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# THE Vermont Journal

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## Vermont Bliss serves crave-worthy seasonal creations

BY PAULA BENSON  
*The Vermont Journal*

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Eatery by Vermont Bliss welcomed customers to 47 Depot Street for the first time on Thursday, April 6, serving breakfast sandwiches and burritos, salads, smash burgers, and lots of vegetarian choices. Fresh, locally sourced ingredients are what Chef Michelle Suker and Chef Jon Turco use to create a seasonal breakfast and lunch menu from their “scratch kitchen.” All sandwich meats are roasted in-house, and Karen Sechy, formerly of Crows Bakery in Proctorsville, works with Suker to hand craft sweet treats and pastries.

“I started Vermont Bliss with the idea of buying from local producers as much as possible,” Suker emphasized. Including Bald Mountain Farm, Stewart Maple, Vermont Beancrafters, and more. The list of local partners is displayed on the wall at The Eatery. “It’s all about quality food,” Suker stated, “and sustainability.” For example, Suker said that, although the cost was higher, she made the decision to purchase compostable containers for to-go orders. “We think it’s worth it.”

A former schoolteacher, Suker remembers watching the Emeril Lagasse show with her father, and said she developed a passion for cooking around age 12. Two years ago, Suker launched her catering company, Vermont Bliss, and purchased a food truck. After a successful run, Suker and Turco decided to open the cheerful 12-seat cafe in the former space of Russ Hurlburt’s photography studio. The food truck has been retired for the time being, but the team will still offer catering.

When asked about the bluebird in the cafe’s logo,



Owner Michelle and her daughter Emma. PHOTO PROVIDED

designed by Tom Gaudreau of Awesome Graphics in Rutland, Suker recounted the origin story. “When I was building the concept for my food truck, I took a day to go skiing by myself, clear my head. It was a quintessential ‘bluebird day,’ not a cloud in the sky, perfect temps and conditions. As I was leaving the mountain after an amazing day, slightly sore muscles, endorphins on high, I caught myself thinking ‘this is bliss.’ Today was a perfect Vermont ski day. It was at that moment that Vermont Bliss was officially born. I believe many skiers will appreciate the bluebird in our logo. At The Eatery, it’s our goal to at least make the meal portion of our customer’s day ‘bluebird day’ quality.”

Turco’s previous experience as Executive Sous Chef at Simon Pearce, Chef at Harry’s Cafe and the Rustic Rooster, as well as in other highly rated restaurants, gave him insight into designing the small, efficient kitchen at The Eatery. Rounding out the core team, Chef Seamus Hartigan was a recent hire, and Suker’s youngest daughter Emma works the front of the house.

The first few weeks were hectic, as finishing touches were put in place, and locals spread the word about the “yummy” new restaurant, “worth the drive from Rutland.”

Soon after the grand opening, Emma remarked to her mother, “does this at all feel like a Hallmark movie to you? We already have regulars!”

The Eatery seems to be off to a strong start, and Suker and Turco make a good team, with a similar approach to creating the menu, and, equally important, a positive, community-oriented environment. Green plants in white pots line one windowsill, the décor is neat and minimalist, and the kitchen, with its bright, open design, creates a warm, welcoming ambiance in the little café.

“For us,” Suker expressed, “it’s about taking simple, fresh ingredients and treating them with care to produce a crave-worthy dish. [Jon and I] both enjoy all levels of food creation, from trying new ideas to figuring out how to produce them in volume, relatively quickly, without sacrificing quality. The very best part of this process is knowing the meal was thoroughly enjoyed.”

In other words, a ‘bluebird day.’

The Eatery at Vermont Bliss is currently open Wednesday through Saturday, with plans to be open on Tuesday at some point in the future.

## Plymouth continues school choice, STR discussion

BY PAULA BENSON  
*The Vermont Journal*

PLYMOUTH, Vt. – A handful of Plymouth parents attended Monday night’s selectboard meeting to ask questions and voice concerns regarding school choice options. This debate has a long, prickly history in Plymouth since the elementary school closed in 2011 and the town became part of the Windsor Central Supervisory Union (WCSU). There are five elementary schools in the union: Barnard Academy, Killington Elementary, Reading Elementary, the Prosper Valley School, and Woodstock Elementary. Per WCSU, the choice of school venue is “guided by the needs

of students, parents, and the district, [and will be] limited by transportation feasibility and classroom space availability.”

Josh and Jamie Rose, parents of preschool-age children, addressed the board regarding their desire to enroll their children at the Ludlow Elementary School, which is part of the Two Rivers Supervisory Union (TRSU). They contacted both unions and were told they would need to pay tuition (around \$18,000) to attend Ludlow. They asked the board if there were any other options.

Selectboard member and parent of a Killington student Keith Cappellini explained the lengthy process required to allow the town to secede

from the union, which, he stated, would require a petition signed by the majority of voters in all towns within the WCSU district. A study on economic impacts for each town would need to be conducted and presented to WCSU, and even then, the union could deny the request. “It is possible,” Cappellini said, “but you have to do a hell of a lot of work and have a game plan.”

One Plymouth resident, Julie Dupont, spoke to the issue, saying she’d been on the school board for 20 years, and warned that leaving WCSU would not be wise. She remarked,

See **PLYMOUTH** on Page 2

## Ludlow resolves beaver conflict

BY NICK GIBERTI  
*The Vermont Journal*

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Town of Ludlow has spared what remains of a local family of beavers who were building dams along South Hill Road, opting instead for non-lethal deterrence.

Speaking at the Ludlow Selectboard meeting on May 1, Municipal Manager Brendan McNamara updated Ludlow residents on the situation, acknowledging that, initially, one of the beavers had been “eradicated.” However, after concern from citizens of the town and the involvement of Protect Our Wildlife, a local wildlife advocacy group, the town “worked with the state to install a beaver baffle...[which] seems to be working,” said McNamara.

The beavers had been damming a culvert along South Hill Road, causing the water level to rise and threaten the surface of the road. After issues were raised about the town’s initial handling of the situation, which involved killing one of the beavers, McNamara reached out

to the state’s fish and wildlife department, in order to see what the town’s options were for resolving the beaver issue in a more humane way.

As a result, Tyler Brown, who is a wildlife specialist with the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department and is in charge of the state’s Beaver Baffle Program, oversaw the installation of what he called an “exclusion fence,” which is designed to keep beavers away from the culvert while allowing water to flow freely. The success of the exclusion fence can depend on a number of factors about the particular area in which it is installed, Brown explained. While the town is continuing to monitor the situation, Brown echoed McNamara’s sentiments in stating that, for the time being, the exclusion fence appears to be doing its job.

“The goal of the program is to maintain beaver wetland habitat,” Brown told The Vermont Journal, and to “give landowners and public officials the tools to resolve conflicts with beavers.” Beaver wetlands are important for a number of reasons, and not just to beavers, said Brown; they improve water quality, and create vital habitats for fish and other

wildlife.

Brenna Galdenzi, President of Protect Our Wildlife, echoed Brown’s comments on beaver habitat. “Beavers increase biodiversity, promote trout recovery, regulate stream flows, improve water quality, repair eroded stream channels, and provide other benefits,” Galdenzi explained. “Too often, landowners and municipalities seek lethal methods first, even when nonlethal and sustainable options are available.” While Galdenzi disagrees with what she called Vermont’s “dangerously broad statute...that’s essentially an open season on animals classified as ‘furbearers,’” she expressed relief that Protect Our Wildlife was able to help ensure that the situation in Ludlow was resolved in a nonlethal way. “Thankfully,” she said, “the surviving beavers had some wonderful people looking out for them and got us involved.”

The town continues to keep watch on the situation, but as of right now, a resolution has been reached which balances the needs of human infrastructure with the lives of the beavers, and the essential role that they play in the local ecosystem.

## Ludlow talks windows, ambulance, restroom

BY NICK GIBERTI  
*The Vermont Journal*

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Ludlow Selectboard held their monthly meeting on Monday, May 1, discussing a number of topics of importance to the town. Most notably, the selectboard considered a proposal from the Black River Senior Center to pay for a partial window replacement on the second floor, discussed the arrival of Ludlow’s new ambulance

and the need for replacement of another ambulance in the near future, and considered options for how to continue with the transfer station restroom construction project.

After hearing updates from Municipal Manager Brendan McNamara, the board considered whether to pay for partial replacement of the second floor windows of the Black River Senior Center. The board was told by Senior Center Administrator Jean Strong and Senior Center Board Member John

Murphy that it is becoming impossible to properly ventilate the space during the warmer months due to the windows’ inoperability. In the winter, they said, there is significant heat loss, causing the senior center to burn roughly “250 gallons a week” of heating oil, said Murphy. The senior center board has approved replacement of the first floor windows out of the senior center’s own budget, but wanted the town to

See **LUDLOW** on Page 2

## Former teacher, Norman Merrill, sentenced to 10 years in prison

CHESTER, Vt. – The Office of the United States Attorney for the District of Vermont stated that Norman Merrill II, 46, of Chester, Vt., was sentenced on Monday, April 24 to serve 10 years in prison after pleading guilty to possessing child sexual abuse material, previously referred to as child pornography. United States District Judge Christina Reiss also ordered that after Merrill’s release from prison, Merrill must serve a ten-year term of supervised release. Merrill was also ordered to pay \$3,750 in restitution, a \$5,000 fine, and a \$3,000 special assessment to be paid to the Child Pornography Victims Reserve Fund.

According to court records, on May 7, 2022,

Chester Police Officers received reports concerning potential voyeurism occurring at Merrill’s home. After interviewing witnesses, Chester Police Officers obtained search warrants for Merrill’s home and electronics, which were executed on May 11, 2022. Chester Police Officers seized numerous electronic devices, including cellular phones, digital storage media, “pinhole cameras,” and a “spy camera.”

The Vermont State Police conducted a preliminary forensic examination of a memory card seized from the residence, which revealed numerous voyeuristic videos taken in residential bathrooms. Some of these videos were taken in a bathroom of Merrill’s residence and were determined to depict nude minor children.

Homeland Security In-

vestigations revealed that Merrill had placed hidden cameras in a deliberate effort to obtain video footage of a particular female minor.

The review of Merrill’s electronic devices revealed additional misconduct involving children, including a single file depicting the sexual abuse of a child, a file which Merrill did not create. Merrill was also in possession of videos that appear to have been covertly taken at a school, suspected to be the school where Merrill was employed, depicting females in revealing clothing.

Written by U.S. Attorney’s Office, District of Vermont. Full press release can be found at [www.justice.gov/usao-vt/pr/former-teacher-sentenced-10-years-prison-possessing-child-sexual-abuse-material](http://www.justice.gov/usao-vt/pr/former-teacher-sentenced-10-years-prison-possessing-child-sexual-abuse-material).

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# Ludlow Rotary Scholarships

LUDLOW, Vt. – Continuing its long tradition of awarding scholarships to eligible graduating residents who live in Ludlow, Mount Holly, Plymouth, and Cavendish, the Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) will fund \$9,000 in awards this year. The LRC has previously awarded \$280,000 in scholarships through this program. The principal source of this funding is the annual Penny Sale, which took place April 29.

The scholarships available are the Daniel E. Kesman Memorial Scholarship, Robert W. Kirkbride Rotary Scholarship, Ralph D. Ho-

gancamp Vocational Scholarship, Joseph Girouard Scholarship, and two additional scholarships.

Recipients are selected on the basis of scholastic achievement, financial need, realistic goals, extracurricular activities, and community service.

Applications for these awards are available through the school Guidance Officer, and should be submitted to the LRC by May 10. Awards will be presented at the school's annual award night program.

Daniel Kesman and Ralph Hogancamp were legendary members of the Ludlow Ro-

tary, which is celebrating its 96th year of service to the community in 2023. Robert Kirkbride was an active member of the Ludlow Rotary for more than 60 years – an amazing record. Jay Girouard helped make the annual Rotary Penny Sale a success.

For further information, contact Mary Crowley, Ludlow Rotary scholarship chair, at [kitcrow66@gmail.com](mailto:kitcrow66@gmail.com). For information about individual or new business memberships in the Ludlow Rotary and its projects, visit [www.ludlowrotary.com](http://www.ludlowrotary.com).

# Stone Hearth Inn opening eatery for takeout

CHESTER, Vt. – The Stone Hearth Inn, located at 698 VT-11 in Chester,

will be opening their eatery for takeout only on May 6. The eatery will be serving

upscale comfort food, with root beer on tap and soft serve ice cream for dessert. There are small picnic tables located outside, but there is no indoor seating. The Stone Hearth Inn & Eatery is online at [www.stonehearthinnvermont.com](http://www.stonehearthinnvermont.com).

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# Gassetts Grange holds dance

CHESTER, Vt. – The Gassetts Grange is excited to announce that their first dance of 2023 was held on April 1, with a full house. There were a lot of people present, and great music was played. It was decided that the Gassetts Grange would hold its dances on the first Saturday of the month from 1-4 p.m., to enable people to come out who do not want to drive in the dark. The

time change made a big difference, and the dance scheduling will be kept this way. The next dance will be held May 6, from 1-4 p.m. There is a small fee for entry. There will be finger foods, soda, water, and coffee available for a donation. There will also be a 50/50 raffle.

Photographs and information are available on the Gassetts Grange Facebook page; go to Facebook and search "Gassetts Grange."

The Gassetts Grange

welcomes new members. For more information, please call Donna at 802-591-4290. You can also request to rent the Grange for different occasions. If you would like to rent the Grange, call Secretary Bonnie Sanderson at 802-875-3500 for details. The Gassetts Grange is located at 3553 Route 103 North, Chester, Vt., five miles above Chester on Route 103 North, 200 feet above the junction of Route 10 and Route 103 North.

# Ludlow Planning Commission survey

LUDLOW, Vt. – Do you have an interest in Ludlow Village housing, parking, and other issues? If so, take the online survey prepared by the Ludlow Planning Commission. The planning commission wants to hear from all Ludlow stakeholders in the town

or village, including primary homeowners, secondary homeowners, renters, employees, employers, and people looking for housing in Ludlow.

The survey can be found at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/7J2WGHV](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7J2WGHV). A link to the survey is also available on the Ludlow Town

Hall website. Free web access is available at Fletcher Memorial Library. The survey is user-friendly, can be completed on a computer, tablet, or mobile phone, and should take approximately 15 minutes. Your input will be used to plan Ludlow's future. This survey will close on May 31.

## PLYMOUTH

From Page 1

"school choice equals no voice."

Beth Harper, longtime resident of the town, stated that her son was in kindergarten at the elementary school the year it closed. "He was one of two kindergartners, and there was a total of 12 kids at the school," Harper reported. "Many in the town were resolute to keep the two-room schoolhouse, which was charming, and a wonderful place to have your child go to elementary school."

Harper mentioned that, ultimately, the town voted to close the school, and that 10 of the 12 students opted to attend Woodstock Elementary. "Woodstock Elementary has given my children an experience they would never have gotten at the Plymouth school," Harper expressed. "Plymouth has a good seat at the table [now], with two board members out of 18." The town has had a voice on anti-bullying policy and other important issues, and

Harper expressed her gratitude for that representation.

Kullman eventually said the board needed to move on from the discussion, and suggested the parents contact the school board directly. He offered the selectboard's help if needed.

Selectboard member Rick Kaminski then addressed the topic of short-term rentals, and the dust-up between the two administrators who had been previously appointed. Kaminski said, "after reviewing the situation, I've come to realize that we need a new face in the process, and I talked to Frank [Vetere] about it, and I'd like to nominate Frank as the new STR administrator. He's the town health officer, and is responsible for long-term rentals, so it seems to be a good fit."

Vetere said, "it's a subject I'm interested in, as a resident, and Airbnb rental owner. I'm familiar with it, the position needs some rational perspective."

Kaminski and Vetere highlighted some proposed revisions to the ordinance

and registration form. They discussed insurance requirements, and how to enforce them. Cappellini suggested putting together a flow-chart type of review, to determine the specific situation, and what insurance the homeowner has in place. Additionally, the board decided that the requirement for homeowners to acquire a Knoxbox would be a strongly suggested recommendation, not a requirement.

The board also agreed to adopt a broadband plan, using money from the Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP) to improve broadband services in the underserved, southern portion of town.

Finally, the Plymouth Emergency Services presented the board with the donation of an AED defibrillator for the town office building, and announced they will be holding an open house on May 13, where they will be giving CPR training demonstrations.

The next selectboard meeting will be Monday, May 15, at 6:00 p.m.

## LUDLOW

From Page 1

partially fund replacement of the windows on the second floor.

Selectboard Member Scott Baitz expressed concern that only one company, Claremont Glass, had provided quotes for the window re-

placement. This was the company, Murphy explained, that the Senior Center Board had already chosen for the first floor window replacement. The board eventually tabled the issue for next month's meeting. If approved, it was hoped that the replacement could begin in October.

Next, the board discussed

the effort to construct a restroom for employees at the Ludlow Transfer Station. Of primary concern was whether or not the restroom could be added on to the existing office building at the transfer station. McNamara told the board that this presents logistical hurdles to the project, but the selectboard agreed that, in terms of employee comfort and heating efficiency, adding to the existing structure would be the ideal solution. McNamara closed the discussion by saying that he would continue to investigate this option, and that "this needs to be done, and done this year."

The board then informed those present that Ludlow's new ambulance had arrived that afternoon, but that the board needed to consider purchasing yet another ambulance. Chief of the Ludlow Ambulance Department Stephanie Grover told the board that it would be a minimum of a year and a half before the new ambulance arrived. This would mean that the department's older ambulance, delivered in 2016, would be nearly a decade old by the time it could be retired. "We had a study done a few years ago, and they suggested we replace the ambulances every eight years," Grover told the board. "So, if we're looking at two years from now, that [ambulance] is already going to be eight to nine years [old]." The topic was tabled for next month, after discussing the possibility of putting the purchase order to the town's voters as the previous ambulance purchase had been.

The Ludlow Selectboard meets on the first Monday of every month at 6 p.m., with their next meeting scheduled for June 5.

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# The Dorand Forest

BY RON PATCH

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South of Chester on Route 103, turn onto Upper Bartonsville Road. Near the end you'll see Cambridgeport Road. This is a pleasant drive. Pay attention and you'll see the sign with this article.

**John Dorand**

I didn't know John Dorand, but Bob Turco and Ted Spaulding did. Ted told me early on, Dorand lived on Terrace Street in Chester. Today Terrace Street is Bargfrede Road, which is off Depot Street on the village end.

Ted told me John and his wife didn't speak to each other, but to their dog. John would say to the dog, "Tell mother..." Mrs. Dorand would tell the dog what to tell father.

John Dorand was a successful and well-to-do man who drove a Studebaker. Where the old town garage is today was Chester Wood Products. CWP was run by John, his brother Urban, and their partner Walter Austin. Urban lived in the big white house on the knoll by the old high school.

John boasted he was "strictly honest," but was known to let his thumb slip when scaling logs. Urban had a son, Stanley, who ran the talc mill behind Erskine's. This mill burned to the ground in 1955.

John was a lumber and cattle dealer. He bought woodlots in the area for the timber. The logs were sent to Urban at CWP. Ted said John's father was Pete. After John had cut the valuable timber, he sold the land for \$1 per acre. Hard to believe today, but it's true. In the 1940s my father bought from Craig Reid 100 to 200

acres on Stedman for \$250. I forget the exact acreage now.

John's main business was timber and cattle. He also bought furs and hides. Ted said John had a cattle yard near Salon 2000. He shipped cattle to Brighton, Mass., via the railroad most every week. Ted's family ran the town farm at the time and sold John their veal.

**Dutch cheese**

Ted didn't know what happened to Mrs. Dorand, whether she died or what, but John remarried. Where Dollar General is today was a house. Here lived John and Emma Smith. Many will remember this place.

Ted said the Smiths weren't well off. They kept a couple cows. Emma made and sold cottage cheese. Ted called it Dutch cheese. My mother also called it Dutch cheese. It's an old term. The Smiths struggled to grub out a living.

Mr. Smith died. That is when John Dorand and Emma Smith hit it off, eventually marrying.

Emma was now a wealthy woman, never having to worry about money again. The last family I remember living here was the Gosselin family. I don't recall when the house was removed.

**Bob Turco**

Bob remembers when John Dorand lived at the Dollar General location. When Bob was in high school he worked for Waino Mackey after school. Summer months Bob worked for Mackey during the week. Mackey ran an auto body shop where the bear carver is today.

Bob remembers John coming to the body shop weekday mornings. John came to visit and read his paper. Bob said he drove a green, late 1950s Cadillac. Gordon Gates sold furs to John.



John J. Dorand State Forest.

PHOTO BY RON PATCH

**John J. Dorand State Forest**

Dorand State Forest is comprised of two parcels on Cambridgeport Road, totaling over 500 acres. There are several access points. At the "bow of the river" on Route 103 is a pull off. There's an old road there. This is one access, although not passable all the way. As you start up the old road there is a very steep downhill bank on your right. If your timing is right, you'll see this bank covered with flowering trilliums. Probably early May is the time.

You'll see old beaver ponds with a mix of hard and soft woods. You can hike old logging roads or

fish the brook.

Bob Turco knows this property well. It gives you a feeling of being in a very remote forest. I don't know what year John Dorand donated this acreage to the state.

As a sidebar, I worked for Waino Mackey my senior year. I was paid 50 cents an hour with taxes taken out. I worked 40 hours and took home \$16, but not for long. I went into the antiques business.

*This week's old saying is from my mother. She was a little superstitious: "It is bad luck to kill a spider coming toward you."*

# 80 Years of changes in the Connecticut River Valley

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Steve Taylor of Plainfield, N.H., will present the OLLI-Osher Lifelong Learning Institute program "80 Years of Changes in the Connecticut River Valley" on Tuesday, May 9, at 2 p.m. at the Nolin Murray Center next to St. Mary's Church on Pleasant Street in Springfield.

Taylor will relate recollections of the "good ole days,"

as witnessed by his years of experiences as a farmer, newspaperman, and public servant. His many careers spanned time as the editor for The Valley News, New Hampshire Agricultural Commissioner, Plainfield selectman, and farming his land.

Our memories will resonate with his experiences as he relates changes during his

lifetime in many aspects of our lifestyles, including such topics as the use of farm land and the disappearance of dairy farms, transportation and road conditions, how the interstate highways have affected shopping and employment opportunities, and the changing scene of industrial employment with the disappearance of the machine tool industry in

Springfield and Windsor.

He'll voice his lament at how the introduction of television cut into the traditional social events of church suppers and town dances. We'll hear his tales of good changes, of how indoor plumbing and electricity have greatly improved our way of life.

This is the final program of the OLLI spring semester.

The Fall semester will begin on Sept. 19. In August you may view the entire semester's programs and register by going to the website, [www.learn.uvm.edu/olli/springfield](http://www.learn.uvm.edu/olli/springfield).

Pre-registration is highly recommended. If you do attend and have not pre-registered, we will welcome you, and provide an easy form for you to take to send

in payment or pay online after the program. There is an individual program fee. No payment can be accepted at the event.

Pre-registration can be done online on the website with a credit card. You may also register over the phone, using your credit card, by calling 802-656-5817 during regular office hours, Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

# Grace Cottage new clinic design

TOWNSHEND, Vt. – A public forum to unveil plans for a new primary care clinic building at Grace Cottage will be held on Wednesday, May 10, at 5 p.m., at the Townshend Town Hall.

The current clinic operates out of two adjoining houses built in the 1850s. With more than 31,000 patient visits annually – up from 20,000 in 2018 – it is essential that Grace Cottage move forward with this project, in order to meet the access needs of the community, and recruit additional primary care providers that will allow for future growth.

During the past year, Grace Cottage has been working diligently on the steps required to begin what the Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation and the Bennington County Regional Commission have named a "vital project" for the region's vitality and economy.

Following a public bidding process, Grace Cottage selected the health-care architecture firm of

Lavallee Brensinger and Engelberth Construction to design and oversee the project. Southern Vermont Engineering conducted geotechnical studies to help determine the best location for the building, which will be adjacent to the existing clinic building, connecting to the hospital building.

Grace Cottage has submitted a Certificate of Need application to the Green Mountain Care Board, Vermont's healthcare regulatory body, and is preparing to apply for an Act 250 permit.

Grace Cottage is embark-

ing on a \$20 million capital campaign for the construction of the new clinic building adjacent to the existing Grace Cottage Family Health building. This project, fulfilling a long-held dream, has been initiated by generous donors who have pledged \$5 million.

Extensive feedback from employees who work in the clinic has been incorporat-

ed into the interior plan. Final exterior and interior designs have been completed for this new 23,000 square foot building, and these will be shared with community members at the May 10 event.



Exterior design of Grace Cottage's new primary care clinic building.

PHOTO PROVIDED



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Register at: <https://brattleborodevelopment.com/competition/>

**Black River Memory Café**

Support for caregivers and their loved ones living with dementia

**Thursday, May 11th**  
**11AM-1PM**

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# opinion

# COMMUNITY NEWS

Dear Editor,

Thank you so much for your coverage of the local selectboard meetings. Those of us living in towns where there is no public information program depend on the weekly newspaper to keep us informed of the business of our local governments. Attorneys for the Town of Plymouth informed the Court that since Plymouth has no post office capable of posting meeting notices or other legally required notices, the town's residents don't deserve any public notices. Forget legal challenges, the Court can't be bothered.

When reporters inform the public regarding specific items that are discussed at meetings, it is sometimes the only time the information may be available. Last week, your reporter informed your readers that the Chester Selectboard will drop the number of board members on the cannabis board to

five because the state has already written procedures which guarantee a sufficient number of board members. Similarly, the Plymouth Selectboard could have saved themselves the trouble of creating their own public information process simply by researching the Vermont statutes and reporting that the process has already been carefully articulated by the state legislators.

The press is a great American treasure, offering its citizens the opportunity to stay informed about the business of its governmental bodies. We should be thankful for the wonderful job that the Vermont Journal's professionals do for us.

Sincerely,  
Nancy Kessling  
Plymouth, Vt.

## Strides Community Walk

**SPRINGFIELD, Vt.** – The Springfield Lions Club will host a Strides Community Walk event on May 13, at the Toonerville Trail. Participants can register at the event, which will run from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., or until all participants have completed their walk.

The Springfield Lions Club invites community residents of all ages to participate in this event, which will benefit the Diabetes Awareness Program of District 45, Vermont Lions. Registration for the event is free. Anyone who completes at least one leg – 15 minutes of walking – will receive a gift bag filled with Strides Walk promotional items. Participants will also

receive a Strides Walk lapel pin to proudly identify as someone who is helping raise diabetes awareness in their community.

If you are a serious walker, or even just an evening stroller, you may stop by JC's Market, 445 Giddings Road, North Springfield, Vt., and pick up a pledge sheet to help the Springfield Lions Club and District 45 raise funds which will further support more diabetes awareness programs. You can also get a pledge sheet from the Springfield Lions Club Facebook page. Those who donate may choose any amount they wish to pledge per leg. You may walk at any point from May 6-13. After completing the walk,

bring your completed sheet to the event, or mail the sheet and check of your collected funds to: Springfield Lions Club, P.O. Box 776, Springfield VT, 05156. The check should be made out to Vermont Lions Charities with the notation "Diabetes Awareness" on the memo line.

During the event, participants can visit various booths to receive more information about the prevention and management of diabetes. Complementary water and healthy snacks will be provided.

For more information you may contact Lion Deb Savery at tallships53@gmail.com or call 802-875-2990.

Lions and leos around the world organize Strides community events to heighten awareness about diabetes, and to emphasize the importance of healthy exercise to prevent and manage this disease.

Founded in 1917, Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization, with 1.4 million members in approximately 47,000 clubs in over 200 countries and geographical areas around the world. Our mission is to empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace, and promote international understanding through Lions clubs.

## Foster Care Story Hour

**CHESTER, Vt.** – Whiting Library will showcase foster, adoption, and family differences to better understand the foster care world during Foster Care Month in May. On Wednesday, May 10, at 3 p.m., at 117 Main Street, the public is invited to join a special family story hour and tea time. This event will focus on learning about foster care, adoption, and family differences. The library will have a collection of relevant books about foster care and adoption avail-

able for check out. Books help children better understand different families, so that children in foster care aren't left out or secluded for their differences or traumas.


Special guest Julie Merrill-Snide, a recruitment and retention specialist for the Vermont Department for Children and Families, will join the group to discuss how attendees can support foster care in Vermont. A read-aloud from engaging books will get kids learning about foster

care. Merrill-Snide will be on hand to provide information on foster care in Vermont, and to talk about support for foster families and how to get involved. This family program is recommended for children ages 4 and up, and includes tea and cookies, plus time for making a paper craft in honor of Mother's Day.

Youth Services Librarian Carrie King encourages all families in the community to come and learn about foster care at the library, saying, "if we can collabo-

rate and share the love of reading, children, and families, together we can make a difference in our world a little at a time." Everyone who loves story hour will enjoy this event, and Merrill-Snide will be on hand to answer questions for those who want to know more about becoming involved in foster care. Contact the Whiting Library for more information or to register for this free event by calling 802-875-2277 or emailing youthlibrarian@whitinglibrary.org.

**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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## Springfield Rotary Stuff-a-Truck success

**SPRINGFIELD, Vt.** – The Springfield Rotary Club held a very successful "Stuff-a-Truck" event on April 22, in the Springfield Plaza, to benefit the Springfield Family Center. The event raised more than 1000 pounds of non-perishable food and personal care items. In addition, donors provided \$520 in cash, which the Family Center will use to purchase items through the Vermont Food

Bank. The Springfield Rotary Club thanks all those who helped to make this a successful event.

Rotary International is an international service organization with over one million members in over 200 countries. The Springfield Rotary Club is in its 95th year of service to the community. For more information, visit [www.springfieldvtr Rotary.org](http://www.springfieldvtr Rotary.org).



The Springfield Rotary Club hosted a successful Stuff-a-Truck event on April 22.

PHOTO PROVIDED

## Springfield Library book club

**SPRINGFIELD, Vt.** – Springfield Town Library's Monday Evening Book Club is open to new members. Pick up your book now, and then join us on Monday, May 15, at 6 p.m., at the library and over Zoom, to

discuss "Subtle Acts of Exclusion" by Tiffany Jana and Michael Baran. The book is available at the library in print, and multiple copies are available online as an eBook or eAudio via the Palace Project app.

This month's title ties into the library's quest to become certified as a sustainable library. One focus area of the certification process is to help the community develop better social cohesion.

According to Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, the Executive Director of the Sustainable Libraries Initiative, "social cohesion is an ingredient that libraries can cultivate by actively fostering connection and activating our commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) in new ways, as each piece connects to the next. Libraries have, for many years, focused on economic development – helping residents find jobs or start small businesses, and supporting the creation of a trained workforce to attract employers to an area. As much of our focus, if not more, needs to be put on social cohesion. I often describe social cohesion as the 'fabric' of a community. Fabric that is more tightly knit together is stronger, whereas loosely woven fabric often leaves gaps that people can fall through. It is a matter of life and death. Ensuring our neighbors have a high level of empathy and respect for

one another, particularly for others who don't look like them or come from a different culture than they do, should be one of the strongest parts of our legacy."

The meaningful message from "Subtle Acts of Exclusion" is that we do not intend to offend others. However, it is the impact of our words and actions, and not the intent, which matters. The book club will talk about how to minimize that impact and how to stand up for yourself and others. Even if you cannot attend the discussion, this book is important to listen to or read.

According to their publisher, the authors of the book "give simple and clear tools to identify and address such acts, offering scripts and action plans for everybody involved. Knowing how to have these conversations in an open-minded, honest way will help us build trust, and create stronger workplaces and healthier, happier people and communities."

Springfield Town Library serves as the heart of the town, connecting people, ideas, and endeavors of all kinds in order to transform lives.

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**Weekly SUDOKU**  
by Linda Thistle

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ♦♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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**King Crossword**

**ACROSS**

- Cuts off
- Cookout, briefly
- Gridlock sound
- Jacob's brother
- Actress Lucy In — land
- Goatee's spot
- Here (Fr)
- Saharan
- Submit
- Give temporarily
- Blue blood
- Tour vehicles
- Toe count
- Actress Hagen
- Sciences' partner
- Auction signal
- Urban haze
- Vitamin stat
- Architect I.M. —
- Stinging insects
- Administrative worker
- Lean to one side
- Redacted
- Poker variety
- Victor
- Art Deco master
- Carton sealer
- Texas tea
- Albacore, e.g.
- Cold War initials
- '60s war zone
- Once around the sun
- Pen name
- Took part in a
- Mel of many voices
- Hearing aids?
- Inventor Whitney
- Knee protector
- Nobelist
- Walesa
- Job-safety org.
- Ache
- Ice cream parlor orders
- Russian pancakes
- Pakistani
- language
- New companies
- Uncharged particle
- Full feeling
- Crony
- Bankroll
- Duck down
- Kingdom
- Loyal
- Sicilian spouter
- Beloved
- R-V link
- Prof's helpers
- Spy org.

**DOWN**

- 1040 mill.
- Many org.
- Unemotional
- Perched on
- Labels
- Biting remark
- Pakistani

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# obituaries

## Curtis Bidgood, 1937-2023

CAVENDISH, Vt. – Curtis Bidgood, 85, passed away on Saturday, April 22, at Cedar Hill Health Care Center in Windsor, Vt. He was born Nov. 5, 1937 in Springfield, Vt., the son of Barnard and Erma (Bradish) Bidgood. He attended Springfield schools, graduating from Springfield High School with the class of 1955. He also completed the Co-op Course working at the Fellows Gear Shaper. He served in the United States Navy from 1956 to 1960.

After serving in the Navy, Curtis was employed at General Electric in Rutland, Vt. as a Tool & Die Maker for 36 years.

Curtis enjoyed hunting and visiting with friends and neighbors. He loved to eat, especially apple pie and Seward's vanilla ice cream. He enjoyed sitting on his front porch in his rocking chair smoking his pipe, nodding and waving to his neighbors driving by. He was always interested in what was going on in the community.



Curtis Bidgood, 1937-2023. PHOTO PROVIDED

He is survived by his son Matthew C. Bidgood, his daughter Stephanie Machado, his granddaughter Gwen Roundy, his sister Janet Laughlin, and by several nieces, nephews, and cousins, and many close friends.

He was predeceased by his parents and older brother William John Bidgood.

A graveside service with military honors will be held on Friday, May 5 at 3 p.m., at the Hillcrest Cemetery in Proctorsville, Vt.

Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield is assisting with arrangements.

## David A. Putnam, 1939-2023

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – David Arnold Putnam, 84, of Springfield, Vt., passed away Wednesday, Jan. 18, at home with family at his side.

Dave was born Jan. 9, 1939 in Springfield, the son of Clyde Archie and Arline Frances (Wheeler) Putnam. He grew up on Route 5 in Bellows Falls, until moving to Springfield in the late 1940s. He graduated from Springfield High School in 1957. After high school he served in the National Guard from 1957 to 1958 as a civilian occupation machinist at Pratt & Whitney in East Hartford, Conn.

He met his wife of 64 years, Kathleen Marie Domey, in high school. They married Dec. 6, 1958 in Springfield.

Dave started working on The Dutton Farm in Dutton District as an early teenager, when his sister Betty married Marshall. He worked on The Dutton Farm and was considered one of "The Dutton Boys" until the farm closed in 1989. He then worked at Parks and Woolson for 13 years as a machinist. He had other various machinist jobs until his retirement.

Dave drove Bus 13 for over 30 years. Many kids growing up in Springfield at one point in time rode his bus. He was known to make the students mind, and twisted an ear or two in the earlier years. Many individuals over the years have come up to Dave and commented to him about the impact that he had on their lives.

He loved farming and sailing his Hobie Cat sail boat on Lake Sunapee and then eventually Sebago Lake in Maine, where he and Kay bought lakeside property. They enjoyed spending many summers with family and friends on Sebago Lake, and made many good long-time friends there. He also enjoyed many summers of fishing with his grandson Jason up on the lake.

Dave enjoyed camping, fishing, helping out his neighbors, spending time



David Putnam, 1939-2023. PHOTO PROVIDED

with his family and friends, and traveling the back roads of Vermont. He loved to tinker on equipment, and could fix almost anything. He touched the lives of many individuals, and will truly be missed by his family and friends.

Dave is survived by his wife Kathleen "Kay", daughter Lori Ann Clark of Naples, Maine, son David and wife Wendy of Westmoreland, N.H., and grandson Jason Putnam and wife Jessica of Warren, Rhode Island. He is also survived by brother-in-law Kenneth Domey of Charlestown N.H., sister-in-law Susan Domey of Costa Rica, nephew Mark Dutton and niece Cindy Dutton of Springfield, and niece Diana Henderson of Wink, Texas. He was predeceased by his parents, sister Elizabeth "Betty" and brother-in-law Marshall Dutton, and sister-in-law Beverly Domey.

The immediate family would like to extend our greatest appreciation to Dave's nephew Mark Dutton for his love, support, and all the care and compassion he gave Dave over the last three months, and to Bayada Hospice nurses Daniel and Matthew, Social Worker Melissa, and Spiritual Counselor Lucy.

A graveside service will be held June 3 at 1 p.m., at the Oakland Cemetery in Springfield, Vt.

Davis Memorial Chapel is assisting with the arrangements.

## Peter Dupuis, 2023

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – The graveside service for Peter Dupuis, who passed away on Feb. 10, will take

place on Sunday, May 7, at 12:30 p.m., at the Rockingham Meeting House Cemetery.

## Stanley and Shirley Farrar

CHESTER, Vt. – A graveside service for Stanley and Shirley Farrar will be held

May 13 at 10 a.m., at the Pleasant View Cemetery in Chester, Vt.

## Claire Hatch, 2022

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Claire (Lerandeau) Hatch, age 79, of Springfield Vt., passed away on Dec. 19, 2022, after a period of declining health. She was preceded by her parents Lucian and Marguerite (Safford) Lerandeau, and by the love of her life, Melvin Hatch, to whom she was married for 38 years before his passing in 2003.

Claire graduated from Springfield High School in 1961, and continued to be very active with class reunions and class activities. She worked for many years as an executive secretary for Bryant Grinder Co., and continued to get together for yearly reunions with those she worked with. After retirement she worked part time at the Miller Art Center and First Congregational Church, where she was a long-time member. She also served as historian for the church and created a timeline of the church in the 20th century. Claire provided food for many events and community lunches there with her sister Marion Lerandeau. She was also a member of the Springfield



Claire Hatch, 2022. PHOTO PROVIDED

Garden Club, and enjoyed baking for their yearly Festival of Trees.

Claire loved travelling with her husband Mel, and after he died she would spend summers with her sister Marion on Rangeley Lake, Maine – a home she and Mel cherished. Claire is survived by her brother Edward Lerandeau, many nieces and nephews, Mel's family, and countless lifelong friends. A graveside service will be held on May 18 at 11 a.m., at Oakland Cemetery in Springfield. It will be a double memorial, as her sister Marion Lerandeau recently passed away on March 12.

## Frank E. Fransworth, 1948-2023

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – Frank E. Fransworth, 74, of Saxtons River, Vt., passed away peacefully on April 26, surrounded by family, after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

Frank was born July 15, 1948, to Edna (Dumas) and Ralph "Bronc" Fransworth in Claremont, N.H.

Frank's lifelong love of animals and helping others started early, and provided many stories and memories that will live on and be cherished by all that knew him.

On Jan. 1, 1966, he married Charlene M. Bain of Bellows Falls, and they built a life of hard work and adventures with their daughters Tresa Williams of Westminster West, Vt., Bernadette Barr of Warwick, R.I., and Heather Gregory (Jamie) of Grafton, Vt.

Frank left behind his wife, daughters, and grandchildren Kristine Williams, Amanda Wilcox, Kayla Joyner, Mario Fransworth, Fernando Meo, Taylor



Frank Fransworth, 1948-2023. PHOTO PROVIDED

Gregory, and Lucas Gregory, as well as many great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his parents and grandson Ryan Williams, as well as two of his favorite people, his aunt Phyllis and "brother" John Morse.

Visitation will take place on Friday, May 5, from 5-6 p.m., with a service starting at 6 p.m. at the Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home, 55 Westminster Street in Bellows Falls. Burial will take place at a later time in Saxtons River.

## Marion E. Lerandeau, 2023

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Marion E. Lerandeau, age 87, of Springfield, Vt., passed away on March 12, after a brief illness. She was preceded by her parents Lucian and Marguerite (Safford) Lerandeau, and her sister Claire Hatch.

Marion graduated from Springfield High School in 1953, and was very active in all events related to the reunions and parade. She graduated from Keene State University with a teaching degree later in life and it was of enormous pride to her and her family. Marion loved to travel and was quite the world traveler, with England being her favorite destination. In 1980, she took her niece on a two-week European tour, and traveled whenever possible.

There wasn't anything Marion couldn't bake, sew, or craft. She was incredibly talented, and loved to be hostess and to bake at a multitude of church and fundraising events with her sister Claire. She was a long-time member of the First Congregational Church, and an active member of the Quilt Club – making baby blankets for the hospital among other charitable endeavors – and the Springfield Garden Club.

Marion was a master cake decorator, and often



Marion Lerandeau, 2023. PHOTO PROVIDED

made beautiful cakes for weddings of friends and for family occasions. She and Claire loved going to auctions and thrift stores, and always found a bargain. The sisters also spent summers on Rangeley Lake in Maine – a treasured destination. Marion worked in New York City early in her career, and when back in Springfield, worked at Lawrence and Wheeler Insurance Co., and in the Springfield School District as a para educator. Marion is survived by her brother Edward Lerandeau, many nieces and nephews, and many close friends. A graveside service will be held for Marion on May 18 at 11 a.m., at Oakland Cemetery in Springfield. It will be a double memorial, as her sister, Claire, passed away on Dec. 19, 2022.

## Robert E. Knox, 1928-2023

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Robert E. Knox, 95, of Springfield, Vt., passed away peacefully surrounded by family on April 10. He was born Jan. 10, 1928, in Rutland, Vt., son of Edward and Bernice (Peryer) Knox.

Bob was lovingly raised by the Spaulding family – parents Beatrice and Peryer, siblings Donald (Chip), Roger, Ralph (Bug), and Mary (Sis), of Pomfret, Vt. Bob graduated from the Vermont School of Agriculture in Randolph, Vt., in 1944. Following graduation, he served in the U.S. Navy aboard the USS Saipan & USS Ranger during World War II. After his service, he married Marion Burton and settled in Springfield, Vt., where they raised five children. Bob and Marion recently celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary in December 2022.

Bob worked for JM Giddings and then was a devoted, long-time employee at Fellows Gear Shaper Corporation for over 30 years, until his retirement. Bob had side businesses to support his growing family, where he painted houses and sold trailers and camping equipment with brother-in-law Bob Jones, Bobs' Trailer Sales.

Bob was active in the Springfield community, where he was a member of the American Legion, VFW, Elks Club, Hitormiss Club, and Masons. Bob loved to deer hunt at his camp in Pomfret with family and friends. He also en-



Robert Knox, 1928-2023. PHOTO PROVIDED

joyed hunting ginseng in the Vermont woods. Bob was famous for his sense of humor, optimism, and friendly disposition. He had made many, many friends and acquaintances over the years.

In addition to his parents, Bob was predeceased by his son Kenneth, his three brothers Arthur, Carl, and Edward (Butch) Knox, and granddaughter Caren Fry.

Surviving in addition to his wife Marion are his sons Wayne (Carol), Michael (Debbie), John (Mimi), and Tim, and his daughter Karen Ring. He has seven grandchildren and several great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, cousins, nieces, and nephews.

A remembrance of life will be held on Saturday, May 20, at the Springfield VFW from 1-5 p.m.

For those who wish to make gifts in Bob's memory, they can be made to The American Precision Museum, 196 Main St., Windsor, VT 05089.

Davis Memorial Chapel is assisting with the arrangements.

## Peter Waysville

WALPOLE, N.H. – The family of Peter Waysville will be hosting a celebration of life on Saturday, May 6,

from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Watkins Tavern at Hooper Golf Course in Walpole, N.H.

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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](http://www.VermontJournal.com).



# calendar

## LEGAL NOTICES

**MAY 1-31** – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The Edward Jones branch office in Bellows Falls, located at 16 The Square, will be accepting donations for Parks Place Community Center's "Time for a Change" diaper bank, from May 1-31. The branch is open Monday-Thursday from 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. The items needed for the diaper drive include diapers size 4, 5, and 6, pull ups of all sizes, and baby wipes. Diapers of any size will be accepted. Please note that monetary donations cannot be accepted.

**MAY 5** – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – There will be a First Friday supper held at the First Baptist Church, 9 Church Street in Bellows Falls, from 5-6:30 p.m. Serving burgers, hot dogs, potato salad, green salad, dessert, and beverages. There is a small suggested donation, and all proceeds will benefit Meals on Wheels volunteers. For takeout, call 802-463-3220.

**MAY 6** – WEATHERSFIELD, Vt. – The Community Contra Dance and Social will be held at the Weathersfield Center Meetinghouse,

2579 Weathersfield Center Road, from 7-9 p.m. Contra dancing is a traditional New England folk dance style in which couples dance in two facing lines, following the instructions of a caller. Participants will be taught and guided through the dance. No special clothing or footwear required. There will be potluck snacks during the break; feel free to bring simple finger food to share, as well as any beverages you'd like. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

**MAY 7** – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The Bellows Falls Woman's Club (BFWC) will be holding their Afternoon Tea fundraiser, to benefit the BFWC Amy Searle's Scholarship, on May 7 from 2-4 p.m., at the Masonic Temple, 61 Westminster Street. There will be a raffle, and prizes will be awarded for hats and fascinators. Tickets can be purchased from BFWC club members, or by calling 802-463-4720.

**MAY 8** – LUDLOW, Vt. – Everyone is welcome to join bingo at the Black River Valley Senior Center, 10 High Street in Ludlow, from 1-3 p.m. There will be refreshments, as well as a door prize. Seating is limited, so reservations are suggested. To make a reservation, please call 802-228-7421.

**MAY 12** – BRATTLEBORO, Vt. – With a tip of our hat to Dave Brubeck's famous groundbreaking hit, "Take Five," Sarasa brings the lush sound of the cello to the fore in music arranged and written for four cellos. Beginning at 7 p.m. at the Brattleboro Music Center, located at 72 Blanche Moyle Way in Brattleboro, a wide range of eras and styles of music will be performed, from Josquin des Prez, to J.S. Bach, to Beethoven, to Wagner, to Fauré and Brubeck, arranged by Eugene Friesen.

**MAY 13** – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The Community Closet at Immanuel Episcopal Church is holding a bag sale from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. The Closet is full of winter clothing, such as new children's jackets, long sleeve jerseys and blouses, fleece vests and jackets, and sweaters. Stock up now for next winter.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Beginning at 7 p.m., Springfield Community Players present "9 to 5," a musical comedy based on the movie that featured Jane Fonda, Dolly Parton, and Lilly Tomlin, at the Springfield Community Players Studio, 165 South St. in Springfield. In this comedy adaptation, three women take over the office from an overbearing boss and make it better for all employees. Tickets can be reserved by calling 802-885-4098.

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

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

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. – Sunday Soul: Vermont, a monthly dance party, occurs every first Sunday at Stone Church Vt, located at 210 Main St.,

Brattleboro. Residents DJ Ozzie Mandias and DJ/Producer Leo Alarcon will be spinning the hottest house music, aka disco's revenge from 5-11 p.m.

**MONDAYS** – PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – On Mondays at 6:15 p.m., join Mikayla for a yoga class. Contact Lori Wright at 603-401-8123 or visit [www.dgbodyworks.com](http://www.dgbodyworks.com) for more information. Private classes are available.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Mondays at 6:30 p.m. there will be Pub Trivia Night at Vermont Beer Makers on River Street in Springfield. Up to five people per team. Free entry.

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – The Rockingham Library hosts a chess club each Monday from 3-5:30 p.m. led by Mike Sola. Drop-ins and all levels of player are welcome. This program is free and open to the public.

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

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

CHESTER, Vt. – Knitting with Friends at Six Loose Ladies on the Chester Common, Wednesdays, from 10 a.m. to noon.

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

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

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

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Genealogy enthusiast Wayne Blanchard will be at the Rockingham Library on Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. If you own a laptop, please bring it along. Both beginners and seasoned genealogists are welcome.

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

**SATURDAYS** – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Edgar May Health and Recreation Center offers Springfield residents the opportunity to come for a free swim every Saturday, from 1-3 p.m. Participants may need to show proof of Springfield residency. For more information, call 802-885-2568, email [info@edgarmay.org](mailto:info@edgarmay.org), or visit [www.edgarmay.org](http://www.edgarmay.org).

**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](http://www.okemo.com).

### TOWN OF CHESTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

#### WATER/WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR

The Town of Chester has a full-time employment opportunity available in its Water/Wastewater Department. This job is specific to the position of Operator of the Wastewater Plant and Municipal Water System.

Minimum requirements are:

- \* High School Diploma or equivalent
- \* Minimum of a VT GD 2 Domestic WW Operator Certification preferred but will train the right applicant
- \* Minimum of a Grade 3 Water Certification or the ability to obtain the Grade 3 Certification within 2 years
- \* Two years applicable experience in all phases of water/wastewater system operation and maintenance preferred
- \* Significant knowledge of Vermont regulatory and reporting requirements to ensure compliance with all conditions of water and wastewater permits preferred.
- \* Ability to deal with the public in a positive manner
- \* General contracting and basic maintenance skills a plus
- \* Willingness to work alongside other departments

Starting salary will be determined based on experience with a competitive benefits package. The position will remain open until filled. Please submit Employment Application and Resume to the Chester Town Manager's Office, 556 Elm Street, P.O. Box 370, Chester, VT, 05143.

### TOWN OF CHESTER NOTICE OF HEARING FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

Michael Kennedy has applied for a Conditional Use Permit for the Chester Hardware property located at 21 Main Street in the Town of Chester. The proposed use is to prepare and sell food as an outdoor food vendor.

The Town of Chester Development Review Board will conduct a site visit at 5:30 PM on Monday, May 22, 2023, at 21 Main Street and will hold a hearing on this application at 6:00 PM on Monday, May 22, 2023, at the Chester Town Hall at 556 Elm Street in Chester. A copy of the application and additional information may be obtained from the Zoning Administrator.

Participation in this hearing in person, via Zoom videoconference, or in writing is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

A link to participate in this hearing via Zoom videoconference may be found on the Town of Chester website home page at [www.chestervt.gov](http://www.chestervt.gov).

Dated at Chester, Vermont this 27th day of April 2023.

Preston Bristow  
Zoning Administrator  
(802) 875-2173  
[zoning@chestervt.gov](mailto:zoning@chestervt.gov)

### 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](http://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.

### 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

### TOWN OF JAMAICA – TOWN TREASURER

The Town of Jamaica is looking for an organized and motivated candidate to serve as its Town Treasurer and Delinquent Tax Collector.

The treasurer is responsible for keeping the town's funds, including receipt, investment, and disbursement; keeping a record of taxes voted, billed, and collected; collecting other funds receivable by the town, and paying orders drawn on town accounts. The treasurer additionally serves as the delinquent tax collector and the Assistant Town Clerk as needed.

A bachelor's degree in accounting, public administration, or similarly applicable discipline is preferred (although not required), or a course of study in equivalent subjects. At least three years' experience in the area of accounting including experience managing payroll, employee benefits, and accounts payable and receivable is desirable.

A detailed job description is provided on the town website. The position is a 30 hour (4 days in office) per week position and includes benefits. Salary is commensurate with education, experience, and the ability to carry out assigned work.

To apply please submit a cover letter and resume including contact information for three professional references via email to [townclerk@jamaicavermont.org](mailto:townclerk@jamaicavermont.org) or mailed to Town Clerk, PO Box 173, Jamaica, Vermont 05343. Questions can be directed to the town clerk at (802) 874-4681.

### TOWN OF LONDONDERRY VERMONT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Londonderry Development Review Board will meet at 100 Old School St at 5:30 PM on Wednesday May 17, 2023, to hold a public hearing for an application from Max Turner to have an outdoor dining area at the New American Grill, 5960 Rt 100.

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. Sections 4464(a)(1)(c) and 4471(a), participation in the local proceedings is a prerequisite to take any subsequent appeal.

Application materials and information on how to attend remotely are available by emailing the town's Zoning Administrator at [zoningadmin@londonderryvt.org](mailto:zoningadmin@londonderryvt.org).

### Town of Londonderry, VT JOB OPENINGS

#### Road Crew Member/Equipment Operator

Work includes plowing, grading, ditching, road repair, roadside mowing, culvert work, chainsaw operation, equipment maintenance, and other duties. A clean driving record, a CDL license, and the ability to pass drug/alcohol tests are required. Highway/road maintenance experience preferred. This is a full-time position with excellent benefits.

#### Transfer Station Attendant

Part-time (5 hours per week) Transfer Station Attendant to work on weekends. Backhoe experience preferred.

Applicants must complete and submit a required Employment Application, which can be found in the Town Forms section of the Town web site: [www.londonderryvt.org](http://www.londonderryvt.org). Submit via email to [townadmin@londonderryvt.org](mailto:townadmin@londonderryvt.org) or mail to: Town of Londonderry, 100 Old School Street, South Londonderry, VT 05155. Other supporting information from applicants is welcome.

Positions opened until filled. The Town of Londonderry is an equal opportunity employer.



# 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.

CHESTER, Vt. - Stowe Canoe Co 13 1/2 Mansfield fiberglass and wood canoe. Condition is excellent. A real beauty! \$500.

Come see. Leave message 802-384-0347.

## 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 of-

rice 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.

CAVENDISH, Vt. - Wanted: Part-time driver. Must be flexible with hours. Car provided. \$15/hour. Duties include transporting passenger to work and other errands. Female preferred. Must be personable. Call 802-226-8131 or email jmaclean488@comcast.net.

JP TRUCKING & HODGKINS & SONS IS HIRING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS: Class A CDL driver for dump truck and lowboy. SKILLED laborers. Must be dependable and able to

follow through with the required paperwork. MUST have good work ethic. Hourly rate depends on experience. Great benefits, uniforms, vacation pay, sick pay, medical insurance, retirement, boot stipend. Equipment use discount. Please stop in the office at 485 Old Drewsville Road, Walpole, N.H.

FENCE INSTALLER - Min. age 21 w/driver's license. Benefits after qualifying period. Season generally runs into December. Apply Springfield Fence, 50 Route 106, N. Springfield. 802-886-2221.

ALL-AROUND Fabricator/Welder/Installer/Mechanic at full-line fence company and custom ornamental metal shop - Min. age 21 w/driver's license. Full-time year-round w/benefits.

Apply Springfield Fence/Hawks Mtn Ironworks, 50 Route 106, N. Springfield. 802-886-2221.

Grace's full time experienced drywaller, light carpentry, \$28 and up. 802-674-5892.

Grace's full time mechanic's helper, laborer, yard work, and

parts cleaner. 603-381-0929.

## YARD SALE

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. - Yard sale May 6, from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. at 62 Wetherby Road in Charlestown.

### TOWN OF LUDLOW, VERMONT

#### 2 POSITIONS AVAILABLE

#### EQUIPMENT OPERATOR/TRUCK DRIVER

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

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

### WATER FLUSHING NOTICE VILLAGE OF LUDLOW

On Monday, May 8, 2023 through Friday, May 12, 2023, the Village of Ludlow Water Department will be flushing the water system and testing the fire hydrant system. The flushing will take place each day from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM.

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

If you have any questions, please call the Water Department at 228-8431 or the Municipal Office at 228-2842. Thank you.

### Town and Village of Ludlow, VT Announcement 2023 Downtown and Village Center Tax Credit Program

In FY 2024, \$4.35 Million in state income tax credits are available. Credits are awarded to projects that improve building safety, attract new business, and create jobs. Projects must be within a state-designated downtown, village center, or neighborhood development area. Funding supports general rehabilitation and code compliance work. The program also funds flood mitigation upgrades and exterior facade improvements.

**Applications for the next round of tax credits are due Monday, July 3, 2023.**

The Program Guidelines and Application is posted on the Town Website [www.ludlow.vt.us](http://www.ludlow.vt.us)

You must submit applications via email to: [accd.Downtown-VillageCenterTaxCreditProgram@vermont.gov](mailto:accd.Downtown-VillageCenterTaxCreditProgram@vermont.gov)

For any questions contact:  
Caitlin Corkins | Tax Credits and Grants Coordinator  
Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development  
1 National Life Dr, Davis Bldg, 6th Floor | Montpelier, VT 05620-0501  
[Caitlin.Corkins@vermont.gov](mailto:Caitlin.Corkins@vermont.gov)  
802-828-3047

## Foxy Fund's first anniversary

REGION - During the month of May, Senior Solutions will be celebrating the first anniversary of their expanded "Foxy Fund" by promoting a major fund drive to enhance the program. The Foxy Fund began many years ago as a way to help seniors pay their pets' veterinary bills. The story of how that started with a client named Karl can be found on the Senior Solutions website. Then, in the spring of 2022, Senior Solutions received a \$20,000 grant from PetSmart Charities, which enabled them to greatly expand the fund to include monthly deliveries of pet food to all clients who receive Meals on Wheels. As of May 1, this service is now available throughout their entire service area, covering Windham and Windsor Counties.

May - which is both Older Americans Month and National Pet Month - is the perfect time to celebrate our ability to help our senior residents care for their furry

companions. A series of vignettes highlighting clients who have been helped by this fund will appear in social media ads throughout the month of May, asking readers to donate to increase the the funding level in this important program.

Studies have shown that Vermont has one of the highest pet ownership rates in the nation. Studies also show that older Americans own pets at greater rates than the general public. Often, a pet may be the only constant companion to a senior who lives alone. Seniors who have pets have been shown to maintain better health, and see improvements in their cardiovascular systems as a result of caring for and being loved by a pet. Senior Solutions asks everyone to join in celebrating this important relationship by donating to the Foxy Fund this May. Client vignettes and donation information can be found at [www.seniorsolutionsvt.org/giving/the-foxy-fund](http://www.seniorsolutionsvt.org/giving/the-foxy-fund).

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING SPRINGFIELD HOSPITAL

A public meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 5:30 - 6:30 pm, at Springfield Hospital to share information on plans to replace the pedestrian bridge that connects the hospital parking lot with the upper level of the Ridgewood Professional Building. All are invited to attend the meeting which will take place in the Level D conference room at Springfield Hospital, 25 Ridgewood Road, Springfield, VT 05156. For more information, please contact Anna Smith at [annasmith@springfieldhospital.org](mailto:annasmith@springfieldhospital.org), or call 802-885-7621.

### TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD

The Town of Springfield Development Review Board will hold their public hearings at 6:30 pm, Tuesday, May 9, 2023, to review the following development proposals: (1) 2-lot subdivision located at 105 Fairground Road. (2) Short-term rental at 481 Parker Hill Road, (3) Home business at 181 Parker Hill Road, and (4) Family Childcare facility at 68 White Street. Persons wishing to participate in the public hearing may do so in person, via zoom video conferencing, or by submitting written comments. Participation in this hearing in person, via Zoom video conference, or in writing is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal. Please contact the Town Planner (802-376-6102 /[toszoning@vermontel.net](mailto:toszoning@vermontel.net)) for copies of the meeting agenda and zoning applications.

### Town of Plymouth, Vermont Highway Department Position Available

The Town of Plymouth has an opening for a Town employee in its Highway Department. This is a full-time, year-round position. Duties will include snow plowing, sanding and salting roads, road construction, maintenance and other related duties. Applicant must hold a valid VT CDL and have experience operating a dump truck with a plow and sander.

Competitive salary as well as a great Municipal Benefit Package to include health & dental insurance, retirement plan, paid holidays, and paid vacation. Overtime is required in the winter for storm events and compensation is 1.5 times the hourly rate.

Please submit a completed application to the Plymouth Town Clerk's Office at 68 Town Office Road, Plymouth, Vermont 05056 or email [clerk@plymouthvt.org](mailto:clerk@plymouthvt.org). Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The Town of Plymouth is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Weekly SUDOKU									
Answer									
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King Crossword														
Answers														
Solution time: 25 mins.														
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B	U	S	E	S	A	R	I	S	T	O	C	R	A	T
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# yellow page BUSINESS DIRECTORY

**\$150 for 13 Weeks • \$250 for 26 Weeks • \$400 for 52 Weeks**  
Prices are based on a 20 word listing. An additional 50 cents for each word thereafter.

### Art Crafts Gifts

#### GALLERY AT THE VAULT

Vermont State Craft Center  
68 Main St., Springfield 802-885-7111  
Art Crafts Gifts & Workshops  
**OPEN Wed. 11-5, Fri. 11-7, Sat. 11-5**

*Ice Out* a show of paintings by Dan O'Donnell  
Reception on May 5 from 5-6:30

**May 20 Intro to Origami** with Gloria Dufield  
**June 3 Spring Landscape in Watercolor** with Rob O'Brien

**Call to artists: Open Wall Show On the Wild Side**

[galleryvault.org](http://galleryvault.org)  
(07/26/23 - TFN - 13)

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### 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](mailto:adam@apexventures.one) for a free quote. (05/10/23 - 13)

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#### HAMMER FOR HIRE LLC

"Not just for bangin' nails."

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](mailto:edwin.mortensen@gmail.com). Follow us on Instagram @[netthehammer](https://www.instagram.com/netthehammer) (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. (05/17/23 - 13)

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#### NEW ENGLAND HOME BUILDING AND REMODEL

802-779-3414 - Located in Weston, VT  
Kitchens, Additions, and Remodels. Finish Carpentry and Cabinet Work. Property Maintenance. Fully Insured, Free Estimates.  
Like us on FACEBOOK and INSTAGRAM!  
[www.newenglandhomebuildingandremodel.com](http://www.newenglandhomebuildingandremodel.com)  
(11/22/23 - 52)

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### Campground

#### CATON PLACE CAMPGROUND

2419 EAST ROAD, CAVENDISH VERMONT  
SEASONAL SITES AVAILABLE FOR 2023! REASONABLE RATES!  
802-226-7767, [Catonplacecamp@gmail.com](mailto:Catonplacecamp@gmail.com).

Full hook up sites, pull thru, and tent sites. Views of Okemo! Large Private Sites!  
(05/10/23 - 13)

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### 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)

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### Excavating

#### BOB N SON DIRT WORKS

Excavation/backhoe work, driveways graded/shurpak, ditches, tree work, and 45-foot lift rentals, keeping the homeowner in mind. Free estimates. Insured. Call or text Bob 802-345-3112. (07/12/23 - 13)

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### Masonry

#### DRC STONE DESIGN

Specializing in all Stone Masonry Applications including veneer, walls, patios, walkways. Fully insured. Free estimates. 32 years experience. Contact Dan Field at 802-384-0122 or [stoneart49@gmail.com](mailto:stoneart49@gmail.com) or visit [drcstone.com](http://drcstone.com). (05/24/23 - 13)

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### 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)



# outdoor

## Andover Green Up picnic returns

ANDOVER, Vt. – Signs of spring are all around – the return of migrating birds, and the first buds on trees. Unfortunately, snowmelt reveals trash along the roadsides. As in the past, Andover volunteers are encouraged to rid the roadsides of trash, and also to give our cemeteries

and town grounds a spring clean up.

Come pick up trash bags on Green Up Day at the town hall Saturday, May 6, starting at 9 a.m., and grab a coffee or water. To get a head start, volunteers may obtain bags from the town office. Green Up trash can be placed in the dumpster

in front of the town garage.

At noon, we will gather at the Town Hall to celebrate our hard work, and to enjoy a picnic. Hot dogs and soft drinks will be provided. Volunteers are asked to bring a side dish, if possible.

## Herricks Cove Wildlife Festival on May 7

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – If you're a wildlife enthusiast itching for spring, then be sure to check out the Herricks Cove Wildlife Festival on Sunday, May 7, on the Connecticut River in Rockingham, Vt. – presented by the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department and Ascutney Mountain Audubon Society.

This is a family-friendly festival, with an emphasis on the wildlife and natural resources of Vermont. The

festival will feature live animals, nature-focused walks, kids' activities, presentations, demonstrations by environmental and nature organizations, and more – all focused on getting outdoors and enjoying nature.

"The Herricks Cove Wildlife Festival gives participants a chance to learn about our native wildlife and the importance of conserving their habitats so future generations can

appreciate them as well," said MaryBeth Adler, a state wildlife biologist with Vermont Fish and Wildlife.

Activities are scheduled from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. There are small suggested donations for individuals and families. Pets are not allowed.

Herricks Cove is located just off Route 5, less than three miles north of Bellows Falls.

## Black River Rod and Gun to hold fishing derby

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Black River Valley Rod and Gun Club will hold its annual

kid's fishing derby at Cook's Pond, located on Rod and Gun Club Road in Ludlow,

on Saturday, May 13. Sign up begins at 8:30 a.m., and fishing will happen from 9-11 a.m. All children up to 15 years old are eligible to participate. Prizes will be awarded and refreshments served.

## Rockingham Green Up Day

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – May 6 is just around the corner – it's time to make your Green Up plans. Vermonters have a long history of cleaning up the roads and paths for over fifty years now. It is the best kind of town, friend, and family tradition. This year, Green Up Day is officially Saturday, May 6, but Rockingham regulars know the highway department grabs the green bags and trash early Monday, May 8. Go ahead – start cleaning up Friday, May 5, or jump in on Sunday, May 7. The familiar green bags used to clean up neighborhoods, roads, parks, and play-

grounds, are available at the Rockingham Town Clerk's Office, J&H Hardware, Lisa's Market, and the Saxtons River Village Market.

How does Green Up Day work? Head out to Rockingham roadsides and fill your Green Up bag with paper, cans, and roadside trash; it's fine to mix trash and recyclables this one time. Bright clothes and facing oncoming traffic helps you be visible to cars. Insect repellent, gloves, and boots protect against dirt and ticks. Children should tell adults if they find medical waste. Use gloves and pliers or tongs to pick up needles, and secure them in a thick plastic container, ideally marked

"Medical Waste." Once the area is clean, the green bags of trash can be left by the side of the road for town-wide pick-up by the town highway department. Bags can also be dropped off at the Bellows Falls Highway Garage on Blake Street, or the Rockingham Garage on Route 103.

Need more information? Check out the website at [www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org). Report areas that need special attention to Margo Ghia, Rockingham Green Up Coordinator, at [mtghia@gmail.com](mailto:mtghia@gmail.com). You can also leave messages for Rockingham Green Up at 802-869-1214. Let's make Rockingham look great!

## Michael Tournay to speak to SoVerA

CHESTER, Vt. – Please join the Southern Vermont Astronomy Group (SoVerA) on Tuesday, May 9, at 7 p.m. for a hybrid monthly meeting. SoVerA is excited to again host Michel Tournay, who will be discussing his adventures and experiences with solar eclipses. The in-person meeting will be at the Chester, Vt. town hall, and the virtual meeting will be available at [www.zoom.us/j/94691230307](http://www.zoom.us/j/94691230307).

Michel Tournay is the

self-proclaimed "crazy Canadian who worked most of his life in the great Canadian north, and fell in love with the auroras and the polar bears." In 1994, he saw his first solar eclipse, and was hooked. His famous post-eclipse phrase: "where and when is the next one?" Chile; Guadeloupe; Africa; the North Pole; China; Easter island, where he met his future wife Susan; Fiji, where he proposed; Svalbard, where they had their honeymoon; and the U.S.A. are

among the places where he has been able to view his newly found obsession. Being retired for four and a half years now, Michel and his wife live in Sutton, in the eastern townships of Québec. Covid made them miss the 2020 eclipse in Chile, but now they are set to see the annular eclipse next October, and the total solar eclipse in 2024.

May's presentation is all about who, what, where, when, and why to see the eclipse in 2024. SoVerA hopes to see you there.

## Chester Fishing Derby

CHESTER, Vt. – The Chester Rod and Gun Club will sponsor the annual Children's Fishing



The 2022 fishing derby.

PHOTO BY RON PATCH

Derby on Saturday, May 13, from 9-11 a.m. at the Chester reservoir. Children up to the age of 12 may participate in the event, and must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. The Children's Fishing Derby is hosted each year with the cooperation and assistance of the Vermont Department of Fish

and Wildlife. The reservoir will be stocked with trout shortly before the event. Prizes will be awarded to the lucky anglers who catch the first fish, the longest fish, and the first to catch their five fish limit. For additional information, please contact George Wilson at 802-236-1746.

**Saxtons River derby**

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – The Saxtons River annual Fishing Derby will be held May 6 at the ponds on Pleasant Valley Road. Correction: the derby will not have staggered time slots for different ages. Registration will begin at 8 a.m., with fishing beginning at 8:30 a.m., for all ages.

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# arts & entertainment

## “Ice Out” at the VAULT

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Gallery at the VAULT is proud to present “Ice Out,” a show of new works by Dan O’Donnell, on display April 26 – June 7. There will be a reception on Friday, May 5 from 5-6:30 p.m.

“Ice Out” takes us from winter into spring with Dan’s incredible use of simple shapes and objects, which create an unexpected richness of design, color,

and form that is appealing and provocative.

Dan was educated in fine art, graphic design, and printmaking at the Art Institute of Boston, Mass., and the Massachusetts College of Art. Owner of O’Donnell Designs in Springfield, he has been the recipient of numerous awards from the Vermont Advertising Club for commercial design. He has been with VAULT from

its inception, as an artist and volunteer.

Gallery at the VAULT is located at 68 Main Street, Springfield. The gallery is open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Fridays from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

For more information, call 802-885-7111, email galleryvault@vermontel.net, or visit www.galleryvault.org.

## “Rebirth” at DaVallia Gallery

CHESTER, Vt. – DaVallia invites you to a special fine art exhibition. “Rebirth” is the first exhibition in their new “Curated Collection” series. The show will run May 5 – June 16. The gallery is reopening for the season at 4 p.m. on Friday, May 5, with an opening reception from 4-7 p.m. to launch the show.

DaVallia Gallery is taking a new approach to their events this year. They are pleased to introduce “Curated Collections,” which will be a series of exhibitions focused on a selected theme. Every six weeks, the gallery will feature a new body of artwork that will be curated in conjunction with their furniture and décor collection. The new collection will be available starting 4 p.m. opening day. The

opening reception will be a wonderful evening and an opportunity to get the first chance at great new pieces and meet the artists. The series is designed to provide inspiration and a new experience upon each visit. It will also allow the gallery to showcase more work and support a larger network of regional artists.

The first exhibition, “Rebirth,” is about “spring, the season of rebirth, of hope and renewal. When we are encouraged by the increase of light and warmth as we awaken again and feel more like our true selves. The emerging greens of every shade and color, blossoms everywhere make us feel joyful. It is the season of new beginnings and full awakening. Spring is green and alive, it is a tender re-

birth after the long winter slumber, and it is welcomed with open arms.”

Established in 2009, DaVallia has been a five star destination for the arts. Located on Route 103 in the historic Stone Village of Chester, their gallery and sculpture gardens provide an inspiring atmosphere to experience a diverse array of art. To preview the show, purchase works, or to learn more about their art collection, visit them online at www.artfulvt.com. Detailed information about the artist reception is also available online or via DaVallia’s e-newsletter. To schedule an appointment for a private viewing, call Michael Alon at 802-875-8900.

## Intro to Origami at Gallery at the VAULT

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Do you remember making your first paper airplane or paper crane, the joy of learning and mastering how to fold paper-based creations?

Gloria Dufield is bringing you an opportunity to have that fun and mastery with “Intro to Origami” at Gallery at the VAULT on Saturday, May 20, from 1-3 p.m.

Starting with the basic valley and mountain folds, you will practice and then use double-sided origami paper to create at least three origami creations – a butterfly, a crane, and a frog that actually jumps. Double-sided origami paper and a plastic bone folder tool for making crisp

folds will be provided. They make great little gifts, and your new skill can be shared.

Please register by May 17. There is a registration fee, and a fee for materials.

Gallery at the VAULT is located at 68 Main Street, Springfield. The gallery is open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Fridays from 11 a.m. – 7



The VAULT will hold an origami class. PHOTO PROVIDED

p.m. For more information, call 802-885-7111, email galleryvault@vermontel.net, or visit www.galleryvault.org.

## High Flying Circus Tour comes to Claremont

CLAREMONT, N.H. – The New England Center for Circus Arts (NECCA) presents “INTERTWINE,” in which nine stories of growth and discovery are told through acrobatics and circus magic in a bold and original new work. Area audiences have the unique opportunity to see these talented performers at a matinee showing on Sunday, May 7, at the Claremont Opera House.

NECCA, based in Brattleboro, Vt., is the only full-time, educational circus program in the United States dedicated to launching emerging professionals, with an eye to invigorating the future of circus in America. For this production, NECCA has teamed with Mark Lonergan, Canadian-born Founding Artistic Director of Parallel Exit and Creative Director for Circus Smirkus. Lonergan now directs the “INTER-

TWINE” show that will tour through New York, Vermont, and New Hampshire.

The show is funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Vermont Arts Council, and New England Foundation for the Arts,

as well as sponsor businesses including Brattleboro Savings & Loan, Holiday Inn Express, BackRoads Granola, Oak Meadow, Berkeley & Veller, and Bill Sapsis.

Performances are for all ages, and guests may pur-

## “Apple Blossom Cotillion” on SAPA

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Springfield Area Public Access Television will broadcast the premiere of the historical documentary “Apple Blossom Cotillion: A Springfield Tradition” on Saturday, May 6 at 7 p.m.

This full-length film tells the story of how the Apple Blossom Cotillion was created and has endured as a constant in the life of Springfield, Vt. for more than sixty years, despite the many societal and cultural changes in both the town and the nation. With its elements of elegant pageant and popular entertainment, the cotillion has consistently presented a unique opportunity to showcase young people and connect the community.

Directed and edited by independent videographer Cindy Putorti, the

film includes clips from the Cotillion’s 50th and 60th anniversary productions, as well as interviews with judges, directors, and past queens. It also includes local historical material provided by the Springfield Art and Historical Society.

The Apple Blossom Cotillion began in 1957 as a debutante ball by members of the Springfield Hospital Auxiliary, who were predominantly the wives of local business leaders. The Auxiliary was an independent nonprofit organization that produced the event for more than forty years, each year making a gift to the hospital from its proceeds. The event has been presented by Springfield Hospital since 2000.

Over the years, the performances of the young people have become the focal point of the event, as the music became more contemporary, and elementary school chil-

dren became a popular addition to the show. However, the formal presentations of high school senior girls and their escorts, including their traditional curtsy and bow, continued to result in the crowning of another Apple Blossom Queen. Among its many regional and national recognitions, the event was featured in Yankee Magazine.

Larry Kraft, who was the emcee of the Apple Blossom Cotillion for twenty years, will introduce the film on SAPA TV. After its showing, he will also host a live question-and-answer session with the director of the documentary.

Following this premiere broadcast, the video and accompanying live sessions will be available on SAPA TV’s website along with its current library of the past twenty Apple Blossom Cotillions.

## St. Luke’s Mission Theatre events —

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – On Mother’s Day, May 14, at 2 p.m., Charlestown’s very talented Becker Sisters will perform – Kirsten on piano and Alyssa on guitar and vocals. Entitled “Come to My Garden,” they will feature classical works by Dvorak, Gershwin, and Faure, and cinematic selections including “Summertime,” “Baby Mine,” “Climb Every Mountain,” and “You’ll Never Walk Alone.” Listening to these young musicians will be a Mother’s Day treat to thrill the whole family.

On Friday, May 19, at 7 p.m., the Matsiko World Orphan Choir will tour Charlestown and perform songs from their repertoire of world music. Since 2008, the Matsiko Choir has brought together orphaned and vulnerable children to share their story of turning the pain of loss, hunger, and hopelessness into personal empowerment through



The Matsiko World Orphan Choir will tour Charlestown. PHOTO PROVIDED

music, dance, and storytelling. The Liberian students coming to Charlestown are honored to represent other Matsiko children from around the world. Come and hear how the choir uses the unifying power of music to uplift every child and bring joy to all who listen. A

free will donation to support the education of the choir members will be taken.

Children under 12 enter for free; for all others, tickets can be purchased at the door, or online at www.eventbrite.com. St. Luke’s doors will open a half hour before curtain time.

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# sports

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## Chester Volleyball League 2023 season

**CHESTER, Vt.** – The Chester Vermont Volleyball League (CVVL) is excited to announce the start of its upcoming 2023 outdoor volleyball season. The league, which brings together players of all skill levels ages 14 and up, aims to promote fitness and community.

The new sand courts at Thomas Field, located at the corner of Balch Road and route 11 in Chester, are the passion project of the local volleyball community. This year, the courts come complete with outdoor lighting and a new pavilion, with bath-

rooms and a rustic kitchen, making it the perfect spot for post-game grill-outs.

“Our league is all about creating a fun and inclusive environment for people to play volleyball,” says Jessica Citera, local realtor and the organizer of the league. “We strive to provide a supportive and positive atmosphere where everyone can enjoy the game, make friends, and keep the spirit of volleyball in southern Vermont alive.”

The summer league is open to coed teams with up to eight players, and

will play on Tuesday nights throughout the summer, starting on May 23 and ending with a playoff tournament on Aug. 26. Team fees include membership access to all league events.

For those who aren't able to commit to a full season of play, interested volleyballers can look forward to pick-up nights on Fridays and Sundays, monthly tournaments, and an end-of-season 4s league that starts in August.

The Chester Vermont Volleyball League has already generated a buzz in the community. Many enthusiastic new and returning players are signing up to participate in the upcoming season, and to help the club introduce the sport to new generations of players.

For more information on the Chester Vermont Volleyball League, including how to sign up, please visit us on Facebook @chestervolleyball or email chestervolleyball@gmail.com.

## Cosmos beat Otters 50-33

**BRANDON, Vt.** – On Monday, April 24, the Cosmos headed up north to take yet another win with a 50-33 victory over the Otter Valley Otters. Springfield Unified Basketball is on a three-game winning streak. In Otter Valley, Springfield was able to have every single Cosmos score on their team. With this accomplishment, and their sportsmanlike conduct, they conquered.

Sebastian Salls came out strong in the first quarter with six points and rebound after rebound. The cosmos were dominating the boards offensively and defensively throughout the contest. Tim Jack-

son also battled the boards and earned six points, with three rebounds and one steal. Brianna Salo and Lexy Bills each chipped in two in the first eight minutes, with Springfield ending the quarter with a 16-7 lead.

The lead continued into the second quarter, with rebounds from Alana Blum and Sam Bailey. Bailey was strong on offense, with putbacks that gave him six points, and Blum was able to get a basket as well.

In the third quarter, more buckets were made. For the Cosmos the team scattered these points throughout the game with each player contributing their share. By doing this, they were able to increase their lead by 17 points at the end of the third

quarter with a 40-23 lead. In the final quarter, they shared more buckets amongst themselves to give Springfield the big win over Otter Valley.

Throughout the whole game, Springfield's players scored points, rebounded, and played hard defense.

Final point totals were Sebastian Salls with 10 points, Tim Jackson with eight points, Lexy Bills and Sam Bailey both with six points, Emily Toner, Isaiah Short, Josh Graves, and Alan Blum each with four points, and Brianna Salo, Patrick Toner, and Nakita Merritt each with two points.

On Wednesday, April 26, Springfield heads out to Mill River for a 4 p.m. tip off.

## Reinbow Riding Center

**BELMONT, Vt.** - On Saturday, May 6, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., Reinbow Riding Center (RRC) will be holding their annual Spring Volunteer Orientation and Clinic. This is a chance for everyone to get up close and personal with a few of their extraordinary horses, and experience the comradery of the volunteer staff

and team. It is also a chance for anyone that is curious about Reinbow Riding Center to visit and see if you would like to join the team.

No horse experience is necessary, as there are many other ways lend a hand, but if you have always wanted to experience horses, this is a great way to get started. The riding center provides services for individuals from age 3 and up, and volunteers are usually age 14 and up. Volunteering with RRC can also fulfill community service commitments.

Reinbow Riding Center is a therapeutic horsemanship center, located at Stone Wall Farm in Belmont. RRC's goal is to extend horizons not just with the scenery, but also as a participant or a volunteer. Many participant riders are children with special needs and challenges of all types – physical, emotional, cognitive, or trauma related. Therapeutic horse-

manship has been shown to give individuals with challenges a leg up, and help them improve their lives. School children who have participated in their programs will often get a whole new outlook, and have fewer difficulties at school. The physical aspects of riding can also be very therapeutic for those with physical challenges, expanding and improving their abilities.

Volunteering is a commitment, but at RRC it's a very flexible commitment. For more information, please visit their new website, [www.reinbowridingcenter.org](http://www.reinbowridingcenter.org), and follow us on Facebook or Instagram, @reinbow\_riding\_center. Contact us at programs@reinbowridingcenter.org or 802-236-2483 to inquire about our programs and lessons. For information about opportunities to volunteer with us contact janetupton@reinbowridingcenter.org.

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