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# Selectboard discusses Vail Bridge, hears from RATS and LAS –

BY KYLE  
LAURITA-BONOMETTI

The Vermont Journal

**LUDLOW, Vt.** – The Ludlow Selectboard meeting on Monday, July 11, 2022, was well attended, with several members of the public coming to weigh in on a proposal by Stevan Laskevich, Vice President of the Reading All Terrain Sportsman Club, that would allow ATV’s on select dirt roads in Ludlow during the riding season of May 15 to Oct. 15. The selectboard also discussed their plans for the detour around Vail Bridge, and heard a review of the Ludlow Ambulance Service, whose director, Stephanie Grover, was present and able to answer questions.

While the meeting began with an overview of how the town plans to reroute traffic around Vail Bridge in the upcoming weeks, compared to the contentious meeting on June 6, there was little discussion. The selectboard explained that they plan to set up yield signs and redirect traffic up High Street and Doug Road, where there will be two temporary stop lights set up. Each stop light will cost \$5,000 a month, so that with set up costs, the town will be paying around \$11,000 a month on the detour. While it is still unclear when construction on the bridge will begin, the bridge is slated to be closed for no longer than 21 days, with promises that work on and around the bridge will not continue past Oct. 28, 2022.

The majority of the meeting revolved around Laskevich’s proposal for a town ordinance allowing ATV’s on North Hill, Predom Hill to Chapman Road, and on the Okemo side of Ludlow be-

yond the Ford Farm on East Hill. The proposal would allow for increased trail use by ATV’s in and around Ludlow, and Laskevich assured the board that while a few “cowboys” can ruin it for everyone, the majority of ATV riders are respectful and have quiet machines. As he continued, he described how this ordinance could be a “stepping stone” towards allowing ATV’s on all Ludlow roads, something that could bring increased revenue to the town. While the board seemed initially supportive of Laskevich’s proposal, even alluding to towns like Newport, Vt. which have allowed ATV’s on all city roads, several members of the public in attendance seemed less than enthused by the idea.

A number of Ludlow residents described “disrespectful” ATV drivers who have gone by their houses at “over 50 miles an hour” and one resident pointed to other towns in Vermont that have not experienced the same success of Newport, such as Morristown, Vt., which rejected the ordinance to allow ATV’s on town roads in 2021. This resident, holding a list of ways in which this proposal could go sideways, stated, “The peace and quiet for people on those roads is gonna change.” Selectboard chair Bruce Schmidt assured the public that no decision would be made without the interests of residents in mind. “Whether we look at the whole town, we look at specific roads, or what... well, we gotta decide that,” he said.

The selectboard heard and approved a few less controversial motions, such as the demolition of a “dangerous” building on Brooks Road,

before listening to a review of the Ludlow Ambulance Service (LAS) by Municipal Manager Scott Murphy. After reading some statistics for the year, Murphy commended LAS, adding, “This is the first time we’ve gotten this department basically in the black.”

Director of LAS Stephanie Grover was on hand to quell concerns that the service was using the ambulance in inappropriate ways, stating that they only ever use the truck when needed. She said that LAS has had “five or six” new people join since July 1, and that sometimes those people need to drive the ambulance around town to familiarize themselves with the geography, which might explain why there was a complaint that LAS was using the vehicle for non-ambulance related activities.

The discussion evolved into concerns about the winter season, specifically whether Okemo was doing their part in paying for the amount of people who were injuring themselves on the mountain and, thus, needing LAS for rides. Murphy said that there were plans to talk to Okemo about this, and that he was “confident” an arrangement could be made. While Grover and the selectboard seemed in agreement that things with Okemo were under control, board member Justin Hyjek noting that only 16% of ambulance calls came from Okemo last year, Grover did admit

See **LUDLOW** on Page 2

# Continued discussion on Johnson Farm and Macawee Pond roads –

BY SHAWNTAE WEBB

The Vermont Journal

**PLYMOUTH, Vt.** – At the July 11, 2022 Plymouth Selectboard meeting, discussion continued on the possible ATV parking lot on Johnson Farm Road and the potential of closing Macawee Pond Road.

Ryan Palmer began the meeting by giving a presentation to the town on his candidacy for Windsor County Sheriff. He is an experienced police officer, currently employed to the Town of Ludlow. There are three candidates in the race for sheriff, and Palmer acknowledged that he is the most expensive, but that he has a lot more service to provide to the county.

Plymouth is still waiting for the closing contract to be finalized with Hawk Resort International, LLC on the remaining Hawk Properties known as Valley Four. With the original closing date of July 1, 2022 passed, the board has been trying to get in touch with the representing attorney Bill Meub to provide an update on the sale.

Board member Keith Cappellini said, “We signed a deal we were advised to take,” by their tax sale attorney Steve Ankuda as well as Meub. If the deal doesn’t close, the town has to go back to the original plan of putting the properties up for a tax sale.

Zoning Board and Planning Commission member Bruce Pauley felt the town should wait for the deal to go through to avoid paying for and

planning a tax sale, which would run the risk of not selling off some of the properties or having to wait the year to see if the current owners come back with their current tax debts.

Cappellini then announced that he received confirmation that Plymouth’s Local Cannabis Control Board has been approved by the state. Cappellini previously designated three seats on the board: himself being the selectboard member, Mike Coleman volunteering to be the Zoning Board member, and one citizen, Terry Bascom, taking the remaining spot. The board will control retail sales applications with existing zoning regulations the town already has in place, such as the signage or location of a retail dispensary.

The selectboard discussed an ambulance contract, which has not been yet signed with Ludlow and had previously been partially covered by Woodstock. The board also discussed that it would be beneficial to use Josh Linton, constable, for additional first response services in the town. He currently works for the state 7 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. and is offering back up services for Plymouth from 6 p.m. – 6 a.m. He and the town need to put a plan in place to determine how he would be dispatched from a 911 call, since the town doesn’t use much radio communication.

The selectboard also discussed the parking lot request off of Johnson Farm Road on the 60 acres of town property. The request originated from the ATV club, which has Plymouth and Reading resident members. Most feedback that

the town has received from residents has been negative, not in favor of the project. The board said more people would need to come forward in favor of the proposal if the town is going to get it approved.

After a complaint, the town agreed they need to get someone to keep the website up to date. Community input was that the town needs someone that works for them to keep the site up to date with agendas, minutes, and other time sensitive information. Board chair Jay Kullman also expressed they need a selectboard clerk to take minutes, and that person might be able to manage the website. The board also wanted to note that any Facebook page for Plymouth is a group for discussion, not an official page for information from the town officials.

With the deadline for the decision on Macawee Pond Road closing in, residents voiced their concerns and opinions on the debate. Terry Bascom said that he walked the area and it was “very clear that there are several places of confusion.”

Bascom explained that the road looks like it bends to the left, which is actually the Fletcher’s “beautifully maintained” driveway. At that point, the road should go off to the right, which currently looks more like a trail or old logging road. There’s a drop off that goes down 10 to 15 feet, and a stream that comes across the road. People have been walking onto the Fletcher’s property to navigate around these obstacles, which over time will erode the area.

The piece of road that

See **PLYMOUTH** on Page 2

# Sondheim’s “Marry Me a Little” on stage at Weston

BY BILL LOCKWOOD

The Vermont Journal

**WESTON, Vt.** – The Weston Theater Company opened its production of Steven Sondheim’s “Marry Me a Little” at their new Walker Farm theater facility, which is just up Main Street from their venerable old playhouse where they have been presenting summer productions for 86 years. This production will run through July 30. Weston, like many other community and professional theaters, is presenting a Sondheim work this season to mark his passing last year and to honor the great amount of work that he contributed to musical theater.

The production itself, conceived by Craig Lucas and Norman René is actually a non-dialogue musical revue of Sondheim songs

that were cut from his better known musicals including “Follies,” “A Little Night Music,” “Company,” and from his then unproduced musical “Saturday Night.” The songs are strung together in a loose plot that involves a man and a woman who live alone on separate floors of an apartment building in New York City. Both are alone on a Saturday night, and both know of the existence of the other. Neither gets up the courage to initiate a meeting, and they only imagine such an encounter at the end. The musical originally opened at the Off-Off-Broadway Production Company on Oct. 29, 1980. Although it never played Broadway itself, as so many of Sondheim’s works have done, it has become a favorite of local theaters. Weston’s Executive Artistic Director Sussanna Gellert says, “Marry



“Marry Me a Little” at Weston Playhouse.

PHOTO BY ROB AFT

Me a Little’ is a multifaceted gem of a musical, full of Sondheim’s rich and witty song and poetry and tremendously evocative of the stories and experiences we all have shared so recently.” This year’s theme for Weston is “A Season for Belonging,” and Gellert’s choice of musical certainly fits the theater’s current

emergence from Covid isolation.

The characters are named simply Man and Woman. Longtime Weston veteran David Bonnano plays Man, and 2020 Drama Desk awardee Margo Seibert plays Woman. Of the two, Seibert has the stronger voice and presentation, but in the duets the voices are

very compatible and their harmonies are gorgeous. Especially notable was “The Girls of Summer” cut from the show of the same name and sung as a duet. Both the energy and songs begin on a depressing note, but they rise to the hope and promise of a brighter future in the end. This transformation is imaginative and is done in an engaging manner, something hard to accomplish with just two people singing together and separately for an entire show.

Musical Director Yan Li, who also provided the sole piano accompaniment, is also a Weston veteran. In reality, his performance was so vital to the songs that he practically became a part of the cast itself.

The production was directed by returning director, Olivier Award-nominated actor, and Obie-winning director Michael Berresse.

He cleverly set the work in the round with audience on two sides, and skillfully staged the two actors to pass frequently without acknowledging each other so as to indicate them being in separate apartments although they were actually on the same set using the same furniture and props. Windows at one end of the set helped to create the feel of a big city apartment. Excellent lighting and sound effects, including an outside storm, add another interesting element to the show.

Unfortunately, we have still not emerged from Covid completely. Masks and proof of vaccination are required for the audience for all performances. For more details and a schedule of remaining performances, and the rest of this season’s offerings, contact [www.westontheater.org](http://www.westontheater.org).

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# BRAM awards Frank Dressler Scholarship

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Frank Dressler Scholarship is given in memory of Frank Dressler, Black River High School’s “ultimate fan” for many years. In his retirement, Frank moved to Ludlow and began attending Black River’s home games when he noticed the lights at Dorsey Field. Frank was hooked on the Presidents. Soccer led to basketball, which led to baseball and softball. Home games led to away games, and to friendship and commitment. Frank loved the kids and the sports they played, and the athletes appreciated his ever-present support, honoring him with signed team photos and an honorary BR #1 Fan jacket. If Frank wasn’t in his usual seat, it was for a very good reason, which he was sure to share, just so we knew. An ultimate fan and supporter, in winning seasons, as well as those that were not as successful. Rain or shine, Frank was there to support his team.

Applicants are asked to share their thoughts on what makes an “ultimate fan” and how they have been an “ultimate fan” during their high school career. These scholarships will be awarded annually to up to two graduating high school seniors who have participated in at least two



Pictured from left to right, Haley Racicot, Lisa Schmidt, and Connor Lopiccio.

PHOTO PROVIDED

“shows people that you support them and believe in them, sometimes when they don’t believe in themselves.” “Being a true fan is much like being a best friend.”

Connor Lopiccio graduated from Mill River Union High School and plans to attend Tennessee Technical University in the fall to pursue a degree in Engineering. In his application essay, he wrote, “Being an ultimate fan is about knowledge of the game and team, loyalty and support for them through everything that can happen in a season, whether it be wins, losses, injuries, good and bad weather, from scrimmage games through the play-offs.” “Being a dedicated and excited student, friend, and teammate is how I have been an ultimate fan through high school.”

Those wishing to make a contribution to the Frank Dressler Scholarship Fund are encouraged. Donations made out to “BRAM” may be sent to: Frank Dressler Scholarship Fund c/o Black River Academy Museum, PO Box 73, Ludlow, VT 05149.

sports per year while in high school.

These awards are open to residents of Ludlow or Mount Holly for use in any post-secondary institution including college, university, vocational, or trade school.

The official scholarship certificates were presented at the Black River Academy Museum’s Ice Cream Social on Saturday, June 11, 2022 in the Black River High School Middle School museum exhibit. There were two winners of the Frank Dressler Scholarship this year, each receiving \$500 to further their education.

Haley Racicot graduated from Green Mountain High School and plans to attend the University of Vermont in the fall to pursue a degree in Business. In her application essay, she wrote, “A true fan is also passionate and involved in whatever they are supporting. It means showing up to events and always bringing positive energy.” A true fan

# Forum for candidates to U.S. Congress in Ludlow

LUDLOW, Vt. – Five candidates seeking their party’s nomination for the Vermont seat in the United States House of Representatives will participate in a candidates’ forum in the Ludlow Town Hall’s Heald Auditorium on Thursday, July 21 at 7 p.m.

Candidates will be asked questions by the forum’s moderator dealing with regional, state, and national issues. Following these questions, the audience will have an opportunity to

ask the panel questions.

The candidates seeking the Democratic Party’s nomination for the Congress include Becca Balint, Molly Gray, Sianay Chase Clifford, and Dr. Louis Meyers. The candidate seeking the Republican Party’s nomination is Liam Madden. Two other Republican candidates, Anya Tynio and Ericka Lynn Redic, have been invited to participate but either have yet to confirm their appearance or have withdrawn.

Sponsored by FOLA (Friends of the Ludlow

Auditorium), the event will be moderated by Jim Alic, FOLA Chairman. Jacalyn Diesenhouse will serve as the timer for this event. George Thomson and Kevin Kuntz will act as audience monitors for audience questions to the panel. Okemo Valley TV will record the forum for subsequent airing over its local channels and distribution to other state public TV channels.

The forum is open to everyone. For questions and information, contact info@fola.us or call 802-855-8883.

# Windham Chicken Barbeque

WINDHAM, Vt. – Summer happiness is Windham’s Annual Chicken BBQ and Raffle, hosted by the Windham Community Organization (WCO). After a two-year hiatus, the WCO would like to welcome you back to our Annual Chicken Barbecue, held outdoors at the historic Windham Meeting House, 26 Harrington Rd., Windham, Vt., on the corner of Windham Hill Road. It

will be held on Saturday, July 16, promptly at 5 p.m. Mark your calendar today.

Summed up as “the perfect old-fashioned community barbecue with really good food, great friends, and nice country music,” the Windham BBQ will be serving up Walter Woodruff’s own “Special Recipe” BBQ chicken cooked “to perfection” over a wood fire. Baked beans, potato salad, green salad, homemade sweet breads, corn bread,

and homemade strawberry shortcake topped with whipped cream, are all included for a bargain. Be sure to get there early and try your luck on our raffle of crafts created by talented Windham artisans and enjoy music by our own Windham musicians. Look for the big tent outside the Windham Congregational Church/Meeting House. All proceeds benefit Windham area residents through WCO.

## LUDLOW

From Page 1

that they were seeking grant funding to support the number of calls coming in. “We cannot go another winter with only one ambulance,” said Grover.

The last twenty minutes of the meeting focused on surplus money that has been

saved in the budget for the fiscal year. Murphy advised keeping the extra \$450,000 in the budget as a safety net, pointing to rising fuel prices and other possible variables, however the board ultimately decided to follow board chair Schmidt’s suggestion that they keep some of the funds in the budget, but return the rest to the taxpayers. The selectboard plans to

take \$155,000 out of the surplus funds and invest them in the tax rate for residents. This means that this coming year, the tax rate will go down one cent per resident, to a total of \$0.3194 per \$100.

The next Ludlow Selectboard meeting will take place on Monday, Aug. 1, 2022 at 6 p.m. in the Ludlow Town Hall.

## PLYMOUTH

From Page 1

Mark and Tina Fletcher are looking for the town to give up is a little “spur” of what used to be driveway, which is located after the washout. It is no longer usable and

is too narrow to be a turnaround location as the town has previously discussed.

“I think the town should throw that out,” Bascom said. It has no effect on the town road, and it “never should have been considered part of Highway 39.”

Mark Fletcher said that

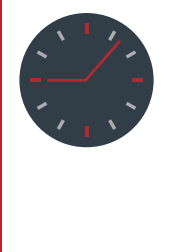
board member Rick Kaminiski came out to investigate the area in question, but was more “transactional,” expressing that if the town gave up the unused driveway spur of the road, then the Fletchers should offer a piece of land for a proper turnaround. “We’ve raised our concern to the town,” Fletcher said, “and now it’s up to the town to determine what to do.”

Cappellini expressed that he wouldn’t give up any of his property to the town. He didn’t believe there should be a parking or turnaround lot. He thought the town should give up the piece that used to be driveway, and that the Fletchers should post private property signs.

He said the road should have been fixed when it was washed out, but it’s a class four road that isn’t maintained by the town. “I think the town should fix it and keep the road, or close it,” Cappellini said, making the point that if the town and taxpayers wanted to spend the \$100,000 to fix it, it could be done. “I don’t think we should give it up, but if we’re not going to fix it, we should officially close it for use.”

The Fletchers welcomed anyone who still had questions to go up and walk the area. The final vote will take place at the Aug. 1 meeting when all three selectboard members are present.

The next Plymouth Selectboard meeting will be Monday, July 18 at 6 p.m. at the Town Hall and via Zoom.




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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 ronpatch27@gmail.com

# The 1927 Flood in Cavendish

*It was Nov. 2, 3, and 4, 1927, when Vermont suffered a catastrophic flood. The following is from, "Floodtide of 1927."*

"The Village of Cavendish furnished one of the major calamities of the flood. Cavendish lies in a fairly level plain, about ten feet above the level of the Black River. Its main street runs in a straight line. At its upper end, the river swings off away from the street at a small angle. A short distance out of town is a dam across the river, about 100 feet long, which holds a good-sized pond. Water from this pond used to leak over the side into low land in the rear of the houses on the main street. Therefore, a few months ago, a dike about five feet high was built on the place.

From the opposite side of the road, a little brook used to run into the pond at the spot where the dike was built. Instead of running into the pond, the brook's course was altered to run parallel to the road out of town, after crossing the street.

The brook's altered course took it through a notch between two high hills. As the crest of the notch was too high to take the water over, a galvanized iron sluice was built to carry the brook 25 or 30 feet underground, through the gap.

The waters of the Black River spilled over their banks late Thursday. The entire main street of the village was several feet under water. Then, in the evening, the waters of the pond spilled over the 5-foot dike into the former bed of the little brook.

This immediately became a hideous torrent, which twisted and turned its way down the course of the little brook. When it reached the sluice under the gap, it is assumed, the volume was too great for the capacity of the pipe. The stream, which was by now in reality the whole course of the river, rose and rose. At the same time, water was running down the street and the fields.

Within a short time, the confined waters rose and plunged over the notch between the two sand hills. It was then that the worst of the damage began. As the bed of this sudden cataract was nothing but loose gravel and sand, a backward erosion began immediately, exactly after the fashion of Niagara Falls, only infinitely more rapid.

When this rampart of earth gave way, the water in the stream bed was free to roar through at a prodigious rate, ripping and tearing tons and tons of soil from the bottom and from its banks. At the same time, tons of water poured into the widened crevasse from the flooded street, and erosion began on the side.

In the beginning, the rising brook was some distance from the road. But, as the water rose and dug deeper, the banks began to recede. Within a few hours, the houses began to collapse into the abyss, their foundations washed away. They fell so far that they seemed to collapse in the air before they struck the water.

The two hills are eaten away to their summits. It is perhaps 600 feet from crest to crest. The main street has vanished into nothingness. The gorge varies in depth from 100 to 400 feet.

Seven houses were lost with ten barns and four garages. Tony Procklevitch and his wife and five children got out just in time before their house and all its contents, with a considerable sum of money, went down. The next house to go was Mrs. Lucy Sperry's. She and her sister, Mrs. Mary Bigelow, were carried out with just the clothes on their bodies. Mrs. Esther Spafford's house went next.

At 10 o'clock, T.O. Perkins, who was keeping his store open that night, went home and carried Mrs. Perkins out on his back. His house was next to go, nothing saved. Mrs. Ina Butler's house went next, then Harry Bemis', then the ell part of Mrs. Cornelia Bemis. Their goods were mostly removed. The stream had then worn a bed down and struck ledges, which were the salvation of the rest of the street. In the morning R.P. Minch's house went..."

*The next meeting of the Chester Historical Society is Thursday, July 28, at 7 p.m., at the Academy Building. The slideshow will be old Vermont covered bridges, steam locomotives, and a few peddler's wagons.*

*This week's old saying: "It's weird being the same age as old people."*



Aftermath of the flood in Cavendish. PHOTO PROVIDED BY RON PATCH

# Weston Historical Society hosts Marty Podskoch

WESTON, Vt. – On Saturday, July 16, at 4 p.m., the Weston Historical Society will host author and historian Marty Podskoch who will give a presentation on the History of the Vermont Civilian Conservation Corps Camps. The presentation will take place at the Old Parish Church, on Route 100, in Weston, Vt.

There were approximately 30 VT towns with camps, including Weston. The Weston camp was located North of the village, on Route 155. The location is presently identified by a Vermont Historic Marker.

Marty Podskoch is a retired teacher from Delhi (Catskills, N.Y.), and is the author of eleven books on local history, many focusing on the CCC. He also writes a weekly column called "Adirondack Stories," in five Adirondack newspapers. He is presently gathering information for future books on the 30 CCC camps in VT and the 70 camps in Mass. Mr. Podskoch is keenly interested in meeting individuals who may have CCC stories and photos to contribute to these books. Those that have information should contact him at 860-267-2442 or podskoch@comcast.net.

There is no cost to attend the presentation. Voluntary contributions to the WHS are appreciated.

THE C. C. C. CAMP WESTON VT.

The Weston CCC Camp in its heyday. PHOTO PROVIDED

# Traffic update

REGION – The following traffic updates will effect VT-100, from Plymouth, Vt. to Ludlow, Vt., Route 11, from Chester, Vt. to Springfield, Vt., and the I-91 bridge replacement at Exit 8 in Weathersfield, Vt.

**Plymouth–Ludlow, repaving VT-100 from Route 4 to VT-103**

Drivers can expect one-lane operations between 6 a.m. – 6 p.m. Travel will be managed by flaggers. Construction on VT-100 has included guardrail, pothole patching, bituminous curb preparation, and curbing. Paving will continue, starting Saturday, July 9, 2022, into the week of July 11. The projected completion of this project is August 2022.

**Chester–Springfield, Route 11**

One-way alternating traffic patterns will be in effect at various locations along Rote 11 throughout the week of July 11, 2022. The public should anticipate delays. There is an installation of rumble strips scheduled for Wednesday, July 13, 2022, located at the Route 11 Minor Arterial, east of the Route 11 and Seavers Brook Road intersection.

Paving of the final course of asphalt is underway on Route 11. Operations continue to progress towards Springfield. Paving will continue throughout the week of July 11, 2022. The projected completion of this project is Summer 2022.

**Weathersfield, I-91 bridge replacement at Exit 8**

Motorists will encounter a lane reduction and lane shift in the Northbound and Southbound lanes of the interstate. A crossover traffic patter has been installed and traffic has been reduced to one lane of travel in each direction within the construction zone. This pattern will remain in place into the fall. The projected completion of this project is October 2022.



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# opinion

Dear Editor,

There are lots of changes homeowners will see in their property tax bill this year, which are due to be sent on or about July 15, 2022. One of those changes is a sharp reduction in the Homestead Education tax rate – this is the portion of the bill that funds our schools. This rate will be reduced by about 29.5 cents from \$1.7004 last year to \$1.4050 per \$100 of property value this year.

This is a huge swing historically due to unpredictable and unprecedented economic factors in our economy. As a comparison, in 2019 the education tax rate was \$1.73 per \$100 of property value, in 2020 it was \$1.74, 2021 was \$1.77, and last year \$1.70.

Two things contributed to these lower education taxes: a surplus in the state education fund, and increased home sale prices. This is not due to any changes to the per pupil cost of education

that voters passed in March.

This year, the state found it had a surplus of money in the state education fund (this is where our homestead education taxes go). This was because more taxes (including sales and use, vehicle purchase taxes, and meals and rooms taxes), were raised than needed to fund education statewide. In May of this year, the legislature decided how to spend that surplus of about \$95 million. It is devoting \$20 million dollars to property tax relief.

The result, which affects the “yield” factor, is a lower tax rate on property tax bills for the homestead education tax. In Springfield, we believe this will result in a reduction of 6.5 cents per \$100 of property value from last year.

Increased home sale prices will also result in an additional reduction to the homestead education tax rate on homeowner’s tax bills. Home sale prices determine the “Common Level Appraisal” or CLA. This is the last factor used to calculate the homestead education tax rate.

The CLA compares local home sale prices to town grand list property values. If the grand list is less than sale prices, the CLA is a lower percentage, if the grand list values are more than the sale prices, the CLA is a higher percentage. The higher percentage CLA, the lower the homestead education property tax rate (within certain limits.)

This year, after Springfield’s reappraisal, as compared to fair market values (home sale prices), the CLA is 103%. This higher CLA will result in approximately 23 cent per \$100 of property value reduction to the homestead education tax rate on property bills this year. The

higher yield and higher CLA mean a total reduction of 29.54 cents in homestead education property taxes from last year.

Since the lower education tax will be applied to a higher assessed value, the best way to see the effects of all these changes is to compare the education tax amount from last year to this year. Look at the homestead education portion of your bill.

No one could predict the massive increase in home sales or the state’s ability to refund surplus education funds on the state level to taxpayers. Neither the yield nor the CLA are tied to local education spending. These reductions to education taxes ought to be viewed as a windfall.

Per pupil spending is always a factor used to determine our education tax rate. This factor is within our control. We hope that our voters will consider these lower 2022-23 taxes in the context of our historical rates. Otherwise, to maintain these rates, future budgets would have to cut spending on our children at a critical time post-pandemic.

To learn more about property tax relief, go to [www.tax.vermont.gov/property/tax-credit](http://www.tax.vermont.gov/property/tax-credit). To learn more about how your homestead education property tax rate is calculated go to [www.tax.vermont.gov/property/education-property-tax-rates/faqs](http://www.tax.vermont.gov/property/education-property-tax-rates/faqs). For more detail from your school board go to [www.ssdvt.org/](http://www.ssdvt.org/).

Sincerely,  
Springfield School Board  
Springfield, Vt.

Dear Editor,

I am a teacher who has worked in restorative justice and youth programs. I am also a first term legislator in the Vermont House. In June, I completed a course at Vermont Law School entitled “Restorative Justice in Education Institutions.” It merged many of the issues I am passionate about into two weeks of intensive learning: youth, education, and justice. My professor, Dr. Marilyn Armour, was instrumental in bringing restorative justice to many schools in Texas. I hope to follow her example and help Vermont schools embrace these effective practices.

My class at VLS gave me much to think about: Why do so many schools utilize punitive practices such as suspension and expulsion when restorative practices that build skills and support for students who exhibit behavior challenges are much more effective at guiding behavior constructively? Sending struggling students out of school only causes them to get further and further behind. We need to invest in strategies that promote healing and restore appropriate behavior. Years ago, misbehavior in a Vermont classroom might get you a wack from a ruler. Vermont has moved away from that kind of punishment but similarly ineffective strategies are being used. We need programs and interventions that teach and model skills that will change behavior. Restorative practices are what can transform and guide the prosocial behaviors we want for our children and our communities.

Last term, legislation was passed that prohibits suspension of students younger than eight years old. But what happens to an eight-year-old who exhibits challenging behavior? Removing a child from school

does not help a child develop prosocial behavior. Some schools in Vermont have moved towards an all-school Restorative Justice model. Some schools use RJ reactively only to address inappropriate/problematic behavior. Yet other schools utilize prevention/proactive/ community building circles to improve school climate as a way to increase positive behaviors and minimize disruptions. How well do these strategies work? We need to learn more. We need to do more to help all our kids succeed.

We have more data from outside of Vermont than we have from our own state. We need to know that Vermont schools are doing what has worked in other states. We can use these more effective practices to deal with racism, homophobic slurs, and other forms of harassment and bullying.

I am an assistant director in the Governor’s Institute for Global Issues and Youth Action and every year I hear stories from high school youth who are bullied and harassed at their school about their race, gender, sexual orientation, and/or gender identity. Vermont needs to do better at providing a safe space for all our students to learn and grow. Restorative Justice could help foster the kind of school environments where those who cause harm are held accountable and learn from their mistakes. This will also increase understanding and connections between students, teachers, and administrators to create a more cooperative and integrated learning environment where all can thrive.

I plan to introduce legislation in the next biennium which will help our schools develop into more supportive places of learning. Schools where racism, homophobia, and transphobia will not be tolerated, and where students learn to grow beyond their prejudices and forge new understanding. Some communities are working hard to develop anti-racist, supportive schools. Others have a long way to go. Let’s keep working together to build a better Vermont where all who live here can thrive.

The final paper for my law school RJ in Education class addressed how restorative justice could have brought a different end to a difficult situation in southern Vt. where racism and harassment caused a student to leave her school and file a complaint with the Vermont Human Rights Commission for failing to provide a safe space where she could learn. I don’t want any of our students, and particularly our students with marginalized identities who are so often the victims of bullying, to experience harassment in our schools. Restorative Justice could get us moving in the right direction. I call on my colleagues in the legislature, teachers, administrators, and all who care about kids. Let’s work together to figure this out. We must do better to build a safe, accepting community for all who make their home here in Vermont.

Sincerely,  
Rep. Michelle Bos-Lun  
Westminster, Vt.  
Serving Windham-4, and candidate for re-election to Windham-3

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.



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Dear Editor,

The family of Gib Gay thanks friends, the community, and family members for giving him such a terrific sendoff. Special thanks to the Potter and Streeter families, Craig Mellish, the West-

torial reins if necessary.

Please join me in voting for Kitty Toll for Lieutenant Governor in the Primary Election. Early ballots are now available from your Town Clerk and are due back by close of business on Aug. 9. Your vote is your voice, and together, we govern!

Sincerely,  
Rep. Carolyn Partridge  
Windham, Vt.

Sincerely,  
The Gibby Gays  
North Walpole, N.H.

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**Weekly SUDOKU**  
by Linda Thistle

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		4		9		3	
	3			2			8

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 Hotel amenity  
4 Beach bucket  
8 "— it going?"  
12 Sandwich meat  
13 Roughly "Garfield" dog  
15 Class that includes newts and frogs  
17 Style  
18 Corn serving  
19 Took the helm  
21 Clara of the Red Cross  
24 Guffaw syllable  
25 Lawyers' org.  
26 Label  
28 Potato, for one  
32 Toy block name  
34 "Uh-huh"  
36 The Big Easy acronym  
37 Put in office  
39 Sea, to Henri  
41 Kimono closer  
42 Nanny's charge  
44 Beach robe  
46 Boris' cartoon partner  
50 Twitch  
51 Hgt.  
52 Highway turn-

off  
56 Aachen article  
57 Snitch  
58 — -jongg  
59 June honorees  
60 Sheltered  
61 Group of seals

**DOWN**

1 Na Na lead-in  
2 Nonstick spray  
3 Electrical strength  
4 Christie sleuth  
5 Wall St.

wheeler-dealer  
6 Egyptian deity  
7 Reluctant  
8 Four-bagger (sheds)  
9 Air freshener target  
10 Broad  
11 Feeder filler  
16 Fez, e.g.  
20 "Dig in!"  
21 Hay bundle  
22 First victim  
23 Opposing vote  
27 Whigley product  
29 Training site

30 Exile isle  
31 Picnic spoiler  
33 Scale ranges  
35 Chest muscle  
38 Lean— (sheds)  
40 Baby's toy  
43 Letter before iota  
45 Fragrant tree  
46 Must have  
47 Inter  
48 See to  
49 Skater's leap  
53 —de-France  
54 Chinese chairman  
55 Prof's degree

**Shawntae Webb**  
Publisher, Ad Designer  
[publisher@vermontjournal.com](mailto:publisher@vermontjournal.com)  
[ads@vermontjournal.com](mailto:ads@vermontjournal.com)  
[billing@vermontjournal.com](mailto:billing@vermontjournal.com)

**Padraic Scanlon**  
Sales Representative  
[sales@vermontjournal.com](mailto:sales@vermontjournal.com)

**Kyle Laurita Bonometti**  
Editor, Calendar of Events  
[editor@vermontjournal.com](mailto:editor@vermontjournal.com)  
[calendar@vermontjournal.com](mailto:calendar@vermontjournal.com)

**Corporate & Production Office:**  
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# obituaries

## Catherine and William Fletcher, 2022



**WALPOLE, N.H.** – A couple together in life and death. Catherine (Cathy) B. Fletcher, 88, passed away peacefully on June 23, 2022, at the Jack Byrne Hospice Center in Hanover, N.H. after a period of declining health. Her beloved husband followed only eight days later. William (Bill) S. Fletcher, 89, passed away peacefully on July 1, 2022, at Langdon Place in Keene, N.H., of Alzheimer's.

Cathy was born June 14, 1934 (Flag Day) and grew up in Proctorsville, Vt. At 13 years old, she moved to Chester, Vt. to live with her brother and sister-in-law, Herman and Muriel Briggs, to attend high school. She was forever grateful for this opportunity and the love her brother and her sister-in-law showed her.

In 1953, Cathy moved to Boggy Meadow Farms in Walpole, N.H. with her two-month-old son, Mike. Her daughter Debbie joined them a short nine-and-a-half months later. Cathy became a single mother in 1959. Life was not easy, but she persevered. Cathy worked as a bookkeeper at R.N. Johnson's in Walpole for eight years. It was here that a customer by the name of Bill Fletcher caught her eye. She thought he was "pretty cute."

Bill was born April 18, 1933, at the Walpole Hospital and grew up in town on the Fletcher Family Farm. He was a "Walpole Boy" through and through. In 1955, Bill was drafted into the U.S. Navy, where he served as a cook on the aircraft carrier The "USS Randolph." The ship had more crewmembers than the whole population of Walpole. In 1957, Bill returned home with a new talent for cracking three eggs in each hand at the same time – a skill that would later wow his children and then grandchildren – and went to work with his father at the family's small tractor dealership, Pinnacleview Equipment.

On Nov. 9, 1963, Bill and Cathy married, and along with Cathy's two young children, they became an instant family of four. Bill officially adopted Mike and Debbie in 1966.

Their union was not only one of matrimony, but also of business, as Cathy left R.N. Johnson (since she had literally married the competition) and went to work beside Bill as a bookkeeper and business partner.

In 1972, Bill and Cathy took over the business. Together they worked long, hard hours to grow Pinnacleview Equipment from the tiny shop on the hill to the thriving business you see today. They, along with their son Mike, owned the business up until their death.

In addition to work, Bill was active in the New England Equipment Dealers' Association, serving as president in 1973 and then later as the New England Representative to the National Equipment Dealers Association Board of Directors. Bill also served his community as a Trustee of the Savings Bank of Walpole.

Although they worked hard, Bill and Cathy had their fun too. They enjoyed going to dealership conventions, which led to their



Catherine and William Fletcher, 2022. PHOTO PROVIDED

love of traveling – including all 50 states in addition to many countries internationally, including Japan, Australia, and Thailand. They enjoyed spending their winters "snow-birding" in South Venice, Fla. and were known for their hopping cocktail parties! They enjoyed going to the casinos and playing the slot machines.

Bill enjoyed hunting and tinkering in his "toy shed" and Cathy enjoyed playing cards and watching the Red Sox. They both enjoyed spending time together and with their family. They loved their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren deeply. Their family finds peace knowing that they are together.

Cathy and Bill were predeceased by Cathy's parents Ralph and Miriam Briggs, her brothers, Myron, Herman, Herbert, and Robert Briggs, and her sister, Margaret Farrar, along with Bill's parents, Albert and Lena Fletcher, his brother, Henry Fletcher and their daughter-in-law, Elizabeth (Betty) Snide.

They are survived by their two children, Mike Snide of Walpole, N.H. and Debbie Newman (Dwight) of Sammamish, Wash. Their five grandchildren, William Kinson (Cassie) of Kirkland, Wash., Kimberly Jones (Lance) of Sammamish, Wash., Elizabeth Snide of Walpole, N.H., Michael F Snide (Hilary) of Lempster, N.H., and Carolyn Edson (Sam) of Walpole, N.H. Their nine great-grandchildren, Lebron and Chancellor Jones, Eliza Ward, Harvyn and Dax Kinson, Aidan and Madelyn Snide, and Troy and Liam Edson. Two step-grandchildren, Ryan (Angie) and Cory Newman, and two step-great-grandchildren, Finn and Saige Newman. Sister-in-law Miki Fletcher Grady. Nephews Bryon (Amy), Barry and Bradly (Jackie) Fletcher, Dennis and Kevin Briggs, Steve Farrar, and Dennis McCutcheon, as well as many great-nieces and nephews.

Joint Services for Cathy and Bill will be held as follows:

- Calling hours will be held at Fenton & Hennessey in Bellows Falls, Vt. on Tuesday, Aug. 2 from 5–7 p.m.
- A graveside service will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 3 at 1:30 p.m. at the Walpole Cemetery.
- A reception will be held immediately following the graveside services until 5 p.m. at Cathy and Bill's Homestead at 14 Maple Grove Rd. in Walpole, N.H.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent in memory of Cathy and Bill to the Alzheimer's Association (225 N Michigan Ave, Fl. 17, Chicago, IL 60601. Fed tax ID 13-3039601).

## Daisy Gosselin, 1936-2022

**WEATHERSFIELD, Vt.** – Daisy (Rogers) Gosselin, 85, died on July 1, 2022, at home, surrounded by family after battling cancer for 18 months. She was born on July 8, 1936, in Springfield, Vt., the daughter of Victoria Klemisofski and Richard Rogers. She attended Springfield schools.

During her younger years, she formed friendships with many people with whom she had close relationships to the rest of her life. She married Edward Gosselin on July 8, 1953. They were married for 65 years.

Daisy loved her "little house on the hill," and she was the ultimate hostess there. She looked forward to welcoming family into her home. She hosted many family holidays and get-togethers for aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and children. She was loved by all of her grandchildren. They knew in her freezer were favorite homemade treats, kept ready in case anyone came for a visit. She was an artist with her home, garden, and dinner table, making each one look like a piece of artwork.

She will be remembered for her attention to detail, her loyalty to lifelong



Daisy Gosselin, 1936-2022. PHOTO PROVIDED

friends, and her love and care for her family.

She survived by her four sons, Gary (Jeanie) Gosselin of Rowlett, Texas, David (Katherine) Gosselin of Springfield, Vt., Jeffrey Gosselin of Whitefish, Mont., and Peter (Nichole) Gosselin of Springfield, Vt.; seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren; her sister-in-law, Delphine Rogers of Gaylord, Mich.; as well as by many nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her husband, Edward Gosselin; daughter, Diane (Gosselin) Smith; and by her brother, Richard Rogers.

A graveside service for the family will be held at a later date. Arrangements are under the direction of Davis Memorial Chapel.

## Ernest Way, 1957-2022

**WALPOLE, N.H.** – Ernest William Way, 65, of Walpole, N.H. passed away June 29, 2022. Born in Ossining, N.Y. on March 7, 1957, he was the son of Ruth Wildigg Way and Ernest Wilson Way.

In 1981, Ernie started E&W Salvage, a small repair business out of his dirt floor barn with no heat. Working alongside his wife, Wanda, for almost four decades, he would grow the business into a giant three bay garage and change directions to recycling and crushing cars. He certainly was dedicated to his work. Ernie's idea of keeping an eye on his three girls while they were young was to put carburetors in front of them. He would have them take them apart and put them back together again "for their entertainment" while he babysat to keep them out of his hair. In his final hours, he continued to do what he loved best asking for his girls to hand him wrenches. This brought great joy to them knowing he was in a place where his body was healthy, whole, and in peace.

While not at the shop, Ernie loved the house in Florida where he and his wife spent many years creating their dream home. It was there



Ernest Way, 1957-2022. PHOTO PROVIDED

he started to learn to relax. The lessons were tough at first and he would often find projects that needed to be done whether or not his wife thought they were necessary.

Ernie was predeceased by his wife, Wanda Way, and his parents. Survivors include his sister, Joanne Way of Nevada, daughters, Marie Crosby (husband, Tim), Jessica Wilson (husband, Brian), and Rachel Way (George, Salak), niece, Nicole Rodrigues and Owen, four grandchildren, Skye Crosby, Taylar "Rose" Way-Salak, Kal, and Kam Wilson.

Calling hours will be held at Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home, in Bellows Falls, on Saturday, July 16 from 2–4 p.m.

## William Riefenstahl, 1931-2022

**SPRINGFIELD, Vt.** – William P. (Bill) Riefenstahl passed away peacefully of natural causes on July 2, 2022. Bill was born on Sept. 6, 1931 in Freeport, Long Island to Bennett and Gladys (Van Rees) Riefenstahl. He graduated from Freeport High School in 1949 and served in the U.S. Navy from 1953–1955 aboard the USS Salem CA-139. Bill married Sally Parker of Freeport on Feb. 23, 1957. He attended Adelphi University's evening college graduating in 1964. After working in several manufacturing positions on Long Island, Bill and Sally moved their family to Springfield, Vt., where Bill was the QA Manager for Vermont Research Corp from 1966–1988. He was Operations Manager for the Fair-Rite Products Springfield division from 1988 until his retirement in 1995.

Bill loved machines. He was a senior member of the American Society of Quality Control, and Past Chairman of the Northern New England Section, a member of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers, and the Surface Mount Technology Association. He was a past Director of the Springfield Chamber of Commerce, a past Corporator of Spring-



William Riefenstahl, 1931-2022. PHOTO PROVIDED

field Hospital, and a member of the First Congregational Church. Bill enjoyed fishing and spending time with his grandchildren.

Predeceased by his parents and brother, George Riefenstahl, Bill is survived by his wife Sally, daughter Diane R. Walker, her husband Mark, and daughter Kelsey, as well as their son Glenn Riefenstahl, his wife Amy, and daughters Kate-lynn and Caroline.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, July 16, at 10 a.m. at Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt.

Interment will take place at the Vermont Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Randolph, Vt. at a later date.

Davis Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.

## Kim Healey, 1956-2022

**ATHENS, Vt.** – Kim Anne Healey, 65, of Route 35, died at her home June 15, 2022. She was born in Townshend, Vt. on Nov. 3, 1956, the daughter of Ralph H. and Shirley A. (Bemis) Fletcher. She attended schools in Bellows Falls, Vt. Kim worked for 25 years at Vermed, in Rockingham, Vt., where she loved her work. She loved her gardens and flowers, enjoyed playing on her computer, Mountain Dew and cigarettes. She also loved her dogs, Sandy, Duke, and

Bouncer.

She is survived by the love of her life for 35 years, Ike Snide; her mother, Shirley; her daughter, Christy Ellen Paquette; her brother, Stuie Fletcher; her sister, Tammy Lynn Schroder; her granddaughter, Cerissa Healey; her grandson, Shane Healey Fletcher; and many nieces and nephews.

Arrangements are under the direction of Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home, 55 Westminster Street, Bellows Falls, Vt.

## Brian Largess, 1959-2022

**TOWNSHEND, Vt.** – It is with great sorrow that the family of Brian Largess, 62, announces his passing on April 16, 2022. He passed at his home from medical complications due to heart issues.

Brian was born in Bellows Falls, Vt. on Aug. 9, 1959, the son of Louis and Shirley (Bell) Largess. He attended St. Charles Catholic School from kindergarten to sixth grade, Westminster Center School, Bellows Falls Middle School, and graduated with his diploma from Bellows Falls Union High School in 1977.

After high school, Brian received a certificate for completing a shop and machining course. A short time later, he decided to pursue his career in manufacturing in Florida. After enjoying three to four years in Florida, he felt New England calling him home and Brian moved to Townshend, Vt., where he retired and lived up to his death.

Brian worked at a couple companies before landing at Swiss Precision Turning Company. There he enjoyed a prosperous career for over thirty years.

A humble man with a great work ethic, Brian enjoyed the ocean, lighthouses, drawing, and especially sports (Patriots and Red Sox). Above all, he loved his family and his beloved cat, Toby.

He is survived by his brother, Randy (Cindy) Largess, and their daughter,

## Thomas Henning Jr. memorial service



**WINHALL, Vt.** – A Celebration of Life in honor of Thomas Henning Jr., who passed away on Dec. 27, 2021, will be held on Sunday, July 24 at 1 p.m. at 422 Winhall Hollow Rd., Winhall, Vt. Please join us in celebrating Thomas' life and sharing memories and stories. Food will be provided; please BYOB. If you have any special photos that you would like to contribute to his slideshow, please email them to jennyhenningvt@gmail.com. For more information, or to contact us directly, visit the Facebook event page at [www.fb.me/e/2j7ZuGLT6](https://www.fb.me/e/2j7ZuGLT6).

## Phillip Gilbert memorial service

**N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt.** – A memorial service for Phillip Gilbert, who passed away Oct. 10, 2021, will be held on July 23, 2022 at 11 a.m. at the North Springfield Baptist Church. The burial will follow at the Pine Grove Cemetery in North Springfield. Reverend Joanne Thomas will officiate.



Brian Largess, 1959-2022. PHOTO PROVIDED

ters, Amy and Kristen; sister, Karen (John) Haynes, and their son, Wesley (Kristin) Haynes, and their children, Carter and Jasper. Brian is also survived by his brother, Gary Largess of Iowa. Brian was predeceased by both parents and his niece, Kate Haynes.

A private memorial and burial service was held at St. Peter's Cemetery, Walpole, N.H. on July 9.



A year ago  
you left us.  
It's been a challenging time.

We recall your funny  
anecdotes  
and mesmerizing rhymes.

We laugh when the new  
woodchuck appears by the  
house.  
Thinking for sure you're  
reincarnated. Glad it's not  
a mouse!

There's no one more  
enchanting.  
The memories are still alert.  
The farm, the friends, the  
family -  
The home grown strawberry  
shortcake desserts.

We draw upon your wisdom  
as intuitive reminders.  
We are thrilled to recall  
your heroism.  
The world that could learn  
a lot from old timers.

At 95, a WWII, Cuban  
Crisis, and Vietnam CWO4,  
The military was your  
second love.  
But we know your had a  
calling to join Mom above.

For all the days and hours,  
spent doing good on Earth.  
We hope you're both  
dancing to "September." It's  
well deserved.

Your devotion to your  
church.  
Irish Catholic O' indeed.  
The parades you marched  
in tune to.  
The sheep that were freed.  
The stories live on  
long after your gone

But today we cherish those  
who share them  
as if you were still here.  
We smile, and shed a tear.

James Hasson  
July 5, 2021

~ Lovingly~  
Mary, Kristopher,  
Nicholas & Teddy Cain

### 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](mailto:editor@vermontjournal.com) by Monday at 12 p.m.

### CHURCH SERVICES:

We run Church Services on an alternating schedule. Subject to space. All services are posted online at [www.VermontJournal.com](http://www.VermontJournal.com).



# calendar

## LEGAL NOTICES

**JULY 16 –**  
ALSTEAD, N.H. – Charles Andros, former NH/VT Apiary Inspector, will hold a beekeeping workshop on Saturday, July 16 from 1-4 p.m. The topics of discussion will be taking off and extracting honey, wax processing, queen assessment and requeening, treatment of mites and foulbrood, and making propolis tincture. Look for the “BEE” sign on the south side of Walpole Valley Road, 18 MacLean Road, first on right, Alstead, N.H. Bring a veil, if you have one, as we shall be opening some colonies. Water and sunscreen are also a plus. Register at [lindenamel@gmail.com](mailto:lindenamel@gmail.com) or call 603-756-9056. This is the third of four workshops.

MOUNT HOLLY, Vt. – The Mount Holly Garden Tour will take place Saturday, July 16 from 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m., beginning at the Green across from the Belmont Store in Mount Holly, Vt. Buy tickets the day of the event to participate. Call Patrick and Pam McLaughlin at 802-228-8811 for more information.

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – The Charlestown Historical Society will be joining the Town Wide Yard Sale on Saturday, July 16, from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. The Historical Society is located in the Bakery Building at 216 Main Street, Charlestown.

WINDHAM, Vt. – This year’s Windham Chicken Barbecue and Raffle will take place on Saturday, July 16, from 5–6:30 p.m. at the Windham Meeting House, 26 Harrington Rd. The Barbecue is hosted by the Windham Community Organization. There will be artisans and local music. Look for the big tent outside the Windham Congregational Church.

**JULY 18 –**  
LUDLOW, Vt. – The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive on Monday, July 18 from 12–5:30 p.m. at the Ludlow American Legion Hall, 133 W Main St., Ludlow, Vt. There are no walk-ins available at this time. Call 1-800-RED-CROSS to make an appointment.

**JULY 21 –**  
CHESTER, Vt. – The Chester Summer Music Series will present Yankee Chank on July 21, from 6:30–8 p.m. on the Academy Lawn, across from the Chester Common. The American Legion Post #67 will be the rain venue. Yankee Chank is a Cajun and Zydeco fiddle, accordion, guitar, and bass group from Louisiana.

**SUNDAYS –**  
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Catamount Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol meets Sundays, from 3:30-5:30 p.m., at Hartness Airport. The Civil Air Patrol is the auxiliary unit of the U.S. Air Force tasked with the mission of supporting America’s communities with emergency response, diverse aviation and ground services, youth development, and promotion of air, space, and cyber power. Cadets as young as 12 and senior members of any age make up this diverse group of volunteers.

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

**MONDAYS –**  
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. –

Overeaters Anonymous 12-Step Recovery Program is Mondays, from 7-8 p.m., at the old St. Charles Catholic School building, 25 Cherry Street in Bellows Falls. The program is free. Call Celeste with any questions at 802-376-3507.

WESTON, Vt. – Bingo is Monday nights at 7 p.m. at the Weston Rod & Gun Club, 982 Route 100, 1.5 miles north of Weston Village. All are welcome.

**TUESDAYS –**  
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Come check out TOPS – Take Off Pounds Sensibly. We are a nonjudgmental, affordable, and supportive weight loss group. The first visit is free. We are taking Covid-19 precautions so a mask is required while attending the meeting. All are welcome; youth must be at least 9 to attend and have parental permission. Meetings are every Tuesday at 25 Cherry Hill in Bellows Falls. Weigh-ins start at 5:45 p.m.

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.

REGION – On Wednesdays at 5 p.m., join Lori Wright for Yoga Flow with Meditation, live or watch the video during your perfect time. A 45-minute gentle flow class with meditation to strengthen, improve flexibility, bring balance, relieve stress, and improve the immune system. Calm the “monkey mind” and help bring peace to your life, whether it is on or off your yoga mat. Contact Lori Wright at 603-401-8123 or email at [loriwright163@gmail.com](mailto:loriwright163@gmail.com) to register.

**THURSDAYS –**  
CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – Every Thursday afternoon, Upper Valley Land Trust holds community garden workdays at our Up on the Hill Conservation Area

off of Richardson Road in Charlestown. The garden is run by the UVLT and all of the produce is donated to the Claremont Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry. No experience needed and all tools provided. Children welcome. An adult must accompany those under 15. Sign up to receive more information about scheduling and tasks at [www.uvlt.org/food-pantry-garden](http://www.uvlt.org/food-pantry-garden).

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.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Meals on Wheels serves a senior community lunch every Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the meal site, which is located on the corner of Union and Southridge streets in Springfield. All-you-can-eat buffet includes milk, coffee or tea, and dessert. Suggested donation. For more information, call 802-885-5879.

**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](mailto:bwquilter1778@gmail.com).

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Greater Falls Farmers Market is happening Fridays from 4-7 p.m., through September. Featuring live entertainment, take-out food, children’s activities, and many vendors. For more information or becoming a vendor, visit them on Facebook at Greater Falls Farmers’ Market or email [greaterfallsfarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:greaterfallsfarmersmarket@gmail.com).

**SATURDAYS –**  
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Farmers Market will take place every Saturday on Clinton Street, by the entrance to the Toonerville Trail from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Find locally-produced foods and crafts of all kinds.

**DAILY –**  
REGION – If you want to drink that’s your business, but if you want to stop, that’s ours. Contact Alcoholics Anonymous at [www.aavt.org](http://www.aavt.org) or call your local hotline at 802-885-8281 and join a meeting.

## Fraud Watch Network: Death and Taxes

**REGION** – I’m sorry to hear about your recent death! Prepare to be scammed. Scams that try to capitalize on the death of a person have been slowly growing in frequency, increasing dramatically during the pandemic. While a few of the fraud cases are related to funeral homes and services, these scams can be addressed by state and federal authorities. If you believe your family or friends have been victimized by a funeral service company or funeral director, here are some resources available to consumers: the Federal Trade Commission ([www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov)), and the Funeral Consumers Alliance ([www.funerals.org](http://www.funerals.org), then enter complaint in search window). Every state regulates funerals and funeral service directors: New Hampshire – [www.oplc.nh.gov/board-registration-funeral-directors-and-embalmers](http://www.oplc.nh.gov/board-registration-funeral-directors-and-embalmers); Vermont – [sos.vermont.gov/opr/complaints-conduct-discipline/](http://sos.vermont.gov/opr/complaints-conduct-discipline/). In addition, complaints can be filed with state attorneys general.

So much for complaints concerning funeral services. The other side to funeral service scams involves criminals. The process of scamming is fairly simple. As noted previously in this

column, most of our personal information has already been exposed through data breaches and phishing expeditions. Add obituary notices to that data trove. By scanning these, the criminal can create a detailed profile of the recently deceased that includes family information, personal affiliations, pastimes, and preferences. With this information, the road to a variety of scams has been cleared. Based on research, here are the most common areas of fraud: (1) Identity theft – Most of us try to honor the death of a family member by submitting detailed obituaries for publication. The details noted can be sufficient to open new accounts or even claim refunds. Here are some protective steps: Don’t succumb to the desire to submit a detailed obituary by limiting personal information such as family names, birth date, or extensive details; provide notice, including a copy of the death certificate to the IRS, state motor vehicle department, major credit bureaus, credit card companies, and financial institutions. If you are contacted for any of this information, consider it as a scam. Financial institutions, government agencies, and credit bureaus will not request that you immediately provide personal information in contacts they originate. Verify contacts as legitimate before providing details; (2) Social media – Be cautious with information posted on social media. As with information provided in obituaries, too much personal information about the deceased can lead to different scams. Keep in mind that anything written on social media is available for anyone, anywhere to view. In the case of criminals, the information simply adds to what they already have and makes it easier for them to

commit the crime. A protective step to consider is limiting social media content about the deceased. (3) Debt collection – Debt actually makes fraudulent collection easier to commit since the deceased (or for that matter, their heirs) don’t check credit reports or account information. Frequently, criminals use the information they have obtained from obituaries and stolen data to claim that there are unpaid bills or sealed documents requiring a fee to release. Some protective steps: Don’t make payment by cash transfer (Zelle or Venmo) online or on the phone; ask the caller for detailed identity and contact information and research the legitimacy of the caller; before making any payment, seek legal advice; (4) Uncollected funds – Be suspect of notices of eligibility to collect funds owed to the deceased (lottery winnings, insurance payments, refunds). As with debt collection scams, take appropriate steps, as noted above, to block scammers; (5) Clairvoyant scams – Watch out for con artists claiming to be in contact with decedents who reached out to him or her to make contact with the bereaved. This scam has a history of success collecting fees from those who were hit hard by the loss of a spouse or family member. Intervention can prevent further emotional loss.

Given the extent to which personal information is available, take a few common sense steps to protect the legacy of the deceased and the well-being of the living.

*Elliott Greenblott is a retired educator and coordinator of the AARP Vermont Fraud Watch Network. Questions or concerns? Contact [egreenblott@aarp.org](mailto:egreenblott@aarp.org).*

Green Mountain Union High School has openings for the following coach positions:

**Middle School Boys Soccer Coach  
Middle School Girls Soccer Coach  
JV Boys Soccer Coach**

Interested applicants should send an email to: [todd.parah@trsu.org](mailto:todd.parah@trsu.org)

Background Check Required. EOE.

### Part Time School Bus Driver

Green Mountain Unified School District has a position open for a Part Time Bus Driver starting immediately. Driving will be approximately 4 - 6 hours a day split between the morning and afternoon. This is a School Year Position. Requirements: CDL Class B with school bus and passenger endorsement, as well as current DOT Medical Card. Background Checks and a pre-employment drug test are required as well as being in a pool for random drug testing.

Job Type: Part-time Pay: \$22.87 per hour

Send Resumes to: Michael Ripley at [Michael.Ripley@trsu.org](mailto:Michael.Ripley@trsu.org).

### TOWN OF CHESTER PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT BYLAWS

The Chester Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on a proposed amendment to the Town of Chester Unified Development Bylaws on Monday, August 1, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the Chester Town Hall at 556 Elm Street in Chester, Vermont. This public notice is given pursuant to 24 V.S.A. Section 4444.

The principal purpose of the proposed development bylaws amendment is to add two features to section 3.19 Non-Conformities. Legacy Uses will allow a parcel’s former use to be re-instated after more than a 2-year discontinuance if the use is shown to have had a benign history and to be part of the town’s cultural heritage. Adaptive Re-use will allow a specialized structure that has outlived its original function to be given a new use that is not currently allowed in the zoning district. The changes will affect every geographical area of Chester.

The full text of the proposed amendment to the Town of Chester Unified Development Bylaws may be viewed at the Town Clerk’s office and on the home page of the Town’s website at [www.chestervt.gov](http://www.chestervt.gov).

Dated at Chester, Vermont this 13th day of July 2022.  
Hugh Quinn, Planning Commission Chair

### To the residents of Cavendish Fire District 2

The Cavendish Fire Department has identified the need to change its license level from EMT to AEMT to operate in Cavendish District 2 This agency proposes to begin operation at the new license level on 09/01/2022 within the geographic boundaries of Cavendish District 2. In accordance with 24 V.S.A. Emergency Medical Services Statute, public comments are invited to be received by the department by 08/01/22

Address comments to:  
Vermont Department of Health  
Office of Public Health Preparedness and EMS  
PO Box 70  
Burlington, VT 05402-0070

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The Okemo Mountain Ski Patrol has identified the need for a(n) (First Responder Service or Ambulance Service) to operate in Ludlow, VT and is applying for licensure by the Vermont Department of Health. This service proposes to begin operation on Sept 1, 2022 within the geographic boundaries of Okemo Mountain Resort In accordance with 24 V.S.A. Emergency Medical Services Statute, public comments are invited to be received by the department by 8/15/22

Address comments to:  
Vermont Department of Health  
Office of Public Health Preparedness and EMS  
PO Box 70  
Burlington, VT 05402-0070

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING VILLAGE OF BELLOWS FALLS Chapter IX – Rental Housing Inspection Ordinance

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Trustees of the Village of Bellows Falls, Vermont will hold a PUBLIC HEARING on the following subject:

Adoption of a Village ordinance for establishing a RENTAL PROPERTY INSPECTION PROGRAM.

The full text of this proposed ordinance is available at the Office of the Clerk at Town Hall, as well as posted on the website at [www.rockinghamvt.org](http://www.rockinghamvt.org).

THE HEARING WILL COMMENCE AT 6:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2022, IN THE TOWN HALL (LOWER THEATER).

All members of the public are invited to attend, ask questions, and express their views.

Scott D. Pickup  
Municipal Manager

### Property Sale Town of Windham

The Town of Windham is accepting offers on three residential properties. Anyone interested in buying one of these may submit an offer no later than August 15, 2022. The selectboard is not obligated to accept any of the offers. The properties are:

**212 Woodburn Road** – .47 acres, appraisal value \$38,000, house needs significant repairs  
**510 Horsenail Hill Road** – .52 acres, appraisal value \$20,000, foundation is unstable  
**Vacant Land on Rt. 121 near Rt. 11** – .32 acres, appraisal value \$3,500

Mail bids to:  
Kord Scott, Windham Town Office, 5976 Windham Hill Road, Windham, VT 05359



COMMUNITY NEWS

classifieds

Senior Solutions, July 2022

**Memory Cafes**  
Senior Solutions Memory Cafés are now up and running in Brattleboro, Springfield, and White River Junction. These are welcoming places for caregivers and their loved ones who have various forms of dementia or other cognitive disorders. Both caregivers and their loved ones can participate in activities and socialize to help overcome the social isolation many have been experiencing. Our caring staff and wonderful volunteers will help to keep everyone connected and occupied. After the huge success of the first Memory Café in Brattleboro, we are happy to provide you with the dates and locations of the upcoming ones. A grateful thank you to our partner hosts!

July 13, at the American Legion Post 5 in Brattleboro, Vt., from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., and every second Wednesday of each month. Call Valerie at 802-338-6578 for reservations.

July 20, at the Bugbee Senior Center in White River Junction, Vt., from 1–3 p.m., and every third Wednesday of each month. Call Patti at 802-295-6252 for reservations.

July 27, at the First Congregational Church in

Springfield, Vt., from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., and every fourth Wednesday of each month. To make reservations, call Susan at 802-376-0037.

All these Memory Cafés are free. Please try to email your reservation to [memorycafe@seniorsolutionsvt.org](mailto:memorycafe@seniorsolutionsvt.org) so the team can plan activities and snacks.

Check our website at [www.seniorsolutionsvt.org](http://www.seniorsolutionsvt.org) for more details and information about the Memory Café Programs. Also, in our July Newsletter, you will find more information about lots of other great services and events.

**Thompson Center Donings**  
There is a lot going on at the Thompson Center in Woodstock this month, reachable at 802-457-3277. If you are interested in conservation you will want to view the program on John Muir. He was an early environmental activist and author who lived in California and helped advocate for the establishment of national parks and forest reserves. This presentation is part of the Thompson Senior Learning Network Virtual Program. You can call to reserve your spot. Then you can watch at home or at the Thompson on July 12 at 2

p.m.

**Get Moving!**  
Are you active and want a group to join to enjoy walking? Call the Thompson and register for Carla's Walking Group. They meet promptly on Mondays at 11 a.m. for a 45-minute ramble. You might enjoy signing up for Gentle Yoga. This is perfect for beginners. Classes are held on Wednesdays from 1–2 p.m. You need to pre-register by calling the Thompson at 802-457-3277. There are also Tai Chi and Bone Builder classes.

Coming up are two trips sponsored by the Thompson and the Bugbee Centers:

Aug. 10, to a Manchester Fischer Cats game.

Oct. 4, to The Log Cabin in Holyoke, Mass.

Call the Thompson for more information. To make your reservation(s) and make payments call 802-457-3277.

**Stay Healthy!**  
“Don't Stop Now.” The statewide Vaccine Campaign Part II is reminding us all to continue to receive our series of vaccines and boosters. Help maintain our best defense against serious health outcomes in case if and when we or our family members contract Covid-19 in its many variants.

If you are homebound, you can call the Vermont Department of Health at 802-858-5190 to make an appointment for a visiting nurse to do a house call. Don't risk your life or the lives of those you love. Our aging adults have responded in a very positive way to getting the vaccine and we all should say “thank you.”

**Attention, Caregivers**  
The UVM CARERS Program is gearing up for its fall session. If you are an active family caregiver to a loved one who is living with advanced dementia, you could benefit greatly by participating in these therapeutic virtual sessions. Meeting weekly from September to November, the UVM Center on Aging has two groups: Adult Children Caregivers and Partner Caregivers. Since session spaces are limited, please call as soon as possible to inquire about joining. Lori McKenna at 802-847-2466.

**Got Questions? We've Got Answers.**  
Remember, our Senior Solutions HelpLine number is 802-885-2669. Let us help you find the information you need, when you need it.

AUCTION

PERKINSVILLE, Vt. – Contents of Storage Unit #9 rented by Julie Rumrill at Perkinsville Storage will be auctioned off at 4215 Rt. 106, Perkinsville, VT 05151 at 9 a.m. on 7/22/22. 802-263-5459.

BUYING/SELLING

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

FIREWOOD

ANDOVER, Vt. – Firewood for sale. Beat fuel prices, cut to length, full cords. Please call 802-875-2076 (leave message).

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Firewood for sale, free delivery, \$200 green, \$300 dry. Call 603-558-1289.

FOR SALE

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – 2004 Nissan Titan King Cab 4WD, 165,000 miles. Very good condition. \$6,000. Call 802-591-3900.

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Contents of storage. Antique cradles, chairs, rope beds, misc. \$1,000. Must take all. We'll be there Tuesday, July 19, 2022. Please call 203-427-7885 for directions.

HAY FOR SALE: Dry round, 1st cut squares and 1st cut silage bales. Call for pricing 802-291-0610.

Canoe – Old Town Discovery 133K, 13.3 Length, made w/ Crosslink 3. Includes 1 set paddles, 1 set oars and oar locks, 4 ratchet tie downs, and more! \$500. 802-226-7697.

TENNESSEE – Looking to trade 2 lots in Tallassee, Tennessee (Top of the world) for land to build a

house next to Killington or Mount Holly area. Email [nysconstruction@optonline.net](mailto:nysconstruction@optonline.net) or call 845-641-3382.

GUNS WANTED

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

HELP WANTED

LUDLOW, Vt. – NEW PAY RATES Nursing, LNAs, Dietary, Housekeeping. Call to hear our openings and our new pay rates. Gill Odd Fellows Home, 8 Gill Terrace, Ludlow, VT 05149. 802-228-6862 Joan, HR. 802-228-6860 January, Nursing. EOE.

YARD SALE

ANDOVER, Vt. – BARN SALE July 23 and 24, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., 141 Red Top Road, off Marsh Hill Road, off Rt. 11 in Andover. Vintage, Antique, and Contemporary. Bedsteads, bureaus, tables, chairs, cribs, fireplace tools, hutch, lamps. Sinks, doors, windows, screens, desk tops. Art works and high quality frames and mirrors. Vintage tablecloths, fabric, pillow forms and covers, curtains, clothes. Vintage porcelain bathroom and door hardware. Bring a truck and manpower if buying large items. Accepting cash, checks, and Venmo. Nothing will be held.

Leadership Southeast Vermont accepting applications

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Leadership Southeast Vermont program will soon be starting up sessions for the 2022-23 course. LSEVT serves both Windham and Windsor counties, preparing individuals to meet the challenges of the future. We are hopeful to get strong participation this year, and while the applications are rolling in, there are still spots available to be filled.

The 2020 graduating class was comprised of participants from Brattleboro, Springfield, and surround-

ing towns. Two teams collaborated on group projects to serve our immediate communities, and the graduates are now better connected within the region and more informed about ways to have a positive impact in our neighborhoods.

The Leadership Southeast Vermont program is an immensely valuable learning and growth opportunity. The course fosters an increased understanding of the issues facing our neighborhoods

and creates awareness of the resources available to meet those challenges. You will gain experiences in this course that you can get no other way. Class participants have a shared commitment to becoming active leaders in their communities and improving the future of Southeast Vermont. If you are interested to join us, now is the time to contact us for more information. If someone you know could benefit from the class, please make the connection, and send them

our way.

Early applicants receive a tuition discount, so don't miss the Early Bird Deadline on July 31. Thank you for helping us to inspire local individuals to become the trustees of our community.

Contact the Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce at 802-885-2779 or email [taylor@springfieldvt.com](mailto:taylor@springfieldvt.com) for details. More information can also be found on the LSEVT website at [www.leadershipsevt.org](http://www.leadershipsevt.org).

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

\$150 for 13 Weeks • \$250 for 26 Weeks • \$400 for 52 Weeks

Prices are based on a 20 word listing. An additional 50 cents for each word thereafter.

Art Crafts Gifts

GALLERY AT THE VAULT

Vermont State Craft Center

68 Main St., Springfield

Next door to Copper Fox Restaurant

Open Wed. 11-5, Fri. 11-7, Sat. 11-5

Shop the creations of 125 artisans

[www.galleryvault.org](http://www.galleryvault.org) // 802-885-7111

Of Uncommon Beauty

– Special Show Floral Impressions by 13 Artists

Just for the Fun of It

Open Wall Show (07/27/22 - 7FN - 13)

Builders/Contractors

APEX VENTURES, LLC - HOUSE PAINTING

Booking exterior painting for the Summer and Fall in the Ludlow area. Houses, decks, porches, garages and/or barns. Email: [adam@apexventures.one](mailto:adam@apexventures.one) for free quotes. (08/10/22 - 13)

PETER JORDAN CONSTRUCTION

Over 25 years of experience in all phases of construction. Framing, finish carpentry, custom showers and tile work, hardwood flooring, decks, and siding. Fully insured and registered with the State of Vermont. Lead Paint Certified. Located in Proctorsville. 802-558-5267. (09/14/22 - 13)

Campground

CATON PLACE CAMPGROUND

2419 EAST ROAD, CAVENDISH VERMONT

SEASONAL SITES AVAILABLE FOR 2022! REASONABLE RATES!

802-226-7767

[Catonplacecamp@aol.com](mailto:Catonplacecamp@aol.com)

Full hook up sites, pull thru, and tent sites. Views of Okemo! Large Private Sites! (07/27/22- 13)

Chiropractor

FOUR SEASONS CHIROPRACTIC, PC

Dr. Denise Natale 58 Parker Avenue, Proctorsville, VT 05153, 802-226-7977 Hours: Tuesday 1pm-6pm, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 10am-6pm. (08/16/22 - 7FN - 52)

Cleaning

RAINBOW CLEANING SERVICE

Houses, offices, apartments, and auto. We clean everything! References on request, fully insured, free estimates. Contact Verina Field at 802-289-9188 or [stoneart49@gmail.com](mailto:stoneart49@gmail.com). (08/10/22 - 13)

Cleanouts

A BARE CLEANING

Basements, offices, houses, barns. Household items and junk removed. Free estimates, insured. Call Reg at 802-376-4159. (09/21/22 - 26)

Excavating

BOB N SON DIRT WORKS

Excavation/backhoe work, driveways graded/shurpak, ditches, and more with the homeowner in mind. Free estimates. Insured. Call or text Bob 802-345-3112. (07/27/22 - 13)

Masonry

DRC STONE DESIGN

Specializing in all Stone Masonry Applications including veneer, walls, patios, walkways. Fully insured. Free estimates. 32 years experience. Contact Dan Field at 802-384-0122 or [stoneart49@gmail.com](mailto:stoneart49@gmail.com) or visit [drcstonedesign.com](http://drcstonedesign.com). (08/24/22 - 13)

MOORE MASONRY

Fireplaces, chimneys and liners, chimney sweeps, patios, walls, steps, restoration and repairs. Fully insured, free estimates. Contact Gary Moore at 802-824-5710 [mooremasonry802@gmail.com](mailto:mooremasonry802@gmail.com). (09/20/22 - 52)

Okemo Valley TV

LOCAL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

• Candidates for local & statewide office- interviews & forums

• Gypsy Reel in the Proctorsville Green

• Yoga with Liza

• Update from Expeditionary School at Black River

• Weather Forecasts

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

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# community

## Gov. Scott states that Proposal 5 will appear on November ballot —

MONTPELIER, Vt. — Gov. Phil Scott formally provided public notice to Vermonters that Proposal 5, a proposed amendment to the Vermont Constitution passed by the General Assembly, will appear on the November general election ballot. The amendment would enshrine reproductive rights in Vermont's Constitution.

"Vermont has a long tradition of supporting a woman's right to choose. These decisions are deeply personal and belong between a woman and her health care provider, free from government interference," said Gov. Scott. "In Vermont, we solidified the right to choose in law, and now Vermonters have the opportunity to further protect that right in our constitution. It is more important than ever to make sure the women in our state have the right to make their own decisions about their health, bodies, and their futures. In light of the recent decision by the Supreme Court of the United States, I thank members of the General Assembly and other advocates for their foresight and work to bring this question to the November ballot."

To amend Vermont's Constitution, the state Senate must, by a two-thirds vote, advance a proposal to the House of Representatives for their concurrence by a simple majority vote. If the House concurs, the proposal is then referred to the next biennial session of the General Assembly, where the House and Senate must, by simple majority, concur with the proposed amendment. If passed, the measure is then brought before Vermont voters by referendum, where a majority of voters must approve for the constitution to be amended. Vermont is regarded as having one of the most difficult constitutional amendment processes in the nation.

## A very serious situation: Jeld-Wen lays off Approximately 80 employees —

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. — Jeld-Wen, an American manufacturing company, has laid off around 80 employees, with another eight to ten in transitional temporary roles. The announcement was made on June 22, 2022, to the employees at the facility.

The company currently has two nearby facilities with one in North Springfield and the other in Ludlow, Vt. The company plans to consolidate the two facilities into just the Ludlow location.

"Over the past few years we've been engaged in a comprehensive review of our locations to modernize our network and raise efficiency across the globe. We want to make sure we can meet our customer demand and invest in areas that will continue to grow the business," said Caryn Klebba, the company's head of Global Public Relations.

The North Springfield location has been a longtime employer of a large number of Springfield residents since it moved to the Precision Park location in 2007. According to Kristi Morris, the Chair of the Springfield Selectboard, Jeld-Wen had just signed a ten-year lease to the property. Morris also stated that Jeld-Wen had asked Acrylic Design, another company at the Precision Park location, to vacate their location so that Jeld-Wen could expand into their area. Morris stated that although they did not want to leave, they left last year after liquidating their equipment.

"We are significantly disappointed and a little dismayed. I can only assume it's a business decision on the corporate level and without regard to the employees," Morris said to the Eagle Times.

Klebba mentioned that Jeld-Wen intends for the closing of the Precision Park location to be temporary. She stated that Jeld-Wen is a long term employer in the area, and plans to keep the space while they decide on how best to utilize it.

"This is not a reflection on the efforts of anyone within the two facilities. This is the result of the deployment of lean manufacturing principles that Jeld-Wen follows. It's part of a comprehensive effort across the globe," Klebba said.


As a result, the Vermont Department of Labor has begun their "Rapid Response" services. The VT Department of Labor will also be sponsoring a job fair next week.

Springfield's Regional Development Corporation will also be working toward helping people affected by the layoffs find employment in the coming weeks. The Regional Development Corporation has had around a half dozen employers contact the office with a number of different job opportunities. They have also stated they are helping funnel people to the Department of Labor to get any resources, help and information they might need. The RDC has also stated that they will have details about the positions in the companies that will be at the job fair.


"You never want something like this to happen. It's a very serious situation but if it had to happen maybe it's as good a time as any in terms of job opportunities out there.

We've been through layoffs before and we want to help the people of Springfield stay on their feet," said Springfield Regional Development Corporation Executive Director Bob Flint.


Former Jeld-Wen employees who were contacted about the layoff said that they were unable to speak about it for "federal reasons." Anyone with questions that was affected by the lay off can find information resources at [www.labor.vermont.gov](http://www.labor.vermont.gov), or reach the Vermont Department of Labor at 802-828-4000.




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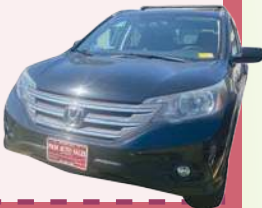
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# sports & outdoor

## EdgarMay’s Athletic Performance Training for school students

**SPRINGFIELD, Vt.** – Calling all student athletes, it’s time to start your off-season training for the fall sports season. From July 13 to Aug. 5, the Edgar May Health and Recreation Center is hosting an Athletic Performance Training program for local middle school and high school student athletes. The hour-long program will run Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. and Friday mornings at 8 a.m., for four weeks.

Each workout in the training program includes a focused movement warm up, strength training, metabolic conditioning, and a cool down that targets mobility and flexibility. Athletes will develop strength, agility, speed, power, explosiveness, and mobility. They will also learn breath control under stress, proper form for movements, and the importance of cool down and recovery.

“We believe that a strong



Edgar May training program for middle and high school student athletes. PHOTO PROVIDED

base of strength and conditioning training in young athletes helps prevent injuries and produces a stronger, well-rounded athlete,” says Kristen Miller, Director of Health and Wellness at the EdgarMay. Kristen is

a clinical exercise physiologist, a former Division I athlete, and a lifetime sports competitor. Kristen has designed this program especially for young athletes. The program will be instructed by certified trainers Jean Warner and Zoe Lirakis.

Thanks to a generous sponsorship from the Springfield Elks Lodge 1560, this program is free for all Springfield student athletes. The program is also open to any local student athletes in the region for a drop-in fee per training session.

For more information, call 802-885-2568, email [info@edgarmay.org](mailto:info@edgarmay.org), or visit [www.edgarmay.org](http://www.edgarmay.org).

## VINS 2022 Incredible Insect Festival

**QUECHEE, Vt.** – The Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS) is excited to announce the annual 2022 Incredible Insect Festival.

On Saturday, July 23, everyone is invited to join in person at the VINS Nature Center from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. for a full day of fascinating insect-focused fun. Visit the renowned Caterpillar Lab as they showcase a multitude of live caterpillars. Learn about the importance of pollinators while you meet a local beekeeper and discuss dragonflies with the Black River Action Team. Get up close and personal with invertebrates of all shapes with Uncharted Wild. Through demonstrations, exhibits, games, and crafts, visitors to the VINS Nature Center will have a fun day discovering the insects who share our backyards, forests, and waterways.

**Saturday Schedule:**

- 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.: Invertebrates with Uncharted Wild. This up close en-

counter will be sure to delight folks of all ages with their collection of incredible invertebrates. Learn how spiders aren’t insects and how these little creatures survive in this big, big world.

- 11:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.: Caterpillar Lab. Learn about the wonderful world of caterpillars at the amazing Caterpillar Lab exhibit. Hundreds of native New England caterpillars will be on display for you to observe.
- 1–2 p.m.: Invertebrates with Uncharted Wild.
- 2–2:30 p.m.: Reptile Rendezvous. Want to meet some totally “cool” creatures? Join a VINS Educator to learn all about the resident reptiles.
- 3–3:30 p.m.: Predators of the Sky. Explore the natural world through the eyes of raptors.

**Daylong Offerings:**

- Beekeeper Peter Hadeka: Come learn about the fascinating life of a beehive. Honey for sale.
- Dragonflies with the

Black River Action Team: Learn how you can be a Dragonfly Detective.

- Bug Safaris: Go on a bug hunt. Educators will be with you to help you identify the critters you find.
- Bugs of the Canopy Walk: Learn about what makes a bug and go look for them high up in the trees.

VINS is headquartered at the VINS Nature Center, 149 Natures Way, Quechee, Vt.

## Ludlow Cronchers’ Golf Tournament fundraiser a success

**LUDLOW, Vt.** – On Friday, June 24, the Ludlow Side Hill Cronchers Snowmobile Club held a fundraiser Golf Tournament at Fox Run Golf Club in Ludlow, Vt. The club would like to thank all of its players, volunteers, Fox Run Golf Club, and its sponsors for making the day such a success. We’d also like to thank Du Jour’s Restaurant for helping us to open up our festivities by hosting our gathering the night before. It was a beautiful day and a good time was had by all.

Sponsors for the 2022 Golf Tournament were: American Legion Post 36, Lee Whiting (Deep River Snacks), Arrow Construction, LLC, Mr. Darcy’s Bar & Grill, Ballard-Hobart Auxiliary 36, O’Reilly Building & Remodel-

ing, Inc, Benson’s Chevrolet, Inc, Palladium Builders, Birdseye Café, Paul Haynes, Cavendish Green Mountain Snow Fleas Snowmobile Club, Perkinsville Maple Products, Chester Snowmobile Club, Pete’s Painting, Derek Yaworky Family, Precision Aquatics Group, Diamond Realty, Precision International Automotive Products, DJ’s Restaurant, Putnam Swimming Pools, Eight Oh Brew, R&R Brothers Electrical, G&S Connection, Sam’s Steakhouse, Hair by Paula, Sanderson Contracting-Jamie & Brett

Sanderson, Harry’s Restaurant, Sons of American Legion 36, Jay & Judy Lushinks, Team Manafort, Jeff & Anna Lathrop, Ted Strahas Builders, John Blake Carpentry, The Marshall Family, John Murphy, Jr., and Turner & Sons Roofing and Siding.

The Side Hill Cronchers is a volunteer club, which maintains the snowmobile trails in Ludlow, Vt. The generous support the club received is a major help in funding those efforts. Proceeds will go toward snowmobile trail maintenance efforts.



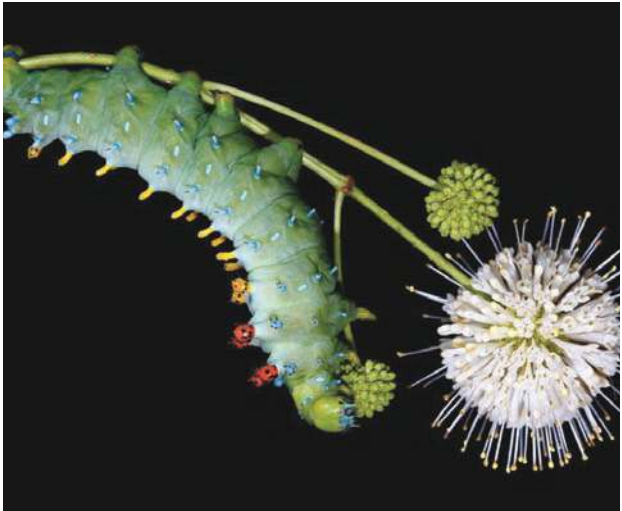
Golfers get ready to hit the course. PHOTO BY PATTY COMPANIK

## Public walk in Weathersfield Town Forest

**WEATHERSFIELD, Vt.** – The Weathersfield Conservation Commission and VELCO invite you for an informative walk in the Weathersfield Town Forest on Saturday, July 16 at 9 a.m. The topic of dis-

cussion will be powerline right-of-way management and early successional habitat. Speakers will be Velco Forester Devon Snyder, Vermont Center for Ecostudies Bird Specialist Jason Hill, and Vermont Center for

Ecostudies Bee Specialist Spencer Hardy. Park at the Swoops and Loops parking lot, across from the Mount Ascutney main entrance gate. Dress appropriately for a walk in the woods. This program is free and open to all.



The caterpillar lab. PHOTO BY SAM JAFFE

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# arts & entertainment

## Springfield Community Band concert

**SPRINGFIELD, Vt.** – The Springfield Vermont Community Band will present a concert, with guest conductors, on Tuesday, July 19, at 7:30 p.m. at the outdoor bandstand at Riverside Middle School, 13 Fairground Rd., Springfield, Vt. Directing the band will be three band members:

Danielle St. Amand, Alex Brady, and Christian Terry. All three are music educators, and the pieces they’ve chosen are among their, and the band’s, favorites, including pieces by John Philip Sousa and John Williams, as well as a beautiful piece, new to the band, by Jay Ungar.

The featured musician that evening will be Clayton Thompson, percussionist, in “Concerto for Drumset.” The public is reminded to bring a chair. This program is subject to change in the event of unforeseen circumstances.

## All Country Band at CSC

**CHARLESTOWN, N.H.** – All Country Band will perform a free concert on Friday, July 15, 2022, from 6:30–8 p.m. at the Charlestown Senior Cen-

ter, 223 Old Springfield Rd. Refreshments will be on sale, including burgers, hotdogs, chips, popcorn, hot and cold beverages, and a sweet something. There

will also be a 50/50 raffle. Those in attendance are reminded to bring a lawn chair for a fun evening of entertainment and, perhaps, some dancing.

## Cavendish presents, The Morning Dudes

**PROCTORSVILLE, Vt.** – The Town of Cavendish will present the next concert in its 2022 annual summer music series on Wednesday, July 20 at 6 p.m. at the Svec Memorial Green in Proctorsville, where The Morning Dudes will take the stage. The Morning Dudes play songs from the wide and varied repertoire of Jerry Garcia and the Grateful Dead, including folk, blues, country, bluegrass, and improvisatory rock. Jake Geppert brings musical mastery on acoustic and electric guitar, mandolin, and ukulele, and Tom Van Sant holds down the rhythm on acoustic guitar. Both

‘dudes’ sing with passion and love of the material, borne out of their lifelong fandom and attendance at hundreds of Dead and Garcia concerts. For their July 20 Proctorsville performance, a third Morning Dude will join the band – keyboard wizard John Burns. The Cavendish Community and Conservation Association coordinates the series on behalf of Cavendish. All concerts are free and open to the public, so grab your lawn chair, a picnic and a cold drink, and join your friends and



Jake Geppert and Tom Van Sant. PHOTO PROVIDED

neighbors to enjoy plenty of great music from the gazebo. Even better than a picnic; Murdock’s Restaurant, Singleton’s, and Outer Limits Brewing will be open for food and drink. Please support Proctorsville’s local businesses. As always, the concerts will be held unless severe weather threatens. In case of rain, alternative plans will be announced on the Cavendish Community and Conservation Facebook page. If you would like to help, CCCA would like to hear from you. Email Cavendishcommunityconservation@gmail.com to volunteer or for more information on the concerts.

## Luminous Crush performs in Chester

**CHESTER, Vt.** – The Chester Summer Music Series is proud to present the first concert of Summer 2022, Luminous Crush. Laura Molinelli and Ben Campbell present original bluegrass, outlaw country, psychedelic fusion, dream pop, indie rock and whatnot. Founded in 2015, with deep roots in alt rock and bedroom pop, as well as traditional bluegrass and alt-country, they deliver a unique and highly original sound. They are joined by the supporting talents of Christian Heins



Luminous Crush. PHOTO PROVIDED

(bass) and Bill Conley (dobro/pedal steel). Concerts start on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. on the Academy Lawn. The rain

venue is the American Legion Post 67 on Rt. 103 South. Concerts will run from July 14 through Aug. 11.

## Springfield Art Gym grand reopening

**SPRINGFIELD, Vt.** – The Springfield Art Gym will host a grand reopening on Saturday, July 16, from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. at their new location at 335 River Street behind Joes Discount Beverage Store. There will be a ribbon cutting,

raffle prizes, make-and-take craft stations for all ages, chalk drawing, live folk music, food, and fun. Springfield Art Gym is a drop-in community art room where everyone is welcome to exercise their creativity. For a small donation, you can use the

tools and consumable materials on hand to create art. Volunteer staff is on site for guidance. Materials are all by donation from the public. The Art Gym is handicap accessible. Visit Springfield Art Gym on Facebook or at www.artgymvt.com.

## Josh Maiocco and Ezra Veitch at Stage 33

**BELLOWS FALLS, Vt.** – Josh Maiocco will play the Stage 33 Live listening room at 33 Bridge Street in Bellows Falls, Vt., on Sunday, July 17 at 7 p.m. Ezra Veitch will open and side. Limited seating. The event will be recorded and filmed. In 2018, Josh Maiocco showed up at a Stage 33 Live open mic and stunned everyone. Since then he’s played the room as an opener and a side-person; this is his first headline on the 33 Bridge Street stage. Josh is as talented of a writer and player as

he is under-recognized. It’s known that in younger days he played quite a bit in New Jersey and New York City. He’s not from around here originally, but since arriving about two decades ago, he’s played in highly regarded and stylistically diverse bands like Ingrid’s Ruse, Ninja Monkey, 84 Sheepdog, and the Ben Carr Music Project, in addition to occasional solo shows. Josh has enlisted his friend and frequent co-conspirator, Ezra Veitch, to open and side for him. Ezra is well known for his music and his tireless support of

the local music scene, as well as his graphic art. The Covid-19 protocol will be the guidelines in effect in the community on show day. Currently the guidance is that masks are optional, although that may change without notice. Respect those who choose to mask, and give them six feet of social distance. Seating will be a minimum of eight feet from the stage and set up in pods of two. If you wish to make a custom pod for your party, arrive early. People who have already arrived and have arranged their seating will not be expected to move.

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## Grace Cottage Hospital Fair Day

**TOWNSHEND, Vt.** – Grace Cottage will hold its traditional Hospital Fair Day on Saturday, Aug. 6, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. on the Townshend Common. The Fair will include all of the favorites: A birthday parade, an all-day auction, bingo, pies, jewelry,

t-shirts, bargain booths, fried dough and other food, kids’ games, live music, and more. This free, all-day, family-friendly event, which is now in its 72 year, will be held rain or shine. Volunteers are needed to help with the auction and other booths on either Friday or Saturday. Please call

802-365-9109 for information. Grace Cottage is also still accepting donations of furniture and other auction-worthy items, books, and White Elephant items, if you can deliver them. Please call 802-365-9109 to arrange for your donation. For more information, visit [www.gracecottage.org](http://www.gracecottage.org).

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