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Attendees brave frozen temperatures for Chester Winter Carnival

BY KYLE LAURITA BONOMETTI
The Vermont Journal

CHESTER, Vt. – On the weekend of Feb. 19 and 20, 2022, Chester celebrated their annual Winter Carnival in the midst of harsh winds and flurrying snow. Despite the inclement weather, people of all ages could be seen walking from the horse-drawn sleigh rides up by the baseball diamond, down to the parking lot to get hot cocoa and hot dogs, and then over to the field nearby for the snowmobile demos. According to Lee Whiting, one of the organizers of the Festival and a resident of Andover, it was a “good turnout, kind of what we expected.”

License plates from Connecticut, Maine, New York, Massachusetts, and, of course, Vermont, could be seen dotting the Pinnacle, where the carnival took place, but, according to Donna Hedkins of Smokeshire Farms, this festival is more for the locals. As she and her husband, Peter Hedkins, readied Betsy and Clarke, the two horses pulling the sleigh, for their next trip through the woods, Donna Hedkins spoke to the lasting power of the Festival and its roots in the community. Anyone in attendance could see the truth in this, as children hiked up through snow in sub-freezing temperatures to sled down the hill, and parents cheered their kids on as the winds whipped at

clothing and the snow piled up. The pride that residents of the historic town of Chester found in their community was clear, and as Stan Choiniere, President of the Chester Snowmobile Club, grilled burgers and hot dogs under a tent that did little to keep out the elements, he pointed to the baked goods that Vicky, Georgia, and Connor Mustoe, new owners of the Stone Hearth Inn, had provided. “The snowmobile club is here to support the event, orchestrate the snowmobile rides, and host the food to supplement the festival,” Choiniere said as he handed two cups of hot chocolate to a nearby couple. To his right, families lined up to see their kids

ride miniature snowmobiles, and to his left, a group of locals swept the ice skating rink for some impromptu hockey. At 3 p.m., Jeff Day of Ice Designs in New Hampshire took a chainsaw to a block of ice and began sculpting a Santa Claus out of a three hundred pound hunk of ice before a crowd of onlookers. Several people sipped lattes bought from Southern Pie Company across the road as they watched Day carve ice blocks. “Each of these takes three days to create,” Day noted. At 4:30 p.m., people could be seen in the Village Green lighting fire sculptures, and at 5 p.m. there was a guided snowshoe



Peter and Donna Hedkins and their horses, Clarke and Betsy, prepare for a sleigh ride through the woods. PHOTO BY KYLE LAURITA BONOMETTI

hike on the Brookside Trail, overlooking the town. On Feb. 20, the following morning, there was a broom hockey game at the Pinnacle, where spectators cheered on their teams and concessions were sold by the GMUHS Booster Club.

Despite the cold, the wind, and the snow, the Chester Winter Carnival brought visitors from around New England, across Vermont, and throughout Chester together for a weekend that boasted broad smiles and, yes, some wet socks.

Changes to GMUSD may include procedures, schedule, and class size

BY SHARON HUNTLEY
The Vermont Journal

CHESTER, Vt. – The Green Mountain Unified School District Board was able to accomplish nearly two hours of business before being ended abruptly by a power outage during their Feb. 17 meeting. During that time, the board heard from two parents and a grandmother about an incident that happened at the middle school, and Superintendent Lauren Fierman laid out two upcoming initiatives for the district – considering early release professional development for all district schools, and reconfiguring classes to achieve an ideal class size.

The Green Mountain Union Middle/High School incident involved three middle school girls, all aged 12, who were pulled from their classrooms and brought into a separate room by the Assistant Principal Mike Ripley and a female guidance counselor for suspicion of using vape devices. They were allegedly searched, made to empty pockets and bags, and patted down. No vape devices were found.

One parent called the incident, “Totally uncalled for,” and said that parents were only notified several hours afterward with a blunt, two-sentence email. The parent called to question the policies and procedures that were in place at the school.

Another parent said that physical and emotional boundaries were crossed, and that since then, her daughter has missed several days of school to process the incident. The parent said that she was hoping there could be changes to procedures at the school, turning what happened into some-

thing positive. The girl’s grandmother asked that the board keep an eye on the timeline of how the incident is addressed and termed the incident, “appalling,” and said that it has caused her granddaughter “horrific trauma.”

Fierman advised parents to follow the established chain of command: first meeting with Ripley, then, if not resolved, moving on to discuss with GMUHS Principal Keith Hill, and then to the Superintendent’s office if still not resolved. She said they have an obligation not to discuss anything in a public forum.

Board Chairman Joe Fromberger said that the board would not take any action until the administration had in-depth contact, first at the school level, and then with the superintendent’s office.

Fierman asked the board to consider meeting with the Ludlow Mount Holly Unified Union School Board for a joint session to discuss aligning the school schedules for all five Two Rivers Supervisory Union schools. The key point being whether to include a weekly early release day with embedded professional development time for all schools, mirroring the one at Cavendish Town Elementary School, or to eliminate the early release day for Cavendish altogether.

Fierman expressed her support for the alignment, saying, “I believe there is a clear benefit for our teachers and therefore our students in having this.” She acknowledged that the decision must be weighed against the responsibility for parents to find childcare solutions for that half-day each week. Cavendish has

been able to provide an afterschool program that covers childcare for that day, but that may not be possible for all schools.

The schedule would replace five days of professional development throughout the school term, equaling approximately 40 hours, with weekly time, which would provide approximately 75 hours.

Fierman said that she had done surveys of parents and school staff throughout the district, who were largely split on the issue, but she urged the board not to consider this when making a decision. Rather, she asked them to make a decision based on the value to the teachers and students.

The board agreed to meet with the LM-HUUSD board to discuss further so that they can make a decision together. The joint meeting will be scheduled at the end of March. Input from different members of the GMUSD board during the discussion showed that the board members were split on the issue. Fierman provided the board with a slideshow put together by the Cavendish staff that highlighted positive outcomes from the half-day development.

Fierman outlined another district wide initiative she was planning to implement: a two to three-year plan for right-sizing classrooms at the elementary level with an ideal number of students, roughly 13–18 kids per class. She said that class sizes of five, six, or seven

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Cannabis opt-in vote finds some support from the Chester Selectboard

BY SHARON HUNTLEY
The Vermont Journal

CHESTER, Vt. – The Chester Selectboard focused the majority of their Feb. 16 meeting on the upcoming opt-in Cannabis retail vote, which will take place at the upcoming Chester Town Meeting, with board members arguing both sides of the issue.

The board began the retail cannabis opt-in vote discussion by reviewing three questions they had set to answer at their last meeting: required distance from school property, law enforcement tools for detection of cannabis impaired driving, and oversight of pesticides in cannabis cultivation.

Distance from schools, which was identified as a 500-foot distance from school property either abutting school property or within 500 feet of a stream or a public highway, still left a few clarifying questions the board still wanted to find answers to.

Additional police training is available in the form of two options: either through an Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement training, which has been required since 1986, or becoming a Drug Recognition Expert, which requires extensive additional man hours.

On the subject of pesticides, the board confirmed that they were regulated by the Vermont Department of Agriculture. Board member Lee Gustafson brought up his concerns about lack of control by the board and

potential contamination of ground water. The discussion was brought to an end however when board member Heather Chase reminded the board that any issues related to growing had nothing to do with opt-in vote for retail sales that the town is considering.

Gustafson, who has openly opposed retail cannabis in Chester, then turned his attention to a 30-page document received by the State of Vermont Cannabis Control Board outlining in detail the regulations of cannabis establishments, a document received over a month ago and distributed in their informational packet for this meeting. He said that the document raised more questions for him, and said that they were getting way ahead of themselves on this whole issue.

Chase said that at this point that it’s up to the voters, although she felt they could wait and “let other people make mistakes and see what their mistakes are.”

Board Chair Arne Jonynas countered saying that by the same token, you can have other people reap the benefits by being the first to do something too. “There’s two sides to everything,” he stated. He added that when looking through documentation, for every point he’s read, he could go online and find something that refutes it.

Jonynas also questioned a previous document Gustafson had provided the board, a 13-page document entitled “Why Marijuana Retail Sales are Not Good for Chester,” that was distributed to the board in January, saying that Gustafson had quoted the CDC in the document, but a month ago

on another matter said that Gustafson didn’t believe anything the CDC said, so it “kind of threw into question the whole document.”

Gustafson responded that he appreciated the feedback, and said he also used other references to make the same point. He then posited that the board put out a statement or resolution saying they didn’t believe they needed more time and that the board thinks voters should have more information. He went on to add that he’d be happy to come up with language for that statement if that was how the board wanted to proceed.

Chase again reiterated that it was up to the voters about whether cannabis should be sold in Chester, and that the state had already decided that cannabis was legal and decriminalized, and she was supportive of those decisions, although would have liked to see more definitive pros and cons spelled out.

Jonynas said that he felt that Chester would be fine with retail cannabis and could handle it and that he did not feel they had the right to restrict local business. “I don’t think it’s the government’s job is to put restrictions on businesses. Once it’s legal in the state, I have a hard time, as a local representative of the local government saying, ‘No, you can’t do that,’” said Jonynas. He added that he didn’t think voting retail cannabis down would change usage of cannabis at all.

Board member Jeff Holden stressed the need for the community to still work together on other issues, even

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EMAIL YOUR PRESS RELEASES, ARTICLES, AND PHOTOS
editor@vermontjournal.com

GMUHS Alumni parade welcomes participants

CHESTER, Vt. – The Green Mountain Union High School Alumni parade will take place Saturday, June 11 at 11 a.m. this year. Participants will line up by the Chester Town Hall at 10 a.m. and continue to Cobleigh Field where awards and presentations will be given. Since the parade was cancelled the past two years due to Covid, the classes of 1970, 1971, and 1972 are encouraged to participate in this year's 50-year anniversary. If you would like to participate



A float from the 2019 parade. PHOTO BY JOE MILLIKEN

in the parade, contact parade chairman Chris Walker at 802-289-4502 or John Clark at 802-353-6043. There will also be a social gathering Friday, June 10 at the Chester American Legion. All GMUHS Alumni are encouraged to come by anytime Friday evening and visit with classmates.

Slam poetry in Chester

CHESTER, Vt. – It's time to pull out that poetry notebook of yours. Or, better yet, start a poetry notebook. You'll want to be ready to take part in or just enjoy the Thursday-evening Stone Village Poetry Experience in March, April, and May. Or just to come listen – it's a lot of fun! Co-sponsored by Chester's Whiting Library and the First Universalist Parish of Chester, the Poetry Experience will offer monthly poetry slams and poetry-writing workshops that are open to all. The slams will take place from 7-9 p.m. on March 17, April 14, and May 5.

The workshops will take place, also from 7-9 p.m., on March 31, April 28, and May 19. Poetry slams are light-hearted, competitive events in which judges made up of audience members rate the quality of each poet's reading. GMUHS and Emerson College graduate Tuck Wunderle will serve as slam master. The slams will take place at the UU church at 211 North St. in Chester's Stone Village. The poetry-writing workshops will be led by Wunderle and Nick Boke. These published poets will facilitate discussions of the poems brought to the workshop by

would-be or highly experienced poets, including but not limited to those who want to practice their slam presentations. The workshops will take place in the Whiting Library at 117 Main St. in Chester, Vt. Slam poets who participate in all three Thursdays can compete for prizes. For more information about the Stone Village Poetry Experience, contact Tuck Wunderle at tuckerman@terrigenous.com, Nick Boke at nickboke@gmail.com or Whiting Director Deirdre Doran at whitinglibrary1@gmail.com.

"Hidden Women," a talk with Elayne Clift

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – In recognition of Women's History Month, Elayne Clift presents her talk on, "Hidden Women: Contributions to Healthcare, War and Resistance, Literature and Leadership" on Thursday, March 3 at 6:30 p.m. over Rockingham Library Zoom. History is rife with "hidden women" whose contributions deserve attention. From mythic times to the present, women around the world have been overlooked, silenced, and forgotten as historic figures, despite their acts of courage, creativity, and intellectual and artistic achievements. It's time to

recognize, honor, and applaud them. This presentation gives some of them their due and helps raise awareness about other women like them. It showcases women who represent contributions to four important sectors of society and culture, including medical pioneers and indigenous healers, fighters and activists during war, writers who dared to tell the truth of women's lives, and overlooked women with proven leadership skills. Elayne Clift has written widely about women, health, and social justice through the lens of gender. She has taught Women's and Gen-

der Studies in the U.S. and abroad. To receive an invitation to join the live Zoom presentation, contact programming@rockinghamlibrary.org or call 802-463-4270.



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kids was not a benefit to students nor fiscally feasible for the district. The plan would include multiple-grade classrooms as well as other options. She said they could make an option to move between schools as well. She made

der Studies in the U.S. and abroad.

To receive an invitation to join the live Zoom presentation, contact programming@rockinghamlibrary.org or call 802-463-4270.

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Seventh Heaven Salon and Spa new ownership

LUDLOW, Vt. – Seventh Heaven Salon & Spa in Ludlow recently celebrated a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate their new ownership and chamber membership. Now owned by the Campney family, who also own Green Mountain Fireplace Specialties, they are very proud of their dedicated cosmetologists, Jeri Savery and Katelyn Stewart. Some of the changes that have been made at the salon since it was purchased in 2021 include being exclusively Aveda and thus offering 100% vegan and cruelty-free hair and body products; A dedicated manicure and pedicure room with a new fireplace and views of Okemo Mountain; and another pedicure chair so that they can service couples and friends at the same time.



Jeri holds the ribbon along with Chamber Director Carol Lighthall as Katelyn cuts it. PHOTO BY IMAGES BY DONALD DILL.

Their plans for the near future include working with lashes, hair extensions, and barbering with hot towel service and dedicated men's hair products. The Salon is also planning on adding tanning,

make-up application, massage therapy, and esthetician services. To book appointments, visit their website at www.seventhheavensalonandspa.com or call 802-228-1717.

Rotary hears from Okemo Valley TV Executive Director

LUDLOW, Vt. – At their Feb. 15 meeting, the Ludlow Rotary Club heard from Okemo Valley TV's Executive Director Patrick Cody. He provided a report on the station's activities of late, its various challenges and its opportunities. He reported that the biggest challenge for the station has been keeping up with the rapid technological changes. Keeping up with technological shifts is an expensive but essential practice due to the ways people have changed their viewing habits over the years. Okemo Valley TV keeps a video on demand archive on its website, has a YouTube channel, and is also available on the free "Cablecast Screenwave" app on Roku and Apple TV. When the station began in 2001 as LPCTV,

viewers were cable TV subscribers who received the channels with their subscription. Cable TV was by far the largest source of revenue for the not-for-profit entity, as Comcast is required to pay a small percentage of every customer's fees to support community access (PEG) TV in return for the exclusive cable rights to this market area. However, this applies only to cable television, not to internet service. In response to declining cable subscriptions, Cody and the Board have looked to sponsorships from local businesses and individuals as well as town appropriations to keep the station operating and up to date with equipment needs. One critical equipment need has been outfitting towns with remote meeting and broadcasting capacity as a result of Covid. Cody is working with several towns in their

broadcast area to establish remote meeting capabilities for each of them. Cody spoke to the increase in participation in government meetings because residents and non-residents can Zoom into a meeting from the comfort of their home even if they are out of town. Also important to the station's operation is public participation in producing and airing local public interest content. Residents who wish to produce videos or host a show are encouraged to contact the station for more details. Patrick can be reached at 802-228-8808, or by email at manager@okemovalley.tv. Anyone interested in learning more about joining Rotary is invited to contact Kevin Barnes, Membership Chairman at 802-228-8877, to receive an invitation to a meeting.

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would be done through attrition over the course of two to three years so that no teachers would be fired, but rather pared down through retirement or normal turnover. Fierman said she would put the initiative on future agendas and present a more formal plan, to see if the board will adopt the proposal for implementation over next several years. The next GMUSD regular board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 17 at 6 p.m. The school budget informational meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 26 at 6 p.m. via Zoom and at GMUHS.

if some are split on the cannabis vote. "We need to work together on everything... This is just one subject. Let's not let it spoil everything," she said. Chester resident Scott Blair, who is behind the petition in support of the opt-in vote, said that the Vermont Cannabis Control Board meets every Monday at 11 a.m., and can be viewed remotely. In other town business, Town Manager Julie Hance provided a list, along with costs, to the board on projects that have been identified by Chester Department heads and other community members for ways to use the town's ARPA funds. Those projects will continue to be discussed in future meetings and they will continue to get community feedback. Hance asked permission to apply for a \$200,000 grant from the Downtown Transportation fund, with applications due in early March. The grant would provide funding for the Wayfinding Plan, which includes erecting signage leading people to the Village and other areas around town. Two benches, donated by new Chester resident Mr. Sottovia, will be placed in front of the Academy Building lawn area so folks can sit and observe the Chester green. Installation will begin in the spring. The next regular Chester Selectboard meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 2 at 6 p.m. at the Chester Town Office or via Zoom. The town informational meeting is scheduled for Monday, Feb. 28, with the Town Meeting vote, by Australian ballot, on Tuesday, March 1.

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Vermont to end mask recommendation for highly vaccinated schools

MONTPELIER, Vt. – At Gov. Phil Scott’s weekly press conference, state officials announced that the universal mask recommendation for Vermont schools will not be extended past Feb. 28, 2022. The state-level recommendation to public and independent schools was issued in August 2021 through a joint memo from the Department of Health and Agency of Education.

The announcement, which officials called a first step towards eventually fully removing school mask recommendations, means that after Feb. 28, 2022, school districts and independent schools may consider lifting mask requirements for schools where the student vaccination rate is over 80%.

The initial memo originally set implementation for September 2021, but the implementation date had been extended several times due to challenges posed by the Delta and Omicron variants of the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

“Our schools have had an incredibly difficult year, and this is an important step to getting them back to normal,” said Secretary of Education Dan French. “We need our schools to be able

to focus all of their energies on their customary work of meeting the educational needs of our students rather than spending the better part of the school day attending to the implementation of public health measures,” Sec. French said. “The work of our schools has never been more critical. No longer recommending masks in highly vaccinated schools is an important step towards shifting our focus on the needed recovery work in education.”

State health officials noted that based on widespread access to vaccines for students, the low risk Covid poses to school-aged children, improving hospitalization data and current modeling projections, lifting the masking recommendation for schools, starting with those that meet the 80% threshold, is an appropriate step at this stage.

“Over the past two years, parents, students, and school staff have stepped up, integrating these requirements for protecting their kids and school staff health deep into their daily practices. That hard work has been an important part of our ability to move for-

ward,” said Health Commissioner Mark Levine, MD. “We know that vaccination is the most powerful and effective tool we have, and most of our school staff and students have heeded the call and are either up to date on their vaccines or are closing in. Because the Omicron variant leads to less severe outcomes, we can safely lift the masking recommendations in these highly vaccinated settings,” said Dr. Levine.

The state’s current recommendations for masking in schools are advisory. Individual schools or supervisory unions have been responsible for deciding whether to adopt the guidance. To date, only one school district has not adopted the state’s recommendation.

School district or independent school administrations will inform their learning communities about any change in their schools’ mask requirements.

For Covid school recommendations and considerations, visit the AOE webpage.

Covid information and guidance is available at www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19.

Collegiate Honors

REGION – The following is a summary of those students who’s GPA qualified them for making the President’s List, Dean’s List, or Honors at their various institutions for the Fall 2021 semester:

Roger Williams University
Allison Kenney of Chester
Kaelie Peoples of Springfield

Castleton University
Dean’s List:

Emery Benoit of Cavendish
Ashley Chamberlin of N. Springfield
Jasmine Eastman of Perkinsville

Alyssa Ferris of Springfield
Alexandra Hutchins of Springfield

Abigail Joslyn of Bellows Falls
Nina Neptune of Springfield

Ashlynn Rumrill of Mount Holly
Jairen Sanderson of W. Townshend

Jenna Veysey of Springfield
Madison Wilson of Chester
Makenna Milbauer of Grafton

Deacon Watson of Springfield
President’s List:

Noah Distefano of W. Townshend
Samantha Laplante of Springfield

Sarah McHugh of Mount Holly
Reilly Tennis of Springfield

Graduated:
Caleb Lisai of Bellows Falls
Emerson College

Sarah Devereux of Cavendish
Springfield College

Samantha Mirra from Springfield
Dean College

Gwendylan Kekic of Chester
Clarkson University

Aidan Michael Cahill of Brownsville
Curry College

Haley Covillion of Bellows Falls
UNE

Morgan Brown of Ludlow
St. Lawrence University

Dean’s List:
Sam Cowles of South Londonderry

Hana Kusumi of South Londonderry

Hamilton College

Dean’s List:
Addison Kujovsky of S. Londonderry

Quinnipiac University
Dean’s List:

Reilly Merrill of Chester
Hofstra University

Dean’s List:
Spencer Fowler of S. Londonderry

University of Rhode Island
Dean’s List:

Gillian Guy of Springfield
Griff Waryas of Bellows Falls

Vermont Tech
President’s List:

Ryan Cooney of Springfield
Keegan Ewald of Cavendish

Dean’s List:
Anna Guild of Chester
Hyim Savel of Westminster

Daniel Graves of Springfield
Emily Mleccko of Putney
Jeffrey Bounds of Ludlow

Coastal Carolina University
President’s List:

Aislynn Kelley of Belmont
CCV

Dean’s List:
Isabel Cobb of Springfield
Deacon Watson of Springfield

President’s List:
Nicolette Beach of Chester
Dominique Pacheco of Ludlow

Autumn Morse of Springfield
Honor’s List:

Annalise Watkins of Cavendish
Sarah Rushford of Chester
Hannah Farrow of Ludlow

Austin Broome of Springfield
Jessica Call of Springfield
Sarah Davidson of Springfield

Ashley Jewell of Springfield
Tori Lovell of Springfield
Payden Vongphouthone of Springfield

Ithaca College
Dean’s List:

Colin Costa-Walsh of Putney
Avery White of Townshend

UNH
Dean’s List:
Sierra Kehoe of Chester

Paul Smith’s College

Dean’s List:
Jarrett Lapinski of Chester
Brenna LaDuc of Bellows Falls

Owen Edwards of Bellows Falls
Kendra Atkin of Bellows Falls

Kevin Dernier of Weston
Champlain College

President’s List:
Nathan Luman of Chester

Dean’s List:
Ashley Bolton of S. Londonderry

Jacob Lazarek of Westminster
Husson University

President’s List:
Alan J. Aldrich of Springfield

Dean’s List:
Alexander Hrabchak of Putney

Bryant University
Dean’s List:

Meagan Kelly of Westminster
University of Hartford

Honor’s List and Dean’s List:
Adam Culver of Grafton
Benjamin Haseltine of Chester

Owen Rounds of Westminster
Dean’s List:
William Frank of S. Londonderry

Kayden Wolf of Springfield
Tufts University

Dean’s List:
Lia Clark of Saxtons River
Abby Donaghue of Andover

University of Saint Joseph
Dean’s List:

Ella Warner of Putney



LOCAL HISTORY

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 ronpatch27@gmail.com

Cabin Fever

I thought I would write an article about, “The Weathervane,” for this week. About 1984, I bought the antique horse weathervane on the barn at Stone Hearth Inn. I took a photo of that vane but can’t find it, so that story waits.

Another very large rooster vane I knew on North Street was stolen off the cupola by helicopter. I’ve owned a couple other local vanes that I will include in that future article.

Weathervane history is a subject I know well. I have probably owned 50 vanes in my day.

Barn cat

I’ve had a stray cat hanging around for several months now. I’ve been putting food scraps out for him on the coldest nights. I even bought a couple cans of cheap cat food. He’s not fussy.

I thought he should get out of the weather, so I created an entry for this wayward feline into my barn. I’ve seen his tracks in the snow where he enters the barn. Now he has food and lodging. Life is good.

Maybe he can catch mice in the barn. Those pesky little devils have built nests in clock cases or chewed on contents of boxes.

Kim Kendall had a barn cat for seven years. It didn’t belong to anyone, just lived in the barn.

CHS credit

A couple years ago, I was contacted by Jane C. Nylander. Jane was writing a book on New England Parades titled, “The Best Ever! Parades in New England, 1788-1940.” She asked if Chester Historical Society had any photos or histories to share.

I sent her two photos;



Ethan Allen model weathervane. PHOTO PROVIDED BY RON PATCH

one was the School Street firemen in a parade on Main Street circa 1907. It’s a full-page photo that includes history I supplied.

The second photo is the dedication of our Civil War monument in 1885. This photo shows a group of Civil War veterans, in their GAR uniforms, standing around the monument. I included about a page of monument history. It is good to see Chester mentioned in such a publication. This can’t hurt the town.

I just received a copy of Jane’s book. It’s a comprehensive book of 384 pages with many sepia tone and color plates.

My article

You may recall me mentioning a while back that I was asked to write an article for the Journal of Antiques and Collectibles, a national antiques magazine. I submitted an article about country auctions.

I am just old enough to have witnessed the end of old Vermont. If I was much younger I would have missed it. I did my best to accurately depict these Vermonters and their way of life. I think I was successful.

If you’ve ever wondered what life was like in the old days, this article might shed some light. These Vermonters were a very friendly and honest people. It was my pleasure to have known them.

You can read my article at: www.journalofantiques.com.

When you arrive at the

site, you’ll notice on the left, “Read the January issue.” This will soon change to “Read the February issue.” Wait a minute and March will appear, click March and that issue will appear. My article is pages 21 through 23.

The pellet stove

I bought an inexpensive pellet stove several years ago.

I died in January. I am pretty good at repairing mechanical things but suck at anything electrical.

I had Lee Decatur take a look. Lee is pretty good on electrical gadgetry. We couldn’t find the trouble. Last week I removed the auger and motor assembly. I found a broken cotter key. At Chester Hardware I bought another key for 38 cents.

I came home and installed the new key and put the auger assembly back in the stove. Henry was convinced, “This is it!”

He was a little premature as the stove showed no improvement. I couldn’t figure it out.

Off and on for a couple weeks, I watched “How to” videos online. There’s a vacuum switch that often causes problems. The way to test the vacuum switch is to unplug the two wires to the switch. Using a paper clip, insert the clip ends to each wire connector, still nothing.

In moving the stove out from the wall to work on it, the paper clip fell off. When it wouldn’t start with the new cotter key, I looked everything over closely and noticed the paper clip missing. So I plugged the two wires back to the vacuum switch. It lives!

This week’s old saying is from Henry: “Get a bigger hammer.”

Edward Jones celebrates Centennial Anniversary

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Financial services firm Edward Jones announces the celebration of its Centennial, marking a century of transformative growth and the positive impact it has made for its clients, colleagues, communities and society. This year and beyond, Edward Jones’ more than 50,000 colleagues will join in activities that celebrate this monumental milestone and set the stage for the continued growth of the firm’s impact in the next 100 years.

Throughout 2022, Edward Jones will celebrate its Centennial across the communities it serves throughout North America, with virtual and in-person events, connections to philanthropic and community efforts, and much more.

“Since Edward D. Jones Sr. opened the doors of our firm 100 years ago, our focus has been helping people connect to their own purpose and achieve things in their lives they might not have known were possible,” said Edward Jones Managing Partner Penny Pennington, the sixth leader in the firm’s history. “We are committed to providing guidance and tools to millions of families in North America, that raise their confidence in achieving greater possibility

in their lives. We are looking forward to the impact we can make on society - one person, one colleague, one community at a time - as we partner together and begin our next 100 years.”

Having achieved tremendous growth and impact over the past century, including increasing its branch office footprint by 1,400% since 1986, Edward Jones remains dedicated to continuing its extraordinary level of serving individual investors and business owners in a human-centered and complete way - helping clients put their purpose into action and achieve financially what is most important to them and their families.

During the Centennial celebration, the firm will initiate volunteer activities to achieve impact in the areas of partnering for lasting financial strength, promoting healthier futures, and advancing inclusive growth. It will also expand on its efforts to foster economic inclusion in the communities it serves, actively collaborating with organizations to make meaningful progress that enables every community to thrive.

On Jan. 27, the firm kicked off its Centennial with a virtual event for all associates and retirees across North America. Penning-

ton served as keynote for the event and was joined by several colleagues throughout the firm for remarks.

Just in time to commemorate this milestone, Edward Jones’ storied history of building deep personal relationships with clients to make a difference in their lives is told in a new book, “The Business of America Is Business,” by authors Robert L. Shook and Carrie Coolidge.

This book spans more than 500 years of American history and the role the business world has played in our nation’s development. Edward Jones is one of a small handful of iconic U.S. companies the authors selected for such an extensive profile.

To learn more, visit www.centennial.edward-jones.com.

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opinion

Dear Editor,

I am running for re-election to one of the two one-year seats on the Chester Selectboard.

Thanks to the hard work and continuing efforts of our residents who are active in their support of the municipal and school functions that often we take for granted, Chester is an attractive and good place to live. Our school system, including Green Mountain Union High School and Chester-Andover Elementary School, continues to meet the challenges of educating our students in the face of our Covid pandemic as it supports education for all and academic opportunities.

Our town government works hard to provide those services not often found in a rural Vermont town with a population of a bit more than 3,000 permanent resi-

dents. We have a municipal water and sewer system serving our residents and business owners in the Village area. Our town recreation department oversees many sporting and outdoor activities for our residents, young and old, with sports leagues for the kids, a town swimming pool, skateboard park, and a skating rink at the Pinnacle. Our new Town Emergency Services Building not only reflects our commitments to support improved safety, rescue, and fire services to our town and extended community, but also and importantly, provides our police officers and emergency responders with an up to date and efficient station to house their equipment and provide meeting space for on-going training requirements.

I am proud to serve as a

member of the Selectboard of this rural town of Chester, whose government continues to provide services and opportunities for its residents and community that often exceed the expectations of most small rural towns. During my previous 11 years on the Selectboard and my three terms in the Vermont legislature, I have worked hard and thoughtfully to make Chester a good place to live, to raise a family and to own a small business.

Please vote for me on Town Meeting voting day on March 1, 2022

Thanks for your support.

Sincerely,
Leigh Dakin
Chester, Vt.

Dear Editor,

Proud Past, Bright Future.

Rockingham friends and neighbors, I am excited to announce I am running for a second one-year term on the Rockingham Selectboard. It has been an enlightening and rewarding experience to serve the community as a Selectboard member over the past year. Meeting and building relationships with so many Rockingham folks has been fun while helping me understand how we can best move forward together towards a bright future. I believe the past year has seen a strength-

ening of collaboration and dialog between our community organizations, town employees, elected officials, and residents. This has been a top priority for me, and I believe we are making tremendous progress in building community and working together toward common goals. I envision a vibrant community where people of diverse ages and income levels can create a brighter future building on our proud past.

Some of my goals and priorities include economic development and the local creative economy, environmental stewardship,

historic preservation, and infrastructure. In addition to town Selectboard, I currently serve on the boards of Bellows Falls Downtown Development Alliance, Downtown Design Committee, Rockingham Historic Preservation Commission, Bellows Falls Historical Society, Greater Falls Chamber of Commerce, Bellows Falls Area Development Corporation, as well as collaborating with other local and regional initiatives.

Sincerely,
Elijah Zimmer
Bellows Falls, Vt.

Dear Editor,

This letter is to support Diana Garrow for our Selectboard.

Diana has served the town in many capacities over the years, which has given her the insight on how the Town runs best.

Having grown up here, she was raised with certain values and has learned the methods in the past that has made the town a good place to live.

She worked for her family's successful business for years. During this time, she learned the importance of

maintaining a budget and working towards limiting unnecessary expenses. During this work environment, she also knew the importance of good customer service and the need to treat people with respect. In the town, this means respect for fellow co-workers, Town Employees, and the taxpayers.

Her experience working as substitute Town Clerk and Assistant Treasurer gives her an understanding of how these positions run smoothly. She has the

knowledge and experience working with the other offices in the Town and will continue to work with Town officials in the role of a Selectboard member.

It can be seen that Diana has worked for the town's benefit for many years and would continue to work for the Town of Mount Holly as a Selectboard member.

Sincerely,
Christine Pratt
Mount Holly, Vt.

Dear Editor,

I support Springfield's proposed school budget and ask that you vote "yes" on March 1. A wide group of community members, including myself, worked for several weeks crafting our school budget. We asked tough questions ensuring that our tax dollars are being allocated wisely.

Springfield local taxes pay about 23% of the overall proposed \$33 million budget. That is roughly \$7.8 million in local taxes, of which, \$3.5 million is from residential homeowners. Qualifying Springfield homeowners will receive \$1.4 million back

in property tax relief. The school budget is increasing by 1.71% from last year. And while the per pupil cost has increased 5.75%, the tax rate is going down 1.4 cents per \$100 of property value. The bulk of the money comes from the State Education Fund.

When we vote down school budgets, it sets our town and our district back. We are in direct competition regionally to hire high quality teachers and staff. We cannot move forward in hiring without a budget - causing us to fall behind. This is especially important as we

face a teacher shortage nationwide.

Staffing shortfalls make it difficult to meet our children's needs in the classrooms. Without proper staffing, we cannot fully support students in their learning to recover from this pandemic.

This school budget is a good budget and worth supporting. It is well thought out and maximizes our resources. Please join me in voting "yes" to our school budget this year.

Sincerely,
Mary Krueger
Springfield, Vt.

Dear Editor,

For curious and responsible Vermont citizens, the Vermont Education Dashboard is a website tool for finding out how Vermont kids are doing in our government schools. It is not the easiest to use, and for individual schools does not show test data past 2019. The site does show aggregate data for all Vermont schools in 2021. (www.education.vermont.gov/.../vermont.../assessment)

My local government run high school is Green Mountain Union High School in Chester, Vt. This is what I learned in the Dashboard about student performance at GMUHS.

In 2019, 54% of 11th grade students at GMUHS were below proficient in Science.

64% of 8th grade students were below proficient in Math. 23% of 9th graders were below proficient in Language Arts. Language Arts is at least one bright spot.

Statewide in 2021, 58% of 11th grade students in Vermont were below proficient in Math. 70% of students in the 9th grade were below proficient in Science. 45% of 9th graders were below proficient in Language Arts.

The poor results of these tests have real world implications for all of us, but especially the children we are supposed to be educating. It is easy to point blame individually or collectively at teachers, administrators, politicians, school board members, and parents, but ultimately the blame falls on every citizen who chooses to stay uninformed and apathetic.

As a former parent and a former school board member at both CTES and GMUHS, I attempted to raise concerns with many of the shareholders in our schools about these and a number of other issues. It was a clumsy effort on my part. I was outnumbered, but I could and should have done better.

One thing I learned was that if throwing more money

at education was a solution, every student would be capable, successful, and happy. Every year, the school budgets increase with little improvement in the ability of the students to function in the world.

The board members and leadership at the TRSU and GMUHS are looking to spend an incredible amount of your tax dollars on renovations and upgrades in our school system. This spending, while overdue and necessary if these buildings are to stay functioning, needs to be weighed against what is happening or not happening with the students that occupy them.

As with most citizen concerns these days, I expect my own to fall on deaf ears and blind eyes. The last resort in getting the people in charge to listen and to see is to shut off the money supply. I will be voting 'NO' on my school budgets. It is past time to pause, reflect, and change course away from what is going wrong at Vermont's government run schools.

Sincerely,
Stu Lindberg
Cavendish, Vt.

Dear Editor,

Please cast your vote March 1, 2022 for Diana Garrow for Selectboard.

She was born and raised here and knows many resi-

dents by their first name. She will do all she can for what is right and in the best interest of the voters.

I know, trust, and respect

her and you can too.

Sincerely,
Zena and Robert Gates
Mount Holly, Vt.

Dear Editor,

I enthusiastically endorse Mary Krueger for a seat on the Springfield School Board. In the nine years I've known Mary, I've always found her to be thoughtful, considerate of the views of others, and genuinely concerned for and involved in her community.

As a parent myself who has had children in the Springfield School District for 17 years (and still does), I appreciate the diplomacy,

integrity, and authenticity she would bring to the board. I value how Mary also has a child in the district and is current with concerns and issues that the district faces.

It's important during this current time of personal and political agendas to note that Mary does not have her own agenda to bring to the School Board other than the goal of serving the community

and working to make our schools the best they can be. Our community needs and deserves someone like Mary.

Please vote for Mary Krueger. For more information you can contact Mary at marykru@gmail.com or on Facebook @ [mary4schoolvt](https://www.facebook.com/mary4schoolvt).

Sincerely,
Kerstin Burlingame
N. Springfield, Vt.

Fraud Watch Network: Tax Scams

REGION – Tax season is underway and here is a scene that plays out all too commonly: you complete the forms and shortly after filing, you receive a notice from the Internal Revenue Service that your request for a refund was denied stating that you were already given a refund based on your 2021 tax return. A criminal accessed your personal data, including your social security number, filed an electronic return, and was issued a tax refund based on your information.

Finding out if you are the

victim of a tax scam can be difficult. Be proactive. Check with your state tax department or the IRS to see if there are issues involving your records. Contact information: IRS – www.sa.www4.irs.gov/irfof/lang/en/irfofgetstatus.jsp or 800-829-1040; Vermont – www.myvtax.vermont.gov/_/ or 800-828-2865.

File a police report with local law enforcement, report the scam to the Federal Trade Commission at www.ftc.gov, and if the crime involves state taxes, contact your state tax department. You can also pre-empt fraud. Start by registering for online access to your tax records at the state and federal tax departments. That can freeze out criminals from creating a tax account in your name. File taxes electronically to expedite the process. Check your tax accounts regularly to see if there is unusual, unexpected, or unexplained activity.

Have you have noticed a flurry of advertisements for online investing and online

financial record keeping? Some offers are made with the label "FREE." If a service or product is offered free, you are not the consumer; you are the product.

As we have seen, criminals are adept at applying the latest technology to steal from victims. Most recently, scam calls are being placed with AI; calls able to understand some verbal responses. The scam begins with a "friendly" voice asking a question like, "Are you interested in lower insurance rates?" The computer waits for an appropriate answer and then directs your call to a call center.

The best action to take is not to answer calls from numbers you do not recognize. If you answer one – there is often a noticeable click – hang up and report the call to your telephone service provider.

Questions or comments?
Email egreenblott@aarp.org. Elliott Greenblott is a retired educator and coordinator of the AARP Vermont Fraud Watch Network.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR SUBMISSIONS

Subject to space. May be edited for clarity, grammatical errors, and libelous statements. Must be kept under 400 words. Must include name and town for publication. Viewpoints do not necessarily reflect the views of The Vermont Journal & The Shopper.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Atlas page
- 4 Ivy League University
- 9 Science room
- 12 GPS suggestion
- 13 Haunting
- 14 Docs' org. 1989 Al
- 15 Pacino film
- 17 Decks in the ring
- 18 Small battery
- 19 Yard tools
- 21 "Understood"
- 24 Membership
- 25 Tolkien beast
- 26 Civil War soldier
- 28 Pulitzer category
- 31 Abound
- 33 Narc's org.
- 35 Dr. McGraw
- 36 Anticipate
- 38 Chips go-with
- 40 Sugar suffix
- 41 Mark Harmon
- 43 TV series
- 44 School break
- 45 Shun
- 47 Owned
- 48 Sashimi fish
- 49 New York
- 54 Decay
- 55 Ryan or Tatum

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DOWN

- 1 " – Miniver"
- 2 Packed away
- 3 Shell-game item
- 4 "No cheating!"
- 5 Akin
- 6 Acapulco gold
- 7 "The First – Club"
- 8 Required
- 9 Sierra Nevada resort
- 10 Cupid's specialty
- 11 Low range
- 16 Granola grain
- 20 John Irving hero
- 21 Teeny bit
- 22 Got bigger
- 23 Maryland beach town
- 27 Nap site
- 29 Avoid
- 30 Pub orders
- 32 Lansing's st.
- 34 Dunce
- 37 Steering system part
- 39 Gems from oysters
- 42 Pigs
- 44 LPs' successors
- 45 Jug handles
- 46 "Scram!"
- 50 Churchill gesture
- 51 Conditions
- 52 Pair
- 53 Conclusion

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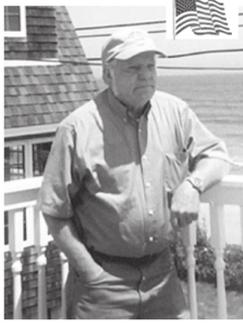
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SERVICES

obituaries

Richard N. Baker, 1939-2022

HILL, N.H. – Richard N. Baker of Hill, N.H., and formerly of the Andover, Vt. and Townshend, Vt. areas passed away on Feb. 12, 2022, after a short non-Covid related illness. He was born on Nov. 26, 1939, in West Glover, Vt., to David and Alene (Stevens) Baker. At an early age, Richard and his family moved to Hill Top Farm in Andover, Vt., where he was raised along with his older sister, Jean (Day).



Richard N. Baker, 1939-2022.
PHOTO PROVIDED

Once out of high school, then known as Chester Seminary, Richard joined the U.S. Marine Corp. After serving for four years, he came home and began working at the Chester Esso Station. It was at that time that he met and married the love of his life, Alice Melendy. They were married on Oct. 7, 1962, and celebrated 58 years together.

During their first years of marriage, Richard and Alice saw many new “home-steads” as they moved around with Richard’s employment, working on the construction of the Eisenhower Interstate Highway System. Within ten years, their family would grow to include five children. They settled the young family in Andover, where Richard would own the R.N. Baker Garage for many years. Later, they moved to Townshend where Richard continued his life-long career working as an auto-mechanic. Eventually, Rich-

ard and Alice retired and moved to Hill, N.H., where they were surrounded by many of their extended family, which included children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Richard was predeceased by his parents, his beloved Alice in 2020, his daughter Heather Colleen Fagan in 2002, son-in-law Timothy Fagan in 2011, and grandson Zachary Fagan in 2014. He is survived by his sister; his children Richard David (Laura), December-Lynn (Vincent) Fortin, Rusty Gordon (Elizabeth), and Nicholas Alexander (Stefanie); 17 grandchildren, numerous great-grandchildren, as well as many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be announced and held at a later date at the family’s convenience. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation in Richard’s name to Grace Cottage Hospital, 185 Grafton Road, Townshend, VT 05353.

Eric Hill, 1985-2022

WALPOLE, N.H. – Eric Hill of Walpole, N.H., born Dec. 10, 1985, passed away unexpectedly on Friday, Feb. 11, 2022.

Eric was a loving father to his four children and a devoted partner to his fiancé, Maria Foster. Eric’s children were his love, light, and greatest joy. Eric loved the ocean and recently acquired a great passion for hunting.

Eric is survived by his mother, Diane Bartlett and her husband, Donald; the love of his life, his fiancé, Maria Foster; his children, Reed, Lorelei, Asher Hill, and Lacey Parrot; his brother, Christopher Wilder, (Melissa Wilson) of Grafton Vt., and his nephew, Aiden; his biological father, Martin E. Hill; two other siblings, Taylor and Trenton Hill of N. Walpole, N.H.; his paternal grandparents, Morris and Faye Butterfield of Charlestown, N.H.; his aunt, Theresa Hill, her husband, Michael Cascone of Charlestown, Mass., as well as many cousins, friends, and his beloved dogs, Loki and Lila. Eric was predeceased by his maternal grandmoth-



Eric Hill, 1985-2022.
PHOTO PROVIDED

er, Rita Belisle and her husband, Henry; grandfather, Richard E. Rayner, Sr.; and his paternal grandfather, Larry Hill.

Visiting hours were on Saturday, Feb. 19, with a service that followed immediately after at Fenton & Hennessey Funeral Home in Bellows Falls, Vt. There was a celebration of Eric following services at The American Legion Hall in Bellows Falls, Vt.

Donations may be made to the Go Fund Me page on Facebook or to the bank account set up at The Walpole Savings Bank to help with expenses and to support his children.

Seymour Leven, 2022

CAVENDISH, Vt. – Seymour Leven of Cavendish, Vt. passed on Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2022 at age 99. He was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

He always said that the war years were the best of his life. He served with the 881st Bomb Squadron, 500th Bomb Group as a member of a replacement crew. As a tail-gunner on the Boozie Hound [Z Square 6], he participated in the first low-level incendiary raid over Tokyo and in many earlier and later combat missions.

After the war he graduated from the University of Michigan Medical School.

Commissioned as a medical officer in the U.S. Naval Reserve in 1950, he was on active duty during the early months of the Korean conflict.

He, along with wife Glo-

ria, spent next 30 years living and working in New York State.

Before retiring from full time medical practice in 1978, he was a medical director of the Nassau County, N.Y. mental health department.

After relocating full time to Vermont in 1988, he continued his medical practice as a “locus tenens,” traveling around the country to various medical facilities and filling in for doctors there. He did so till he fully retired at age 86.

His later years were spent enjoying life in Vermont with Gloria eating out, playing golf, and mowing his lawn on his trusty tractor. He treasured his time with his granddaughter and great-grandson.

He is survived by Gloria and his two sons.

Joan H. Slaght, 1950-2022

PUTNEY, Vt. – Joan H. Slaght, 71, of Putney, Vt. passed away at home on Jan. 25, 2022. She was born Sept. 11, 1950, the daughter of Leon and Estelle (Parrott) Lynch.

For many years, Joan worked for Holmes and Allen Brothers in Westminster, Vt. and became very well known for her daycare. She had a love for crafting, visiting the senior center, and the library enjoying everyone’s company.

Joan was predeceased by her husband of 52 years, Theodore Slaght, Sr., and her parents and her brother Dan Lynch. She is survived by son Theodore Slaght, Jr., daughter Lauri Foster,



Joan H. Slaght, 1950-2022.
PHOTO PROVIDED

and four sisters – Barbara, Sharon, Colleen, and Carrie. Joan also leaves behind two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Services will be at the convenience of the family. Arrangements are being made at Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home, 55 Westminster Street, Bellows Falls, VT.

Leon W. Kenyon, 1932-2022

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – Leon W. Kenyon, 89, of Saxtons River passed away in his home surrounded by family on Feb. 17, 2022. Leon (Skeek) was born Nov. 27, 1932 in Grafton, Vt. in the house where he was raised. The oldest of five children to Walter and Annis (Fisher) Kenyon, he was the eighth generation Fisher to live on Fisher Hill in Grafton.

He attended Leland and Gray High School and graduated class of 1950 in North Bend, Ore.

He married Patricia Saunders on Dec. 2, 1978.

Skeek worked many various jobs throughout his life including farming, working in a sawmill, truck driver, underwater welder, and logger, and was proud of the fact that he never filled out an employment application. He enjoyed fishing, boating, bird watching, and spending time with friends and family. Skeek had a special way with animals and raised and trained several teams of oxen. He loved to see what was over the next hill and always seemed to find the road less traveled, which usually involved a dirt road. He was known for his quick wit and ability to tell a great story.

He is survived by his wife, Pat, and children, Leon (Michelle) Kenyon of Cape Coral, Fla., Beverly (Normand) Gagnon of Milford, N.H., Raymond Kenyon of Wabasha, Minn., Sharon (Gary) Schmalzriedt of Wabasha, Minn., Kimberly (Edmund) Mack of Graf-



Leon Kenyon, 1932-2022.
PHOTO PROVIDED

ton, Vt., Stephen Saunders of Athens, Vt., and Janie (Warren) Hisler of Waldoboro, Maine; twenty-four grandchildren, forty-seven great grandchildren, two sisters – Alice Culver of Newfane, Vt., and Christine DeCamp of Bellows Falls, Vt. as well as many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his brothers Willard Kenyon and Carleton (Pug) Kenyon; two children – Michael Saunders and Amy Saunders; a grandson Steven Schmalzriedt; and a great-granddaughter Alyssa Schmalzriedt.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests sending a donation to Vermont Food Bank, 33 Parker Road, Wilson Industrial Park, Barre, VT 05641, website: www.vtfoodbank.org, or a charity of your choice.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, Feb. 26, from 1 – 4 p.m. at the Grafton Chapel, 4 Main St. We encourage anyone with stories about Skeek to share them at that time. He loved a great story!

Joyce A. Nooks, 1943-2022

N. WALPOLE, N.H. – Joyce A. Nooks, 78, passed away Feb. 12, 2022 at the Keene Center Genesis Healthcare. She was born July 22, 1943 in Bellows Falls, Vt., the daughter of Anthony J. and Eula (McQueen) Nooks. She was a Bellows Falls High School graduate. Following school, she worked for Holmes Trucking and St. Johnsbury Trucking in Westminster, Vt. Joyce was also a member of the St. Peters Catholic Church in North Walpole, N.H.

She is survived by her two sisters Jeanette Richardson of Springfield, Vt. and Bernadette Luxton of Washington State, niece Lisa and spouse Scot LaCoss, nephews Greg, John Richardson, David, and Matthew Luxton, great-nieces Mylinda, Toni Richardson, Brittney LaCoss (Jacob), and Emma LaCoss (Sean), great-nephew Phillip and spouse Michaela LaCoss, great-great-nephews Logan, Lincoln, Lucas, and



Joyce A. Nooks, 1943-2022.
PHOTO PROVIDED

Landon, great-great-niece Lena and her added family Ali and Debbie Naraghi. She was predeceased by her parents and brother Joseph Nooks.

Joyce was a kind, loving, and caring person, loved dearly by her family and will be missed greatly.

There will be a graveside service in the St. Peters Cemetery, Drewsville, N.H., Feb. 26 at 2 p.m.

Arrangements are being made at the Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home, Bellows Falls, Vt.

ASCUTNEY, VT.

Brownville Community United Methodist Church, 66 Brownville-Hartland Rd.

Sunday service is 9:30 a.m., held in the church with reduced occupancy or streaming online at www.facebook.com/brownvillecommunitychurch and www.brownvilleumc-vt.org.

CAVENDISH, VT.

Cavendish Baptist Church, 2258 Main St.

Sunday services are 10 a.m. online or in person. If you attend in-person, please wear a mask and practice physical distancing. Online services are on Facebook at 10 a.m. Go to www.facebook.com/Cavendish-Baptist-Church-258814894244302. More at www.CavendishBaptist.com or call 802-226-7131.

CHESTER, VT.

St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, 313 Main St.

Join us for our Sunday worship at 10 a.m. Masks and social distancing required. Join us in person or on Zoom. For more information, visit www.stlukesepiscopalvt.org.

LONDONDERRY, VT.

First Baptist Church, 62 Crescent St., S. Londonderry

Worship service is Sunday at 10 a.m. at the church. Masks are suggested. Services will still be live streamed at www.firstbaptistlondonderryvt.org/streaming-worship.html. For more information, visit www.firstbaptistlondonderryvt.org or call 802-856-7266.

LUDLOW, VT.

Annunciation Catholic Church, Corner of Depot and High St.

Mass services are Saturday at 4:30 p.m., Sundays at 8 a.m., and 10 a.m. Masks are recommended, but not required, for those who are fully vaccinated. Social distancing in every other pew will continue. For more information, go to www.okemovaleycatholicparishes.com or call 802-228-3451.

SPRINGFIELD, VT.

First Congregational Church UCC, 77 Main St.

Sunday services are at 9:30 a.m. in person. Masks optional. Singing is encouraged! For more information, call 802-885-5728, email fccucc@vermontel.net, or go to www.fccuccspfdvt.org.

Springfield Assembly of God, 269 River St.

Sunday morning service is 10 a.m. Evening service is 6 p.m. All services and in-church activities have resumed. Masks are available and social distancing is encouraged. The sanctuary seating is arranged to promote distancing. Go to www.facebook.com/Springfield-Assembly-of-God-156583214402910 for links and more information.

St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, 33 Fairground Rd.

Holy Eucharist, Rite I traditional Liturgy is the first and third Sundays of the month. Rite II, contemporary Liturgy, is the second and fourth Sunday. Both are at 8:30 a.m. The rare fifth Sunday of the month will be Congregation’s choice. Holy Days as announced. For more information, call 802-885-2723.

CHURCH SERVICES:

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

OBITUARIES:

A basic 200-word obituary is \$75, and \$0.50 per word thereafter. A black and white photo is an additional \$10. Email to editor@vermontjournal.com by Monday at 12 p.m.

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sports & calendar

LEGALS

Terriers take down Yellow Jackets, 70-31

WINDSOR, Vt. – Evan Chadwick has his dogs riding high and looking towards the playoffs after hitting Windsor hard on Thursday, Feb. 17, 70-31.

From the outset, the Terriers were on a mission, having won 6 in a row and 13 of their last 14 games.

"I'm a perfectionist," Chadwick said. "It doesn't matter which one of the 12 players are on the court, I expect them to perform."

Bellows Falls had a height advantage all over the court especially in the paint, as Owen LaRoss and his 6'7" frame was unstoppable tonight. With Windsor's Austin Gauld and Roger Petermann taking turns at trying to get LaRoss out of the paint, the Terriers big man simply outreached everyone even with bodies on him.

"I'm used to being double-teamed as the season has gone along I'm learning and with our depth and attitude,"

said LaRoss after the game on his 18th birthday. "We're getting better each time we play."

With Jon Terry, Jackson Goodell, and Patrick Barbour pounding the glass and limiting Windsor to one shot on most trips up the court, Windsor found themselves firing away from outside. The cold shooting Yellow Jackets seemed stuck in mud as the visitors ran wild and built a 37-9 halftime lead.

"This was the best half of basketball we've played all year," Chadwick said.

Like any Harry Ladue team, the Jacks came out of the locker room ready for battle and put a mini 6-2 run together but Bellows Falls had all the answers on the night as six different Terriers would drop in hoops as the lead just kept growing.

A scary moment occurred in the third quarter as Jamison Nystrom went high for a steal and ended up flat on the floor with a thud as

the gym went silent. Eventually he got up and told me after the game, that he was fine but a little sore.

Lots of different players saw plenty of action in the final quarter as a fast paced and a bit sloppy eight minutes ended the night as Bellows Falls headed home with a 70-31 win.

Bellows Falls would have 10 players grab points while LaRoss, Terry, and Goodell led the way with 14, 12, and 12 points each. Maison Fortin would scratch out nine points and Kaleb Swett would chip in with eight points for the Jacks.

"We'll keep fighting," said Ladue after the game. "This team isn't going to lie down."

Bellows Falls improves to 14-3 while Windsor slides to 7-9 with each team having three games remaining on their season schedule before playoffs.

Written by Christopher Shaban, Eagle Times staff.

Local Roundup

BF 66, Mill River 26

The Bellows Falls boys' basketball team has been rolling as of late. Mill River wasn't going to stop that roll, falling to the Terriers 66-26 on Monday, Feb. 14 at Dean Houghton Gymnasium.

"[Bellows Falls] is very physical," said Mill River coach Ben Smith. "They are a big team."

Patrick Barbour and Owen LaRoss had 15 points apiece for Bellows Falls. Connor Lopiccio and Ryan Smith both had eight for the Minutemen.

MSJ 79, Springfield 60

The Mount St. Joseph boys' basketball team jumped up quickly on Springfield, grabbing a 79-60 win Monday night, Feb. 14, at McDonough Gymnasium.

Owen Traynor had a career night for the Mounties, scoring 40 points, including seven 3s. Jake Williams had 18 points and 15 rebounds.

MSJ led 20-5 after one quarter. Springfield had a spirited effort in the second half, but couldn't overcome the early deficit.

"We have to be better

defensively and learn how to close out games," said Mounties coach Chris Charbonneau.

Sam Presch had 25 points for Springfield, followed by 17 from Tanner Gintof, and 12 from Luke Stocker. Mount St. Joseph (13-2) is at rival Fair Haven on Thursday. Springfield (1-15) hosts Hartford on Thursday.

FM JV drops a 60-51 game after quick start

The fourth game in four days, plus a no warm-up start, put the young Wildcats in a hole.

An arrival only five minutes before tip off with no warm up time had the Fall Mountain team trailing big at the half 42-21.

A second-half team all

season, Kraifg Harlow's group turned things around with a 17-6 third quarter.

A 13-12 fourth quarter followed that up.

Unfortunately, the early lead was just too much, as time ticked away for only their fourth loss of the season 60-51.

Owen Riendeau led with 13 points, Ledger Willet had 10, and providing a spark off the bench, Jager Klema had eight.

With a 14-4 finish, Harlow turned around a 1-11 team from the prior season. The future looks bright for this Wildcat team as they move forward.

Written by the Eagle Times staff.

MARCH 5 –

GASSETTS, Vt. – The Green Mountain Express and Gassetts Grange are proud to announce their Saturday Night Round and Square Dance on Saturday, March 5 from 7-10 p.m. at the Gassetts Grange Hall 5 miles north of Chester. There will be snacks and drinks on sale in the kitchen, and a 50/50 Raffle drawing. If you are not vaccinated, masks are recommended. Donation at door please. Have questions call 802-591-4290 or the Grange at 802-875-1051.

SUNDAYS –

CHESTER, Vt. – Chester American Legion Post 67 hosts Bingo every Sunday. Doors open at 12 p.m., and games start at 1 p.m.

MONDAYS –

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

TUESDAYS –

LUDLOW, Vt. – Zumba classes Tuesdays at 9:30

a.m. at the Spring House at Jackson Gore. All fitness levels welcome. Call 802-228-1419 for more information.

WEDNESDAYS –

LUDLOW, Vt. – Tracy Blanchard from The National Council on Aging will be at the Black River Valley Senior Center on the first and third Wednesday of the month, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., to help Medicare recipients find and apply for eligible assistance programs, services and support. Located at 10 High Street in Ludlow. For details, call 802-773-7917.

THURSDAYS –

CHESTER, Vt. – Knit Knite at Six Loose Ladies on the Chester Common Thursdays, from 5-8 p.m., and via Zoom, from 7-8 p.m.

FRIDAYS –

CHESTER, Vt. – Bone Builders Class in Chester every Friday, from 10-11 a.m. Classes will be held in the First Universalist Parish of Chester community room. Classes are free and open to all. Drop-in class, no registration needed. For details, contact Barbara at bwquilter1778@gmail.com.

The Rockingham Republican Town Committee Annual Caucus/Open House

Knights of Columbus Hall on The Square (above People's United Bank)

Saturday, February 26, 2022 @ 10 am
All are Welcome

Contact: Bill Morse, 802-591-1793



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Black River Good Neighbor Services seeks to fill board positions. Must reside within the service area of Ludlow, Mt. Holly, Belmont, Cavendish, Proctorsville or Plymouth. Interested parties may contact Lou Krefski at 802-282-1272 or unkalou@msn.com.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Springfield, Vermont Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in person only (masks are required) at 96 Main Street, Town Hall, Springfield, Vermont to receive public input and take testimony on the following:

1. Application #202201 – Mastiff Property Holdings – Conditional Use and Site Plan Review to convert commercial space to two apartments. The property is located at 114 Park Street and is zoned Residential Commercial. Site Visit to be held at prior to meeting at 4:30 p.m.
2. Application #202204 : Town of Springfield - Site Plan Review to restore large gully located between Lincoln Street and Valley Street.
3. Devyn Nadeau – 745 Chester Road for six-month review of Permit 202148 to establish a motor vehicle repair home business

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD SELECTBOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Emergency 911 Highway Naming and Numbering Ordinance
Ordinance No.: 2022-01

MARCH 14, 2022 @ 6:30 PM

ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING AND IN-PERSON MEETING

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<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82888038876>
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Meeting ID: 828 8803 8876

The Town of Springfield will hold a Public Hearing at 6:30 PM, on Monday, March 14, 2022 via ZOOM Video Conferencing and in person at the Springfield Town Office, 96 Main Street in Selectmen's Hall for the purpose of providing a Second Reading of Proposed Ordinance 2022-01 and receiving public input concerning the Emergency 911 Highway Naming and Numbering Ordinance. A copy of the proposed ordinance may be picked up at the Town Clerk's Counter or viewed on the Town of Springfield website: <https://springfieldvt.gov>. If you have questions, please contact the Town Manager's Office at 885-2104.

Walter E. Martone, Chair
Springfield Selectboard

Sports games

THUR, FEB. 24 –

Boys basketball –
Bellows Falls at Rivendell Academy, 7 p.m.
Springfield at Otter Valley, 7 p.m.

SAT, FEB. 26 –

Boys basketball –
Leland & Gray at Mill River, 12 p.m.
Green Mountain at Mill River, 7 p.m.

Town of Londonderry, Vermont Invitation to Bid

The Town of Londonderry, VT is seeking bids for general contractor services for building repair work at the Londonderry Town Office. Bid documents can be viewed on the Town website – www.londonderryvt.org. The deadline to submit bids is 2:00 PM on March 15, 2021.

Shane O'Keefe, Town Administrator

TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM

The Rockingham Development Review Board will hold two public hearings on Wednesday, March 9, 2022, beginning at 6:30 p.m. The Guild Family has applied for a home addition at their 254 Atcherson Hollow Road single-family residence - nonconforming structure review is required. The Bellows Falls Firehouse LLC at 17 Rockingham Street has applied to replace several building windows – downtown design review is required. The meeting is located at the Rockingham Town Hall 3rd floor conference room and on Zoom using the meeting ID: 814 6075 8306 with the passcode 'DRB'

TOWN OF LUDLOW, VERMONT POSITION AVAILABLE PART-TIME POLICE DISPATCHER

The Town of Ludlow invites applications for the position of a Part-Time Police Dispatcher. Applicant must be organized and able to communicate effectively in written and in oral form. Must be able to work all shifts, including midnight. Computer experience is required. Send resume in confidence with references to the Chief of Police, Town of Ludlow, PO Box 359, Ludlow, VT, 05149 or email to: Jeffrey.Billings@vermont.gov. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The Town of Ludlow is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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

The ZOOM electronic DRB board meeting is on March 14 at 6:00 P.M., to hear the following application:
Applicant: Winterplace COA
Application No: 081-94-PRD AMD 16

Property Location: Winterplace Condominium
28 Fowler Road Unit 305
Ludlow, VT 05149

Parcel Number: 030218.017

REASON FOR HEARING: Application to consider an amendment to the Planned Residential Development permit to convert attic space into an additional bonus room. This project is located in the Mountain Recreation District.

The meeting Agenda will be available on Ludlow's Web page, www.ludlow.vt.us with the zoom ID no. and the URL link.

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

Rosemary Goings
Board Clerk, DRB

NOTICE OF TAX SALE

The resident and non-resident owners, lien holders and mortgages of property in the Town of Weston, in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont, are hereby notified that the taxes assessed by such Town for municipal property taxes for the 2019, 2020 and 2021 calendar years and for school district property taxes for the 2019-2020, 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 fiscal years remain, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described property located in Weston, to wit:

It being all and the same lands and premises conveyed to James O.G. Drake, Trustee of the James O.G. Drake Trust dated February 13, 2003, by Warranty Deed of James O.G. Drake, dated February 24, 2003 and recorded on February 27, 2003 in Book 61 at Page 464 of the Weston Land Records. [unimproved land off Trout Club Road; Parcel #080055.00].

And pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 5254, so much of said property will be sold at public auction at the Weston Town Office, a public place located at 12 Lawrence Hill Road in the Town of Weston, on the 22nd day of March, 2022, at 10:00 o'clock in the morning, as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, unless previously paid. Dated at Weston, Vermont this 7th day of February, 2022

Sandra M. Goodwin, Collector of Delinquent Taxes

TOWN OF ANDOVER NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

The Andover Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a Public Hearing at the Andover Town Hall on Tuesday March 8, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. to consider the following applications for subdivision:

Application#: 8.1/42.2/22/01/24 Applicant/Owner: Eugene Pategas Location: 1341 Middletown Rd. Application for: A minor subdivision of one existing lot into two lots.

Application#: 11/50/22/01/26 Applicant/Owner: Gary Rapanotti for Little Pond Partners, LLC c/o of James Murphy Location: Little Pond Rd. Application for: A major subdivision of one existing lot into four lots

Application#: 11/50.3/22/01/26 Applicant/Owner: Gary Rapanotti for Little Pond Partners, LLC c/o of James Murphy Location: Marsh Hill Rd. Application for: A minor subdivision of one existing lot into two lots.

Dated at Andover, Vermont this 15th day of February, 2022

Jonathan W. Stevens
Andover Assistant Town Clerk

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HELP WANTED

LUDLOW, Vt. - Thrift Store Clerk, part-time, Black River Good Neighbor Services. Applications available at the Thrift Store and at www.BRGN.org.

ZUMBA

LUDLOW, Vt. - Zumba classes Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. and Saturdays at 8 a.m. at the Spring

House at Jackson Gore. \$12 per class or \$100 for 10 classes. Call 802-228-1419 for more information.



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

King Crossword

Answers
Solution time: 22 mins.

M	A	P	B	R	O	W	N	L	A	B
R	T	E	E	R	I	E	A	M	A	
S	E	A	O	F	L	O	V	E	K	O
A	A	A	E	D	G	E	R	S		
J	I	G	O	T	I	T	S	E	A	T
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CHURCH HILL APTS.	DURHAM, NH	ELDERLY
COLONIAL COURT I & II	LITTLETON, NH	ELDERLY
CONWAY PINES	CONWAY, NH	FAMILY
CRANBERRY HILL APTS.	TROY, NH	FAMILY
GILFORD VILLAGE KNOLLS I & II	GILFORD, NH	ELDERLY
HIGHLAND APARTMENTS	ASHLAND, NH	ELDERLY
JAFFREY MILL APTS.	JAFFREY, NH	FAMILY
MOUNTAIN VILLAGE	GROVETON, NH	ELDERLY
ORCHARD CIRCLE	FARMINGTON, NH	ELDERLY
PAPER MILL VILLAGE	ALSTEAD, NH	ELDERLY
PEQUAWKET VILLAGE	FRYEBURG, ME	ELDERLY
PROCTORVILLE GREEN	PROCTORSVILLE, VT	FAMILY
PROMENADE COURT	GORHAM, NH	FAMILY
ROCKBROOK APTS.	PETERBOROUGH, NH	FAMILY
UNION SQUARE	WINDSOR, VT	FAMILY
WALL STREET	SPRINGFIELD, VT	FAMILY
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Women and Animals, a Parallel Path - Dioramas by Louis Scott-2/9 to 3/30.

Zentangle Workshop with Lyn Parker Haas, March 12 11-2. This is an easy-to-learn, relaxing, and fun way to create delightful images by drawing structured patterns. Cost is \$30. members, \$40. non-members. Materials fee: \$10. Register by March 9.

Cheerful Calligraphy with Jorika Stockwell, March 26 11-3. Learn several different styles and scripts of calligraphy through writing the word cheer. \$45. + \$2. Materials fee. Register by March 23 online or in person.
(04/27/22 - TFN - 13)

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(06/14/22 - 52)

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(03/22/22 - 13)

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(09/20/22 - 52)

Okemo Valley TV

LOCAL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

- "Stuck in VT" on Ludlow native John Predom's snowshoe art
- Live coverage of Town Meetings - Andover, Plymouth, Mt. Holly
- Annual School District meetings- LMUUSD & GMUUSD
- "Spotlight" on Peter LaBelle's stained glass
- Legislative Roundtable w/ Okemo Valley Chamber

Watch on TV: Community Channel: Comcast 1076 & VTel 166
Education / Gov't Channel: Comcast 1086 / VTel 167
(TV Schedules available at okemovalley.tv/schedules & on cable TV program guide)

Watch Online: okemovalley.tv & youtube.com/okemovalleytv
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(03/22/22 - 13)

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(04/13/22 - 13)

arts & entertainment

Fletcher Farm School classes, quilt winner

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Fletcher Farm School for the Arts and Crafts is now offering their Winter/Spring classes:

March 5-6, Painting the Winter Landscape in Watercolor (Online) with Robert O'Brien. The registration deadline was Feb. 2.

March 19-20, Success in Watercolor II with Betsy Johnson. The registration deadline is March 9.

March 22-23, Liberated Quilting with Susan Damone Balch. The registration deadline is March 12.

March 26-27, Silver Fabrication with Harold Bosco. The registration deadline is March 16.

The raffle for the Baltimore Album Quilt culminated with a drawing for the winner on Feb. 14,

2022. The quilt's creator, Viola Greening, was unable to attend the drawing. The winning ticket sold to Mary Schacter from Greenwich, Conn. The Fletcher Farm School would like to congratulate Mary Schacter and all who bought tickets. The donations will go towards making sure local kids are able to attend art camps at the School this summer.

Along with the membership changes the Society of Vermont Artists and Craftsmen have approved this year, the School has reduced their tuition for their Young Artist classes. Fees for the classes can be found on the Fletcher Farm School website at www.fletcherfarm.org.

The Fletcher Farm

School's Membership Drive is still underway and they have added a Family membership category, which reduces the cost of each class registration for all members of the immediate family.

The School has also selected dates for their summer festivals, July 2 and August 13. Those participating in one or both festivals are asked to notify the School by calling or emailing school-director@fletcherfarm.org to be added to the list of potential vendors. For questions, visit the website at www.fletcherfarm.org or call the office at 802-228-8770. The office is staffed on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

FOLA presents "O Brother, Where Art Thou?"

LUDLOW, Vt. – Friends Of Ludlow Auditorium will present "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" at the Heald Auditorium in Ludlow Town Hall on Saturday, Feb. 26 at 7 p.m.

The film is open to everyone and is free; dona-

tions are appreciated. Water is provided thanks to the folks at the United Church of Ludlow. Following town Covid policy, masks are required for all. For information call 802-228-7239 or visit the website at www.fola.us.

"O Brother, Where Art Thou?" is a 2000 crime, comedy, and drama film written, produced, co-edited, and directed by the Coen Brothers. It stars George Clooney, John Turturro, and Tim Blake Nelson.

Author presents memoir workshops to public

WALPOLE, N.H. – Award-winning author Pam Bernard announces the continuation of her popular memoir workshops, to begin the week of March 7, on Zoom. These will be eight-week sessions, three hours per class.

As well as a group critique, crucial issues of craft are explored in these workshops such as narrative stance and tone, while fresh work is generated each week from prompts. Participants from all over New England bring their experience to the page by harnessing memory and imagination, and learning to shape their writing into compelling narratives as a way to explore and ultimately honor their lives.

In a mediocre memoir, the writer cannibalizes experience with the intent to sensationalize, or settles for mere recollection of past events, or worse, aims to settle a score. A good memoir reveals a writer who risks self-examination, with an eye to shaping memory and experience. Rather than a running tally of what has happened to us, no matter how dramatic, it is the honest undertaking of this challenging task that will ultimately move our readers. It's not merely that we fail or misbehave or were the victim of abuse or neglect or made bad decisions, but how and why those events or moments made us who we are, who we were along the way to the adult narrator who has taken charge of the story. But given that memory is

mutable, this is an inexact science. And it is precisely this inexactness that attracts our reader because it parallels real life.

Pam Bernard is author of four books, the most of recent a verse novel titled Esther. She is also a painter, editor, writing mentor, and adjunct professor at Keene State College. She received her MFA in Creative Writing from Warren Wilson College and B.A. from Harvard University. Her awards include fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Days and times vary. Please email pam@pambernard.com or pambernardwriter@gmail.com, visit www.pambernard.com, or call 603-756-4177 for more information.

The Milkhouse Heaters come to Bellows Falls

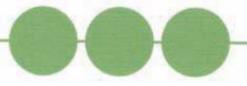
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The Milkhouse Heaters will play the Stage 33 Live listening room in Bellows Falls on Sunday, March 6 at 6 p.m.

Jan and Mike are refugees of the Boston music scene, where they were nominated for a Boston Music Award. They moved to southern

Vermont in 2003, rolled Americana into their punk roots, and became The Milkhouse Heaters. They are known not just for their strong writing and performing chops but their support of local live music and considered, considerate living.

This listening room

show will take place at 33 Bridge St. in Bellows Falls. The performance will be recorded. Seating is limited and based on donation only. All individuals are required to wear a mask and maintain social distancing from people not in their party.



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Sandglass Theater offers workshops on puppet building and training

PUTNEY, Vt. – The Sandglass Theater will be offering two workshops in the upcoming months, an "Online Puppet Building Workshop," and a "Summer Intensive Puppetry Training Workshop," based out of Putney.

Online Puppet Building Workshop, March 21 – 26

Join master builder and company co-founder, Ines Zeller Bass, for a puppet-building workshop held via a private Facebook group. Throughout the week, par-

ticipants will build a rod puppet, particular to Sandglass' style and teaching, with easy-to-follow demonstration videos and written explanations. Instructions will be posted daily and remain active for the duration of the course. Participants can work on their own time, and ask questions and connect with the cohort of puppet builders and the instructor through the comments section on the group page.

A full description, materials and tools list, and a registration link are available on the website. Registration

opens March 1.

Summer Intensive Puppetry Training, June 26 – July 9

A two-week intensive workshop into the art and soul of puppet theater in beautiful Putney, Vt. This full immersion training is for anyone who wants to expand and deepen their skill and understanding of the puppet.

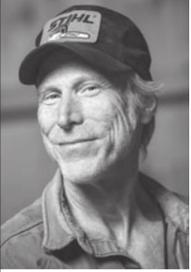
Led by Sandglass founders Eric Bass and Ines Zeller Bass who have developed this training method for over thirty years. Co-taught by Jana Zeller and Shoshana



Making a puppet head. PHOTO PROVIDED

Bass who are the next generation of Sandglass Theater. Applications are due by May 16.

To learn more or register for the workshops, visit the Sandglass Theater website at www.sandglasstheater.org and go to "Workshops." Completed applications can be emailed to info@sandglasstheater.org or sent via USPS.



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FOSTL present Abe Ovadia



Abe Ovadia. PHOTO PROVIDED

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Abe Ovadia will be performing at the annual Friends Of Springfield Town Library meeting on Friday, March 4 at 6 p.m. at the First Congregational Church in Springfield.

Musicvox Guitars describes Abe Ovadia as a "jazz virtuoso, one of the most innovative guitarists of our time."

This FOSTL event is free and open to the public. Contact the Library at 802-885-3108 with questions.



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