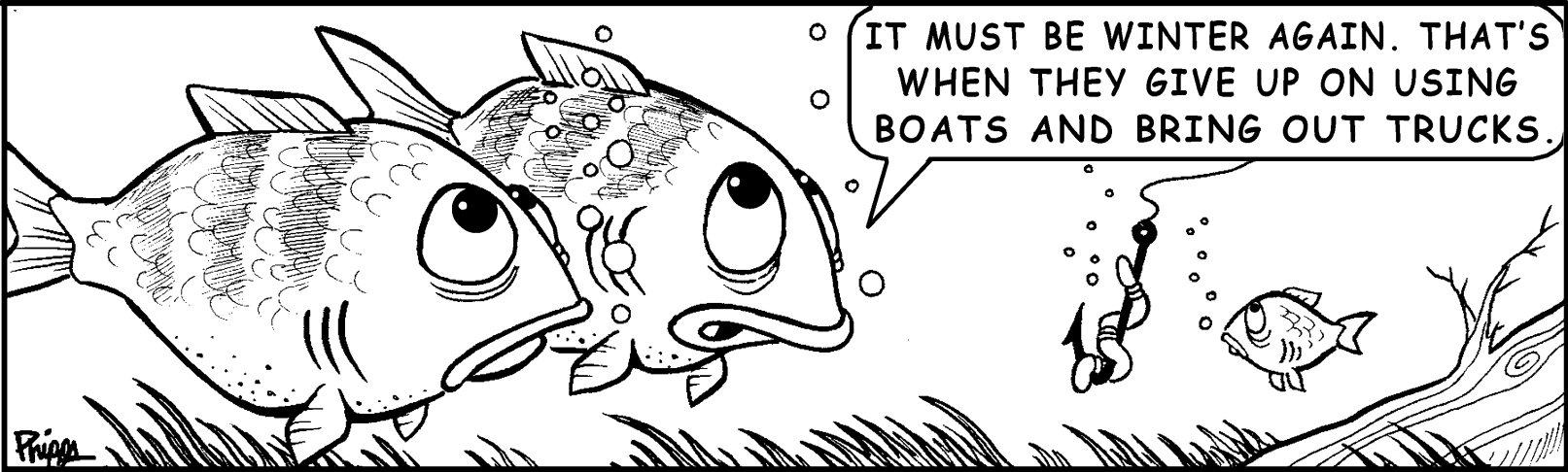
A second bill, S-107, speaks to the issue of immunity from liability for persons associated with safer drug consumption programs. None of these programs exist in Vermont right now but have been talked about for Chittenden County to combat drug overdose deaths.

Visit the State House, have lunch in the cafeteria, and take a tour. Contact me at home at 802-228-8432 or anitka@leg.state.vt.us. I am able to read all of your e-mails and appreciate you sending them, however the volume received makes it impossible to respond to all of them.

Article by Senator Alice Nitka.

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Op-Ed: Governor Scott remains focused on pocketbook issues and protecting Vermonters

After Gov. Phil Scott’s 2018 State of the State address, Deb Billado, chair of the Vermont Republican Party, issued the following statement:

“From 2010 to 2016, under the leadership of Governor Shumlin, the state budget grew at an annual rate of 4-5 percent, out-pacing Vermonters’ ability to pay for it.

“The past year has been a breath of fresh air as Gov. Scott has done what he said he would do. He presented, fought for, and signed a budget that didn’t raise taxes and fees for the first time in recent history.

“With Gov. Scott in the corner office, we can rest assured that our state budgeting will get back to the fiscal fundamentals, there will be a

renewed focus on economic opportunities, and he will resist taxes and fees - including property taxes - from increasing again this year.

“I was also very pleased to hear about his commitment to workforce development, which includes eliminating the tax on military pensions, tuition free college for our national guard members, and investments in

pro-growth areas like job training, downtown development incentives, and affordable housing.

“The governor’s leadership on pocketbook issues is finally helping overburdened Vermonters get ahead.”

Article written by Vermont Republicans. www.vtgop.org.

THE Vermont Journal & THE SHOPPER

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Every year Flood Brook School distributes food baskets and turkeys to members of our community at holiday time. This year, we assembled 46 baskets and had 40 turkeys to give.

A big thank you to Lani Lovisa and the students at Burr & Burton Academy who contributed baskets and turkeys. Also, a big shout out to the local realtors who assembled and donated baskets and money for the purchase of turkeys. Thank you

to Terry Merrow at Clark’s IGA for his annual help with the procurement of many turkeys. And last, but not least, thank you to the Flood Brook community who donated, assembled, and sorted the bulk of the baskets.

A big shout out to Nurse Jessica Berg who coordinates this effort in addition to other holiday programs and to all of the parents, students, and teachers who contributed food items and money. Thank you to the

following students who checked every basket to make sure it was complete: Ronnie Murphy, Lucca Rourke, Montana Smith, and Cole Bickford.

We would also like to thank the Stratton Foundation for donating 25 pairs of new boots, socks, and gifts and the Second Congregational Church in Londonderry who coordinate the donation of 22 gifts and clothes for our students during the holidays.

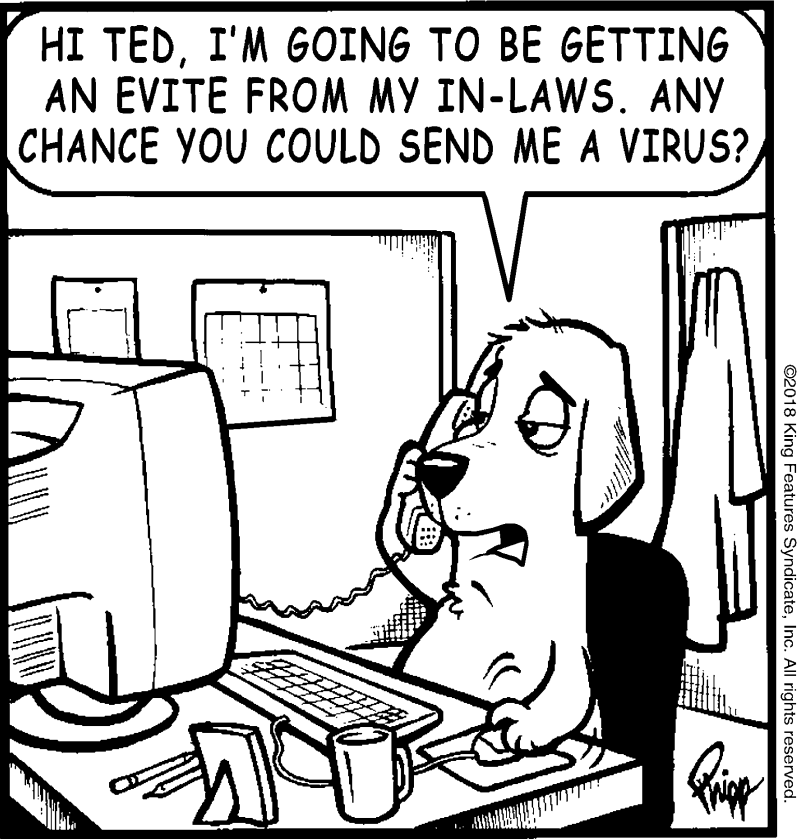
The Flood Brook School is a K-8, 300-capacity school located in the

heart of ski country in southwestern Vermont. The Mountain Towns Regional Education District School Board consists of eight school board members from the towns of Landgrove, Londonderry, Peru, and Weston. At Flood Brook School, we challenge ourselves to be lifelong learners, to practice respect, and to value community.

Sincerely,
Ann Alford
Flood Brook School
Londonderry, Vt.

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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.

Include town & daytime phone (not for publication)

The viewpoints expressed in the editorial section do not necessarily reflect the views of The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

CHURCH SERVICES

obituaries

ASCUTNEY, VT.

Bow Baptist Church, 1102 Rte 5.
Sunday school at 10 a.m. Morning service at 11 a.m. Evening service at 6 p.m. Prayer meeting on Wednesday at 7 p.m. Call 802-546-4902 or www.bowbaptist.com.

BELLOWS FALLS, VT.

Faith Christian Church, 582 Rockingham Rd.
Pastor Matt and Brenda Farkas welcome all to come and enjoy their services. Sunday worship music & song at 10 a.m. Children's Church (3-7 years) at 10:30 a.m. 802-591-1350. www.Sapatv.org,

www.fact8.com

CAVENDISH-PROCTORSVILLE, VT.

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church, Main St.
Sunday Mass at 9:30 a.m. Call 802-228-3451

CHESTER, VT.

First Universalist Parish of Chester, Rte. 103. 211 North St.
Sunday service at 9:30 a.m. followed by light refreshments and conversation. Youth Program for kids ages 4 and older; free

Edward P. Laflamme, 1939 - 2018

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Edward P. “Teddy” Laflamme, 78, passed away on Friday Jan. 5, 2018 at Hanover Terrace in Hanover, N.H. He was born July 4, 1939 in Berlin, N.H. the son of Adrian and Francellia (Cou-ture) Laflamme. He attended Spring-field and Charlestown schools.

He served in the United States Air Force for six years, and the Chester Army Reserves for three years. On July 21, 1962, he married Sandra C. Wilson. She predeceased him on Aug. 20, 2005.

On Nov. 8, 2008 he married Ellen Noble in Springfield, Vt.

He was employed at Great East-ern in North Springfield, Vt., and as a machinist with the Lovejoy Tool Company in Springfield, Vt. for 35 years, retiring in 2002.

He was a member of the Spring-field Elks Lodge B.P.O.E. #1560, and the Springfield Moose Lodge Loyal Order of Moose #679, a member of the Chester American Legion Post #67, and a volunteer for the Spring-field Fire Department for many years.

He was a member of the St. John's Lodge #41, member of Chapter #25, Council #18, and Holy Cross Com-mandery #12. A member of the Sinai Shriners #3, a very active member of

the Sinai Joe's Clown Unit, past pres-ident of the Vermont Maple Sugar Bowl, and past director of the Mont-pelier #151 Roj's.

He is survived by his wife Ellen of N. Springfield, Vt.; one son Edward L. Laflamme of Springfield; four daughters, Tammy Haines, Deb-bie Lofton, and Lynn Seveir all of Louisiana, and Kimberly Laflamme of Walpole, N.H.; three step-daugh-ters Angela Luman of Chester, Tina Moncieff of Samson, Ala., and Kath-erine Bradley of Bellows Falls, Vt.; two brothers Leo Laflamme and Paul Laflamme both of Springfield; eight grandchildren; four step-grandchil-dren; two great grandchildren; one step-great grandchild; and also by many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was predeceased by his par-ents and one brother William “Bob” Laflamme.

A memorial service and Masonic service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 20, 2018 at the Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt. Reverend Gerry Piper will officiate. Friends may call at the Davis Chapel from 10 to 11 a.m.

Contributions may be made in his memory to the Shriners Hospital for Children, 516 Carew St, Springfield, MA, 01104.

William Maynard, 1936 - 2017

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - William “Bill” Maynard, 81, passed away un-expectedly on Sunday Dec. 31, 2017 at his home in Springfield, Vt. He was born Feb. 1, 1936 in Bakersfield, Vt., the son of Lee H. and Mildred (Fletcher) Maynard. He graduated from Brigham Academy in Bakers-field, Vt.

He served in the United States Army in Korea. In March 1966, he married Kathleen Campbell in Charlestown, N.H. Maynard was employed as a machinist with Love-Joy Tool Co. in Springfield, Vt. for many years before moving to Texas in 1980. He was employed with Texas Instruments for many years, retiring in 1998, and moving back to Springfield, Vt. in 2003.

He loved all sports and was a New York Yankees fan and a New England Patriots fan. He played baseball in high school and was signed to play professional baseball. He loved gar-dening and feeding and watching the birds. He was an expert marksman, enjoyed reading news magazines and

watching news programs, enjoyed puzzles and brainteasers, and loved spending time with his grandchil-dren.

He is survived by his wife Kath-leen of Springfield, Vt.; daughter Monica Drake of Arlington, Texas; grandchildren Maxwell Drake and Amanda Drake; brother John May-nard of East Fairfield, Vt.; and also by many nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was predeceased by five sisters: Marjorie, Rhoda, Marie, Blanche, and Pauline.

A graveside committal service with military honors will be held at the Vermont Veterans Cemetery in Randolph Center, Vt. in the spring.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in his memory to the Springfield Humane Society, 401 Skitchewaug Trail Springfield, Vt. 05156, or to the Celiac Disease Foundation, 20350 Ventura Blvd Suite 240, Woodland Hills, CA 9136.

Arrangements are under the direc-tion of the Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt.

Judith C. Spinella, 1944 - 2018

WALPOLE, N.H. - Judith C. Spinel-la, 72, of County Road died Monday, Jan. 1, 2018. Spinella was born in San Mateo, Calif. on June 22, 1944, the daughter of Joe and Grace (Stewart) Spinella. She earned a B.A. in art edu-cation at Wheaton College and also attended DePaul University and the Art Institute of Chicago. She owned and operated a picture framing shop and art gallery in Chicago for 17 years and worked as a teacher for 14 years in both Chicago and the Fall Mountain school district in New Hampshire. Spinella served as interim music di-rector at the First Congregational Church of Walpole periodically over several years. She also provided mu-

sic at local community events.

Spinella is survived by her sister Maryann Hocker; daughter and son in-law Jessica Spinella and Adam Ma-tyas; grandchildren Cyrus, Gracey, and Judah; her partner Franklin Sibley; her aunt Jean Stewart Robinson; and many cousins, nieces, and neph-ews. She is predeceased by her par-ents and her brothers: Joe and Phil Spinella.

A remembrance service will take place on Saturday, Jan. 13 at 2 p.m. at the First Congregational Church of Walpole. In lieu of flowers, dona-tions may be made to Kurn Hattin Homes, P.O. Box 127, Westminster, VT 05158.

childcare available for children under 5 in the playroom between Sept. and June. More at www.chestervtuu.org or 802-875-3257.

LUDLOW, VT.

Annunciation Catholic Church, Corner of Depot and High St.
Mass on Saturday at 4:30 p.m. Sundays at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Call 802-228-3451

The United Church of Ludlow (UCC and Methodist), 48 Pleasant St.
Sundays starting at 10:15 a.m. followed by a time of fellowship and coffee hour. Call 802-228-4211 or email unitedchurch@tds.net. Visit us online at www.unitedchurch.us

SPRINGFIELD, VT.

North Springfield Baptist Church, 69 Main St.
Contemporary worship service

Saturdays at 6 p.m. Adult Bible study on Sundays at 9 a.m. before the worship service at 10 a.m. Children have class after Children's time during the regular worship service. Communion is served on the first Sunday of every month. All are welcome to join us. Call 802-886-8107, email nssbc@vermontel.net or go to www.nsbcv.org

Unitarian Universalist Church, 21 Fairground Rd.
The annual “Labyrinth Service” will be held on Jan. 14 at 10 a.m. Ellen Allman will talk a little about the history of walking labyrinths. There will be songs and readings. There will also be a lap labyrinth. At our Souper Sunday fundraiser after the service, we'll have three hearty soups. Soup can be taken home. This is a good way to get to know our congregation members in a relaxed atmosphere. Newcomers and guests get a free meal. All are welcome. www.uuspringfieldvt.org or call 802-885-3327.

Arlene Hill, 1922 - 2017

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Arlene Hill, 95, passed away on Dec. 20, 2017 at her home in Springfield. She was born Nov. 17, 1922 in S. Lon-donderry, Vt. the daughter of Carl and Edith (Davies) Wiley. She grad-uated from Burr & Burton Academy in Manchester, Vt.

On Dec. 28, 1945, she married Richard J. Hill. He predeceased her on June 28, 1998.

She was a member of the Church of Christ in Springfield, Vt. She en-joyed her church and church fam-ily, loved to visit with friends, loved bird watching, and enjoyed garden-ing.

She is survived by one son Ste-phen Hill of North Carolina; care-

giver Cheryl Huntley of Springfield; and nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was predeceased by her par-ents, her husband, her daughter Christine H. Morse, one brother John Wiley, and two sisters Marion and Geraldine.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018 at the Church of Christ in Springfield, Vt.

Contributions may be made in her memory to the Church of Christ, 972 Chester Road, Springfield, Vt. 05156 or to the Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Vt. & N.H., P.O. Box 881 Brattleboro, Vt. 05302.

Davis Memorial Chapel in Spring-field is assisting with arrangements.

David P. MacKenzie, 1946 - 2018

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - David P. MacKenzie, 71, passed away un-expectedly on Friday, Jan. 5, 2018 at the Springfield Hospital. He was born April 13, 1946 in Spring-field, Vt. the son of Robert V. Sr. and Philippa (Parker) MacKenzie. He attended Springfield schools, graduating from Springfield High School class of 1964. He later at-tended the University of Vermont for a short time before joining the United States Air Force.

He served in the United States Air Force for four years during the Vietnam era in inventory and sup-ply and was stationed in Turkey for over a year.

He was employed as a machinist at Parks & Woolson's and Fellows Gear Shaper in Springfield, as a techni-cal writer at Bryant Grinder Co. in Springfield. He worked in real estate in the Burlington area in the 1970s where he resided for several years. While in Burlington, he operated a small newspaper and was a sales-

man for siding and roofing material. He was later employed as an index manager with News Bank in Ches-ter, Vt. for 16 years.

He enjoyed computers, writing, and photography. He enjoyed pho-tographing covered bridges in Ver-mont and surrounding areas. He sold many of his pictures for calen-dars over the years. He also enjoyed feeding the birds.

He is survived by one brother Robert V. MacKenzie Jr. and his wife Cheryl of Springfield as well as several cousins. He was predeceased by his parents.

Friends may call at the Davis Me-morial Chapel on Friday evening Jan. 12, 2018 from 6 to 8 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in his memory to the Springfield Humane Society, 401 Skitchewaug Trail Springfield, Vt., 05156.

Arrangements are under the di-rection of the Davis Memorial Chap-el in Springfield, Vt.

Robert P. McLaughlin, 1920 – 2018

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Robert P. McLaughlin, 97, died Jan. 7, 2018 at the Dartmouth Hitchcock Med-ical Center in Lebanon, N.H. He was born on Dec. 7, 1920 in Bennington, Vt. the son of William and Mary (Parker) McLaughlin. He received his education in Vermont, Maine, Boston College, and the University of Vermont. A World War II vet-eran, he was a pilot in the Army Air Corps. He married Alison Hayes in Bennington on May 25, 1943.

He had been employed at Fellows Gear Shaper in Springfield, Vt. and retired from teaching at Springfield High School in 1983.

Survivors include his children Barbara Mahoney, Mary Anne Ams-

den, and her husband Dick all of Springfield, Vt.; Robert McLaughlin Jr. and his wife Patsy of Essex Jct., Vt.; grandchildren David Mahoney Jr., his wife Christine and children Brigid and Sean; Heather Hamilton, her husband Benji, step-son Chase; Timothy McLaughlin his wife Julie, son Owen; Sarah McLaughlin and Ryan Controvillas; his wife Barbara Litchfield; and caregivers Paul Litch-field; and Bonnie Sue Munson.

He was predeceased by his wife in 1992, his parents, and brother James McLaughlin.

There will be no calling hours or service. Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt. is assisting with ar-rangements.

ALL Church Services are Online!

www.VermontJournal.com

Ruth E. Bostock, 1918 - 2017

LUDLOW, Vt. - Ruth Ester (Pratt) Bostock, 99, of Ludlow, Vt. passed away on Saturday, Dec. 30, 2017. She was born in Pownell, Vt. on May 16, 1918, the daughter of the late Anson and Ada Pratt.

Bostock earned her bachelor's de-gree at the Gordon-Cornwell Theo-logical Seminary School. She was the pastor for several local churches: the Belmont Baptist Church, the former Mount Holly Baptist Church, and the Stone Church in South Reading, Vt.

In 2000, Bostock was honored to be the recipient of the Denman Evan-gelism Award from the United Meth-odist Church. She was instrumental in setting up the first ecumenical meetings in the Ludlow area, and holding bible studies at the Stone & Tyson churches. In her later years,

Bostock continued her ministry with bible students traveling to study with her in her home. Bostock found sol-ace in painting, reading, and study-ing the scriptures.

She is predeceased by her husband, William A. Bostock, and two sisters E. Rosalyn Rhoades and Frances Scotchmer. She is survived by her youngest sister Rhoda Chase of Texas as well as many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

A memorial service will be cel-ebrated at the Tyson Congregational Church, 39 Dublin Road, Ludlow, Vt. 05149 on Saturday, Jan. 20 at 11 a.m. Burial will take place in the spring at the Pleasant View Cemetery in Lud-low, Vt. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Tyson Congrega-tional Church.

Maynard A. Jackson, Jr., 1952 – 2018

CHESTER, Vt. - Maynard A. Jack-son, Jr., 65, of Pleasant Street died Monday, Jan. 1, 2018. Jackson was born in Windsor, Vt. on July 22, 1952, the son of Maynard and Rita (Kimball) Jackson. He worked as a logger and also worked at Savage & Son in Chester.

He is survived by his son Wil-liam Jackson of Springfield, Vt.; his daughters Lisa Jackson of Charles-

town, N.H. and Sheri Gokey of North Walpole, N.H.; his brother Raymond Jackson of California; three granddaughters; two grand-sons; and two great granddaughters. He is predeceased by his parents and his son Pete.

There will be calling hours 1 – 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 13 at Fenton & Hennessey Funeral Home in Bellows Falls, Vt.

Wilfred E. Lambert, 1926 - 2018

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Wilfred E. Lambert, 91, died Thursday, Jan. 4, 2018, at the Gill Odd Fellows Home in Ludlow.

He was born on April 11, 1926 in Springfield, Vt., the son of George and Evelina (Roulliard) Lambert, and was a lifelong resident of town. He graduated from Springfield High School, class of 1944.

Lambert served in the United States Marine Corps during World War II. His wife, Shirley M. (Balch) Lambert, died in 2015. He was em-ployed for many years at Jones & Lamson in Springfield, and was also an auto mechanic. He was a faith-ful member of the Assembly of God Church in Springfield.

Survivors include his children El-

len Watkins and her husband Glenn of North Springfield; Rod Lambert and his wife Cheryl of Springfield; and Darryl Lambert of Proctorsville; a sister, Edith Hussey of Windham; and five grandchildren; and many great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be cel-ebrated at 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018 at the Assembly of God Church in Springfield, with the Rev. Marc Aube officiating. Burial will be in Oakland Cemetery in the spring.

Contributions may be made in his memory to the Middle River Gospel c/o Springfield Assembly of God, 269 River Street Springfield, Vt. 05156.

Arrangements are under the direc-tion of the Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield.

Shirley A. McCormack, 1961 - 2018

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Shirley A. McCormack, 56, passed away on Tuesday Jan. 2, 2018 at her home in Springfield. She was born May 24, 1961 in Springfield, Vt. the daughter of Roy R. and Helen (Bryant) Martin. She attended North School in North Springfield, and Springfield Schools, graduating from Springfield High School class of 1979. On June 19, 1982, she married Lawrence R. McCormack at the North Springfield Baptist Church.

McCormack was a devoted wife and mother. She also worked in daycare and worked for seven years alongside her husband Larry as a flooring installer. She enjoyed knit-ting , crocheting, and bead work and loved family gatherings.

She is survived by her husband Larry of Springfield; two daughters Jennifer McCormack-Wirta of Bel-lows Falls, Vt. and Patricia “Trish”

McCormack of Charlestown, N.H.; two grandchildren Edward R. Mc-Cormack and Corey L. Wirta; two sisters Sharon Martin Morris of Springfield and Susan Martin Gold-en of North Springfield; one brother Stephen Martin of Ascutney, and by many nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was predeceased by her parents.

Friends may call on Thursday, Jan. 11, 2018 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Da-vis Memorial Chapel in Springfield. A funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 12 at the Davis Memorial Chapel, Reverend George Keeler Pastor of the North Spring-field Baptist Church will officiate.

Burial will be in the Pine Grove Cemetery in North Springfield in the spring. Contributions may be made in her memory to the Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Vermont and New Hampshire P.O. Box 881 Brattleboro, Vt. 05302-0881.

T'ai Chi Ch'uan - Beginners' Class in Walpole, NH

Patrick Cavanaugh | 802-490-6405 | patrick@longrivertaiichi.org

Long River Tai Chi Circle is the school of Wolfe Lowenthal, student of Professor Cheng Man-ch'ing, and author of three classic works on T'ai Chi Ch'uan. Patrick Cavanaugh is a long time student of Wolfe's, a senior instructor at Long River Tai Chi in VT & NH, and teaching classes in Walpole. One year course. Registration open through February 22.

Classes Begin Thursday, Jan. 18 | Meet Thursdays 7-8pm

\$90 for the first 6 weeks, \$65/month thereafter

Meet at the Hastings House, behind the Unitarian Church, corner of Union and Main St., Walpole

ANSWERS TO TAKE A BREAK!

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 27 mins.

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

Tax Cuts and Jobs Act: impact on individuals

REGION - On Dec. 22, 2017, President Trump signed into law the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, a sweeping \$1.5 trillion tax-cut package that fundamentally changes the individual and business tax landscape. While many of the provisions in the new legislation are permanent, others (including most of the tax cuts that apply to individuals) will expire in eight years. Some of the major changes included in the legislation that affect individuals are summarized below; unless otherwise noted, the provisions are effective for tax years 2018 through 2025.

Individual income tax rates
The legislation replaces most of the seven current marginal income tax brackets (10 percent, 15 percent, 25 percent, 28 percent, 33 percent, 35 percent, and 39.6 percent) with corresponding lower rates: 10 percent, 12 percent, 22 percent, 24 percent, 32 percent, 35 percent, and 37 percent. The legislation also establishes new marginal income tax brackets for estates and trusts, and replaces existing “kiddie tax” provisions (under which a child’s unearned income is taxed at his or her parents’ tax rate) by effectively taxing a child’s unearned income using the estate and trust rates.

Single
If taxable income is this, then in-

- come tax equals:
- Not over \$9,525 - 10 percent of the taxable income
 - Over \$9,525 but not over \$38,700 - \$952.50 plus 12 percent of the excess over \$9,525
 - Over \$38,700 but not over \$82,500 - \$4,453.50 plus 22 percent of the excess over \$38,700
 - Over \$82,500 but not over \$157,500 - \$14,089.50 plus 24 percent of the excess over \$82,500
 - Over \$157,500 but not over \$200,000 - \$32,089.50 plus 32 percent of the excess over \$157,500
 - Over \$200,000 but not over \$500,000 - \$45,689.50 plus 35 percent of the excess over \$200,000
 - Over \$500,000 - \$150,689.50 plus 37 percent of the excess over \$500,000

Head of Household
If taxable income is this, then income tax equals:

- Not over \$13,600 - 10 percent of the taxable income
- Over \$13,600 but not over \$51,800 - \$1,360 plus 12 percent of the excess over \$13,600
- Over \$51,800 but not over \$82,500 - \$5,944 plus 22 percent of the excess over \$51,800
- Over \$82,500 but not over \$157,500 - \$12,698 plus 24 percent of the excess over \$82,500
- Over \$157,500 but not over \$200,000 - \$19,905 plus 24 percent of the excess over \$157,500
- Over \$200,000 but not over \$500,000 - \$45,689.50 plus 35 percent of the excess over \$200,000
- Over \$500,000 - \$150,689.50 plus 37 percent of the excess over \$500,000



Income tax changes. STOCK PHOTO

\$200,000 - \$30,698 plus 32 percent of the excess over \$157,500

- Over \$200,000 but not over \$500,000 - \$44,298 plus 35 percent of the excess over \$200,000
- Over \$500,000 - \$149,298 plus 37 percent of the excess over \$500,000

Married individuals filing joint returns
If taxable income is this, then income tax equals:

- Not over \$19,050 - 10 percent of the taxable income
- Over \$19,050 but not over \$77,400 - \$1,905 plus 12 percent of the excess over \$19,050
- Over \$77,400 but not over \$165,000 - \$8,907 plus 22 percent of the excess over \$77,400
- Over \$165,000 but not over \$315,000 - \$28,179 plus 24 percent of the excess over \$165,000
- Over \$315,000 but not over \$400,000 - \$64,179 plus 32 percent of the excess over \$315,000
- Over \$400,000 but not over \$600,000 - \$91,379 plus 35 percent of the excess over \$400,000
- Over \$600,000 - \$161,379 plus 37 percent of the excess over \$600,000

Married individuals filing separate returns
If taxable income is this, then income tax equals:

- Not over \$9,525 - 10 percent of the taxable income
- Over \$9,525 but not over \$38,700 - \$952.50 plus 12 percent of the excess over \$9,525
- Over \$38,700 but not over \$82,500 - \$4,453.50 plus 22 percent of the excess over \$38,700
- Over \$82,500 but not over \$157,500 - \$14,089.50 plus 24 percent of the excess over \$82,500
- Over \$157,500 but not over \$200,000 - \$32,089.50 plus 32 percent of the excess over \$157,500
- Over \$200,000 but not over \$300,000 - \$45,689.50 plus 35 percent of the excess over \$200,000
- Over \$300,000 - \$80,689.50 plus 37 percent of the excess over \$300,000

- \$4,453.50 plus 22 percent of the excess over \$38,700

- Over \$82,500 but not over \$157,500 - \$14,089.50 plus 24 percent of the excess over \$82,500
- Over \$157,500 but not over \$200,000 - \$32,089.50 plus 32 percent of the excess over \$157,500
- Over \$200,000 but not over \$300,000 - \$45,689.50 plus 35 percent of the excess over \$200,000
- Over \$300,000 - \$80,689.50 plus 37 percent of the excess over \$300,000

Standard deduction and personal exemptions
The legislation roughly doubles existing standard deduction amounts, but repeals the deduction for personal exemptions. Additional standard deduction amounts allowed for the elderly and the blind are not affected by the legislation and will remain available for those who qualify. Higher standard deduction amounts will generally mean that fewer taxpayers will itemize deductions going forward.

2018 Standard Deduction Amounts
Filing Status before Tax Cuts and Jobs Act and after:

- Single or married filing separately - \$6,500 to \$12,000
- Head of household - \$9,550 to \$18,000
- Married filing jointly - \$13,000 to \$24,000

Itemized deductions
The overall limit on itemized deductions that applied to higher-income taxpayers - commonly known as the “Pease limitation” - is repealed, and the following changes are made to individual deductions:

- **State and local taxes** - Individuals are only able to claim an itemized deduction of up to \$10,000 (\$5,000 if married filing a separate return) for state and local property taxes and state and local income taxes (or sales taxes in lieu of income).
- **Home mortgage interest deduction** - Individuals can deduct mortgage interest on no more than \$750,000 (\$375,000 for married individuals filing separately) of qualifying mortgage debt. For mortgage debt incurred prior to Dec. 16, 2017, the prior \$1 million limit will continue to apply. No deduction is allowed for interest on home equity indebtedness.
- **Medical expenses** - The adjusted gross income (AGI) threshold for deducting unreimbursed medical expenses is retroactively reduced from 10 percent to 7.5 percent for tax years 2017 and 2018, after which it returns to 10 percent. The 7.5 percent AGI threshold applies for purposes of calculating the alternative minimum tax (AMT) for the two years as well.
- **Charitable contributions** - The top adjusted gross income (AGI) limitation percentage that applies to deducting certain cash gifts is increased from 50 percent to 60 percent.
- **Casualty and theft losses** - The deduction for personal casualty and theft losses is eliminated, except for casualty losses suffered in a federal disaster area.
- **Miscellaneous itemized deductions** - Miscellaneous itemized deductions that would be subject to the 2 percent AGI threshold, including tax-preparation expenses and unreimbursed employee business expenses, are no longer deductible.

Child tax credit
The child tax credit is doubled from \$1,000 to \$2,000 for each qualifying child under the age of 17. The maximum amount of the credit that may be refunded is \$1,400 per qualifying child, and the earned income threshold for refundability falls from \$3,000 to \$2,500 (allowing those with lower earned incomes to receive more of the refundable credit). The income level at which the credit begins to phase out is significantly increased to \$400,000 for married couples filing jointly and \$200,000 for all other filers. The credit will not be allowed unless a Social Security number is provided for each qualifying child.
A new \$500 nonrefundable credit is available for qualifying dependents

who are not qualifying children under age 17.

Alternative minimum tax (AMT)
The AMT is essentially a separate, parallel federal income tax system with its own rates and rules - for example, the AMT effectively disallows a number of itemized deductions, as well as the standard deduction. The legislation significantly narrows the application of the AMT by increasing AMT exemption amounts and dramatically increasing the income threshold at which the exemptions begin to phase out.

2018 AMT exemption amounts
Filing status before Tax Cuts and Jobs Act and after

- Single or head of household - \$55,400 - \$70,300
- Married filing jointly - \$86,200 - \$109,400
- Married filing separately - \$43,100 to \$54,700

2018 AMT exemption phase out thresholds
Filing Status before Tax Cuts and Jobs Act and after

- Single or head of household - \$123,100 to \$500,000
- Married filing jointly - \$164,100 to \$1,000,000
- Married filing separately - \$82,050 to \$500,000

Other noteworthy changes
The Affordable Care Act individual responsibility payment (the penalty for failing to have adequate health insurance coverage) is permanently repealed starting in 2019.
Application of the federal estate and gift tax is narrowed by doubling the estate and gift tax exemption amount to about \$11.2 million in 2018, with inflation adjustments in following years.
In a permanent change that starts in 2018, Roth conversions cannot be reversed by recharacterizing the conversion as a traditional IRA contribution by the return due date.
For divorce or separation agreements executed after Dec. 31, 2018 (or modified after that date to specifically apply this provision), alimony and separate maintenance payments are not deductible by the paying spouse, and are not included in the income of the recipient. This is also a permanent change.

Article written by Huntley Financial Services. For more information, call Mark Huntley at 888-922-1035.

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Start Your Own Business workshop —

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The Vermont Small Business Development Center (VtSBDC) would like to announce an upcoming workshop for those thinking about starting their

own business. This workshop, titled “Starting Your Own Business,” is aimed at helping future entrepreneurs turn their passions into a full-fledged business venture. The work-

shop will be held Friday, Jan. 26 at Springfield Regional Development Corporation office on Clinton Street in Springfield from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Starting a business can be challenging. The workshop, conducted by an experienced business advisor, is designed as a guide for the first-time business owner. Participants receive a comprehensive start-up workbook, handouts and resources in marketing, financing, management and operations. By the end the workshop they will be well informed about the tools and resources available to them and the next steps involved in launching a successful business. You can register online at www.vtsbdc.org under the training tab.

A few workshop highlights include how to:

- Use the Business Model Canvas to evaluate whether there is a viable business in their good idea
- Identify target customers and “unique selling proposition(s)”
- Register their business and apply for tax numbers
- Consider start-up costs, sales, expenses, and financing options
- Pitch their idea and develop a business plan
- Plus much more!

Vermont Small Business Development Center is a non-profit partnership of government, education and business, organized to help Vermont small businesses succeed. No-cost, confidential advice is provided to existing business owners and new entrepreneurs throughout the state. The local VTSBDC office is located at Springfield Regional Development Corporation. For more information visit www.vtsbdc.org or contact Debra Boudrieau at 802-885-2071 or dboudrieau@vtsbdc.org.

Vermont Small Business Development Center is a partnership program with the U.S. Small Business Administration. The support given by the U.S. Small Business Administration through its funding does not constitute an expressed or implied endorsement of any of the co-sponsors’ or participants’ opinions, products or services.

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sports



THIS AND THAT

BY BILL MURPHY

The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

The winter season is just about to start heating up. There are ten area basketball teams, and they fall into all kinds of categories. The truth is, each could be put into a category of their own. For the purpose of today's column, we will use three binders: one for those who could have a winning season, one for those who could have a losing season, and the I-don't-know binder for those if don't know if they will have a winning or a losing season. Five boys' teams. Five girls' team. Now let's take a look at the three binders.

The teams expected to have winning seasons are the Fall Mountain girls (8-1/ 5-1), the Bellows Falls girls (5-1), the Springfield girls (3-1) and the Green Mountain girls (5-1). The truth is, I think the Lady Wildcats are the best of the bunch by far. Fall Mountain doesn't play any of the Vermont teams; meanwhile there are meetings scheduled between each of the Vermont schools, thus they should be able to show one and all where they stand.

Those meetings should all be intriguing encounters, and they all begin just a few minutes after I write these words. Green Mountain is travels to Bellows Falls as of Tuesday, Jan. 9. Thus by the time the ink is dry, the Lady Chieftains may have proven my words were all wet and moved to

the head of the three-team pack. The good news is that we have a number of teams to watch compete for something this winter, and it should be fun.

How many of our readers noticed that all four of the expected teams to have winning seasons were girls teams?

Moving onto the teams not expected to win more than they lose this winter. This list includes the Springfield boys' team (0-7), the Black River boys (0-3), and the Black River girls' (0-6). None of the included teams in this binder should come as a surprise to anyone because each of these teams have had trouble winning games in recent seasons, so it is more of the same.

While it is more of the same, one should also know that each of these teams should be better than the teams in the same uniforms last winter. The Springfield boys have not won a game in a couple of years, but I don't just expect them to win a game this winter, I also think they are improving each and every game. The Black River boys won three times a winter ago, but they are now more competitive every time out. Opposing teams certainly have more concerns of being upset this winter than they have been in the past. The Black River girls are also showing, despite their record, that they have made visible advancements in the game.

Obviously, the most intriguing group is the one in the middle. If 40 percent of the teams will have winning seasons and 30 percent of the area teams will not, simple math tells you 30 percent have their fortunes up in the air. This group includes the Fall Mountain boys (5-4/3-3), the Green Mountain boys (3-3), and the Bellows Falls boys (1-3). Fall Mountain proved they were the best of those teams by running away from the Terriers 72-23 last week. The Terriers and the Chieftains have a couple of meetings down the road, which could be extremely interesting.

Before all is said and done, there could be some movement between the binders; but the deep feel here is that each team is pretty much stuck in the binder assigned - except those in the middle are more likely to go one way or the other. They could also finish 10-10 or 8-8 and never leave their binder. You could say they are bound to be there.

Now, onto girls' basketball advances. Back in the day, girls' basketball received no respect. First, the game was played with different rules with six players on the court for each team at a time, and two of them couldn't play

offense. They were also forced to play their games in the daytime, meaning no prime time action for the girls. The courts were reserved for "boys only" after dark. However, before the onset of Title IX, some "powers that were" found a way to both institute universal basketball rules for the female gender and arrange for games to be played at more convenient viewing hours for all. They may have been ahead of the times.

How far have the girls' games come? The truth is, a very long ways.

In a poll conducted this week with all five area athletic directors, the attendance at boys' and girls' games is very close to even. Crowd sizes this winter to date have been so close, some directors couldn't tell the difference. In some locales, the girls are outdrawing the boys, especially in places where the girls' teams have a more competitive team and a better record. I am quite surprised this day has come.

I believe many of the crowds could be bigger if athletic directors went out of their way to schedule the overwhelming majority of the games on opposite days, so boys and girls team could play on separate days. Then parents and fans would not have to split on which game to attend. New Hampshire schools basically go by the system of both genders playing on the same day. It would be much more friendly to change that.

About the turn of the century in Vermont, generally boys' games were on Monday and Friday night and girls' games were on Tuesdays and Thursdays for half a season and then for the second half, they would switch the days. There were fewer conflicts and more choices for one and all. Even better, you needed fewer referees because there were fewer games each night. As a result, officials who were less experienced had fewer games, but they were broken in with a better supportive system. Why did that all change?

Schools and coaches didn't want Monday games (as a former coach, I understand) and everyone wanted to play Friday games. No system is perfect, but I feel bad for the caring families that have to be separated most of the season, so there can be a parent at every game. The system should be more accommodating than that.

If you would like to comment on the sports in this paper, feel free to email me at bmurphy@vermontjournal.com.

New Hampshire's Fall Mountain rivals Vermont's Springfield & Bellows Falls teams

BY BILL MURPHY

The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

REGION - Since the story last week on the Fall Mountain boys' basketball team's success in the Keene State Holiday Tournament, the team has won two more games against area competition. The Wildcats ran away from Bellows Falls 72-23, and then held off Springfield

49-39.

Joey Murdoch led the Wildcats with 17 against the Terriers. Jacob Bardis and Owen Marandino added 14 and 11 points respectively. Shane Clark led Bellows Falls in points with 9.

In the victory over Springfield, Joey Murdoch again led all scorers with 13, Ranger Wilson and Bardis added 10 and 9 respectively.

The Cosmos had Sumner Jansen with 10, Dakota Bushey with 9, and Brenden Dwinell with 8. Fall Mountain is officially 3-3, and Springfield is 0-7.

Fall Mountain's next home game is Jan. 16 at 5:30 p.m. in a boys' and girls' doubleheader with Stevens. The Cosmos' next home game is at Leland & Gray on Thursday, Jan. 11.



Noah Lantz is shown shooting a jump shot. PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE



Jacob Bardis is shown driving for two points. PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE



Springfield Cosmo, Brendan Dwinell handling the basketball. PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE



Sumner Jansen (13) fighting for the rebounding position against Bellows Falls McGregor Vancour. PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE

Springfield Wrestlers sweep Mt. Abe Tourney

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - At a tournament in Bristol, Vt. the weekend of Saturday, Jan. 6, Springfield wrestlers took home some serious hardware. Seniors John Stafford Jr., Matt Prosser, Matt LaChapelle, Bradley Bennett, and Lucas Saunders joined sophomore Brandon Bennett in the "gold club" at the top of their respective podiums, while senior Trent

Lewis-Briere claimed a bronze medal.

Sophomore Skylar Wallace pinned one of his opponents; his team cheering him on enthusiastically for his first win. Freshman Skyler Congdon claimed a hard-won 4th place while senior Gillian Guy battled through four tough matches with her usual grit and determination.

Junior high wrestlers also worked hard, with Timmy Amsden hitting his first win at the Mt. Abe tournament. Veteran Cole Wright fought through multiple opponents, and Bryan Stafford earned a 2nd place silver medal for his efforts.

Article submitted by Kelly Stettner.

Fall Mountain girls take their first loss of the season

BY BILL MURPHY

The Vermont Journal & The Shopper

LANGDON, N.H. - The Fall Mountain Lady Wildcats were undefeated headed into last week when they met a buzzsaw of a Hopkinton team on the road and were cut up 40-22. I asked Wildcat coach Brian Pickering about the contest and what went wrong. He replied by saying, "Let's start with what went right," followed by a pause. Then he said, "Okay, I'm done."

Pickering feels both the players and the coaches have something to think about concerning the loss, but he was a stand up coach, saying, "Basically, I would have to say we weren't prepared for their good half court man-to-man. Now, we have to ask, what can we learn from this? I believe our division [New Hampshire Division III] is



Fall Mountain's Zoe Utton is looking for two more points. PHOTO BY DOUG MACPHEE

pretty competitive. There is only one undefeated team, Monadnock. When anyone has a bad night and one of the other balanced team plays well, one-sided games can happen. We will work to be ready the next time we play them." It should be noted that Fall Mountain did beat Monadnock in an unofficial victory in the Holiday Tournament.

The Lady Wildcats next home game is part of a boys' girls' doubleheader on Tuesday, Jan. 16 with Stevens. The boys' game will be at 5:30 p.m., and the girls play at 7 p.m.

Fall Mountain Special Olympics athlete going to the USA Games

LANGDON, N.H. - Rachel Maxim has been selected to represent the state of New Hampshire Special Olympics team at the USA Games, which will take place July 1-7, 2018 in Seattle. Maxim participated in the New Hampshire State Games in June 2017 playing bocce on the Fall Mountain team, which made her eligible for

the USA Games. At the New Hampshire Summer Games, she won gold in Bocce doubles, bronze in Bocce singles, and bronze in Bocce team.

How athletes are chosen to participate in the USA games for Bocce is that all gold winners from the state games are put into a random drawing. The athletes are then picked and a team of four is made. The athletes will represent the state of New Hampshire, and they will compete against everyone from the entire nation. It is a great honor to win the lottery to participate.

Maxim has been playing bocce for seven years on the Fall Mountain team. She participated in a training camp at Waterville Valley in December. She has met her other teammates who will represent New Hampshire, and they have another team building training in March. Maxim said that "she is excited about representing the entire state of New Hampshire" and that she gets to also represent Fall Mountain Special Olympics. "I am really excited about going and meeting new people and making new friends."

Everyone on the Fall Mountain team is so rooting for Maxim. In the meantime, she will begin

the winter season skiing for the Fall Mountain Special Olympics team.

Anyone interested in volunteering for the Fall Mountain team is encouraged to call Scott and Maggie Kyle at 603-445-2323.

Article submitted by the Fall Mountain Special Olympics team



Rachel Maxim will represent New Hampshire in the USA Games in Seattle in July 2018. PHOTO PROVIDED

Title celebrations in Bellows Falls

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Two dates have been set up in Bellows Falls to celebrate teams that won Vermont state titles in 2017. Both teams will be honored around 6:45 p.m. before the start of a couple of boys' varsity basketball games in Bellows Falls' Holland Gym.

The dates are Thursday, Jan. 11 for the Spring Track team, which will have their banners raised. A similar celebration will take place for the Girls Field Hockey team on Tuesday, Jan. 23.

arts & entertainment

Green Up Vermont annual student contests for writing and poster design

REGION - Any student K-12 may submit one entry each for Green Up Vermont's annual contests for poster design and for writing. Entries for the poster design contest must be received by Jan. 31. One poster

design is selected as the official Green Up Day poster, promoting Green Up Day on May 5, 2018.

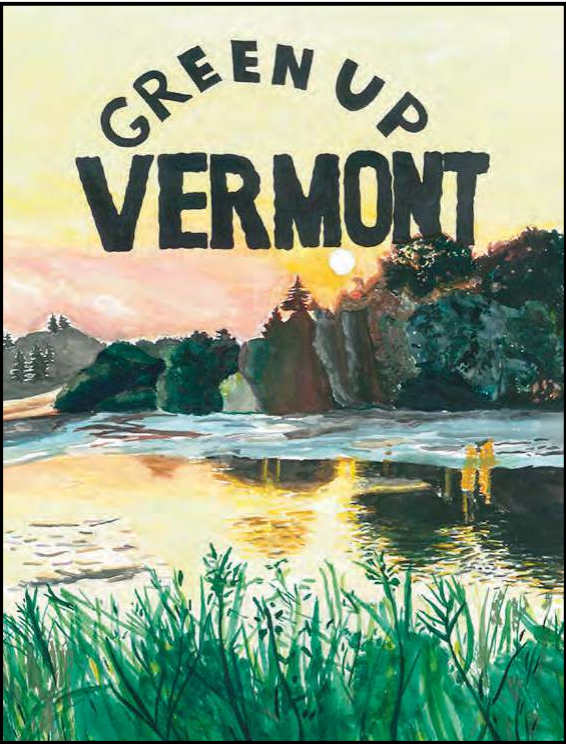
Poster entries should be 11x14 inches, created by hand, without the aid of computers, and must include the words "Green Up Vermont." Writing entries should be a poem or essay of no more than 200 words about Green Up Day, and why it is important. Writing entries must be received by March 1. The overall winner in each contest receives \$250.

All rights for use and reproduction belong to Green Up Vermont. Entries will not be returned. All poster and writing entries must include the following information, on the back



upper right hand corner: student name, grade, county, home address; parent/guardian name and phone; school name (if it is a classroom project), address, phone and teacher.

Entries do not have to be part of classroom project and can be entered individually. All entries should be mailed to Green Up Vermont, P.O. Box 1191, Montpelier, VT 05601-1191, or delivered to the Green Up Vermont office at 14-16 Baldwin Street by Jan. 31. For questions, call 802-229-4586 or 1-800-974-3259 or visit the Contests page at www.greenupvermont.org for more information.



2017 poster contest winner, Hope Petraro, grade 9 of Montpelier.

PHOTO PROVIDED

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Save the date for the 4th annual Springfield Winter Carnival

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Springfield's favorite fun-packed family-friendly wintertime event returns in 2018, bigger and better than ever! The 4th annual Springfield Winter Carnival will be held the weekend of Feb. 10 at Crown Point Country Club. In addition to sledding, snow kayaking, and the ever-popular Broomball Tournament, Troy Wunderle's Big Top Adventures will be back on the scene, bringing the joy of laughter and dazzling the crowds with his whimsical circus act.

You won't want to miss the spectacular fireworks show, sponsored by Atlas and Kelley Sales & Service. And new this year, an evening with Ben Fuller Music and Trout River! The planning committee is working hard to put together this fantastic community event, and more volunteers are always needed. Call 802-885-2727



Meredith and Gwen Kelley rocking the sledding slopes.

PHOTO PROVIDED

for more information. Be sure to follow the Springfield Winter Carnival Facebook page to stay up to date about this year's event!

Birds of Chicago concert to benefit Music & Memory

BELLOW FALLS, Vt. - Birds of Chicago will perform at the Bellows Falls Opera House on Thursday, Jan. 18 with proceeds being donated to Music & Memory. Doors open at 7 p.m. and music will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Birds of Chicago began in 2012 when JT Nero started writing for his vocal star-muse, Allison Russell. Full of stark, elemental imagery that feels like scripture or a lost folk song, Birds of Chicago draws heavily on the gospel tradition. Imagine a rough-edged country voice up against a soulful sound as smooth as honey. Russell also contributes clarinet and banjo while Nero plays guitar. Other band members include Joel Schwartz on lead guitar, Chris Merrill on the bass, and Nick Chambers on drums.

Hayley Reardon will open the concert. A native of Boston, Reardon discovered a passion for writing folk songs on her mother's old guitar at a very young age. Reardon was named a "Bostonian of the Year" by the Boston Globe Magazine in 2012 for her music and her work in empowerment. With a voice that is distinctively rich and a contemplative sincerity in her songwriting, Reardon has far more in common with Patty Griffin, Lucinda Williams, and Tracy Chapman than many of today's young artists.

As always, partial proceeds will be donated to a non-profit organization.



Birds of Chicago.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Proceeds of the event will go to Music & Memory, a non-profit that donates iPods to senior care facilities.

Dan Cohen founded Music & Memory with a simple idea: someday, if he ended up in a nursing

home, he wanted to be able to listen to his favorite 60s music. Drawing on his background in leveraging technology to benefit those who would otherwise have no access, he volunteered at a local nursing home in Greater New York, creating personalized playlists for residents. Today, over 3,000 memory care units worldwide utilize personalized iPods in their facilities via the Music & Memory Program. And the results are staggeringly positive.

The Gill Odd Fellows Home in Ludlow, Vt. is one care facility in the area that utilizes the Music & Memory program. Back in the spring of 2015, one of the clinicians saw the documentary "Alive Inside: A Story of Music and Memory" and was inspired to introduce the program to the residents.

Although not all of the residents are diagnosed with Alzheimer's, many have some age-related challenges and other forms of dementia. The staff at Odd Fellows had seen similar positive results with residents who have had strokes. The music calms anxiety and combats depression. Overall, the program has been a success.

Tickets for the Birds of Chicago concert at the Bellows Falls Opera House can be purchased at the door or by contacting bochfoperahouse.brownpapertickets.com. We will be collecting gently used iPods and Kindles for Music & Memory as well. They can also be sent to Karin Mallory, P.O. Box 694, Walpole, N.H. 03608.

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arts & entertainment

Photographs by Joe Tantillo on exhibit



Joe Tantillo's historic photography is now in a special VAULT exhibit.

PHOTO PROVIDED

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Many will remember Joe Tantillo who lived in Springfield some years ago and highlighted Springfield's history and landscapes in his photographs. Three of his large photographs have been on permanent view on the outside wall of the Huber Building, in the alleyway just outside Gallery at the VAULT.

VAULT is pleased to announce that a collection of Tantillo's Spring-

field photographs, "Springfield's Machine Tool Shops and Countryside," is now on special exhibit and for sale.

Tantillo's graphic design work led him into the world of digital photography that has expanded his vision of the world. He creates abstracts using layers of photographic images and says that this exploration of the inner and outer world is an "exhilarating experience."

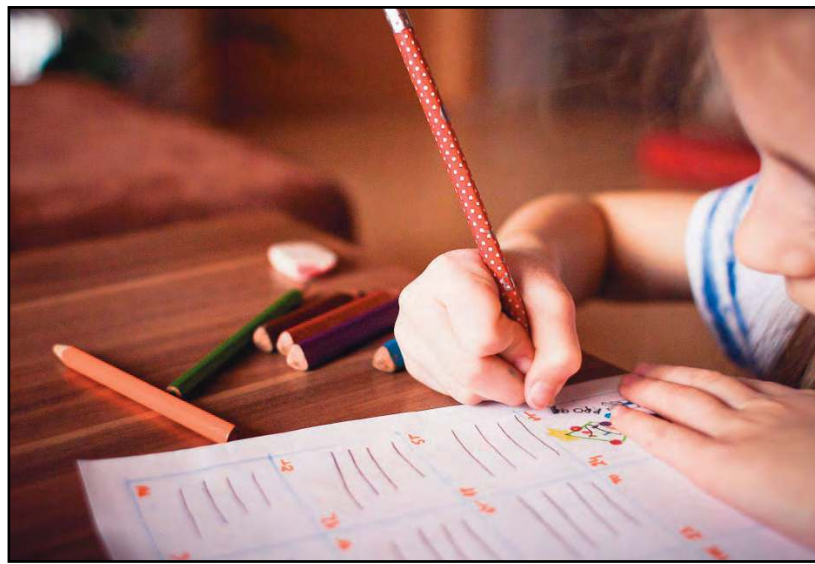
This is your chance to own a piece of Springfield history. Stop in anytime Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Gallery at the VAULT is located on 68 Main St. in Springfield. For more information, call 802-885-7111 or go to www.galleryvault.org.

Coming soon is the annual Student Art Show and VAULT's January sale!

The nuts and bolts of writing for children

LONDONDERRY, Vt. - Has it been your dream to write a children's book? On Monday, Jan. 29 at 2:30 p.m. children's book author Steve Swinburne will be at the Meeting Place at Neighborhood Connections to discuss the nuts and bolts of writing for children. Swinburne takes you from idea creation and blank page to printed book, covering (almost) everything you need to know about researching, writing, and publishing a book for kids.

In a humor-filled presentation, Swinburne uses storytelling and over 30 years of experience in children's writing to teach you about research, first drafts, rewriting, proposals, pitching an editor or agent, illustrations or photographs, promotion, etc. This program is offered at no charge but register by calling 802-824-4343 if you would like to learn the A-Z about the business of children's books. Whether you are a beginner or intermediate writer or only have a dream of one day writing a children's book, Swinburne will offer practical and useful advice.



Learn about the process of writing a children's book with Steve Swinburne. STOCK PHOTO

Neighborhood Connections is a community-based non-profit social services agency serving individuals and families in the area mountain towns of south-central Vermont.

Check out our website at www.neighborhoodconnectionsvt.org. The Meeting Place is located in the Mountain Marketplace, next to the Londonderry Post Office.

Coffeehouse Music Series presents Matt Meserve

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - On Saturday, Jan. 20, the Springfield UU Church presents Matt Meserve at 7 p.m. Meserve has been entertaining in southern Vermont and the Upper Valley for the past 10 years. Crooning for patrons at many inns and pubs, he is equally adept at soulful belting and heartfelt ballads. He treasures being able to entertain at the UU Coffeehouse and being part of the wonderful spiritual community there.

All are welcome. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and music starts at 7 p.m. This is a family-friendly evening of music and fun. There is no cost to enjoy the music. You will be able to purchase delicious snacks and beverages. The Coffeehouse Music Series is held at the church at 21 Fairground Rd, Springfield, Vt.

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RAMParts Presents announces 2018 line-up

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - RAMParts Presents, in partnership with National Theatre Live, Bolshoi Ballet, and Exhibition on Screen, will bring art, stage, and dance offerings to the big screen from January through June in 2018. Travel the world in the comfort of the Bellows Falls Opera House in downtown Bellows Falls where adventurous shopping and dining completes a visit to the beautifully restored 550-seat theatre.

On Sunday, Jan. 14, the National Theatre Live brings Tony Kushner's "Angels in America Part 1: Millennium Approaches." This seminal work was begun in the late 1980s, reached Broadway in 1993, and then became an HBO mini-series in 2003. You will see the live production staged in July 2017 from London's National Theatre, starring Broadway superstar, Nathan Lane (The Producers), Andrew Garfield (Spiderman, Hacksaw Ridge), James McArdle (Star Wars: The Force Awakens), and Denise Gough, 2016 Olivier Award for Best Actress (People, Places and Things). Doors open at 11 a.m. with screening starting at 11:30 a.m. with a 3:30 intermission.

On Sunday, Jan. 21, we premiere the Bolshoi Ballet in the Opera House with a modern interpretation of Shakespeare's Classic, Taming of the Shrew. Doors open at 12:30 p.m. with screening from 1-3 p.m.

The Lincoln Center review states, "The Bolshoi is 'at the top of its game' in acclaimed choreographer Jean-Christophe Maillot's effervescent production of The Taming of the Shrew... With their signature bravura, the Bolshoi's incomparable dancers bring to hilarious life



"Angels in America Part 1 Millenium Approaches" is the first showing at RAMParts.

STOCK PHOTO

all of the fawning, preening, and hypocrisy that well-born Kate finds so tiresome - and that ultimately makes the rough-edged outsider Petruchio seem so appealing to her."

On Thursday, Jan. 25, Exhibition on Screen brings "Vincent Van Gogh: A New Way of Seeing." Made in close collaboration with curators and researchers at the Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam, which houses the largest collection of Vincent's artistic output in the world, and features great works such as the Potato Eaters,

Sunflowers, Irises, Autumn Blossoms, the Bedroom, and many of his self-portraits. This film not only provides viewers with the moving and inspiring experience of seeing Vincent's iconic masterpieces on the big screen but also examines new insights and interpretation from specially invited guests including curators, historians, and artists. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and screening starts at 7 p.m.

Robert McBride, director of the Rockingham Arts & Museum Project, is expanding arts programming locally by making it accessible in cost and availability. Monthly subscription prices are available to patrons purchasing tickets to both the NTL and Bolshoi screenings. All ticketing information is available online at www.rampartstickets.com. Seating is general admission. Contact Susan MacNeil at 603-313-0052 or email susan@svidol.com for more information.

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Okemo will host a mind-bending landscape of lights set to music with its "Let It Glow" Laser Light Show Spectacular. Guests will feel immersed in a laser canopy of light and sound as colorful beams bounce off the snow on Bull Run in front of The Sitting Bull, where live music will be happening. The night concludes with a fantastic fireworks finale. The après ski party is from 3:30 to 6:45 p.m. in the Sitting Bull, followed by the laser light show at 7 p.m. Live music will start at 7:20 p.m. in the Sitting Bull.

14 SHAKIN' SKATE
Join in on a fun evening of ice skating with a live DJ at the Ice House. Skate rentals are available for \$5. Admission for ages 12 and up is \$10 and \$8 for children under 12.

21 HELMET HEAD CONTEST
Show us your helmet head as we celebrate safety week. Find one of our photo teams to take your photo and get a chance to win two free lift tickets!

30 OKEMO'S 62ND BIRTHDAY
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outdoor news

Magic off to record start for new ski season

LONDONDERRY, Vt. - Despite the frigid weather, which has impacted skier visits everywhere in the northeast over the last two weeks, Magic Mountain reports it is on pace for a record-setting ski season dating back to when the area first re-opened from closure back in 1997.

Based on early results, Magic reports its Christmas holiday week saw a dramatic increase, up 25 percent, in skier visits over the Londonderry ski area's prior best post-1997 Christmas week period back in 2010. The good performance continued this week as Magic was one of the few areas to have continuous top-of-mountain skiing and riding during the Nor'easter with its sustained high winds and sub-

zero temperatures which continued throughout the weekend.

"I'm really proud of the efforts of our employees and our equipment which delivered a very good product all Christmas week and especially this past week despite the extreme weather," said Geoff Hatheway, president of SKI MAGIC, LLC. "From snowmaking, to grooming, to lift operators, to our guys helping parking cars, the frigid weather can really take a toll and everyone gave it their all to serve our customers and allow them to ski everywhere on this mountain enjoying all the new snow. The Red Lift also deserves a special shout-out for its uninterrupted service."

In looking ahead, the pre-sale of tickets online for the upcoming

MLK weekend are already up over 50 percent versus last year. There's been some concern raised among Magic regulars that the ski area may become too crowded on big weekends. Magic, in turn, has a policy of limiting day ticket sales to a maximum of only 1,500 day-tickets sold for any specific day this season. This ticket sales limit is designed to keep lift lines no longer than 15 minutes over busy holiday periods when visitors stream to New England and at times encounter longer than normal lift lines.

"We want to keep the ski experience as crowd-free as possible, especially on the slopes where it matters most," remarked Hatheway. "Setting a sales limit assures our customers a more relaxed and stress-free time

here, even on the busiest holidays. While we don't like turning people away, and some would question it from a profit-making stand point, we think preserving what sets Magic apart to our skiers is more important than jamming too many people in here."

Magic will be open Thursday through Monday during the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday period, and its Black Line Tavern will have live music on Saturday and Sunday, with the Black Line Music Series featuring Jonny Davis & Six Feet Deep on Saturday from 8-11 p.m. with no cover charge.

For more information on the new, still retro, Magic Mountain go to www.magicmtn.com or call 802-824-5645.



Experience the Magic Mountain. PHOTO PROVIDED BY MAGICMTN.COM

Cold weather brings ice fishing opportunities



Have fun out on the ice, stay warm, and stay safe! PHOTO PROVIDED



Check the ice fishing section of their website for more information. PHOTO PROVIDED

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REGION - The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department says recent cold weather has made ice fishing a viable Vermont outdoor activity several weeks earlier than in recent years. At least six inches of solid ice is recommended for safe ice fishing, and that much ice hasn't been present for some time on most lakes until late January. But ice-fishing enthusi-

asts are now finding ample ice on many smaller lakes and the bays of larger lakes. Ice safety precautions, however, are still very important according to Fish & Wildlife.

Vermont's ice fishing season for trout, salmon, and bass starts Jan. 20, 2018 and continues through March 15 on 41 large Vermont lakes. For a list of those lakes, go to page 36 of the "2018 Vermont Fishing Guide and Regulations" available where licenses are sold and digitally on Fish & Wildlife's website at www.vtfishandwildlife.com.

To locate places to stay and help on the latest fishing activity, go to the Vermont Outdoor Guides Association website at www.voga.org and click on "ice fishing."

Hunters had successful 2017 deer season



Dannie Boyd of Wilmington, Vt. with the nice buck he got in Vermont's 2017 November deer season. Hunters took 9,477 bucks in Vermont in 2017. PHOTO PROVIDED

REGION - The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department says preliminary numbers show 15,949 deer were taken during Vermont's 2017 deer hunting seasons. Reports from big game check stations indicate hunters had successful deer seasons in 2017, taking 3,585 deer in archery season, 1,461 in youth season, 7,272 in rifle season, and 3,631 in muzzleloader season. The 15,949 deer brought home by hunters yielded

more than 3 million meals of local nutritious venison.

"The legal buck harvest of 9,477 was 8 percent more than the previous three-year average of 8,760, and the third highest buck harvest since 2002," said deer project leader Nick Fortin. "Harvest numbers increased during the archery, youth and muzzleloader seasons, and the total harvest of 15,949 is also the third highest since 2002."

"The relatively high harvest was primarily due to the mild winters of 2016 and 2017 which allowed more deer to survive. Additionally, the department issued more muzzleloader antlerless deer permits this year to provide more harvest opportunity and to limit population growth in some parts of the state."

The primary goal of Vermont's deer management strategy is to keep the deer herd stable, healthy and in balance with available habitat. "Maintaining an appropriate number of deer on the landscape ensures deer and the habitats that support them remain in good condition and productive," said Fortin.

Each year the department operates biological check stations during deer hunting seasons to gather information on the age, sex, field dressed weight, antler characteristics, and overall health of Vermont's deer herd. In 2017, biological data were collected from more than 1,200 deer examined during the two-day youth season and November rifle season.

To provide additional data, hunters submitted more than 2,800 teeth from bucks harvested during the rifle season. Fortin adds, "The effort made by hunters and many of our big game reporting stations to collect teeth during rifle season will greatly improve our understanding of Vermont's buck population."

The 2017 report on deer hunting seasons with final numbers will be on Vermont Fish & Wildlife's website www.vtfishandwildlife.com in early February.

Check the Snow Report at www.VermontJournal.com

Find out how much snow is on the slopes!

ON THE SNOW SNOW REPORT MONDAY, JAN. 8, 2018

	Lifts	Snow Depth	Snowfall
Killington Resort	14 / 21	18"	0" (1/8)
Okemo Mountain Resort	11 / 20	40"	0" (1/8)
Stratton Mountain	8 / 12	30"	0" (1/8)
Sugarbush	12 / 16	36"	0" (1/8)

Weather & Snow information is provided to OnTheSnow directly from the resorts. We cannot be held liable for incorrect or missing information.

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Springfield, Vt.
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www.annasdogservicesvt.com
annasdogservices@gmail.com

Anna's Dog Services' mission is to provide owners with the skills to understand how to achieve a healthy relationship and lifestyle with your dog. Anna Vogell is a certified dog trainer, offering many services such as behavior modification, obedience, board and train, and private training. Other services include dog walking, dog sitting, and day camp. All training sessions and programs start off with an initial consult to discuss behaviors and set training goals.

Day Camp is like doggy day care, consisting of obedience training, structure, impulse control exercises, a hike-pack walk with other dogs, occasional field trips to pet friendly establishments, and supervised play and socialization. You then pick your dog up at the end of the day.

Board & Train programs are where your dog stays with Anna's Dog Services for a number



of weeks, while they teach your dog how to be well mannered and obedient. Private follow up lessons are included to make sure you are comfortable maintaining your dog's new and improved behavior.

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Ludlow, VT



Stunning Bensonwood home in gated community on cul de sac with privacy and beautiful views on 11 acres. 4 bedroom 6 baths. This custom Timberframe home boasts an open floor plan on the first floor with gorgeous natural birch floors and staircases. The custom kitchen offers cherry cabinets, granite countertops, center island. The living area features a floor to ceiling wood burning stone fireplace. There are 2 master en-suites, theater room & wine cellar. **Price: \$950,000**

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Gorgeous, bright & young home. This 4 bedroom 2.5 bath is designed with high end touches including granite countertops, custom cabinetry and hardwood floors. Great pond, oversized 2 car garage to hold all your toys, and a home office and art studio makes this a very unique home. **Price: \$460,000**

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156 Main Street
Ludlow, VT 05149

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Step into this historic 1907 bank and find creations of 160 local and regional artists. Exhibits include Steampunk, Gil Perry's little paintings, Teresa Hilary's handpainted scarves, and Open Wall. Workshops offered. VAULT, a Vermont State Craft Center, is on 68 Main St., Springfield. Tues. - Sat. 11 to 5 galleryvault.org 802-885-7111 (03/06/18)

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chiropractor

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calendar

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

TUESDAY, JAN. 16 – CHESTER, Vt. – Join Kim Dixon of Insights Marketing Solutions for a free workshop “Grow Your Business with Digital Marketing” on Tuesday, Jan. 16 from 11 a.m. – noon at the

Newsbank Conference Center at 352 Main Street, Chester. Focus will be on the DIY marketer— including blogging, effective email marketing, video, and social media. Bonus session from noon – 1 p.m. on email marketing using Constant Contact. This workshop is free but registration is appreciated,

as space is limited. To register for this workshop visit www.events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07eexj4w474d2cecdbd&oseq=&c=&ch=
FRIDAYS-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

CLUBS

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 kikadams@comcast.net

MONDAY, JAN. 15 - CHESTER, Vt. – Please join the Chester Senior Citizens Club for their monthly luncheon meeting at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 15, at the Chester Congregational Church on Main Street. A Chinese auction is planned so please bring items around your home that you no longer need or want. Members will bid on them and the proceeds will help fund the Club’s treasury. Please also bring your place setting, if possible a dish to share, and a friend. If you need a ride, call Georgia at 802-875-6242. Hope to see you there.

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.

MONDAYS- CHESTER, Vt. - Please join the Chester Senior Citizens Club for their monthly luncheon meeting, third Mondays at 11:30 a.m. at the Chester Congregational Church on Main Street. Enjoy lunch, jokes and funny stories, and possibly Bingo. Just bring your place setting, if possible a dish to share, and a friend. If you need a ride, just call Georgia 802-875-6242. TFN

on Wednesday, Jan. 17 from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the First Congregational Church United Church of Christ, 77 Main Street in Springfield. Menu is Turkey, barley and squash casserole, green salad and dessert. No take-outs. All are welcome.

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

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



COMMUNITY MEALS

TUESDAY, JAN 16 - WEATHERSFIELD, Vt. – Join us for our monthly potluck on Tuesday, Jan. 16 at 12 p.m. in the vestry of Perkinsville VT Community Church on Rt. 106. All are welcome. Bring a hot dish, salad or dessert. Paper goods and beverages will be provided.

WEDNESDAY, JAN 17 - SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Join us for a free community lunch

TOWN OF CAVENDISH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Cavendish Select Board will hold a public hearing at the Town Office, 37 High Street, Cavendish, VT, to receive comments regarding amendments to the Town Plan. The public hearing will be held on **Thursday, January 25th, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.**

Copies of the proposed Town Plan can be obtained from the Town Clerk at the above address during normal business hours.

TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM CLG COMMISSION

The Town of Rockingham is seeking volunteers to fill two vacancies on its five-member Certified Local Government Commission, which serves as an essential link to state funding for historic preservation grants for the town. Applicants should have a demonstrated interest in or knowledge of local history and historic preservation. Special consideration will be given to those who have a background in architecture, history, archaeology, anthropology or urban planning, as well as tradespeople who have worked on old commercial and residential buildings using approved historic preservation techniques. The CLG Commission meets four to six times a year and helps maintain the town's inventory of historic properties as well as overseeing maintenance of the Rockingham Meeting House, a National Historic Landmark. The commission also sponsors an annual speaker series and Old House Awards to promote an appreciation of historic preservation for current residents and visitors alike.

Applicants are asked to send letters of interest to: CLG Commission Search, Town of Rockingham, P.O. Box 370, Bellows Falls, VT 05101, e-mail clg@rockbf.org, or call 802-463-3964 ext. 112 with questions. The deadline is Friday, Jan. 26, 2018, at 4 p.m.

WARNING

SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING

LUDLOW TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

The legal voters of the Ludlow Town School District are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Ludlow Town Hall in said Town of Ludlow on Tuesday, February 6, 2018, between the hours of 10:00 AM, at which time the polls will open, and 7:00 PM, at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot on the following articles:

Article I: Shall the Ludlow Town School District, which the State Board of Education has found necessary to include in the proposed unified union school district, join with the Mount Holly Town School District and the Black River Union School District #39, which the State Board of Education has found necessary to include in the proposed unified union school district, for the purpose of forming a unified union school district to be named the Ludlow-Mount Holly Unified Union School District (hereinafter the "New Unified Union District"), as provided in Title 16, Vermont Statutes Annotated, upon the following conditions and agreements.

(a) **Grades.** The New Unified Union District will offer and operate pre-kindergarten through grade six education to students. The New Unified Union District will also operate Black River High School Middle School until no later than June 30, 2020. The School Board for the New Unified Union District shall determine the timeline for closing Black River High School Middle School. After the New Unified Union District has ceased operating Black River High School Middle School, it will pay tuition in accordance with the law to provide for the education of students in grades seven through twelve.

(b) **Board of School Directors.** The New Unified Union Board of School Directors shall be composed of eight (8) directors. Membership on the New Unified Union Board of School Directors is apportioned to each town in equal numbers: Ludlow four (4) directors and Mount Holly four (4) directors. The directors shall have equal votes. Directors shall be nominated from the legal voters of each respective town and shall be elected on an at-large basis by the voters of the New Unified Union District.

(c) **Assumption of debts, ownership and closing of school property.** The New Unified Union District shall assume the indebtedness of member districts and assume all operating deficits and/or surpluses or reserve funds of the member districts; acquire and pay for the school properties of member districts; all as specifically identified and provided for in Articles 6 and 7 in the Final Report. The New Unified Union Board of School Directors shall not close or discontinue any elementary school within its boundaries without a unanimous vote of the school board and an affirmative vote of the town in which the elementary school is located. The complete provisions of Articles 6 and 7 regarding operating deficits and/or surplus, reserve funds, acquisition of school properties and closing of schools are set forth in the Final Report and are incorporated in their entirety by specific reference herein.

(d) **Final Report.** The provisions of the Final Report approved by the State Board of Education on October 18, 2017, which is on file in the Ludlow Town Clerk's office, shall govern the New Unified Union District

The legal voters of the Ludlow School District are further notified that other qualification, registration, absentee voting and procedures relative to said meeting shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51, and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Dated this 3rd day of January, 2018 at Ludlow, Vermont.

Lisa Schmidt
Lisa Schmidt, Board Chair

Chris Perrino
Chris Perrino, Board Clerk

Mariel Meringolo
Mariel Meringolo, Board Clerk

Paul Orzechowski
Paul Orzechowski, Board Member


Chris Garvey
Chris Garvey, Board Member

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 **Town of Westminster**
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Tel. 802-722- 4524 Fax 802-722-9816

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD (DRB)
WESTMINSTER TOWN HALL
3651 US Rt. 5, Westminster
Legal Notice

The Westminster Development Review Board will meet at 6:30 pm on Monday, February 5, 2018 to consider the following:

Application #18-35: Application #18-35 (Paul Sharkey) – property located at 147 West Stagecoach Road, Westminster. The Applicant is requesting a permit to sub-divide land in the Residential District. This Application will be reviewed under Section 311 Site Plan Review; Section 446 Residential District; Article VIII Minor Subdivision of the 2017 Zoning Bylaws.

Participation in the proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to make any subsequent appeals.

The application is available for review in the Westminster Town Hall, 3651 US Route 5 Westminster, Vermont 05158, Monday – Friday from 8:30 am - 4:00 pm.

TAKE A BREAK!

Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword


ACROSS

1 Gymnast's surface
4 Expert
7 Pops
12 Brewery output
13 Sleep phenomenon
14 Unmoving
15 Rotating part
16 Reason to call
18 Pump up the volume
19 Heather
20 Lumber
22 Run-down horse
23 Blue hue
27 Toss in
29 Political refugee
31 Groan-inducing, maybe
34 Take as one's own
35 Overacted
37 Lingerie item
38 Church section
39 — Khan
41 Traditional tales
45 Piñered
47 Chum
48 Too thin
52 Storm center

DOWN

1 Colorful parrot
2 Texas mission
3 Beat
4 Get ready, briefly
5 Order back
6 Last letter
7 Autograph
8 "A Chorus
9 Lair
10 Joan of —
11 Pigs' digs
17 Anger
21 "Inferno" writer
23 Type of wave
24 Swelled head
25 Dada artist
26 Say it's OK
28 Easter buy
30 Scratch
31 Shell game item
32 Diamond arbi-ter
33 Phone bk. info
36 Facts
37 Whalebone
40 Must, jocular-ly
42 Met perfor-mance
43 Silk alterna-tive
44 Vote for
45 Locale
46 Vortex
48 Mound stat
49 Unruly bunch
50 Lawyers' org.
51 Barracks bed

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 **Salome's Stars**

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Guess what, Lamb? You're about to experience a new perspective on a situation you long regarded quite differently. What you learn could open more opportunities later.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) The Bold Bovine is tempted to charge into a new venture. But it might be best to take things one step at a time, so that you know just where you are at any given point.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) It's a good time to go on that fun getaway you've been planning. You'll return refreshed, ready and, yes, even eager to tackle the new challenge that awaits you.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) The Moon Child loves to fantasize about magical happenings in the early part of the week. But the sensible Crab gets down to serious business by week's end.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) What goes around comes around for those lucky Leos and Leonas whose acts of generosity could be repaid with opportunities to expand into new and exciting areas of interest.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Your concern about your job responsibilities is commendable. But you need to take some quiet time to share with someone who has really missed being with you.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Aspects favor getting out and meeting new people. And as a bonus, you might find that some of your newly made friends could offer important business contacts.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You might take pride in wanting to do everything yourself. But now's a good time to ask family members to help with a demanding personal situation.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Pay more attention to the possibilities in that workplace change. It could show the way to make that long-sought turn on your career path.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Your need to succeed might overwhelm obligations to your loved ones. Ease up on that workload and into some well-deserved time with family and friends.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Love rules for amorous Aquarians who can make good use of their ability to communicate feelings. Don't be surprised if they're reciprocated in kind.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Fishing for compliments? No doubt, you probably earned them. But it's best to let others believe they were the ones who uncovered the treasure you really are.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your good works flow from an open, generous heart. Nothing makes you happier than to see others happy as well.

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AUTOMOTIVE

EVENTS

THURSDAY, JAN. 11
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – SAPA TV, Springfield's public access TV station, will host an appreciation dinner on Thursday, Jan. 11, at the River Valley Technical Center Cafe, in honor of the station's community volunteers. There will be a buffet dinner catered by the RVTC Culinary Program, beginning at 6 p.m., followed by a short awards ceremony. This event is free and open to the public. If you plan to attend, an RSVP would be appreciated but is not necessary. You can RSVP at info@saptv.org or 802-885-6248.

FRIDAY, JAN. 12
SPRINGFIELD, Vt – Join us for games, crafts and conversation on Friday, Jan. 12, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Springfield Unitarian Universalist Church at 21 Fairground Rd. in Springfield. Tina Feindel, who is organizing the event, will have games available. You're also encouraged to bring your own games and crafts, such as board and card games, adult coloring, fiber arts, or active indoor games like juggling, bean bag games or hacky-sack. Please bring a snack to share. All are welcome!

SATURDAY, JAN. 13
CLAREMONT, N.H. – Claremont Opera House is proud to present Bogovich School of Dance "Alice in Wonderland" on Saturday, Jan. 13 at 7 p.m. Creative, vibrant costumes, a variety of dance forms including jazz, lyrical, ballet, gymnastics and a trampoline twist, all set to exciting Wonderland music. All ages will enjoy this dance interpretation of the classic Alice tale. Bring your friends and family to a fun night out. Tickets sold at the door.

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Village Square Booksellers in Bellows Falls, Vt, assisted by New Hampshire author and poet Jim Fowler, will host "2nd Saturday Open Mic" poetry reading on Saturday Jan. 13 at 1p.m. The Open Mic is held by having poets take turns reading from their works. The poets sit around a circle, so there is no need to be nervous about standing in front of a room for newbie poetry readers. Call 802-463-9404 for event reservations. For

more information visit, <http://www.villagesquarebooks.com/event/poetry-open-mic>

SUNDAY, JAN. 14
SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – Main Street Arts and the Saxtons River Historical Society continue the Fireside Chats series Sunday, Jan. 14 at 5:30 p.m. in the dining room of the Saxtons River Inn with a talk on The Art of Timber Framing, with Jason Snell, owner of Old Timers Timber Frames in Saxtons River. The series is offered at no charge, with donations accepted. Those attending are invited to bring their own memories and memorabilia to share in this informal setting. The Inn's dining room will be open for dinner after the presentation for further socializing. Reservations are appreciated by calling the Inn at 802-869-2110. In case of inclement weather, cancellation information will be available by contacting Main Street Arts at 802-869-2960.

GASSETTS, Vt. – Gassetts Grange will be having the monthly Jamboree on Sun. Jan. 14 from 1 – 4 p.m., weather permitting. We will have Raffle and 50/50 tickets on sale, refreshments will be on sale in our kitchen. Donations accepted at the door. Our house band, Green Mountain Express will be starting us out and will share the time with you if you want to entertain us. Any inquiries please call Dave at 802-875-2637 or Donna at 802-591-4290.

THURSDAY, JAN. 18
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Birds of Chicago with special guest Hayley Reardon will perform at the The Bellows Falls Opera House on Thursday Jan. 18, from 7 – 10 p.m. Tickets are available online at www.bocbfoperahouse.brownpapertickets.com or for cash only at the door. Birds of Chicago are a mix of blues, folk, and rock. Singer/songwriter Hayley Reardon will open. Proceeds from this concert will be donated to Music & Memory, a non-profit that donates iPods, individually programmed with music loved by each patient, to folks

suffering from Alzheimers and other forms of dementia.

SATURDAY, JAN. 20
CHESTER, Vt. – On Saturday, Jan. 20, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., third generation psychic, Dan Churchill, will be at Dream Barn Hollow to share insight and information about life after death. He will share stories from his life and family, answer questions and then give individual past life readings. Space is limited. To register

call 802.875.1717 or email dreambarnhollow@gmail.com. Includes a light vegetarian lunch.

WEDNESDAYS –
CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – Weekly bingo at the Charlestown Memorial VFW Post 8497, 365 Lovers Lane Rd. Early Birds at 5 p.m., Regular Games at 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAYS –
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. – Weston Winter Farmer's Market at the Walker Farm Playhouse. 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! Lots of fun and real close to home. Shop and enjoy local!



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2018 CHEVY SILVERADO
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MSRP \$46,070
\$3,459 DUE AT DELIVERY
LEASE FOR 39 MONTHS

SALE PRICE
\$339/MONTH*

2018 CHEVY SILVERADO
DOUBLE CAB, 4X4

MSRP \$43,480
\$4,399 DUE AT DELIVERY
LEASE FOR 39 MONTHS

SALE PRICE
\$229/MONTH*

2017 CHEVY CRUZE LT Package, Dark Grey, Only 9,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$14,495	2016 NISSAN ROGUE AWD, Auto, PW, PDL, Tilt Wheel, Only 7,000 Miles WAS \$19,995 NOW \$18,995	2015 CHEVY EQUINOX AWD, LS Package, One Owner, Only 26,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$16,995	2015 KIA SORENTO LX Package, AWD, Fully Loaded WAS \$15,995 NOW \$13,995
2017 CHEVY CRUZE PREMIER Auto, Turbo, Fully Loaded, Only 7,000 Miles WAS \$17,995 NOW \$15,995	2016 CHEVY TRAX AWD, LS Package, Only 4,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$17,995	2015 FORD F-150 SUPER CREW CAB 4x4, Fully Loaded, One Owner WAS \$29,995 NOW \$28,995	2015 GMC ACADIA DENALI Fully Loaded, One Owner, Only 39,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$30,995
2017 NISSAN ROGUE AWD Auto, PW, PDL, Tilt Wheel, Only 5,000 Miles WAS \$20,995 NOW \$19,995	2016 SUBARU IMPREZA SPORT LIMITED AWD, Fully Loaded, One Owner, Leather WAS \$20,995 NOW \$19,995	2015 CHEVY 2500 HD EXTENDED CAB 4x4, Duramax Diesel, LT Package, One Owner, Only 44,000 Miles DURAMAX DIESEL	2014 CHEVY SUBURBAN LT Package, 4x4, Leather, Sun Roof, Fully Loaded SALE PRICE \$32,995
2017 NISSAN FRONTIER 4 DOOR CREW CAB 4x4, Fully Loaded, Only 7,000 Miles WAS \$26,995 NOW \$24,995	2016 CHEVY EQUINOX LTZ Package, AWD, 6 Cyl, Sun Roof, Navigation, Leather, One Owner WAS \$25,995 NOW \$24,995	2015 CHEVY EQUINOX LT Package, AWD, Sun Roof, One Owner SALE PRICE \$16,995	2014 GMC TERRAIN SLE 2, Navigation, Only 44,000 Miles WAS \$17,995 NOW \$16,995
2017 NISSAN MURANO S AWD, Only 3,000 Miles, Brand New SALE PRICE \$25,995	2015 CHEVY 2500 EXPRESS 12 PASSENGER VAN V8, Fully Loaded SALE PRICE \$16,995	2015 CHEVY G-30 HIGH CUBE 12 ft Box, Extra Clean, One Owner WAS \$26,995 NOW \$25,995	2014 FORD F-450 4X4 RACK DUMP BODY with Plow, V10 Gas Engine, One Owner ONLY 48,000 MILES

2015 TOYOTA RAV4
AWD, LE PACKAGE, ONLY 18,000 MILES
STOCK #1586

SALE PRICE
\$18,995

2018 CHEVY CRUZE
LT PACKAGE
MSRP \$22,325
\$2,239 DUE AT DELIVERY
LEASE FOR 39 MONTHS

SALE PRICE
\$189/MONTH*

2015 JEEP RENEGADE
4X4, SUN ROOF, ONLY 30,000 MILES
STOCK #1583

SALE PRICE
\$16,995

2014 GMC 2500 CREW CAB SLT Package, 4x4, One Owner, Fully Loaded WAS \$29,995 NOW \$27,995	2012 FORD FUSION SEL Package, Leather, Sun Roof, Only 27,000 Miles WAS \$11,995 NOW \$9,995	2010 CHEVY EQUINOX LT Package, AWD, Fully Loaded, Only 93,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$9,995	2007 CHEVY IMPALA LS Sedan, V6, Auto, Fully Loaded SALE PRICE \$4,295
2014 BUICK REGAL GS AWD, 2.0 Liter Turbo, Sun Roof, Fully Loaded WAS \$18,995 NOW \$17,995	2012 TOYOTA SIENNA LE VAN AWD, V6, Auto, Only 55,000 Miles SALE PRICE \$13,995	2009 TOYOTA TACOMA CREW CAB 4x4, SR5, Auto, Fully Loaded SALE PRICE \$17,995	2005 DODGE RAM 1500 REGULAR CAB 4x4, Short Box SALE PRICE \$6,995
2014 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA SE Package, Fully Loaded, Only 23,000 Miles WAS \$11,995 NOW \$10,995	2011 HONDA PILOT EXL Package, AWD, Leather, Sun Roof, One Owner WAS \$16,995 NOW \$15,995	2009 NISSAN FRONTIER CREW CAB 4x4, Fully Loaded, One Owner SALE PRICE \$10,995	2005 VOLVO XC-70 AWD STATION WAGEN Extra Clean SALE PRICE \$3,495
2014 CHEVY CRUZE LT Package, Auto, One Owner, Only 15,000 Miles WAS \$12,995 NOW \$11,995	2011 NISSAN ROGUE S Model, AWD SALE PRICE \$8,995	2009 HONDA ACCORD LXP Fully Loaded, Only 84,000 Miles WAS \$8,995 NOW \$7,495	2005 GMC 2500 REG CAB 4x4, w/ Fisher Plow SALE PRICE \$6,995
2013 CHEVY TAHOE LTZ Package, Fully Loaded WAS \$29,995 NOW \$28,995	2011 NISSAN FRONTIER 4 DOOR CREW CAB 4x4, SL Package, Sun Roof, Leather Interior, Extra Clean SALE PRICE \$11,995	2008 CHEVY EQUINOX AWD, Sport Package, V6, Fully Loaded SALE PRICE \$8,995	1999 GMC 2500 4x4, w/ Fisher Plow SALE PRICE \$3,495

2005 GMC 2500 REG CAB
4X4, WITH FISHER PLOW
STOCK #05143

SALE PRICE
\$6,995

2016 DODGE RAM 1500
EXTENDED CAB, 4X4, A/C, TILT WHEEL, PL, PW, ONLY 19,000 MILES
STOCK #1646

SALE PRICE
\$26,995

1999 GMC 2500
4X4, WITH FISHER PLOW
STOCK #7178A

SALE PRICE
\$3,495

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calendar

PETS OF THE WEEK/AUTOMOTIVE

LIBRARIES

MONDAY, JAN. 22 – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Join the book discussion of “The Handmaid’s Tale” by Margaret Atwood at the Rockingham Library on Monday, Jan. 22 at 4 p.m. Copies of this title are now available to borrow at the Library’s front desk. Carly Fox, a teacher from Vermont Academy who has a background in Women’s History, will facilitate this discussion. This event is free and open to the public.

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

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

WEDNESDAYS – 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

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

MONDAYS– SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - NAMI Vermont Connection Recovery Support Group is a mental illness support group. It provides a forum to share experiences and learn about opportunities and challenges regardless of diagnostics.

LUDLOW, Vt. – Eating behavior support group meets

HCRS, CRT Room, 390 River St. Meets every Monday from 1-2 p.m. Info: call 800-639-6480 or visit www.namivt.org. TFN

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Overeaters Anonymous Meeting from 7-8 p.m., 44 School St., Bellows Falls. Please call 802-376-3507. TFN

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 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.

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pets of the week



Meet Barista

Hi! My name's Barista, and I'm a nearly 6-month-old neutered male. I came to Lucy Mackenzie as a stray with my brothers and sisters when we were found living on our own. We've made many good cat and people friends since we've been here. I tend to be a little on the reserved side, especially in comparison to

my brother, JD. He's so outgoing! It would be pretty nice if we could be adopted together. I think we make a really good pair and would bring lots of fun and love to any household. If you've been thinking about adopted a new feline companion or two, stop in and meet me (or us) today!



Meet Mittens

Hi! My name's Mittens, and I'm a 1-year-old spayed female and I am a playful fun-loving cat that is sure to bring lots of love and adventure to any home! I came to Lucy Mackenzie with some of my cat buddies when our owner was suddenly forced to relocate. I don't mind it here at all! There's lots to do. I LOVE to play! And

there's lots of nice cats and people. I was actually adopted for a short while, but things didn't work out. That's OK, though. I'd love find a new home where there are lots and lots of toys and people to pet me, too. I'm affectionate, adorable, and awesome. If you've been looking for a new kitty companion, stop in and meet me today!

Lucy McKenzie Humane Society | 4832 VT Route 44, West Windsor Vt. 802-484-5829 | www.lucymac.org | Tuesday through Saturday, noon-4 p.m. Serving the towns of Andover, Baltimore, Cavendish, Chester, Grafton, Londonderry, Ludlow, Springfield, Weathersfield, Weston and Windsor

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