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Springfield BAC advises selectboard prior to public hearing

BY PAULA BENSON
The Shopper

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Last Monday, Jan. 8, the Springfield Selectboard heard from the budget advisory committee (BAC) Chair John Bond, who presented the committee's recommendations for fiscal year 2024.

A meeting to receive public input on the proposed budget was scheduled for Jan. 15, at 6 p.m. After hearing from citizens and making revisions, the board approved the 2025 budget at that time, with a vote on the amount to be raised by taxpayers scheduled for Town Meeting in March.

At the Jan. 8 meeting, Jeffrey Dacey was appointed to the planning commission. At the recommendation of planning administrator Charles Wise, a student commissioner was also appointed. Springfield High School student Marshall Simpson, who had been working as a youth volunteer since September, will join the commission through June 30, the end of his term coinciding with the end of the school year.

After some discussion, the board approved a \$30,000 grant from the Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) to nonprofit Stonecutters 802 LLC for the purposes of funding a marketing proposal. \$20,000 will go toward designing a website marketing the Town of Springfield to visitors, businesses, residents, and those looking to relocate to the town. The remaining \$10,000 will fund other expenses such as video, photography, and graphic design.

Part of a larger initiative as prioritized in town plans such as the Strategic Plan, the Downtown Master Plan, the Main Street Master Plan, and other plans adopted by the selectboard via a community review process, the project's goals are to make Springfield "the center of industrial and technical innovation in southern Vermont, a destination for clean, affordable living, and a connected and interconnected community."

Springfield resident and design review commission

member Bill Cronin presented the project's overview to the board.

Two selectboard members, Walter Martone and Heather Frahm, recused themselves from the debate, stating they are party to the nonprofit. Although Frahm said, "Just to be clear, Stonecutters, I mean Springfield 802, is not taking any money. This is just a facilitation of the marketing efforts."

"That was my number one question," Board Chair Kristi Morris remarked. "Who is receiving the \$20,000 from the website?"

Frahm responded, "Not us."

Cronin repeated, "Yes, not us. It's the LLC that we've established. Stonecutters 802."

"So, you're going to build the website?" Morris asked. "Not me," Cronin replied. "You want one that's really going to work."

Morris continued, "So, Stonecutters 802 LLC has members made up of some in this room, and somebody is going to build this website."

"Yes," Cronin replied. Morris explained the need to be fully transparent, "so that there isn't any issue with board members receiving funds from this initiative."

Owner of the Black River Coffee Bar Mike Schmitt added, "The funds that will be received will be passed through immediately to a third-party contractor based on their proposal. The additional \$10,000 will be processed the same way as soon as we identify the graphic developers, and the printing services will be passed on to them. It will be completely transparent."

Town manager Jeff Mobus reported that the town had received a grant to update the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Relaying that community awareness and input "are important parts of the planning process," Mobus encouraged residents to go to the town website and access a survey regarding the plan, to take the opportunity to have their opinions heard.

Resident Jennifer Schaefer was at the meeting to address the board regarding

a civil dispute involving her property. Introducing Schaefer and summarizing her complaint, Mobus stated, "She is not pleased either with the police actions or my responses throughout the dispute. As a result, she has asked to address the selectboard directly."

The board listened as Schaefer reported that she and her husband were no longer able to maintain their property due to their declining health. Subsequently the property is not up to code, Schaefer explained, and they were "currently living on the property in shambles."

Last year they listed the property for sale, and a couple expressed interest in purchasing the property, but were unable to secure a bank loan. According to Schaefer, in lieu of cash she entered into an agreement with the couple to help get the property up to code as well as offer care-giving services in exchange for free room and board. What happened instead, Schaefer claimed, was that the couple forced her to sign documents against her will, tried to take over ownership of the property, destroyed a \$12,000 trailer, and terrorized the Schaefers.

A civil case that had gone to Vermont Superior Court had been decided in the Schaefers' favor, and as of Nov. 11, 2023, the couple was finally forced to leave the property. But the animosity between the parties continues, Schaefer expressed, and a criminal charge filed against Mr. Schaefer remains outstanding, while they have received no restitution for the actions of the couple.

Board member Michael Martin noted that what Schaefer was presenting was a fraud case, and recommended she take that up with the district attorney.

Following the meeting, Mobus and the board began the final budget workshop.

Southern VT Elks Hoop Shoot

REGION – The Vermont Elks Southern District Hoop Shoot event was held in Windsor, Vt., on Sunday, Jan. 14.

Eleven state Elk lodges took part in their district contest this month. Each district is sending their best shooters to the state contest in Barre, Vt., on Jan. 27. The first place winners will move on up to the regionals in Portland, Maine, with the ultimate goal of going to the national competition in Chicago, Ill.

Left to right: Elks area director Smokey Aumand; Phoenix Schell, 12-13 year age bracket winner; Jaxon Latham, 8-9 year



age bracket winner; Kelsey Beam, 10-11 year age bracket winner; and Elks district director Jean Crosby. PHOTO PROVIDED

New owners at Village Square Booksellers

BY JOE MILLIKEN
The Shopper

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Village Square Booksellers, a strong pillar of the downtown Bellows Falls business community for many years located at 32 The Square, has changed hands as the owners, Pat and Alan Fowler, have sold the business to their longtime employee and Bellows Falls resident Myles Mickle. Mickle, a 2005 Bellows Falls Union High School graduate, has worked for the Fowlers since 2016.

Owning the popular bookstore since 2000, the Fowlers decided to retire approximately eight months ago in order to do some traveling, and also concentrate on their local volunteer work, but the plan of having Mickle as their successor had long been in place.

"We set it up from the beginning, when I was first hired by Pat and Alan," Mickle said in a recent in-store interview. "We made an agreement that I would have the opportunity to take over the business whenever the time came when they would be ready to retire. It's all happened very quickly, but it's been a smooth transition."

After having worked together for more than seven years, Miles also talked about how the Fowlers have been won-



Myles Mickle, new owner of Village Square Booksellers. PHOTO BY JOE MILLIKEN

derful business mentors, and having learned a lot about the book business from them. "They have taught me the ropes about running a successful bookstore, and they are still being very helpful with a lot of things," he said.

"They are also willing to help me moving forward, offering to work in the store, or anything else that may be needed. I couldn't have asked for a better situation. The Fowlers have given a great deal to the community as well, and I am excited to carry on with what they have built here at the store."

Moving forward, Miles, who will also employ two additional staff members, has plans to expand upon the store's current toy department. He is renovating the downstairs space, which is currently used for storage, to expand the toy department, as well as creating an event space that can be used for any number of events such as author events, book

and poetry readings, and various group gatherings.

"We have plans to expand upon our toy department to also include items for older children, and we will have more space to offer interactive tables so everyone can take a closer look at the toys. It will be a wide open and user-friendly atmosphere."

Additionally, Village Square Booksellers offers more than books and toys, and, in fact, unique greeting cards are a significant part of their business. They also offer a variety of other creative items, such as stationery and calendars, candles and menorahs, local history books and local authors, puzzles and games, novelties, socks, hats, mugs, and more.

Village Square Booksellers is open Sunday-Thursday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Their phone number is 802-463-9404. Please visit their website at www.village-squarebooks.com.

Bellows Falls Trustees hear from town manager

BY PAULA BENSON
The Shopper

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Shortly after the start of the Bellows Falls Board of Trustees meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 9, town manager Scott Pickup reported on a pedestrian accident in the downtown area the previous week. Pickup said the investigation was still in the preliminary stages, and

tragically, the accident had been fatal. Bellows Falls Police Chief David Bemis confirmed the report and said state police were assisting with the investigation.

Pickup stated that there didn't seem to be any reason to make changes from an engineering or safety standpoint, but they would continue to explore ways to improve the area. The

speed limit coming into downtown Bellows Falls is currently set at 25 miles per hour, which Pickup said was the lowest permissible speed limit in the State of Vermont.

The trustees approved allocating funds for two municipal upgrades: the sewer plant, and the Kissel Hill project. Pickup presented the board with two applications for grant

money from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). The total cost for both projects is \$1.4 million. The town will apply for a 50% or higher matching grant.

Pickup updated the board on ongoing ARPA projects, including proposed upgrades to infrastructure in the downtown area. He

suggested the board revisit previously discussed proposals and decide where they felt the funds would be best utilized.

Pickup said the town plans to apply for USDA grant funds to make improvements to the fire department facilities, explaining, "We've long had a problem with physical space in dispatch." The department is in the process

of finalizing upgrades to their server and communications, and Pickup said the space is insufficient and "crammed." The plan would be to expand into some of the lobby space, and make minor changes that will improve efficiency and accommodate new equipment.

The next village trustees meeting will be Tuesday, Feb. 13.

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The deadline for all content is **Friday at 12 p.m.** for the following Wednesday publication.

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editor@vermontjournal.com

Homelessness Awareness Day—



Scan to donate via PayPal. PHOTO PROVIDED

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Vermont's annual Homelessness Awareness Day is held this year on Jan. 18. During this time, Springfield Supported Housing Programs (SSHP) is holding a donation drive.

On Thursday, Jan. 18, SSHP will be at the Springfield Town Library as part of the "Your Donation Makes a Difference. Be the Change, Help Change a Life" event, a donation drive to create welcome baskets for individuals and families entering their safe and affordable home. SSHP is accepting new donations, including Bed-in-a-Bag, new utensils/knife

sets, twin mattresses and bed frames, laundry baskets, pot and pan sets, etc., for individuals transitioning into a new home. We also accept cash, gas cards, and gift cards. We have a QR code for our PayPal, and have created an Amazon wish list (www.amazon.com/registries/guest-view/36S4G0FMYYDKS). We hope to bring awareness to our community through these events. Any support is greatly appreciated. Donations will be accepted even after the event has passed, as SSHP makes welcome baskets on an on-going basis.

Throughout the week of Jan. 18, the Springfield Town Library will be showing "The Home-stretch," a movie about three homeless teenagers who brave Chicago winters, the pressures of high school, and life alone on the streets to build a brighter future. The movie is showing on Jan. 15-17 and 19, at 1 p.m., and on Jan. 18, at 6 p.m., at the Springfield Town Library.

SSHP, along with other housing coalitions in the state, will be presenting a purple flag display of all of the individuals they serve in Windsor and Windham counties. These flags represent the number of people experiencing homelessness in these counties, and can be further broken down by age group.

Rotary honors Jeff Mobus

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Springfield Rotary Club member Jeff Mobus was recently congratulated by Club President Emma McGuirk for continuing contributions to The Rotary Foundation in support of international programs that promote peace, human development, and world understanding. Mobus now has earned Rotary International's prestigious Paul Harris Fellow Plus-Eight Honors, signifying an initial \$1,000 donation with eight additional gifts in the same amount. The



Jeff Mobus is congratulated by Springfield Rotary President Emma McGuirk. PHOTO PROVIDED

award is named in honor of Paul Harris, the founder of Rotary, and is considered

one of highest awards for individual Rotarians. The Rotary Club of Springfield, founded in 1927, is an active community service club of more than 40 members, who engage in community and human service projects both locally and internationally. For more information, visit www.springfieldvtrotary.org.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library at SAPCC

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is dedicated to inspiring a love of reading by gifting books free of charge to children from birth to age 5, through funding shared by Dolly Parton and local community partners like the Springfield Area Parent Child Center (SAPCC). Each child enrolled in this program is sent a new book every month in the mail.

SAPCC would like to thank the Charles R. Wood Foundation for their generous grant of \$10,000 to help defray the cost of Dolly Par-



SAPCC will continue to participate in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. PHOTO PROVIDED

ton's Imagination Library program in our region. As

an affiliate of the Imagination Library, SAPCC will now be able to provide even more books for children living in southern Windsor and northern Windham counties of Vermont, to enrich their lives, encourage reading, and strengthen their sense of imagination and wonder.

Adults can visit www.imaginationlibrary.com for more information and to sign children up for the program, or contact Debra Savery, PCC specialist, at 802-886-5242 or debra.savery@sapcc-vt.org.

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Maximize Social Security benefits at the library

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Tuesday, Feb. 6, at 5:30 p.m., join Joshua Houle for his presentation "Maximize Your Social Security Benefits."

Are you interested in getting the most out of your Social Security benefits? With so many rules and options to consider, it can be overwhelming to create a plan. Making one mistake in your Social Security strategy could end up costing you a significant amount of money throughout your lifetime. Fortunately, you don't have to go through this process by yourself.

Joshua Houle from Monadnock Capital Group is offering a free seminar at Springfield Town Library, where he will share strategies for maximizing your Social Security benefits and improving your retirement plan.

Visit our calendar of events to sign up at www.springfieldtownlibrary.org/calendar. If you have any questions, please call 802-885-3108.

"It's been through the addition of MAPLE that we have been able to get the kids to talk."

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Calvin Coolidge

BY RON PATCH

802-374-0119
ronpatch27@gmail.com

The photo with this article is a real photo postcard from Danny Clemons. Danny and I spent a year going through a collection of thousands of Vermont postcards.

While Danny and I share common collecting interests, we each buy cards the other doesn't. Danny collects Plymouth and Calvin Coolidge cards, which leads us to this article. Danny had not seen this card for sale before.

The postcard

In the left foreground in white letters, "Erecting phone over which President Coolidge gave his first official message to Washington Aug 3-1923." This date is important.

The day before, Aug. 2, 1923, President Harding died of a heart attack in San Francisco. Vice President

Coolidge was in Plymouth. Coolidge had neither electricity nor telephone. A telegraph was sent to Ludlow announcing Harding's death, and that Coolidge was now president. A messenger was sent to Plymouth to inform Coolidge. There was no other way. The next day, a phone was installed in the Coolidge home. A real rush job!

At right is a new car. On the driver's door is a round logo for the telephone company. This is the company car. Standing center is a man holding a coil of telephone wire. A man can be seen on the pole at left. Another man stands at the base of the pole at right.

On the reverse of the card these men are identified. Charles Sawyer is holding the wire, Ed Blakley is on the pole, John Mcnamera stands at right of the pole. The 1923 Vermont license plate is number 1671.

Hugh and Bunni Putnam

of the Springfield Art and Historical Society helped with this article. Bunni found the following news article.

"Vermont Tribune, August 10, 1923

Handicapped by Lack of Facilities

An almost total lack of telephone facilities at Plymouth had so handicapped Coolidge, the press and other officials in keeping in communication with

the world, shut out by hills from sleepy little Plymouth, that an emergency call had been sent to Rutland and W. T. Durfee, superintendent of the plant of the New England Telephone and Telegraph company, had hastened a gang of men to the village.

By 3:30 o'clock a telephone had been installed in the Coolidge home, wires



A phone line is installed at the Coolidge farm in Plymouth, Vt. PHOTO PROVIDED DANNY CLEMONS

having been tapped onto the main trunk line 500 or 600 feet away, a telegraph instrument had been installed in the store across the street for the use of the Associated Press and the United Press, and another telephone had been placed on a pole by the wayside for the use of the two syndicates."

Another card Danny has is Coolidge with Henry Ford, Thomas Edison, Harvey Firestone, and others. This photo was taken at the Coolidge home in 1924. Bunni also found a news article regarding this card.

Henry Ford developed the

Henry Ford Museum in an attempt to collect and preserve historical artifacts. In this card Coolidge is signing the bottom of a wooden bucket for Ford. Was it for the Ford Museum?

The second article

"Plymouth, Aug. 19 - President Coolidge was host today to Henry Ford, Thomas Edison, and Harvey Firestone..."

Visit on the porch

The three tourists made a short visit on the porch, during which the President presented Mr. Ford with a bucket which his forefathers used on their trips to Plymouth's only establishment, a cheese factory..."

This week's old saying: "A man leaves when he has no reason to stay."



Calvin Coolidge signing a wooden bucket for Henry Ford. PHOTO PROVIDED DANNY CLEMONS

Abenaki tribal recognition celebration

WESTMINSTER WEST, Vt. - Living Earth Action Group and the Atowi Project are thrilled to announce a captivating presentation that is set to shed light on the complex dynamics at play among the Abenaki First Nations Grand Council in Quebec, Canada, and the four Vermont state-recognized Abenaki bands. With the recent recognition of all four Vermont tribes, this event couldn't come at a more significant time.

In 2012, a historic moment occurred when then Vermont Governor Peter Shumlin signed two bills officially recognizing the Koasek and Mississquoi Abenaki tribes. These two bands joined

the Nulhegan Abenaki and Elnu Abenaki, marking the formal recognition of all four tribes in Vermont. This achievement was the result of a 36-year-long struggle by these tribes to reclaim their Abenaki identity, a victory that brought joy and validation to their communities.

Fast forward to 2024, and Living Earth Action Group and Atowi Project are hosting an enlightening presentation by Brattleboro/Wantastegok resident and Atowi Project co-director Rich Holschuh, along with other potential guests. This presentation is scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 21, at 6:30 p.m., at the Congregational Church of Westminster

West.

Recently, prominent media outlets like UVM, Vermont Public, and VT Digger have provided platforms for the First Nations Abenaki to question the standing of the Vermont Abenaki. To those unfamiliar with the deep-seated place-based Abenaki histories and cultures, and the complex native-settler politics that persist to this day, these apparent disputes may appear puzzling or confusing.

During this thought-provoking presentation, attendees will have the opportunity to delve into questions such as what is being said, and by whom? What is the context surrounding these discus-

sions? What might be the underlying purpose behind these dialogues? Are there root causes of these differences, and how might they be addressed or engaged?

Living Earth Action Group and the Atowi Project encourages everyone, regardless of their familiarity with the subject, to join the discussion, learn more about the Abenaki culture, and gain a deeper understanding of the ongoing dynamics within the Abenaki community.

For more information about the event, please contact Guy Payne at gpaynevt@gmail.com, or visit www.livingearthaction.net or www.atowi.org.

Vermont native publishes "War Tears"

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Following many years of research, John Swanson has published a new historical fiction novel dealing with a young Springfield boy's journey into the Civil War, entitled "War Tears: A Journey from Vermont to Gettysburg and Related Stories."

The book details how a 16-year-old farming boy from Springfield, Vt. joins the state regiments, initially as a fifer, later as a foot soldier, and the journey from being an innocent young boy to a veteran soldier who faces the enemy at Gettysburg. It details the conditions of military life then, along with the medical care, or lack of it, the stubborn resistance of the Confederate forces he faced, and the coming of age of a man.

The author spent many years doing research on Civil War history at the Gettysburg Civil War Institute of Gettysburg College, enabling him to describe with accuracy the events that the Vermont regiments participated in during this conflict. He also researched the Confederacy's military involvement, which is plainly clear in the chapters dealing with the historic Gettysburg battle.

While romance is not the primary focus of this opus, Swanson does illustrate how the young lad became involved with a neighboring girl, and how the romance was carried out while the boy was on the battlefield.

Using a flashback technique, "War Tears" outlines

how a Civil War veteran recalls his experiences during the war, the effect the war had on the family, and its subsequent impact on future generations.

"War Tears" also contains several short stories related to both the war and its significance to future generations. One story relates how a Union soldier spent time with a Confederate soldier

on guard duty, illustrating the common values shared by both sides.

Swanson, born in Springfield, currently living in The Gables in Rutland, Vt., was a social studies teacher at Riverside Middle School in Springfield before retiring. He currently is involved in writing at The Gables. Information on both the book and the author may

be obtained by calling 802-855-8883. The book may be downloaded from Amazon's Kindle Store.

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opinion

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Dear Chester, Grafton, Athens, and Windham residents,

I will be having constituent meetings in our communities throughout the legislative session on the dates and times as set out below. I look forward to meeting face to face with you, and hearing your thoughts and discussing matters of importance. This schedule is through April. More dates and times will be planned for May and June.

Meetings with constituents are scheduled as follows:

Jan. 20 –

Grafton Library, 204 Main Street in Grafton, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Whiting Library, 117 Main Street in Chester, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Feb. 24 –
Windham Meeting House, 26 Harrington Road in Windham, 10-11 a.m.

April 13 –
Grafton Library, 204 Main Street in Grafton, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Whiting Library, 117 Main

Street in Chester, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

I will be attending the annual town meetings:

Athens, March 4, at 6 p.m.

Chester, March 4, at 6 p.m.

Grafton, March 5, at 10 a.m.

Windham, date and time to be determined.

Thanks, and please reach out during the session.

Sincerely,
Heather Chase
Windsor-Windham
Vermont State Representative

Dear Editor,

On Jan. 3, at 10 a.m., the Vermont Legislature opened its 2024 legislative session. As it is the second half of a two-year biennium, we spend far less time on the formalities, pomp, and circumstance of a new biennium. And, with committees and leadership in place, we got right to work. Which is good, as we have a huge amount on our plate.

Every legislator has their own priorities shaped by the communities they represent, their committee work, and their individual passions. And people work on these during the session. However, as we head into this session, I would say that our collective priorities coalesce around four or five major themes which won't surprise you. They are flood recovery and additional disas-

ter preparedness, housing, climate change mitigation and resilience, community health, and public safety. My job as majority leader in the Vermont Senate is to help create agreement to enable passage of legislation addressing these priorities.

In many ways the July flooding has both set and reinforced a number of our top priorities for this session. The impacts, both financial and physical, of the flooding of 2023 will be huge drivers in our budget and policy work. The requirement to set aside state dollars to match the federal aid to Vermont will squeeze many other needs already articulated, and the efforts to mitigate future flooding will influence our climate policy, in addition to our land planning, housing, and zoning work.

A top priority for the legislature is to address flood recovery and how we can continue to improve on our disaster preparedness. The good news is that many of the investments we made in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Irene made a significant difference to this year's flooding impact. The flood plains created in Brattleboro and the work in Waterbury saved their downtowns from greater damage this year. The bad news and major financial challenge for Vermont is that the costs of the flooding in 2023 to public and private infrastructure, property, and business are almost double those of Irene: \$239 million after Irene, and to date over \$500 million for the floods in 2023. Vermont is required to match 25% of our federal aid from state dollars – which will be an enormous challenge as we also work to finance our other urgent needs. Our work this session will be to

continue to help Vermont rebuild and recover, and to enhance our future disaster preparedness.

Our housing crisis is being felt by many of us in one way or another. Whether you are a business trying to find a home for a new employee, or a young person trying to find an affordable starter home or rental, or a seasonal worker trying to find housing – it's a brutal housing market. Before the flooding of 2023, we were experiencing a less than 1% vacancy rate here in the Upper Valley. The loss of housing due to the flooding has further exacerbated our housing and homelessness crisis, especially for low- and moderate-income Vermonters. All of us understand the need to build more housing for a wide range of needs: affordable, mixed income, downsizing, and market value housing. And, with inflation, the loss in workforce, the loss of rental units to short-term rentals, and the loss of full-time residential housing to seasonal ownership have resulted in a housing shortage which is a challenge to fix in the short term. While incomes have risen, so have rents and the cost of houses. A top priority for the legislature this session will be to continue our work reducing barriers to building affordable housing, preventing the trauma and challenges which drive people into homelessness, and incentivizing resilient housing in our downtowns and village centers.

Preventing further devastation to Vermont by both mitigating the impacts of future weather disasters and reducing climate change by reining in our use of fossil fuels is another top priority. We need to make Vermont more resilient, and to reduce our contributions to what is causing these disasters – global warming. Much of our work will be focused on this dual challenge – addressing climate risks and rebuilding with a resilient value – smarter and stronger.

With a record number of opioid overdose deaths and an increase in gun violence and homicides in Vermont, community health and public safety are critically important priorities for us to address. In addition, we face ongoing mental health needs in our schools and communities, educational equity in school policy and funding, and the need to support Vermonters' well-being. Investing more effectively in prevention (from trauma to homelessness) seems a critically important priority now.

Session 2024 promises to be stimulating, challenging, and productive.

I appreciate hearing from you. I can be reached by email at aclarkson@leg.state.vt.us, or by phone at the Statehouse Tuesday-Friday at 802-828-2228, or at home Saturday-Monday at 802-457-4627. To get more information on the Vermont Legislature, and the bills which have been proposed and passed, visit the legislative website, legislature.vermont.gov.

Sincerely,
Senator Alison Clarkson
Windsor District

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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.

POLITICAL LETTERS are charged at the rate of \$75 for 200 words, and \$0.50 per word thereafter.

CHURCH SERVICES

obituaries

Jean L. Chatfield, 2023

KEENE, N.H. – Jean Louise Chatfield, 78, formerly of Seymour, Conn., and Chester, Vt., passed away in Keene, N.H., on Dec. 28, 2023, after recent age-related health setbacks. She had been a resident at Covenant Living retirement community in Keene since 2019, and was just one month shy of her 79th birthday.

Jean was raised in Seymour, Conn., and spent summers in Weston, Vt., with her family. After graduating from Seymour High School in 1962, she went on to Lake Erie College in Ohio, where she received a degree in education and enjoyed perfecting her musical skills, taking lessons on the college organ.

Following graduation in 1966, she returned to Seymour to teach high school math for three years, and then moved to the family home in Weston after securing a teaching position in Springfield, Vt. While in Weston, she enjoyed riding and caring for her horses, Tasha and baby Tanya. She also served as organist for Weston's Old Parish Church, and in later years played for several churches and weddings in southern Vermont.

In 1987 the family home in Weston was sold to the owners of the Vermont Country Store, and Jean relocated to Chester to be closer to work and to shorten the driving distance in the snowy winters. She made many friends in Chester, where she retired from teaching after 30 years.

Jean then spent several years working for the Vermont Country Store in Weston, and volunteered annually as an usher at the Weston Playhouse summer theater, where she donated many hours of her time in coordinating the schedule of ushers for the weekly performances.

Jean and her mother both enjoyed quilting, and they attended summer classes together at the Fletcher Farm School for the Arts and Crafts in Ludlow. Jean joined local quilting groups and continued to develop her skills, learning new



Jean Chatfield, 2023. PHOTO PROVIDED

techniques in a variety of classes. Always a giving person, she shared many of her beautiful quilts and projects as presents for friends.

Leaving her home in Chester in 2019 when it became harder to maintain, especially in winter, Jean moved to a retirement community in Keene, N.H., where she continued her quilting, sharing her expertise with others and gifting many of the beautiful products of her skills.

Jean is survived by her two sisters Carol Ann Chatfield also of Keene, and Betty Chatfield Brosius of Downingtown, Pa.; and sisters-in-law Marcia Chatfield of Hingham, Mass., and Judy Chatfield of Southington, Conn. She is also survived by five nieces and their families. She was predeceased by her parents Henry Treat Chatfield and Beryl Burmaster Chatfield of Seymour, and two half-brothers George Allan Chatfield of Seymour, and Henry Oliver Chatfield of Bethany, Conn.

Sisters Carol and Betty would like to thank the residents and friends of Covenant Living in Keene for their help and assistance in finding uses for Jean's vast supply of quilting materials and supplies, which have been donated to quilting and sewing groups who will carry on the gifting of handmade products made with love for seniors, children, and others.

A private ceremony for burial of the ashes will be held for the family at the Pines Bridge Cemetery in Beacon Falls, Conn., in the spring.

Mary Folsom, 1949-2024

LUDLOW, Vt. – Mary Elizabeth Piluski Folsom passed away Jan. 4, 2024, in Ludlow, Vt. Mary was born in Bellows Falls, Vt., on July 28, 1949. She attended St. Charles School, and graduated in 1967 from Bellows Falls High School. Mary worked at New England Telephone Company as a telephone operator. She also worked at Holmes Transportation and H.A. Manning Co. She is survived by a son David Place of Chester, Vt., and a brother Stephen Piluski of Saxtons River, Vt. Mary is also survived by several nieces and nephews.

Mary enjoyed sewing, cooking, going for long walks, and helping others. She also loved pets and children. Her son David was the light of her life, as well as spending time with friends who were important to her. Mary was a kind lady, who kept Jesus in her life. She also had pen pals that she kept in touch with.

By Mary's request, there will be no funeral. A graveside service will be held at a later date.

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

Gary E. Pike, 2024

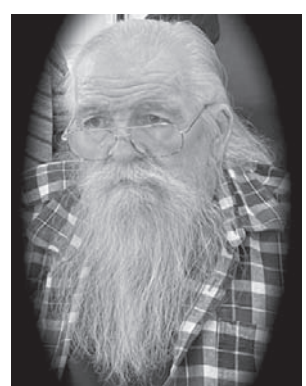


MOUNT HOLLY, Vt. – Gary E. Pike, 75, of Mount Holly, passed away Jan. 8, at the Vermont Veterans Home, with his wife and daughter at his side.

Gary was born in Springfield to Donald and Emma (Clokey) Pike. He grew up and attended school in Ludlow, completing his final year and graduating from Springfield High School in 1966.

Gary served four years – or "364 days, but I didn't keep count," as he was fond of saying – in the U.S. Air Force as a jet engine mechanic, traveling to several foreign countries including a TDY assignment at Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam.

On July 21, 1973, he married Carol Ann Hastings in Ludlow. Gary worked at several area businesses, including machine shops at GE and Fellows Gear Shaper. He obtained his CDL and drove for Idlenot, Seward Dairy, HA Eddy/Irving, and Ethier Trucking, among others. He also owned his own dump truck, and was self-employed. Gary was a previous member of both the Ludlow and Mount Holly Fire Departments, and a past president and member of the Killington Sports Car Club. He enjoyed working on his own race cars to drive in Hillclimbs at several Vermont mountains. Gary joined softball, bowling, and



Gary Pike, 2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

golf teams in earlier years. He also enjoyed getting together with friends and family to play cards, and was especially fond of trips to his grandfather's farm, and to his brother's home in Maine for deer hunting season.

Gary is survived by his wife, his daughter Jessica Pike (Mark Revesz), his sister Sharon (Warren) Raymond, brother Robert (Cheryl) Pike, grandsons Myles and Marshall Revesz, brother-in-law Larry Rogers, and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was predeceased by his parents, nephew Jason Raymond, and sister-in-law Sue Rogers.

The family would like to thank the staff at the Vermont Veterans Home for the compassionate care they showed to Gary and his family. A Celebration of his Life will be held in the spring.

Gloria A. Leven, 2024

CAVENDISH, Vt. – It is with heavy hearts that we share that Gloria Ann Leven, the radiant and oh-so-beloved human that she was, passed peacefully on New Years Day.

She loved flowers, art, babies, books, the theater, sunshine, black coffee, meeting new people, her home, her family, her community – she loved her life, all 100 years of it, and she found joy even in mundanity and simplicity. To know Gloria was to know joyfulness, and right up until the end she remained her sunny self. She will be missed fiercely.

Gloria was predeceased by her beloved husband Seymour and son Thomas. She is survived by brother



Gloria Leven, 2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

Burt and wife Joan, sons Robert and Andrew, their wives Kim and Mary, granddaughter Jade and partner Justin, and great-grandsons Jasper and Oliver.

A Celebration of her Life will be held at a later date, with details to come.

Robert J. Smith, 1926-2024

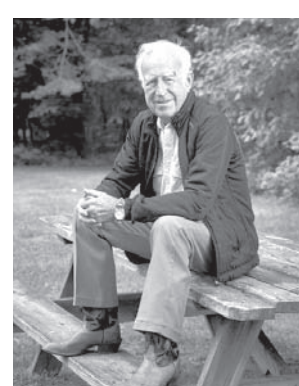


LUDLOW, Vt. – Robert J. "Bob" Smith, 97, died peacefully in his Myrtle Beach home on Jan. 3, 2024, with his son John and John's wife Liz, as well as a close family friend by his side. He was born April 29, 1926, at his aunt's home in Ludlow, Vt., and attended Black River Academy until it closed, and graduated from Black River High School in 1942.

Bob had an incredible and interesting life. In the 1940s he was in the Air Force, stationed at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, when the war ended. After returning home he met his first wife Phyllis Pelkey, and they had two children Barbara and John Smith. Bob bulldozed trails at what would become Okemo Ski Area, where he later became a ski instructor and eventually the mountain manager. He left Okemo to become the New England dealer for Tucker Sno-Cats. During this time he also bought an airplane, built an airstrip, and then got his pilots license.

In 1978, he retired, and with his second wife Jean Brough, they traveled back and forth between Vermont, Colorado, and South Carolina. After extensive traveling, in his late 70s he went back to logging on his land, as well as selling firewood and rough-cut lumber that he milled on his property. This was his passion, along with mowing, and he did this until he was 97, when the numerous accidents he had in the woods and his age finally caught up to him.

Bob loved sports, most of which he began later in life. He began skiing in his 20s; took up tennis at 47; and snowmobiling, horseback riding, and golf in his 60s. He was an avid hunter, and



Robert Smith, 1926-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

at one time or another shot deer, bear, elk, moose, caribou, and wild boar all over the country.

Bob is predeceased by his first wife Phyllis and brother Bill, Jack Nash husband of Barbara Nash, and John's first wife Lynn. Bob is survived by his wife Jean; his daughter Barbara Nash and her daughter Laura; his son John and his wife Liz; John's two children Jeremy Smith and wife Joelle, and Zach Smith and wife Amy; great-grandchildren Eliana, Dylan, Maxwell, and Otto; stepchildren Randy Benson and wife Kitty, Marty Benson and wife Roxi, and SueAnne Starr; along with four step-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Alzheimer's Association. A Celebration of Life will take place in Ludlow, Vt., in the spring. May he rest in peace.

BELLOWS FALLS, VT.

Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church St.

Services are held most Sundays at 10 a.m., in-person. Please join us. All are welcome. For more information go to Facebook @ImmanuelEpiscopalChurch or to our website www.immanuelepiscopal.org.

CAVENDISH, VT.

St. James United Methodist Church, 570 Main St.

Please join us Sundays at 8:45 a.m. with Pastor John Hawkins. All are welcome. For more information, call 802-674-3443 or go to www.facebook.com/sjamesumcproctorsville.

CHESTER, VT.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 313 Main St.

Services are on Wednesdays at 5:30-6 p.m. and on Sundays at 10 a.m., both in person and by Zoom, followed by coffee hour. All are welcome. Handicapped accessible. For a link to the Zoom service or more information about services and events, please visit www.stlukesepiscopalvt.org.

LUDLOW, VT.

Annunciation Catholic Church, Corner of Depot and High St.

Masses are celebrated on Saturday at 4:30 p.m. and on Sunday at 9 a.m. For further information, see our website at churchoftheannunciation.org, or call us at 802-228-3451.

SPRINGFIELD, VT.

Church of Christ, Rt. 11, 972 Chester Rd.

Sunday Bible Study for all ages at 10 a.m.; Worship Service at 11 a.m. includes a group meeting for children. Live or past services can be viewed on Facebook at SpringfieldVTChurchofChrist. Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., adult class on different topics meets in the Fellowship Hall, accessed by parking in the back of the church. For more information, call Jamie Kurpiel, Evangelist, at 870-615-0452 or email jckurpiel@yahoo.com. If no answer, call 802-886-2670.

WALPOLE, N.H.

Walpole Unitarian Church, corner of Union and Main St.

Sunday Service begins at 10 a.m. Services are also available via Zoom. For links and updates, go to www.walpoleunitarianchurch.org.

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OBITUARIES:
A basic 200-word obituary is \$75, and \$0.50 per word thereafter. A black and white photo is an additional \$10. Email to editor@vermontjournal.com by Monday at 12 p.m.

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

calendar

LEGAL NOTICES

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.

JAN. 22 –
LUDLOW, Vt. – The Black River Valley Senior Center, 10 High Street, will serve lunch on Monday, Jan. 22, at 12 p.m. The menu will be

meat loaf, gravy, mashed potatoes, and squash, with rice pudding for dessert. Free cash Bingo will follow. Please make a reservation by calling 802-228-7421. All are welcome.

JAN. 27 –
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Sound Investment will be performing classic rock and modern country music at VFW Post 771, 191 River Street in Springfield, on Saturday, Jan. 27, at 7:30 p.m. This event is open to the public. For more information, call 802-885-6008.

JAN. 28 –
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Grammy-nominated songwriter Reed Foehl will perform at Stage 33 Live in Bellows Falls, Vt. on Sunday, Jan. 28, at 7 p.m. Singer-songwriter Tommy Crawford will open. Tickets are discounted in advance at www.stage33live.com or the door. Limited seating. The event will be recorded and filmed.

FEB. 15 –
WOODSTOCK, Vt. – The

Ottawaquechee Natural Resources Conservation District and Sustainable Woodstock will co-host a free screening of the globe-spanning documentary “River,” narrated by Willem Dafoe, on Feb. 15, at 6 p.m., at Pentangle arts, located at the Woodstock Town Hall Theater, 31 Green. For directions, call 802-457-3981 or visit www.pentanglearts.org/about-us.

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

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Catamount Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol meets Sundays, from 3:30-5:30 p.m., at Harness 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.

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

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Overeaters Anonymous 12-Step Recovery Program is Mondays, from 7-8 p.m., at Parks Place, 44 School Street Extension in Bellows Falls. The program is free. For more information go to www.oa.org.

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

WESTON, Vt. – Bingo is Monday nights at 7 p.m. at the Weston Rod & Gun Club, 982 Route 100, 1.5 miles north of Weston Village. All are welcome.

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 for more information. Private classes are available.

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 precautions so a mask is required while attending the meeting. All are welcome; youth must be at least 9 to attend and have parental permission. Meetings are every Tuesday at 25 Cherry Hill in Bellows Falls. Weigh-ins start at 5:45 p.m.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Senior Solutions is again sponsoring two Fall Prevention Tai Chi classes in the Great Hall, on Pearl Street in Springfield, on Tuesdays. The advanced class will meet from 9:30-10:30 a.m. The beginner class will meet from 10:40-11:40 a.m. When practiced regularly, Tai Chi not only helps to lower the risk of falling, but also improves concentration, leg strength, balance and coordination, reduces joint pain and stress, and builds a sense of belonging. For more information or to register, contact Sue Rubel at suerubl@aol.com, or Sophia Blanchard at SBlanchard@seniorsolutionsvt.org.

WEDNESDAYS –
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Knitting Together, every Wednesday, 1-3 p.m., at Village Square Booksellers, knitting hats and mittens for our school kids. We provide yarn, some direction, and an enjoyable visit. Acrylic yarn donations are always welcome. For more information, contact Caroline at 802-463-4653.

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

LUDLOW, Vt. – Aqua

Sculpt, Wednesdays at 10:35 a.m. at the Spring House at Jackson Gore. Call 802-228-1419 for more information.

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – The First Congregational Church of Westminster’s Souper Wednesdays are held from 12-2 p.m., in the Church Fellowship Hall, with several delicious soups to try. All are welcome.

THURSDAYS –
CHESTER, Vt. – Bone Builders Class in Chester every Thursday, 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.

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. – Alcoholics Anonymous meetings held every Friday at 6:30 p.m. at St. Joseph’s Church, located at 96 South Main Street in Chester. If you have a problem with alcohol, this is an understanding place to come to.

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, or visit www.edgarmay.org.

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

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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NOTICE
WINDHAM HILL ROAD CLOSURE
in WINDHAM, VT
(Road Closure from 1/22/24 through 2/05/24)

Windham Hill Road will be closed to all traffic a distance 5 miles south of the Rte. 121 intersection (200’ south of Chase Road intersection) to allow for culvert work. Electronic Message Boards and road signs will be utilized to signify closure. Residents/businesses must use an alternative route during closure. Please call the Town of Windham if you have any questions. Thank you very much.

Kord Scott, Windham Road Commissioner
 Windham Town Hall: 802-874-4211

Green Mountain Union High School is looking for a Varsity Softball Coach starting in April 2024.

For more information or to apply please email todd.parah@trsu.org.

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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

Plymouth Planning Commission
Notice of Public Hearing
On the Draft Plymouth Zoning Ordinance

To be held in the Municipal Auditorium
 68 Town Office Road, Plymouth, VT
 February 6, 2024 at 7:00 P.M.

The proposed draft covers all of the lands in the Town of Plymouth. The purpose of this hearing is to take comments from the public on the draft ordinance so the Planning Commission can consider these as it makes its final revisions, prior to sending to the Selectboard. The Selectboard will hold its own hearing on a separate date. The proposed ordinance will replace the current ordinance in its entirety. The ordinance is meant to further the purposes of the Town Plan and 24 VSA §4302. Copies of the draft can be found at the Town Clerk’s office or on the town website at plymouthvt.org. Comments may also be mailed to the attention of the Planning Commission at 68 Town Office Rd, Plymouth, VT 05056.

General Sections of the proposed Regulations are:

1. General Provisions
2. Zoning Districts
3. General and Special Provisions
4. Administration, Enforcement, and Appeals
5. Planned Unit Development
6. Definitions

Town of Plymouth, Vermont
Lister Position Available

The Town of Plymouth has an opening for a part-time Lister. Applicant must be a resident of the Town of Plymouth. This position is approximately 15-20 hours a week with a flexible schedule. Initially, there will be in-depth, outside, training provided to maximize Listers time with a review within six (6) months.

- Listers will appraise all taxable property in the Town at the fair market value.
- Listers must set all real property in the Grand List at one percent of its listed value on April 1 of the year of its appraisal.
- Listers will provide an annual abstract of the Grand List to the Town Clerk.
- Listers hold grievance hearings for tax payers who wish to grieve their appraised value.
- The Listers sit as part of the Board of Tax Abatement.
- Many of the Listers’ job responsibilities have requirements concerning timing, notification, and format, as well as substance, which must be strictly adhered to. Towns have lost appeals because procedural details were overlooked. You must carefully read, understand and follow the statutes.
- Assist the public by answering questions and explaining everything from the valuation process to homestead/house site values as well as the appeal process.
- Be able to unravel complex questions regarding mapping and parcel data.
- Data organization and filing from appeals, bills, purchase requests, etc.
- Building permit data entry and spreadsheets when the CAMA System AssessPro is in place.
- Be able to find a value for each parcel in ownership of multiple parcels.
- Correspondence
- Stay up-to-date by attending classes, seminars and webinars.
- Knowledge of NEMRC, VTPie, word, and excel a plus, but not mandatory.

Please submit your resume and/or a completed application to the Plymouth Town Clerk’s Office at 68 Town Office Road, Plymouth, Vermont 05056 or email clerk@plymouthvt.org. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The Town of Plymouth is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

TOWN OF ANDOVER SELECT BOARD
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given to the residents of the Town of Andover, Vermont that the Andover Select Board will hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 8, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Andover Town Hall to receive public comments on adding short-term rentals as a conditional use to the Andover Zoning Regulations.

Dated at Andover, Vermont, this 9th day of January, 2024
 Jeanette Haight, Clerk of the Board

Town of Springfield Planning Commission
Public Hearings to Amend Town Plan

6:30 pm, Wednesday, February 21, 2024
 Springfield Town Library

6:30 pm, Wednesday, March 6, 2024
 Springfield Town Office

These hearings are to receive public testimony on the Springfield Town Plan update. The full text of the proposed Town Plan is available at the Planning & Zoning office, Town Clerks office, and online at springfieldvt.gov

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD
HELP WANTED
Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation

The Town of Springfield, VT is looking for an Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation. This is a full-time; non-exempt position with an excellent benefit and retirement package. Salary range is \$22.79 to \$24.83, depending upon qualifications and experience. Position requires graduation from a college or university of recognized standing with a Bachelor’s Degree based on a major in Parks & Recreation Leadership; or Sports Management; or Physical Education. The ideal candidate will have a minimum of at least one year of proven, successful, and progressive experience in recreation leadership. Candidates may substitute a combination of education, training, and experience, especially experience within a municipal setting. Applicant must have or will be trained for a Vermont Certified Pool Operator Certificate, required renewal every 5 years, OSHA Required Respirator knowledge and usage. First Aid Certification and renewal required, and CPR Certification and renewal required for Adults & Children. Apply at the Human Resources Office, 96 Main Street, (802) 885-2104 (tosh@vermontel.net). Applications may also be downloaded from the Town’s website (<https://springfieldvt.gov/office2.com/jobs>). Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The Town of Springfield is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Weekly SUDOKU
Answer

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

King Crossword
Answers
Solution time: 23 mins.

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

LEGAL NOTICES

classifieds

Scammers and the internet of things

REGION – My wife and I were making our way to the exit of a “warehouse club” store when she came to a stop, her voice was one of “puzzlement.” Her cell phone received a message from a refrigerator displayed near the store exit asking if she forgot to purchase milk or eggs. That was our first public encounter with the internet of things (IOT). According to the consulting firm McKinsey and Company, IOT “describes physical objects embedded with sensors and actuators that communicate with computing systems via wired or wireless networks – allowing the physical world to be digitally monitored or even controlled.” Simply put, IOT is all that “smart” stuff we have that is in some way connected to the internet: cameras, phones, watches, health monitors, televisions, appliances, vehicles, and much more. By the end of 2023, there were over 14 billion IOT devices in use, and the number will likely triple by the end of this decade.

The technology goes beyond convenience, and is rapidly becoming a necessity. Home monitoring, heart or diabetic monitoring, functionality of ap-

pliances, and communications are all part of the IOT world. But with the benefits come many risks, similar to the risks faced by computer and tablet users posed by hackers, but there is a major difference: computers, tablets, and smart phones are designed and constantly updated with security in mind. Most IOT devices are not, and generally incapable of updating the operating software.

The risks also vary by device, and include the following: accessing home cameras, climate control, lighting, appliances, garage door, and more; tracking and disabling vehicles; and accessing critical medical systems such as a pacemaker.

If you maintain a home Wi-Fi network, one of the most critical and vulnerable devices that is internet-connected is your router. It is an almost invisible piece of internet life with which all you need to do is, in the words of a television advertisement, “set it and forget it!” It is critical because it connects all wireless devices to the outside world. It is vulnerable for that reason, and because older routers were not well-designed to cope with hackers. It is the ultimate plug-

and-play device, and many users do not alter the default password setting. As a criminal hacker, I know the router password, I can access any connected device on the network: TV, camera, computer, coffee maker, thermostat.

Protecting yourself from hackers. Begin with your Wi-Fi router. Purchase a replacement if it is more than five years old. Change the device password regularly, regardless of if it is a default password or one you created.

Don't enable an internet connection unless it is necessary for the device to function. For example, most flat-screen televisions allow you to connect directly with the manufacturer via the internet. While the connection allows you to receive information and troubleshoot any problems, it allows the manufacturer to collect data on your viewing habits and more.

Use multi-factor authentication (MFA) if allowed by the device. With MFA, access to the

device requires an additional step, often involving email or text messaging.

Conduct personal research to discover what personal information is collected by your service provider or the device manufacturer, and what is done with that information. Many providers collect personal information for marketing products and services, or to create a separate income stream by selling your data.

Finally, don't connect to public Wi-Fi networks with portable devices. When possible, use a secure channel by creating a personal hotspot on your cellular phone.

If you have questions or comments, email egreenblott@aarp.org. Elliott Greenblott is 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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 *Competitive wages
 *Valid drivers license required

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 *Competitive wages
 *Valid drivers license required

For more information and to apply, fill out application at www.glebmountaingardens.com/employment-application

3714 Route 11, Londonderry

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

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Whitney Blake is continually growing and looking for associates to join our team. Check us out! We have currently have the following opportunities:

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 9 Lovell Drive, Bellows Falls, VT 05101
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Weekly SUDOKU
 by Linda Thistle

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

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

1 Essence
 5 Sprint
 9 Weed whacker
 12 Part of a French play
 13 Draft status
 14 Jackson 5 hit song
 15 Bribe of a sort
 17 Kanga's kid
 18 Hindu hero
 19 Mature, as fruit
 21 Laugh track sounds
 24 Painter Joan
 25 "East of Eden" son
 26 College life
 30 Kitten's cry
 31 Nearby
 32 USN bigwig
 33 Wagered
 35 Shade provider
 36 Candied veggies
 37 Plano's state
 38 Recap
 40 Wild hog
 42 — pro nobis
 43 Website assistance features
 48 Motorist's org.
 49 Biblical grain measure

DOWN

1 "How frustrating!"
 2 Hosp. section
 3 Map lines (Abbr.)
 4 Capital of Iran
 5 Unhappy deserty
 6 Editor Wintour
 7 Observe

8 October outing
 9 Brother of Groucho
 10 Bassoon's kin
 11 Nobel Prize subj.
 16 More (Sp.)
 20 Fury
 21 Soccer star
 22 Region
 23 Cowboy's greeting
 24 Sail support
 26 Priests' gartiny
 27 Runner
 28 Sebastian

28 Notion
 29 Iowa city
 31 Moth repellent
 34 Vichy water
 35 Nobel-winning Mother
 37 Highland hat
 38 Drench
 39 Russian river
 40 Ran in the wash
 41 Nashville venue
 44 Outback bird
 45 Refusals
 46 Show to a seat, slangily
 47 Utter

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yellow page **BUSINESS DIRECTORY**

\$150 for 13 Weeks • \$250 for 26 Weeks • \$400 for 52 Weeks
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Sightings Photography Exhibit By Rich Cofrancesco until 1/31

Take a Workshop in 2024!
 Chinese Calligraphy w/ Jonathan Root 2/17/24
 Perspective Drawing Basics w/ Chris Mix (Zoom) 2/4/24
 Pet Portraits w/ Mindy Fisher 2/24/24
 Raku Workshop w/ Andrew Berends (2 part) 3/2 & 3/9
 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 - 1FN - 13)

Builders/Contractors

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 (06/05/24 - 5Z)

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Okemo Valley TV

LOCAL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

- Proposed Upgrades on Ludlow + Mt. Holly School Buildings
- Governor's State of the State Address
- Local Weather Forecasts
- Behind the Scenes of Yoh Theatre at WUHS
- Green Drinks Series: All About Geothermal Heat

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) (04/03/24 - 1FN - 13)

arts & entertainment

OLLI spring programs

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) is pleased to announce its spring 2024 programs. Sponsored by the University of Vermont (UVM), OLLI is run by local volunteer members, and is geared mainly towards seniors who are 50 years of age and older who enjoy learning for the fun of it.

The programs are held Tuesday afternoons at 2 p.m., and last about an hour and a half, at the Nolin Murray Center on Pleasant Street, next to St. Mary's Catholic Church in Springfield, Vt.

Following is the listing of programs for the spring 2024 semester.

On Feb. 27, Ian Clark, steam train enthusiast and professional photographer, will present "Under Steam." We will view his extensive photographic collection of steam locomotives in museums, and those used for excursions, taken on his travels across the United States.

On March 12, Mike Clough, director of Southern Vermont Natural History Museum, will present "Vermont Raptors," cosponsored by the Ascutney Mountain Audubon Society. Using rehabilitated, non-releasable live hawks, owls, and falcons, we will learn the specific amazing adaptations of these magnificent birds of prey.

On March 26, Amanda Gustin of the Vermont Historical Society will present "Justin Morgan's Horse: Making an American Myth." All Morgan horses today trace their lineage back to a single horse: a mystery stallion named Figure, owned by singing teacher Justin Morgan in the late 18th century. We'll explore this fascinating story, and how it is tied up with the idea of Vermont identity.

On April 9, John Snell, Montpelier Tree Board director, will present "So Many Reasons to Love Trees," cosponsored by the Springfield Garden Club. We'll enjoy photographs of trees while looking closely at many of the things we don't always pay attention to – from bark and leaves to shade and shapes, from seeds and fruits to wood and carbon dioxide.

On April 23, author, inspirational speaker, and mentalist Dr. Steve Taubman will present "Mind Magic." We'll be treated to a healthy dose of psychology and theater, drawing on Dr. Taubman's laser-sharp observational skills, and his refined sense of the absurd, as he combines elements of comedy and mindreading, all while he delivers timeless wisdom about leadership, resilience, and success.

On May 7, professor

Wolfgang Mieder, University of Vermont German and Proverb professor emeritus, will present "Freedom is Indivisible: John F. Kennedy's Reliance on Proverbs." Enjoy professor Mieder weaving the story of how President John F. Kennedy effectively used Biblical and folk proverbs to rhetorical effect in his speeches.

Thanks go out to our local benefactor, Barbara Sanderson.

There is a Membership Series fee. Non-members are welcome and encouraged to attend individual programs for a single program fee. There is an Early Bird Special membership rate if you register by Feb. 13. Pre-registration is highly recommended. If you do not 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.

Registration can easily be done online with a credit card by going to www.learn.uvm.edu/olli/springfield. You may also register over the phone by calling the UVM Non-Credit Registration Office at 802-656-8407 during regular business hours, or email noncredit@uvm.edu.

If you prefer to register by mail, send your contact information (name, address, phone number, and email address) indicating full series membership or which specific program(s) you wish to attend. Mail this information and your check made out to "University of Vermont – OLLI" to: UVM Non-Credit Registration Office, 109 South Prospect Street, Burlington, VT 05405. Allow 10-14 days from date of mailing check to receipt and processing.

A Midwinter Afternoon with In The Rough



In the Rough.

PHOTO PROVIDED

WESTON, Vt. – Old Parish Church and Little Yellow House Studio present "A Midwinter Afternoon with In The Rough," a concert featuring the vocal trio In The Rough (Lisa Brigantino, Lori Brigantino, and Andover, Vt., resident Susan Haefner) on Saturday, Jan. 20, at 4 p.m., at the Old Parish Church in Weston, Vt. The concert will include traditional and contemporary folk songs, old-time tunes, as well as original songs and even a sing-along.

In The Rough has been singing together since their days as students at the State University of New York College at Fredonia, and has performed over the years at a variety of venues, including well-known music clubs, coffeehouses, and house concerts. The trio has also appeared on all three of Lisa Brigantino's commercially released original music albums.

"We are looking forward to providing a fun, enjoyable afternoon of music at the Old Parish Church," says Susan Haefner, Little

Yellow House Studio founder. "We performed a concert at the Old Parish Church last February, and Lisa, Lori, and I are excited to return to make music in such a warm and inviting space."

"A Midwinter Afternoon with In The Rough," on Saturday, Jan. 20, starts at 4 p.m., with doors opening at 3:30 p.m. There is a suggested donation at the door. The Old Parish Church is located at 100 Main Street in Weston, Vt. For more information, please visit www.littleyellowhousestudio.com.

Lonnie Holley and Mourning [A] BLKstar

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.

"Lonnie's work over the past few decades has been a shining example of an outsider artist's work becoming so meaningful that the establishment has to take notice," says Keith Marks, executive direc-

tor of Next Stage. "The pairing of Lonnie's work backed by Mourning [A] BLKstar is one of those once-in-a-lifetime opportunities - Afrofuturism at its best."

Since 1979, Lonnie Holley has devoted his life to the practice of improvisational creativity. His art and music, born out of struggle, hardship, but perhaps more importantly, out of furious curiosity and biological necessity, has manifested itself in drawing, painting, sculpture, photography, performance, music, and filmmaking. Holley's sculptures are constructed from found materials in the oldest tradition of African American sculpture. Ob-

jects, already imbued with cultural and artistic metaphor, are combined into narrative sculptures that commemorate places, people, and events. His work is now in collections of major museums throughout the world – The Museums of Fine Arts in San Francisco, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Philadelphia Museum of Art, The Smithsonian American Art Museum, The National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., and many others – on permanent display in the United Nations, and has been displayed in the White House Rose Garden.

Holley did not start making and performing music in a studio, nor does his creative process mirror that of the typical musician. His music and lyrics are improvised on the spot, and morph and evolve with every event, concert, and recording. In Holley's original art environment, he would construct and deconstruct his visual works, repurposing their elements for new pieces. This often led to the transfer of individual narratives into the new work, creating a cumulative composite image that has depth and purpose beyond its original singular meaning. The layers of sound in Holley's music, likewise, are the result of decades of evolving experimentation.

A multi-generational, gender, and genre non-conforming amalgam of Black culture, Mourning [A] BLKstar is dedicated to sharing stories and songs of America's unfolding apocalypse. Their music melds live instrumentation with hip-hop production, creating sonic frequencies that illuminate the African diaspora. Founded in Cleveland, the U.S.-based Afrofuturist collective continues touring their music globally across Europe and the U.S., playing festivals from Crossing Border in Berlin with Lonnie Holley, to Big Ears Festival and Le Guess Who? in Utrecht.

Next Stage is located at 15 Kimball Hill in downtown Putney, Vt. Tickets are discounted in advance at www.nextstagearts.org. There is also a livestream option. Next Stage will provide a beer, wine, and cocktail cash bar. For information, call 802-387-0102 or visit the website above.

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Vermont History - Science & Nature - Arts & Literature
Current Events - Music - And more!

Lectures are held every two weeks on Tuesdays from 2-3:30 pm, at the Nolin Murray Center, 40 Pleasant Street, Springfield, VT.
Spring '24 Programs start on February 27, 2024. Become a Member by February 13 and Receive the Early Bird Membership Discount! For more information on programs and to register online (it's easy!), visit our website at learn.uvm.edu/olli/springfield.

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-VT RESIDENTS
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-FIRST RESPONDERS AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

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arts & entertainment

Reed Foehl with Tommy Crawford at Stage 33 Live

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Grammy-nominated songwriter Reed Foehl will perform at Stage 33 Live in Bellows Falls, Vt., on Sunday, Jan. 28, at 7 p.m., with singer-songwriter Tommy Crawford opening.

Foehl writes stories of the human condition, with lyrics and voice that push boundaries while paying homage to tradition. His sixth studio album “Wild Wild Love” (2022) was recorded with The Band

of Heathens in Austin, Texas. He now resides in the Green Mountains of Vermont, and continues to tour across the globe. Foehl was nominated for a Grammy Award for the song “Fly,” co-written with

southern artist Brent Cobb, which country legend Lee Ann Womack recorded.

Crawford is a multi-instrumentalist singer-songwriter. A talented solo musician, Crawford is better known for his work in live

theater and independent film as an actor, composer, lyricist, arranger, and music director. He is a founding member and director of NYC-based band/songwriting/theater collective The Lobbyists, which often explores the intersection between musical performance and theatrical storytelling. His most recent studio album “Athena and

the Moon” was released in 2022.

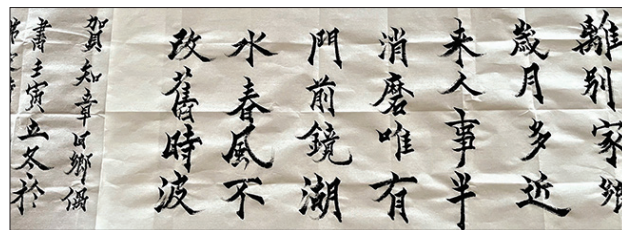
Tickets are discounted in advance at www.stage33live.com. There is limited seating, and the event will be recorded and filmed. Coffee, soda, juice, water, and a variety of snacks are available by donation. For more information, visit www.stage33live.com.

Chinese Calligraphy at the VAULT —

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Back by popular demand, Gallery at the VAULT is very pleased to offer Chinese Calligraphy with Jonathan Root on Saturday, Feb. 17, from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. This is a relaxing and most enjoyable class.

You will study Chinese calligraphy with brush, introducing you to standard works of calligraphy as seen throughout Chinese history, with a particular emphasis on the great calligraphers of the Tang dynasty, in particular Ou Yang Xun.

You will learn the foundations of character development, including strokes, stroke order, and Lin Tie, which is a method of modeling specific characters



Jonathan Root will lead a Chinese Calligraphy workshop. PHOTO PROVIDED

from a tablet of a great calligrapher. You will place the character in a square, typically with grids, which allows you to copy and imitate the character itself. This will give you an understanding of the stroke order. A focus will be on regular script, however both cursive script and grass script will be considered. Jonathan will also consider the famous Orchid

Pavilion.

Jonathan Root grew up in Chester, Vt. He learned Chinese calligraphy in China, where he lived for two years, and has been studying and practicing ever since. Jonathan received his bachelor's in mathematics from the College of the Holy Cross, and his doctorate in mathematics from Boston University.

Brush, ink, paper weight, and felt mat will be provided, but bring your own if you have them. The registration fee is discounted for gallery members. Please register by Wednesday, Feb. 14.

Gallery at the VAULT is located at 68 Main Street in Springfield. The gallery is open Wednesdays, Thursdays, 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 or the gallery's Facebook page. The gallery is handicap accessible.

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Canal Street Art Gallery opens free Community Art Studio —

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Canal Street Art Gallery presents the Community Art Studio Program, providing a free to use space within the gallery, including artist grade supplies, for the public to make art while overlooking the Bellows Falls Canal. The Community Art Studio Program is now open through Feb. 24. All ages are welcome to use the studio on a walk-in basis during gallery hours, Tuesday-Saturday, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Artwork made may be donated and hung on the walls of the program. Donated artwork is then mounted and given in clear sleeves by mail as rewards to supporters of the program. Artists also have the option to mount and take their work home with them in a clear sleeve, allowing visitors to create finished pieces ready to transport and frame.

A campaign launched by the gallery using the Kickstarter crowdfunding platform, if successful, will fund the building of a permanent space to keep the free Community Art Studio Program. The all-or-nothing goal of \$1,500 must be met by Feb. 3, at 8 p.m. Of this amount, \$1,032 will build and paint movable walls, and provide more lighting. To donate, please go to www.kickstarter.com/projects/canalstreetart/help-us-keep-our-free-community-art-studio.

The fundraiser, if successful, will pay to build a permanent space to keep the Community Art Studio Program at Canal Street Art Gallery. The creation of this program directly addresses a need and desire for additional and financially accessible creative outlets.

The space is well equipped, and art supplies include graphite and charcoal pencils, ink pens, sumi ink, oil pastels, and watercolor paints. A professional variety of watercolor and ink wash brushes, along with palettes and drawing tools, are provided. Visitors may choose to work on Bristol board, drawing, watercolor, or rice papers. The program plans to add acrylic, acrylic gouache, and pastel paints, cold wax and matte mediums, collage supplies, primed boards, and primed canvases.

If the campaign to keep the Community Art Studio Program achieves its fundraising goal, and a permanent space is created for the studio, the gallery will then be responsible for

the costs to maintain the program as free and open for the community to use. The gallery already has a third fundraising campaign planned to make the Community Art Studio Program a long-term success. This will use the Patreon crowdfunding platform to create a committed group of patrons who will pledge an initial total goal of \$250 per month. The gallery

will also accept donations of new or unused (only) artist-grade art supplies, and preowned professional artist studio furniture, during regular hours, Tuesday-Saturday, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

The gallery continues to work toward fulfilling its promises of more outreach, accessibility, programming, and events, all made possible by public support.

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KHH Charles Albert Dickinson awards, new staff

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – New England Kurn Hattin Homes for Children (KHH) has named Laura Duquette and Ivan Villavicencio of Essex Junction, Vt., as the 2023 recipients of its Charles Albert Dickinson Award at a ceremony held in December.

The award was named in honor of the Rev. Charles Albert Dickinson, who founded Kurn Hattin Homes in 1894, and has been presented annually since 2013 to recognize those who make a significant contribution to the field of child welfare and assistance.

Laura and Ivan became involved with Kurn Hattin Homes several years ago through their work with The St. Nicholas Project, and their associations with Father Lance Harlow. This award recognizes their selfless dedication to the St. Nicholas Project in support

of Kurn Hattin Homes, their untiring support of the children, their spirit of graciousness in all matters, and their wonderful efforts in spreading the good news of Kurn Hattin Homes throughout the state of Vermont and beyond.

The St. Nicholas Project is named after St. Nicholas, the patron saint of children, who was renowned for his charity toward children and families in need. While the aim of the project is to provide financial and material aid, it also serves to disseminate information to potential benefactors. Laura and



Kurn Hattin Homes' Executive Director Steve Harrison (left) presents the 2023 Charles Albert Dickinson Award to Laura Duquette and Ivan Villavicencio. PHOTO PROVIDED

Ivan have been the Project's champions, dedicated to the children of Kurn Hattin Homes. They have worked incredibly hard, traversing the state and visiting almost every Catholic church in Vermont on behalf of the Homes. Laura and Ivan have also spent countless hours at the Champlain Valley Fair

and Expo over the last several years, in addition to using their own personal finances for mailings to donors, travel expenses, and more. In their words of appreciation, Laura and Ivan stated, "In times of need, we believe the more the community supports each other, the better off we'll be. That's especially important when it comes to children who depend on a safe environment to learn, to grow, and to thrive. Our goal during our many interactions with people over the years has been to inspire them to do what they can to help the children, to help Kurn Hattin and [its] mission. The more we put into

helping somebody else, the more we get in return."

Kurn Hattin Homes for Children is also pleased to announce several new staff additions during the final quarter of 2023. These changes represent a continuous focus on developing and strengthening the team that provides service to the children who live and learn at the Homes.

Sonja Anderson has joined the Homes' residential staff as a houseparent. The responsibility of a houseparent is to provide a safe, homelike environment for the children living in her cottage, and to help them with day-to-day needs. Sonja comes to the Homes all the way from Juneau, Alaska, where she lived for the past 19 years.

Matthew "Matt" Kobel has joined the Homes' food service team as a utility cook

in the Watson Dining Hall. He is a welcome addition, whose skill in the kitchen contributes to the quality meals served to the children and staff.

Irmagard "Irma" Lasalle, the newest member of the Homes' maintenance team, grew up on a dairy farm in Bavaria, Germany, and helped keep the house clean while her mother tended to the cows. She was on a mission to keep things "spic and span" then, and she looks forward to doing the same at Kurn Hattin Homes now.

Since 1894, Kurn Hattin Homes for Children has helped thousands of children and their families by offering a safe home and quality education in a nurturing environment.

To learn more about employment opportunities at the Homes, please visit www.kurnhattin.org.

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