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Journal

FEBRUARY 28, 2024 | WWW.VERMONTJOURNAL.COM

VOLUME 24, ISSUE 09

Shaw’s flood mitigation, slated to open July

BY NICK GIBERTI
The Vermont Journal

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Ludlow Development Review Board (DRB) met on Monday, Feb. 12, during which time they heard from architect Nicholas Nitschke of Scott/Griffin Architects, who presented the proposed flood mitigation strategies for Ludlow’s Shaw’s supermarket and adjoining tenant businesses in the plaza.

“We’re at the stage where a lot of [the] decisions...have been made,” Nitschke told the board, saying that they have opted for passive flood mitigation wherever possible, and rapidly-deployable mitigation measures elsewhere, with the goal of having “360 degree flood protection” with “all vulnerable parts [of the building] covered.”

The concrete masonry sections of the building will be reinforced, and painted with a specially-designed, flood-proof paint, to ensure the building remains structurally sound in the event of a flood. This, Nitschke said, will be “one of the biggest parts” of the project.

All egress doors in the rear of the building will be replaced with “flood doors,” specifically designed as passive flood barriers when closed. The three loading dock doors, also on the



Entire Shaw’s building to have 360 degree flood protection.
PHOTO TAKEN FROM OKEMO VALLEY TV VIDEO

rear, river-facing side of the building, will be fitted with what Nitschke described as “flood planks,” which must be put in place when flooding is imminent. These flood planks will extend to the height which the architects have determined to be adequate for flood-proofing, and will slot in in front of the loading dock doors. Nitschke said that the planks can be deployed by “one or two” people in “five to ten minutes” per loading dock door. A similar panel system would be employed at the drive-up bank window on the side of the building, as the window cannot be raised due to needing to remain at car-window height.

Floodwalls will be added along the front of the building, and in front of an external freezer section in the rear. These floodwalls will also extend to the predetermined flood height, and will include sliding door panels to allow customers to enter

and exit the sidewalk area under the awning in front of the building. While these doors would remain open most of the time, in the event of imminent flooding they could be closed, and would provide a waterproof flood barrier.

Nitschke said that the goal, at this point, would be to create construction drawings, which he said he “hoped to have ready for [the DRB to] review by the next meeting.”

When asked about the likely opening date of the store, Nitschke confirmed that they were still hoping to be open by July 4. Bill Faradie, president and CEO of Vertec Corporation, the construction firm working on the rebuild, concurred with this goal, noting that they “would like to open sooner than that if possible.”

The Ludlow DRB will meet next on Monday, March 11, at 6 p.m.

Chester hears from citizens, updates on Julian Quarry

BY NICK GIBERTI
The Vermont Journal

CHESTER, Vt. – The Chester Selectboard met for their second regularly scheduled meeting of the month on Wednesday, Feb. 21. The meeting drew an unusually large crowd, most of whom were there to hear updates on and speak to the board about their ongoing issues with the quarries in their neighborhood owned by Julian Materials, often collectively referred to as the “Julian Quarry.”

During citizens’ comments, multiple Chester residents rose to address the board, expressing frustration that the process of enforcing regulations against the quarry’s owners was proceeding at a rate which they felt was too slow. Several noted that the process has been unfolding for three or more years, and only this past January was a notice of violation issued to the quarry. Despite this step, several felt that more needed to be done to prevent Julian Materials from continuing their alleged illegal activities while the violation enforcement proceedings unfold.

“We want our neighborhood back,” said Gassetts resident Leslie Thorsen, telling the board that she and other residents of the neighborhood had spent hours of their own time and “thousands of dollars” of their own money documenting and reporting the Julian’s alleged violations. Nearby resident Mike LeClair also rose to address the board, saying



Dean Brook before and after quarrying began.
PHOTO PROVIDED BY A PRESENTATION TO THE CHESTER SELECTBOARD IN MARCH 2023

that to his knowledge, there had still not been any tests done on Dean Brook, which flows past the quarry, to determine what was causing it to run a milky white since quarrying began.

Board Chair Arne Jonynas expressed sympathy for those affected by the quarry’s activities, and lamented that the board lacked sufficient authority to take more drastic action. “I feel bad as a board,” Jonynas said, telling those in attendance that “our authority is limited,” but that “we’re doing what we can.”

Prior to an executive session to discuss legal strategies with the board, town attorney Jim Carroll sat down to address residents and answer questions about the process. Carroll explained that, “By statute, the notice of violation is what initiates the process of enforcement under the zoning bylaws.” The landowner then has seven days to rectify the alleged violations, and 15 days to appeal the violation notice to the development review board (DRB), which Julian Materials has chosen to do. Once the notice of violation has been appealed, there will be a public hearing

before the DRB, to determine whether violations have occurred.

Carroll also said that, concurrently, the alleged violations can be taken directly to the state-level environmental court, the possibility of which was part of what he would be discussing with the board in the executive session. If the town chooses to bring the issue before the environmental court, there will be a separate public hearing about alleged Act 250 violations.

While some residents wondered why the town could not revoke permits or enforce the violation penalties on its own, Carroll explained that the DRB cannot issue a civil judgment, which is ultimately necessary before any penalties can be enforced. Carroll also said that he and the town would likely be trying to get in touch with neighbors who were willing to testify at the public violation hearings.

The Julian Quarry violation appeal hearing is scheduled for April 1, at 6 p.m. The next meeting of the Chester Selectboard will be on Town Meeting Day, Monday, March 4, at 6 p.m.

Londonderry talks STR fees, town hall renovations

BY LORIE STRANGE
The Vermont Journal

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – Proposed fee structures for the recently-established short-term rental (STR) registry once again dominated the discussions of the Londonderry Selectboard, which met on Feb. 19. The selectboard also continued discussing potential amendments to the town Personnel Policy, and approved the preliminary cost estimate for the town hall renovation project.

Londonderry received a vote of \$1.3 million last year to renovate the town office, and after a year of preparations and planning, they are about to put the project out to bid. Project architect Jonathan Saccoccio presented the updated floor plans to the selectboard. Despite several new rooms on both the ground and basement floors, including offices, meeting rooms, and a kitchenette in the basement, Saccoccio said his team endeavored to maintain the central feel of the space. The front entrance still leads into the main hallway, and the entire entryway is now more equitably accessible by a direct wheelchair ramp. Some of the proposed changes will depend on the results of later bidding, as the plans estimate a higher

cost than the initial budget provides, but Saccoccio said priorities with the current budget include an elevator between the first and basement floors, and replacing the staircase to bring it up to code. Construction could take anywhere between six and eight months, during which time the town will have to find alternate spaces for government operations; Saccoccio explained that phasing the process to avoid this would create additional expenses.

The Londonderry STR Ordinance took effect on Feb. 17, but the annual registration requirement will not apply until July 1, and the town will begin accepting applications on April 1. Before then, the selectboard has to agree on a structure for the application fees, which they have so far been unable to do. Melissa Brown reminded her fellow selectboard members that they had previously agreed that the goals of the registry included deterring investment properties – STRs operated by individuals who are not homesteaders or second-homeowners. Brown said that her proposed three-tiered structure would accomplish this by imposing higher fees on investment properties, and lower fees on second-homeowners and homesteaders. Chair Tom

Cavanagh disagreed, saying that this would introduce unnecessary complications and too much extra work confirming the status of each property that a \$500 flat fee would avoid. Cavanagh also said that town attorney Bob Fisher told him that the STR application fees cannot make any revenue for the town if they are to meet state requirements. The selectboard discussed potential workarounds and compromises, ultimately agreeing that they needed more information from Fisher before taking definitive action on the issue.

Per the town attorney’s recommendations, the selectboard continued discussing the conflict of interest section of the town Personnel Policy. The town clerk also voiced her concerns with an addendum relating to operating hours of the clerk’s office and elected officials benefits, which the selectboard discussed at length.

The Londonderry Selectboard has a special meeting on Feb. 29, for an informational hearing on the Bond Vote. Their regular meetings are on the first and third Mondays of every month, at 6 p.m., at the town office (Twitchell Building).

Mardi Gras on Main Street

BY DANIELLE GOODWIN
The Vermont Journal

LUDLOW, Vt. – Fried Chicken. Filipino food. Arcade games. What do they all have in common?

All of these are carefully created in a fun atmosphere called Gamebird, on Main Street in Ludlow. Weston Nicoll quietly opened Gamebird in December 2021 during the pandemic, after a successful run as a restaurateur in New Orleans. Weston grew up in Ludlow, and felt a calling to come back and share his passion for food and fun. Armed as a well-trained culinary graduate and with an idea to ignite the Ludlow food scene with different flavors, Weston was ready to deliver the goods.

There is an eclectic grouping of retro arcade games for serious fun to keep the kids entertained, as well as a seri-



Check out the food and fun at Gamebird.
PHOTO PROVIDED

ous bar that serves creative cocktails, wine, and beer. But wait! That sounds like it could be most restaurants – however, this restaurant stands out because of the fusion between Southern comfort food that has a different twist and unique flavors such as lime and chili, to the special homemade hot sauce, and out of this

world Filipino secret recipes.

What do you have to gain? A fun and spirited, back-to-the-basics retro childhood feeling with grown-up food and drinks. A win. Weston is unassuming and won’t wave his flag too much, but dip in and check out the food for yourself. You won’t be disappointed.

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GMUHS educators cultivate compassion and empathy

CHESTER, Vt. – In February 2023, Sweethearts & Heroes spent two incredible days with students at Green Mountain Union High School (GMUHS). A year later, Sweethearts & Heroes returned to focus on educators.

On Feb. 13, Sweethearts & Heroes director and founder Tom Murphy offered a training for about 30 GMUHS educators. Sweethearts & Heroes is a student empowerment and empathy activation team that aims to prevent bullying and suicide with a focus on the basic components of social-emotional learning (SEL).

Sweethearts & Heroes offers a profound, engaging signature presentation that calls for HOPE (Hold On, Possibilities Exist), empathy, and action; Circle, which is built on the ancient ritual of communicating in a circle to build empathy; and BRAVE Buddies, which trains older students in bully drills that

they, in turn, teach to students in lower grades.

The Sweethearts & Heroes team is Tom Murphy, director and founder, of St. Albans, Vt.; retired U.S. Army Sgt. Rick Yarosh, a HOPE expert and motivational speaker from New York who was burned severely while serving in Iraq; and Pat Fish, BRAVE and Circle leader.

Murphy's return to GMUHS this month focused on Circle trainings for educators (for more on Circle, visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q286yIL9L1E). Heather Gottlob, Sweethearts & Heroes affective educator, co-facilitated the trainings with Murphy.

Last November, Fish worked on Circles for two days at GMUHS. Benson's Chevrolet Inc. in Ludlow sponsored those events, and Sweethearts & Heroes' work at GMUHS in February 2023.

"This is a program we are very proud to spon-

sor," said George Benson of Benson's Chevrolet Inc. "Anything we can do to help support our school-children is what it's all about. We all want joy and happiness, and it starts with our young children and adults. Growing up in today's world is very challenging for all our children, as we all know. Sweethearts & Heroes provides an extra opportunity for our children, so they don't get 'left in the dark.' The feedback we've received from teachers confirms that Sweethearts & Heroes is truly helping our community."

Circle is one of the oldest human connection practices in history, stretching back more than 400,000 years. By definition, a Circle is a secure space created to invite the sharing of stories, perspectives, and emotions. It is designed so that everyone can see and hear each other. It also requires mutual consensus to listen and, often in sequence, respond to a central question.

The Circle format has no beginning and no end, and no one is in a position of prominence, which serves to encourage individuals to speak honestly about their feelings and beliefs.

"Circle is an opportunity for amazing stories to be shared and heard," Fish said. "Amazing isn't good or bad. Some amazing stories I've heard are heart-breaking, others are heart-warming, and others are hilarious. But every single one of us has an amazing story, because we all have unique experiences. Circle allows everyone the chance to share those stories and, more importantly, to practice listening so that we can learn from others' amazing stories. Also, there are various social-emotional skills practiced in Circle. What sets us apart? We make it fun. Everywhere we go, there's a thirst for Circle from students of all ages, social groups, and backgrounds. They want to connect further with the

people around them. Circle is a vehicle for that."

"At GMUHS, we value not only excellence in academics, but the skills needed to be part of a community," said Allyson Oswald, GMUHS school counselor. "These skills include listening to one another, understanding each other's perspective, learning from one another with communication and collaboration at the center. Circles are a way for us to teach these skills. We are grateful for the dynamic training offered by Sweethearts & Heroes, and hope our partnership continues into the future."

For more than 16 years, Sweethearts & Heroes has presented what Murphy calls "the 'stop, drop and roll' of bullying" to more than 2.5 million students in school districts from New England to Hawaii, and north into Canada. Sweethearts & Heroes also tailors its presentations and workshops for businesses, non-

profits, and civic groups. Murphy said, "We go where we're needed. That's what heroes do."

In 2021, Sweethearts & Heroes released "13 Pillows for Affective Teachers," a novel that covers the themes of HOPE, empathy, and action in the Sweethearts & Heroes curriculum. "13 Pillows" is based on real students and teachers that Sweethearts & Heroes has encountered. Murphy cowrote the book with Brian McKeon of New York. "13 Pillows" is available on Amazon. Digital or printed copies are available upon request. The audiobook is on Audible.

Sweethearts & Heroes has also created The HOPE Classroom, a digital subscription service designed for various grade levels and different school sizes. This value-packed offering can allow Sweethearts & Heroes to be in every school in the U.S. For more information, visit www.the-hopeclassroom.com.

OVRCC names Fischer Arts February Member of the Month

CHESTER, Vt. – Recognized for its exceptional art collection, as well as its mission of social responsibility, Fischer Arts has

been selected as the Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce (OVRCC) February Member of the Month. With a unique blend of artistic expression and environmental consciousness, Fischer Arts has unveiled its latest winter exhibition and beautiful window display that not only inspires viewers, but also contributes to the preservation of nature.

Iris Fischer-McMorrow, owner of Fischer Arts, shares, "Fischer Arts is grounded by a love for the natural world, a passion for

conservation and preservation, and a deep appreciation for art. Supporting conservation efforts is important to Fischer Arts, and therefore a portion of all sales is donated to organizations working to preserve fragile ecosystems and protect wildlife."

The work in the gallery reflects natural history themes, including botanicals, ocean life, minerals and metals, and more.



Works on display at Fischer Arts. PHOTO PROVIDED

doors. The art gallery includes the work of over 10 local artists that align on mission, and showcases handcrafted jewelry, stained glass, ceramics, paintings, layered paper creations, watercolors, and more. In addition, the gallery has a curated selection of antique prints that connect the splendor of nature with history.

through generations and geographies.

Iris says, "The gallery is a part of my heritage. I spent many of my formative years hanging about in my mother's art gallery. Eugene Galleries specialized in antique prints, maps, and books, and was a huge part of a small community on Boston's Beacon Hill. Over time, the gallery became an integral component of my life that has now extended to my work at Fischer Arts."

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The old days

BY RON PATCH
802-374-0119
ronpatch27@gmail.com

I love stories of the old days. In the troubled world I find myself living in, these stories provide an escape. It is always a letdown to read the last page of a book you really enjoyed. Turning each page with anticipation is a real joy for me.

Such a book is “Mount Holly, Its Early Days.” It was first printed in 1982, and written by James F. Holden. Copies can be had at the Mount Holly Historical Museum in Belmont. It’s a fun book, and an excellent distraction from today’s turbulent times. In part, it reads:

Memories of George M. Holden

“Much of Mount Holly’s history can be told in stories about its early inhabitants. My father, George M. Holden, was interested in hearing and collecting these.

“His brother-in-law, William H. White, was the village blacksmith and, in later years, its undertaker. His shop proved to be a

popular meeting place for the townsmen. My father spent hours watching Will work at his forge, anvil and bench shoeing horses, and listening to the local gossip...

“One frequent visitor in Will’s shop was Frank Parmenter, a local Justice of the Peace. Frank was a large man who liked to lean back in a chair and, with hands clasped over his ample belly, he would spout forth gems of philosophy. Once he said, ‘If I had everything just as I wanted I would have a double-barrelled shotgun and a “haound” dog.’ Another of his favorites was ‘I have made up my mind that there is a little something to almost everything – generally speaking.’

“Will told me when he first started in business a man owed him money and paid no attention to his requests to settle. He took the account to Frank Parmenter who was the village Squire and Counsellor. Mr. Parmenter sent a summons to the man and shortly afterwards he came into Will’s shop and paid the

bill. Then Will went to Mr. Parmenter and reported that the man had been in the shop with the money.

“‘Took it, I suppose,’ said Mr. Parmenter. ‘Yes, Mr. Parmenter.’

“‘Well, how about the costs?’ ‘Why you know I never even thought about that.’

“Then Frank leaned back in his chair and laughed loudly, finally remarking, ‘As you go through life, William, you will find that experience is a very good teacher.’

“One day Mr. Parmenter sat alone at the edge of the pond fishing. He was a stout man, so crouching down was not easy for him. In some way he lost his balance and fell in. A lady member of the Baptist Church witnessed this and promptly reported it around the village. Later in the day Will saw him sitting on the piazza of the village store.

“‘Went fishing this morning, Mr. Parmenter?’ ‘Yes.’

“‘Fell in, I hear.’ ‘Yes I did and it ain’t anyone’s busi-

ness if I did. If it hadn’t been for those damned Baptists no one would have known about it either.’

“For a time Frank Patch boarded with Frank Parmenter and his wife, Polly. A village band was organized and, after the first night’s practice, Frank Patch passed through the dining room on his way to bed, carrying a large horn. Excepting the usual ‘good nights’ nothing was said. The next morning at breakfast Mr. Parmenter spoke up:

“‘Well, Patch, joined the band I see.’ ‘Yes, Mr. Parmenter.’

“‘Well, understand, not a damned toot in here!’”

The photo with this article was taken in Belmont about 1902-1905. My great-grandfather Frank Patch stands at left with white hat. Frank married Jennie White of Belmont. Somehow Jennie is related to Will White mentioned above.

My grandfather Donald is front center. I can see my father Arnold in both Frank and Donald’s facial features. It was said I looked like my father, maybe so.

This week’s old saying: “Old age is best taken one day at a time.”



Frank Patch standing at left. His son Donald front center. PHOTO PROVIDED BY RON PATCH

Upstairs at Town Hall Open House in Chester

CHESTER, Vt. – Upstairs @ Town Hall – a grassroots, volunteer group interested in hosting community/ arts events at the newly-renovated space at Chester Town Hall – is sponsoring a community open house on Wednesday, March 13, at 6:30 p.m., at Chester Town Hall Theater, second floor, 556 Elm Street.

A lot of careful plan-

ning and consideration has gone into the restoration of the theater by the Town of Chester. The space, which can hold 245 people, has new flooring, acoustic improvements, and is ADA compliant with an elevator and accessible restroom. It will soon have a new projector, large screen, and high-definition cameras for livestreamed events. The theater will serve as a cultural center and destination for events like indoor concerts, dances, youth programs, spoken-word events, lectures, fundraisers, community meals, exercise classes, jams, perfor-

mances, and festivals, etc. Really, there is no shortage of ideas. This is just the beginning, and we want to hear from you.

The open house will be a general meeting of and all folks interested in using or helping out with activities inside this beautiful and historic space.

Let’s get together and see what we can bring to our friends, neighbors, visitors, and folks who have not yet heard about our great space. With some brainstorming, refreshments, a tour, discussion, and a bit of imagination, we will rock the hall.

Chester Rod & Gun sponsors conservation camp

CHESTER, Vt. – This summer, the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department is offering their Green Mountain Conservation Camps for children ages 12-14. Chester Rod & Gun Club will sponsor tuition – which covers food, lodging, and equipment – for a select number of local children who would like to attend.

The one-week camps are held at Lake Bomoseen in Castleton, and Buck Lake in Woodbury. Campers will participate in hands-on learning about fish and wildlife conservation, ecology, forestry, orienteering, safe firearm and archery techniques, swimming, canoeing, fishing, and more. Natural resource professionals will come to the camp to share information on their programs, and take campers out for field activities.

Students who would like to apply for a sponsorship from Chester Rod & Gun Club should submit a one-page letter about themselves, and why they would like to participate in the conservation camp. Letters should be sent to P.O. Box 104, Chester, VT 05143 by Monday, March 11.

For more information, please contact Paul Stoddard at 802-376-9929.

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opinion

Dear Editor,

To my neighbors in Athens, my name is Janet Perry, and I'm running for another three-year term on the selectboard this year. I would very much appreciate your vote. This year we need your vote also to keep Australian balloting for elected officials; there is an article for the town to vote it out. I feel that every vote matters. The past few years that we've had Australian balloting, we have seen 50%

more votes than if it's just at Town Meeting. Not all people can come to Town Meetings, but this year please come to vote to keep Australian balloting. This year the Town Meeting is on March 4, at 6 p.m., at the Community Center (old Athens School). So please come and have your voices heard.

Paid for by Janet Perry
Athens, Vt.

Dear Editor,

I'm Rika Henderson, and I'm running for a two-year seat on the Weathersfield Select-board. I moved to Weathersfield nine years ago. I love this community, and I quickly got involved, serving on the boards of the Proctor Library, the Historical Society, and the Weathersfield Land Preservation Association. I help organize various fundraising events in town, work at the polls during elections, and prepare the free lunch at Town Meeting. I also host a section of the VAST snowmobile trail, leave

my property unposted for hunters and hikers, and raise vegetables at the Upper Valley Trust's Food Shelf Garden.

I'm running for selectboard because I want Weathersfield to remain a strong and viable community for the next generations of young families, with affordable housing, good schools, energy- and food-resilience, and strong participatory government. In these times of change, we need informed, forward-thinking leadership to create responsible long-term solutions that protect our natural environment and preserve our heritage.

To do that, an effective selectboard needs to represent a variety of voices and points of view, and be receptive and responsive to – and respectful of – the community it represents. It needs to collaborate with town employees and the many generous volunteers who make the town run, and draw on the wealth of experience, knowledge, and expertise here, and our long history of community participation.

Why vote for me? I want to bring out the best of Weathersfield, now and for the future. I bring more than 35 years of community service and community building in civic engagement,

conservation, arts and culture, and holistic education, and anyone who's worked with me will tell you I'm honest, enthusiastic, generous, responsible, non-judgmental, and a creative problem-solver. On top of that, I don't have any personal agenda that might conflict with the responsibilities of being a selectboard member.

Please come out and make your voice heard on Tuesday, March 5, and vote for me, Rika Henderson, for selectboard.

Paid for by Rika Henderson
Weathersfield, Vt.

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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

Due to the volume of political letters we receive during elections, and the increased cost of adding pages to the paper to print them all, as of March 2023 we are charging a fee for political letters at the rate of \$75 for 200 words, and \$0.50 per word thereafter. Political letters include electioneering for a specific candidate, party, or article that may impact one's vote.

Dear Editor,

We recently became aware of the possibility of our property taxes increasing up to 20% next year. We find it totally unacceptable to burden us once again with a huge tax increase. Our property tax bill has increased over \$1,000 each of the past two years. We cannot handle another increase. We're senior citizens on fixed incomes. We have our land in Current Use, we

get a homestead exemption, and have income sensitivity, and still our tax bill is more than 10% of our joint income.

The school funding system is not working. Each year the student population declines, yet spending goes up. This current system is forcing many longtime Vermonters to sell their homes and move out of state. We have noticed that in Cavendish more than 50% of

the properties are owned by second homeowners, who don't have children in our school systems, yet they pay school taxes and don't get the exemptions residents do. The school system should have adequate money because of this. With all the money thrown into our schools, test scores indicate that Vermont students are no better educated than many other states with lower-funded education sys-

tems. Overall, the snapshot characterized Vermont's academic performance as "not improving" (VT Digger).

We're not understanding how all of this snowballed into this possibly insurmountable mess we have today.

Respectfully,
Christopher Wuttke
Kerry Beverstock
Cavendish, Vt.



Dear Editor,

I hope this message finds you well. I'm reaching out on behalf of the Connecticut River Valley Stingrays, a dedicated children's swim team that has become a beacon of hope and achievement in the Springfield, Vt., community. As part of our ongoing efforts to support and uplift our young athletes, we are excited to announce a fundraising bingo evening scheduled for April 18, at the local VFW in Springfield, Vt.

Springfield, as you might be aware, faces socioeco-

nom ic challenges that often limit opportunities for our young residents. Our swim team offers a vital outlet for children to engage in healthy, structured activities, promoting physical wellbeing, discipline, and a sense of belonging. However, to continue our mission, we need your help.

We are seeking the generous support of local businesses to make this event a success. Your contribution, whether in the form of a cash donation or a gift-in-kind, will directly fund essential

equipment, uniforms, and help subsidize participation fees for families facing financial hardships.

Your support could make a world of difference for these young swimmers and the Springfield community. We hope you will consider this opportunity to make a positive and lasting impact.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Warm regards,
The parents of the Connecticut River Stingray Team

Dear Editor,

A tribute to Torpedoman

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Henry Breault is planned for March 15, at 9:30 a.m., to honor the 100th anniversary of Submariner Breault receiving the Medal of Honor, a declared Vermont resident to which the State of Vermont received credit. Rep. Michael Morgan of Grand Isle-Chittenden District, Vt., is initiating a legislative resolution to honor Breault, the first submariner and only enlisted submariner to receive the Medal of Honor. The event is to take place at the Vermont State Capitol in the House of Representatives, Montpelier, Vt.

The March 15 date was chosen for this event as the Vermont legislature will be in recess on March 8, the actual date in 1924 when the Medal of Honor was presented to Breault by President Calvin Coolidge. All veterans are encour-

aged to attend the resolution reading at 9:30 a.m., at the Capitol building, House of Representatives, especially Navy veterans, to show their support of one of their own. A group of active duty submariners from the Naval Submarine Base, Groton, Conn., and the Vermont Submarine Veterans Green Mountain Base members of the United States Submarine Veterans are planning on attending this memorable event. For additional information, contact C. William Mattoon, Commander Green Mountain Submarine Veterans, Inc., at cmattoon@vermontel.net.

Sincerely,
C. William Mattoon
Green Mountain Base Submarine Veterans Commander
Springfield, Vt.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging

♦♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Not so hot?

5 Dog tags, e.g.

8 Quick look

12 Antioxidant berry

13 French vineyard

14 Impetuous

15 Dungeon's quality

17 Actress Rae

18 Small batteries

19 Detroit hooster

21 Like a neglected lawn

24 Coop group

25 Within (Pref.)

26 Foppish behavior

30 Caustic cleaner

31 Loud

32 Dean's list stat

33 Writer Steel

35 Three- — sloth

36 Barn birds

37 Travesty

38 "Jane Eyre" author

41 Tofu source

42 Chicago's Mayor

43 Lightfoot

43 Hanging loosely

48 Location

1 Canadian gas brand

11 "Star Trek II" villain

16 Aye undoer

20 "500" race

21 Use a blowtorch

22 New Age singer

23 Genesis garden

24 Salutes

26 Prettified

27 Composer

28 Detail, briefly

29 Created

31 Salamander

34 Sea off Sicily

1 Bankroll

2 Obamacare acronym

3 Scooted

4 Japanese emperor

5 Frosts a cake

6 Hosp. workers

7 Hitchcock forte

8 Overly proper

9 Bridge position

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CHURCH SERVICES

ASCUTNEY, VT.

Open Bible Baptist Church, 168 Cemetery Rd.
Sunday services are being held in the church. Sunday school is at 9:45 a.m., Sunday morning service is 11 a.m., and the afternoon service is 1:30 p.m. Wednesday evening service is at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call the church at 802-674-2266 or visit www.obbcvt.org.

BELLOWS FALLS, VT.

Living Hope Assembly of God, 582 Rockingham Rd.
Pastor Brenda Farkas welcomes all to Sunday worship at 10 a.m., the message at 10:30 a.m. with Children’s Church for ages 3-7, and fellowship. Live streaming available at 10:30 a.m. at Living Hope Fellowship Facebook page, and Living Hope Fellowship Youtube. Services can also be found at www.sapatv.org and www.fact8tv.com.

CHARLESTOWN, N.H.

Charlestown Bible Church, 37 Hammond Rd,
Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship at 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting at 7 p.m. To hear a sermon or learn more go to www.charlestownbiblechurch.org. Call 603-826-5121 for more info or to request a personal Bible study.

Charlestown Seventh-day Adventist Church, 242 Main St.
Saturday Services include Bible Study at 9:30 a.m. and Worship Service at 11:15 a.m. and a healthy lunch for all after the service. All are welcome, call 603-276-2383 for more information.

CHESTER, VT.

First Universalist Parish of Chester, Route 103 North
Services are Sundays at 10 a.m. in person. Sunday services run from September to early June. Contact chestervtuu@gmail.com for a Zoom link for the service.

GRAFTON, VT.

Grafton Community Church, 55 Main St.
Worship begins Sunday at 10 a.m. View sermons on Zoom. For more information, go to www.graftoncommunitychurch.org or call 802-843-2346.

LONDONDERRY, VT.

Second Congregational Church of Londonderry, 2051 N. Main St.
Worship service is at 9:30 a.m. in person or online. Fill out a form at www.2ndcongregationalchurchvt.org to be sent a link to the live stream.

LUDLOW, VT.

Tyson Community Church, Corner of Rt. 100 and Dublin Rd., opposite Echo Lake Inn.
Services are Sundays at 10:30 a.m. No service last Sunday of the month. Email terry.bascom@pm.me or call 802-228-2480.

MOUNT HOLLY, VT.

Village Baptist Church, 32 Church St.
We welcome all to come and worship with us Sunday at 9:30 a.m. For more information, call 802-259-2440.

PERKINSVILLE, VT.

Bow Baptist Church, 1102 Route 5, Weathersfield Bow
Sunday services are 10 a.m., 11 a.m., and 6 p.m., and Wednesday Bible Study and prayer at 7 p.m. For more information, call 802-546-4902.

SPRINGFIELD, VT.

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, 90 Park St.
Sunday Liturgy is 9:30 a.m. and Saturday vespers at 5 p.m. For more information, call 802-885-2615 or Parish Council President Thomas Barton at 802-263-5719.

WESTMINSTER, VT.

First Congregational Church of Westminster, 3470 US Route 5
Sunday services are at 10 a.m. in our historic church and on Zoom. For more information, call 802-518-0321, email us at westminstercongonline@gmail.com, or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/First-Congregational-Church-of-Westminster-Inc-1506511432980057.

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.

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Dennis Ladd, 1952-2024

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Dennis Ladd, 71, passed away at his home on Feb. 20, 2024, in Bellows Falls, Vt., surrounded by his loving family. Dennis was born May 28, 1952, in Walpole, N.H., to Neal and Helen (Shabott) Ladd. Dennis graduated from Fall Mountain High School in 1970, and Keene State College in 1974. He spent most of his teaching career at Bellows Falls Middle School. Dennis is survived by his wife Margery (Nostrand) Ladd; sons Colin of Bellows Falls, Vt., and Brendan (Tara) Ladd of Walpole, N.H.; grandchildren Sabrina, Silas, and Zayne; sister Joyce (Ed) McAdams; nieces Lisa Mowry, Kristie (Kevin) George, and Michelle (Thomas) Clancy; and the Nostrand, Offsay, Kinson, Herlihy, and Brooks Families, including many nieces and nephews. Dennis is predeceased by his parents, sister Nancy, and her husband Doug Treat.



Dennis Ladd, 1952-2024.
PHOTO PROVIDED

There are no calling hours. A Mass of Christian Burial will take place on Friday, March 1, at 10 a.m., at St Peter’s Church in North Walpole. Burial will follow for family at St. Charles Cemetery in Westminster, Vt. To read the full obituary, please go to www.fenton-andhennessey.com. Arrangements are entrusted to the care of the Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home, 55 Westminster Street, Bellows Falls, Vt.

Beware of free WiFi scams

REGION – It’s mid-February, time for a break from the routine. The sports world is alive with activity as baseball spring training heats up and March Madness is approaching. If travel is on your calendar, the potential for losing money to fraud and scams increases. From bogus bargain trips, to nonexistent hotel reservations, there are countless ways for your vacation to turn into a nightmare.

Whether traveling for pleasure or business, or simply going out for lunch, some fraud occurs where we least expect it: airport terminals, hotels, and restaurants. As a mobile public, we often rely on our ability to communicate electronically, and these oases and gathering points have addressed this need. We see many locations advertising “free WiFi.” A visit to your local fast food restaurant, coffee shop, or public gathering place confirms this, and as a frequent traveler, I can rely on the fact that most hotels and motels, large and small, use WiFi availability as an attractive benefit. Sadly, it is that free service that also attracts criminals.

Most public WiFi networks and routers are not secure, and allow anyone to connect to the internet. Requesting a connection and possibly entering an email address on a simple form grants access. In terms of lodging, most locations allow access by entering a passcode that is available to all guests. For most users, a simple process allows for connection to the world and the ability to do anything that you could do at home or the office. Seems perfectly fine.

The problem lies with two seemingly unimportant words, “unsecured network.” It means there is no built-in security for users. You may feel you are in the “privacy” of your room; in reality, everyone online is sharing a single space – in 20th century language, a giant party line. In this environment, there are a number of threats to your data and devices, such as: “Man-in-the-middle” attacks, where a criminal is able to intercept messages between the user and his or her destination. All messages and content are then exposed to the outsider. “Evil Twin,” in which the criminal creates a separate WiFi network that appears on your device as one of the choices, the WiFi network at Starbucks will say “Starbucks,” but the Evil Twin might be “Star-

buck.” Malware distribution, where flaws in device software are exploited and malware or spyware is inserted in your device. “Snooping and sniffing” – criminals use devices and software to “eavesdrop” on your communications, collecting information from emails and even the hard drive. This could mean gaining access to IDs, passwords, and financial accounts.

There are some steps you can take to provide a degree of security, but know that there is no such thing as “zero vulnerability.” Begin by updating the system software on your devices. Apple and Microsoft build a degree of protection into their operating systems (yes, Windows XP was a great program, but it is long past its prime). Bite the bullet and purchase malware protection, and keep it up to date; it’s a type of insurance policy. Also, encrypt your online communications by purchasing a virtual private network (VPN) license. When traveling, be certain that file sharing is inactive. Be sure that the websites you visit have active encryption. Look for the icon of a padlock or the letters “https” in the URL or search line that displays web addresses.

There is one way to practically eliminate the threat of hacking while on the road: don’t use the free WiFi. Instead, create your own WiFi network by enabling a “hot spot” on your smart phone or cellular-connected tablet. This approach eliminates the threats posed by open WiFi networks, but consumes data on your connected device.

Finally, if you discover your device and communications have been compromised, take immediate action to recover. Change passwords on all accounts that may have been exposed. Review the settings in your internet account, and check to see if your mail is being forwarded to an unknown person. Report the incident to the Federal Trade Commission at www.reportfraud.ftc.gov. If you have questions or comments about this article, 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,” produced and distributed by GNAT-TV in Sunderland, Vt., www.gnat-tv.org.

Janice M. Logan, 1940-2024

LUDLOW, Vt. – Janice Marie Logan, “Sweetie Pie,” 83, of Ludlow, Vt., was called home to her Lord and Savior on Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2024. She was under the exceptional care of the staff at the Gill Odd Fellows Home, and was in the presence of family.

Janice was born on April 17, 1940, in Springfield, Vt., and grew up there with six siblings under the care of her mother Pearl Emerson (née Snide), and her father Howard Emerson. Once an adult, she studied for and received a bachelor’s in nursing, and became a nurse in pediatrics for many years. Janice met her first husband Gary Luman Sr. while she was living in Sherman, Texas, before they relocated to Joplin, Mo., to raise their family. Janice moved back to Vermont in the early 1980s with five of her children. Once back, she further participated in her community by working at a nursing home in Springfield, at Door Crafters, and through her work as a hostess for several local restaurants in Ludlow. During this time, she was also briefly married to her second husband Michael Logan. In 1989, Janice was left disabled after a severe car accident. She then spent the last part of her life enjoying the complexity of solving puzzles, crosswords, reading, doing crafts, gardening, and spending time in the company of her loved ones and those closest to her.



Janice Logan, 1940-2024.
PHOTO PROVIDED

Janice is survived by her children Delia “Meshial” Wittasek, Kristina Todt, Gary Luman Jr., Lance Luman, and Arthur “Brent” Luman; son-in-law David Todt; daughters-in-law, Angela Luman and Belinda Luman; her brothers Leo Emerson and Roy Emerson; 14 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; as well as an aunt, several cousins, nieces, and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents; daughter Teresa Turber; siblings John Emerson, Joann Metz, Eldine Jelley, and Lynde Emerson; her first husband; and one great-grandchild.

Close family members will bid her farewell at a private memorial service held at a later time.

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THANK YOU

Our heartfelt thank you for your prayers, the many cards of sympathy and your thoughtful memorial contributions in honor of our husband, father, and grandfather

Herbert B. Van Guilder

A very special thank you to the 2nd & 5th floor RRMN nurses, Dr. Redden, Dr. Bates, and the staff and nurses of Dr. Robertello & Dr. Stickney.

He will be missed.

The family of Herbert B. Van Guilder

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LEGAL NOTICES

FEB. 29 –
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Two games of “Singo,” a new and exciting spin on bingo, will be played at the Bellows Falls Moose Lodge on Thursday, Feb. 29, at 7 p.m. Players listen to their favorite music instead of numbers. There will also be a 50-50 raffle, and a cash bar. This event is hosted by and will benefit the Great Falls Regional Chamber of Commerce.

TOWNSHEND, Vt. – The West Townshend Country Store will hold the Empty Bowls Townshend event on Thursday, Feb. 29, from 5-7 p.m., to benefit the Townshend Community Food Shelf. Online reservations are required, and can be made at www.emptybowlstownshend.com/appointments-1.

MARCH 1 –
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The First Baptist Church of Bellows Falls, 9 Church Street, will hold their First Friday supper on Friday, March 1, from 5-6 p.m. The menu will be open face turkey sandwiches, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, vegetables, a green salad, dessert, and a beverage. Vegan and gluten-free options will be available.

For take out, call 802-463-3220 before 5 p.m. There is a suggested donation, with proceeds to benefit local missions.

MARCH 3 –
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Food for Life Vegan Potluck will be held on Sunday, March 3, from 3:30-5:30 p.m., in the Community Room at the Huber Building, 80 Main Street in Springfield, Vt. Whether you are interested in improving your health, reducing greenhouse gas emissions to curb climate change, being kinder to animals, or just enjoying good company, this is the place to be. You don’t have to be vegan to join us. Everyone is invited, just bring something to share that has only plant and mineral ingredients. You are welcome even if you can’t bring anything, as we always have extra food.

MARCH 7 –
LUDLOW, Vt. – Black River Good Neighbor Services will serve a community meal of beef stroganoff on Thursday, March 7, at 12 p.m., at the Ludlow Community Center, 37 Main Street.

MARCH 11 –
LUDLOW, Vt. – The

American Red Cross will hold a blood drive on Monday, March 11, from 12-5:30 p.m., at the Ludlow Community Center. Call 100-RED-CROSS to make an appointment.

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.

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.aa.org.

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

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

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 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, and reduces joint pain and stress. For more information or to register, contact Sue Rubel at suerubl@aol.com, or Sophia Blanchard at SBlanchard@seniorsolutionsvt.org.

WEDNESDAYS –
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 every Wednesday until May 1, 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.

TYSON, Vt. – The Tyson Ladies Aid Library Association meets the first Thursday of each month, typically at the Tyson Library. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. and meetings start at noon. New potential members are always welcome. Please call Janine Norman at 802-228-8764 for more information or to verify meeting location.

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.

N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Support group for parents of pregnancy and infant loss on the first Thursday of the month, from 6-7 p.m., at Springfield Area Parent Child Center, 6 Main Street in North Springfield. For details or to register, email dominiquer@sapcc-vt.org or call 802-886-5242 ext. 258.

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 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.

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.

Town of Landgrove, Vermont

A public hearing will be held at the Landgrove Town Hall 88 Landgrove Rd at 5:30 PM on March 21, 2024 for an application submitted by Foster/Freedman/Ingenberg for a setback variance for an addition at 137 Ridge Rd. Those interested in seeing the application, submitting written comments, or attending the hearing remotely should contact Landgrove’s Zoning Administrator at: zoning@landgrove.vermont.gov.

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §§ 4464(a)(1)(C) and 4471(a), participation in this local proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

TOWN OF CHESTER
WARNING
NOTICE OF TOWN MEETING

The Legal Voters of the TOWN OF CHESTER are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Chester Town Hall, Second Floor in said Town of Chester on Monday, March 4, 2024, at 6:00 pm., to act on the following Articles. Voting on Article 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be by Australian ballot on March 5, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Chester Town Hall Second Floor.

ARTICLE 1:	To elect Town Officials for the ensuing year as provided by the Public Laws of Vermont.
ARTICLE 2:	Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Three Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$380,000), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of providing grant match to complete construction on culvert replacement on Green Mountain Turnpike and paving the Andover Road? Said projects and paving to be financed for a term of 7 years.
ARTICLE 3:	Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Two Hundred Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$215,000), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of purchasing a dump truck for highway in the amount of \$160,000 and a chipper for the highway department in the amount of \$55,000 to be financed for a term of 5 years? This equipment is replacing existing equipment at the end of useful life and are not additions to the town inventory.
ARTICLE 4:	Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$350,000), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of purchasing an ambulance to be financed for a term of 10 years? This equipment is replacing existing equipment at the end of useful life and is not an addition to the town inventory.
ARTICLE 5:	To see if the Town will vote to raise \$3,975,784 to be paid to the Chester Town Treasurer on September 16, 2024, to pay current expenses and any part of the Town’s indebtedness.
ARTICLE 6:	Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THIRTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVEN DOLLARS (\$13,807) to help support the home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients’ homes and in community settings by the Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of VT and NH, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?
ARTICLE 7:	Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND AND FORTY FOUR DOLLARS (\$3,044) to help support outpatient, mental health and substance abuse services by the staff of Health Care and Rehabilitation Services, Inc, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?
ARTICLE 8:	Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND FORTY DOLLARS (\$3,040) to Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) to assist Chester in responding to the emergency needs of the community and providing all available and applicable services to families and individuals in need, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?
ARTICLE 9:	Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of NINE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$900) to the Women’s Freedom Center for general budget support to provide services to women and their children who are experiencing emotional, physical and/or sexual abuse and are residents of the Town, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?
ARTICLE 10:	Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,200.00) for the support of Senior Solutions (formerly Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont) for help to support seniors and their families who are trying to remain at home and not be placed in a nursing home, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?
ARTICLE 11:	Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$2,250 (two thousand two hundred fifty dollars) for the support of the MOOver Rockingham to provide transit services to the residents of the Town of Chester, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?
ARTICLE 12:	Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$800 (eight hundred dollars) to support Windsor County Mentors, for youth mentoring services provided to children in Windsor County, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?
ARTICLE 13:	Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$400 (four hundred dollars) to Green Mountain RSVP & Volunteer Center of Windsor County to develop opportunities for people age 55 and older to positively impact the quality of life in the community of Chester through volunteer service, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?
ARTICLE 14:	Shall the Town appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,800.00) toward the support of the Community Cares Network of Chester and Andover, Inc. a non-profit organization which provides services to senior citizens, helping them to stay in their homes longer safely, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?
ARTICLE 15:	To see if the Town of Chester will appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000) to assist in the services of the Chester-Andover Family Center for individuals and families in need, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?
ARTICLE 16:	Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$4,000 (four thousand dollars) to Meals on Wheels of Greater Springfield, Inc. for continued support and services to the citizens of the Town of Chester in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?
ARTICLE 17:	Shall the Town appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,500) to Neighborhood Connections, Inc. to cover the cost of providing services in Chester in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?
ARTICLE 18:	Shall the voters of Chester authorize an annual community appropriation of \$4,070.00 to endorse the Mountain Town Connector, a service providing free transportation to residents of Chester?

Dated at Chester, Vermont on this 19th day of January 2024.

/s/ Arne Jonynas, Chairman

/s/ Lee Gustafson

/s/ Heather Chase

/s/ Peter Hudkins

/s/ Arianna Knapp

STATE OF VERMONT
WINDSOR COUNTY, SS.
NOTICE OF SALE

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Ludlow, in the County of Windsor are hereby notified that the taxes and/or water and sewer taxes assessed by such Town for the years indicated are, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described lands in such Town, to wit:

• 17 Okemo Pines (Birch Lane), Ludlow, Vermont
For the years 2021-2022 and 2022-2023. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Kecia Gifford, Toby Gabranski and Steven Dunnnett to William E. Cuthbert and Jana Nishida by deed dated May 5, 2003 and recorded in Book 237 at Page 416 of the Ludlow Town Land Records. Jana Nishida conveyed her interest by Quit Claim Deed dated July 21, 2004 and recorded in Book 273 at Page 287 of the Ludlow Town Land Records.

• 0 Farm Ridge Road, Ludlow, Vermont
For the years 2022-2023. Being property conveyed in two separate deeds from Stephen F. Green to Theodore Cwierniewicz both dated November 20, 2002 and recorded in Book 227 at Page 129-130 and Book 227 at Page 131-132 of the Ludlow Town Land Records.

• 72 Main Street, Ludlow, Vermont
For the years 2022-2023. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Leigh John Tofferi to William Armstrong Hunter, IV by deed dated April 19, 1989 and recorded in Book 122 at Page 301 of the Ludlow Town Land Records.

• 33 Pleasant Street Ext., Ludlow, Vermont
For the years 2022-2023. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Doris L. McCullough to Adam Pedicino by deed dated May 7, 2021 and recorded in Book 444 at Page 307 of the Ludlow Town Land Records.

• 465 Rod & Gun Club Road, Ludlow, Vermont
For the years 2022-2023. Being all and the same lands and premises decreed to Curtis Potter by the Superior Court, Windsor Unit, Probate Division, Final Decree of Distribution in the matter entitled In Re: Estate of Ella Marie Laramie, Docket No.: 527-10-14 Wrpr dated March 22, 2017 and recorded in Book 402 at Page 103 of the Ludlow Town Land Records.

• 13 Lovejoy Brook Road, Ludlow, Vermont
For the years 2022-2023. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Dayle M. Brown to Baja M. Ray and Theodore L. Brown, III by deed dated October 15, 2009 and recorded in Book 336 at Page 257 of the Ludlow Town Land Records.

and so much of said lands will be sold at public auction at Ludlow Town Office, a public place in such Town, on the 21st day of March, 2024 at Ten O’clock in the forenoon, as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, unless previously paid.

You have the right to request in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the tax sale date set forth above, that only a portion of the property be sold to satisfy the delinquent tax bill. Should you wish to proceed with this request, you must follow the procedure set forth in 32 V.S.A. § 5254; clearly identify the portion of the property to be sold, and include a certification from the Act 250 district coordinator and the town zoning administrator that the portion identified may be legally subdivided.

If you qualify under 24 V.S.A. § 1535, you may be able to receive an abatement of the property taxes, interest and collection fees you owe to the town. Abatement means that your taxes could be reduced or eliminated. You have the right to appear before the Board of Abatement and explain why you think your taxes should be abated. To apply for an abatement, you must write to Ulla Cook, Town Clerk, P. O. Box 307, Ludlow, VT 05149. Dated at Ludlow, County of Windsor and State of Vermont, this 14th day of February, 2024.

Brendan McNamara

Collector of Town and Town School District Taxes, Town Water and Sewer Taxes

LEGAL NOTICES

classifieds

BUYING/
SELLING

BUYING/SELLING Coins/Paper money, sports postcards, cards, comics. Saturday, March 2, from 9-3, at the Charlestown, N.H. Senior Center. Tables available. 802-379-2353.

GUNS
WANTED

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



Featured
pet:
Johnny –



Johnny. PHOTO PROVIDED

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Johnny is a 3- or 4-year-old large guy, who does very well with his feline room-mates. After being tossed outside by his owner, he has learned to love and trust people again. Johnny enjoys pets, and needs a soft place to land where he will never be disappointed by people again. We are open Wednesday-Saturday, from 12-4 p.m., for walk-ins. Join us March 2, from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., for our rabies, distemper, and microchip clinic. For more information, call 802-885-3997.

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

MEDIATION

Mediation and conflict counseling – Get help with family, neighbor, and business problems. Specialist in elder care, inheritance, Gram’s property, drunk and drug using family members, or anything that produces chaos. Set up a free confidential consult, 802-732-8294 or bfsalmon@yahoo.com. Tom Salmon CPA, MA in Conflict Resolution, Certified Dispute Resolver (DRPA).

WANTED

SPRINGFIELD AREA – Hardwood logs wanted. If you need trees removed give me a call. If you want hardwood trees cleaned up and removed, log length or cut, I’m your guy. 603-443-7009.

Shawntae Webb, publisher@vermontjournal.com

Danielle Goodwin, sales@vermontjournal.com

Nick Giberti, editor@vermontjournal.com

Paula Benson, billing@vermontjournal.com

Attention Proctorsville and Cavendish residents

Registration has begun at Cavendish Town Elementary School for Kindergarten. If your child will be 5 years old before September 1, 2024, please contact the school office for registration forms. If your child attends preschool in the district please contact the school office to confirm your child’s registration.

Contact Donna Hamilton at the school office at 802-875-7758 or via email at donna.hamilton@trs.u.org

Answer

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

Answers

Solution time: 23 mins.

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

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TOWN OF LONDONDERRY
WARNING

The legal voters of the Town of Londonderry, Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Town Hall, 139 Mid-dletown Road, South Londonderry in Londonderry on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, between the hours of seven o'clock (7:00) in the forenoon (a.m.), at which time the polls will open, and seven o'clock (7:00) in the afternoon (p.m.), at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot upon the following Articles of business:

ARTICLE I - Shall general obligation bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed Two Hundred Eighty-Two Thousand Dol-lars (\$282,000), subject to reduction by the application of fed-eral and state grants-in-aid, and reserve funds for the purpose of financing the cost of the Town's local share obligations for a new community wastewater system in the north village area, the estimated cost of such improvements being Three Million Three Hundred Eighty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$3,385,000)?

ARTICLE II - Shall general obligation bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed Five Hundred Fifteen Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$515,700), subject to reduction by the application of federal and state grants-in-aid, and reserve funds for the purpose of financing the cost of the Town's local share obligations for a new community wastewater system in the south village area, the estimated cost of such improvements be-ing Four Million Five Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$4,525,000)?

The legal voters of the Town of Londonderry are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee voting relative to said meeting shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

The legal voters of the Town of Londonderry are further notified that an informational meeting will be held on February 29, 2024, at six o'clock (6:00) in the evening at the Londonderry Town Office, 100 Old School Street, South Londonderry, for the purpose of discussing the propositions.

Adopted and approved at a regular meeting of the Selectboard of the Town of Londonderry duly called, noticed and held on January 22, 2024.

LUDLOW MOUNT HOLLY UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING
MARCH 5, 2024
WARNING

The legal voters of the Ludlow Mount Holly Unified Union School District, consisting of the Town of Ludlow and the Town of Mount Holly, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the following location:

Ludlow Polling Place
Ludlow Town Hall
37 S Depot Street
Ludlow, VT 05149

Mount Holly Polling Place
Mount Holly Office
50 School Street
Mount Holly VT 05149

on TUESDAY, March 5, 2024, between the hours of ten o'clock (10:00) in the forenoon (a.m.) at which time the polls will open, and seven o'clock (7:00) in the afternoon (p.m.), at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot upon the following Article of business:

ARTICLE I

Shall general obligation bonds or notes of Ludlow Mount Holly Unified Union School District in an amount not to exceed Nine Million Two Hundred Sixty-Eight Thousand Forty-Five Dollars (\$9,268,045), subject to reduction from the application of available state and federal grants-in-aid and reserves, be issued for the purpose of financing the cost of making certain public school building improvements, namely the (1) Ludlow Elementary School building upgrades (\$5,056,181), and (2) Mount Holly School building upgrades (\$4,211,864), the aggregate cost of such improvements estimated to be Nine Million Two Hundred Sixty-Eight Thousand Forty-Five Dollars (\$9,268,045).

State funds may not be available at the time this project is otherwise eligible to receive state school construction aid. The District is responsible for all costs incurred in connection with any borrowing done in anticipation of the receipt of school construction aid.

The legal voters of the Ludlow Mount Holly Unified Union School District are further notified that voter qualification, registration, and absentee voting relative to said special meeting identified in Article I shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Upon the closing of the polls, ballots shall be counted by the Boards of Civil Authorities under the supervision of the town clerks of Mount Holly at 50 School Street and Ludlow at 37 South Depot Street. The results will be certified by the respective town clerks and submitted to the District Clerk of the Ludlow Mount Holly Unified Union School District.

The legal voters of the Ludlow Mount Holly Unified Union School District are further notified that an informational meeting will be held at the following location, date, and time for the purpose of explaining the subject proposed school building improvements.

DATE
February 27, 2024

LOCATION
Ludlow Elementary School

TIME
6:00 p.m.

Adopted and approved at a regular meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Ludlow Mount Holly Unified Union School District duly called, noticed and held on January 17, 2024. Received for record and recorded in the records of the Ludlow Mount Holly Unified Union School District on January 18, 2024.

ATTEST:

5437207.1

yellow
page

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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Raku Workshop w/ Andrew Berends (2 part) 3/2 & 3/9

Pine Needle Basket w/ Irene Dizes 3/8/24 & 3/9/24

Draw Cartoons w/ E.B. Sciales (especially for Middle School) 3/22 1-3 p.m.

Draw Cartoons w/ E.B. Sciales (Teens & Adults) 3/22 4-6 p.m.

Wire-wrapped Pendant w/ Thomas Alyxander 4/6/24

Flowers in Texture & Color w/ Julie Crabtree 4/27/24 (04/24/24 - TFN - 13)

Builders/Contractors

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You Tube: okemovalleytv

Streaming App: Download Okemo Valley TV app for free (Apple TV, Roku, Fire TV, Google Play, & mobile) (04/03/24 - TFN - 13)

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wellness

LEGAL NOTICES

Springfield Gynecology introduces Acessa

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Springfield Gynecology is the first clinic in Vermont to introduce the Acessa procedure, an innovative and minimally-invasive, FDA-cleared treatment for women suffering from symptomatic uterine fibroids.

Fibroids are painful growths within the uterus that range in size and can cause reproductive health issues. Some common symptoms include heavy periods, stomach swelling and bloating, leg and back pain, stomach and pelvic pain, digestive changes, anemia, pain during sex, and frequent urination.

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, fibroids affect up to 80% of women by the time they reach age 50, and can disproportionately impact black women, who

often have a larger number of fibroids that occur at a younger age.

Advances in medicine have led to several treatment options for fibroids – including minimally-invasive surgeries like laparoscopic radiofrequency ablation, laparoscopic myomectomy, and hysteroscopic myomectomy. These treatments work by removing or shrinking the fibroid, which can relieve the frequently painful symptoms.

The Acessa procedure is designed to focus treatment solely on the fibroid, without damaging healthy tissues. Acessa is performed under general anesthesia, and requires only three small abdominal incisions. The procedure applies radiofrequency energy to destroy fibroids, which are re-absorbed by the surrounding

tissue. Acessa allows the surgeon to relieve symptoms without removing the uterus. Patients go home the same day with little pain, and enjoy rapid return to normal activities within four to five days.

Dr. Balkcom and Dr. Cotter of Springfield Gynecology report many women suffer from fibroid symptoms and are looking for relief. However, they want less invasive treatment options with shorter recovery times. Acessa is an excellent alternative.

For more information about Acessa, or to arrange a consultation with Balkcom and Cotter, contact Springfield Gynecology at 802-885-7561 to schedule an appointment. No primary care referral is required.

HCRS mobile crisis program

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Health Care and Rehabilitation Services (HCRS), southeastern Vermont’s nonprofit community mental health agency, implemented a new community-based mobile crisis program on Jan. 1, for mental health and substance use emergencies across the state.

At the core of the program is a two-person, in-person response available around the clock, eliminating the need for people in mental health emergencies to visit local emergency rooms, and providing them with a direct line to immediate help.

HCRS’ specially trained staff, from multiple programs and po-

sitions, will provide these 24/7 services across WindSOR and Windham counties. HCRS is subcontracting with nine other community mental health agencies to ensure comprehensive coverage across Vermont.

According to HCRS chief operating officer Anne Bilodeau, “This is a groundbreaking step forward in mental health and substance use support. Not only is this enhanced service based on best-practice, but we’ve already seen the positive impact of this two-person, in-person response.”

HCRS was selected through an RFP process conducted by the Vermont Department of Mental Health to improve mental health crisis services statewide through a two-person, in-person response model that is integrated with Vermont’s 988 crisis lifeline.

HCRS hired project director Mark Young for the delivery and oversight of this statewide mobile crisis response system. Bilodeau adds, “Mark has been a key staff member of HCRS for more than 16 years. Most recently the coordinator of HCRS’ criminal justice program, he has extensive talent and experience in working collaboratively with a variety of organizations and partners.”

George Karabakakis,

HCRS CEO, highlighted the program’s potential to reduce contact with law enforcement and alleviate emergency department overcrowding, emphasizing the broader positive impact on the community.

With the launch of the mobile crisis program comes the unveiling of www.gethelpvt.org, a dedicated website serving as a central hub for resources and information. The site offers a wealth of resources and guidance, covering crisis intervention, available services, and support for individuals and their families. Users can easily access information on how to get help promptly, either through the website or by calling 988, Vermont’s crisis lifeline, to connect with mobile crisis.

Vermont’s mobile crisis program is poised to make a lasting impact on the state’s mental health landscape. Vermonters are encouraged to explore www.gethelpvt.org, share these resources within their communities, and actively participate in the collective effort to prioritize mental health and wellbeing.

Bilodeau adds, “This is an exciting endeavor that will have a tremendous impact on not only the people experiencing a mental health emergency, but on Vermont’s entire health care system.”



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WARNING

TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
TOWN MEETING

TOWN OF ROCKINGHAM
ANNUAL TOWN AND TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEETING April 1 & 2, 2024

The legal voters of the Town of Rockingham and Town of Rockingham School District are hereby notified and warned to meet at Town Hall Main Theater (Bellows Falls Opera House, 7 Square) in said Town on Monday April 1, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. to act upon all articles for expenditure of public funds.

Then to adjourn April 2, 2024, to the Masonic Temple (61 Westminster Street) in said Town at 8:00 a.m. to vote.

Monday meeting may also be seen via Zoom at (929) 205-6099 Meeting ID 696 830 477. *Please note voting by Zoom is not permitted.

ARTICLE 1: To elect Town Officers and Town School District Officers as required by law. (By Australian Ballot)

ARTICLE 2: To receive and act upon the reports of the Town Officers for the past year.

ARTICLE 3: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham authorize the Selectboard and Treasurer to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of tax collection, or payment of money due the Town from the State of Vermont for highway or other purposes or payment to the Town from Federal funds.

ARTICLE 4: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham authorize the Selectboard to seek out and/or accept funds available from non-property tax revenue sources and to spend those funds in appropriate ways after required public input.

ARTICLE 5: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham raise and appropriate the sum of Six Million, Five Hundred Thirty-Six Thousand, Nine Hundred Three Dollars (\$6,536,903) to pay the indebtedness of the Town, repair and maintain highways, and pay all other general and regular expenses of the town beginning July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, with Five Million Four Hundred Sixty-One Thousand, and Eight Hundred Forty Dollars (\$5,461,840) to be raised to by taxes?

ARTICLE 6: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to be allocated to the Bellows Falls Bike Project for the provision of social services, with the additional recommendations of the Social Services Review Committee and the Town Selectboard?

ARTICLE 7: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-One Thousand Three-Hundred and Eight-Four Dollars (\$21,384) to the Bellows Falls Senior Center for the provision of social services, with the additional recommendations of the Social Services Review Committee and the Town Selectboard?

ARTICLE 8: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham raise and appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000) to the Greater Falls Connections for the provision of social services, with the additional recommendations of the Social Services Review Committee and the Town Selectboard?

ARTICLE 9: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) to the Greater Falls Justice Center for the provision of social services, with the additional recommendations of the Social Services Review Committee and the Town Selectboard?

ARTICLE 10: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) to the Green Mountain Volunteer Center for the provision of social services, with the additional recommendations of the Social Services Review Committee and the Town Selectboard?

ARTICLE 11: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$2,700) to the Health Care and Rehabilitation Services for the provision of social services, with the additional recommendations of the Social Services Review Committee and the Town Selectboard?

ARTICLE 12: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to the Meeting Waters YMCA for the provision of social services, with the additional recommendations of the Social Services Review Committee and the Town Selectboard?

ARTICLE 13: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to Our Place for the provision of social services, with the additional recommendations of the Social Services Review Committee and the Town Selectboard?

ARTICLE 14: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to Parks Place for the provision of social services (by petition filed with Town Clerk), with the additional recommendations of the Social Services Review Committee and the Town Selectboard?

ARTICLE 15: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500) to Senior Solutions for the provision of social services, with the additional recommendations of the Social Services Review Committee and the Town Selectboard?

ARTICLE 16: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham raise and appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy Dollars (\$4,770) to Southeastern VT Comm Action (SEVCA) for the provision of social services, with the additional

recommendations of the Social Services Review Committee and the Town Selectboard?

ARTICLE 17: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty-Five Dollars (\$3,825) to Southeast Vermont Transit (Moover) for the provision of social services, with the additional recommendations of the Social Services Review Committee and the Town Selectboard?

ARTICLE 18: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) to Springfield Supported Housing for the provision of social services, with the additional recommendations of the Social Services Review Committee and the Town Selectboard?

ARTICLE 19: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Three Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$1,350) to Vermont Adult Learning for the provision of social services, with the additional recommendations of the Social Services Review Committee and the Town Selectboard?

ARTICLE 20: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Six Thousand and Twenty-Four Dollars (\$26,024) to Visiting Nurse Alliance of VT&NH for the provision of social services, with the additional recommendations of the Social Services Review Committee and the Town Selectboard?

ARTICLE 21: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$1,750) to Women’s Freedom Center for the provision of social services, with the additional recommendations of the Social Services Review Committee and the Town Selectboard?

ARTICLE 22: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$2,300) to Youth Services for the provision of social services, with the additional recommendations of the Social Services Review Committee and the Town Selectboard?

ARTICLE 23: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Thirty-Six Thousand, Seven Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$436,780) in operating expenses for the support of the Rockingham Free Public Library, Three Hundred Eighty-seven Thousand, Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$387,250) to be raised by taxes?

ARTICLE 24: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham authorize the Selectboard to borrow an amount not to exceed One Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$125,000) for a period of five (5) years to fund the Town portion of the Rockingham Meeting House structural repairs for the purposes of preservation by matching existing grant funding opportunities?

ARTICLE 25: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Two Thousand Dollars (\$22,000) to fund the Meeting House Capital Reserve Fund, with Twenty-Two Thousand Dollars (\$22,000) to be raised by taxes?

ARTICLE 26: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham authorize the Selectboard to borrow an amount not to exceed Two Hundred Eighty Thousand (\$280,000) dollars for a period of five (5) years to fund the purchase of a Highway Grader for the maintenance of roads?

ARTICLE 27: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham authorize the Selectboard to borrow an amount not to exceed One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) for a period of five (5) years to fund the Town portion of the Bellows Falls Train Station structural repairs for the purpose of public building improvements?

ARTICLE 28: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham authorize the Selectboard to borrow an amount not to exceed One Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$125,000) for a period of five (5) years to fund the Town portion of the Town Hall structural repairs for the purpose of public building improvements by matching existing grant funding opportunities?

ARTICLE 29: Shall the voters of the Town of Rockingham vote to raise and appropriate Six Thousand (\$6,000) dollars to fund a contract with the Windham County Sheriff for the purpose of providing public safety services in the Town of Rockingham, with Six Thousand (\$6,000) dollars to be raised by taxes?

ARTICLE 30: To transact any other business deemed proper when not involving the expenditures of Town funds or any other business acted upon in the preceding articles?

Adopted and approved at a regular meeting of the Selectboard of the Town of Rockingham duly called, noticed, and held on February 20, 2024.

Peter Golec, Chair

Elijah Zimmer, Vice-Chair

Bonnie North

Susan Hammond

Rick Cowan

LEGAL NOTICES

arts & events

Vermont Comedy All Stars at Next Stage Arts

PUTNEY, Vt. – Laughter is on the agenda as Gordon Clark and his Vermont Comedy All Stars return to Next Stage Arts for a night of side-splitting stand-up comedy on Saturday, March 9, at 7:30 p.m.

The event, held at Next Stage Arts, located at 15 Kimball Hill in Putney, promises an evening filled with uproarious performances from a stellar lineup of seasoned comedians. Discounted in advance through www.nextstagearts.org. Advance ticketing closes two hours before showtime. Below is a writeup of featured performers.

David Deery is a globe-trotting comedian/writer with two decades of experience. David has left audiences in stitches from Berlin to Cabot, Vt. He brings his unique perspective to the stage, having performed in major cities across Europe and America.

Based in Burlington, Eric Dreiblat is not only a comedian, but also a producer and host. With performances at prestigious festivals like the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and the Green Mountain Comedy Festival, he is a comedic force to be reckoned with.

Ruth Fuller is a stand-up comic based in Burlington. Ruth's humor explores topics ranging from mental health to relationships. She has graced the stage at the Vermont Comedy Club and the Portland Maine Comedy Festival.

When she's not serving lunch at her children's school, Meredith Gordon is delivering laughs on stage. The 2022 Seven Daysies winner for "Best Stand Up" in Vermont, she has been featured at esteemed events like the Gilda Laugh Fest and the Portland Maine Comedy Fest.

Scott Goyette is an advocate, activist, and bocce

aficionado, whose irreverent humor and self-deprecating wit have made him a two-time finalist in Vermont's Funniest Comedian Contest. He is quickly becoming a fan favorite across the state.

Hosted by Gordon Clark himself, the director of the nonprofit Vermont Comedy All Stars, this showcase promises an evening of diverse comedic styles, with Gordon proving that you can indeed teach an old dog new tricks.

Don't miss the chance to witness the hilarity at Next Stage Arts on March 9.

Secure your spot early for an unforgettable night of laughter.

For tickets and more information, visit www.nextstagearts.org, or contact the box office at info@nextstagearts.org or 802-387-0102.

The Fairlanes and The Fretbenders at Stage 33

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The Fretbenders are Bob and Diane Kordas, with a fun, toe-tapping sound based in blues, roots, Americana, and a dash of folk, country, and rock – where a down-home barbecue meets a speakeasy. Diane and Bob have played in various New England swing, bluegrass, and roots bands through the years, honing their fun stage presence and inclusive style. For this show, they'll be playing as a duo.

The A&R Factory says of The Fretbenders, "Taking you simultaneously to a veranda in Sicily and a back porch in Louisiana."

The Fairlanes play original, heartfelt music with tuneful melodies and thoughtful lyrics about life, loss, and love, that live somewhere between folk, rock, and Americana. They perform as anything from a duo to an octet, and for this show there will be about half a dozen of them.

Tickets are discounted in advance through www.stage33live.com, or at the door. Seating is limited. Advance tickets guarantee entry. All ticket proceeds go to the performers. This is a 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday, March 10. Stage 33 Live is located at 33 Bridge Street in Bellows Falls, Vt. The event will be recorded and filmed.

Stage 33 Live is a casual and intimate industrial-rustic listening room in a former factory, hosting local, regional, and national performances and presentations of original material. No bar or kitchen, the stage is the mission. Coffee, soda, juice, water, and snacks available by donation. More info about the nonprofit, all-volunteer project, and this and other upcoming events, online at stage33live.com

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



Cartoonist E.B. Sciales. PHOTO PROVIDED

in Springfield, and is open Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Friday, from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Free cartoon workshops

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Do you want to try your hand at drawing cartoons, or expand your ideas and skills? Gallery at the VAULT has the perfect opportunity for you. On March 22, from 1-3 p.m., E.B. Sciales will lead a workshop at the Springfield Library especially for students around middle school age – there is no school in Springfield that day; children's librarian Jeni Clary is planning some fun activities for younger students at the same time.

Then, Sciales will move across the street to Gallery at the VAULT for a second workshop for teens and adults, from 4-6 p.m. Elizabeth Sciales is a graduate of the Center for Cartoon Studies, and now lives in Montreal. Thank you to Claremont Savings Bank for helping VAULT fund these two workshops. Reserve your spot at www.galleryvault.org/workshops. Gallery at the VAULT is located at 68 Main Street

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD

The Town of Springfield Development Review Board will hold a public hearing at 6:30 pm, Tuesday, March 12, 2024, to review a proposal to increase a daycare's student enrollment from 17 to 30 children. The property is located at 68 White Street. Individuals wishing to participate in the public hearing may do so in person, via Zoom video conferencing, or by submitting written comments. Participation in this hearing is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal. Please contact the Town Planner (802-376-6102 /toszoning@vermontel.net) for copies of the agenda and zoning application.

WARNING ANNUAL TOWN AND TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING HYBRID (PHYSICAL and REMOTE)											
The legal voters of the Town of Springfield and Town of Springfield School District are hereby notified and warned to meet at Riverside Middle School Gymnasium in said Town on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. (8:00 o'clock in the forenoon) until 7:00 p.m. to vote by Australian ballot for Town and Town School District Officers, for all appropriations to be voted by Australian ballot, and all other items of business to be voted by Australian ballot.											
A public informational hearing will be held in-person, and will be accessible remotely by electronic means, at the Springfield High School on Monday, March 4, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. to hear reports of the Town Officers, Town School District Officers and Committees, to discuss all Australian ballot articles on the Annual Town and Town School District Meeting Warning and to do any other business that can legally be done under this Warning.											
IN-PERSON PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING WILL BE ACCESSIBLE REMOTELY BY ELECTRONIC MEANS:											
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ZOOM MEETING ID: 829 9266 9830• By computer: Join meeting by clicking here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82992669830 You may be prompted to enter the Meeting ID. You may need to download software https://zoom.us/• By smartphone, tablet, or other device: Download and open the https://zoom.us/ app. You may have to create a free account or sign into your existing account. Select the option to join meeting and enter the Meeting ID. One-tap mobile device click here: +16465588656• By telephone: Dial +1 646 558 8656 and when prompted enter the Meeting ID. Note that long distance rates may apply. Dial-in participants use *9 to raise/lower hand and *6 to mute/unmute.• Meeting link can also be accessed on the home page of the Town of Springfield website• Watch live on SAPA TV or stream it from Sapatv.org											
ARTICLE 1: To elect the following Town Officers and Town School District Officers for the ensuing year: <table><tr><td>Cemetery Commissioner</td><td>School Directors</td><td>Town School District Moderator</td></tr><tr><td>Library Trustees</td><td>Selectboard</td><td>Trustees of Public Funds</td></tr><tr><td>Town Moderator</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>			Cemetery Commissioner	School Directors	Town School District Moderator	Library Trustees	Selectboard	Trustees of Public Funds	Town Moderator		
Cemetery Commissioner	School Directors	Town School District Moderator									
Library Trustees	Selectboard	Trustees of Public Funds									
Town Moderator											
ARTICLE 2: Shall the Town vote a salary of FIFTY and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$50.00) per meeting for the Town Moderator for the ensuing year?											
ARTICLE 3: Shall the Town vote to pay each Selectperson the sum of FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$500.00) to help defray the costs and expenses incurred in serving the Town in that office?											
ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of FIFTEEN MILLION, NINE THOUSAND, TWO HUNDRED SIXTY THREE and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$15,009,263.00) for the budget of the Town for salaries, incidental and necessary Town expenses, including highways, and for the purposes for which the law requires appropriations, and for which a Town may legally vote?											
ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of EIGHT HUNDRED SEVENTY FIVE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$875,000.00) for repaving, road construction, gravel road improvements, and ancillary professional services for the projects specified in the Road Surface Management System Report dated December 2021 or other duly warranted sidewalk improvements?											
ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$100,000.00) for sidewalk reconstruction in various locations throughout the Town?											
ARTICLE 7: Shall the voters of the Springfield Town School District approve a payment of FIFTY and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$50.00) per meeting for the Town School District Moderator for the ensuing year, the funds for which are included in the school budget?											
ARTICLE 8: Shall the voters of the Springfield Town School District approve the payment to each School Board member of FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$500.00) to help defray the costs and expenses incurred in serving in that office, the funds for which are included in the school budget?											
ARTICLE 9: Shall the voters of the Springfield Town School District authorize the Town Treasurer, subject to the direction and approval of the School Board, to borrow money in anticipation of taxes needed to meet the requirements of the Town School District for the ensuing year?											
ARTICLE 10: Shall the voters of Springfield Town School District approve a contribution of \$800,000 from the district's FY23 surplus to the district's capital fund for the purpose of paying capital expenses as identified in the capital plan approved by the board?											
ARTICLE 11: Shall the voters of Springfield Town School District approve a contribution of \$800,000 from the district's FY23 surplus to the district's operating expense reserve fund for the purpose of paying unexpected operational expenses?											
ARTICLE 12: Shall the voters of the Springfield Town School District approve the											
School Board to spend THIRTY NINE MILLION, EIGHT HUNDRED THIRTY-NINE THOUSAND, SIX HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$39,839,625.00), which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year?											
ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$2,500.00) to the Springfield Community Band for eight (8) concerts?											
ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of NINE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$9,000.00) to Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) to assist Springfield in responding to the emergency needs of the community and to provide all available and applicable services to families and individuals in need?											
ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of SIXTY THREE THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$63,500.00) to help support the high-quality home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by the Visiting Nurse and Hospice for VT and NH? Care is provided regardless of ability to pay.											
ARTICLE 16: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of EIGHT THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$8,500.00) for the support of Senior Solutions (formerly Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont) for help to support seniors and their families who are trying to remain at home and not be placed in a nursing home?											
ARTICLE 17: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of FOUR THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$4,000.00) to help support the Valley Health Connections (formerly Precision Valley Free Clinic) to help the uninsured access health care?											
ARTICLE 18: Shall the Town of Springfield appropriate the sum of TWELVE THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$12,500.00) for the support of the MOOver f/n/a the Current operated by Southeast Vermont Transit, Inc., to provide transit services to the residents of the Town of Springfield?											
ARTICLE 19: Shall the Town of Springfield appropriate the sum of TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$2,500.00) to Green Mountain RSVP & Volunteer Center of Windsor County to develop opportunities for people age 55 and older to positively impact the quality of life in the community of Springfield through volunteer service?											
ARTICLE 20: Shall the Town of Springfield appropriate the sum of TEN THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) to assist with the cost of operating the Meals on Wheels Program of Greater Springfield that provides daily hot & cold congregate and home delivered meals and other nutritional needs to the qualified residents of Springfield?											
ARTICLE 21: Shall the Town of Springfield appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$3,000.00) to Windsor County Partners d/b/a Windsor County Mentors, for youth mentoring services provided to the children of Windsor County?											
ARTICLE 22: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of FIVE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$5,000.00) to the Springfield Supported Housing to assist families and individuals find permanent housing and provide in home case management services for 6 months to two years after placement?											
ARTICLE 23: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of FIFTY-FIVE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$55,000.00) to the Springfield Family Center to assist with the cost of providing a free meal daily, a free food shelf, and other services related to hunger, homelessness and related social-service needs in the community?											
ARTICLE 24: Shall the Town of Springfield appropriate the sum of FOUR THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$4,000.00) to the Women's Freedom Center for general budget support to provide services to women and their children who are experiencing emotional, physical and/or sexual abuse and are residents of the Town?											
ARTICLE 25: Shall the Town of Springfield appropriate the sum of NINE THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$9,500.00) to the Springfield Art and Historical Society to assist in preserving, maintaining, and displaying, for the public, the history and art of the Town of Springfield, Vermont?											
ARTICLE 26: Shall the Town of Springfield appropriate the sum of NINE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$9,000.00) to Turning Point Recovery Center Drop-In Center and Transition House to help with the everyday cost of providing recovery services and housing for men and that are in recovery from alcohol, substance abuse and co-occurring disorders?											
ARTICLE 27: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of TEN THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) to help support outpatient, mental health and substance abuse services by the staff of Health Care and Rehabilitation Services, Inc.?											
Dated this 22nd day of January, 2024 at Springfield, County of Windsor and State of Vermont.	Kristi C. Morris, Chair Heather Frahm Everett T. Hammond Michael E. Martin Walter E. Martone	Dated this 26 day of January, 2024 at Springfield, County of Windsor and State of Vermont. Troy Palmer, Chair Jessica Cady Burlew Denise Hunter Stephen Karaffa Mary Krueger									
Selectboard Town of Springfield		Board of School Directors Springfield School District									

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