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Main Street Arts invites seniors to get creative

BY PAULA BENSON
The Shopper

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – The Vermont Arts Council’s Creative Aging Initiative is a statewide effort supporting grants for organizations to offer meaningful arts learning experiences for older Vermonters. Begun in 2021, the initiative addresses some of the challenges facing older adults, such as isolation and ageism, and seeks to improve quality of life, support emotional wellbeing and good health, strengthen social engagement, and provide a sense of community.

According to the council’s website, “more than 9% of Vermonters are at least 65 years of age, and Vermont is on track to be the oldest state in the nation by 2032. Vermont also has one of the highest life expectancy rates at nearly 80 years of age.”

A study on the benefits of arts programs for seniors, conducted by the National Endowment for the Arts in cooperation with The

George Washington University, found there to be “strikingly positive differences” between two control groups of older adults, one involved in a weekly art program, and one going about their business as usual. After two years, the group involved in the consistent, participatory art program reported better health, fewer doctor visits, and less medication usage. The participants’ mental health improved, and their involvement in overall activities increased.

Main Street Arts (MSA) in Saxtons River will host a series of Creative Aging classes beginning on Feb. 6, through June 8. Class tuition is free, and MSA will provide all necessary materials, with a nominal registration fee.

Ashley Storrow, MSA program director, is excited that the series came together and has generated a lot of interest. “It’s wonderful,” Storrow exclaimed. “The real goal of course is not the art classes, but to encourage creativity and community building



Louise Luring (left) and Donna Anderson aging creatively. PHOTO PROVIDED

among area seniors, who can be quite isolated.”

A vocal instructor and the diversity, equity, and inclusion director for the Vermont Academy, Storrow also performs and writes songs as half of the acoustic folk duo “The Early Risers.”

Storrow said grant funds allowed MSA to hire experienced teaching artists trained to work with older adults aged 60 and above,

and, most importantly, pay them a sustainable wage. A big part of MSA’s mission is to support and maintain a network of working artists.

Support from Senior Solutions in Springfield includes a free community lunch every Tuesday from 12-1 p.m. at MSA. All area seniors are invited to attend the community lunches, not just registered students.

Thomas Simmons, nutri-

tion and wellness director for Senior Solutions, commented, “This was a real collaborative effort, not only between MSA and Senior Solutions, but a number of different funders, who really cobbled together a great program.”

The goal was to offer a wide variety of instruction geared toward the needs and interests of area seniors, and last October, MSA hosted an open house, inviting older residents to “stop by to have a chance to talk with the different artists, and express what they were interested in learning.” More than 40 people attended the event. “The courses in the series are the result of what those seniors voiced,” Simmons explained.

An Expressive Arts Exploration class taught by Susan-Marie Beauchemin will assist older adults with processing loss. As an expressive arts therapist, MA, CAGS, Beauchemin has helped at-risk families, survivors of domestic violence, and substance abusers work

toward a place of healing and acceptance.

Mosaic and mural artist Susan Rosano will lead a class on making an art journal. Similar to a conventional journal, but created from doodles, sketches, old photos, and magazine clippings, the project encourages creative self-reflection.

Other classes include bookmaking techniques and creating memory boxes with Amber Paris, and a step-by-step class in cyanotype taught by photographer and artist Evie Lovett.

Simmons mentioned an additional class not yet on the schedule. With support from the Vermont Community Foundation, an art class for long-term HIV survivors will be offered, taught by Susan Rosano, where participants will create individual expressive art pieces that will be displayed at the Bellows Falls Pride Festival held in June.

Schedule and information for the class series can be found at the MSA and Senior Solutions websites.

Rockingham seeks voter input on the future of Town Meeting

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – The New England town meeting is regarded by many as the purest form of democracy. Rockingham’s first such meeting took place in March of 1761, but dwindling attendance in recent years has raised questions about how and if this traditional form of local government should continue. Only .03% of the town’s registered voters attended in 2023.

At last year’s meeting, the selectboard agreed to research public sentiment and gather suggestions

about the future of Town Meeting. Board members Bonnie North and Rick Cowan volunteered to develop, distribute, and share the results of an unofficial, non-binding survey.

Voters are invited to complete the brief survey in one of the following ways:

- 1) On paper by completing a printed survey form available at Town Hall, Village Booksellers in The Square, Rockingham Free Public Library, the senior center, Lisai’s Market, and The Village Market in Sax-

tons River.

2) Online via a link on the town’s website, www.rockinghamvt.org.

3) Online by typing this link into your browser: www.surveymonkey.com/r/5GKCGYJ.

North and Cowan will present the results at this year’s Town Meeting, which will commence at 7 p.m. on March 4.

For further information, contact the Municipal Manager’s Office via email at manager@rockbf.org, or by phone at 802-463-3964.

Lions Diaper Brigade donates 24,000 diapers

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. –

Recently, parent child centers across Vermont, including the Springfield Area Parent Child Center (SAPCC), received unexpected news: funding for the support of diaper banks throughout Vermont was being discontinued. This was a huge blow to the 15 parent child centers that provide diapers and wipes to thousands of families



Deb Savery (left) and Kayla Bapp stand with boxes of diapers that they picked up for the SAPCC diaper bank. PHOTO PROVIDED

WWHT set to begin affordable housing project in Springfield

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Work is expected to begin soon on a new affordable homeownership project on South Street in Springfield that will replace a burned and blighted house with a new, Zero Energy Modular Home. The property is being redeveloped under Windham and Windsor Housing Trust’s (WWHT) Shared Equity Program, and presents an affordable homeownership opportunity for qualified homebuyers. Critical gap funding for construction is through the VHFA Missing Middle Homeownership Program.

“I am excited to now have the funding in place to replace the burned home and make an affordable home available to a family,” says Bruce Whit-

ney, director of homeownership. “And, the home will stay affordable to the next buyers on a permanent basis through the Shared Equity Program.”

The multi-phase process for construction will begin with demolition of the burned structure. Once the site is ready, WWHT will work with a qualified buyer to secure a general contractor. Construction will likely be complete by fall of 2024.

Features and benefits of the three-bedroom, one-and-a-half-bath home include new, high quality, energy-efficient construction with low maintenance, heating, and cooling costs; full basement and outdoor shed, offering plenty of storage space; entry porch, out-

door space, and safe entry to the house. The home is within walking distance of the high school, and close to downtown shopping and amenities.

Under the Shared Equity Program guidelines, the property will be made available to qualified homebuyers who have completed WWHT’s Homebuyer Education Workshop. Interested buyers can sign up for the class on the WWHT website, or contact their WWHT homeownership specialist for next steps if they have already completed the course.

The Missing Middle-Income Homeownership Development Program was established in 2022 to create new, modest homes throughout the state and

help meet the needs of low and moderate-income households, due to decades of underinvestment in homeownership and increasing median home prices. The program provides subsidies and incentives for homebuilders to construct or rehabilitate modest homes affordable to Vermont homebuyers at or below 120% of the area median income. Subsidies from the program will remain in the homes in perpetuity.

More information about WWHT’s Homeownership Center, including the Shared Equity Homeownership Program, is available at www.homemattershere.org.

across the state every year. When a family has to make a choice between providing food or diapers for their children, it becomes the choice no one should have to make.

With this huge stumbling block to supporting these families, SAPCC set out to find ways to cover the loss. Deb Savery, who has been a Lions Clubs member for more than 30 years and is a PCC specialist at SAPCC, decided to approach the Vermont Lions Clubs to see how they could help. This organization, which is more known for providing glasses than diapers, immediately took up the cause and jumped in to help. With this, the District 45 Lions Diaper Brigade was born.

Fifteen clubs stepped forward, creating PSAs for their local communities to educate them

on the need for diaper drives, and went door to door asking neighbors and friends to contribute. The Vermont Lions were able to collect over 24,000 diapers and almost as many wipes for parent child centers across the state. Though this will only last a matter of months, it has been enough to bring the need for this kind of fundraiser to the communities’ notice – a need that isn’t always on the forefront of the local news, but one that will continue to be an important consideration for many families throughout Vermont.

Though not all the clubs in the state were able to participate last year due to previous ongoing project commitments, many of them have said they would be happy to participate this year when the District 45 Lions Diaper Brigade, along with other organizations, will once again help support this most important cause.

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Readers' theater and author to visit

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The Rockingham Free Public Library will host theater professor and author Dorothy Chansky for a readers' theater presentation of Alice Brown's "Joint Owners in Spain," and discussion of her latest book "Losing It: Staging the Cultural Conundrum of Dementia and Decline in American Theatre," on Saturday, Jan. 13, at 11 a.m. Coffee and doughnuts will be provided by the Rockingham Library.

The reading is directed by Sara Vitale, and performed by Maggie McGlone-Jennings, Judy Hallberg, Barbara Ball, and Anna Kendall. Chansky will discuss how her book explores 11 dementia plays that have been produced in the United States over the past century. Chansky

is the author of "Kitchen Sink Realisms: Domestic Labor, Dining, and Drama in American Theatre" (University of Iowa Press, 2015); and "Composing Ourselves: The Little Theatre Movement and the American Audience" (Southern Illinois University Press, 2004). She is immediate past vice president of publications for the American Society for Theatre Research, a past president of the American Theatre and Drama Society, a past editor of Theatre Annual, and a past book review editor of Theatre Journal.

Her work has appeared in Theatre Survey, Theatre History Studies, TDR, The Journal of American Drama and Theatre, Theatre Journal, and Modern Drama. She writes criticism

for New York Theatre Wire. She holds a doctorate in performance studies from NYU; A Master of Arts in theater from The Catholic University of America; and a bachelor's in English from Smith College. She now lives in Bellows Falls.

This program is free, open to the public, and accessible to those with disabilities. In case of cancellation due to weather, the program will be rescheduled for Saturday, Jan. 20.

For more information, email reference@rockinghamlibrary.org, call 802-463-4270, go to www.rockinghamlibrary.org, or stop by the Rockingham Library at 65 Westminster Street in Bellows Falls.

January Tech Help at Springfield Library

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – January Tech Help classes have been scheduled at the Springfield Town Library. Individual sessions are available for computers, tablets, and smartphones.

Chris Bloomfield, the library's information technology manager, will be able to provide two sessions on two Mondays, Jan. 15 and Jan. 29, at 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. These sessions are one hour long, and

need to be scheduled ahead of time on a first-come, first-served basis. Library staff cannot repair your device, fill out forms for you, or provide any legal or financial advice, but are glad to help with many other concerns.

A small group class will be held at 1 p.m. for "Evaluating Online Information." Participants will learn how to identify reliable sources of information, spot misinformation and bias, and the importance of looking at

multiple and different viewpoints. This class is perfect for anyone who wants to be a smarter consumer of online information. Learn how to make informed decisions in the digital age.

For all classes, you may bring your own device, or use the library's Windows laptops. Registration is required for all tech help sessions. Sign up today by calling the library at 802-885-3108, or online at www.springfieldtownlibrary.org.

Americans in Captivity at Rockingham Library

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Towards the end of the war in Vietnam, dur-

ing the spring of 1973, the North Vietnamese released 591 American POWs for Operation Homecoming. According to U.S. military intelligence, by late 1972, close to 1,200 Americans were being held in Vietnam, roughly 300 in Laos, 100 in Cambodia.

So what happened to the rest of them?

Get an idea as to the what and why on Wednesday, Jan. 17, at 7 p.m., at the Rockingham Public Library. The event is free and open to all.



An image taken by a U.S. spy satellite over Laos in 1988, showing a USAF pilot distress signal. PHOTO PROVIDED



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1849 Gold Rush

BY RON PATCH

802-374-0119
ronpatch27@gmail.com

As New England's population increased in the early 1800s, a slow, westerly migration began. By the 1840s, pioneers in wagon trains were traveling west to Oregon. These pioneers came from New England and other eastern states. Some came from Vermont and New Hampshire.

With the discovery of gold in California, many went west to seek their fortune. These prospectors wrote home to tell family and friends their experiences. Very few ever struck it rich.

Because these letters were mailed back east, they do show up now and then. Not as often today as 40 years ago, but occasionally, I still find one. Below is such a letter.

I have copied it as handwritten the best I could. I

didn't correct spelling or punctuation. I suggest you read it slow and maybe twice. I had to. It's an interesting historical account. It was mailed home to Cavendish.

"Marattan May 9th 1849

Dear Sir

Having a few leisure moments to day I thought I should write you a line to you as you are probably anxious to hear from me. There is a Steamer here direct from San Francisco. I have seen a lump worth \$32 and another worth \$9. It makes a fellows eyes shine to look at them. I have conversed with a man direct from California, he brings news more extravagaus than any that I have before heard Work is \$10 per day at San Francisco. There has been several murders committed lately but they say there is good order there now. A man in the Steam boat says

that a man can dig from 1 to 9 ounces per day. A fellow has got to work if he gets any gold. A person that has never been accustomed to work cannot endure the fatigue of digging gold. There is a great many clerks from New York gone there, they will wilt like hot house plants before a burning [illegible] A stout healthy man is not in much danger. There is some sicknefs at the mines. I cannot give much reliable information now, when I get there I shall let you know all about it We left Vera Cruz on the 14 of March and arrived at San Blas on the 1 of May We sail on a Brigoutine belonging to port of San Blas owned by the French Consul at that place called the Dos Amigos (or two friends) We started from Vera Cruz with a wagon but sold it at Jalapa and bought horses and pack mules. We paid from \$30 to \$40 for our horses and mules and

sold them on an average at a lofs of about \$20 per head. I have not time here to give you any particulars in relation to our journey When I get time I shall tell you the whole story I am in a hurry to day I am well and tough as a knot give my respects to all inquiring friends

Respectfully yours D E Harlow

P.S. Please send this to Maria"

There were three main routes to California. Traveling cross-country in a wagon train took months to complete. And of course the Indians didn't welcome the new arrivals. Sailing around the tip of South America to San Francisco was a very long and dangerous journey. The rough seas around Cape Horn claimed a number of wooden ships.

Some traveled overland through Mexico, as the author of this letter did. Either



A wagon train navigating Ute Indian Pass in Colorado, on their way west.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY RON PATCH

route was a dangerous trek.

Instead of an old saying, I offer a short story. The town dump was on the Dump Road. Winslow Hale was the dump man. One day, my brother Brian was speeding down the Dump Road in his '66 Chevella. As Brian came into a curve, Winslow was coming the

other way. Brian was speeding and Winslow was in the center of the road. Brian swerved to miss Winslow, and ran off the road. Winslow stopped. Brian got out his car and chewed Winslow a new one. Winslow said, "I don't know why you're so upset. You came just as close to me as I came to you."

MLK Day and "Selma" film at BFOH

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The third Monday in January is designated as Martin Luther King Jr. Day. This year, the recognition falls on what would have been Dr. King's 95th birthday.

The day was established as a result of his assassination on April 4, 1968, to recognize his contributions to the Civil Rights Movement. Dr. King was a Baptist minister who believed that a platform of nonviolence was the most effective way to address racial segregation, and first gained national attention during the Montgomery, Ala., bus boycott in 1955.

He also spearheaded the March on Washington in 1963, eventually leading in 1964 to passage of the Civil Rights Act and receipt of the Nobel Prize for Peace.

The Civil Rights Movement served as a catalyst to bring attention to many

social justice movements, including women's and gay rights. In recognition of this year's important and challenging political landscape for the LGBTQ+ community, Bellows Falls Pride will sponsor a film screening of "Selma" on Wednesday, Jan. 17, at the Bellows Falls Opera House (BFOH), located on The Square in Bellows Falls, Vt.

The historical film features a star-studded cast including David Oyelowo, Tom Wilkinson, and Tim Roth in key roles. The two-hour saga is a depiction of Dr. King's campaign to secure equal voting rights for African Americans, culminating in the 1965 march from Selma to Montgomery, Ala., led by King and Rep. John Lewis. It was nominated for Best Picture, Best Director, and won Best Original Song for "Glory," performed by John Legend.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., show begins at 7 p.m. Tickets can be purchased online or at the door. A birthday recognition will be held for Dr. King, with desserts provided by the Windham Northeast Supervisory Union Farm to Table Café at Bellows Falls Union High School.

Bellows Falls Pride is an initiative of the non-profit Rockingham Arts and Museum Project, founded in 1997. The opera house is wheelchair accessible.

Find Bellows Falls Pride on Facebook, or visit www.bellowsfallspride.com and www.bellowsfallsoperahouse.com for more information.

Saxtons River Art sponsors exhibits

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – Members of the Saxtons River Art Guild (SRAG) will display their work during January and February.

Currently on display at the Rockingham Medical Center in Bellows Falls is a solo display of watercolors by Ann Newsmith, and a group exhibit that includes work by Donna Cary, Lori Ebare, Barbara Greenough, Kathy Greve, Ellen Howard, Donna Lund, Marjorie Layman, Linda Rothchild, and Liz Winchester-Larson. These exhibits are open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., through Feb. 28.

Starting Jan. 10, the Whiting Library in Chester will showcase SRAG members, including Carolyn Berglund, Donna Cary, Nancy DiMauro, Lori Ebare, Sandy Greene, Barbara Gre-

enough, Kathy Greve, Ellen Howard, Marjorie Layman, Donna Lund, Ann Newsmith, Lainie Senechal, Kris Stewart, and Liz Winchester-Larson. It is open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. A reception will be held on Saturday, Jan. 13, from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., at the Whit-

ing Library. The snow date is Saturday, Jan. 20, from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

In Brattleboro, artwork will be displayed at Ramunto's during restaurant hours. The participants include Carolyn Berglund, Sandy Greene, Kathy Greve, Donna Lund, Barbara Greenough, and Liz Winchester-Larson.

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opinion

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Dear Editor,

As another successful season comes to a close, the vendors of the Springfield Farmers' Market wish to acknowledge the contributions of all those who made that success possible. Due to the generosity of Bob Flint and the SRDC, we enjoyed a safe and family-friendly location to meet our customers. Many thanks to Alice

and Taylor of the Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce for working so hard to keep us involved in the chamber's myriad activities.

To our hometown papers, The Springfield Reporter, The Vermont Journal & The Shopper Newspaper, and The Eagle Times, as well as to John Landry of WCFR,

we extend our thanks for the excellent coverage you gave our season. And finally, to our customers, who were there whatever the weather, deepest thanks. We'll see you in the spring!

Sincerely,
The Springfield Farmers Market

Dear Editor,

This is a fateful year for America. My country. Your country. Our country.

We either will keep our republic, or we will lose it.

America is a democratic republic based on a written constitution and the rule of law. If, in 2024, we choose lawlessness, then we will have voted against America.

America is liberty for everyone. We professed this truth in our Declaration of Independence, that we are all created equal and are rightful heirs to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

America is a government of the people, by the people, and for the people, as Abraham Lincoln stated at Gettysburg. America is not a country ruled by one person. No king or queen, no dictator, no supreme religious leader – no one person to dictate how we live or for whom we vote.

America is the promise that we each will have the opportunity to become who we are meant to be. What is required of us as American citizens is to make sure this promise is available to each of us.

America is a union. We the people declared this to be true in our preamble to our Constitution. America does not recognize "red" states or "blue" states.

America has 50 united states. Indeed, we wrote our American constitution to "form a more perfect union," not to divide it.

America is precious. She represents who we want to be as Americans, who we know we can be if we simply remember and live by the words that define us.

America is the embodiment of everything we the people believed to be true and right when we declared our independence in 1776, and when we ordained and established our constitution for the United States of America in 1787.

I love America, and I believe in her still. Do you?

Sincerely,
Susan Sommer
Weston, Vt.

Winter safety tips

REGION – We get quite a few calls every winter involving subjects who have slipped and fallen on ice or suffered from exposure because they were unprepared for the conditions or they have been outside for too long. Here are a few cold weather safety precautions.

Dress warmly, preferably with layers, which trap body heat. Use the correct footwear. Wear warm, waterproof boots with good tread, and if needed use clip-on cleats for added traction.

Prep walkways and

steps with railings and anti-slip treads, and use plenty of sand or salt. In addition, walkways, porches, and entrances should be well lit.

Shovel snow carefully and slowly. It can dangerously strain your heart, as well as injure your back or neck.

Know the early signs of hypothermia. If you are violently shivering, are feeling exhausted and confused, have fumbling hands and/or slurred speech, please retire to a warm place.

It is very important for members of the community who wear medical alert bracelets or necklaces to

have them on when they are outside. There is a good chance that a subject unable to stand up unaided will suffer from hypothermia, frostbite, or worse in a short period of time.

We hope you find these tips useful. Be safe out there. There's still quite a bit of winter to go.

The Londonderry Volunteer Rescue Squad (LVRS) is on call 24/7, 365 days a year. We are never out of service.

We need your help. To learn more about LVRS, to donate, or to volunteer, please go to www.londonderryrescuevt.org.

Food for Life Vegan Potluck

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Join us for the Food for Life Vegan Potluck on Sunday, Jan. 14, from 3:30-5:30 p.m., at the Huber building, 80 Main Street in Springfield, Vt. We gather monthly to share good food and socialize.

Why potluck? It is a good way to connect with people and build a sense of community. Why vegan? Everybody

can eat plant-based food, but people who don't eat animal products don't find much they can eat at regular potlucks. Eating just plants cuts out cholesterol, reduces saturated fats, and increases intake of fiber and a wide range of nutrients, so it is healthier for us overall. It is also healthier for the planet. Growing plants for food reduces production of methane, a greenhouse

gas that is much more powerful than carbon dioxide, and uses less open land and fewer fossil fuels than raising plants to feed animals to feed people. You don't have to be vegan to enjoy these potlucks. Just bring something to share that has only plant and mineral ingredients, and enjoy the interesting and delicious foods that are the hallmark of these potlucks.

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. Viewpoints do not necessarily reflect the views of The Vermont Journal & The Shopper.

AS OF MARCH, 2023, we will charge for POLITICAL LETTERS at the rate of \$75 for 200 words, and \$0.50 per word thereafter.



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Resolutions to keep you safe from fraud

REGION – January marks a new year; a fresh start. It's a time for resolutions, but sadly, most of us part ways with these best-of-intentions. Resolving to lose weight somehow disappears around Valentine's Day, and pledging to exhibit less road rage dissolves when someone grabs that parking space you wanted. What we fail to recognize is that resolutions require a change in behavior – a long-term commitment. Here are some suggested resolutions from members of our AARP Fraud Watch Team. Many of these suggestions are "one and done" or "set it and forget it," where no follow-up is required, no

behavior change, while others will only succeed if you are persistent.

Contact the four major credit bureaus and put a freeze or lock on your credit accounts. They are Equifax, 800-525-6285; Trans Union, 800-680-7289; Experian, 888-397-3742; and Innovis, 800-540-2505. It may take a little effort to complete, but the peace of mind and security is well worth it.

If you don't know the caller, don't answer the phone. If it's important, the caller will leave a message; if there's no message, then it wasn't important.

Be proactive in your community. Share knowledge with your communi-

ty on Front Porch Forum and other social media, in letters to the editor, or anywhere you can.

Embrace two-factor authentication, every day and every time you log in. Two-factor authentication requires two forms of identification to access your accounts, giving you the ability to monitor and help safeguard your most valuable information.

Add your phone number(s) to the do not call list – 888-382-1222. Scammers do not respect that list; odds are that unrecognizable calls are scams.

Ignore unsolicited text messages and calls from unfamiliar and unidentified phone numbers.

Read every explanation of benefits (EOB) received from health insurance companies, and Medicare Summary Notice (MSN), to verify medical services you received, and report errors to the agency or company sending the notice.

Install a password manager and add one frequently-used password to its vault. As you use it, you'll be pleased by the

convenience, and you'll want to use it for other passwords as well.

If it sounds too good to be true, it is.

Ignore text messages and emails congratulating you on winning prizes, from companies with which you do not conduct business. If you are told you need to pay a tax or fee for your prize, it's a scam.

While adopting these resolutions will not make you scam-proof, they will add to your defenses and possibly save you from becoming a victim of a very sophisticated criminal.

Consider becoming a Fraud Watch volunteer. The training will come from your peers, and the commitment is yours to determine. If you have questions or comments, email egreenblott@aarp.org.

Written by Elliott Greenblott, a retired educator and coordinator of the AARP Vermont Fraud Watch Network. He hosts a CATV program, "Mr. Scammer," distributed by GNAT-TV in Sunderland, Vt. – www.gnat-tv.org.

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"Everyone is equal, and their voices are heard at the flat table; a fair table to honestly deal with anything."

obituaries

Catherine Hallock, 1952-2023

GRAFTON, Vt. – Catherine “Cathy” Plummer Hallock passed away on Dec. 19, 2023, at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, N.H., after a short illness.

Cathy was born on Sept. 29, 1952, in Townshend, Vt., to Joseph and Ann Plummer.

Cathy graduated from BFUHS in 1970, and attended Green Mountain College. In 1972, she graduated with a with a medical assistance degree and went to work for Dr. Orr from 1972-1976.

Cathy met Paul Hallock, and they were married on Aug. 11, 1973. Together they owned and operated Hallock Boarding Kennel since 1986.

Cathy loved playing croquet, playing board games, long drives with Paul, and taking pic-

tures of wildlife.

Cathy was involved as treasurer of Grafton Cares for 10 years, Grafton Community Church, Red Hats Society, and loved being part of the Grafton community her whole life.

Cathy is survived by her husband Paul; two sons Rob and his wife Kellie; and John and his wife Kellie; and four grandchildren Abriella, Will, Kory, and Sophia.

Cathy is also survived by brothers John and Joe Plummer, as well as many nieces, nephews, and great-nieces and great-nephews.

A Celebration of Life will be announced in the spring.

Arrangements are entrusted to the care of the Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home, 55 Westminster Street, Bellows Falls, Vt.

Regina A. Borden, 1937-2023

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Regina Andrea (Greagor) Borden was born in West Hazleton, Pa., daughter of Andrew Greagor and Anna (Plitnick) Greagor, on Feb. 26, 1937.

She attended St. Mary’s School in Plainfield, N.J., and when a sophomore moved to Stratford, Conn., where she graduated from Stratford High School.

Her first job was secretary to the assistant superintendent of schools in Stratford, Conn., for two years.

After her marriage to Robert H. Borden Jr., they moved to Greenville Air Force Base in Mississippi, where she worked in civil service at the base for two years.

Upon her return to Connecticut, she worked part-time at Raybestos-Manhattan for two years.

The family would then move to Northridge, Calif., where they resided for one year.

In 1964, they moved to Westminster, Vt., where they managed the Westminster Motel and Restaurant for almost eight years. After the business was sold, they moved to Bellows Falls, Vt.

Regina is survived by two children Deborah Ann Borden-Miller and her husband Kevin of Littleton, Colo., and Daniel James Borden of Springfield, Vt.

Regina worked at the Bliss & Lawlor Insurance Agency in Bellows Falls, Vt., from 1965-1981. She worked at Whitney Blake of Vermont from 1981-1987.

She then worked for the Town of Rockingham/Village of Bellows Falls from 1987 until her retirement in 2001. During this period of time she was the village clerk for the Village of Bellows Falls until 2000. During her residency in Saxtons River,

Vt., Regina was the village clerk until 2001.

Following retirement from full-time work, she continued to work part time as a recording secretary for the Town of Walpole Selectboard and the Town of Walpole Planning Board, plus the recording secretary for the Town of Charlestown Selectboard and Planning Board.

While living in both New Jersey and Connecticut, Regina was an avid tap and ballet dancer. She took lessons at the American School of Ballet in New York City, and took tap dancing lessons from Fred Kelly (Gene Kelly’s brother). She appeared in many plays, recitals, and was a featured dancer on a local TV show. After moving to Vermont she continued this profession, appearing in the Great Falls Players plays, was choreographer for the Junior Miss Pageants at Bellows Falls Union High School for two years, and gave lessons at the YMCA for children for many years.

Regina Borden was a member of the Bellows Falls Woman’s Club from 2008-2017, and on the board of directors for Westminster Cares from 2008-2017.

Calling hours took place on Tuesday, Jan. 2, from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., at the Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home, 55 Westminster Street, Bellows Falls. A Funeral Mass was held Tuesday at 12:30 p.m., at St. Charles Church in Bellows Falls. Burial was on Wednesday, Jan. 3, at 1 p.m., at St. Michael Cemetery in Stratford, Conn.

In lieu of flowers, please consider giving to Westminster Cares at www.westminster-cares.org.

Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home, 55 Westminster Street in Bellows Falls, has been entrusted with arrangements.

Robert E. Gelineau,



1931-2024

ASCUTNEY, Vt. – Robert Edgar Gelineau, 92, of Ascutney, Vt., passed away after a period of declining health on Jan. 1, 2024, at his home with his wife by his side. Bob was born on Sept. 30, 1931, in Springfield, Vt.; he was the son of Edgar and Pearl (Watkins) Gelineau. He attended Springfield schools, graduating from Springfield High School Class of 1949, and from the SHS Machine Tool Co-op program in 1950.

Bob served in the United States Navy during the Korean Conflict, beginning in December of 1950, as a machine repairman in the Tug Repair Division in Norfolk, Va., and then aboard the aircraft carrier USS Randolph, being discharged in late November of 1954.

After discharge from the Navy, Bob was employed by the Fellows Gear Shaper Company for 33 years working in various positions, with his final position being pricing coordinator. Bob later was employed by the Fair-Rite Corporation as their courier.

He was a longtime active member of the Springfield High School Alumni Association, serving as trustee, vice president, and president, and was a former honored guest for the annual alumni parade and banquet. Bob was also a longtime member of the Hit or Miss Club. He built and restored homes, and spent many hours in his woodworking shop where he created beautiful and unique birdhouses, flags, clocks, small furniture, and various craft projects.

Bob is survived by his wife Marie; former wife Renate (Schreiber) Gelineau; his children Barbara (Gelineau) Minter, Teri Gelineau, Thomas Gelineau, and Bradley Gelineau; and step-children Suzanne (Fish) Francke, Amy (Fish) Locarno, and Bradley Fish. Also surviving are grandchildren Shayla (Minter) Durfey, Molly Mint-



Robert Gelineau, 1931-2023. PHOTO PROVIDED

eer, Trevor Hunter, Joshua Gelineau, and Jessica (Gelineau) Wolfson; step-grandchildren Jacob Coulombe, Lauren (Fish) Pratt, Jonah Francke, Isabelle Francke, and Cameron Locarno. He is also survived by his sister Betty (Gelineau) Robitaille, sister-in-law Lucille (Bugbee) Gelineau; and by nine great-grandchildren and two step-great-grandchildren; as well as by several nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was predeceased by his grandson Alex Minter; parents Edgar and Pearl Gelineau, sister Ruby (Gelineau) Abbott Scott, and brother Calvin Gelineau.

A service to honor his life will be held on Saturday, Jan. 13, at 1 p.m., at the Calvary Baptist Church in Springfield, with a reception to follow at the church. A graveside service will be held in the spring.

We extend a special thank you to the Veterans Administration and Visiting Nurse and Hospice of Vermont and New Hampshire for their kindness, support, and remarkable care.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in memory of his grandson Alex Minter to: Friends Way, 765 W. Shore Road, Warwick, RI 02889, www.friendsway.org/donate.

The Cremation Society of New Hampshire has been entrusted with arrangements. To view an online tribute, leave a message of condolence, or for more information, please visit www.csnh.com.

William J. Walker,



1936-2024

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – William Joseph Walker, 87, of Proctorsville, passed peacefully on Jan. 4, 2024, at his daughter’s home in Brattleboro, surrounded by his family.

Bill was born on Feb. 28, 1936, in Melrose, Mass., to George and Mary Agnes (Cronin) Walker.

Bill spent three years in Germany with the U.S. Army during the Korean conflict as a military police officer. After his service, Bill attended Merrimack College, where he started out in engineering and later changed his major to business administration. He began his career as a buyer with Pratt and Whitney, and then eventually went into sales. He worked for National Starch and Chemical for 32 years selling industrial adhesives. Although he ended with a degree in business, he always had an engineering mind, tinkering with everything and having a gift for solving problems. He would often go into plants and evaluate problems, only to come home and cook up adhesives on the kitchen stove until he got the right application for the client. During his career for National Starch and Chemical, he was named Salesman of the Year several times. No doubt, his determination to get the right application and his willingness to go above and beyond in order to get it, even if it meant ruining the family cookware, helped earn him top accolades in his career.

While working at his first job out of college, Pratt and Whitney, he attended a wedding of a good friend and met Claire Pettee, who was a friend of the bride. A year later the two married. Bill and Claire were married for 60 years and had four children whom they raised in Newington, Conn., and later Somers, Conn., for 20 years. They are Nana and Grampy to seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Bill loved telling stories to his children and grandchildren. He had a knack for storytelling that would captivate his audience and always leave them laughing.

Bill enjoyed downhill skiing and raised a family of skiers, spending weekends and holidays in his Vermont home near Okemo Mountain. His



William Walker, 1936-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

children and his grandchildren share his love of skiing. Bill and Claire also enjoyed spending summers in their home on Deer Isle, Maine. They enjoyed hikes on the island, sea kayaking, golfing, and eating lobster. Bill had a deep love of family, and enjoyed getting together for “Walker Days” with his siblings, nieces, and nephews over the years.

Bill was predeceased by his brothers George and Robert Walker, and his sister Dorothy Walker (Riley). His sister Mary Walker Currier passed away the same day, approximately 12 hours after her big brother Billy. We take comfort that they went into the next life together.

He is survived by his brother Donald Walker, his wife of 60 years Claire Pettee Walker, his daughter Gail Walker Babbitt (Joseph), his son James Walker, daughter Susan Walker Hutton (Thomas), and son John Walker (Erin Evans). In addition he leaves seven grandchildren Tim Hutton (Kaileigh), Andrew Babbitt (Hannah), Natalie Galarza (Joshua), Eric Babbitt, Jennifer Hutton, Aidan Babbitt, and Callan Walker. He also leaves two great-grandchildren Connor Hutton and Lucas Galarza, as well as several nieces and nephews. And lastly, he leaves his beloved dog Pandey, who was always by his side and with him until the end.

When Bill was asked what he would want included in his obituary, he said “I have lived a great life in my almost 88 years, and am proud of my children.”

In lieu of flowers, he has requested donations be made to St. Jude, Shriners, or ASPCA; organizations that he has sponsored during his life.

At this time, no funeral services will be held. Bill’s family will hold a private Celebration of Life at a later date.

Roger V. Sheehan,



1954-2023

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – Roger Vance Sheehan, 69, of Proctorsville, Vt., passed away on Dec. 30, 2023, at his home.

He was born on April 27, 1954, the son of John Joseph and Betty Lou (Tyrrell) Sheehan.

Roger was in the USMC in 1970, gaining the Marksman Medal. He had worked at Imery’s Talc Plant for 35 years, and Topstone Furniture for two years, always working various other jobs. He owned Ironmasters Gym in Proctorsville for several years.

He was very active in his organizations: the Boy Scouts, Proctorsville Fire Department for 37 years, Fire Warden District 1 and 2 for more than five years, Park Grange #249 cooking at the Cornish Fair, the American Legion, Good Sam Camping State Staff, Mid State Sams, Rolling Wheels Instigators, representing the State of Vermont in many national, state, and international rallies, Myrtle Rebekah Lodge #6 for more than five years, Guiding Eyes for Blind, transporting pups, and raising over 45 guide dogs.

He was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church, very active in dinner meals, washing dishes, but mainly the potato peeling brigade with Roger and Bill Matthews.

Roger enjoyed weightlifting, hunting, camping, an occasional shot of bourbon, and was always cooking, famously known for his mac and cheese.

He married the love of his life Bessie Ann (Brown) Sheehan on Dec. 9, 1972, celebrating 51 years of marriage.

He is survived by his wife Bessie; two sons Roger V. Sheehan Jr. and his wife Marie of East Wallingford, Vt., and Gordon Edward Brown Sheehan of



Roger Sheehan, 1954-2023. PHOTO PROVIDED

Weathersfield, Vt.; four granddaughters Courtney Neff and her husband Nick of Brandon, Vt., Emily Sheehan and friend Chad Fontaine of East Wallingford, Vt., and Sonya Sheehan and Alexandra Sheehan, both of Ludlow; great-granddaughter Ellyanna Neff; his mother Betty; brothers Michael of Claremont, Vt., and Billy of Claremont, N.H.; sisters Kathy of Claremont, N.H., and Dianna of Castleton, Vt.; former daughter-in-law Cindy Sheehan; many nieces, nephews, and cousins; and a special brother Scott (Shelly) Gaylord.

He was predeceased by his father John, his brother Larry, his sister Valerie, and a special uncle Ken Tyrrell.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held at St. Joseph Church in Claremont, N.H., on Saturday, Jan. 6, at 10 a.m. Burial will follow in Hill Crest Cemetery in Proctorsville. Reception will be held at the Proctorsville Fire Department.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to the Proctorsville Fire Department, P.O. Box 81, Proctorsville, VT 05153.

To view an online memorial or send a private message of condolence, visit www.string-erfh.com.

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

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LEGAL NOTICES

JAN. 11 – LUDLOW, Vt. – Join the post-flood legal clinic on Thursday, Jan. 11, from 1-4:45 p.m., at the Fletcher Memorial Library for flood assistance. Since October, Vermont Law and Graduate School's Entrepreneurial Legal Lab and Legal Services Vermont have been working in collaboration to assist Vermont business owners affected by the summer 2023 floods. Bring photos, receipts of repairs and replaced items, insurance information, household income, any FEMA or SBA documents and log-in information if that applies, and any additional notes, losses, and impacts from flooding.

JAN. 13 – CLAREMONT, N.H. – Sound Investment will perform classic rock and modern country music at American Legion Post

29, 118 Broad Street, on Saturday, Jan. 13, from 6-9 p.m. This event is for members and modified guests. For more information, call 603-542-9222.

CHESTER, Vt. – There will be a reception for the Saxtons River Art Guild Group Show on Saturday, Jan. 13, from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., at the Whiting Library, 117 Main Street. The snow date for this event is Saturday, Jan. 20, at the same time. This multimedia art exhibit featuring members of the Saxtons River Art Guild is on view now through Feb. 28 at the library during their normal business hours.

JAN. 14 – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Food for Life Vegan Potluck will be held on Sunday, Jan. 14, at the Huber Building, 80 Main Street, from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Bring

a dish to share that does not include anything that comes from animals.

JAN. 19 – PUTNEY, Vt. – Next Stage Arts presents improvisational artist and musician Lonnie Holley in performance with Afrofuturist collective Mourning [A] BLKstar at Next Stage on Friday, Jan. 19, at 7:30 p.m., at 15 Kimball Hill in Putney, Vt. Tickets are discounted in advance online. For information or tickets, call 802-387-0102 or visit www.nextstagearts.org.

JAN. 20 – WALPOLE, N.H. – The First Congregational Church of Walpole will be having their annual Peanut Butter and Jelly Drop Off on Saturday, Jan. 20, from 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., in front of the church on The Common. The church is also collecting school snacks. All of the donated items will be delivered to the Fall Mountain Food Shelf.

SUNDAYS – CHESTER, Vt. – Six Loose Ladies hosts Odd Bobbins Spinners the second Sunday of each month from 1-4 p.m. at their location on the Common in Chester.

MONDAYS – 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.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Free Gentle Hatha Yoga classes for ages 50 and over are held on Mondays from 10-11 a.m., at the Springfield Senior Center, 139 Main Street. All equipment is provided.

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – The Rockingham Library hosts a chess club each Monday from 3-5:30 p.m., led by Mike Sola. All levels of players will be welcomed.

LUDLOW, Vt. – Zumba classes, Mondays at 9:30 a.m. at the Spring House at Jackson Gore. All fitness levels welcome. Call 802-228-1419 for more information.

LUDLOW, Vt. – Aquatic Aerobics, Mondays at 10:35 a.m. at the Spring House at Jackson Gore. Call 802-228-1419 for more information.

TUESDAYS – CHESTER, Vt. – Bone Builders Class in Chester every Tuesday, 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.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Free

Chair Yoga classes for ages 50 and over are held on Tuesdays from 9-9:45 a.m., at the Springfield Senior Center, 139 Main Street. All equipment is provided.

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

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

THURSDAYS – 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. – Free Chair Yoga classes for ages 50 and over are held on Thursdays from 9-9:45 a.m., at the Springfield Senior Center, 139 Main Street. All equipment is provided.

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

GRAFTON, Vt. – A free playgroup for children from newborns to age 5 will be held at Grafton Elementary School on Thursday mornings, from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Activities

will include songs, games, and arts and crafts. Contact Heather with any questions at 802-843-4792.

LUDLOW, Vt. – Certified instructor Helena Wu will teach Tai Chi classes every Thursday, from 9-10 a.m., at the Black River Valley Senior Center, 10 High Street in Ludlow. Classes are free, and are limited to 10 participants. Registration is required. For more information, contact the Senior Center at 802-228-7421, or Helena Wu at 802-289-7369.

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

SATURDAYS – LUDLOW, Vt. – Zumba classes, Saturdays at 9 a.m. at the Spring House at Jackson Gore. All fitness levels welcome. Call 802-228-1419 for more information.

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

DAILY – REGION – If you want to drink that's your business, but if you want to stop, that's ours. Contact Alcoholics Anonymous at www.aavt.org or call your local hotline at 802-802-2288 and join a meeting. You are not alone.

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

King Crossword											
Answers											
Solution time: 22 mins.											
O	M	A	N	B	O	T	A	L	F	A	
C	A	L	A	M	A	R	I	R	O	A	R
T	E	A	R	D	R	O	P	C	R	U	E
N	I	T	P	L	A	I	N	S			
H	E	L	I	X	D	Y	A	N			
I	K	E	A	B	A	T	T	E	R	S	
P	G	A	G	A	T	O	S	A	A	H	
S	P	E	A	K	U	P	A	R	N	E	
S	P	A	T	E	S	E	E	D	Y		
S	P	A	T	E	S	E	E	D	Y		
A	L	P	O	H	E	D	G	E	H	O	P
R	A	S	P	O	P	I	N	I	O	N	S
A	Y	E	S	P	A	T	D	I	E	T	

GMUSD School Board Has an Immediate Opening

The Green Mountain Unified School Board (GMUSD) seeks one Chester Town resident interested in serving as a member of our local school board. The term of this position will be until Town Meeting Election Day, Tuesday, March 5, 2024. The Board meets, the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. and other as necessary. Members may fulfill additional responsibilities such as serving on board committees.

Please submit a letter of interest to:

GMUSD Board
c/o Lauren Fierman
609 VT Route 103 South
Ludlow, Vermont 05149



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

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

Legal Notice

The Westminster Development Review Board will meet at 6:30 pm on **Monday, February 5, 2023** to consider the following:

Application # 24-26 Elizabeth Nieuwsma-Dell: Property located at 257 West Stagecoach Road. The Applicant is requesting a Change of Use – from a Detached Garage to a Small Rental House. Application will be reviewed under **Section 311 Site Plan Review; Section 446 Residential District; and Section 215 Zoning Permit Procedure** of the adopted 2017 Zoning Bylaws.

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

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

STATE OF VERMONT	
SUPERIOR COURT Windsor Unit	PROBATE DIVISION Docket No.: 23-PR-07047
In re ESTATE of: <u>Winston G. Churchill</u>	
NOTICE TO CREDITORS	
To the Creditors of: <u>Winston G. Churchill</u> <small>Decedent</small>	
late of <u>Proctorsville</u> <small>Decedent's Town of Residence</small>	
I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period.	
Dated: <u>January 4, 2024</u>	Signature of Fiduciary: <u>Winston G. Churchill</u>
Executor/Administrator Judith A. Churchill Phone Number: 802-885-2582 Email:	Mailing Address c/o Parker & Ankuda, Esq. PO Box 519 City, State, Zip Springfield, VT 05156
Name of Publication: <u>The Vermont Journal</u>	Publication Date: <u>January 10, 2024</u>
Name of Probate Court: <u>Vermont Superior Court, Windsor Probate Division</u>	Address of Probate Court: <u>12 The Green Woodstock, VT 05091</u>

STATE OF VERMONT	
SUPERIOR COURT Windham Unit	PROBATE DIVISION Docket No.: 22-PR-02795
In re ESTATE of: <u>James H. Twitchell</u>	
NOTICE TO CREDITORS	
To the Creditors of: <u>James H. Twitchell</u> <small>Decedent</small>	
late of <u>Londonderry, Vermont</u> <small>Decedent's Town of Residence</small>	
I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period.	
Dated: <u>12-4-2023</u>	Signature of Fiduciary: <u>Amelia George</u>
Executor/Administrator Melvin Twitchell, c/o Amanda L.S. George, Esq. Phone Number: 802-875-7777 Email: amanda@amandageorge.law.ca	Mailing Address P.O. Box 578 City, State, Zip Chester, VT 05143
Name of Publication: <u>The Vermont Journal</u>	Publication Date: <u>January 10, 2024</u>
Name of Probate Court: <u>Vermont Superior Court, Probate Division, Windham Unit</u>	Address of Probate Court: <u>30 Putney Road, Second Floor Brattleboro, VT 05301</u>

STATE OF VERMONT	
SUPERIOR COURT Windsor Unit	PROBATE DIVISION Docket No.: 23-PR-07455
In re ESTATE of: <u>Mary Thompson</u>	
NOTICE TO CREDITORS	
To the Creditors of: <u>Estate of Mary Thompson</u> <small>Decedent</small>	
late of <u>Springfield</u> <small>Decedent's Town of Residence</small>	
I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period.	
Dated: <u>1/10/2024</u>	Signature of Fiduciary: <u>Angela Pero</u>
Executor/Administrator Angela Pero Phone Number: 802-885-2582 Email:	Mailing Address c/o Parker & Ankuda, Esq. - PO Box 519 City, State, Zip Springfield VT 05156
Name of Publication: <u>Vermont Journal</u>	Publication Date: <u>January 10, 2024</u>
Name of Probate Court: <u>Vermont Superior Court, Windsor Probate Division</u>	Address of Probate Court: <u>12 The Green Woodstock, VT 05091</u>

LEGAL NOTICES

classifieds

SEVCA recruiting VITA tax volunteers

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) will provide free tax preparation for lower income taxpayers for the 2023-2024 tax-filing season through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. SEVCA is now recruiting volunteers to help as many families as possible claim the tax credits and refunds available to them.

The VITA program offers free tax help to people who are low to moderate income, persons with disabilities, and limited English-speaking taxpayers who need assistance in preparing their own tax returns. IRS-certified volunteers provide free federal and state income tax return preparation with electronic filing.

Don't know that much about taxes? Don't worry – you'll receive specialized training from a certified VITA instructor, plus IRS online courses. We are

looking for individuals who are willing and able to commit to at least three hours per week, or at least 30 hours total, from the last week in January to the middle of April. Although prior tax preparation experience is not necessary, a commitment to training and certification is required; and don't worry, there won't be much math.

To learn how you can make a difference in your community by becoming a VITA volunteer, contact Emily Strasser at estrasser@sevca.org or 802-722-4575, extension 1603.



Featured Pet: Jaylee

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The beautiful Jaylee is five months old and a Standard Schnauzer mix, so she will be medium to large when full grown. Jaylee is a sweet girl, and has a brother and sister looking for loving homes as well. They all look about the same; the male is larger and darker. If you cannot resist her adorable scruffiness, wait until you see her in person. The Springfield Humane Society is open Wednesday-Saturday, from 12-4 p.m., for walk-ins. For more information or to sign up for one of our low cost cat spay/neuter clinics, call 802-885-3997.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Springfield Humane Society
401 Skitchewaug Trail,
Springfield, Vt.
802-885-3997
www.spfldhumane.org

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To apply, send resume to humanresources@wblake.com
9 Lovell Drive, Bellows Falls, VT 05101
<https://wblake.com/company/careers/>

TOWN OF GRAFTON

Equipment Operator/Truck Driver

The Town of Grafton, Vermont is seeking qualified applicants for a full-time Equipment Operator/Truck Driver. Job duties include snow plowing, salting, and sanding in the winter months, and general highway maintenance and construction work in the other months. The employee must be able to perform general labor duties and minor repairs and maintenance to the highway equipment. Ability to communicate in a courteous manner to co-workers and the general public is required. Must have a valid Commercial Driver's License (CDL).

The Town of Grafton is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer and does offer an excellent benefits package.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Appy to: Morgan Wilbur, Town Administrator, PO Box 180, Grafton, VT 05146, or by email at townadmin@graftonvt.org

SALMON & NOSTRAND ANNOUNCES EXPANSION OF LEGAL SERVICES

Salmon & Nostrand Law Office of Bellows Falls, Vermont is pleased to announce its affiliation with Facey Goss & McPhee Law Office of Rutland, Vermont.

Salmon & Nostrand will continue to provide high quality legal services from our office in Bellows Falls and we will now have a team of 12 lawyers and paralegals to serve you.

Contact us at (802) 463-4507 or email: info@salmon-nostrand.com

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

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

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King Crossword

<p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Muscat's land</p> <p>5 Droid</p> <p>8 – Romeo</p> <p>12 Squid dish</p> <p>14 Crowd noise</p> <p>15 Earring shape, often</p> <p>16 Rock's Moetley –</p> <p>17 Little louse</p> <p>18 Great –</p> <p>20 Spiral</p> <p>23 Cannon of film</p> <p>24 Sofa brand</p> <p>25 Cake mixes</p> <p>28 Links org.</p> <p>29 Los – California</p> <p>30 Satisfied sigh</p> <p>32 "Say something!"</p> <p>34 "Alfred" composer</p> <p>35 Flower part</p> <p>36 Run-down</p> <p>37 Sudden bursts</p> <p>40 Aachen article</p> <p>41 Dog's bowlful</p> <p>42 Fly at a low altitude</p> <p>47 Grate</p> <p>48 Points of view</p> <p>49 Pro votes</p> <p>50 Bit of butter</p>	<p>10 Mythic man-goat</p> <p>11 War god</p> <p>13 1509, to Calo</p> <p>19 Back muscles, for short</p> <p>20 Trendy</p> <p>21 Heart charts</p> <p>22 Bound</p> <p>23 Fact</p> <p>25 Pastry store</p> <p>26 Scarce</p> <p>27 Hourglass</p> <p>29 Portal</p> <p>31 "Psst!"</p> <p>33 Prevents, legally</p> <p>34 Virgil epic</p> <p>36 Billboard</p> <p>37 Poet Teasdale</p> <p>38 Theater production</p> <p>39 Church section</p> <p>40 Work on proofs</p> <p>43 Clean air org.</p> <p>44 – polloi</p> <p>45 Single</p> <p>46 Calif. clock setting</p>
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yellow page BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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

<h3 style="margin: 0;">Art Crafts Gifts</h3> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">GALLERY AT THE VAULT Vermont State Craft Center Art Crafts Gifts & Workshops 68 Main St., Springfield 802-885-7111 OPEN Wed. to Sat. 11-5 & Fri. 11-7</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0; font-size: small;">Sightings Photography Exhibit By Rich Cofrancesco until 1/31</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0; font-size: small;">Take a Workshop in 2024! Painting the Winter Landscape in Watercolor w/ Rob O'Brien 1/13/24 Chinese Calligraphy w/ Jonathan Root 2/17/24 Perspective Drawing Basics w/ Chris Mix (Zoom) 2/4/24 Pet Portraits w/ Mincy Fisher 2/24/24 Pine Needle Basket w/ Irene Dizes 3/8/24 & 3/9/24 Wire-wrapped Pendant w/ Thomas Alyxander 4/6/24 Flowers in Texture & Color w/ Julie Crabtree 4/27/24 Workshops, details/register: http://galleryvault.org (01/24/24 - TFN - 13)</p>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">Builders/Contractors</h3> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">HAMMER FOR HIRE LLC "Not just for bangin' nails."</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0; font-size: small;">We handle a variety of projects, from home repairs, restorations on up to full renovations, and new construction too. Our clients can expect professionalism, proficiency, customer care, and quality. Call or email today at 802-376-3275 edwin.mortensen@gmail.com. Follow us on Instagram @neatthehammer (11/20/24 - 52)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0; font-size: small;">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. (02/14/24 - 13)</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0; font-size: small;">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 (06/05/24 - 52)</p>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">Chiropractor</h3> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">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. (08/14/24 - TFN - 52)</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">Masonry</h3> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">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 or visit drcstonedesign.com. (02/21/24 - 13)</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">Okemo Valley TV</h3> <p style="margin: 5px 0;">LOCAL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodstock Union HS Yoh Theatre's "Robin Hood" • "Green Horn Live" at River Valley Tech Center • Gov. Scott Budget Address • "Green Drinks" Series on Geothermal Heat • Local church services <p style="margin: 5px 0; font-size: small;">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) (01/03/24 - TFN - 13)</p>
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GFC inspires and empowers the Greater Falls area through community building and collaboration around substance misuse prevention and education for youth, young adults, and their families. GFC continues to encourage the wellbeing of those in the community with a focus on equity and creating positive life experiences. For more info, visit online at greaterfallsconnections.org.

Greater Falls CONNECTIONS

Board Chair Sam Howard presents the Youth ACE Award to Ava Auchmoody.

WE VALUE OUR YOUTH

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