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Potash Brook Road residents share concerns

BY NICK GIBERTI
The Vermont Journal

CHESTER, Vt. – Citizens' comments at the April 5 Chester Selectboard meeting began with Chester resident Jerry Gleason, who followed up on a question he had asked the board before concerning hazardous waste traveling through Chester by rail. Gleason stated that his concerns stemmed from the train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio. Board Chair Arne Jonynas informed Gleason that, when the board had requested information from the railroad company about the cargo being carried on the rail cars, they had been told that "because of competition," this information could not be disclosed, though Jonynas did not find this answer satisfactory. Town Manager Julie Hance told Gleason that the fire chief had requested railroad inspection records from the state, but had not yet heard back, with assurances that she would pursue the matter further.

The board then provided updates on previously tabled topics, including the quarry discussed at the last meeting. Hance told those present that she would be meeting with the town's attorney to discuss a draft determination on local zoning, after which the document would be made public. It was also noted that the police advisory committee formed at the previous selectboard meeting would hold its first meeting on April 17.

Attention then turned to the fourth item on the meeting agenda, "discussion with neighbors of West Chester/Potash Brook Road area." At that point, many residents of the area in question approached the microphone, or spoke via Zoom, detailing their frequent, often frightening encounters, over a period of more than five years, with a person who lives in their neighborhood, described variously as having "mental issues" and having been "diagnosed with schizophrenia." Several people described incidents in which the individual broke into their homes, verbally threatened them, or menaced their children on their own property.

A major theme of this discussion was the fact that,

while this person has been referred to mental health treatment on multiple occasions over the past several years, he continues to return to his residence, and his behavior remains the same. "We have seen time and time again that, once he's out of supervised care, he stops taking his medications, and he becomes criminally inappropriate," said neighborhood resident Tim Roper, detailing the difficulties he and others have had with the individual. While the residents were of course concerned with their own safety, and the safety of their families, all of them expressed concern for the safety of the person in question as well. "I'm afraid that...he's going to walk into the wrong house, and he's going to come to harm. I wouldn't want to see that either," Roper stated.

Present at the meeting via Zoom was Vermont Department of Mental Health Commissioner Emily Hawes, who responded to residents' concerns about the fact that the mental health system in Vermont appeared, in their view, to be failing both themselves and those with mental health issues. While Hawes expressed sympathy, she explained that Vermont statute requires those being treated for mental health concerns to be treated in the "least restrictive setting" possible. "I think that that's where we find our biggest challenge, is when there are different views around what's least restrictive," Hawes opined. Selectboard member Lee Gustafson questioned Hawes, asking "at what point do the rights of the public outweigh the rights of the individual?"

Also present was Vermont Agency of Human Services Springfield District Field Services Director Sue Graff, who told residents that she is "a resource, in these situations, for your community," and could ensure that information she was given by community members would make it to the necessary parties, in order to try and resolve the community's ongoing issue.

Ultimately, the selectboard admitted their limited authority with regard to the issue, but wanted to bring the residents together to be heard by the relevant

agencies and officials, in order to hopefully move forward in a way which could not only resolve the immediate issues of the residents of Potash Brook Road, but also lead to meaningful change in mental health treatment at the state level.

The selectboard then shifted their focus to reviewing their conflict of interest policy. Jonynas confronted newly elected board member Peter Hudkins, noting that, in violation of the policy, Hudkins was currently serving on both the selectboard and the planning commission. Hudkins took exception to this, explaining, "one of the things that I ran for this board on was the lack of communication...the selectboard is not communicating with any of the other boards. If you look at it, it's been an ongoing problem for at least the last eight years."

This discrepancy led to significant back-and-forth between the board members, and several citizens present, concerning the policy, its effect on communication between the various governing bodies of Chester, and potential solutions. Jonynas was adamant that the boards remain separate, and that the conflict of interest policy remain as-is. Several solutions were put forth, including open meetings which would bring together all members of the selectboard, planning commission, and developmental review board (DRB), and the possibility of having individual selectboard members act as delegates to the planning commission and the DRB. The discussion resolved with Hudkins assuring the board that he would hand in his resignation from the planning commission.

Annual appointments were then made, and liquor licenses and entertainment permits were approved. The Chester Selectboard meets on the first and third Wednesday of the month, at 6:30 p.m., at the Chester Town Hall, located at 556 Elm Street in Chester.



Easter basket winners

LUDLOW, 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

Londonderry housing study results

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – The Town of Londonderry announced the release of its housing needs assessment study. Initiated last fall, the study includes a comprehensive analysis of demographic, economic, and housing data, and evaluation of trends and projections for housing needs over the next decade. The study also lays out a number of overarching goals and supporting strategies that will help the town and partner organizations accomplish each goal. Over 300 residents and workers provided input for the housing study through an online survey. Their input, together with local and regional stakeholders, offered perspectives on rental and homeownership challenges and needs.

The results of the study indicate that the Town of Londonderry is facing a significant housing challenge today and into the future, placing the community on a trajectory in which local households and workers will have an increased difficulty finding quality housing at attainable price points. Londonderry has long been a popular destination for seasonal residents, and while the community has not seen significant housing developments, the building that has occurred has primarily been for relatively large homes for seasonal residents. While this has

traditionally been part of the community's identity, more recent trends have further shifted the balance between seasonal and year-round residents. Facing increased demand and rapidly escalating price increases, the town has seen an overall decline in the availability of quality housing options to sustain a year-round population. Key findings include:

- Housing price increases have significantly outpaced resident income growth. Households earning the median income of \$67,639 would need \$64,000 in additional income to afford the median priced home of \$414,500. Many dual-income households also face this affordability gap.
- The number of seasonal housing units grew by 32% over the 2010-2020 decade, while overall new housing development has been low, shifting the mix between seasonal (43%) and year-round (57%) housing stock. Short-term rentals have played a role in this shift.
- Only 15% of available housing units are long-term rentals. Housing challenges are displacing workers out of the community, constraining the local economy and business vitality.
- The demographic data highlighted slowing overall population growth and potential future decline, with notable decreases in the workforce population, offset by increases in retirement age population. Many seniors cited a need for lower overall housing costs and more variety in housing types.

the Londonderry Housing Needs Assessment Committee. "Without action to address housing issues, Londonderry will continue to shift towards being a more seasonal community." Four overarching goals have been established as the framework for the housing strategy, with specific strategies developed to help the town and partner organizations accomplish each goal:

1. Grow capacity to address local housing needs.
2. Sustain and grow the number of homes owned and occupied by local workers.
3. Expand the number of quality long-term rental units.
4. Assist local residents and workers in acquiring local housing.

Strategies that had the highest level of community support included programs to assist with improvement of existing housing, allowing accessory dwelling units, making changes to zoning to increase flexibility in housing types, and limiting short term rentals. "Overcoming existing barriers will be needed to make meaningful strides in addressing Londonderry's housing needs, including updating the town's zoning regulations to be more flexible and supportive of the housing needed by those living and working in the community, and continuing to implement wastewater infrastructure projects to support housing development," stated Dan Stevens, of Camoin Associates, the consulting firm who conducted the study.

"This study is just one part of a larger conversation we must have as a community about how we want Londonderry to look a decade from now, and what role housing plays in that vision," said Melissa Brown, Londonderry Selectboard member and member of the Housing Needs Committee.

The housing study can be found on the Town of Londonderry's website, and was funded with ARPA funds allocated by the Londonderry Selectboard. A final report will be issued in the near future.

Easter at Ludlow Community Center

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Easter bunny hopped through early this year, as the Ludlow Recreation Department hosted an Easter egg hunt at the Ludlow Community Center on Saturday, April 1, 2023. Hundreds of toy eggs were hidden on the premises, containing candy and prize slips that could be redeemed for fun toys the recreation director had on hand for



Families enjoy Easter event. PHOTO PROVIDED

the eager egg hunters. Spring colors were everywhere, as dozens of kids searched the center for the pastel eggs while their families watched. Also included was a guess the number game table with 13 jars, each filled with various candies for guests to write their guesses down.

Despite the rainy weather moving the

event indoors – in years past it has been hosted on the playground behind the elementary school – the early Easter extravaganza was a lovely success. Thank you to Nick Miele and his recreation department for providing a fun family activity. With spring in the air, families can also register for youth baseball on the Ludlow Recreation webpage, www.ludlowvt.parksandrec.com.

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Maryann Farley Gagner Scholarship

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Maryann Farley Gagner Scholarship is an annual scholarship of up to \$1,000 that was established in memory of Maryann Farley

Gagner, a beloved member of the Black River High School family who served our community for over 20 years. This award is given to a deserving senior who exemplifies the core values of kindness, respect, tolerance, and compassion. Maryann herself never failed to demonstrate these qualities in her interactions with students, parents, and colleagues; she was an advocate for those in need, and she lived each day in accordance with her belief in love, patience, and dedicated service to others. This scholarship is given to a graduating high school student who lives in Ludlow, Mount Holly, or Plymouth, Vt.

For more information and guidelines, please see your high school guidance department, or contact the committee at dharrisonlcs@gmail.com.



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SCAN TO LEARN MORE. 

Senior Solutions Senior Prom

CHESTER, Vt. – Celebrate in style at the Senior Solutions Senior Prom, April 28 at the American Legion in Chester, Vt. We are excited to invite adults of all ages. Tickets are available at www.seniorsolutionsvt.org.

Because 2023 is our golden (50th) anniversary, this event will feature a Hollywood Golden Era theme. There will be games, silent auction, dance band, photo booth, and more! Our silent

auction is also on the website. Bidding began on April 7. Check out all the details at www.seniorsolutionsvt.org and plan on joining us all for a grand evening. Dress up or down – this will be a night to remember.

My Community Nurse Project Awards

WESTON, Vt. – March may be known for the Academy Awards, recognizing the best in film, and March Madness, for the top team in NCAA basketball, but in Weston, Vt., on March 1, awards abounded for so much more. My Community Nurse Project, a non-profit nursing agency providing care and advocacy to residents of the mountain towns, collaborated with The Hub restaurant in Weston to host a luncheon for its friends and volunteers. We celebrated the dedication of our volunteers, most of whom have been actively participating since the agency launched in 2020,

and without whom this tiny agency could not function. To the surprise of our guests, we also recognized our senior friends for little known lifetime achievements. Here is a snapshot of our awards:

“For naval service in World War II as well as for producing records for Louis Armstrong, Mark Cosmedy,” “for a brilliant career of teaching physics to students in high school, Leonard Bugel,” and “for dedicated service as town librarian and organist for the Old Parish Church, as well as protector of the village green, Carolyn Mullett.” We also were thrilled and delighted to listen to the song “Some Enchanted Evening,” a surprise serenade by a volunteer, as a special treat for our friend Elizabeth Forbes, who met and danced with her future husband many years ago while that song played.

The food was fabulous, and the over the top finale was the cake, celebrating birthdays for three guests, ages 80 years, unknown, and 96 years. What better way to welcome spring, enjoy camaraderie, and share good wishes and appreciation, than a gathering like this?

We thank The Hub for its generosity and ambiance, the volunteers and board members for their continued support, and our friends who provide us with the stories and the “heart” to keep this agency active and available in our mountain towns.

MCNP is a nonprofit serving our six mountain towns without financial charge to our clients. It is funded by the generosity of our neighbors. Donations are never expected, but always appreciated, and may be sent to MCNP, P.O. Box 57, Weston VT 05161.

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<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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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 scdoyle@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.aa.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
 late of Ascutney 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 Westminster
 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 Westminster 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 Westminster 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 Westminster Town Hall, 3651 US Route 5 Westminster, 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:

Mariclaire Rigby
 National Grid
 939 Southbridge Street
 Worcester, MA 01610
 Telephone: (781) 290-8310 or mariclaire.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

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.

**OVER 2000
BROKEN-IN TIRES**
MANY SETS OF 4



CANON TIRE
I-91, Exit 8, Ascutney, VT
802-674-5600
NEW TIRES TOO!!

BROOKVIEW APARTMENTS White River Junction, VT

Continues to Accept Applications

Utilities, snow, trash removal included. Laundry facility on premises for tenant use only.

USDA guidelines do apply

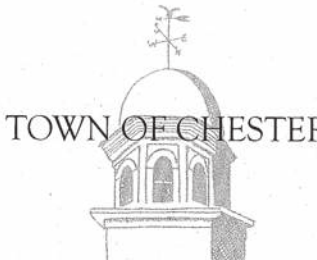
Call or write to:
THM PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
129 Lincoln Avenue
Manchester Center, VT 05255

1-802-362-4663 or 1-802-367-5251
1-800-545-1833 ext 326 (Hearing Impaired)

We do not discriminate against tenant applications on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, age, creed, gender identity, gender related characteristic or because a person intends to occupy a dwelling unit with one or more minor children or because a person is a recipient of public assistance, sexual orientation, marital status or disability.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

THM is an equal opportunity provider and employer



556 Elm Street
P.O. Box 370
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.

POWER & HAND TOOL SALE

APRIL 15, 2023
8:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

368 River Street
Springfield, VT 05156

Annual Stone House Garden Party Open House

April 21 & 22, 2023
10 am - 5 pm

Stone House Antique Center
557 VT Route 103 South, Chester, VT
802-875-4477
shac@vermontel.net

We’re anxiously awaiting the arrival of warmer weather! Join us for great deals on fresh merchandise and enjoy some light refreshments!

Visit us on Facebook:
Stone House Antique Center

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.

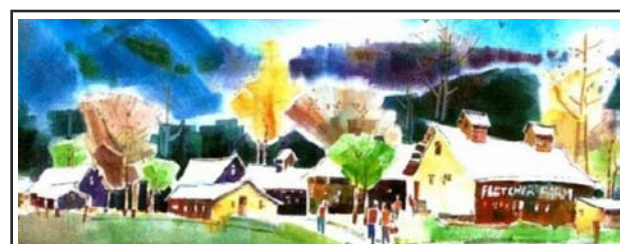
Season 87 closes in the fall at Walker Farm with an acclaimed drama where jazz often speaks louder than words, “Let There Be Love,” by Kwame Kwei-Armah. Performances will run Oct. 4 through Oct. 22.

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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