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Fun and informative Family Festival and Touch-a-Truck event

BY PAULA BENSON
The Shopper

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The morning of Saturday, April 8 was brisk and sunny. The sounds of children at Riverside Middle School in Springfield were punctuated by the loud chirps of police sirens, and the blasts of 18-wheeler truck horns. There was no emergency, it was just the 30th annual Springfield Family Festival and Touch-a-Truck event.

With over 660 people attending this year, “the most in recent history,” according to Angela Kelly, Interim Executive Director for Springfield Area Parent Child Center (SAPCC), children waited in line to crawl through police vehicles, fire trucks, ambulances, tractors, and big rigs, thrilled to get their hands on all the buttons and levers, and yes, the horns and sirens.

Families enjoyed the many booths set up inside the gym as well, where family-oriented services and organizations provided educational



Families play at the craft booth.

PHOTO PROVIDED

games, crafts, face painting, book giveaways, and more. The aerial hoop from Uplift Acrobatics was a popular activity, as was the photo booth sponsored by Cota and Cota. SEVCA Head Start offered seed planting instruction, while North Star Health handed out free toothbrushes, and Springfield Parks and Recreation had a sack toss game setup. SAPCC, who have coordinated the event over the decades, hosted booths where children created suncatchers or paper flowers. Even the Easter Bun-

ny made an appearance. The festival provides many opportunities for family fun, along with educational, health, and safety information, such as a car seat inspection station set up in the parking lot, and a fire safety booth run by the Springfield Fire Department. Kelly expressed her feeling about the event, “we are very proud of how it has become part of the culture of our community, and families look forward to it year after year.”



Easter basket winners

LUDDLLOW, Vt. – Our winners from our Easter Activity Page are Juliette, 9, from Ludlow and Wyatt, 6, from Weston. Congratulations! We hope you had a Happy Easter.

PHOTOS BY SHAWN TAE WEBB

Storm response reviewed in Rockingham

BY BETSY THURSTON
The Shopper

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – On Tuesday, April 4, the Town of Rockingham Selectboard discussed the March 14 snowstorm, and the resulting power outages, with Green Mountain Power (GMP).

Municipal Manager Scott Pickup commended Justin Mason, and said the town and GMP worked well by “marrying crews.” Vice President of Field Operations Mike Burke said he was glad Rockingham works well, and speaks highly of Mason; local representation is a huge part of their success.

Tiana Smith, Head of Electrification and Sustainability at GMP, explained the steps that GMP was taking toward resiliency and future storm management. She said they were utilizing storm hardening measures, and had the benefit of local response from Storm Lead Mason in Westminster, and Operations Supervisor David Ward in Springfield.

Burke said that, since December, there have been four major storms, and this was one of the top four worst ever storms in history with regard to outages and damage. He said they heard snow predictions of 12-18 inches, and Rockingham received 36 inches. He said if this storm had been rain, it would have been similar to Hurricane Irene levels, and severe weather patterns indicate the northeast receives the highest precipitation in the North Atlantic region.

Burke explained the mitigation steps being taken, including spacer cables on main lines to protect the line if a tree falls, undergrounding lines in rural areas, and encouraging home installation of so-called “power walls,” used for storage during heavy outages. Individuals would pay a monthly fee to cover the costs of the power wall.

Board member Rick Cowan asked how long the power walls typically last. Burke said he received reports of up to eight days of power with critical use of appliances.

Smith said during this storm, GMP continued outreach to towns before, during, and after the storm, coordinating with Emergency Services for residents with critical care needs. She explained they worked with EMS to check on those that might need assistance, and customers on the critical care list.

Board member Bonnie North asked how residents could get on the critical care list. GMP encourages residents to add themselves or a family member to the critical care list, if they require an electric-powered medical device, by calling GMP at 888-835-4672.

Board Chair Peter Golec asked why Bellows Falls was out of power for twelve hours, when an average power outage for the village lasts less than two hours. Burke said the reason was that two transmission lines went down that feed the Bellows Falls substation.

He said the transmission lines must be repaired or replaced before getting people back online, and that when they had repaired the first one, which had been damaged by a falling tree, another went down.

Burke explained why so many customers were without power for up to five days, giving the following example: if residents were 12 miles from the substations, transmission lines were repaired first, and then each mile of line between. He said because of the heavy snowfall and waist-deep snow, tasks which normally take 15 minutes were taking up to two hours.

Smith explained that for the first two days they focused on restoration, keeping the roads clear and hazards mitigated.

Ward recommended contacting himself or Mason for ideas and suggestions. He said, “town insight is appreciated.”

The Rockingham Local Emergency Management Plan and State Hazard Mitigation Plan are in the process of an update. Residents interested in providing input to the plan should contact manager@rockbf.org.

The Rockingham Selectboard meetings are on the first and third Tuesdays of every month at 6 p.m. in the Lower Theater of the Bellows Falls Opera House, and also available by Zoom.

Bellows Falls Middle School selects principal

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Following a search, Henry Bailly has been named Principal of Bellows Falls Middle School, beginning in July 2023. Mr. Bailly has been serving as the interim principal since the fall of 2022.

Bailly’s career prior to Bellows Falls Middle School included 15 years

as a classroom teacher at Westmoreland School in New Hampshire, after having received two bachelor’s degrees from Keene State College – one in education, and one in biological sciences – and a master’s degree in educational administration and supervision from the University of Phoenix. Living and working in the Bellows

Falls community, Mr. Bailly joined the staff of the Bellows Falls Middle School as assistant principal in 2022.

The search process for the middle school principal position included opportunities for community and student input, and a search committee made up of school staff, community members, and school board members.

Springfield takes steps toward becoming a tech hub

BY PAULA BENSON
The Shopper

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Monday, April 10, the Springfield Selectboard heard a presentation from Interim Executive Director Marguerite Dibble of the Black River Innovation Campus (BRIC). Dibble reported on BRIC’s involvement with the Springfield Regional Development Corp. (SRDC), a program to support entrepreneurship in the Springfield area.

BRIC has recently opened a shared workspace in the old school house at 60 Park Street, where people can get together and connect, and have access to the latest technology and high speed internet. “The goal is to provide an incubator,” Dibble said. “We run a 10-week program three times per year, to give companies everything they need to take their company from an idea stage to a concrete, groundbreaking launch.”

BRIC and SRDC are working together to reimagine Springfield as a thriving tech hub. One way they will move toward that goal is to support a local STEM education effort. “The idea is to expose students to a ton of different tech from early years,” Dibble explained. “Through afterschool programs, camps, and video game design, we will engage kids in a creative way to foster innovation within the community on an ongoing basis.”

Board member Walter

Martone commented that the Inclusion Committee had scheduled a housing meeting at the shared office space on April 21, from 5-7 p.m., and he was excited for more people to be introduced to the space.

Executive Director of SRDC Bob Flint was in attendance, and shared enthusiasm for the BRIC-led programs. Flint reported that SRDC was a recent recipient of over \$6 million, to invest in Springfield and other Vermont communities.

Regarding the demolition of the building at 43 Park Street, Flint said he was currently working through procurement requirements, such as a mortgage deed to put in place a review. Flint mentioned that they were working to be as coordinated as possible, not duplicate any of the work or remobilize repeatedly. Some of the assessment work began last week, Flint reported, now that the town has received some funding through ARPA and other resources.

The major water line project has begun on Clinton Street, near the site of the former J&L building, and as that work was getting underway, it became necessary to remove the maple trees in front of the building. According to SRDC, the trees have been dying or diseased for many years, but they’ve held off removing them because they mean so much to the Springfield community. SRDC fully intends to incorporate more appropriate and hardier trees – in consultation with state forestry experts – into the new site design.

Flint said, “it’s heartbreak-

ing to see the trees go along Clinton Street, but we will put something in that will last for the next 70 years or more.”

Board member Michael Martin commented, “We knew the trees needed to come down three years ago. It is sad to see them go, and I really appreciate you, Bob... but we all recognized they needed to go.”

“Thank you, Mike. Every winter I was ‘fingers crossed,’” responded Flint.

SRDC is also working with the town to coordinate construction on the extension of the Toonerville Trail, which will run on the river side of the property.

The board approved an event permit for River Valley Tech Center to host a job fair at Riverside Middle School this Friday, April 14, from 3-6 p.m., which will also include food trucks staged in the parking lot.

The board ran through a list of liquor license approvals and committee appointments. Town Manager Jeff Mobus presented a noise ordinance for approval, and Martin noted it should be revised to detail what the permit is for. “Why are we issuing a waiver?” Martin questioned. “For fireworks? Drag racing? Live music?” The ordinance was approved pending the requested revisions, and the board authorized Mobus to act on all requests that are for less than 12 hours.

Mobus reported that the Eureka Culvert Plan is set to start in late September, and the town had received a structures grant covering all construction costs.

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Springfield housing talk

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Town of Springfield Inclusion Committee will host a workshop to discuss the housing situation in the local community. The

committee's mandate is to provide well-informed recommendations to the selectboard about how the board will address inclusion in all areas under their

purview. Recently, the Inclusion Committee recognized that many challenges to inclusivity trace back to issues with housing, such as accessibility, affordability, existence of options, and more.

An open space format will be utilized, providing all attendees the opportunity to voice their ideas and concerns. Possible topics to be addressed include but are not limited to housing affordability, housing insecurity, transitional housing, homelessness, workforce housing, low-income housing, the Valley Street town development plan, and warming shelters.

The workshop will be held at the Black River Innovation Campus, located at on the third floor of 60 Park Street in Springfield, on April 21. The workshop will start at 5 p.m., and is anticipated to last two hours. Refreshments will be available.

Legislator meet and greet

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – On Saturday, April 15, between 10:30–11:30 a.m., drop by the Rockingham Free Public Library's top floor meeting room in Bellows Falls to chat with

your Windham County Senators Nader Hashim and Wendy Harrison and your Windham-3 (Brookline, Rockingham, and Westminster) House Representatives Michelle Bos-Lun and Leslie

Goldman. Come for an informal conversation about current issues and bring your questions! We look forward to seeing you, and thank the library for sponsoring this event.

Springfield basketball schedule

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield High School Boys Basketball Team schedule for the months of April and May is as follows: there will be a home game against Hartford on Monday, April 17, at 4 p.m. There

will be an away game against Middlebury on Wednesday, April 19, at 4 p.m. There will be an away game against Otter Valley on Monday, April 24, at 3 p.m. There will be an away game against Mill River on Wednesday, April 26, time to be decided. There

will be a home game on Friday, May 5, against Burr & Burton at 4 p.m.

We wanted to share with you our schedule this season in hopes that you can attend our home games. We look forward to seeing you there.

Community Closet bag sale

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The Community Closet at Immanuel Episcopal Church is holding a bag sale on Saturday, April 22 and Saturday, May 13 from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. The Closet is full of winter cloth-

ing, such as new children's jackets, long sleeve jerseys and blouses, fleece vests and jackets, and sweaters. Stock up now for next winter.

The Closet is open most Saturdays from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. We accept dona-

tions of clean, gently used clothing. At this time, summer clothing is preferred. All proceeds from sales are returned to the community to support those families in need. The Community Closet is located at 20 Church St. in Bellows Falls.

Final initiation for 2022-2023 Springfield Elk Year

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Elks Lodge held their final initiation for Elk Year 2022/2023. During the last 12 months, Spring-

field initiated 23 new members. They expect bigger classes to come in the 2023/2024 Elk Year.

The latest candidates were Jenna Brown, Joseph

Frumin, and Trina Smellegar. The initiation was conducted by Vermont Elks' State President Jim Kirkwood, a Past Exalted Ruler of Springfield Lodge #1560.



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<p>2016 Chevy Trax AWD Fully Loaded 4 Cylinder 4 Door</p> 	<p>2015 Volkswagen Jetta Power Windows Auto Cruise 4 Door</p> 
<p>2014 Acura TL AWD Fully Loaded Sunroof 4 Door</p> 	<p>2015 Volkswagen Jetta Power Windows Auto Cruise 4 Door</p> 

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The Park Theatre

BY RON PATCH

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The Park Theatre was located upstairs over Medtrina. Built about 1875, it has always been a business of some sort. Locals refer to it as Carpenter's Store. Carpenter ran a clothing store here for many years.

I don't know what year the theatre was first established. Danny Clemons' mother, Lorene, with Ron and Russel Farrar's mother Aili, took it over in the late 50s. At that time, Norman Adams was running it, but had decided to give it up. Russel told me his mother wanted to keep it open for the kids.

I went to many movies here when I was a boy. There was a very steep and narrow staircase to the second floor. You were greeted by Aili or Lorene at the ticket booth. In the lobby was a candy counter and popcorn machine. Soda was dispensed in bottles from a soda machine.

Inside the theater were rows of seats. The floor was on an incline so you could better see over people in front of you. The windows were blacked out. I remember cartoons and seeing previews of upcoming movies before the main feature began.

I liked Westerns and Vincent Price movies. "The Pit and the Pendulum" was a favorite of mine. One movie stands out, "Mysterious Island"

Earl Horton was the projectionist. Russel said there were two carbon arc projectors. I found this description online:

"The very old projectors didn't have a bulb, they used an open carbon arc, with high voltage jumping between carbon electrodes to create a very bright light. A powerful fan took excessive heat and ozone out of the building. This light was focused by a reflector onto the film gate. In the film gate,

a geared arrangement called a Geneva movement moved each frame of film into position and stopped it for a fraction of a second before moving it out of the way, and the next frame in position. This happened 24 times a second, four perforations at a time (each frame was four perforations tall in a standard 35mm projector). This was 90 linear feet of film per minute. A spinning shutter that looked a little like a weird fan with wide blades spun to block the light during the times that the Geneva movement was pulling the film frames into position; light only shone through each frame while it was motionless. This Geneva movement was also called the 'intermittent'. After bright light intermittently passed through the sequence of film frames, that light would pass through a long lens with a fast aperture ratio, usually something like 120mm focal length and f/1.8, which, especially for the era, was a fast lens. The lens would be racked back and forth to focus the image on the screen."

Danny said, because the carbon arc was hot, the projection room walls were lined with asbestos board. When Earl gave up the job, he taught Aili and Ron to run the projectors.

Danny described how film was mended when it broke. Stop the projector, remove the film reels and, with a splicer, splice the film together, tape it, and thread it back into the projector. I remember this happening. Most kids would stomp their feet on the floor in loud protest.



1957 Park Theater flyer. PHOTO PROVIDED BY RON PATCH

The photo with this article is from 1957. It features "Battle Hymn," on the cover. At the top is: "PARK THEATRE, CHESTER, VT. TEL. 2721." They boast CINEMASCOPE and WIDE-VISION SCREEN. Another flyer I have is from 1953. Admission: adults 70 cents, children 35 cents.

These advertisements were mailed for one and a half cents. When you open it, there is a schedule of upcoming movies and dates on each inside page. The same is true for the rear cover. There was a movie every night of the week.

All I spoke to have slightly different memories. I remember seeing "PT 109" in late '63 or early '64. Some thought the theatre operated as late as 1969. Others remember it closing earlier.

Danny remembers taking out the seats, projectors, and the movie screen. He said his father rolled the screen up and stored it in his barn. Russel remembers his father, Arthur, and Danny's father, Bill, building the fire escape.

This week's old saying is from Henry: "When we were kids I was the one your mother wouldn't let you play with."

Athens Brick Meetinghouse seeks preservation bid

ATHENS, Vt. – The 1817 brick meetinghouse in Athens is a recipient of a 2023 Historic Preservation Grant. Established in 1986, the state-funded Historic Preservation Grant Program helps municipalities and non-profit organizations rehabilitate the historic buildings that are a vital part of Vermont's downtowns, villages, and rural communities, as well as its iconic landscape. Since its inception, the program has provided over \$6 million to support over 600 historic community building preservation projects.

This is the second state grant award for the Athens Meetinghouse, which will

enable continued progress on the needed work to preserve and bring this beautiful historic landmark back to life.

Full or partial bids are now being accepted for preservation and moisture mitigation work, to occur over the upcoming year. This historic preservation project is funded in part through a matching grant from the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation, along with dedicated donations and fundraising through the Athens Historic Preservation Society.

All work must meet the Secretary of Interior Standards for Rehabilitation. Bid documents will be

made available to qualified bidders upon request. All bids are due by Monday, May 1, at 1 p.m. Interested contractors seeking more information or wishing to schedule a site visit should contact Sherry Maher, committee chair, at 802-275-2835 or samaher@vermontel.net

Anyone wishing to help support this and future restoration work on this historic gem can send a tax deductible donation, noting Meetinghouse Project, to the Athens Historic Preservation Society, P.O. Box 431, Townshend, VT 05353.

Senior Solutions celebrates 50 years

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Older Vermonters, their families and friends, and members of the public, are invited to celebrate Senior Solutions' 50th anniversary, as the agency on aging goes golden at a Senior Prom gala on April 28.

Established as Vermont's first area agency on aging, the Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont began serving older Vermonters in 1973. Over the next few years, the agency expanded to serve 46 towns throughout Windham, Bennington, Windsor, and Orange counties.

In 2011, the agency adopted the Senior Solutions name, and has grown to serve more than 5,000 residents each year.

"I'm proud of Senior Solutions' history, and looking forward to our

next five decades," says Mark Boutwell, the agency's executive director. "We work to help older Vermonters, and younger residents with disabilities, age in the place of their choice by providing a variety of supports and programs, creating opportunities for meaningful relationships and active engagement in their communities."

Boutwell says the prom will be an opportunity for people to make new friends, visit with longtime acquaintances, and raise awareness of the agency's programs, while also raising funds for Senior Solutions.

The dinner and dance will take place from 5:30 p.m. until the music stops, at the American Legion Post 67, located at 3 Depot Street in Chester, Vt. The event will feature a buffet meal, dancing to music by the Moonlighters big band, a photo booth, and balloon roulette.

Our extensive silent auction, featuring overnight getaways, a family golf pass, theater tickets, dinners, and much more, from the agency's many generous sponsors, will be launched online starting Friday, April 7. The auction will continue through the evening of April 28.

A happy hour will begin at 5:30 p.m., with dinner at 6:30 p.m., and dancing beginning at 7:30 p.m. The event is open to all age groups, and prom attire is encouraged but not required.

Tickets are available for the dinner and dance, or for the dance only, at www.seniorsolutionsvt.org/senior-solutions-goes-golden-gala-senior-prom. And supporters have the opportunity to donate a dance ticket for use by an older Vermonter. More information is available on the Senior Solutions website, www.seniorsolutionsvt.org.

Interest rates, impact of inflation

REGION – There are two fundamental ways that you can profit from owning bonds: from the interest that bonds pay, and from any increase in the bond's price. If you sell a bond before its maturity date, you may get more than its face value; you could also receive less if you must sell when bond prices are down. The closer the bond is to its maturity date, the closer to its face value the price is likely to be.

Though the ups and downs of the bond market are not usually as dramatic as the movements of the stock market, they can still have a significant impact on your overall return.

The price-yield seesaw and interest rates. Just as a bond's price can fluctuate, so can its yield – its overall percentage rate of return on your investment at any given time. A typical bond's coupon rate – the annual interest rate it pays – is fixed. However, the yield isn't, because the yield percentage depends not only on a bond's coupon rate, but also on changes in its price.

Both bond prices and yields go up and down, but there's an important rule to remember about the relationship between the two: they move in opposite directions, much like a seesaw. When a bond's price goes up, its yield goes down, even though the coupon rate hasn't changed. The opposite is

true as well: when a bond's price drops, its yield goes up.

What moves the seesaw? In some cases, a bond's price is affected by something that is unique to its issuer – for example, a change in the bond's rating. However, other factors have an impact on all bonds. The twin factors that affect a bond's price are inflation and changing interest rates. A rise in either interest rates or the inflation rate will tend to cause bond prices to drop. Inflation and interest rates behave similarly to bond yields, moving in the opposite direction from bond prices.

If inflation means higher prices, why do bond prices drop? The answer has to do with the relative value of the interest that a specific bond pays. Rising prices over time reduce the purchasing power of each interest payment a bond makes. Let's say a five-year bond pays \$400 every six months. Inflation means that \$400 will be able to buy less five years from now.

Why watch the Fed? Inflation also affects interest rates. The Fed's decisions on interest rates can have an impact on the market value of your bonds.

The Fed takes an active role in trying to prevent inflation from spiraling out of control. When the Fed gets concerned that the rate of inflation is rising, it may decide to raise interest rates to try to slow the economy by making it more expensive to borrow money.

New bonds paying higher interest rates mean existing

bonds with lower rates are less valuable.

Falling interest rates: good news, bad news. Just the opposite happens when interest rates are falling. Bonds issued today will typically pay a lower interest rate than similar bonds issued when rates were higher. Those older bonds with higher yields become more valuable to investors, who are willing to pay a higher price to get that greater income stream. As a result, prices for existing bonds with higher interest rates tend to rise.

All bond investments are not alike. Inflation and interest rate changes don't affect all bonds equally. Under normal conditions, short-term interest rates may feel the effects of any Fed action almost immediately, but longer-term bonds likely will see the greatest price changes.

Focus on your goals, not on interest rates alone. Your bond investments need to be tailored to your individual financial goals and take into account your other investments. A financial professional may be able to help you design your portfolio to accommodate changing economic circumstances.

Written by Huntley Financial Services. For more information, contact Mark Huntley at 802-228-5774.



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opinion

OBITUARIES

Dear Editor,

The following political letter was sent to the Vermont Journal and to the Presiding Judge of the Windsor County Court. After the court told me to stop bothering them, I learned that there is no record of my lawsuit in the court's electronic file. Posting this letter is the only way I can apologize to those people who continue to ask me what's going on with my court case. Unfortunately, Vermont allows "demurrers," which is a legal way to ignore complaints without legally challenging the issues. All Plymouth had to do was ask the Woodstock Court to send this complaint to another county to adjudicate with no resolution and with no involvement from the plaintiff. I apologize for believing that Vermont's courts were honorable.

Dear Judge Treadwell,
In October, 2022, I filed a petition for mandamus against the Town of Plymouth, Vt. for multiple infractions of Vermont state statutes and Plymouth zoning ordinances. These complaints included violations of the Public Record Act, and failure of elected and appointed officials to do due diligence involving mandatory functions involving land transactions. The Town of Plymouth does not keep and preserve important mandated documents. The selectboard insists that they are understaffed and cannot find qualified help. In truth, the Town of Plymouth, Vt. is dominated by a conspiracy of silence.

The Clerk at the Woodstock Courthouse assured me that once my petition for mandamus was entered into the system, it would be available electronically by anyone who wanted to review it. As

of March 31, 2023, there has been no availability of this petition online to anyone, including me.

I have received numerous motions from the town's attorneys and two orders from two separate judges referencing a misidentified "video hearing," which was a hybrid hearing where the judge and the town's attorneys participated from the same courtroom in another town. That event took place on Feb. 16, 2023. Nothing from the court explained why I have been told to stop bothering them. I have received no report of this hearing, in which the judge clearly showed no understanding of the gravity of my concerns. He asked questions like, "why didn't she sue Cappellini instead of the town?" The judge directed his questions to Plymouth's attorney and never elicited any response from me.

Question 1: Does the court produce any record showing the outcome of this "hearing," and is there a procedure for requesting copies of these records? Does a recorded document exist?

You must be able to imagine how embarrassing it is for me to try to explain that the record of my lawsuit doesn't exist at the Woodstock Courthouse. I have asked friends and neighbors to join me in my quest for accountability. Your court has made me a liar to these people.

Question 2: Where does the court file the acknowledgements submitted by parties in specific lawsuits, and where would I find a copy of the list that was created in my case, since there are no local judges looking at my case?

The court could have moved my case to the Environmental Division. Published rules of court allow the judge many options for resolving these legal issues. The first judge who responded to my petition suggested it could be considered a "complicated case." The final decision of the court was to not offer any path forward. The court wrote a disguised "demurrer" and offered no explanation for its decision to do nothing.

An apology would be appreciated.

Respectfully yours,
Paid for by:
Nancy Kessling
Plymouth, Vt.

Eric Christopher Lambert, 1989-2023

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – Eric Lambert, 33, of Rockingham, passed away on Sunday, March 26, 2023 at the Jefferson Torresdale Hospital in Philadelphia, Pa., with his family by his side. Eric was born on Aug. 26, 1989 to David and Priscilla Clough Lambert in Springfield, Vt. Eric attended elementary and middle school in Bellows Falls, and graduated from Bellows Falls Union High School and Austine School for the Deaf in Brattleboro, Vt. in 2011. Eric worked in the dining facility at Vermont Academy, and at Lisa's Market. He delivered Meals on Wheels for the Bellows Falls Area Senior Center, and groceries for Our Place Drop-In Center in Bellows Falls. He planted flowers at St. Charles Church, and at the United Church. Eric shared his kind spirit and freely gave unlimited empathy to everyone. When someone needed help, he immediately responded and assisted with the task. He taught everyone valuable lessons about love and caring for others, and how precious life is.

Eric was predeceased by his maternal grandparents Arthur and Priscilla Fisher Clough, his paternal grandparents Ernest and Claire Boudreau Lambert, and his uncle John M. Lambert. Eric is survived by his parents David and Priscilla Lambert of Rockingham, two brothers David E. Lambert Jr. (Jenn Shimer) of South Boston, Mass., and Michael W. Lambert of Joppatowne, Md., two sisters Priscilla E. Seaton (Chris) of Knoxville, Tenn., and Cheryl L. Eddy (James) of Palm City, Fla., niece Sara Lambert of Milford, N.H., nephew Quinn Lambert of Rockingham, Vt., nephews Ethan and Logan Eddy of Palm City, Fla., niece Talia and nephew Sebastian Seaton of Knoxville, Tenn., and aunts Twyla E. Putnam and Darlene E. Boissonnault of Grafton, Vt.

Eric enjoyed bowling with Paul Sackevich of Charlestown, N.H., attending King's Table activities in Springfield, Vt., and helping recycle with his dad. He played Special Olympics basketball and soccer with Austine School and local groups. He enjoyed attending dances, where all the girls wanted to dance with him. He enjoyed horseback riding at Dream on Curls in Springfield, Vt. In addition, Eric was a member of the United Church in Bellows Falls, where he sang with gusto and helped with children's storytime, lighting and extinguishing candles, and coffee hour activities.



Eric Lambert, 1989-2023. PHOTO PROVIDED

At home, Eric kept everyone organized and everything in its correct space. He followed an always the same swimming routine of getting out all the floats, bicycle stroke swimming around the pool, blowing bubbles, floating a few minutes with mom, and putting away the floats. His favorite spots were sitting on the swing in the pool house, and on the love seat in the family room with mom. He controlled the TV, and enjoyed watching movies with children and animals in them. He diligently wrangled his cats Misty, Maisy, and Leila, and his dog Smokey, bringing them to family members to be loved. Every night he read one of his pop-up books and his favorite book, "Regina is not a Little Dinosaur." He particularly enjoyed having dad and his miniature dinosaur roar along with the story. On trips, he checked with mom to make sure dad was going in the right direction every time dad made a turn. He held mom's and dad's hands on plane take-offs and landings.

Visiting hours will take place at Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home, 55 Westminster Street, Bellows Falls, on April 14, from 5-7 p.m. A Funeral Service will take place on April 15 at 1 p.m. at the United Church, 8 School Street in Bellows Falls. Graveside Service will take place at Saxtons River Cemetery. A reception to celebrate Eric's life will be held at the Masonic Temple, 61 Westminster Street, Bellows Falls following the service, where Eric's favorite soft drink, root beer, will be available.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Bellows Falls Area Senior Center, 18 Tuttle Street, Bellows Falls, or to the Frances Hicks Memorial Fund, 30 Locust Street, Brattleboro, Vt. In addition, a penny jar will be available for loose change to be donated to a local nonprofit in honor of Eric's tradition of putting coins in each Sunday.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home, Bellows Falls, Vt.

Martin Nitka, 1942-2023

LUDLOW, Vt. – Martin Nitka died peacefully on Thursday, March 30, 2023, while hospitalized in New Hampshire. He retained his sense of humor until his death, entertaining his family and endearing himself to hospital staff. The cause of death was respiratory failure and Covid.

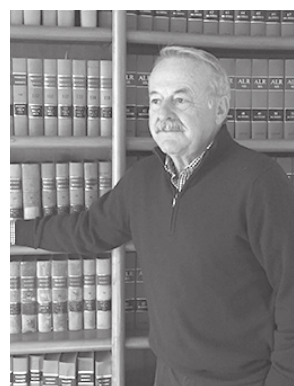
Martin Nitka was born on Aug. 7, 1942 in Dessau, Germany, to Heinz and Gisela (Heuse) Nitka. He was the youngest of three children. Martin's travels began at an early age. At the end of World War II, when Martin was 3 years old, the family fled Dessau, which became the Eastern Zone of Germany, controlled by Russia. It was Heinz's work as a physicist that prompted the family to flee, to avoid Heinz being involuntarily sent to work in Russia.

After fleeing the Eastern Zone, the family resided in Berlin, while awaiting an opportunity to work and live in England. In 1948, the family arrived in Manchester, England, where Martin attended The Manchester Grammar School. He learned to speak English quickly, wanting to eliminate his German accent. When Martin was 12, he immigrated to the United States with his family, settling in Binghamton, N.Y., where he attended school and worked hard to drop his then-British accent. As a teenager, he became the Broome county chess champion, and had an opportunity to play a tournament match against Bobby Fischer, his contemporary. Fischer won. Martin became a U.S. citizen at the age of 18, having previously held British and German citizenship. He had great respect for the U.S. Constitution.

Martin graduated from Hamilton College in Clinton, N.Y. in 1964. During his college years, after working a summer in California, he purchased a Model A Ford and drove it cross-country with Dan Lamont, his college roommate. They met many mechanics along the way. He also studied at the University of Heidelberg, from which many members of his family had graduated. Martin went on to attend Albany Law School of Union University, in Albany, N.Y., obtaining his law degree in 1967, and passing the New York State Bar the same year.

One of Martin's first jobs as a lawyer in New York State was drafting legislation for the New York State Assembly. It was during his time in Albany that he met Alice Waterson. Alice and Martin married while working as "ski bums" at Mount Snow in Dover, Vt., in March 1968, and decided they wanted to make Vermont their permanent home. They moved to Ludlow the following year, where Martin began work as a lawyer for attorney Wally Schinowski. Following Schinowski's death, Martin worked as a sole practitioner, establishing his practice at 92 Main Street. In 1988, Martin and Frederick Glover established a partnership for the practice of law in Ludlow, known as Nitka and Glover. Martin retired from the practice of law in 2014.

Martin was an active participant in Ludlow civic life. He served as town attorney, member of the Ludlow Select Board, and Cemetery



Martin Nitka, 1942-2023. PHOTO PROVIDED

Commissioner, among other positions. He was elected as town meeting moderator for many years, where his sharp wit could cut the tension in a debate. He was a member of the Vermont Bar Association, Rotary International, and was honored as a Paul Harris Fellow through Rotary in 2000. He served on many boards, Coolidge's Plymouth cheese factory, Fletcher Farm, and Friends of Ludlow Auditorium (FOLA). He was also a past president of Okemo Mountain Ski Area.

Martin had many diverse interests. He enjoyed fly fishing in Vermont and New York trout streams, bird hunting with his dog, and hiking the Long Trail and other trails in the Green and White Mountains. He enjoyed downhill skiing in his younger days, and cross-country skiing in the national forest as he got older. He competed in the Stowe Derby in 2008, on an old pair of three-pin skis. He said he came in last in his age group. He loved The New York Times crossword puzzles, chess, and anything to do with numbers. He could keep track of everyone's score in a golf foursome, and remember all the shots. He listened to public radio since its inception, watched Bloomberg News, and loved to cook and eat salt and salty foods. He looked forward to planting his garden each spring, and was never happy with the results. He was an avid golfer and longtime member of Okemo Valley/Fox Run Golf Course, where he also worked on the "Mow and Go Crew," walking behind a lawnmower for miles in the early morning. Some of his favorite pastimes were critiquing his wife's politics, and "contributing to his carbon footprint" by going for car rides around Vermont.

Martin is survived by his wife Alice Nitka of Ludlow; his daughters Abigail Nitka (Ulguer Aydin) of Brooklyn, N.Y., and Molly Nitka (Keith Lazarczyk) of Rutland, Vt., sister Inge Judge of Durham, N.H., and two grandsons, Berk Aydin and Sam Lazarczyk. He is also survived by many first cousins in Europe and Argentina, where Martin's maternal grandmother was born. He was predeceased by his sister Gisele Atwater and niece Brigitte Judge.

A memorial service will be held at the Heald Auditorium in the Ludlow Town Hall on Saturday, April 29, 2023 at 10 a.m. The Davis Memorial Chapel of Springfield is assisting the family with arrangements. Burial will take place at a later date.

Donations in lieu of flowers may be made to the Ludlow Rotary Club, P.O. Box 216, Ludlow, VT 05149, for a scholarship in Martin's memory, to benefit a student from the Ludlow region.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR 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. **EFFECTIVE MARCH, 2023, we will be charging for POLITICAL LETTERS.** Viewpoints do not necessarily reflect the views of The Vermont Journal & The Shopper.

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Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦
♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword

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ACROSS
1 Faux pas
5 Spider's creation
8 Smith of Fox News
12 Wood strip
13 Hollywood's Gardiner
14 Model Banks
15 Twistable cookie
16 "Wonder Woman" star
18 Reproductive cell
20 Old Geo models
21 Conceal, in a way
23 Zodiac cat
24 When a sporting event starts
28 Pvt.'s superiors
31 Historic period
32 Open a tooth-paste tube
34 Consume
35 Beige
37 Floral wreaths
39 Mao - tung
41 Coaster
42 Three-note chords
45 Doohickey
49 Hood

DOWN
1 Trudge
2 News reporter
4 Logan
3 Detail
4 "Friends" role
5 Betting parlor activity
6 Ms. Longoria
7 Lip soother
8 Iowa and Maine, e.g.
9 Lightest element
10 Slangy suffix
11 Bits of butter
17 Solidify
19 Ballet wear
22 Community gym sites
"Gosh!" singer
26 Strict taskmaster
27 Tea choice
29 Wee bit
30 Map lines (Abbr.)
33 Entreaty
36 Applications
38 Venomous snakes
40 Mag. staff
42 End-of-wk. cry
43 Tabula -
44 Ticket half
46 "Mercy Mercy"
Marvin
47 Novelist
Hunter
48 Look after
50 Disney deer

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CHURCH SERVICES

obituaries

Erna Abrahamovich, 2023

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – A graveside service for Erna Abrahamovich, who passed away on Jan. 22, 2023, will be held April 29, 2023 at 11 a.m. at the Oakland Cemetery in Springfield, Vt. David Shufleburg, LLR, will officiate.

Henry Hryckiewicz, 1925-2023

LUDLOW, Vt. – Henry Hryckiewicz, 97, passed away on March 25, 2023, at the Gill Odd Fellows Home in Ludlow, Vt. He was born Aug. 13, 1925 in Springfield, Vt., the son of Joseph and Nellie (Gintof) Hryckiewicz.

The Greatest Generation – Many people hear the phrase “the greatest generation.” Henry, a.k.a. Ricky to those who knew him, was part of that generation, and thoroughly exemplified the attributes that define it. Many words describe Henry and his life, like selfless, sacrifice, respectable, and integrity, just to name a few.

He was the son of parents who had emigrated from Poland back in the late 1800s. He was a man that “walked the walk.” He showed through his actions, not just words, that the right road is often the difficult road.

After graduating from Springfield High School in 1943, Henry enlisted in the Merchant Marines at age 18, to join the war effort during World War II. He was stationed as a signalman and a machinist mate on the USS Joseph Warren liberty ship, where he traveled around the world delivering troops and supplies.

He raised six children – three boys and three girls – as a single parent (back in the 70s, no less), essentially putting his personal life behind those of his kids, dedicating his life to them. He spent 39 years at Bryant Grinder Corporation, before retiring in 1989, where he worked in the service department and the test floor.

Henry enjoyed fishing and hunting with his lifelong friends and his family. He really valued spending time with family. He built a camp for those all-important family gatherings, and to carry



Henry Hryckiewicz, 1925-2023. PHOTO PROVIDED

on a decades-long tradition of hunting. He thoroughly relished having all his family, especially his grandchildren, along with his lifelong friends, together at camp. Henry also loved his four-legged companion “Archie,” who spent the last 12 years by his side.

He is survived by two sons David Hryckiewicz and his wife Debbie, and Henry Hryckiewicz and his wife Donna, one daughter JoAnne Dietrich and her husband Gary, 11 grandchildren, and one great-grandson.

He was predeceased by his parents Joseph and Nellie, son Dennis Hryckiewicz, daughters Audrey Fagans and Theresa Savagty, granddaughter Christina Mann, sister Valerie Novak and her husband Raymond, brother Florian Hryckiewicz and his wife Ann, and brother Edwin Hryckiewicz and his wife Cathy.

A special thank you to Angel Cioffi, Vicki Dopp, Carol Lechthaler and the Gill Odd Fellows Home, for the excellent care they provided for Henry in his later years.

A graveside service with military honors will be held on Saturday, June 24, 2023, at 10:30 a.m., at the St. Mary's Cemetery in Springfield, Vt. Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt. is assisting with arrangements.

Wayne Johnson, 2023

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – There will be a memorial gathering for Wayne Johnson, who passed away on Feb. 9, on Saturday, April 22, from 1-4 p.m., at the Elks Lodge #1560, located

at 49 Park St. Springfield, Vt. Per Wayne's request, an Elks funeral service will be conducted at 1:30 p.m. Feel free to honor Wayne by wearing your favorite New England Patriots shirt.

Susan B. Neathawk, 1945-2023

CHESTER, Vt. – Susan B. Neathawk, 77, of River Street, died on March 30, 2023, at Gill Nursing Home in Ludlow, following complications from Alzheimer's disease. Known as Sue, Susie, and Susan to different folks, she was born on April 15, 1945, in Bellows Falls, the fourth of five daughters of Perley C. and Ada E. (Miller) Bell. She grew up in Grafton and was a 1963 graduate of Bellows Falls High School.

Susan worked at many local businesses, including the Grafton Store's lunch counter, Britt's department store in Springfield, and Mary Meyer Stuffed Animals in Townshend. Most of her work years were spent as a rural letter carrier out of the Chester Post Office covering familiar territory in Athens, Grafton, and Chester. For a short time she even worked as a welder at her father's Bellway furnace business. She was fortunate to retire at age 62, as Alzheimer's had started affecting her by age 70.

Susie was quiet, unassuming, and got along with everyone. She was active in

her church, was a volunteer driver for the elderly, and opened her home to others in need as they got on their feet. She was a lover of dogs and cats. She was very crafty, loved DIY garden art projects, and enjoyed decorating her home and yard. Quilting and sewing were regular hobbies. Much akin to her father's interests, she enjoyed riding her motorcycle, a Honda Rebel, and was a longtime active member of the Christian Motorcyclists Association. She had a large collection of sheep and lamb objects. She enjoyed thrifting, antiquing, and yard sales.

She is survived by her three children Kevin W. of Grafton, Kimberly J. of Chester, and Shane J. (Billie) of Rockingham, and her three grandchildren Claire N. Shillington of South Hadley, Mass., Brandon W. of Charlestown, N.H., and Jared M. of Charlestown, N.H.

Per her wishes, there will be no funeral service. Donations in her memory may be sent to the Alzheimer's Association or to Gill Nursing Home in Ludlow, Vt.

Suerae Ballard, 1939-2023

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Suerae (Fisk) Ballard, a longtime resident of Springfield, Vt., and a recent resident of Celebration, Fla., died peacefully on March 31, 2023, at the age of 84. Suerae was born to Thacher and Dorothy (Gammons) Fisk in Natick, Mass. on March 28, 1939, and had two brothers, Lloyd and Heath Fisk. She graduated from the Walnut Hill School of the Arts in 1957, and attended the University of Vermont, where she received a Bachelor of Education Degree in Home Economics in 1961. It was at UVM that Suerae met her husband, Jim. They married on Aug. 12, 1961, and settled in his hometown of Rutland, Vt. Suerae taught Home Economics at Wallingford High School, as well as adult education classes in Rutland. In 1968, Jim and Suerae established their business, Precision Valley Auto Sales, in Springfield, and moved their family there in 1970. In Springfield, Suerae was devoted to family and raising their four children, Susan-Rachel, Scott, Gregory, and Geoffrey.

Suerae was a deeply compassionate and generous individual. She was a leader in both Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, and was a lifelong member of the Vermont and New Hampshire Girl Scout Council. She was an active member of the First Congregational Church UCC of Springfield, served on several community committees, and was trained as a hospice volunteer. She had an endless passion for helping others, was always the first to lend a helping hand, and touched many with her generosity.

Suerae was also fiercely determined. In 1998, at only 59 years old, Suerae suffered her first major stroke. Told that she might never walk the same, Suerae was a fighter, and not only relearned to walk, but set out to show her doctors that she could still rollerblade and waterski. She suffered two more significant strokes over the years, but never let that dampen her spirit. Her last stroke, in 2019, was especially devastating, in that it took away her ability to read, drive, and be independent. It was also the start of a battle with dementia.

Throughout her life, family was always what was most important to Suerae. She spent many summers at Kezar Lake in Lovell, Maine, and winters in Daytona Beach Shores, Fla. with her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and extended family. Many days were spent swimming and



Suerae Ballard, 1939-2023. PHOTO PROVIDED

boating on the lake, or enjoying the beach and ocean. Nights were spent playing games and sharing fun. Suerae loved to have the whole family together. There was always a spread of food, and it often included her favorite homemade blueberry pie for dessert. Suerae also loved to travel with Jim. Together, often with friends, they would drive the back roads of New England, or set out to explore the country. She had a radiant energy, was extremely personable, and made new friends wherever she went. She made everyone she encountered feel loved, cared for, and valued.

Suerae is survived by her husband James (Jim) Ballard, her children Susan-Rachel Hebert (Ken) of Kissimmee, Fla.; Scott Ballard (Shelly) of Springfield, Vt. and Largo, Fla.; Geoffrey Ballard of Springfield, Vt., eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her brother Lloyd Fisk (Holly), sister-in-law Nancy Fisk, daughters-in-law Sue Ballard and Ricci Parkman, and many other cherished family members. She was predeceased by her parents, her brother Heath, and her beloved son Gregory.

The family would like to thank the doctors and staff at Springfield Hospital, Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center, the Rehabilitation Center at Mt. Ascutney, the Advent Health Hospital system in Florida, Advent Health Hospice Care of Central Florida, and Windsor at Celebration Assisted Living and Memory Care. We are also extremely grateful for the many, many friends and neighbors who helped and supported Suerae over the years.

Suerae's life will be celebrated later in Springfield, with the help of Davis Memorial Chapel. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Kezar Lake Watershed Association. Donations in Suerae's name can be sent to KLWA, PO Box 88, Lovell, ME 04051 or done online at www.kezarwatershed.org/donate.

David F. Gould 1937-2023

S. HADLEY, Mass. – David F. Gould, 86, of South Hadley, Mass., passed away on Saturday, April 1, 2023. Son of the late Lewis and Mary (Finch) Gould, he was born in Blair, Neb. on March 17, 1937. David proudly served his country as a member of the U.S. Army. He went on to earn his Master's of Divinity from Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, Calif. He led UCC congregations in Montana, eastern Washington state, Long Island, Kentucky, and Brattleboro and Bellows Falls, Vt., where he and his wife Mary Lou (deceased) lived for close to 35 years. David was involved in the local community of Bellows Falls, including ministering at the United Church of Bellows Falls, acting as town lister for the town of Rockingham, as well as being a trustee of the Rockingham Free Library.

In 2020, David moved to western Massachusetts to start a new life with his new love Marianne Waskiewicz whom he married in November, 2022 at First Church in Ludlow, Mass., where he recently became a member.

David is survived by his wife Marianne, his two children Jonathan Gould (Jennifer Small) and Carla Gould



David Gould, 1937-2023. PHOTO PROVIDED

(James Cassidy), and his sister Maureen Williams. He also leaves his grandchildren Sara and Joseph Gould – children of David's late son Eric Gould – and daughter-in-law Kim Geraghty (Chris Geraghty), and granddaughter Kate, as well as many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service for Dave will be held Saturday, April 15, 2023 at 11 a.m. at First Church of Ludlow, 859 Center St., Ludlow, Mass. Wearing brightly colored clothing is suggested for David's Celebration. Burial will be private, at the convenience of the family. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the First Church in Ludlow. For more information, please go to www.kapinosmazurfh.com.

Natalie A. Patrick, 1928-2023

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – Natalie A. Patrick, age 94, of Westminister, Vt., passed away peacefully at her home on April 3, 2023.

Natalie was born on May 25, 1928 in Randolph, Vt., the daughter of Forrest C. and Mildred (Shaw) Aikens of Bethel, Vt. She graduated from Whitcomb High School in 1945, and later graduated from the University of Vermont, studying music education. She was a gifted musician and artist.

On Sept. 28, 1951, she married Vermont State Police Lt. Roger K. Patrick of Richmond, Vt. They were happily married for 35 years, and enjoyed their home and many friends throughout the years.

Natalie was a beloved kindergarten teacher in Saxtons River for many years, and she also taught music in the district. Natalie was also employed at Kurn Hattin Homes for over 42 years. Music, art, and teaching were always a huge and happy part of her life, through which she touched many lives. She was loved by everyone who knew her. Natalie was a kind and gentle soul with a fabulous sense of humor and a wonderful smile. She enjoyed summer days at the ocean in Maine, camping, and playing her piano. Natalie became a great grandmother in December, 2022. She was blessed and overjoyed with her new twin grandchildren.



Natalie Patrick, 1928-2023. PHOTO PROVIDED

Natalie is survived by her daughter Gail (Robert), her son John (Julie), her granddaughter – her joy in life – Jill (Jeb) Interlandi, her granddaughter Justine Anderson, and her grandson Sam (Kayla) Atwood. She was predeceased by her husband Roger K. Patrick in 1986.

Graveside services will be held on April 15, 2023 at 10 a.m. at Oak Hill Cemetery in Bellows Falls, Vt. All are invited to attend. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Jada Spaulding Doyle Memorial Scholarship Fund, c/o Myriah Clark, Falls Mane Salon, Bellows Falls, Vt.

Arrangements are entrusted to the care of the Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home, located at 55 Westminister St., Bellows Falls, Vt.

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BELLOWS FALLS, VT.

United Church of Bellows Falls, UCC, 8 School St.
Worship is held on Sundays at 10 a.m. Bible Study is Wednesdays at 2 p.m.

CAVENDISH, VT.

St. James United Methodist Church, 570 Main St.
Please join us Sundays at 8:45 a.m. with Pastor John Hawkins. All are welcome. For more information, call 802-674-3443 or go to www.facebook.com/stjamesumcproctorsville.

CHESTER, VT.

Chester Baptist Church, 162 Main St.
Worship is Sundays at 10:30 a.m. For more information, including online streaming, go to www.chesterbaptist.org.

WESTMINSTER, VT.

The First Congregational Church of Westminister, 3470 US Route 5
Sunday services are at 10 a.m. in our historic church and on Zoom. For more information, call 802-518-

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

calendar

LEGAL NOTICES

APRIL 15 – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield United Methodist Church will be holding a bake sale at the Springfield farmer’s market, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at 10 Valley Street.

APRIL 17 – LUDLOW, Vt. – There will be music by Rust and Ruin from 1-3 p.m., on April 17, at the Black River Valley Senior Center, located at 10 High Street in Ludlow. Event is free of charge.

APRIL 21-22 – ACWORTH, N.H. – The Acworth Female Charitable Society sale will be held Friday, April 21, from 3– 5 p.m., and Saturday, April 22, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Church on the Hill. All sales are by donation. Drops offs for Rummage Sale may call Alva Grant at 603-835-6848. Nothing dropped off to church before 4/10. All donations

must be clean and in good condition. No electronics please. Also there will be a box for eyeglasses and frame donations.

APRIL 22 – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The Women’s Fellowship of United Church of Bellows Falls will sponsor a crock pot dinner from 5-7 p.m. The meal includes salad, bread, beverages, and dessert, as well as a variety of homemade food. There will also be gluten-free options. The United Church is located at 8 School Street in Bellows Falls. Please come in at the rear entrance. Children under 5 eat free. For all others, there is a fee for this event.

APRIL 24 – LUDLOW, Vt. – There will be free cash bingo being played from 1-3 p.m. on April 24, at the Black River Valley Senior Center, located at 10 High Street in Ludlow.

Seating is limited, and reservations are suggested. All are welcome.

SUNDAYS – 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. – 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 Parks Place, 44 School St Ext. in Bellows Falls. The program is free. For more information go to www.oa.org.

WALPOLE, N.H. – Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. in St. John’s Parish Hall, Walpole.

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 – 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.

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. – Bone Builders Class in Chester every Wednesday, 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.

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Frances Barsky leads a weekly creative writing workshop at the Rockingham Library from 1–2:30 p.m. Bring a laptop or a pen and paper.

THURSDAYS – 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.

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – On Thursdays at 6 p.m., join Lori Wright for a yoga class. Contact Lori Wright at 603-401-8123 or visit www.dgbodyworks.com for more information. Private classes are available.

FRIDAYS – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – On Fridays from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m., John Bohannon will teach Tai Chi and Qi Gong at the Rockingham Library in Bellows Falls, Vt. No special equipment or clothing is required.

SATURDAYS – LUDLOW, Vt. – Zumba

classes, Saturdays at 8 a.m. at the Spring House at Jackson Gore. All fitness levels welcome. Call 802-228-1419 for more information.

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

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – On Saturdays at 9 a.m., join Lori Wright for a yoga class. Contact Lori Wright at 603-401-8123 or visit www.dgbodyworks.com for more information. Private classes are available.

SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS LUDLOW, Vt. – Yoga classes at the Spring House at Jackson Gore. Yoga Stretch with Kathy Saturdays at 10 a.m. and Slow Flow Yoga with Lisa Sundays at 10:15 a.m. Drop in rates apply. Open to all. For details, call the Spring House at 802-228-1419 or visit www.okemo.com.

NOTICE OF WESTON DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD HEARING

Hells Peak LLC has submitted an application for a special exception to Weston’s building height bylaws at 19 Hells Peak Rd. The application will be reviewed under Section 525 and 708 of the Weston Zoning Regulations.

The Weston Development Review Board will hold a hearing on this application on May 3, 2023 starting at 5:00 PM. The hearing will be held at the Town Offices 12 Lawrence Hill Rd. Anyone interested in seeing the application, submitting written comments, or attending the meeting online should contact the Zoning Administrator at: Town of Weston P.O. Box 98, Weston Vt. 05161 or Zoning@westonvt.org.

SBW holds photo contest

KEENE, N.H. – Savings Bank of Walpole (SBW) is excited to announce a call for entries for its 2023 Community Calendar and Website Photo Contest. The contest, which began on Saturday, April 1, runs through Wednesday, May 31.

Winning photos will demonstrate a strong focus on community events and people enjoying the venues, attractions, and local businesses of New Hampshire, while highlighting the unique character and beauty of the state, especially the Monadnock Region. Chosen images will be featured

in a 2024 wall calendar, as well as on Savings Bank of Walpole’s website and social media accounts. Photos may also be selected for holiday cards and note cards.

A \$100 cash prize will be awarded for each winning photo, and contestants can submit up to a maximum of 10 entries. All submissions will be done electronically. Decisions will be based on suitability of the subject, quality of the photography, and adherence to the purpose of the contest.

“This is our fifth year holding the contest... we encourage photographers of all

skill levels to show us their local spirit by submitting entries,” says Danielle Ruffo, AVP, Community Engagement for Savings Bank of Walpole. “We appreciate the community’s involvement and look forward to another great year of impressive photos.”

All eligible entries should be submitted electronically through a dedicated link on SBW’s website. Visit www.walpolebank.com/photo-contest for complete contest rules, details, and a link to upload photos. No payment or purchase is required to enter or win.

STATE OF VERMONT

SUPERIOR COURT		PROBATE DIVISION
Windsor Unit		Docket No.: 23-PR-01631

In re ESTATE of: Stanley Brunelle

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the Creditors of: Stanley Brunelle Decedent

Date of Ascuteiny Decedent's Town of Residence

I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. **The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period.**

Dated: 4/15/23 Signature of Fiduciary
Linda Brunelle

Executor/Administrator		Mailing Address	
Linda Brunelle		c/o Parker & Ankuda P.C., P.O. Box 519	
Phone Number	Email	City, State, Zip	
802-591-1943		Springfield VT 05156	

Name of Publication: Vermont Journal - The Shopper

Publication Date: April 12, 2023

Name of Probate Court: Vermont Superior Court, Windsor County, Probate Division

Address of Probate Court: 12 The Green
Woodstock VT 05091



OFFICE OF THE SELECTBOARD
P.O. BOX 385
CHARLESTOWN, NH 03603
www.charlestown-nh.gov

Tel: (603) 826-4400
Fax: (603) 826-3709

The Town of Charlestown seeks an energetic Administrative Assistant to the Selectboard.

The Town of Charlestown has an annual operating budget of approximately \$5 million and 27 full-time employees. The Administrative Assistant acts as the primary liaison between the five member Selectboard and all personnel, including contracted services. The Administrative Assistant is the primary liaison with legal counsel and coordinates in all matters to ensure the Town is properly represented, maintains an effective working relationship with all Town boards, commissions, committees, departments and the general public; and performs all other duties as assigned by the Selectboard. For a full job description please contact the Selectboard’s Office at 603-826-4400 or visit the Town’s website at www.charlestown-nh.gov.


Candidates should have a thorough knowledge of local government in New Hampshire and the ability to plan, organize, assign, supervise, inspect and coordinate a broad range of municipal functions. Municipal management experience is highly desirable.

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume & completed application to:

Charlestown Town Office
Human Resources Department
PO Box 385
Charlestown NH 03603
Or email to Ddezan@charlestown-nh.gov.

An application may be found at www.charlestown-nh.gov or at the Town Office 233 Main St.

Position open until filled

**Town of Westminister**
P.O. BOX 147 WESTMINSTER, VT 05158
Tel. 802-722- 4524 Fax 802-722-9816

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD (DRB)
WESTMINSTER TOWN HALL
Westminster, Vermont

Legal Notice

The Westminister Development Review Board will meet at 6:30 pm on **Monday, May 1, 2023** to consider the following:

Application # 23-30 Application # 23-30 Robert Bursky (Owner & Applicant) property located at **1929 Back Westminister Rd.** The Applicant is requesting a minor subdivision. Application will be reviewed under **Section 311 Site Plan Review; Section 446 Residential District; Section 447 Rural Residential District; and Article VIII Subdivision of Land (Minor Subdivision)** of the adopted 2017 Zoning Bylaws.

Application # 23-31 Application # 23-31 Kissell Farm Revocable Trust (Applicant) property located at **508 Pine Banks Rd.** The Applicant is requesting a Minor Subdivision/Boundary Line Adjustment. Application will be reviewed under **Section 311 Site Plan Review; Section 447 Rural Residential District; Article X Agricultural Land Overlay District (Partial) and Article VIII Subdivision of Land (Minor Subdivision)** of the adopted 2017 Zoning Bylaws.

Application # 23-32 Application # 23-32 Isabell Logan & John MacArthur (Owners & Applicants) property located at **110 Arnof Way.** The applicants are requesting a Change of Use – adding a Home Business to the One-Family Dwelling. Application will be reviewed under **Section 311 Site Plan Review; Section 448 Resource Conservation District; and Section 215 Zoning Permit Procedure** of the adopted 2017 Zoning Bylaws.

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICE
OF INTENT TO APPLY HERBICIDES
RIGHT-OF-WAY MAINTENANCE

To prevent safety hazards and the interruption of electric service, National Grid is obligated to maintain its rights-of-way and carefully control the growth of certain tree species under transmission lines. The most effective method of accomplishing this is selective herbicide treatment. The herbicides that are used have been registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Certified and experienced applicators will apply the treatments with handheld tools. A permit has been applied for through the Secretary of Agriculture by National Grid for the purpose of making a selective ground-based treatment of the following herbicides: Garlon 4 Ultra (Triclopyr); Krenite S (Ammonium salt of Fosamine); Escort XP (Metsulfuron Methyl); Rodeo (Isopropylamine Salt of Glyphosate); or Polaris (Isopropylamine salt of Imazapyr) on its rights-of-way in the following towns:

Town:	Right-of-Ways:
Guilford	1621
Hartford	1830
Vernon	1601, 1621
Wilmington	1835

The treatment will start on or about June 19, 2023.

National Grid uses GIS based topographic maps to locate public water supplies, which will be avoided. Vermont regulations require National Grid to warn residents to protect private water supplies and environmentally sensitive areas. It is the responsibility of the residents to notify the Company contact person of the existence of private water supplies or other environmentally sensitive areas located within 100 feet of the right-of-way.

Landowners with questions regarding private water supplies on the Company’s rights-of-way maintenance program should contact:

Marilaire Rigby
National Grid
939 Southbridge Street
Worcester, MA 01610
Telephone: (781) 290-8310 or marilaire.rigby@nationalgrid.com

Residents who wish to submit comments regarding this vegetation management treatment should contact:

Vermont Department of Agriculture
State Office Building, 116 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05602
Telephone: (802) 828-2431

LEGAL NOTICES

classifieds

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.

FOR SALE

LUDLOW/ANDOVER, Vt. -

Firewood for sale! Cut to order. Please call for current pricing. 802-875-2076.

GUNS WANTED

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



HELP WANTED

CHESTER, Vt. - Search reopened; busy dental office seeks part-time receptionist to join our team. Must have outstanding telephone and interpersonal skills and basic computer literacy. This is a flexible position 20-30 hours per week. Previous medical/dental office experience preferred. Please send letter of interest and resume to: info@drchristopherfauver.com attn: hiring manager.

ASCUTNEY, Vt. - Full time mechanic's helper/laborer. Call 603-381-0929.

YARD SALE

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Pre Moving Barn Sale Rain or Shine April 14-16, from 8 am - 4 pm. 14 Webb Terrace. Records, CD's, 45's, Books, Jewelry, Dishes, X-Mas Village, Games, Tools, Small Appliances, Outdoor Furniture, Canning Jars, Soap Molds, Air Conditioners.

TOWN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT CAVENDISH, VERMONT

The Town of Cavendish has an immediate opening for a full-time Highway Department crew member.

This position has a competitive wage and excellent benefits package. Applicants are required to have current CDL, good driving and work records and must be in good physical health. Solid experience in construction and heavy equipment operation, including dump truck operation, is essential. This is a permanent position with retirement plan. A comprehensive job description is available to serious applicants.

Applications, resumes and inquiries should be directed to:
Cavendish Select Board
Town of Cavendish Municipal Building
37 High Street, P.O. Box 126
Cavendish, Vermont 05142
(802) 226-7291
Cavendish is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Drug Take-Back Day slated for April 22

REGION - On Saturday, April 22, the Windsor County Sheriff's Office, local and state law enforcement agencies, and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will host a Take-Back Day event, which is free and anonymous, no questions asked, with drop-off sites located throughout Windsor County.

Newly appointed Windsor County Sheriff Ryan Palmer shares, "this is a tremendous opportunity to get unwanted medication out of people's homes and keeping it from falling into the wrong hands. We are incredibly grateful to be participating in such an impactful program."

Supported by public health coalitions, Take-Back Day aims to prevent prescription drug abuse, a growing problem in the U.S. that claims lives through

overdoses and accidental poisonings.

Windsor County's efforts align with the Vermont Department of Health's "Do Your Part" campaign - asking residents to safely use, store, and properly dispose of any unused or expired medications.

Residents participating in Drug Take-Back on April 22 have the opportunity to learn more about permanent collection such as locations of drop boxes, hours of operation, and what medication types are accepted.

The following police departments in Windsor County will serve as drop-off sites on Take-Back Day on Saturday, April 22, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.: Chester, Hartford, Ludlow, Norwich, Royalton, Springfield, Windsor, and Woodstock. In addition, Weathersfield Transfer Station will

host a site (operated by the Weathersfield Police Department).

Powders and patches are accepted in addition to pills and capsules. Medication return venues are supported in part by the Green Peak Alliance, a regional network

that promotes healthy communities in east central Vermont.

For more information about Take-Back Day, visit www.dea.gov or call the Windsor County Sheriff's Department at 802-457-5211.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE ANDOVER ZONING REGULATION AMENDMENTS

Notice is hereby given to property owners of the Town of Andover, Vermont that the Andover Select Board will hold a hearing on April 24, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at the Andover Town Hall to receive public comments on proposed amendments to the Andover Zoning Regulations which establish a process and standards for regulating short-term rentals. A copy of the amended regulations is available at www.andovervt.org or by emailing clerk@vermontel.net Dated at Andover, Vermont this 6th day of April, 2023.

Jeanette Haight
Andover Town Clerk

TOWN & VILLAGE OF LUDLOW, VERMONT PLANNING & ZONING ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Town of Ludlow Planning & Zoning Department has an immediate opening for the position of Administrative Assistant to the Planning and Zoning Department. This is a part-time position, working 25-30 hours per week under the general direction of the Zoning Administrator.

Principal duties include a variety of administrative, clerical and professional work with a degree of difficulty, responsibility and confidentiality. Candidate will assist the Director to carry out planning and zoning functions and other related tasks, must possess excellent computer and typing skills and have the ability to establish and maintain working relationships with employees and the general public.

Minimum qualifications include an Associate's Degree in secretarial or business administration with three-years' experience in secretarial and administrative work or equivalent work/life experience.

Interested candidates should submit a Town employment application available at the Ludlow Town Office, 37 Depot Street, Ludlow, VT 05149 or online at www.ludlow.vt.us and send to tmanager@tds.net. Applications will be accepted until position is filled. The Town & Village of Ludlow is an equal opportunity employer.

TOWN & VILLAGE OF LUDLOW, VERMONT PLANNING COMMISSION RECORDING SECRETARY

The Town of Ludlow Planning Commission has an opening for the position of Recording Secretary for their meetings. This is a part-time position working 1-2 hours per month under the general direction of the Municipal Manager.

Principal duties include attending monthly Planning Commission meetings, taking notes, recording the meeting, preparing meeting minutes and forwarding minutes to Municipal Office for posting. Candidate will be able to work independently. The successful candidate will have typing skills, some computer knowledge, and the ability to work well with others in a meeting environment. This position pays a stipend of \$126.00 per attended meeting.

Interested candidates should submit a Town employment application available at the Ludlow Town Office, 37 Depot Street, Ludlow, VT 05149 or online at www.ludlow.vt.us and send to tmanager@tds.net. Applications will be accepted until position is filled. The Town & Village of Ludlow is an equal opportunity employer.

TOWN/VILLAGE OF LUDLOW, VERMONT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/ OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

The Town of Ludlow invites applications for the position of Administrative Assistant/Operation Director. This is a full-time, year-round position. Principal duties include accounting functions for the municipality with accounts payable, accounts receivable, water/wastewater billing and receivables, payroll and budgeting. Must be organized and able to communicate effectively in written and oral form. Proficiency with Microsoft Excel and Word is a must, experience with the NEMRC system a plus. Minimum qualifications include an Associates Degree in accounting/finance or similar work related experience.

Send application or resume to the Municipal Office or email to tmanager@tds.net. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled: Ludlow Municipal Office, PO Box 359, Ludlow, VT, 05149. (802)228-2841.

Position provides an excellent wage (DOE), comprehensive Municipal benefits, including full Health & Pension Plan. The Town of Ludlow is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT SPECIAL SERVICES

The Springfield School District in Springfield, VT is currently seeking a full time Administrative Assistant to the Director of Special Services. The position is responsible for possessing or gaining general knowledge of Special Education and 504 processes to assure the efficient and smooth operation of all activities within the Special Services Department.

To apply, go to: www.schoolspring.com
Contact: Kelly Ryan 802-885-5122

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 22 mins.

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

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 802-885-7111
Open Wed. 11-5, Fri. 11-7, Sat. 11-5

The Artist's Touch Open Wall Show

Crossing Boundaries in Thread and Paint
Fiber Art Show by Julie Crabtree

4/15 Create a Spring Mandala with Julie Crabtree

4/28 & 29 Machine Stitchery Landscape with Julie

June 3 Spring Landscape in Watercolor with Rob O'Brien

gallery.vault.org
(04/26/23 - TFN - 13)

Builders/Contractors

APEX VENTURES, LLC - HOUSE PAINTING & PROPERTY SERVICES

Booking exterior painting for the Spring + Summer. Houses, decks, porches, garages + barns. Also offering Commercial + Residential Cleaning Services + Lawn Care with an Electric Push Mower. Email adam@apexventures.one for a free quote. (05/10/23 - 13)

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We handle a variety of projects, from home repairs, restorations on up to full renovations, and new construction too. Our clients can expect professionalism, proficiency, customer care, and quality. Call or email today at 802-376-3275 edwin.mortensen@gmail.com.

Follow us on Instagram @nedthehammer
(11/22/23 - 52)

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. (05/14/23 - 13)

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Kitchens, Additions, and Remodels. Finish Carpentry and Cabinet Work. Property Maintenance. Fully Insured, Free Estimates.

Like us on FACEBOOK and INSTAGRAM!
www.newenglandhomebuildingandremodel.com
(11/22/23 - 52)

Campground

CATON PLACE CAMPGROUND

2419 EAST ROAD, CAVENDISH VERMONT
SEASONAL SITES AVAILABLE FOR 2023! REASONABLE RATES!
802-226-7767, Catonplacecamp@gmail.com.

Full hook up sites, pull thru, and tent sites. Views of Okemo! Large Private Sites!
(05/10/23 - 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.
(08/11/23 - TFN - 52)

Cleanouts

A BARE CLEANING

We do cleanouts of every sort, small and large. One room to entire estates. Free estimates, fully insured, lots of references. Call Reg at 802-376-4159. (08/09/23 - 26)

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 stonemart49@gmail.com or visit drcstonedesign.com. (05/24/23 - 13)

Okemo Valley TV

Watch on TV: Community Channel: Comcast 1076 & VTel 166 Education / Gov't Channel: Comcast 1086 / VTel 167

Watch Online: OKEMOVALLEY.TV (live streams & video-on-demand) & YOUTUBE

Okemo Valley TV now has its own app on all of the main streaming platforms! Apple TV, Roku, Amazon Fire TV, Google Play, and mobile (iOS & Android)
(07/05/23 - TFN - 13)

entertainment

LEGAL NOTICES

Weathersfield School adults comedy show —

WEATHERSFIELD, Vt. — The Weathersfield School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) will be hosting its first adults-only comedy fundraising event on April 20. The fundraising event will begin with doors opening at 6 p.m. for fun, raffles, giveaways, and concessions, at the Windsor High School Auditorium.

This show will feature headliner Kelly MacFarland. As an experienced stand-up comedian, Kelly has an extensive and well-rounded resume, including comedy clubs, theaters, colleges, festivals, television appearances, and entertaining U.S. troops overseas. Kelly was first runner up in the Boston Comedy Festival and voted Best of the Fest at the Aspen Rooftop Comedy Festival. Kelly has two albums available on iTunes, Amazon, and

SiriusXM radio. She has performed at the Oddball Comedy Festival, the Comedy Stage at Boston Calling Music Festival, Lucille Ball Comedy Festival – National Comedy Center, and has been a featured headliner for the Boston Women in Comedy Festival since inception. Kelly has appeared on Stand Up in Stilettoes on the TV Guide Channel, The Today Show, The View, Comedy Central, NBC's Last Comic Standing, and AXS Gotham Comedy LIVE. Kelly won first place in the professional category of the 2016 Ladies of Laughter.

The show will also feature Dan Crohn. Dan has been performing stand up comedy in and around Boston for years. His jokes can be heard on XM Radio and he has been a guest on the popular podcast "WTF

with Marc Maron." A semi-finalist in the Boston Comedy Festival and the Laughing Skull Festival, Dan's stories of family and friends have entertained audiences from all over the country. Dan was named one of the top 100 comics for Season 9 of Last Comic Standing. His former day job of teaching fourth graders has provided him with endless amounts of material. He has wanted to be a comedian since the age of 8, when he stumbled upon his father's Henny Youngman records.

To order tickets visit www.comedy-night-2023.cheddarup.com.

Seeking additional vendors and sponsors for Best of Vermont Festival —

LUDLOW, Vt. — The Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce celebrates the third annual Best of Vermont Summer Festival on Saturday, Aug. 26, from noon - 7 p.m., and Sunday, Aug. 27, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. in Ludlow, Vt.

William Raveis Vermont Properties of Ludlow is the festival presenting sponsor again this year. Other sponsors are in process and will continue to be listed on the chamber's special festival website www.yourplaceinvermont.com/best-of-vermont-summer-festival.

The chamber's festival committee is seeking additional sponsors, vendors, and volunteers. They are also seeking special event sponsors for other special festival activities. Sponsor and vendor forms are now available on the festival website page. To learn more, to go www.yourplaceinvermont.com/sponsorships for sponsorships, or www.yourplaceinvermont.com/vendors for vendors.

Discounts will be given to participating Okemo Valley Chamber Members, and returning vendors will also be given preferential locations.

Sponsors or vendors who are not yet members of the Okemo Valley Chamber who are interested may join online at www.yourplaceinvermont.com/online-application.

This year's festival is co-chaired by Scott Duffy of Rockledge Farm Woodworks, and Anna Tumber of Okemo Mountain Resort. Volunteers are needed for the festival committee as well as for festival set up, break down, and during the event. Those interested

in participating may also contact Chamber Director Carol directly by emailing her at clighthall@yourplaceinvermont.com.

The Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce is a nonprofit, member-driven association, and the voice of more than 300 businesses and the communities of 12 towns and villages in south central Vermont along the Vermont Scenic Route 100 Byway, surrounded by Okemo, Ascutney, and Magic Mountains. OVRCC provides advocacy, support, and unified regional marketing to promote and enhance businesses in the region, as well as the four-season economy.

For more information contact Carol Lighthall, executive director, Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce at clighthall@yourplaceinvermont.com or 802-228-5830.

Walpole Valley Tire



Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 - 5:00 • Saturday 8:00 - Noon
Route 12 • Walpole, NH • 603-445-2060

See your local
G&E News
IN OUR ARTS &
ENTERTAINMENT
SECTION

802-228-3600

TOWN OF CHESTER POLICE LIEUTENANT

The Town of Chester is seeking an experienced law enforcement individual to serve as Police Lieutenant. This person will have a strong desire to provide the highest quality police services to the department and to the community. The Chester Police Department serves a population of approximately 3,144 residents and covers an area of approximately 56 square miles.

The Lieutenant is responsible for immediate supervision and control of all Department personnel and is personally responsible for their efficiency and effectiveness. The Lieutenant is second in command of the Department and is subject to the direction and control of the Chief. The applicant must possess strong leadership and administrative abilities with ten (10) years minimum full time law enforcement experience. Consideration will be given to total years of service in as much as they translate into evident knowledge and experience. Preference will be given to having previously held the rank of Sergeant.

Chester offers a competitive starting wage with shift differential, as well as an excellent benefit's package including participation in VMERS Group C retirement, MVP health insurance, paid sick time, vacation time, and personal time. Uniforms and police equipment are provided. Visit www.chestervt.gov/employment-opportunities for full requirements and a more detailed job description. Submit a resume to:
Town of Chester
ATTN: Chief Thomas Williams
P.O. Box 370
Chester, VT 05143
Interested applicants can also contact the Chester Police Department at (802) 875-2035 for more information. The Town of Chester is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Town of Chester is seeking a self-driven organized Administrative Assistant for the Police Department. The Administrative Assistant performs various administrative duties including general secretarial work in the Office of the Chief of Police. General office duties include typing, filing, and maintenance of records. The Administrative Secretary coordinates the department of criminal justice correspondence with prosecutors, courts and other agencies. This position requires a person with exceptional organizational skills. Confidentiality is vital to this position as well.

The person in this position works in an office environment with a widely varying workload. They must deal with a highly diverse group of people in stressful situations. Being able to coordinate very different tasks in the same day is a must. This person will be required to work with police specific computer systems where training and certifications will be mandatory. An administrative background is required with priority given to someone with experience working for a Police Department.

Chester offers a competitive starting wage, as well as an excellent benefit's package including participation in VMERS Group C retirement, MVP health insurance, paid sick time, vacation time, and personal time.

Visit www.chestervt.gov/employment-opportunities for full requirements and a more detailed job description. Submit a resume to:
Town of Chester
ATTN: Chief Thomas Williams
P.O. Box 370
Chester, VT 05143
Interested applicants can also contact the Chester Police Department at (802) 875-2035 for more information. The Town of Chester is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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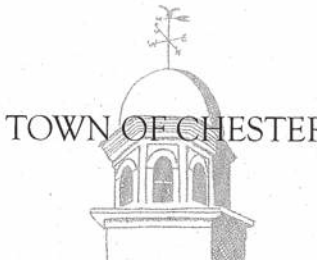
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TOWN OF CHESTER

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Chester, VT 05143

(802) 875-2173
Fax (802) 875-2237

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
YOSEMITE FIRE HOUSE
WINDOW and DOOR RESTORATION**

The Town of Chester is seeking qualified bidders who are proficient in working with historic windows and doors. The Town of Chester has been awarded a Historic Preservation Grant from the Division of Historic Preservation for the State of Vermont. These grant funds were obtained for the purpose of conserving and restoring 10 large 6-over-6 double hung windows, two 2-over-2 windows, one 1-over-1 window and two single light fixed windows, to include painting of all wood surfaces as well as the installation of historically compatible storm windows.

This project also includes restoration of a sliding vehicle door as well as the installation of a new hinged door located behind the sliding vehicle door. In addition, restoration or replacement of a paneled wood door and an appropriate wood storm door. Architectural renderings will be supplied at the mandatory site visit.

Due to the use of Historic Preservation funds, all work will be done with the historic nature of the Yosemite Fire House in mind. If necessary, traditional materials should be replaced in kind with materials that match the original and are joined in the same or a similar way. In addition, all work will need to comply with the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for Rehabilitation*.

There will be a mandatory site visit held at the Yosemite Fire House, 716 Depot Street, Chester, at 9:30 a.m. on April 19, 2023. Please contact Julie Hance at (802) 875-2173 or julie.hance@chestervt.gov for a copy of the Bid Specifications.

Any Contractor selected must be able to provide a Certificate of Insurance for General Liability and Property Damage and must identify the State of Vermont as an additional insured. Said policy shall have limits no less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence, \$1,000,000 General Aggregate, \$1,000,000 Products/Completed Operation Aggregate and \$50,000 Fire/Legal/Liability. In addition, any Contractor selected must provide proof of Workers Compensation Insurance and Automotive Liability Insurance.

All bids should be submitted in a sealed envelope labeled "Yosemite Fire House Window and Door Restoration" and should be forwarded to the Town Manager's Office, 556 Elm Street (P.O. Box 370) Chester, VT 05143, on or before **12:00 noon on Friday, May 19, 2023.**

Rani Arbo & Daisy Mayhem at Next Stage —

PUTNEY, Vt. — Next Stage Arts Project and Twilight Music present New England's acclaimed folk/roots quartet Rani Arbo & Daisy Mayhem at Next Stage on Saturday, April 15, at 7:30 p.m.

Rani Arbo & Daisy Mayhem feature four-part vocal harmonies, indelible songs, fiddle, acoustic and electric guitars, bass, and a homemade percussion

kit of cardboard boxes, tin cans, caulk tubes, packing-tape tambourines, bottle-cap rattles, Mongolian jaw harps, and a vinyl suitcase. Over the past 20 years, the quartet has toured its uplifting, healing performances to concert halls, festivals, and residency engagements across North America, and has released seven CDs on Signature Sounds. From the Newport Folk Festival to California World Music Festival and beyond, this band's steadfast brew of wit, camaraderie, and musicality leaves audiences everywhere humming and hopeful, spirits renewed.

In the lineage of string

bands who blur the boundaries of American roots music, Rani, Andrew Kinsey, Anand Nayak, and Scott Kessel have always been standard-bearers, with a particular knack for pairing words and music. From bluegrass barnstormers to sultry swing, old-time gospel to bluesy folk-rock, they consistently turn in lush arrangements of original songs alongside artful re-workings of a melange of music.

Next Stage is located at 15 Kimball Hill in downtown Putney, Vt. Advance tickets and information are available at www.nextstagearts.org, or call 802-387-0102.

Michael Freed-Thall at Rockingham Library —

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. — Pick up a copy of "Horodno Burning," a book written by Vermont author Michael Freed-Thall, at Rockingham

Library's front desk today, then join the discussion with the author in person on Thursday, May 18, at 6 p.m.

In the nineteenth-century Russian Empire's Pale of Settlement, Esther Leving, a brilliant young bibliophile, chafes at male dominance, religious dogma, and antisemitism. Bernard Garfinkle, a religious Jew and the son of a vodka distiller, hides a shameful secret—in a culture that worships books, he can't read. Despite their differences, they fall in love. Esther teaches Bernard to read, and he, in turn, builds her a bookshop. They start a family, but when ferocious pogroms target Russian Jews, they must confront violent oppression.

Vermont author Michael Freed-Thall will read from this work, share his research about the region's Jewish history, and answer questions about the novel-writing process. "Horodno Burning" was recently selected as a finalist in the Independent Publishers of New England Book Awards of 2022, and is well-loved by Rockingham Library's program coordinator Anne Dempsey. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.rockinghamlibrary.org, email programming@rockinghamlibrary.org, call the library at 802-463-4270, or stop by the library at 65 Westminster St. in Bellows Falls, Vt.

arts & entertainment

Toussaint St. Negritude at Stage 33

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Drawing from his life and repertoire as an Afrofuturist, oro-shamanic, Black gay poet, and jazz bass clarinetist, Toussaint St. Negritude presents a dynamic solo performance of liberational truth-telling, collaboratively pairing the call of his poetry with the intuitive responses of the bass clarinet and additional instrumentation. Along with the music and poetry, Toussaint further extends the experience visually with his own hand-made hats and accompanying attire. As is the tradition of all black and queer artistry, Toussaint St. Negritude summons the soul to be held, heard and seen.

Former poet laureate of Belfast, Maine, poet, bass clarinetist, and composer Toussaint St. Negritude conjures whole liberations

in full tempo. U.S. poet laureate Gwendolyn Brooks described his work as “full of sweet sounds and surprises.” Originally from San Francisco, Toussaint has lived and broadly thrived across the African diaspora, from the sacred mountains of Haiti, to the Coltrane District of North Philadelphia. He, along with bassist Gahlord Dewald, is the leader of the band Jaguar Stereo!, a free-form ensemble of his own poetry and improvisational jazz, and his works have been widely published and recorded for over 40 years. On an alpine sanctuary facing east, Toussaint St. Negritude continues to thrive in the farthest elevations of Vermont’s Northeast Kingdom.

Tickets can be purchased in advance or at the door at Stage 33 Live, 33 Bridge Street in Bellows Falls, Vt.,

on Sunday, May 7, 2023, at 7 p.m. There will be no opener, so plan on a timely arrival. Seating is limited. This event will be recorded and filmed.

The Covid protocol will be the guidelines in effect in the community on show day; currently the guidance is that masks are optional, which may change without notice. Please do not attend if experiencing respiratory virus symptoms. A pair of high-capacity air purifiers will be running.

Stage 33 Live is a casual and intimate industrial-rustic listening room in a former factory, hosting local, regional, and national performances and presentations of original material. No bar or kitchen, the stage is the mission. Coffee, soda, juice, water and snacks are available by donation. More information about the non-

profit, all-volunteer project, and this and other upcoming events online at www.stage33live.com.

Stage 33 Live gratefully acknowledges the help of so many individuals without whom none of this would be happening, and institutional support this season from The Island Corporation, the Vermont Arts Council, the Bellows Falls Opera House, the Rockingham Arts & Museum Project, and WOOL-FM that helped fund improvements and maintenance, and generally smooth out a lot of the rough edges. Stage 33 Live is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, and all donations are deductible to the fullest extent. Volunteers run the thing from stem to stern.

“April Showers and Silken Flowers”

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – “April Showers and Silken Flowers” is a special show at Gallery at the VAULT on display until April 28. Bring spring to your wardrobe with this colorful collection of silk scarves from guest artist Terri Flowers.

Terri brings this latest selection of original, hand painted designs from her studio in Lincolnshire, England.

Returning after a five-year absence, the scarves include a range of designs inspired by an English country garden. Terri’s work is on display in galleries around the

United Kingdom, and now exclusively available at the VAULT in Springfield. For more information, please call Gallery at the VAULT at 802-885-7111, email galleryvault@vermontel.net, or visit our web page www.galleryvault.org. The gallery is located at 68 Main St. in Springfield. We are open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Fridays from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.



“The Artist’s Touch”

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Gallery at the VAULT is proud to present a new open wall show “The Artist’s Touch” on display until May 10. This show includes beautiful paintings, photographs, fiber art, figure sculpture, paper sculpture, designs on wood, wood burned animal coasters, and amethyst geode dice (think Dungeons and Dragons).

We are amazed at the diversity and talent of our neighbors and friends



Jasper National Park by Tomas Kohn.

PHOTO PROVIDED

around Springfield. This is a fun show. Thank you to all the participants. “The Art-

ist’s Touch” is a non-juried show for any artists living in a 30 mile radius of Spring-

field.

For more information, please call 802-885-7111, email galleryvault@vermontel.net, or go online at www.galleryvault.org. The gallery is located at 68 Main Street, in Springfield. We are open Wednesday and Saturday 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Friday 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

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Weston Theater Company announces Season 87

WESTON, Vt. – Susanna Gellert, Executive Artistic Director of Weston Theater Company, announces the 87th season of Vermont’s oldest, award-winning professional theater.

The season begins with the free Weston Young Company production of “You’re A Good Man, Charlie Brown,” based on the “Peanuts” comic strip by Charles Schulz, with music, book, and lyrics by Clark Gesner. Performances will run June 22 through July 9.

Opening at The Playhouse is a crowd pleaser that really rocks, “Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story,” written by Alan Janes. Performances will run June 28 through July 16.

First at Walker Farm is the award-winning and critically acclaimed play exploring how the United States Constitution has shaped the country and its people, “What The Constitution Means To Me,” by Heidi Schreck, and starring Broadway veteran and Weston favorite, Susan Haefner (“Fun Home,” “Tenderly”). Performances will run July 12 through July 30.

In August, a celebrated classic of stage and screen, “Singin’ In The Rain,” takes to The Playhouse stage, featuring screenplay by Betty Comden and Adolph

Green, and songs by Nacio Herb Brown and Arthur Freed. Performances will run Aug. 3 through Aug. 20.

Back at Walker Farm in late August, Weston presents “The Porch On Windy Hill,” “a new play with old music,” written by Sherry Stregack Lutken, Lisa Helmi Johanson, Morgan Morse, and David M. Lutken. Performances will run Aug. 16 through Sept. 3.

Season 87 closes in the fall at Walker Farm with an acclaimed drama where jazz often speaks louder than words, “Let There Be Love,” by Kwame Kwei-Armah. Performances will run Oct. 4 through Oct. 22.

Get the best seats and choose the price that

works for you with a 2023 “Pick-Your-Price” season subscription. Single ticket sales will be available online and by calling the Weston Box Office at 802-824-5288 beginning April 19. Child and student tickets are available, and a limited quantity of discounted VTix for Vermont residents are available with a Vermont ID.

Learn more online at www.westontheater.org.

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Listening Circles on Earth Day

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Earth Day is a time of hope for our planet and all life it supports. Yet, many of us have feelings related to the climate situation, which endangers the living systems on earth. One way to acknowledge and share those feelings is by using the idea of a listening circle.

On April 22, Earth Day, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., there will be three listening circles offered at Hetty Green Park in Bellows Falls, by Laurel Green. Listening circles are free and open to the public.

At 10 a.m., grandparents will consider the question “how has climate change affected you and your family?” At 11 a.m., new residents in Rockingham share actions they have taken, and plan to take, because of the climate situation. This will be followed at 12:30 p.m. by young

people and young adults addressing climate change in their lives.

Simply talking about our feelings can take the sting out of them. In ordinary conversations, we are often waiting for a chance to start talking. In listening circles, everyone gets a turn for the same length of time, including the leader. This means we can relax and listen wholeheartedly, knowing our turn will come. Sharing our feelings and listening to others helps us realize we are not alone.

Listening circles use a simple process. In each person's turn, they can talk about whatever they need to, while others listen without interruption or judgment. Being listened to with full attention frees our minds, and we tend to see things more clearly, including the reality about ourselves, others, and the world

around us. In listening circles, we follow guidelines to make them safe.

There will be a table with more information about listening circles, and a number of other organizations which are taking action on environmental issues. Rockingham Energy Committee's Electric Vehicle Showcase will also take place.

For more information, call Laurel at 802-289-4464.

Lake monitors needed in Windsor County

REGION – Do you enjoy being on the water? If you own a small paddle-powered or motor-powered boat, and can commit to getting out on your lake or pond once every 10 days between Memorial Day and Labor Day, then being a lake monitor could be for you.

Volunteers from the Black River Action Team will be tackling lakes and ponds around Windsor

County, but there are several still in need of a person to take on the role of lake monitor. All training and equipment are provided. All that's required is your enthusiasm for healthy water, and an hour or so every 10 days. Water temperature and clarity data, as well as visual observations, will be collected during each visit, and samples will be collected and need to be delivered to a prearranged drop site in a timely manner.

The water bodies in need are Knapp Brook Pond Number One and Knapp Brook Pond Number Two in Ascutney, Stoughton Pond in Weathersfield, and Amherst Lake in Plymouth.

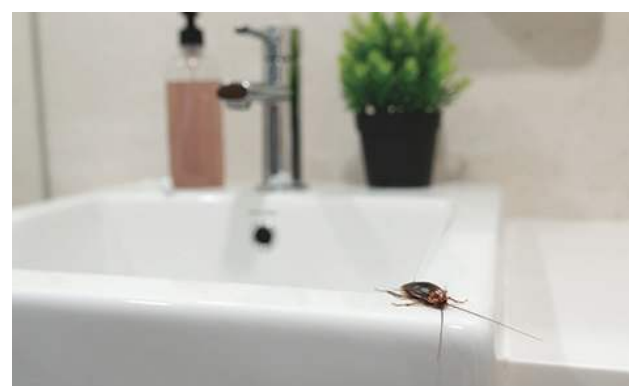
To learn more or to volunteer, please contact B.R.A.T. Director Kelly Stettner right away at blackrivercleanup@gmail.com, or by leaving your contact information at 802-738-0456.

Three ways to prep your home for bug season –

StatePoint – It can be tempting to think that bugs simply disappear in the cooler months. The truth is that many bug species have evolved to survive all year long, sometimes hiding in the warm nooks and cran-

nies in and around homes. Others go into a hibernation-like state.

“Bugs can be a lot smarter and more resilient than you may realize. Even if you don't see household pests right now, some may still be waiting in your home



Get your home ready, inside and out, for bug season. STOCK PHOTO

for those first warm days to signal them to become active, search for food, and find a mate,” says Emma Klingman, senior products research at Zevo, a maker of pest control products with naturally-inspired ingredients you can feel good about.

To prep your home for bug season and outsmart pests, follow these three steps:

1. Tidy up: Household pests love snacking just as much as people do, but you don't need to play host to them. After meals, wipe down tables, counters, and other kitchen surfaces. Be sure to regularly sweep and vacuum crumbs, as well as mop up to eliminate sticky food residue. Keep a tightly-fitting lid on your garbage bin, and rinse cans and jars before recycling them.

2. Be ready: Even an immaculate home will face pest problems at some

point. That's why it is important to have tools on hand to catch a problem early, before it becomes a much bigger one. Use bug sprays to target and shut down biological pathways found in insects, not in people or pets. It's also smart to use traps in potential problem areas, such as near trash cans and fruit bowls, and near toilet bowls and drains.

3. Safeguard the yard: Defending your yard from pesky pests will not only improve the comfort of your home's outdoor spaces, it will help prevent insects from finding their way indoors. Be sure to eliminate standing water by properly tending to your lawn, and by periodically clearing downspouts of debris. Any water feature in your garden should use running water. If you have a patio or deck, consider screening it in. If you don't love the look of screened walls, installing ceiling fans can be an effective alternative. Run the fans whenever you entertain to deter unwanted guests, such as mosquitos, from crashing the party.

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