



FALL HOME IMPROVEMENT

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GFRCC hosts Southern Vermont Flannel Festival

BY PAULA BENSON
The Shopper

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – On Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 15 and 16, Rockingham Hill Farm was bathed in sunshine and stunning fall colors, welcoming a record number of attendees to the third annual Southern Vermont Flannel Festival.

Visitors paid \$7 for admission with \$1 off for wearing flannel, and were treated to musical performances, a variety of food and craft vendors, as well as cocktails, craft beer, cider, homemade pies, and a pie contest sponsored by King Arthur Baking Company.

On Saturday, the Brattleboro based folk trio Low Lily began the day of live music at noon with their world-class string and vocal talents. They were followed by Cold Chocolate, a Boston group that fuses folk, funk,

and bluegrass to create their own genre-bending sound.

Sunday's entertainment included The Break Maids, described as "rock n' roll with a twist of folk punk," progressive bluegrass group The Stockwell Brothers, and A Company of Witches, who showcased their witchy costumes and dance moves in two performances.

There were a variety of food trucks, including Smokin' Bowls from Rockingham, who served hot and hearty soup and chili, Jamaican Jewelz, doling out spicy, authentic fare, Sunnyside Tacos, and Rescue Dawgs BBQ. Among the sweeter choices were AJ's Fried Dough, or apple cider donuts from the Bellows Falls Rotary Club. Short n' Sweet Fudge and Confections sold out completely around 2:40 p.m. on Sunday, and reported reviews ranged from kids spontane-



Attendees at the 2022 Southern Vermont Flannel Festival sport their flannel.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY DEBRA COLLIER

ously happy dancing to a woman almost tearing up over a sample of their lime fudge.

The festival had too many vendors to name, with booths selling handcrafted jewelry from Coyote Moon, BADMamaBear, and Pa-

parazzi, among others. Boccaccio's & Cason's Corner salon in Bellows Falls ran a pop-up shop offering product bundles, tinsel hair accessories, ear piercings, and chair massages. Rockingham's Vermont Vines wines were on display, along with

spirits from Appalachian Distillery, and craft brew from Mount Holly Beer. Soaps, candles, art, candy, honey, and so much more helped some visitors get ahead of their Christmas shopping.

A few notable people in attendance were Miss Vermont Alexina Federhen, Candidate for Lt. Governor David Zuckerman, and Springfield, Vt. artist Mona Frye, who was painting colorful, creative designs on lots of smiling faces.

Debra Collier, Executive Director for the Greater Falls Regional Chamber of Commerce (GFRCC), said the board had been brainstorming ideas when they came up with the Flannel Festival in 2019. "What could be more Vermont and New Hampshire than flannel in the fall?" said Collier, continuing, "The idea was to offer what folks want the

most; like homemade pie, craft beer, great live music, and lots of local area crafters to showcase their wares and delicious local foods all in a casual atmosphere."

The first year the festival ran only one day, then in 2020 it didn't run at all. Back for the second year in 2021, the event established itself as a community building GFRCC fundraiser. When Charlie Jarras, the owner of Rockingham Hill Farm and a big Chamber supporter, offered his farm as a venue for the event, Collier and the GFRCC were excited and grateful.

Collier mentioned that she'd especially like to thank the Chamber board, all this year's sponsors, vendors, the many volunteers and all the folks that came to enjoy the weekend and support the event and the Chamber. She said she looks forward to doing it all again in 2023.

Our Place Drop-In Center receives assistance

BY JOE MILLIKEN
The Shopper

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The Bellows Falls Opera House recently hosted their annual "Overflow The Opera House" food and fundraising event to benefit the local Our Place Drop-in Center, the staff braving through the rainy Saturday afternoon to accept donations in front of the Opera House on The Square.

Launched in 1993 and located at 6 Island Street in Bellows Falls, Our Place is a daytime drop-in center that offers help with food and other essential needs in a non-judgmental, safe, caring, and respectful atmosphere. They have provided meals and other essentials to people in Rockingham, Westminster, Walpole, New Hampshire, and the surrounding area. Their services include free meals, a food pantry, social service resources, and grocery delivery to seniors and the disabled.

"We have been doing this event, in conjunction with the Bellows Falls Opera House, for ten years now, and this is my ninth year participating," Amanda Reed said in a recent interview. Reed is the Our Place Drop-In Center's operations coordinator.



Food display at Our Place Drop-In Center.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Because of the rising cost of food, the Our Place staff suggested that cash donations would spread further than donating actual bags of food, simply because they can leverage their connections to buy more food with a cash donation than a person on the street can buy at a grocery store.

With the annual "Overflow The Opera House" event, Our Place accepts donations by selling seats through the Bellows Falls Opera House box office. A \$25 "seat purchase" will actually be a donation that will represent a bag of food for a needy family in the area.

"Every year we always fill up the seats. Chroma Technologies Corp. has been a huge part of making sure the seats are filled, and they have been a part of this event

with us for five or six years now. This fundraiser is very important to us because, at times, the food bank is low and this helps us through a couple of months."

A live remote radio broadcast of the event was hosted by Keene, N.H.'s KOOL FM, 106.7, and employees from local businesses Sonnax and Chrome Technology arrived with large food and cash donations. By the end of the day the skies had cleared, and the "Overflow The Opera House" fundraiser was a huge success, collecting over \$7,000 and 1,500 pounds of food. The monetary donation almost doubled last year's total of \$4,400.

"I want to say 'thank you' Fish, who has always been there to help us organize this yearly event," Reed added. "I also want to thank everyone who has supported us on this day, and have helped hundreds of people with food insecurities."

To learn more, or to make a donation to the Our Place Drop-in Center, please visit www.ourplacevermont.org, or call 802-463-2217. The Drop-in Center hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Bellows Falls trustees discuss Water Department

BY BETSY THURSTON
The Shopper

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – On Tuesday, Oct. 11, the Bellows Falls Village Trustees discussed Water Department capital projects.

Municipal Manager Scott Pickup said the Kissell Hill project was on the current intended use plan for funding to replace the asbestos pipe distribution line. He presented the motion for the design proposal from the Dufresne Group of Springfield at \$37,000 and anticipated the plans and specifications by year's end. The estimated project cost is \$1.2 million.

Village President Deborah Wright asked if this involved grant money. Pickup said this was in the current funding stack of \$625,000. The board authorized the motion for \$37,000 for engineering services.

Pickup said the pump station on Griswold Drive was on the asset management plan. Costs for the new tank were \$775,000, and \$175,000 for a refurbished tank.

Trustee James McAuliffe asked about the longevity of a new tank.

Pickup said it was anywhere from 30–50 years, depending on the coating and maintenance. According to Pickup, the refurbished tank "is, in effect, buying us another ten years." McAuliffe noted the tank was installed in 1979, and upgraded in 2006 at 27 years.

Trustee Jeff Dunbar said, "the refurbishment makes sense" and asked about the backup if it started to fail. Pickup explained the biggest issue and concern was fire flows, but said they could handle residential flow with a temporary tank.

The next item on the agenda was a federal mandate for drinking water requiring a service line inventory. Pickup explained that by October 2024, the Water Department must present an inventory of all lead lines servicing the village. He said that service was not a part of routine maintenance, and loan programs were available and would be pursued to help with the increased manpower necessary for the inventory. "It will impact [the village]," said Pickup, "with potential recruitment for the Department and [involve] a whole host of challenges...in terms of responsibility for service line replacement."

In response to Wright asking if the expense would

fall on homeowners, Pickup said that the guidance was not yet released, but guessed that "with the age of some of our housing stock, there will be some homes that [need] remediation...and involve some cost to homeowners." He continued by saying, "This is something we will be talking about for the next 18–24 months."

McAuliffe asked if the village had lead pipes in the system. Pickup was not aware of any in distribution, but acknowledged that some of the connections were old.

Pickup also addressed employment concerns at the Water Department. Two senior members were within 18–24 months of being fully vested and eligible for retirement. He said it took time to train new employees and suggested they advertise to get a sense of who was available before the end of the calendar year. Pickup explained that this was a critical issue and would relieve pressure on succession planning. He reminded the board that without a viable option, the village would need to contract at a substantially higher cost.

Dunbar asked about the time span between anniversary dates. Pickup said only three to four months, and

See **WATER** on Page 2

Springfield students win Garden Club scholarships

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Garden Club (SGC) has announced that Alicia Ostrum has won their 2022 SGC scholarship and Claire Palmer has won the 2022 Sandy MacGillivray Memorial Scholarship.

Ostrum plans on attending Utah Tech University and majoring in engineering. She hopes to open a research facility, one that would develop eco-friendly and efficient solutions to world problems. This

year, Ostrum was the project manager at Springfield High School's "Green Up Week," the morning announcer for "Voice of the Cosmos," a class representative, and head editor of the yearbook. The SGC scholarship is awarded annually to high school seniors or college students pursuing further education in the fields of horticulture, forestry, or environmental studies.

Palmer plans to attend



Pictured left to right, Claire Palmer and Alicia Ostrum.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Eastern Maine Community College and studying Early Childhood Education. She works as an assistant teacher at a preschool and daycare, is a social media manager, and a self-employed photographer, making greeting cards and selling them in the area. Deanna Dexter, Scholarship Chair for the SGC, stated, "The Committee chose Claire because she possesses some of the great qualities that Sandy [MacGillivray] exhibited

throughout her life." MacGillivray, the scholarship's namesake, taught business courses at the technical center and at Springfield High School for many years. She loved to work with students and to encourage and guide them in any way she could towards living productive lives.

The Sandy MacGillivray Scholarship is awarded to graduating seniors from Springfield's River Valley Technical Center.

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Springfield Library recognizes FOSTL

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Town Library recognizes its Friends of the Library group as an essential resource during the 17th annual celebration of National Friends of Libraries Week from Oct. 16 – 22. All Friends of Springfield Town Library members are invited to come to the library on Thursday, Oct. 20 to have a “cuppa,” along with all our patrons during our monthly Patron Appreciation Day.

“Our library would not be able to do all we do without the Friends,” said library director Sue Dowdell. “I think most patrons would be surprised to learn how many of the services and programs they enjoy are supported by the Friends.”

Dowdell revealed that FOSTL provided well over \$8,000 worth of support to the library in the past twelve months. All the recent items in the Library of Things col-

lection were purchased with FOSTL funding. Their support of the historical photos project was vital to the digitization of the collection.

Membership is open to everyone interested in supporting the Library. Please contact the library at 802-885-3108 or visit www.springfieldtownlibrary.org/fostl to find out how to become a member.

Conservation Commission hosts forum

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – The Westminster Conservation Commission works to steward and raise awareness of the many significant natural resources in the town of Westminster. One such much-valued site, a marsh

on Henwood Hill Road, has many abutters, neighbors, and visitors with a range of interests and needs regarding the land. The Conservation Commission is hosting a forum to share perspectives and ideas concerning

ongoing stewardship of the site and would like to hear from everyone who has an interest in the marsh.

The forum will be held on Thursday, Oct. 27 from 6:30–8 p.m. at the Westminster Institute, Butterfield Library, 3435 US Route 5, Westminster, Vt. For more information, contact westminstervtconservation@gmail.com.

Rockingham Library hosts author Brett Ann Stanciu

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Pick up a copy of the book “Unstitched” at the Rockingham Library and journey with author Brett Ann Stanciu as she finds ways to understand opioid addiction and how people and communities can heal.

A stranger, rumored to

be a heroin addict, repeatedly breaks into the small-town Vermont library, which the author runs. After she tries to get the police involved, he dies by suicide. When she realizes how little she knows about opioid abuse, she sets out on a mission, seeking insight from others. She realizes she has

a role to play in helping the people of her community stitch themselves back together.

The author of this book will be talking about these experiences at the Rockingham Library in mid-November. It is not necessary to be a library patron to borrow a copy of “Unstitched.”

Grace Cottage new providers

TOWNSHEND, Vt. – Three new providers are seeing patients at Grace Cottage Family Health in Townshend.

Nurse Practitioner Caroline (Carly) Dormer is accepting new patients 18 years and older. Dormer was a clinical and charge nurse atingham General Hospital and Decker Health Services & Department of Emergency Manage-

ment prior to moving to Vermont in 2021, where she’s most recently worked as a Nurse Practitioner at Savida Health in Brattleboro.

Dr. Wyll Everett chose to pursue a career in family medicine while working at Grace Cottage with Dr. Tim Shafer during his fourth year of medical school. Dr. Everett is Board Certified with the American Board of Family Medicine and is

a board member of the Vermont Academy of Family Physicians.

Dr. Marc-Olivier Ratte completed his residency at Stamford Hospital/Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, and he has been a primary care physician at Brattleboro Memorial Hospital since 2018. He is Board Certified with the American Board of Family Medicine.

Elks GER visits Springfield Lodge

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Springfield Elks Lodge 1560 recently entertained the visiting Grand Exalted Ruler (GER) 2022/2023,

Bruce Hidley of Watervliet, N.Y. As GER for the Elks, Hidley will spend the coming ensuing year visiting the Elks Lodges of all Elk State Presidents in the U.S. This year’s Vermont State Elks

President is from Springfield Elks Lodge 1560. Jim Kirkwood was elected Vermont State Elks President in May of 2022, at the Elks State Convention in Saratoga, N.Y.

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Turkey dinner at St. Peter’s Church

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – On Friday, Oct. 28 at 5:30 p.m., All Saints Parish will hold a catered turkey dinner at St. Peter’s Church on 30 Church St., North Walpole, N.H. There is no cost, but donations to assist the parish

with winter fuel costs are encouraged. On the menu will be boneless turkey, mashed potato, squash, coleslaw, and ice cream for dessert. Please notify Father John Loughnane at 603-717-5603 if you plan to attend.

WATER

From Page 1

that the biggest concern was getting new employees certified. He explained, “Once certified, you need two years of on-the-job training before you’re officially certified to be an operator.” Pickup acknowledged

that the additional lead line inventory would be time consuming and involve numerous weeks of field work.

Golec asked about mapping. Pickup said they had pieces of the Geographic Information System (GIS) data, but not a full set.

Trustee Wade Masure recalled Everett Hammond overseeing different phases of that project. Pickup agreed that before they hired anyone to work on system line evaluation, “We will pull all the data we have...and the GIS product [would] come out of this inventory.”

The Village Trustee meetings are on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 6 p.m. in the Lower Theater of the Bellows Falls Opera House.

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SEVCA and CHEP low-barrier community grant

REGION – The Greater Springfield Community Health Equity Partnership (CHEP), which is coordinated by Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA), will be funding proposals seeking to reduce health disparities in the Springfield District of the VT Department of Health (VDH). Specifically, the group invites pro-

posals that will address the root causes of their district health equity challenge: stigma as a barrier to access, and a harm to mental health. Awards will range from \$5,000 – \$50,000. The community-led grant process is intended to be low barrier to build capacity in the region and enable the participation of individuals, groups, and organizations who are small, less formal, and/or new to applying for grants.

different ways of thinking, being, experiencing, and expressing themselves – so we will be providing application information in multiple formats, will be offering one-on-one support to those applying, and we will be accepting applications in various formats. Perhaps most importantly, residents from the district towns will be deciding which proposals to fund, and grantees will be provided funds in advance installments.

Kelsea Burch, SEVCA's Health Equity Network Development Specialist, explains what the Greater Springfield CHEP is doing to ensure the grantmaking process is equitable and inclusive: "We're trying to make everything simple and easy – from the eligibility requirements to the application. We also understand that people have

Interested applicants should apply by Nov. 4, 2022. More information is available on SEVCA's website at www.sevca.org/news/373-the-greater-springfield-community-health-equity-partnership-is-seeking-to-fund-proposals-that-address-stigma-as-a-barrier-to-access-and-a-harm-to-mental-health.

William Raveis Coat Drive

LUDBLOW, Vt. – William Raveis Real Estate Vermont Properties is seeking donations to help give the gift of warmth this winter season.

The 2022 Coat Drive begins Oct. 15. Clean outdoor garments in good condition with working zippers can be dropped off at the William Raveis Real Estate Vermont Properties offices through Dec. 1. Offices are located at 29 Locust Hill Road, in Ludlow, and open Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., and on Sundays from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

"Our Coat Drive is an annual event that provides our staff with tremendous satisfaction," says Kathy Burns. "Being warm during the winter should not be a luxury. As a community that celebrates and endorses outdoor recreation, we need to ensure that every man, woman, and child in our region can enjoy winter sports and outdoor activities all season long."

Outerwear donated to the 2022 Coat Drive will be distributed to local families and community members through support and assistance provided by Black River Good Neighbors.

For more information, please call 802-228-8877.



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LOCAL HISTORY

BY RON PATCH

Ron Patch is a Chester native, past President of Chester Historical Society, and a lifelong antiques dealer.

He can be reached at 802-374-0119 or email ronpatch27@gmail.com

Traditions

Danny Clemons and I went cemeterying this past Oct. 15 for the first time this year. We've visited many of the cemeteries in this region in past years. So where to go was the question.

We began the day in Perkinsville. Down Maple Street we went to the flood control area. It was a beautiful fall day with bright blue sky. We drove around here, with me repeating what Becky Tucker told on a tour, last summer. Several people were out walking their dogs. It's a beautiful location. You live here so why not take advantage of it?

Next, at Downers Four Corners, we took Route 131 to Ascutney. We went under the interstate toward the village. On the left is Cemetery Road. We drove out to the Ascutneyville Cemetery.

The first thing we noticed as we got out of car, was the smell of the freshly fallen leaves. No other smell compares. It is so welcome.

We toured this cemetery finding numerous slate gravestones. They were difficult to read because of lichen growing on the surface of the stones. There was one tall marble spire that had a fungal growth close to an inch deep.

One slate stone was taller than Danny. The back of another early gravestone showed the tool marks from the maker. You can see where he used hammer and stone chisel to reduce the thickness and weight of the stone. There are long gouges, maybe a half-inch deep and close to an inch wide. I love seeing this old handwork. Most gravestones we see are smooth on the back.

Next, we went to the Ascutney Cemetery in Windsor. This is a sprawling cemetery. Here, in one area, we saw a number of wooden crosses. Each wooden cross had a name plate that included name and death dates. Danny thinks this is where prisoners from the Windsor State Prison and paupers were buried.

Our next stop was the burying ground behind the Old South Church in Windsor. This is an early and in-

teresting cemetery. Danny and I really enjoyed walking here. Gray squires were running about collecting nuts. And the ever-present smell. There are many slate graves here, and a few family plots. In one family plot we found an interesting gravestone. It is slate with weeping willows carved thereon.

The tombstone reads: "Phebe Johnson, colored girl, died in the hope of Christ Aug. 31, 1832 AE 22." This raises questions as well as offering insight to this family. They must have loved this girl very much to include her in their family plot. I'm sure folks at the Windsor Historical Society could answer questions I have. I think there's a story here.

On one early slate was a carving of a round face with wings. It's beautiful yet haunting. This style carving was brought from England by early settlers and continued here until the 1770s.

Traditions and customs

Traditions are a way of life passed down from one generation to the next. Danny's and my parent's generation were born in the early 1900s. Their parents were born in the 1890s. Each generation passed their customs down to their children.

When I was growing up, my family often went for a Sunday drive after dinner (lunch). As Danny and I drove around, this subject came up. Danny's parents did the same thing. But where does this come from?



Ancient maples lining the Ascutneyville Cemetery. PHOTO BY RON PATCH

In some ways, Danny and I are not that far removed from our grandparent's generation and their ways. Going for a Sunday drive was something our grandparent's did in horse and buggy. After church, it was common to go for a drive. This is the origin of this custom.

Danny drives purposely and very slow. We recalled those rides, with our parents, and how enjoyable they were, or where we went or saw. We pulled over several times to let those in a hurry pass us by. I like riding with Danny.

I dated a woman in 2001. She had moved up from Delaware and bought a home in the country. One day, I was driving her home in my Corvette on the dirt road. I wasn't in a hurry and there was a car behind me. I said, "I'm pulling over to let this car pass." "No," she said. "Never mind them." You shouldn't have to argue about common courtesy. She didn't understand our ways, nor did she try.

This week's old saying is an epitaph I saw years ago: "I went as long as I could."

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opinion

Dear Editor,

Vote for Lamont Barnett, Assistant Judge.

First, let me thank the voters of Windham County for their support during the August Primary election.

I was honored to be selected by Windham County's Democratic party to be placed on the November General Election Ballot as their candidate for the Office of Assistant Judge. I am asking once again for your vote and support.

Let me speak a little on why your vote is important.

This year, for the first time in many years, at least one of the county's two Assistant Judges will be new to the office. The position requires significant training to be able to competently perform the office's duties. It is vital that an experienced judge be there to help train this new Assistant Judge.

I have over ten years and thousands of hours of judicial experience in many of the Court's jurisdictions. I would love the opportunity to help train this new judge

and help them in learning what their role is within the Court and County government. When you cast your vote this year, please remember you get to cast two votes for Assistant Judge, that is, there are two positions available on the ballot. I would ask that you please vote for me as one of them. Thank you again for the opportunity to serve you.

Sincerely,
Lamont Barnett
Windham County, Vt.

Dear Editor,

Heather Chase will be a superb legislator; responsive to the concerns of our citizens and forceful in supporting issues of importance to our State as she represents all of us in the Windsor-Windham District of Athens, Chester, Grafton, and Windham. Actively involved as a Chester Selectboard member, chair of the Chester Board of Civil Authority, small business owner, member of the Vermont

Economic Progress Council, and a registered nurse, she has an understanding of the needs of our community and region and the confidence to find agreement and compromise on contentious matters.

As a former State Representative for the towns of Andover, Chester, Baltimore, and a sliver of Springfield, I know the challenges of being one of 130 representatives in the State House. Heather Chase will rise to the challenge of this body, as she is a

hard worker with confidence and a willingness to speak out. And, she shares our interests in health care and the protection of reproductive freedom, climate control, economic development in our rural region, housing, and education.

I have already voted for Heather and hope that you will vote for her too.

Sincerely,
Leigh Dakin
Chester, Vt.

Dear Editor,

May this express my support for the election of Carolyn Partridge to the office of Assistant Judge for Windham County.

Carolyn's experience as a legislator recommends her highly for the office. As a committee chair in the

House of Representatives for 14 years, Carolyn rightly earned a reputation for fairness, competence, and compassion. These qualities will serve her well on the bench. Her service as Assistant Judge will bring honor to the bench, justice

to those who appear before her, and competence to the county she well serves.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Thomas W. Costello
Brattleboro, Vt.

Dear Editor,

In November we will elect someone who will go to Montpelier to represent us in the legislative process. There are two candidates vying

for this privilege: One has a proven history of using politics to advance his own agenda, and one has a proven history of service to her community.

Tesha Buss is our best choice.

Sincerely,
Nancy Kessling
Plymouth, Vt.

Dear Editor,

In this election, the strong team to vote for in the race for Vermont's Windsor County Senate is Clarkson, McCormack, and White.

In lots of aspects of life, business, problem solving, and sports you build a team. In politics it's no different: You look to place a person at the table where the most crucial decisions are being made. You look for sage advice from the person or persons with the most experience. And you look for vitality and freshness of approach.

With Alison Clarkson as Vermont State Senate Ma-

jority Leader, you have a seasoned leader who presides over the creation of the Senate's Calendar and when and if the various legislative initiatives will be brought before the Senate Body for debate and action.

With Dick McCormack you have a seasoned Senate legislator who brings his years of knowledge to each session. When McCormack rises in the Senate Chamber to speak, the rest of the legislators turn and listen. His sage advice on almost every issue being brought before the body is crucial to a bipartisan and instructive debate.

And with the candidacy of Becca White, you have a proven House Chamber legislator moving over to the Senate to bring her fresh

thoughts and approach to our state's problems that affect us all, such as climate, housing, updates to Act 250, and healthcare.

I truly believe that, if elected, this will be the most talented and balanced team of Vermont Senate legislators of any County in the State of Vermont.

I urge you, the citizens and voters of Windsor County, from Ludlow to Hartford, from Royalton to Springfield, to vote and send the team of Clarkson, McCormack, and White to Montpelier on Nov. 8.

Sincerely,
Paul Regan
Woodstock Democratic
Town Committee
Woodstock, Vt.

Dear Editor,

To my fellow Windsor County Citizens:

I'm privileged to live here and love my home in Vermont. I have a deep appreciation for the attributes I've found to be true here: natural beauty that requires diligent and careful protection, the can-do spirit of community and a willingness to help neighbors, and a dedication to collaboration to reach solutions rather than fight about who is "right." I haven't always been as fortunate to live in a region that held these same values; for that reason, I treasure how dear what we

have here is. Consequently, I fully support and endorse Alison Clarkson, Richard "Dick" McCormack, and Becca White for Windsor County Senate. The three of them share the values of our community, love it dearly, and sincerely have given of themselves in service here at home and across our state of Vermont.

As Majority Leader, Sen. Clarkson works hard to build collaborative relationships to develop economic solutions that work for Vermont, such as green energy development and agricultural support. Sen. McCormack has been a stalwart advocate for the

environment and a voice for civil rights and social justice throughout his career in service to our community. Rep. White is an amazing dynamo, who embarked on her path in public service at 20 on the Selectboard and has an outstanding, diverse, community-based resume (seriously, you have to meet this woman!). When you vote between now and Nov. 8, please cast your ballot for these strong advocates for all of us.

Sincerely,
Susan Watermann
Windsor County Democratic
Committee Chair
Springfield, Vt.

Dear Editor,

To Windsor County Voters:

Please join me in voting for three excellent candidates for Windsor County Senate. If you are looking for experience, listening skills, energy, and thoughtfulness, you will choose Alison Clarkson, Dick McCormack, and Becca White.

Sen. McCormack has been elected by Windsor County voters 15 times. He has served on several legislative committees and serves on extra commit-

tees; thus he knows many subjects and has connections to legislators, department heads, and State officials.

Sen. Clarkson was in the House for 12 years and has been in the Senate for four years. She is currently in a leadership position, meaning she has the support of other legislators. Alison was chosen to be leader because people know she has the necessary skills and liveliness to make things happen.

Rep. White has been in the House for two years after being a Hartford Selectboard

member. In the legislature, she volunteered for some extra committees as well as extra legislative committee responsibilities. Becca will bring youth, energy, and a fresh perspective, while being experienced.

Whether you vote by mail or in person on Nov. 8, please vote for these three excellent people: Becca White, Alison Clarkson, and Dick McCormack.

Sincerely,
Lynn Bohi
Hartford, Vt.

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POLITICAL LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Please note that we will not be publishing any political letters in our November 2, 2022 edition, in print or online, per our publishing guidelines. Other letters regarding community news will still be considered. We reserve the right to publish at our discretion. **The viewpoints expressed in the editorial section do not necessarily reflect the views of The Vermont Journal & The Shopper.**

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Dear Editor,

The upcoming state and national elections offer voters a chance to reset priorities and focus on true pockets of need, one of which is providing for older adults.

Federal funding for the Older Americans Act – which gets passed to the state of Vermont and then to the five area agencies on aging, including Senior Solutions – pays for everything from Meals on Wheels to our busy information and assistance Helpline.

Federal money and state general funds for Seniors

Solutions have increased by less than 2% in the last five years.

At the same time, the growing senior population throughout the 46 towns in the Senior Solutions service area and the skyrocketing cost of food have created a funding crisis for area Meals on Wheels programs, which are run through the region's meal sites and senior centers.

According to the most recent federal census data, 23% of Windsor County residents are age 65 and older, up from 15.5% in the 2010 census. And 6% of that senior population lives at or below the federal poverty level, which, for a two-person household, is \$17,240. Many of these older Vermonters receive nutritious dinners delivered by Meals on Wheels volunteers.

With the widening gap in funding and the growing senior population, the meal sites and senior centers which Senior Solutions helps fund in our service area are being financially squeezed and end up having to do a lot more with much less funding.

As we come out of the Covid pandemic, we are experiencing an increased need for senior meals. Over the past couple years, the number of meal deliveries across this area have jumped by more than 30%. At the same time, inflation has pushed food, materials, and labor costs up dramatically. Let me repeat that during the same time period, the dollars that Senior Solutions has available to allocate to nutrition pro-

grams has increased by less than 2%.

Some savings may be achieved by screening recipients who no longer meet eligibility guidelines out of the Meals on Wheels program, but these savings won't fill the funding shortfall for meal sites such as the Thompson Senior Center in Woodstock, which is courageously maintaining its Meals on Wheels clients. This shortfall forces the meal sites to have to step up their local fundraising to close the gap and meet that need.

Here's where you come in. Press the candidates for the Vermont legislature and U.S. Congress to be clear about what they will do to increase state and Older Americans Act funding. In Windsor County, with one of the highest percentages of older Vermonters in a state ranked third in the nation for its aging population, we can't continue to get by on the existing funding levels. We must provide more assistance to our aging parents, neighbors, and friends. For some Meals on Wheels recipients, the person who delivers what could be their only nourishing meal of the day might also be their only contact with the outside world.

Help us find solutions for our seniors so that we can keep these crucial connections in place.

Sincerely,
Mark Boutwell
Executive Director of Senior Solutions
Springfield, Vt.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

6			2			8	1		
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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- Summary
- Barrel parts
- Without exception
- Salsa brand
- Sweetheart
- Try to rip open
- Regarding
- Chore
- QB's stats
- Scrooge's cries
- Droop
- Embassy VIP
- Proboscis
- AAA jobs
- South Dakota monument
- Cornic strip possum
- Curved lines
- Decorate
- Easter eggs
- Dhabi predecessor
- Comestibles
- Flow out
- Golden meas.
- Recipen rule
- Word of
- "Goodfellas"
- Like some swimming pools
- Attractive person
- Veteran sailor

DOWN

- Certain deer
- Part of Q.E.D.
- Ersatz chocolate
- "The Greatest"
- Overabundance
- Lushes
- Long journeys
- glance
- "Impressive!"
- "Zounds!"
- Pre-college exams
- Rx overseer
- Guarantees
- Busy insect
- Dispenser
- Music booster
- Cattle call
- Objects of fear
- Daydreamer
- Like some humor
- Observe
- San
- Francisco's — Hill
- FDR follower
- Out-and-out
- Egypt's neighbor
- Jazzy Fitzgerald
- Resumes
- Homer's son
- Protuberance
- Horn sound
- Ring Assoc.
- Ring decision
- Born

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obituaries

Wayne Beliveau, 1950-2022

PERKINSVILLE, Vt. – On Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2022, Wayne Beliveau, 72, of Perkinsville, Vt., loving husband and father, passed away at home surrounded by his close family after a two-year battle with cancer.

Wayne was born on Jan. 10, 1950, in Northampton, Mass. He dedicated his life to learning the trades which filled his days both personally and professionally. A caring and compassionate man, there wasn't a person that Wayne wouldn't help if he could, using all of the knowledge he had gained throughout his years. An avid nature lover, he spent most of his time outdoors where he loved hiking, fishing, kayaking, camping, and watching the wildlife that frequented their home in rural Vermont.

Wayne is survived by his devoted wife and partner of 42 years, Diane Rejniak, his two daughters and sons-in-law, Sara (Beliveau) and Jim Allan, and Johanna Beliveau and Jeff Munson, four grandchildren, Maxwell and Jaimeson Allan, Ethan and Gavin Munson, and his four siblings, Doreen Ryan (Beliveau), Butch Beliveau, Denese Beliveau, and Diane O'Donnell (Beliveau), and many, many nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his mother,



Wayne Beliveau, 1950-2022. PHOTO PROVIDED

Iris Denese, and father, Ernest.

Calling hours for family and friends will be held on Sunday, Nov. 6 at 1 p.m. at Davis Memorial Chapel, 99 Summer St., Springfield, Vt., and a celebration of Wayne's life will be held next Spring near his hometown of Leeds, Mass.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to those who cared for Wayne and meant a great deal to him and Diane over these last weeks and months – Visiting Nurse and Hospice for VT and NH, PO Box 881, Brattleboro, VT 05302 or www.vnhcare.org and Dartmouth Hitchcock Palliative Care at www.Dartmouth-Hitchcock.org/palliative-care/donate.

Davis Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Dana N. Larmie, 1955-2022

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – Dana N. Larmie, 66, of Charlestown, N.H., received his wings on Oct. 2, 2022. Dana was born in Claremont, N.H. on Nov. 7, 1955, to George and Mary Larmie. He had four siblings and lived in several Vermont and New Hampshire towns growing up. He spoke mostly of living in Windsor, where he spent his teen years and went to high school. Dana was a gentle soul with a nurturing spirit. He could only be called kind and loving, and anyone who knew him well might describe him as easy-going, fun, thoughtful, and exceptionally forgiving.

Without fail, Dana was supportive and respectful to those who treated him the same. He was an honest man, with great knowledge on many subjects. He was proud of his Abenaki heritage and wore it very well. Dana was strong and stoic, and always, always charming. Most definitely a one-of-a-kind gem.

Dana took pleasure in playing pool, his Harley, a good smoke, current events, woodworking, beekeeping, and outdoor chores. He loved music and concerts (especially Bob Dylan), old westerns, football (Raiders), and WWE wrestling. Other favorites included Curtis' BBQ, bacon, and an occasional Bacardi Gold and Pepsi. More recently, he had taken a liking to the ocean, watching NASCAR, and taming Miss Kitty. As a younger man Dana enjoyed sugaring, trapping, canoeing, hunting, and snowmobiling.

Dana always relished a hard day's work. He was employed from the time he was able to be, at times holding several jobs to support his young family. His last three places of employment before retirement were with Idlenot Dairy, Luzenac America,



Dana Larmie, 1955-2022. PHOTO PROVIDED

and WHS Manufacturing, a builder of Timberpeg homes. When between jobs, Dana didn't have to search for work, it would find him. He always left a job on good terms and went highly recommended to the next. He was a conscientious and totally dedicated employee wherever he worked.

Dana was adored by his wife Brenda, and he equally cherished her. They were fortunate to spend 21 years together in a loving relationship. Dana has three daughters: Naomi (AJ), Heidi (Jason), and Carly (Steven), and two stepsons: Gavin and Lars (Lisa). He also has ten grandchildren, who he loved to the moon and back; Kole, Sommer, Layne, Amira, Nyah, Wyatt, Kaz, Memphis, Sonney, and Aria. Dana has one remaining sister, Donna, who he held in highest esteem. He is also survived by an aunt, several nieces and nephews, and many cousins. It is essential to include his mother-in-law, Irene, who will forever be his biggest fan.

Dana was a spiritual man, but due to unfortunate circumstances, he no longer felt comfortable practicing his faith within a church setting. However, he continued to practice his spirituality and faith with his special connection to nature and people. There will be no calling hours or services; that isn't what Dana wanted.

Fly high, Hadji. You'll be missed.

Dana Owen Brooks, 1953-2022

WINDSOR, Vt. – Dana Owen Brooks, 69, passed away peacefully Oct. 15, 2022 at Grafton County Nursing Home in Woodsville, N.H. with family by his side.

Dana was born in Windsor, Vt. on April 19, 1953 with his middle name honoring the physician who helped bring him into the world. A lifelong resident of the Upper Valley, he mostly lived his life in Windsor, Vt. and Cornish, N.H., and graduated from Windsor High School with the Class of 1971.

Dana was hard working and smart with the mind of an engineer. Following high school, he worked for Cone Blanchard Machine Company and in jobs that required analytical skills and attention to detail.

Described as "mysterious" in his younger years, those who knew Dana saw a man who was shy, eloquent, humble, intelligent, and kind. He had a great respect for nature and wildlife, and a passion for the outdoors, having been a masterful archer and expert angler. He was familiar with every river, lake, and pond up and down Vermont



Dana Owen Brooks, 1953-2022. PHOTO PROVIDED

and New Hampshire.

Dana is survived by his brother, Alan Brooks and wife Lorraine Brooks; nephew, Alan Michael Brooks; and many cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents, Roger and June (Davis) Brooks; brother, Michael Brooks; grandmother, Dorothy Brooks; and his friend, Babe.

A private ceremony will be held for family members at a future date. A lifelong animal lover, those who wish to honor Dana are encouraged to donate to a rescue charity or take a walk in a favored spot in nature.

Davis Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Jean Honora Jeffrey, 1944-2022

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Jean Honora Jeffrey, born on April 15, 1944, passed away on Oct. 8, 2022, at the age of 78. Following a long battle with leukemia, she passed away with loved ones by her side after hearing the wedding ceremony of her granddaughter of the same date that she had been waiting for.

Jean is predeceased by her parents, Steven and Helen (Waryas) Soboleski, and her grandparents, Frank and Honora (Niemzura) Waryas. Jean is survived by her loving husband of 57 years, Denis Jeffrey. They were married in Lawton, Okla. on March 21, 1965 and spent most of their marriage residing in Bellows Falls, Vt.

Jean is also survived by her three children: Brenda (Tom) Lawrence, Timothy (Stacie) Jeffrey, and Dawn (Kevin) Kingsbury; her six grandchildren: Matthew Lawrence, Mellissa Lawrence, Nicholas Kingsbury, Denise Kingsbury, Jesse Jeffrey, and Coby Jeffrey; and five great-grandchildren. Jean spent much of her



Jean Jeffrey, 1944-2022. PHOTO PROVIDED

time tending to her garden, reading books, and chatting with friends and family. Jean was known for her distinct personality and left a lasting impression on everyone she met.

A Graveside Service will take place on Saturday, Oct. 22, 2022 at 11 a.m. at the Rockingham Meetinghouse Cemetery in Rockingham, Vt. Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home 55 Westminster St. in Bellows Falls, Vt. www.fentonandhennessey.com.

Carroll "Soupy" Simonds, 1943-2022

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Carroll "Soupy" Simonds, 79, passed away with his children at his side on Oct. 4, 2022, at Sterling House in Bellows Falls, Vt. Old friends and family visited him throughout that day.

Soupy loved working for the Village and was proud of the work he was involved in, in and around the Village. His favorite was plowing the sidewalks all over the Village. All the kids in the Village would throw snowballs at his sidewalk plow and he thought it was fun. In his retirement years, he enjoyed working at the Rockingham Meeting House. He seemed to know everyone and couldn't go anywhere in the area without having a long conversation with at least five people.

He was predeceased by his father, mother, brother, sister, and a stepbrother and stepsister. He is survived by his daughter, Kristi Chesley, son, Michael Simonds and wife Samantha Simonds, and five grandchildren, Nidia Simonds, Jacob Chesley, Kiana Chesley, Matthew Chesley, and Sarah Chelsey.

Soupy was born in Bellows Falls in 1943 and grew up in Saxtons River, Vt. the son of Earl Simonds of Saxtons River and Alice Kerr, f/k/a Simonds (maiden name Bingham) of Athens, Vt. He graduated Bellows Falls High School in 1964.



Carroll Simonds, 1943-2022. PHOTO PROVIDED

Soupy was drafted into the U.S. Army and served in Germany during Vietnam. After returning home, he married and began working for the Village of Bellows Falls Maintenance Department, where he worked for 36 years until his retirement. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, target shooting, and collecting coins.

Soupy was everyone's friend and was known for just being nice to everyone he met.

The family will hold a Celebration of Life at the Moose Family Center in Bellows Falls on Sunday, Oct. 23, 2022, from 1-3 p.m. Family and friends are welcome to come and share memories. In lieu of flowers, the family is asking for donations to Our Place Drop-In Center, 6 Island Street, Bellows Falls, VT 05101.

Rose Marie Brooks, 1947-2022

WALPOLE, N.H. – Rose Marie Brooks of Upper Walpole Road in Walpole, N.H., passed away on Oct. 7, 2022 at her home. Rose Marie was born on Nov. 7, 1947 in Springfield, Vt. to the late Russell and Nellie (Sanderson) Washburne.

Rose Marie graduated from Peterborough High School and worked for NH Ball Bearing in Peterborough and retired from MPB Timkin in Keene, N.H. Rose Marie enjoyed camping at Cold Springs in Weare, N.H., as well as bingo, Foxwoods, and the bowling league in Keene.

Rose Marie is survived by

her life partner, Neil Swift, son, Deven Winters, and daughter, Denise M. Buda. Rose Marie is also survived by her brother Mark and sister Grace. Rose Marie also leaves her grandchildren Joshua and Ethan Winters, and Tyler and Nicholas Buda. She is predeceased by six siblings.

Services will be private and held at the convenience of the family. Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home 55 Westminster St. in Bellows Falls, www.fentonandhennessey.com.

Glenda Marie Cross, 1948-2022

LUDLOW, Vt. – Glenda Marie Cross passed away peacefully on Oct. 11, 2022 at her home. She was born on Jan. 22, 1948 in Springfield, Vt., the daughter of Rodney and Irene ("Minnie") Swan.

Glenda graduated from Springfield High School in 1966. She was married to the late Larry Cross in 1966. They lived in Tacoma, Wash. while Larry served in the United States Air Force. After the service, they lived in Springfield, Vt. before moving to Ludlow, Vt. Glenda retired from Mack Molding Co., Cavendish, Vt.

Glenda leaves behind her two children, daughter Tina Rebideau, son Jeremy (Marie) Cross, seven grandchildren, Ashley (Christian) Snide, Brooke Rebideau, Riley Cross, Josie Cross, Jeremy Cross Jr., Cole Daniels, Ian Hewitt, two great-grandchildren Autumn and Karliah Snide, and her sister Patsy Bohlen.

Glenda is predeceased by her parents Rodney and Irene Swan, beloved husband of 49 years, Larry Cross, son-in-law Jeffrey ("Spank") Rebideau, and brother Dennis Swan.

In her younger years, Glenda enjoyed ATV and motorcycle riding, camping, and exploring the back



Glenda Marie Cross, 1948-2022. PHOTO PROVIDED

roads with her husband and their children. She enjoyed watching golf, football, tennis, and Nascar. Glenda thoroughly enjoyed spending time with her family. She was well loved as a sweetheart whose smile could light up the room.

Please join us for a memorial service to celebrate the life of Glenda Cross on Saturday, Oct. 22 at 1 p.m. at the Ludlow American Legion, 133 W Main St., Ludlow, Vt. We will gather to remember our wonderful mother who will be greatly missed by all. Please bring your fondest memories to share with family and friends. All are welcome.

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

Barbara Lois O'Brien, 1935-2022

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Barbara Lois (nee Seavey) O'Brien, age 87, passed away peacefully in the afternoon of Sept. 27, 2022, after a period of declining health. Barbara was born on Jan. 26, 1935, the first of five children, to Doris (Kiniry) Seavey and Donald Seavey in North Walpole, N.H. She graduated from Bellows Falls High School in Bellows Falls, Vt. in 1953.

Barbara had a natural gift for serving others. She served 30 years as an Emergency Room nurse at the Rockingham Memorial Hospital in Bellows Falls, until its closure in 1990. She will be remembered for the difference she made in the lives around her. She served her patients with dignity, respect, and compassion. She also shared her wisdom and experience by mentoring junior nurses and leading the hospital's Candy Striper program for many years.

After retiring from her nursing career, she remained active through her many volunteer endeavors. She knitted hundreds of caps for newborn patients in the intensive care nursery at the Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center and served meals for the Fall Mountain Meals on Wheels program, to include monthly community dinners in the basement of St. Peter's Church. She served the Village of North Walpole and its residents as Commissioner of the North Walpole Village District. During her tenure, she organized many village management projects including general grants to improve residents' water quality and public safety.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Harold, who she married Jan. 30, 1960; three infant children; her daughter, Colleen



Barbara O'Brien, 1935-2022. PHOTO PROVIDED

Elizabeth (nee O'Brien) Simonds; her brother, Donald Jr. (Butch); and her sister, Sandy. She will be dearly missed by many friends and relatives, including her sister, Claire and her family; her brother, Larry and his wife, Jennifer; her stepson Jimmy and his family; her nieces, Maggie and Nancy, and their families; and family friends Gary Simonds and Dave Barry and his wife, Linda, among many others.

In keeping with her wishes, a private graveside service will be held at St. Peter's Cemetery, Walpole, N.H. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Fall Mountain Food Shelf or Dialysis Research in New Hampshire.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home 55 Westminster St in Bellows Falls, Vt. www.fentonandhennessey.com.

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calendar

LEGAL NOTICES

OCT. 15 – DEC. 1 – LUDLOW, Vt. – William Raveis Real Estate Vermont Properties is accepting donations to their 2022 Coat Drive from Oct. 15 – Dec. 1. Drop off clean outer garments in good condition with working zippers at 29 Locust Hill Rd., Ludlow, Vt.

OCT. 19 & 21 – CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – St. Luke’s Mission Theatre will present the musical, “The Serpent in the Desert” on Wednesday, Oct. 19 and Friday, Oct. 21 at 7:30 p.m.

OCT. 22 – ALSTEAD, N.H. – On Saturday, Oct. 22, the Third Congregational Church in Alstead, N.H. will be hosting a take-out

turkey dinner. Pre-order your dinner by Oct. 12 and pick up your order on Oct. 22 between 4–6 p.m. Call 1-603-477-0001 to place your order.

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – On Saturday, Oct. 22, from 2–6:30 p.m., the South Parish Church of Charlestown, N.H. will host a free Mad About Marriage seminar led by Mike Tucker.

LANGDON, N.H. – The Swing Low band will play jazz and pop at the Langdon Meetinghouse, 5 Walker Hill Road, Langdon N.H., on Saturday, Oct. 22, from 6 – 9 p.m.

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – The River Valley Animal Protection League Poker Walk will take place on

Saturday, Oct. 22 from 2–4 p.m., starting at the Silsby Library Courtyard on Main St. This will be a 1.25-mile walk to raise money for the shelter. Playing cards are randomly selected along the way and the best overall hand wins a prize basket. For more information, call 603-826-3061.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Friends of the Springfield Town Library will holding their annual book sale on Saturday, Oct. 22 from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the old Armory on Fairground Rd., Springfield, Vt. All books will be free, no limits.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Moose Lodge will host an Open House to the public on Saturday, Oct. 22 from 1 p.m. until closing. All are welcome. Activities include cornhole, darts, horseshoes, pool, and cribbage, as well as karaoke from 6–9 p.m. There will be burgers and hot dogs from 2–5 p.m.

OCT. 23 – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Food for Life Vegan Potluck will take place upstairs in the Springfield Community Center at 139 Main St. on Sunday, Oct. 23 from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Call 802-723-1087 for more information.

OCT. 25 – READING, Vt. – Weathersfield area businesses (including Acutney, Perkinsville, Reading, Felchville) are invited to a Coffee Talk at Rockledge Farm

Woodworks on Tuesday, Oct. 25 at 4 p.m. This gathering is hosted by owner & Chamber Board Member Scott Duffy and will concern key factors affecting local businesses.

OCT. 26 – PLYMOUTH, Vt. – Okemo Valley Chamber Members and guests are invited to a Business After Hours Mixer at Farm & Wilderness in Plymouth on Wednesday, Oct. 26 from 5-7 p.m. The location will be at Tamarack Farm at Farm & Wilderness, at 869 Farm & Wilderness Rd., Plymouth, Vt.

OCT. 27 – LONDONDERRY, Vt. – The Second Congregational Church, 2051 Main St., Londonderry, Vt., will hold a Community Lunch on Thursday, Oct. 27 at 12 p.m. This will be a homestyle meal with pumpkin pie for dessert, provided by the church. All are welcome. Free of charge. For more information, call 802-824-6453.

OCT. 28 – NORWICH, Vt. – On Friday, Oct. 28 from 5:30–8 p.m., the Montshire Museum of Science will host a “Spooky Science” evening, featuring “tricked out” exhibits and live Halloween-themed demonstrations designed especially for families with children through age 12. Guests are invited to come in costume and participate in the costume contest.

OCT. 29 – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Sound Investment will play on Saturday, Oct. 29 at 8 p.m. at the VFW Post 771 on 191 River St., Springfield, Vt., performing classic rock and country music. For more information, call 802-885-6008.

OCT. 30 – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The Bellows Falls Moose Lodge 527 will hold a Halloween Party Dinner on Sunday, Oct. 30 from 5–9 p.m. At 7 p.m. there will be a

hypnotist and at 9 p.m., a Rust and Ruin Costume Dance Party. Call 802-463-4054 to reserve a meal or for more information.

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

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.

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.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Meals on Wheels serves a senior community lunch every Tuesday, 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.

LUDLOW, Vt. – Aquatic Aerobics, Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. at the Spring House at Jackson Gore. Call 802-228-1419 for more information.

WEDNESDAYS – CHESTER, Vt. – Knitting with Friends at Six Loose

Ladies on the Chester Common, Wednesdays, from 10 a.m. to noon.

REGION – On Wednesdays at 5 p.m., join Lori Wright for Yoga Flow with Meditation, live or watch the video during your perfect time. Contact Lori Wright at 603-401-8123 or email at loriwright163@gmail.com to register.

THURSDAYS – 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.

WALPOLE, N.H. – Alcoholics Anonymous women’s meeting, a 12-step recovery program for women who have a desire to stop drinking, is happening every Thursday at 6 p.m. at the St. John’s Episcopal Church at the corner of Westminster and Elm streets in Walpole, N.H. For more information, call Viva at 802-732-8330.

LUDLOW, Vt. – Cardio & Sculpt, Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. at the Spring House at Jackson Gore. Call 802-228-1419 for more information.

LUDLOW, Vt. – Aqua Sculpt, Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. at the Spring House at Jackson Gore. Call 802-228-1419 for more information.

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.

SATURDAYS – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Edgar May Health and Recreation Center offers Springfield residents the opportunity to come for a free swim every Saturday, from 1-3 p.m. For more information, call 802-885-2568, email info@edgarmay.org, or visit www.edgarmay.org.

LUDLOW, Vt. – Yoga, Saturdays at 10 a.m. at the Spring House at Jackson Gore. Call 802-228-1419 for more information.

**TOWN OF LUDLOW, VERMONT
POSITION AVAILABLE
EQUIPMENT OPERATOR/TRUCK DRIVER**

The Town of Ludlow Highway Department invites applications for the position of Equipment Operator/Truck Driver. This is a full-time, year-round position. Principal duties will include plowing snow, sanding and salting roads, road construction and maintenance and other related duties. Must possess a valid VT Commercial Driver’s License and have experience operating a dump truck with plow, sander, loader and excavator, backhoe and/or grader. General knowledge of vehicle maintenance, fundamental construction and maintenance procedures, public works, and equipment operation are a plus.

Municipal Benefit Package includes health & dental insurance, retirement plan and paid vacations PLUS a \$2,000.00 Sign-On Bonus. Employment applications are available at the Ludlow Municipal Office or on-line at www.ludlow.vt.us. Please submit completed applications to the Ludlow Municipal Office PO Box 359, Ludlow, VT 05149, (802) 228-2841 or email to tmanager@tds.net. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The Town of Ludlow is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

WATER FLUSHING NOTICE

VILLAGE OF LUDLOW

On Wednesday, October 26, 2022 through Thursday, October 27, 2022, the Village of Ludlow Water Department will be flushing the water system and testing the fire hydrant system. The flushing will take place each day from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM.

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

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

Thank you.

GREEN MOUNTAIN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

WARNING

The legal voters of the Towns of Andover, Baltimore, Cavendish and Chester, Vermont, being of Green Mountain Unified School District, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the official polling places in their respective Towns, on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, between the hours of eight o’clock (8:00 a.m.) in the Town of Andover; ten o’clock (10:00 a.m.) in the Town of Baltimore; ten o’clock (10 a.m.) in the Town of Cavendish; and nine o’clock (9:00 a.m.) in the Town of Chester, at which time the polls will open, and seven o’clock (7:00) in the afternoon (p.m.), at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot upon the following Article of business:

ARTICLE I

Shall bonds or notes of Green Mountain Unified School District in an amount not to exceed Twenty Million Four Hundred Seventy-Four Thousand Three Hundred Fifty-Four Dollars (\$20,474,354), subject to reduction from available state and/or federal construction grants-in-aid and the application of reserves, be issued for the purpose of financing the cost of public school building improvements, namely, (1) Green Mountain Union High School efficiency upgrades and other building and grounds improvements (\$15,944,538), (2) Cavendish Town Elementary School efficiency upgrades and other building and grounds improvements (\$1,694,700), and (3) Chester-Andover Elementary School efficiency upgrades and other building and grounds improvements (\$2,632,400), the estimated aggregate cost of such improvements being Twenty Million Four Hundred Seventy-Four Thousand Three Hundred Fifty-Four Dollars (\$20,474,354)?

State funds may not be available at the time this project is otherwise eligible to receive state school construction aid. The District is responsible for all costs incurred in connection with any borrowing done in anticipation of the receipt of school construction aid.

Upon closing of the polls, the ballot boxes will be sealed, re-opened at the polling place in the Town of Chester, the ballots commingled and publicly counted by representatives of the Boards of Civil Authority of several towns under the supervision of the Clerk of the Green Mountain Unified School District.

The legal voters of the Green Mountain Unified School District are further warned and notified that an informational meeting will be held for the purpose of explaining the subject proposed school building improvements and the financing thereof on Tuesday, November 1, 2022, at 6 p.m. at Green Mountain High School LLC in Chester, Vermont.

The legal voters of the Green Mountain Unified School District are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee voting relative to said special meeting shall be as provided in Sections 706u-706w of Title 16, and Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Adopted and approved at a meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Green Mountain Unified School District held on September 15, 2022. Received for record and recorded in the records of the Green Mountain Unified School District on September 15, 2022.

ATTEST: *Louis Perlach*
Clerk, Green Mountain Unified School District

Scott Foran
Chair, Board of School Directors

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.

**REVISED WARNING
FOR SPECIAL MEETING
TOWN OF PLYMOUTH VT**

There will be a Special Informational meeting for public discussion of the proposed building renovation and Bond issue, Inclusion Statement and Second Amendment sanctuary town designation prior to the November 8th election. The meeting will be held **Monday, November 7**, at 6:00 PM in the Plymouth Municipal Building.

Following are the Articles for THE NOVEMBER ELECTION:

**Article 1
VOTE FOR ONLY ONE**
Shall the Town of Plymouth borrow up to an additional \$800,000 thru a Municipal Bond to pay for the full and proposed weatherization/deferred maintenance project to be paid back over a 25-year period?
Shall the Town of Plymouth proceed with the weatherization/deferred maintenance project and only complete portions of the project with the funds previously authorized by the Voters in the amount of \$950,000?

**Article 2
VOTE YES OR NO**
Shall the Town of Plymouth adopt the Declaration of Inclusion as signed by Vermont Governor Phil Scott in 2021 to condemn racism and welcome all persons to live freely and express their opinions as stated in the proposed language for a Plymouth Declaration of Inclusion as written below:
The Town of Plymouth condemns racism and welcomes all persons, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity or expression, age, or disability, and wants everyone to feel safe and welcome in our community.
As a town, we formally condemn all discrimination in all of its forms, commit to fair and equal treatment of everyone in our community, and will strive to ensure all of our actions, policies, and operating procedures reflect this commitment.

**Article 3
VOTE YES OR NO**
Shall the Town of Plymouth VT declare itself a Second Amendment Sanctuary town?

A separate article to be discussed is as follows:

**WARNING FOR VOTERS
IN THE TOWN OF PLYMOUTH**

Shall the Town of Plymouth permit the operation of licensed cannabis retailers pursuant to Title 7 V.S.A. §863 which states:
“Prior to a cannabis retailer or the retail portion of an integrated licensee operating within a municipality, the municipality shall affirmatively permit the operation of such cannabis establishments by majority vote of those present and voting by Australian ballot at an annual or special meeting warned for that purpose. A municipality may place retailers or integrated licensees, or both, on the ballot for approval.”

sports & outdoor

Sports schedule

Thursday, Oct. 20 –

Boys Soccer

Fall Mountain at Kearsarge Regional, 6 p.m.

Girls Soccer

Kearsarge Regional at Fall Mountain, 6 p.m.
GMUHS at White River Valley, 4 p.m.
Springfield at Woodstock Union, 4 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 21 –

Boys Football

Mount Mansfield at Bellows Falls, 7 p.m.

Trinity at Fall Mountain, 7 p.m.

Boys Soccer

Bellows Falls at Twin Valley, 6 p.m.
Stratton Mountain at GMUHS, 4 p.m.
Mt. St. Joseph at Springfield, 6 p.m.

Girls Soccer

Windsor at Leland and Gray, 4 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 22 –

Girls Soccer

Bellows Falls at Fair Haven

Union, 11 a.m.

Girls Field Hockey

Bellows Falls at Burr and Burton, 11 a.m.

Saturday, Oct. 29 –

Cross Country

State Championship at Thetford Academy, 9 a.m.

Boys Football

Fall Mountain at Campbell, 12 p.m.

Okemo Valley Chamber Golf Tournament results –

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce (OVRCC) recently held their 13th Annual Golf Tournament at Crown Point Country Club in Springfield. The winners were:

First Place – Dr. Rick Marasa of Springfield Hospital, Geri Marasa of the Visiting Nurse and Hospice for Vermont



First place winners.

PHOTO BY IMAGES BY DONALD DILL

pop-up hole sponsor; Hole sponsors Awesome Graphics, ClearLake Furniture, Cota & Cota, Cummings Paintings, Four Seasons Sotheby's International Realty, Javic Mountain Retreat, Killarney's Irish Pub, Londonderry Village Market,

and New Hampshire, Jane Sandelman of Cannatros, and Christina Graves of DJ's Restaurant.

Second Place – Okemo Mountain School Coach Bobby Jones, and students Emily Ahlcrona, Cami, and Chloe Blount.

Third Place – James Ribeiro of Okemo, Michael Martin of the Loft Tavern, Darlene Remy of FOLA, and Andy Bladyka of Crown Point Country Club.

A special thanks to our sponsors, Engel & Volkers – Okemo, the hole-in-one sponsor; Title sponsors Mary W. Davis Realtor & Associates, Law Office of Marylou Scofield PC, Okemo Mountain School, SERVPRO of Windham and Windsor Counties, and William Raveis Vermont Properties; Magris Talc, the

Ludlow Insurance, Okemo Valley Magazine, The Richards Group, and Weidman Law.

Thanks also to all our raffle prize and goodie bag donors. See all of the donors at www.yourplaceinvermont.com/ovrcc-13th-annual-golf-tournament-winners-thanks/.

Thanks also to the Golf Committee, Julie Bowyer of Mary W. Davis Realtor & Associates, Mark Verespy of Killarney's, and Joe Karl of William Raveis Vermont Properties. Also, a thanks to Darlene Remy of FOLA for volunteering.

Thanks to Images by Donald Dill, the event photographer. To view a photo album of the event, go to the chamber's Facebook page.

Walpole Valley Tire

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 - 5:00 • Saturday 8:00 - Noon
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A thank you to the Bellows Falls community

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The Bellows Falls American Legion Baseball and Golf Tournament was a huge, successful event. This fun fundraiser was held at the Bellows Falls Country Club and took place on Saturday, Oct. 1, with 15 teams of four players each. The officers and members of the

Bellows Falls American Legion Post #37 family give a huge shout out to the Bellows Falls community and individuals for their support of sustaining the Legion Baseball Program.

Written by Smokey Aumand.

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2022's Fastest Kids in Town



Children getting ready for the race.

PHOTO BY SANDY PEPLAU

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Saturday, Oct. 8, the Edgar

May Health and Recreation Center held the Fastest Kid in Town Race at Riverside Park as part of the Vermont Apple Festival. A huge thank you to our sponsor, Springfield Hospital, for helping us to bring this race back after a Covid-19 hiatus. Also, a huge thank you to the Springfield Cosmos Cross Country Team and coach Stephen Lawrence for volunteering and assisting us on race day.

Children ages 5 to 12 competed in 100 or 200-yard dashes for the fastest boy and girl in each category. This year's winners are Ian Taylor, ages 5-6; Turner Shute and Aoife Joyce, ages 7-8; Magnus Conroy and Adela Fuentes, ages 9-10; and Malachi Bactad and Keeli Stewart, ages 11-12.

Congratulations to all the winners and all the participants. The Fastest Kid in Town is one of the many ways we raise awareness of the importance of physical activity, especially for our youth. The EdgarMay also provides programming for youth and families throughout our region to encourage healthy habits and physical activity that is social, engaging, and fun. Look for future youth and family programs and events on Facebook, Instagram, and at www.edgarmay.org.

Edgar May Health and Recreation Center, 140 Clinton St. in Springfield, provides area residents of all ages with the opportunities and resources necessary to live an active and healthy lifestyle in a safe, clean, and supportive environment. For more information, call 802-885-2568, email info@edgarmay.org, or visit www.edgarmay.org.

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arts & entertainment

David Feurzeig to perform

CHESTER, Vt. – “Play Every Town” is coming to Chester, Vt. on Sunday, Oct. 23 at 4 p.m. The concert will be held at the First Universalist Parish, 211 North St. This will be Concert no. 17 of 252 in the Community Concerts for a Cooler Climate series with pianist David Feurzeig. Admission is free. Donations will be accepted

to benefit Vermont350, www.350vermont.org. In May, Feurzeig embarked on “Play Every Town: 252 Free Concerts” in each of Vermont’s 252 towns to combat climate change through the power of community and music. With this project, David will become the first musician to perform in every Vermont

municipality. He is traveling in his solar-charged electric vehicle throughout Vermont, offering free concerts to bring attention to climate and community issues while he brings the joy of music to his audiences. Feurzeig has given up international concert touring because he feels it is unsustainable, given the planet’s

climate changes. Customized for each town, this concert will include its own, unique Scarlatti keyboard sonata, Sonata no. 17, in honor of this seventeenth concert in the series. The music of Bach, Eve Beglarian, James Romeo, and other solo piano works will round out the program.

Gill Odd Fellows Home Halloween Walk

LUDLOW, Vt. – Calling all Ghosts and Goblins, the Gill Odd Fellows Home in Ludlow, Vt. would like to invite you to join us for a haunted cemetery walk on Friday, Oct. 28. The walk will be from 5–7 p.m. on Friday night. This walk is a great opportunity for any students in the area that are in need of community service/volunteer hours if you would like to assist in setting up the walk or dressing up to take part in the



Don't miss the Halloween Walk. STOCK PHOTO

“scaring.” Please feel free to contact Aggie Sheldon at the Gill Home at 802-228-6858 for more information. Donation suggested for admission to event. The Gill Home is located at 8 Gill Terrace, Ludlow, Vt.

Rockingham Library offers creative writing workshops

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – On consecutive Wednesdays, beginning Oct. 26, Frances Barsky will lead creative writing workshops from 1–2:30 p.m. at the Rockingham Library. Poetry, flash and short fiction, and narrative fiction will be emphasized, but not to the

exclusion of other genres. Even memoirs can be included in the mix. Make sure to bring a laptop or a pad of paper and a favorite pen. Formerly, Barsky taught Adult Education Creative Writing at the Merrimack High School in Merrimack, N.H. Her work has appeared

in the Owen Wister Review, Visions, East-West Journal, Poetry Soup, Red Booth Review, and Seeker Magazine. Asterius Press published her poetry collection “The Moon Makes No Difference to Me.” All of her writing has been published under her maiden name, Frances Le

Moine. This program is free and open to the public. For more information, call 802-463-4270, email programming@rockinghamlibrary.org, or stop by the Rockingham Library at 65 Westminster St. in Bellows Falls.

Wild Goose Players present “A Little Night Music”

PUTNEY, Vt. – Wild Goose Players will present “A Little Night Music” at Next Stage Arts in Putney, from Nov. 11 through Nov. 20, Directed by David Stern, with Musical Direction by Mary Westbrook-Geha. Sondheim’s hilarious tour de force exploration of love and sex reveals how our

views and actions around relationships have – and have not – changed over time. Featuring some of his greatest music, including the wildly popular “Send in the Clowns,” our modern take on this classic will entrance you. Winner of four Tony Awards, “Night Music”

explores a tangled web of affairs, and the passion, jealousy, suspicion, and exhaustion they create. Our production seeks to look playfully but directly at our collective struggles with sex, partnership, and commitment. As a result, this

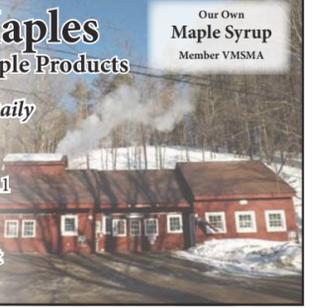
is a fairly adult musical. Come see this masterpiece, backed by a 12 piece orchestra, come alive in the intimate setting of Next Stage Arts. Tickets can be found at www.wildgooseplayers.com/tickets.

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Painting the vibrant colors of fall

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Robert O’Brien is offering a one-day watercolor workshop painting the fall landscape of New England in all its splendor on Saturday, Oct. 29 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Gallery at the VAULT. The class will begin with a demonstration by the instructor, who will explain his techniques for capturing the vibrancy of autumn colors through a layering process and for creating light and shadow. Students will paint for the remainder of the class with hands-on assistance from the instructor. A critique and discussion will be held at the end of the session. All levels are welcome. A materials list will be provided at registration. There is a fee for members and non-members. Please register by Oct. 26. If there are more than six students, the work-

shop will be held at the Great Hall in Springfield. It has plenty of space and great light. Directions will be given at registration. For more information, please call or come into Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main Street, Springfield. We are open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday and Saturday and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday. Contact 802-885-7111 or galleryvault@vermontel.net, or visit www.galleryvault.org or Facebook. Handicap accessible.



O'Brien's watercolor pumpkin. PHOTO PROVIDED

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Cases such as:

- relief from abuse (RFA)
- divorce
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- parent child contact
- tenant landlord issues
- foreclosures
- credit card debt
- stalking and sexual assault
- and most recently:
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HELP WANTED

Is your home ready for fall?

REGION – Here is a list of outdoor ideas to help get your home in tip-top shape for cooler temps so you can spend your autumn enjoying your favorite seasonal pastimes.

Clean the Gutters – Gutters work year-round draining water and keeping them intact is mandatory to avoid water damages and preserve your home's structural integrity. Moving forward, a simple and affordable way to keep your gutters flowing

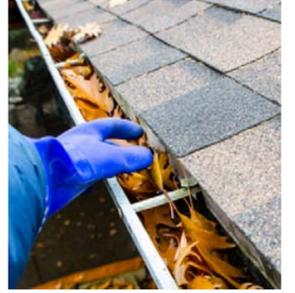
freely is by covering them with mesh guards to filter out unwanted debris.

Examine the Roof – While you're already up on the ladder cleaning gutters, knock out two chores at once by giving your roof a quick examination. Before the first snowfall hits, you want to repair any issues like debris pileup, cracks, wind damage, and missing shingles.

Maintain the Driveway – Similar to the roof, your driveway needs to be

in proper condition before the first snowfall to avoid damage. Before freezing temperatures arrive, check your driveway for any cracks and repair them with a concrete crack sealer.

Modify Outdoor Plumbing – It's no secret that freezing temperatures can lead to pipes bursting. Avoid this preventable situation by installing freeze-proof spigots on any exterior



Clean your gutters. PHOTO PROVIDED

faucets.

Prep the Backyard – Ensure your backyard is ready for a turnkey spring in a few months by covering the pool, fertilizing the lawn, planting bulbs, and temporarily removing seasonal outdoor furniture to either the basement or garden shed. If there isn't space to shelter the furniture, consider casing the furniture with a waterproof covering.

Written by Prime Lending.

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