



THE SHOPPER Newspaper

APRIL 17, 2024 | WWW.VERMONTJOURNAL.COM

VOLUME 63, ISSUE 16

Bellows Falls hears updates on water and sewer projects

BY PAULA BENSON The Shopper

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Town manager Scott Pickup began last Tuesday night's regular meeting of the Bellows Falls Trustees with an announcement. "Now that we are hopefully into spring, we'll start the Pine Street sidewalk work again."

The project had been suspended in late November, with plans to finish up this spring. "So, you should see some work progressing on that," Pickup stated.

Pickup mentioned that leaf bags are available for residents for yard clean up projects, and reported that the town was in the process of repairing any damage caused by winter plowing. Pickup told any resident who feels their property has been overlooked to email him at manager@rockbf.org, or give the town hall a call to get added to the list.

There was some discussion about traffic enforcement in the downtown area, following a recent pedestrian accident. The incident is still under investigation, but initially it appeared that the pedestrian was crossing the street outside of a crosswalk, and it was unclear whether speed was a factor. Further consideration will be forthcoming, with the

potential for a reduction in the speed limit.

Pickup reviewed budget increases in water and sewer rates, due to several projects that were approved five years ago. He presented the board with historical data, stating that the biggest factor contributing to rate increases was the \$9 million bond taken out to cover upgrades to the wastewater plant. Utility customers should expect a 3% rate increase in September 2024, and again in March 2025.

Calling it a "creative way" to pay for the final improvements without ratepayers incurring additional costs, Pickup told the board about a Department of Energy grant. He stated that the grant money would fund the replacement of the existing drying unit at the wastewater facility, which was produced by an overseas company. The town plans to purchase a new, domestically manufactured unit from supplier Process Wastewater Technologies LLC (PWTech), and Pickup explained that sourcing the equipment from a U.S.-based company will alleviate the delays he's dealt with in the past - sometimes waiting up to a year for parts to be shipped for the current machine.

PWTech is working with

a professional grant writer at no cost to the town, said Pickup, stating, "If we pool all our sources together, including ARPA money, the Long Island Sound grant, which we've already applied for, and the clean water state revolving fund money, we won't have to bond for any of these improvements at the sewer plant."

Upon review of the proposed budget and general fund, Pickup reported that finance director Alyssa Harlow was able to rework the numbers, applying \$100,000 from the fund balance to offset tax increases.

An additional \$50,000 was appropriated to cover a portion of the cost for new equipment in the police department budget, with Harlow acknowledging that \$102,000 reflected the total cost of the communication upgrade for the department.

Board member Wade Masure commented that he'd been testing the signal with the department, and it was "much improved."

The next trustees meeting is scheduled for April 23, where Pickup will present the final financials to the board.

Springfield Elks essay contest winners



Left to right: Levi Mason, Morgan Jones, and Sawyer Daniels, Union Street School fifth grade essay winners. PHOTO PROVIDED



Weston Peck, Riverside Middle School seventh grade. PHOTO PROVIDED

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The Springfield Elks Lodge #1560 is pleased to announce the winners of this year's fifth grade division of the Americanism Essay Contest for students at Union Street School, and the seventh grade division for students at Riverside Middle School. The Theme for this essay was, "What does the Bill of Rights mean to me?"

Participants must submit an essay not to be

more than 300 words in length, must be typed or legibly printed in ink, and submitted as written by the entrant.

This year's Lodge winners in the fifth grade division are: third place, Levi Mason, son of David and Heather, from Springfield, who is also a member of the union street flaggers; second place, Sawyer Daniels, son of Elijah and Tessa, from Springfield; and first place, Morgan Jones, daughter of Isaiah Jones and Hiliary Ovitt,

from Springfield. These essays were then judged at the state level where Levi placed second, and Morgan finished in first place.

This year's Lodge and State of Vermont winner in the seventh grade division is Weston Peck, who is the son of Lester and Lara Peck of Springfield.

Morgan's and Weston's essays will now be judged at the national competition, where winners will be announced at the National Elks Convention in July.

"Listen Local" promotes local musicians, venues

BY JOE MILLIKEN The Shopper

PUTNEY, Vt. - Mitch Harrison, owner of Next Chapter Records in Putney, is now hosting a weekly radio show each Sunday, on WTSA-FM in Brattleboro. The concept of the new radio show is to promote a variety of music venues in the area, as well as the local artists and bands who perform at these venues. In a recent interview, Harrison was asked how the idea for this new radio show came about.

"A sales person had stopped in the record store one day, looking for sponsors for a new radio show that she was proposing to her general manager. As she was leaving, she also mentioned needing someone to host the show, and I said that I would love to do it. The sales person then found the needed sponsors, and so the show was born."

Aptly titled "Listen Local," the show will concentrate on promoting local music venues - regardless of how big or small they may be - as well as the artists and bands who are performing. Just a few of these area music establishments include Next Stage Arts in



Mitch Harrison (left) interviews singer-songwriter Jake McKelvie for "Listen Local" radio show. PHOTO BY JOE MILLIKEN

Putney; the Bellows Falls Opera House and Stage 33 in Bellows Falls; the Pizza Stone in Chester; the Mole Hill Theatre in East Alstead; The Stone Church in Brattleboro; the Paramount Theatre in Rutland; and the Colonial Theatre, and Nova Arts in Keene.

"For a long time, I have waved the flag for artists that don't always get the recognition they deserve," Mitch said. "There is so much great local music out there that too many people haven't heard of. Some of this music is from artists or bands that are very new, but some others have been around for decades and just don't happen to fit into the

cookie-cutter, commercial mold." One such artist, who Mitch recently interviewed for the radio show, is singer-songwriter Jake McKelvie.

"I first discovered Jake maybe seven years ago, when he performed at the Keene Music Festival. Our interview will air on the radio show later this month, and Jake will also be playing in front of Next Chapter Records on May 11. I will also be featuring singer-songwriter Carsie Blanton in an upcoming radio show, and she will be performing at Next Stage Arts in May, as

See RADIO on Page 2

SRES students explore theater at MSA

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. - In an exciting collaboration, Main Street Arts (MSA) in Saxtons River and fourth grade students from Saxtons River Elementary School (SRES) joined forces to explore the world of theater games. The students participated in four one-hour workshops, led by MSA's teaching artist Putnam Smith. The workshops incorporated theatrical exercises, focused on listening, speaking,

improvisation, and community building.

Friday afternoon, the students proudly shared their learning in a special event for the rest of the SRES community. Their efforts culminated in a captivating showcase that enthralled the audience with laughter, imagination, and skillful storytelling.

The success of this collaborative endeavor underscores the importance of arts education in nurturing creativity, confidence, and

teamwork among young learners. Both Main Street Arts and Saxtons River Elementary School are committed to providing enriching opportunities for their students, and this partnership exemplifies their dedication to fostering a well-rounded education.

Stay tuned for more collaborative ventures and inspiring performances from these two institutions as they continue to explore the boundless possibilities of arts education.

BFUHS March Elks Student of the Month

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - It is a pleasure to announce that Tela Harty has been named the March Elks Student of the Month for Bellows Falls Union High School (BFUHS). Tela, a senior, is the daughter of Tim and Shelby Harty of Westminster.

Interested in getting all she can out of her high school experiences, Tela comes to school every day ready to learn. Tela is a dedicated student who works hard in her classes. Her desire to learn is evidenced by her decision to take on not one, but two extra-credit-bearing online classes, as well as an in-person class at BFUHS. On top of those two classes, she also chose to take an English class at BFUHS, and had the forethought to advocate that she be moved from learning labs to a tutorial

class, where she could ask for help if needed.

Tela has a great, positive attitude. She is constantly pushing herself to do better, and always asking both teachers and coaches how she can improve. A good role model for her peers, Tela participates actively in her classes, asking good questions, offering critical responses, and working hard to develop her skills. She is a pleasure to work with, and an asset to any class or activity she joins.

As a three-sport athlete, she has shown teamwork, sportsmanship, and has served as a positive representative of Bellows Falls Union High School not only when playing, but as a spectator. Tela positively supports her teammates and her fellow athletes as an active, enthusiastic spectator at a variety of events.

Not only interested in developing her academic



Tela Harty. PHOTO PROVIDED

skills, Tela is dedicated to giving back to her community as well. She actually has so much community service that she stopped documenting after her first several years at BFUHS. She has helped with youth field hockey, Westminster Elementary basketball, and the middle school track meets. She has also volunteered at community events, including the Alumni Parade and the career fair.

BFUHS and the Elks are proud to have Tela represent us as a Student of the Month.

INDEX Opinion... 4 Obituaries/Services... 5 Calendar... 6 Legal Notices... 6-7 Classifieds/Business Directory... 7 Health & Wellness... 8 Arts & Entertainment... 9 Home & Garden... 10

CONTACT US OFFICE ADDRESS: 8 High Street • PO Box 228 • Ludlow, VT BILLING ADDRESS: PO Box 116 • Rutland, VT 05702 PHONE NUMBER: 802-228-3600 WEBSITE: www.VermontJournal.com



DEADLINES The deadline for all content is Friday at 12 p.m. for the following Wednesday publication. EMAIL YOUR SHORT, 2-3 SENTENCE CALENDAR EVENTS calendar@vermontjournal.com EMAIL YOUR DISPLAY ADS AND CLASSIFIED LISTINGS ads@vermontjournal.com EMAIL YOUR PRESS RELEASES, ARTICLES, AND PHOTOS editor@vermontjournal.com

“Mind Magic” with Dr. Steve at OLLI —

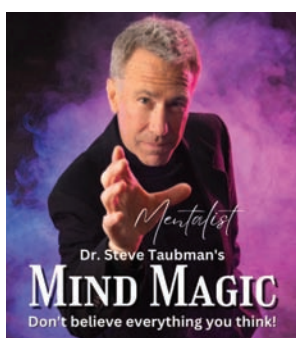
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. — Dr. Steve Taubman, author, inspirational speaker, and mentalist, will present “Mind Magic: Don’t Believe Everything You Think,” for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) group on April 23, at 2 p.m., at the Nolin Murray Center, next to St. Mary’s Church on Pleasant Street in Springfield.

Dr. Steve will treat us to a healthy dose of psychology and theater, drawing on his laser-sharp observational skills and his refined sense of the absurd as he combines elements of comedy and mindreading. Woven into the laughter and astonishment, he delivers timeless wisdom about leadership, resilience, and success.

He is a mentalist, bestselling author, and world-class speaker, who has dedicated his life to showing people how to thrive through their challenges. He has written extensively on the application of contemplative prac-

tices in stressful situations, and has spoken worldwide on mindset mastery for goal-oriented professionals. Having endured crippling anxiety and low self-esteem early in life, Dr. Taubman made it his mission to understand the nature of happiness, and the remedy for emotional turmoil. His search led him to neurology, holistic health, mindfulness, positive psychology, and hypnosis. Each of these disciplines is represented in Dr. Taubman’s system for living a balanced life, free of neurosis and rich in accomplishment. Dr. Taubman’s works include several bestselling books. His latest book, “Bulletproof,” is about thriving through stress on life’s battlefields.

OLLI is sponsored by the University of Vermont, and is run by local volunteer members. It is geared mainly towards seniors who are 50 years of age and older, who enjoy learning for the fun of it. Anyone who would



Mentalist Steve Taubman. PHOTO PROVIDED

be interested in this type of program, regardless of their age, is welcome. The programs are held Tuesday afternoons, at 2 p.m., and last about an hour and a half.

There is a membership fee for the semester. Non-members are welcome and encouraged to attend individual programs for an individual program fee. Preregistration is highly recommended. We can no longer take any payments onsite at the door. If you do attend and have not preregistered, we will welcome you and provide an easy form for you to take to send in payment, or pay online after the program.

Registration can easily be done online with a credit card by going to www.learn.uvm.edu/olli/springfield. You may also register over the phone with your credit card by calling the UVM Non-Credit Registration Office at 802-656-8407 during regular business hours, or email noncredit@uvm.edu. The full semester program descriptions and dates can be referenced at the above registration website address.

The following program, on May 7, will be “Freedom is Indivisible.” Professor Wolfgang Mieder, a favorite presenter of the group, will discuss John F. Kennedy’s reliance on proverbs in his speeches.

Springfield Library monthly events

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. — Springfield Town Library offers monthly opportunities for readers and crafters that do not normally get publicized. Three book clubs meet monthly, and a short story group meets twice a month. In addition, there is a free monthly craft program for adults.

The Page Turners meet on the second floor of the library on the second and fourth Fridays of each month, at 10:30 a.m., unless there is a holiday closure. This group discusses a short story chosen by group members.

Book club members have three choices to discuss books they read.

On the first Friday of each month, at 1 p.m., a group meets on Zoom to share what they have read based on three given categories that change monthly. “On the Same Page” book club meets on Zoom to discuss their monthly selection at 12 p.m., on the third Tuesday of each month. A third opportunity is available for those who cannot make it during the day. On the third Monday, at 6 p.m., the library hosts a hybrid book group. All participants read the same book, and can join in person or via Zoom.

Library staff is very thankful to the Friends of Springfield Town Library (FOSTL), who fund materials for the free monthly adult craft programs. This

is a great time to create and socialize. While these are not held on a regular monthly time frame, programs are noted on the library’s print and digital calendars. This month’s activity is creating a pressed flower luminary at on April 24, at 5 p.m. Signing up is required, and can be done online, or by calling the library at 802-885-3108.

Friends of Springfield Town Library is wrapping up their annual membership drive this month. The library staff appreciates all FOSTL members and how they help the library and the community. Please see a library staff member for a membership form, or download one from www.springfieldtownlibrary.org.

Cosmos Unified Basketball

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. — Last week on Monday, April 1, in Springfield, Vt., the Springfield High School Unified Basketball team had their opening game of the season, hosting their rival Brattleboro Bears, and on Friday, April 5, they hosted the Hartford Hurricanes.

This year the Cosmos are heading onto the court with veterans Larkin, Bills, Toner, Bailey, Short, Salo, and Leon. Cosmos veterans welcome new teammates Powers, Todd, Johnson, Bates, Orchitt, Puffer, Shaw, and Paul. The Cosmos will return with coaches Gultekin and Pinter-Petrillo, along with scorekeeper Morgan Fontaine.

Springfield lost both



The Cosmos stretching as a team before the game. PHOTO PROVIDED

games last week, with a 44-52 score against the Brattleboro Bears, and a 44-48 score against the Hurricanes.

In game one of the season, it was Lexy Bills that led her team with 12 points, with Sam Bailey trailing behind her with 10 points. New athletes senior Trinity Todd and freshman Colby Bates brought six points to the game. Emily Toner is a junior veteran, coming back onto the court to support her team with buckets and many assists throughout the game. Junior Isaiah Short contributed four points to the team’s total. New athletes Lucas Orchitt and Summer Johnson each scored their first bucket, with Salo also adding two. Teammates Paul, Puffer, Shaw, and Larkin contributed by helping their teammates get the ball down the court.

The team has been fundraising with bake sales, raising \$265 from the high school’s spring theatre performance, and \$75 from this first game.

On Friday, the Cosmos faced the Hartford Hur-

ricanes, and left the game with a four point loss of 48-44.

Cosmos freshman Colby Bates led his team with 12 points, and junior Emily Toner followed with 10 points. Senior Lexy Bills scored 8, and new athletes Orchitt and Johnson each pitched in four. Todd, Short, and Rosie Leon scored two each. Again Larkin, Paul, Puffer, and Shaw do a nice job communicating with the team. Three are new to the team, but Larkin brings his experience from last year on and off the court.

Morgan Fontaine returns to the Cosmos as scorekeeper. Morgan is a graduate of Springfield, and a Unified veteran athlete.

Springfield has two more home games on Thursday, April 25, and Tuesday, May 2.

RADIO

From Page 1

well as Brattleboro artist Derek O’Kanos, who has some dates coming up at Bromley Mountain.”

Along with introducing listeners to music that Mitch knows and enjoys, he also encourages other local artists and listeners alike to reach out to him. “Artists like Lucy Kaplansky and Ellis Paul will be playing the Showroom in Keene, and I have admired them since the early 90s. But the thing is, I also urge other bands and solo artists to reach out to me as well, with the possibility of being featured on the show.”

This writer was actually listening to the premiere of “Listen Local” while writing this article, hence, I can say firsthand the show is quite unique in that it really does promote the many artists, venues, and other music entities in the area by playing the songs, then informing the listener where said artist is performing locally.

“I just hope that people hear some music on ‘Listen Local’ that leads them to go to a show. I want these venues to thrive, and I want these artists to be heard live. We need to get out of our houses and frequent these places; it enriches our lives and the culture of our communities.”

“Listen Local” will air every Sunday, from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m., on WTSN 96.7-FM in Brattleboro, and links to the prerecorded shows are available at the WTSN website. Interested musicians and bands can reach out to Mitch at his Next Chapter Records website, www.nextchapterrecords.com.

P&L Excavating and Trucking
 “Stumps to stones and everything in between”
 PO Box 993
 Chester, VT
 Office: 802 875 2819
 Owner/Operator
 Palmer cell: 802 291 3417
 Ryan cell: 802 291 3363

GREAT NORTHERN LIQUIDATION
 802-885-6464 ~ Like us on Facebook
 Springfield Shopping Plaza
 WE BUY AND SELL:
 Furniture, Home Decor, Collectibles, Rugs,
 Housewares, Appliances, Electronics, Tools, more!

UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP!

Spring into Action!
 Now is the time to schedule your new boiler installation!

A Central Boiler outdoor furnace “LITERALLY PAYS FOR ITSELF!”

By efficiently harnessing renewable wood energy, it can substantially reduce, or completely replace the need for expensive fossil fuel heating sources like electric, propane, and oil. This translates into SIGNIFICANT LONG-TERM SAVINGS, making it a cost-effective investment for homeowners.

CLASSIC EDGE TITANIUM HDX

New England Outdoor Furnaces
 877 John Stark Highway
 Newport, NH 03773
603-863-8818

newenglandoutdoorfurnaces.com
 Scan the QR Code and Like us on Facebook!

Aqua-Aid Systems
 WATER CONDITIONING & FILTRATION

Solving hard water, iron, blue staining, radon, and arsenic problems in the Windham and Windsor Counties since 1984

- Water Conditioning
- Free On-Site Water Analysis & Estimate
- Iron and Manganese Removal
- Radon & Arsenic Removal
- Systems Maintenance
- Home Supplies Delivery

We Service All Makes And Models Locally Owned & Operated Since 1984

Hellenbrand
 What's In Your Water?™

ON SITE, NO CHARGE, TESTING AND ESTIMATES

800-252-8484

BARR'S BUILDERS, INC.

802-226-7561
 Proctorsville, VT
www.barrsbuilders.com

General Contracting

Construction

Excavating

VERMONT CRAFT

GREEN MOUNTAIN CANNABIS WORKS
 ESTD 2015
 LOCALLY GROWN

CELEBRATE 4/20

Join us at Green Mountain Cannabis Works for Live Music, and Celebrating the Joy of Cannabis!

Open Monday - Sunday, 11am - 7pm
802-367-3562
www.greenmountaincannabisworks.com
4542 Main Street, Manchester Center
 21+ only with valid ID

Cannabis has not been analyzed or approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). For use by individuals 21 years of age and older or registered qualifying patient only. KEEP THIS PRODUCT AWAY FROM CHILDREN AND PETS. DO NOT USE IF PREGNANT OR BREASTFEEDING. Possession or use of cannabis may carry significant legal penalties in some jurisdictions and under federal law. It may not be transported outside of the state of Vermont. The effects of edible cannabis may be delayed by two hours or more. Cannabis may be habit forming and can impair concentration, coordination, and judgment. Persons 25 years and younger may be more likely to experience harm to the developing brain. It is against the law to drive or operate machinery when under the influence of this product. National Poison Control Center 1-800-222-1222.

Okemo Outlook

BY RON PATCH

802-374-0119
ronpatch27@gmail.com

Over the years I've collected any Civilian Conservation Corps (C.C.C.) items I came across. The photo with this article is the masthead from a weekly Okemo Outlook newspaper. These are simple mimeograph pages with amateur hand-drawn ads, for Ludlow and Rutland businesses. A Royal Theater ad occupies the rear page.

"OKEMO MOUNTAIN PARK LUDLOW, VT
"1133 CO. C.C.C. August 27, 1936."

Sports page

"In their initial appearance of the season, the Okemo amateur boxing team encountered the Plymouth squad in a seven-bout program, staged in the recently constructed camp arena.

"The average crowd that attended witnessed a gallant, though unsuccessful

attempt on the part of our team to start off in the winning column, the locals being victorious in only one of the seven bouts. All bouts were scheduled to go three two-minute rounds under the rules of the Amateur Athletic Union.

"Decisions were awarded by two judges, Lt. Hemming of the visiting camp and Mr. Gordon Day of this camp, and the referee, Mr. James Cioffi, Camp W.P.A. Instructor.

"After a short introductory speech by the announcer, Lt. Conway, commanding officer of the 1133rd Co. the contestants were introduced and the bouts were underway.

"The first bout of the evening proved to be Okemo's one and only victory, Conley pouncing out a three-round decision over Polumbo of Plymouth. In the second bout, Donahue gained the referee's verdict of a technical K.O. at the end of the first round.

In the third bout, Martin gained a decision over Dessaint; in the fourth contest, Chase beat Drinkwine by a knockout in the first round.

"In the main bout of the evening, Oliver, rangy Plymouth athlete, pounded out a decision over Mal Steinhour, Oliver's long reach proved to be a valuable asset. Time after time it enabled him to ward off hammer-like blows that were destined to tell a different story. But Madame Fortune had her own ideas and they proved to be contrary to Stein's. And so, to the victor belong the spoils - Stein went without.

"The main bout was followed by a lightweight match in which Watker lost to DiPrete. The last bout of the evening was a fast one between two flyweights, Zagroba and Rogers, the latter emerging victorious.

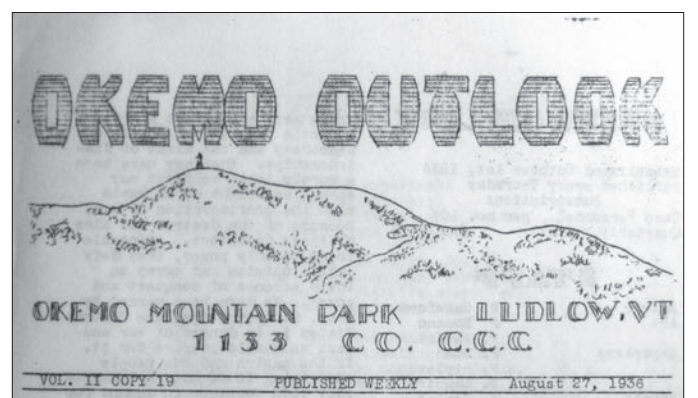
Nice work fellows. It may be nice to win, but it's the fun derived from the sport that is of prime impor-

tance. Yours for more conditioning and fun!

"The following are the men and their weights. Conley of Okemo 139 pounds. Polumbo of Plymouth 135 pounds. Jenkins of Okemo 148 pounds. Donahue of Plymouth 147 pounds. Dessaint of Okemo 133 pounds. Martin of Plymouth 126 pounds. Drinkwine of Okemo 139 pounds. Chase of Plymouth 135 pounds. Steinhour of Okemo 155 pounds. Oliver of Plymouth 165 pounds. Watker of Okemo 127 pounds. DiPrete of Plymouth 128 pounds. Zagroba of Okemo 110 pounds. Rogers of Plymouth 118 pounds."

My father

My father joined the Civilian Conservation Corps in late 1936 or early 1937. He was in the Shrewsbury camp. Dad helped build the C.C.C. road from North Shrewsbury, "Northam" as dad called it, over the



Okemo Outlook. Notice the tower.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY RON PATCH

mountain down to Route 100 in Plymouth.

Dad took me there several times. I remember a large log structure. Again, my memory fades. This log structure might have been barracks or the dining hall. I remember the large diameter peeled logs, all of similar size, and darkly stained. This building has since been lost to a fire.

Here's one of my favorite stories dad told me. Dad was 6 foot 1 inch, and fit. He liked hard work, so the C.C.C. was ideal. Dad was on the boxing team for his company.

He was hard as nails.

When he was discharged from the camp, he returned to Springfield to find the circus in town. The circus was at what is Riverside Middle School today.

The circus included a professional boxer. It cost challengers \$5 to enter the ring. You won the match and \$50 if you could last three rounds. Dad felt sure he could whip the boxer. He paid his \$5, and was knocked out in the first round.

This week's old saying is from Yogi Berra. "Nobody goes there anymore. It's too crowded."

United Church of Ludlow launches campaign to restore bell

LUDLOW, Vt. - The United Church of Ludlow officially kicks off a \$50,000 capital campaign to restore its historical bell, with a service and community reception on Sunday, April 28.

With the campaign theme "Ring Out Love," the United Church is seeking support from the community, as it works to not only repair the disintegrating supports on its venerable bell, but also to make upgrades to improve accessibility and to help neighbors in need. The kickoff begins with the 10 a.m. Sunday service in the sanctuary of the church at 48 Pleasant Street in Ludlow, followed by a reception at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Built in 1891 as the Congregational Church of Ludlow, the United Church is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as one of the only churches in Vermont constructed in a fully mature expression of shingle-style architecture. Its Congregationalist congregation was organized in 1806, and in 1930 it merged with a Methodist congregation to form a union congregation and become the United Church of Ludlow.

The Church's over-1,000-pound bell was cast by the Holbrook Bell Foundry

of East Medway, Mass., in 1839, when Martin Van Buren was president, only 50 years after the Constitution of the United States became effective. Members of the public had the opportunity to take tours of the belfry in 2012, when the church threw a huge party to celebrate the 120th birthday of the church's building and the 220th birthday of its founding. More information about the bell is available on the United Church website, www.unit-edchurch.us.

Over the years, the United Church has become a community gathering place in Ludlow, hosting concerts, events, dinners, game nights, and meetings of local nonprofit organizations, including Black River Good Neighbor Services' Memory Café, to support people with dementia.

The United Church also wants to share the new, inclusive mission statement that the congregation approved at its Annual Meeting in January: "We are striving to live God's message of inclusive love through Jesus Christ in our community, nation, and world."

Its new vision statement is as follows: "As we strive to live God's message of love, we: welcome everyone; cel-

ebate diversity; nurture spiritual growth; work toward peace and justice; serve our community, nation, and world."

This capital campaign takes those words to heart, as the funds raised will also be used to make audio upgrades that will enable those with hearing issues, or those only able to attend services via Zoom, to fully participate in the life of the church. The church also plans to complete the foundation of its recently added handicapped addition, which provides easier access to the building for those with mobility issues. Finally, the United Church plans to use 10% of the funds raised in support of its mission of service.

Anyone wishing to donate is invited to mail a check made out to "United Church of Ludlow" to Anne Oakes, Receiver of Offerings, 145 Merrill Road, Ludlow, VT 05149, with the memo "Ring Out Love Campaign."

"The Hills of Home" at Springfield Art and Historical Society

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The Springfield Art and Historical Society will host the Vermont Humanities Council program "The Hills of Home: Mountains and Identity in Vermont History" on Saturday, April 27, at 2 p.m., at the SAHS facility, 65 Route 106 in North Springfield, Vt. Historian Jill Mudgett will be the speaker.

Vermonters have strong ideas about the importance of their mountain topography. Where did our pride in Vermont's landscape come from, and why is it that we see our shared identity as rooted in the land? Evolving human ideas about the Vermont mountains form the base of this lecture. The story begins with the state's founders, and moves forward through Vermont history to explain how environmental understandings changed over time. This talk is timely and relevant in its relationship to current

interdisciplinary scholarship, and offers us tools to understand the origins and meaning of our own strongly-held attachments to the Vermont landscape.

This talk is free, open to the public, and accessible to those with disabilities. For more information, call 802-886-7935 or sahs@

vermontel.net. This talk is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this program do not necessarily represent those of the NEH or VHC.

Like and recommend us on facebook @VermontJournal

FOOD SHELF
BLACK RIVER GOOD NEIGHBOR SERVICES
37B Main St, Ludlow, VT 05149
Hours: Monday-Friday, 10 AM-3 PM
Phone: 802-228-3663
www.brngn.org
"We are here to help"
Serving Ludlow, Mt. Holly, Belmont, Cavendish, Proctorsville & Plymouth

33 FLAVORS OF HARD ICE CREAM
22 FLAVORS FRESH SOFT SERVE
Non-Fat Yogurt • Sherbet • Sugar-Free Ice Cream • Dairy-Free
LARGE FAST FOOD MENU INCLUDING:
Hamburgers • Hotdogs • Fries • Chicken Fingers • Onion Rings & More!
OPEN FOR THE SEASON!
NEW ICE CREAM ITEMS: • Ice Cream Cannolis • Cinnamon Churros
Dari Joy
Friday and Saturday: 11am - 10pm
Sunday - Thursday: 11am - 9pm
72 YEARS ON THE CORNER
140 Rockingham St. | 463-9816 | Bellows Falls, VT

DOWN TO THE ROOTS CANNABIS RETAIL STORE
Celebrate 420 with us! SATURDAY, APRIL 20, from 11am - 7pm
Down To The Roots SWAG for First 50 Visitors
"420" Discounts on All Products
Meet some of our Favorite Farmers: Bordertown Farm, Fern's Flowers, Fog Valley Farm, Greaseline Cannabis, Green Mountain Garden, Humble Skunk, Sunkissed Farm, Vermont Homegrown
Samples of CBD Drinks & Non-Infused Cookies (while supplies last)
Live Glass Blowing Demo by Chris Haze
Live Music from Nick Berdice & Sammy B
Food Truck by Squeels on Wheels & Sweets by Southern Pie Co.
Spin our Wheel for Additional Price Discounts
Check Out our Terpenes Bar
FRIDAY, APRIL 19th
Meet with one of our Favorite Vendors, Upstate Elevator
Check our Facebook page for updates!
802-374-0095 • 7 Pineview Drive, Chester, VT • downtotherootsvt.com
Cannabis has not been analyzed or approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). For use by individuals 21 years of age and older or registered qualifying patient only. KEEP THIS PRODUCT AWAY FROM CHILDREN AND PETS. DO NOT USE IF PREGNANT OR BREASTFEEDING. Possession or use of cannabis may carry significant legal penalties in some jurisdictions and under federal law. It may not be transported outside of the state of Vermont. The effects of edible cannabis may be delayed by two hours or more. Cannabis may be habit forming and can impair concentration, coordination, and judgment. Persons 25 years and younger may be more likely to experience harm to the developing brain. It is against the law to drive or operate machinery when under the influence of this product. National Poison Control Center 1-800-222-1222.

CHAVES EXCAVATING
ALL MATERIALS FOR COMPLETE SITE WORK
Sand • Gravel • Stone
Shurpac • Topsoil • Fill

5,000 lb. Hydraulic Hammer for Ledge & Rock Splitting
Portable On-Site Crushing & Screening Equipment
802-824-3140
Londonderry, VT

HUNTLEY FINANCIAL SERVICES
Getting a second opinion on your financial future may:
• Lower your investment fees
• Improve your performance
• Help you understand your investments and risk
• Make sure you don't outlive your money
Call us today to set up a no risk private consultation. Isn't your peace of mind worth the time?
802-228-5774
116 Main Street, Ludlow, VT
Member FINRA/SIPC
Securities offered exclusively through American Portfolios Financial Services Inc.

BLACK RIVER GOOD NEIGHBOR SERVICES
WHERE VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE
THRIFT STORE VOLUNTEERS, FOOD SHELF VOLUNTEERS, COMMUNITY MEAL VOLUNTEERS, MEMORY CAFE VOLUNTEERS, RUMMAGE SALE VOLUNTEERS, BOARD MEMBER VOLUNTEERS, HOLIDAY PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS, MEALS-ON-WHEELS VOLUNTEERS, FURNITURE MOVER VOLUNTEERS.
THANK YOU ALL SO VERY MUCH! WE COULDN'T SERVE THE COMMUNITY WITHOUT YOU!

Buying:
• Antiques
• Early Photographs
• Military: Helmets, Flags, Uniforms, Weapons, Daggers and Bayonets
• Antique Clocks & Clock Parts
• Guns
• Coins
• & More!
Call Ron Patch at 802-374-0119

opinion

Dear Rockingham voters,

It has been a pleasure representing you on the BFUHS Board this past year. While it was a wild ride at times, with PCBs detected just weeks before school opened, a new principal, and a 2025 budgeting environment that was frequently described with adjectives like the "perfect storm," somehow, we made it through. I am very proud of the effort made by our board members to balance the needs of the students, taxpayers, and staff.

The listening tour that I sponsored early in the school year brought input from across the community. Our findings highlighted

similar themes identified later in the year by academic consulting group New Solutions K-12. Specifically, our resource allocation needs to be rebalanced, providing more support to students pursuing a noncollege pathway, and significantly more support for students that need additional remediation support.

In the face of a statewide budgeting and education funding system collapse, our board was able to work with the administration to deliver a 3.5% goldilocks budget (not too hot, not too cold). This was achieved while contending with significant past infrastructure neglect.

Belt-tightening was focused on unfilled positions, which minimized the direct impact on our existing staff. Students have been able to access drivers' education and physical therapy through more cost-effective outside private resources.

For me, this has been an eye-opening learning process, and I would like to thank my fellow board members and the voters of Rockingham for providing me with this opportunity.

Sincerely,
Michael Stack
BFUHS School Board

Dear Editor,

The Legislature has now said "thank you and farewell" to our second set of pages, which means we are more than halfway through our 2024 session. If you know a young person who will be in the eighth grade next year and is interested in how Vermont works, please suggest they consider serving as a page at the statehouse for the 2025 session. Pages serve the legislature for six weeks, functioning as a living internet, enabling communications, deliveries, and helping the sergeant at arms with whatever special project she might have for them. They need to be self-directed, able to stay abreast of their schoolwork during the four days a week they are at the statehouse, and interested in learning more about the history and governance of Vermont.

Another indicator that the session is moving into its second half is that "cross over" is almost complete. Most of the Senate bills we've been working on have made it to the House for their consideration - and the Senate now has most of the House bills. Having reached the mid-point in the session, I am proud that the Senate has passed a number of bills which address some of our top priorities: flood recovery,

climate change mitigation, and housing. We've passed measures which enabled tax relief for flood-impacted towns, and sent more financial support to help those towns recover. And we've sent the House bills which address mitigating future flooding disasters by creating watershed solutions to increase public safety and reduce future damage (S.213), a "making big oil pay" bill designed to ensure that the companies which profited from the pollution of our state help pay to mitigate the damage to our environment (S.259), and legislation improving government's response to future natural disasters (S.310). And, our big housing bill, BE HOME (S.311), will be incorporated into the Act 250 update which the House has sent us.

In the second half of the session, the legislature faces one of our toughest tasks - figuring out what to do about this year's education property tax increases. As a result of several key cost drivers - overall inflation, a 16.4% increase in teacher health care, the debt service on new capital projects or renovations, and the end of one-time federal Covid funds, school budgets rose at an alarming rate. As a result, about a third of school budgets were rejected, and

too many of our towns are facing double-digit property tax increases. We are wrestling with how to contain costs going forward, and reduce the tax increase for this year.

For the many of you who've been in touch with concerns about the impact these tax increases will have on your finances and our communities, thank you. It is frustrating to not yet have a clear solution, but our committees of jurisdiction, working with our joint fiscal office, the tax department, the agency of education, and a few wise consultants, are exploring a number of possibilities. It is probable that we'll find a short-term solution for this year, and continue to work on solving our longer-term school funding challenges.

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

Sincerely,
Alison Clarkson
Windsor district senator

Dear Editor,

Greater Falls Connections (GFC), a substance misuse prevention coalition located in Bellows Falls, thanks the community members from

Rockingham and Westminster for their funding support. The funds allow GFC to pay for staff and address needs that are not covered by

federal and state grants, as well as the capacity to react to emerging and pressing community needs around substances and their misuse. GFC collaborates with the local school district and area community partners, and works directly with community members. For more information about what we do, please visit www.greaterfallsconnections.org.

Sincerely,
Neil Allen
Director of Greater Falls Connections

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.

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



To learn more about **Paws With A Cause** and to find out how you help, just download this app and watch the story come to life!



GET ZAPPAR
ZAP THE CODE TO DONATE

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google play

Provided as a community service by this civic minded publication in conjunction with the Association of Community Publishers and Community Papers of Michigan

THE VERMONT JOURNAL & THE SHOPPER
802-228-3600 | ads@vermontjournal.com
www.vermontjournal.com

Dear Editor,

Last month, the Greater Springfield Area Habitat for Humanity (GSAHFH) purchased a home for renovation on Cutler Drive in Springfield, Vt. This acquisition marks the 13th home the organization has purchased in its ongoing mission to provide affordable housing solutions and empower families to build a better future.

Renovating this home will be a collaborative effort, involving volunteers, donors, and community partners who share GSAHFH's vision of creating a

community where everyone has a decent place to live. From skilled craftsmen to enthusiastic individuals lending a helping hand, each contribution plays a vital role in turning this house into a home filled with possibility.

Through its renowned Sweat Equity program, Habitat for Humanity offers families the opportunity to actively participate in the construction or renovation of their future homes. This hands-on approach not only fosters a sense of pride and ownership, but also strengthens the bonds within the community as neighbors come together to support one another.

The positive impact of this initiative extends beyond having a newly-renovated home. Revitalizing a single property can lead to increased property values, reduced crime rates, and overall community pride. As such, the GSAHFH's investment in this project promises to yield dividends

that benefit the entire neighborhood.

The purchase of this home represents more than just a real estate transaction; it symbolizes the beginning of a new chapter for a family in need. It embodies the values of compassion, resilience, and the belief that every individual deserves a chance to thrive.

As the renovation journey unfolds, the GSAHFH invites members of the community to join in the effort, whether through volunteerism, donations, or simply spreading awareness. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of those seeking a place to call home.

For more information on how you can get involved or support Habitat for Humanity's mission, please email infospringfieldhabitat@vermontel.net or call 802-885-6440.

Sincerely,
Julia Tan
Habitat for Humanity



commercial & residential

- paperhanging
- drywalls
- aerial truck
- free estimates

Ray Wilcox
802-875-3391
Cell 802-384-1933

• Since 1969 •

LAWRENCE & LOBER ELECTRIC

Residential-Commercial-Generator-Fire Alarm-Security
UL Listed 24 Hour Monitoring

www.llelectricservices.com • info@llelectricservices.com

15 Barker St. Tel: 802-460-3479
Bellows Falls, VT 05101 Fax: 802-460-3480

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

King Crossword

ACROSS

- Siren
- Cagers' gp.
- Halt
- Eventful periods
- Cleric's tunic
- Jared of "House of Gucci"
- Persistence
- Privy to
- Tar
- Laid down the lawn
- Cattle call
- Crystal gazer
- Not "dis"
- Scale abbr.
- Impetus
- Crunchy cookie
- Chef Garten
- Faux pas
- Reddish dye
- PC screen type
- Salty expanse
- Leave an impression?
- Gear tooth
- Salsa ingredient
- Chopin pieces
- Say it's so
- Stresses
- Hindu royal
- 911 responder
- Tizzy
- Sax range

DOWN

- Nov. honorees
- Bailiwick
- pedi
- Sacred song
- Capital of Kenya
- Crunchy sandwich
- Void
- Small burgers
- Curly strands
- Oklahoma tribe
- Frogs' hang-out
- Hip
- British ref. work
- Homer's cry
- "Right you —!"
- Multi-family dwelling
- NBC week-end show
- Compete
- Ecol. watch-dog
- Toronto's province
- Emphasizes
- Play segment
- Pixels
- "Monopoly" buy
- Appearance
- Skater
- Lipinski
- Ellipse
- Word of warning
- Author
- Bagnold
- Bygone fliers
- Punk-rock subgenre

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

GREATER FALLS INSURANCE
— serving VT and NH since 1996 —

Home • Auto • Farm • Business • Motorcycle • Recreational Vehicles

7190 US Route 5 • Westminster, Vermont 05158
802-463-1900 • www.greaterfallsinsurance.com

Shawntae Webb - Publisher, Ad Designer
publisher@vermontjournal.com
ads@vermontjournal.com

Joe McCaffrey - Sales Representative
sales@vermontjournal.com

Nick Giberti - Editor, Calendar of Events
editor@vermontjournal.com
calendar@vermontjournal.com

Paula Benson - Billing Manager, Sales, Staff Writer
billing@vermontjournal.com

Phone: 802-228-3600

CHURCH SERVICES

obituaries

ASCUTNEY, VT.

Brownsville Community United Methodist Church, 66 Brownsville-Hartland Rd.

Sunday service is 9:30 a.m., held in the church with reduced occupancy or streaming online at www.facebook.com/brownsvillecommunitychurch and www.brownsvilleumc-vt.org.

BELLOWS FALLS, VT.

First Baptist Church of Bellows Falls, 9 Church St.

Traditional Baptist Services held Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. Handicap accessible. 802-463-3220.

United Church of Bellows Falls, UCC, 8 School St.

Worship service starts at 10 a.m. every Sunday. All are welcome to attend. Following the service, there will be a time of refreshments. Many other services are offered throughout the week. If you have any questions or want to learn more, call 802-463-4323, visit the church, or find them on Facebook.

CAVENDISH, VT.

Cavendish Baptist Church, 2258 Main St.

Sunday services are 10 a.m. online or in person. Online services are on Facebook at 10 a.m. Go to www.facebook.com/Cavendish-Baptist-Church-258814894244302. More at www.CavendishBaptist.com or call 802-226-7131.

CHESTER, VT.

Chester Baptist Church, 162 Main St.

Worship is Sundays at 10:30 a.m. For more information, including online streaming, go to www.chesterbaptist.org.

Andover Community Church, 928 Weston-Andover Rd.

Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. and worship service 10:45 a.m. For more information, go to www.andovercommunitychurch.org.

LONDONDERRY, VT.

First Baptist Church, 62 Crescent St., S. Londonderry

Worship service is Sunday at 10 a.m. at the church. Services will still be live streamed at www.firstbaptistslondonderryvt.org/streaming-worship.html. For more information, visit www.firstbaptistslondonderryvt.org or call 802-856-7266.

LUDLOW, VT.

United Church of Ludlow (UCC and Methodist), 48 Pleasant St.

Sunday services are held in person and streamed online at 10 a.m. Email unitedchurch@tds.net for more information. Visit www.unitedchurch.us to receive updates on services and meetings.

Ludlow Baptist Church, on the Green, 99 Main St.

Weekly worship services are in-person. Sunday school is at 9:30 a.m. for all ages, and Sunday worship is at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday's prayer meeting is at 6:30 p.m. For more information, go to www.LudlowBaptist.org.

SPRINGFIELD, VT.

Calvary Baptist Church, 156 Main St.

Sunday services are 9:30 a.m. in person. Services are still streamed at www.facebook.com/calvarybaptistchurchspringfieldvt. For more information, go to www.calvarylovespringfield.com.

Springfield Assembly of God, 269 River St.

Sunday morning service is 10 a.m. Evening service is 6 p.m. Go to www.facebook.com/Springfield-Assembly-of-God-156583214402910 for links and more information.

Springfield United Methodist Church, 10 Valley St.

Worship begins at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays. Springfield United Methodist Church welcomes everyone! The church can be reached at 802-885-3456.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 33 Fairground Rd.

Sunday Services 8:30 a.m. - Holy Days as announced. Services alternate between Clergy Officiated, Traditional Rite I and Contemporary Rite II, Holy Eucharist, and Licensed Lay Led Rites I and II Morning Prayer. All are invited regardless of religious affiliation. Call David at 802-885-2972 with questions.

St. Mary's Catholic Church, 10 Pleasant St.

Sunday mass is at 9 a.m., followed by coffee hour as well as weekday services. To watch the live streams, go to www.youtube.com and search Holy Family Parish Springfield Vermont. Streaming is available five minutes before the service starts. For more information, go to www.stmaryjoseph.com.

WALPOLE, N.H.

St. John's Episcopal Church, corner of Westminster and Elm St.

Sunday services are 10 a.m. in person or via Zoom. For more information, go to www.stjohnswalpole.org, email pastor@stjohnswalpole.org, or leave a message at 603-756-4533.

First Congregational Church of Walpole UCC, 15 Washington Sq.

Sunday services are at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary, or via Zoom. For Zoom links, please call 603-756-4075. For more information, go to www.walpolenhucc.org or www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalWalpoleNH.

WESTON, VT.

The Old Parish Church, 644 Main St.

A diverse, informal, and welcoming congregation. Sunday service begins at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom. For more information, contact Jon Bliss, minister, at 802-824-4452 or email easthillfarm@vermontel.net.

Bernard Carey Jr. graveside service

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – A graveside service for Bernard Carey Jr., who passed away, Feb. 23, 2024, will be held with military honors on April 27, at 12:30 p.m., at the Oakland Cemetery in Springfield, Vt.

Renee Bailey memorial service

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – A memorial service for Renee Bailey, who passed away Dec. 20, 2023, will be held at the Davis Memorial Chapel on April 27, at 5 p.m. Reverend Joanne Thomas will officiate.

Kurt R. Brackenbury, 1960-2024

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Kurt R. Brackenbury, 63, of Springfield, Vt., passed away on April 4, 2024, at home, surrounded by his loving wife Tammy L. Brackenbury. He was born on April 26, 1960, in Long Island, N.Y., to Richard and Erika (Wolfram) Brackenbury. Kurt grew up in Stowe, Vt., with his three sisters and two brothers, in a small bed and breakfast called the Stowe-Bound Lodge. Kurt spent most of his days on the farm, where they raised sheep and wool; he was his mom's best help when it came to the lambing season. Kurt was known as a "Dare Devil" growing up, he always was finding something to jump or flip off from. When Kurt wasn't working on the farm, he was learning about anything mechanical, and finding something that he could fix. This led him to rebuilding his first motorcycle in the basement of their home at the age of 16. He was also trained to work on small engines, and was hired by a local company working on lawn mowers at the age of 16. After a few years, at the age of 18, Kurt relocated to the small town of Bellows Falls, Vt., where he was sworn in to the Bellows Falls Police force. He spent five and a half years as a police officer, and later moved to working for the hydro company before they closed. Kurt then worked for himself and several other companies in IT working on computers, until



Kurt Brackenbury, 1960-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

he started his career in the manufacturing industry at Wheelan until he retired in 2022. Kurt was enjoying retirement, traveling with his wife, kids, and loving dog Lola.

He was predeceased by his parents Richard and Erika Brackenbury, and brother David Brackenbury.

He is survived by his wife Tammy Brackenbury, sister Lisa Maurice and spouse Michael Maurice, sister-in-law Annie Destito (partner of David), brother Peter Brackenbury, sister Frieda Mayo and spouse Michael Mayo, and sister Sarah Ouellette. He is also survived by his children Meagan Prue, Hallie LaFayette, and Jacob LaFayette. Kurt is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life will take place at a later date.

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

Thanks from the family of Patrick Kelly

The family of Patrick Kelly would like to thank all our family and friends for the cards, food, flowers, thoughts, and prayers at the time of his passing. It's times like this when we can see what a great person he was, and how much he will be missed by us all.

Sincerely,
Bridget, Hannah, Ryan, Brian, and Kathleen

Harry Welch, 2024

LUDLOW, Vt. – Harry Welch died peacefully at his home in Ludlow, Vt., on Monday, April 8, with family by his side as the solar eclipse was commencing. He was the devoted husband of Elizabeth "Betsy" Clemons Welch, Sept. 6, 1929 – Sept. 27, 2015, who died at home as a super blood moon rose in the sky.

Harry leaves his four children Kim (David Levin), Toby (Peg Alden), Barclay (Kristen), and Bonnie (Gary Peck); six grandchildren Sam, Lindsay (Gary Spohn), Nell, Mallory (Aaron Levy), Anja (Bobby Christopher), and Christian; and six great-grandchildren Eleanor, Ava, Oakley, Cutler, Beatrice, and Clara. He loved his family deeply, and cherished spending time together at Peace and Plenty farm. One of his great-grandchildren considered him "his best friend."

Harry grew up in New Haven, Conn., son of G. Harold Welch and Harriet Wilford Hitchcock Welch, and was the oldest of five children. He leaves behind his brothers Noble and Wilford.

Harry attended The Foote School, and he and Betsy remained close friends with five of his kindergarten classmates, and later their spouses and families, throughout their lifetimes. Harry attended Groton School, where he was a prefect, before going on to Yale University, graduating in 1950. He was an accomplished equestrian, and competed with the Yale Polo team.

After college, Harry was recruited to join the CIA and served the agency in Vienna, Austria. Upon returning to the states, he began a career in banking at the New Haven Savings Bank, graduating from the Stonier School of Banking, then moved to White Weld & Co., where he led the New Haven office. His career also included serving as president of the Edward Malley Company, and president of the Yale-New Haven Hospital Development Corporation.

Harry and Betsy believed strongly in supporting organizations in their communities through active volunteer and board engagement. Of note, Harry served on the board of The Yale New-Haven Hospital Corporation (trustee and board chair), The New Haven Water Authority (trustee and board chair), Aviex LLC and Lightbridge Corporation, and the predecessor company Thorium Power. During his time



Harry Welch, 2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

with the Water Authority, Harry was prescient in describing water as the next vital resource we must preserve. Harry was a trustee of Hamden Hall Country Day School and the Foote School. He was a member of the Standing Committee for Grove Street Cemetery in New Haven, and a fellow at Jonathan Edwards College (Yale). Harry and Betsy also served together as trustees of Spring Lake Ranch in Shrewsbury, Vt. Harry was a class agent for many years for his Yale and Groton classes.

Harry was a member of the Club at Mory's, the New Haven Lawn Club, and the Oquossoc Angling Association, where he and Betsy spent their honeymoon and, later in life, many summer visits at their camp. Harry was a Justice of the Peace in Ludlow, Vt., and as part of that role he was a local election official.

Reading was one of his favorite activities – he and Betsy belonged to a vibrant Vermont book group – as was tinkering with various pieces of farm equipment. He loved Peace and Plenty, purchased in 1968, with his whole heart, and spent his weekends and then retirement improving and preserving the property, haying the fields, and mowing the many trails he and the family created.

Jaska Hill was a friend and caretaker for Harry for many years. Harry was fortunate to have a wonderful extended care team.

Donations may be made in his memory to the Betsy Welch Endowed Scholarship Fund, Foote School, 50 Loomis Place, New Haven, CT 06511, or online at www.footeschool.org/supporting-foote/ways-to-give/endorsement.

Harry was devoted to his many, many friends who, along with his family, will miss him deeply.

Arrangements are entrusted to the care of the Davis Memorial Chapel, located in Springfield, Vt.

GET YOUR LOCAL NEWS ONLINE AT:
WWW.VERMONTJOURNAL.COM

CHURCH SERVICES:

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

DAVIS MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Family Owned Funeral Home
Funeral & Cremation Services
802-885-3322
99 Summer St, Springfield, VT
www.DavisMemorialChapel.net
Owners Scott and Angela Page

OBITUARIES

Basic 200-word Obituary **\$75**
\$0.50/word after 200
Black and White Photo **\$10**

Email to editor@vermontjournal.com

Due by **Monday 12 p.m.**

Death Notices, Funeral Services, and Thank You Notices **under 50 words are free**

David Chaves EXCAVATING

Family Owned & Operated Since 1980

Complete Site Work
From Clearing to Finish
Grading, Roads, Foundations
Septics & Drainage Problems

Specializing In
Equine Land Development & Ponds

802-824-3140
Londonderry, VT

Sculpting your piece of Vermont to fit your Dreams!

45 TAYLOR HILL
ATHENS, VT 05143

FULLY INSURED
FREE ESTIMATES

TAYLOR EXCAVATING LLP

TRUCKING & EXCAVATING
SEPTIC SYSTEMS, LAND CLEARINGS, DRIVEWAYS
COMPLETE HOUSE SITES
LANDSCAPING, WALL BUILDING
LAWN MOWING, SNOWPLOWING AND SANDING

802-869-2905 802-289-1508
DAN

Harvey Replacement Windows, Raynor Garage Door Sales & Installation, Garage Door Repair & Vinyl Siding

BILL STANKEVICH
Building & Remodeling

Full Service Care Taking

173 Baltimore Road
Perkinsville, VT 05151

802-263-9374
Fax 802-263-5129

calendar

LEGAL NOTICES

APRIL 18 – CHESTER, Vt. – Upstairs @ Town Hall will host jazz musician Eugene Uman on Thursday, April 18, at 7 p.m. Uman is the director of the Vermont Jazz Center, and an extraordinary musician, composer, arranger, and educator. He will perform with some of the best jazz musicians in New England. Admission is free.

CHESTER, Vt. – Join Chester Andover Elementary for a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser on Thursday, April 18, 5-7 p.m., at Chester Andover Elementary School, 72 Main Street, to benefit the upcoming adventure to Keewaydin Environmental Education Center Camp. The menu is spaghetti with homemade meatballs, delectable sauce, salad, garlic bread, and baked goods – to-go dinners also available. Children 3 or under are free, and there is a special rate for families. For more information, contact 802-875-2108.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – There will be a Bingo Evening and Basket Raffle on Thursday, April 18, at 6:30 p.m., at VFW Post 771, 115 River Street, to benefit the Edgar May Stingrays youth swim team. This event is for ages 16 and up. Doors open at 5 p.m. There will be many games, food and beverages for purchase, as well as a 50-50 raffle. All proceeds

will be donated to the Stingrays youth swim team.

APRIL 21 – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – There will be a Chicken BBQ Fundraiser for Meals on Wheels on Sunday, April 21, from 1-3 p.m., at the Springfield Moose Lodge, 39 South Street in Springfield, Vt. Springfield Moose Lodge 679 is working together with Meals on Wheels to raise awareness and funds for this wonderful program that serves so many of our local seniors. Come join us for a good meal, meet some of the Meals on Wheels coordinators and volunteers, and, most importantly, show your support for the much-needed community service they provide.

APRIL 27 – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – There will be an indoor yard sale to support the Bellows Falls Moose Legion on April 27, at 8 a.m., at the Bellows Falls Moose Lodge, 59 Westminster Street. No customer entry before 8 a.m. Setup time for sellers is 7 a.m., and the fee for a table is paid the day of the sale. Contact todd.ager@gmail.com with questions.

ALSTEAD, N.H. – Charles F. Andros, former New Hampshire/Vermont apiary inspector, will hold a beekeeping workshop

on Saturday, April 27, from 1-3:30 p.m., at 18 Maclean Road, Alstead, N.H. Look for the “BEE” sign on the south side of Walpole Valley Road. Topics of discussion will be early spring management – locating apiaries, equipment, handling bees, feeding syrup and supplements, making nuclei, reversing, and requeening. Bring a veil, if you have one, as we shall be opening some colonies. Water and sunscreen are also a plus. Registration is required, email lindename@gmail.com, or call 603-756-9056.

APRIL 28 – LUDLOW, Vt. – The United Church of Ludlow invites the community to a service and reception on Sunday, April 28, to kick off a \$50,000 Capital Campaign to restore its historical bell. With the campaign theme “Ring Out Love,” the United Church is seeking support from the community as it works to not only repair the disintegrating supports on its venerable bell, but also to make upgrades to improve accessibility, and to help neighbors in need. The kickoff begins with the 10 a.m. Sunday service in the sanctuary, followed by a reception at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

MAY 1 – PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – On Wednesday, May 1, at 6 p.m., the Cavendish Fletcher Community Library will host “Sheryl Faye Presents: Amelia Earhart.” This one-woman show shares the life and achievements of Amelia Earhart. The actress Sheryl Faye has brought her performances of historical women all over New England, and we are thrilled to be hosting her for a third time at the Cavendish Fletcher Community Library.

MAY 2 – CHESTER, Vt. – Chester Ambulance will be hosting a community outreach event on Thursday, May 2, at 6 p.m., at the Chester Town Hall. This event will be a panel discussion with local health and social services. The intent is to inform the community on all the different resources available to them, and how Chester Ambulance can assist in facilitating. Organizations attending will be Springfield Hospital, North Star Health, Community Cares Network, Neighborhood Connections, and Bayada.

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.

PLYMOUTH, Vt. – The Plymouth Historical Society, located in the former Plymouth Elementary School on Route 100 in Plymouth Union, is open Sunday afternoons, from 2-4 p.m. Visit our museum, or do research on your Plymouth ancestors. Watch for the “Open” flag.

MONDAYS – 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.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Free Gentle Hatha Yoga classes

for ages 50 and over are held on Mondays from 9-10 a.m., at the Springfield Senior Center, 139 Main Street. All equipment is provided.

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

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

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

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

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

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.

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.

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

more information. Private classes are available.

GRAFTON, Vt. – A free playgroup for children from newborns to age 5 will be held at Grafton Elementary School on Thursday mornings, from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Activities will include songs, games, and arts and crafts. Contact Heather with any questions at 802-843-4792.

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

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

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

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

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

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

TOWN OF WESTON ROAD CREW

The Town of Weston seeks to add full-time, year-round member to our Road Crew. We take pride in maintaining the Town’s equipment, roads, and facilities and creating improvements where we can, the successful applicant will be team players willing to do their best and learn along the way.

Candidates are required to hold a VT Driver’s License, have a High School diploma or equivalent and a valid CDL Class B Driver’s License, successfully pass a background check, and participate in drug testing.

This position has benefits, including health care, and a retirement package. The position is eligible for overtime.

Mail or return your resume to: Town of Weston PO Box 98 Weston VT 05161 or drop off at the Town Office. You can also email the application to selectboard@westonvt.org. Applications will be reviewed as received with the position open until filled. The Town of Weston is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Town Of Weston PO Box 98 Weston, VT 05161

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR TWO-BAY ADDITION TO TOWN GARAGE

The Town of Weston is requesting proposals for a two-bay addition. Building will be steel and attach to the existing building.

Proposals shall include details for the addition and line-item pricing for each of the following Scope of Service Components:

- Design plans
- Excavation and site preparation
- Concrete foundation and floor
- Steel building with standing seam roof
- Build a firewall with door in between new and old building
- Provide and install Heating system
- Provide and install all Electrical for addition
- Please visit the Town of Weston website for more information on the Scope of Work www.westonvt.org

Proposals may be sent to Shawna Batogowski, Selectboard Administrative Assistant at selectboard@westonvt.org and must be received by May 10th, 2024. Email proposals will be printed and placed in sealed envelopes. Proposals may also be mailed with a postmark date no later than May 10th, 2024 addressed to: Town of Weston Selectboard PO Box 98, Weston VT 05161 Attn: Town Garage RFP

All proposals will be opened at the Selectboard meeting scheduled on May 14th, 2024

The selected firm(s) shall report to and be responsible to the Town of Weston Selectboard. The Town of Weston reserves the right to withdraw this Request for Proposals, to accept or reject any or all proposals in part or in their entirety, to advertise for new proposals if it’s in the best interest of the Town to do so, and to award a contract as deemed to be in the best interest of the Town of Weston.

During the evaluation process, the Town of Weston reserves the right where it may serve the Town’s best interest, to request additional information or clarifications from proposing firms. The Town of Weston reserves the right to retain all proposals submitted and to use any ideas in a proposal, regardless of whether that proposal is selected.

Compliance with the Law- The selected contractor shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations in the performance of service. The selected contractor must be registered with the Office of the Secretary of State of the State of Vermont and be certified to conduct business legally in the in the State of Vermont.

The Town of Weston is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CEMETERY GROUNDSKEEPER

The Town of Charlestown NH is seeking to hire a part-time Cemetery Groundskeeper. This position will be for 30+ hours/week from April to October.

High school diploma or equivalent is required as well as a valid NH Driver’s License.

Responsibilities to include mowing lawns, trimming hedges, maintaining gardens, weed trimming, spring and fall cleanup preparing outdoor areas for various weather conditions. Groundskeepers would also be operating and maintaining garden and landscaping equipment.

Interested candidates should complete an application and submit to: Charlestown Town Office - Human Resources Department, P.O. Box 385, Charlestown NH 03603 or emailed to Ddezan@charlestown-nh.gov. An application may be found at www.charlestown-nh.gov or at the Town Office 233 Main St. Charlestown, NH.

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TOWN OF CHESTER

Emergency Watershed Program – Engineering Services

The Town of Chester is requesting proposals to complete designs and provide bid and construction oversight for ten pre-approved watershed protection projects. This project is funded through the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service who administers the Emergency Watershed Protection Program. Please contact the Chester Town Office to obtain a full copy of the Request for Proposal.

All bids are due no later than April 26, 2024 at 4:00 p.m and should be sent via email to Julie.hance@chestertv.gov with subject line “Chester EWP Proposal”.

Town of Plymouth Public Notice of Hearing Before the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Adjustment

A public hearing before the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Adjustment of the Town of Plymouth will be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 7 P.M. In the auditorium of the Plymouth Town Hall, located at 68 Town Office Rd., Plymouth VT to consider a Conditional Use zoning Permit and Zoning board of adjustment application for:

Applicant: Daniel Nugent
Location: 29 Campground Rd.
Parcel ID: 000297
Proposal: New 12 x 21’ addition and a 8 x 12 addition to existing shed
Application ID: 2024-08

If you have any questions, please contact MColeman@PlymouthVT.org

Town of Springfield Selectboard Public Hearings to Amend Town Plan 6:00 pm, April 22, 2024 and May 13, 2024

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

Municipal Fire Chief Employment Opportunity Ludlow Fire Department, Ludlow Vermont

Summary

The Town of Ludlow is actively seeking candidates for a Full Time Municipal Fire Chief. For a complete job description and application information please visit the Town of Ludlow Website at [Municipal_Fire_Chief_Position\(Ludlow_VT\).pdf](http://Municipal_Fire_Chief_Position(Ludlow_VT).pdf) or contact the Ludlow Municipal Office at 802-228-2841.

The Town of Ludlow is an Equal Opportunity Employer

WATER FLUSHING NOTICE VILLAGE OF LUDLOW



On Monday, April 22, 2024 through Friday, April 26, 2024, the Village of Ludlow Water Department will be flushing the water system and testing the fire hydrant system. The flushing will take place each day from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM.

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

If you have any questions, please call the Water Department at 228-8431 or the Municipal Office at 228-2842 or 228-3923.

Thank you.

LEGAL NOTICES

classifieds

May Festival 2024 call to vendors

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The 13th annual May Festival will be held on Saturday, May 18, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., at

the Unitarian Universalist Meetinghouse, 21 Fairground Road in Springfield, rain or shine. This is a prime location to set up your flea market or craft table. We will be selling food, and have live music.

Vendor spaces are available for a fee, and tables can be rented for a small additional amount. Booth space is 10 feet by 10 feet, and vendors must provide their own canopies and plan ac-

cordingly for the weather. Set up time will be May 18, from 7:30-8:45 a.m. Vendors may park at their booth space.

Contact June at uuspringfieldvt@gmail.com to reserve a space or request more information. Please include a short description of what you will be selling, and the name of your business if you have one. We'll include vendor details in our publicity.

Meet with legislators at library

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – On Saturday, April 20, at 10:30 a.m., come to the second floor meeting room of the Rockingham Free Public Library in Bellows Falls, to meet with your Windham County Senators Nader Hashim and Wendy Harrison, and your Windham-3 (Brookline, Rockingham, and Westminster) House Representatives Michelle Bos-Lun and Leslie Goldman.

This session will provide an opportunity for community members to ask questions about issues that will be addressed in the current legislative session. Legislators will give updates about expected legislative priorities and pending bills. This meeting at the library will help your senators and

representatives understand what is important to our Brookline, Rockingham, and Westminster constituents, and take these concerns to Montpelier.

Community conversations are planned for the third Saturday of each month, at 10:30 a.m., during the legislative session through May. Come for a conversation about current issues, and bring your questions. Thank you to the Rockingham Free Public Library for hosting our meeting. Contact Rep. Leslie Goldman with your questions at lgoldman@leg.state.vt.us or 802-380-4285. This event is free and open to the public.

Kaya

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Kaya is 120 pounds of fluffy love. This sweet 9-year-old Malamute loves car rides and walks. She is good with dogs, but no cats please. Kaya can be seen Wednesday-Saturday, from 12-4 p.m., or call 802-885-3997 for more information.

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



Custodians

Windham Northeast Supervisory Union has several open full time Custodian Positions; Rockingham School District and Bellows Falls Union High School District. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, general cleaning, lifting, painting and snow removal. General knowledge of building maintenance and mechanical operations is a plus. Good mechanical ability is also a favored asset for this position. EOE

Rockingham School District
Please send resumes to:
Rick Schuhmann at rick.schumann@wnesu.com

Bellows Falls Union High District
Please send resumes to:
Jeff Potter at Jeffrey.potter@wnesu.com

FOR RENT

MOUNT HOLLY, Vt. – Newly remodeled 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home, open kitchen dining room and living room with cathedral ceilings, primary bedroom on main floor. Monthly or yearly, \$2,600/month. Call 802-770-0569.

prices paid. Call Ray at 802-775-2859 or 802-236-7213.

GUNS WANTED

REGION – Guns wanted. Hand-guns, rifles, or shotguns. Top

HELP WANTED/VOLUNTEER

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Volunteers wanted, docents (tour guides) to give tours of the Adams Grist Mill on weekends for the season. Call 603-313-8585 and leave message, or email jim.narkiewicz@gmail.com.

Wilson & Lawrence Inc.

Tennis Courts Contractors in Grafton, Vt. is now hiring for our summer crews

Please call 802-732-8494 Mon-Fri

<p>Weekly SUDOKU</p> <p>Answers</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>5</td><td>2</td><td>9</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>6</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>2</td><td>9</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>8</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>9</td><td>5</td><td>7</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>7</td><td>1</td><td>5</td><td>3</td><td>8</td><td>2</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>5</td><td>3</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>2</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>8</td><td>2</td><td>4</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>9</td><td>7</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td>6</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>5</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>9</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>3</td></tr> </table>	5	2	9	7	8	6	3	1	4	3	7	6	5	1	4	2	9	8	4	1	8	3	2	9	5	7	6	6	4	7	1	5	3	8	2	9	1	5	3	8	9	2	6	4	7	9	8	2	4	6	7	1	3	5	8	3	1	9	7	5	4	6	2	7	6	4	2	3	8	9	5	1	2	9	5	6	4	1	7	8	3	<p>King Crossword</p> <p>Answers</p> <p>Solution time: 24 mins.</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>V</td><td>A</td><td>M</td><td>P</td><td>N</td><td>B</td><td>A</td><td>S</td><td>T</td><td>O</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>R</td><td>A</td><td>S</td><td>A</td><td>L</td><td>R</td><td>L</td><td>E</td><td>T</td><td>O</td></tr> <tr><td>T</td><td>E</td><td>N</td><td>A</td><td>C</td><td>I</td><td>T</td><td>Y</td><td>I</td><td>N</td><td>G</td><td>O</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>A</td><td>I</td><td>L</td><td>O</td><td>R</td><td>S</td><td>O</td><td>D</td><td>D</td><td>E</td><td>D</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>M</td><td>O</td><td>O</td><td>S</td><td>E</td><td>E</td><td>R</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>D</td><td>A</td><td>T</td><td>L</td><td>B</td><td>S</td><td>D</td><td>R</td><td>I</td><td>V</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td>O</td><td>R</td><td>E</td><td>O</td><td>I</td><td>N</td><td>A</td><td>S</td><td>L</td><td>I</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>H</td><td>E</td><td>N</td><td>N</td><td>A</td><td>L</td><td>O</td><td>D</td><td>S</td><td>E</td><td>A</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>E</td><td>T</td><td>C</td><td>H</td><td>O</td><td>O</td><td>G</td></tr> <tr><td>T</td><td>O</td><td>M</td><td>A</td><td>T</td><td>O</td><td>E</td><td>T</td><td>U</td><td>D</td><td>E</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>A</td><td>V</td><td>E</td><td>R</td><td>T</td><td>E</td><td>N</td><td>S</td><td>I</td><td>O</td><td>N</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>R</td><td>A</td><td>N</td><td>I</td><td>E</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>S</td><td>N</td><td>I</td><td>T</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>A</td><td>L</td><td>T</td><td>O</td><td>L</td><td>O</td><td>S</td><td>E</td><td>T</td><td>D</td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>	V	A	M	P	N	B	A	S	T	O	P	E	R	A	S	A	L	R	L	E	T	O	T	E	N	A	C	I	T	Y	I	N	G	O	S	A	I	L	O	R	S	O	D	D	E	D					M	O	O	S	E	E	R		D	A	T	L	B	S	D	R	I	V	E	O	R	E	O	I	N	A	S	L	I	P	H	E	N	N	A	L	O	D	S	E	A					E	T	C	H	O	O	G	T	O	M	A	T	O	E	T	U	D	E	S	A	V	E	R	T	E	N	S	I	O	N	S	R	A	N	I	E	M	T	S	N	I	T		A	L	T	O	L	O	S	E	T	D	S	
5	2	9	7	8	6	3	1	4																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
3	7	6	5	1	4	2	9	8																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
4	1	8	3	2	9	5	7	6																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
6	4	7	1	5	3	8	2	9																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
1	5	3	8	9	2	6	4	7																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
9	8	2	4	6	7	1	3	5																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
8	3	1	9	7	5	4	6	2																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
7	6	4	2	3	8	9	5	1																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
2	9	5	6	4	1	7	8	3																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
V	A	M	P	N	B	A	S	T	O	P																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
E	R	A	S	A	L	R	L	E	T	O																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
T	E	N	A	C	I	T	Y	I	N	G	O																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
S	A	I	L	O	R	S	O	D	D	E	D																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
				M	O	O	S	E	E	R																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
D	A	T	L	B	S	D	R	I	V	E																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
O	R	E	O	I	N	A	S	L	I	P																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
H	E	N	N	A	L	O	D	S	E	A																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
				E	T	C	H	O	O	G																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
T	O	M	A	T	O	E	T	U	D	E	S																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
A	V	E	R	T	E	N	S	I	O	N	S																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
R	A	N	I	E	M	T	S	N	I	T																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
A	L	T	O	L	O	S	E	T	D	S																																																																																																																																																																																																																														

Water/Waste Water Licensed Superintendent

Level 2 Facility

The Town of Charlestown is accepting applications for this full-time position.

The Water/Wastewater Licensed Superintendent is responsible for overseeing the operation, maintenance, and management of a Level 2 water/wastewater facility in accordance with state and federal regulations. This role requires a strong background in water and wastewater treatment, as well as leadership skills to manage a team of operators and ensure the facility operates efficiently and effectively.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering, Environmental Science, or related field.
- Valid Water/Wastewater Operator License (Level 2) issued by [State Licensing Board].
- Minimum of 3 years of experience in water/wastewater treatment operations, with at least 1 year in a supervisory role.
- Strong knowledge of water and wastewater treatment processes and equipment.
- Excellent leadership and management skills.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to work effectively with regulatory agencies and other stakeholders.

Wages commensurate with qualifications and experience. Full Benefit package including paid vacations and holidays. Interested candidates may obtain an employment application in the Selectboard office at 233 Main Street, Charlestown, NH or on the Town Website. Applications and Resumes should be emailed to Ddezan@charlestown-nh.gov.

The Town of Charlestown is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

THM PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICES

129 Lincoln Avenue, Suite A • Manchester Center, VT 05255
(802) 362-4663 • Fax (802) 362-6350 • TDD 1-800-545-1833 EXT. 326 OR 175

ADAIR HEIGHTS APARTMENTS

BRATTLEBORO, VERMONT

AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY

TWO-BEDROOM UNITS

Utilities, Snow & Trash Removal Included
Laundry Facility on Premises for Tenants Only
USDA Guidelines Do Apply

Call or Write to:
THM Property Management
129 Lincoln Ave.
Manchester Center, VT 05255
802-367-5252
802-367-5251
Hearing Impaired 1-800-545-1833 ext. 326

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

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

THM is an equal opportunity provider and employer

yellow page BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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

Art Crafts Gifts

GALLERY AT THE VAULT

Art Crafts Gifts & Workshops
68 Main St., Springfield 802-885-7111
OPEN Wed. to Sat. 11-5 & Fri. 11-7
Shop Pottery, Glass, Children's Items, Woodenware, Scarves, Jewelry, Cards, Fine Art, and More
<http://galleryvault.org>
Silk Scarf Show by Teresa Flowers opens 4/20
Open Wall: *Thoughts of Spring*
Workshops <http://galleryvault.org/workshops>
Raku Pottery w/ Andrew Berends 5/4 & 5/11
Flowers in Texture & Color w/ Julie Crabtree 4/27
Create your own piece of stitchery art, rich in color & texture.
(04/24/24 - TFN - 13)

NEW ENGLAND HOME BUILDING AND REMODEL

802-779-3414 — Located in Weston, VT

Kitchens, Additions, and Remodels. Finish Carpentry and Cabinet Work. Property Maintenance. Fully Insured, Free Estimates.

Like us on FACEBOOK and INSTAGRAM!
www.newenglandhomebuildingandremodel.com
(06/05/24 - 52)

Masonry

DRC STONE DESIGN

Specializing in all Stone Masonry Applications including veneer, walls, patios, walkways. Fully insured. Free estimates. 32 years experience. Contact Dan Field at 802-384-0122 or stoneart49@gmail.com or visit drcstonedesign.com.
(05/22/24 - 13)

Builders/Contractors

HAMMER FOR HIRE LLC

"Not just for bangin' nails."

We handle a variety of projects, from home repairs, restorations on up to full renovations, and new construction too. Our clients can expect professionalism, proficiency, customer care, and quality. Call or email today at 802-376-3275 edwin.mortensen@gmail.com.
Follow us on Instagram @nedthehammer
(11/20/24 - 52)

Campground

CATON PLACE CAMPGROUND

2419 EAST ROAD, CAVENDISH VERMONT
SEASONAL SITES AVAILABLE FOR 2024! REASONABLE RATES!
802-226-7767, Catonplacecamp@gmail.com.

Full hook up sites, pull thru, and tent sites. Views of Okemo! Large Private Sites!
(05/08/24 - 13)

Organic Lawn & Land Care

GREEN BEE LAWN & GARDEN

Serving Chester and surrounding towns

Now Accepting New Customers- Our commitment to fully organic lawn and garden care practices gives you peace of mind for all the kids, pets, nature, and friends using your yard. Our Commercial Electric equipment is clean and quiet, so you can relax while we make your property beautiful for you.

We're Different- Green Bee has earned an Organic Land Management Professional Accreditation and can tailor a plan for managing your property to meet your goals. Large or small, all properties will benefit from utilizing this approach.

We are **fully insured, reliable, and priced right**. Like us on Facebook and Reach Out Today to secure your spot! Call, text, or email: 802-289-1968, greenbeelawns@gmail.com.
(08/07/24 - 26)

Chiropractor

FOUR SEASONS CHIROPRACTIC, PC

Dr. Denise Natale 58 Parker Avenue, Proctorsville, VT 05153, 802-226-7977 Hours: Tuesday 1pm-6pm, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 10am-6pm.
(08/14/24 - TFN - 52)

Electrician

KJ ELECTRIC LLC

802-428-6224
kjelectric63@gmail.com
Chester, VT
Licensed and Insured
Quality installation and service since 2005
"Wiring is not a hobby! Call a professional!"
(01/29/25 - 52)

Conflict Consulting

THEFLATTABLE.COM, TOM SALMON CPA, MA

"We were stuck. Tom helped our family resolve insurmountable challenges. We are forever grateful." - Telos W., Springfield.

The Flat Table process works! No conflict too big or too small. Free consultation. 802-535-1555 or TheFlatTable.com.
(10/02/24 - 26)

health & wellness

Windham County Drug Take Back Day —

REGION – Saturday, April 27, is the Drug Enforcement Agency's (DEA) National Drug Take Back Day, and the Windham County Prevention Partnership would like to take this opportunity to raise awareness about proper storage and disposal of prescription medications.

This initiative gives communities the opportunity to prevent prescription drug abuse and theft by ridding their homes of expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Please keep in mind the DEA cannot accept liquids, needles, or sharps, only pills or patches.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that are left in home cabinets are highly susceptible to misuse and abuse. Rates of prescription drug misuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Additionally, simply throwing unused

medicines in the trash or flushing them down the toilet risks environmental harm, theft, and poses a public health hazard.

"It is so important to come together as a community and do our part to help raise awareness and take this issue head on. We are so grateful for the support we've seen for this event," says Elisha Underwood, the executive director of West River Valley Thrives in Townshend.

Collect your expired or unused prescription pills or patches in their original bottle, or place them in a disposable bag. Be sure to remove or cover your personal information. Anonymously drop your pills and patches in a prescription drug drop box near you.

Bring your medications for disposal to any of the following locations: Messenger Valley Pharmacy, 170 Grafton Road, Townshend; Brattleboro Police Department, 62 Black Mountain Road #101; Brattleboro Memorial

Hospital, 17 Belmont Avenue; Bellows Falls Police Department, 170 Rockingham Street; Wilmington Police Department, 2 East Main Street; Dover Police Department, 245 Vermont Route 100.

All locations listed have permanent drop boxes located in the agency's lobby, and boxes are available for pill disposal during open lobby hours, no questions asked. Please note, these locations may have fluctuating hours. Please call ahead to confirm hours.

If you are unable to make it to a physical drop box and would like a postage-paid bag to dispose of your unwanted prescription via mail in a medication-safe envelope, you can request an envelope from the Vermont Department of Health at www.healthvermont.gov/alcohol-drugs/services/prescription-drug-disposal.

Springfield Hospital donates for National Doctors' Day —



Springfield Hospital CEO Robert Adcock with local charity representatives that received donations. PHOTO PROVIDED

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – This year, Springfield Hospital and its medical staff recognized National Doctors' Day by matching donations, from Springfield Hospital and the medical staff, to benefit three local charities chosen by the medical staff.

Springfield Hospital recognized National Doctors' Day on March

30. The organizations chosen by the medical staff to receive donations included the Vermont Foodbank, Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA), and Turning Point. Each organization received a \$1,000 donation in honor of Springfield Hospital's medical staff, and their efforts and ongoing commitment to the health and wellbeing of our region.

"Each of these local charities play a vital role in service to people throughout our region," commented Robert Adcock, Springfield Hospital chief executive officer. "On behalf of the medical staff and employees at Springfield Hospital, we extend our thanks for your dedication to your individual missions," continued Adcock.

Springfield Hospital nursing scholarships

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Springfield Hospital is now accepting applications for the 19th annual Eileen Austin Neal Nursing Scholarship of \$1,000. This scholarship is open to any Springfield-area student who has been accepted into a nursing program of study. Applicants will be judged on interest in, and commitment to, the field of nursing. Determination will be based on merit and need.

Eileen Austin Neal was a registered nurse at Springfield Hospital for 64 years, retiring in 2005. She was the first recipient of Springfield Hospital's Community Health Award in 2003. In 2004, the hospital established the Spirit of Nursing Award, in recognition of her many years of dedicated service.

Upon her death in February 2006, at the request of Eileen's family, Springfield

Hospital established a nursing scholarship fund in her name with the gifts received in her memory.

The application deadline is June 14. Scholarship applications are available by visiting www.springfieldhospital.org. If you would like more information, please contact Sandy Peplau in the marketing and development office by email at speplau@springfieldhospital.org, or call 802-885-7686.

Esogetic colorpuncture at Springfield Library

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Tuesday, April 30, at 6 p.m., join us at the Springfield Town Library for "An Introduction to Esogetic Color-

puncture: an Acu Light Therapy."

Esogetic colorpuncture (EC) is an alternative healing technique that utilizes colored light to cure various ailments. The concept was developed by Peter Mandel, a German naturopath, massage therapist, and acupuncturist, around 50 years ago. EC is a healing model that is based on the most recent scientific research, such as research on bio photons as part of our cellular system by professor A. Popp, professor Bohm's theories of the holographic universe, and esoteric laws by Hermes Trismegistos, including the concept of "as above, so below." To evaluate the progress of treatment, we use visual evaluation methods and a Kirlian camera that captures the electromagnetic charge of meridian starts and ends, such as the fingertips and toes.

Cornelia Elsaesser, who started as a pediatric nurse in Germany, turned to a colorpuncture practitio-

ner for help when her first child suffered from a variety of health issues in his early years. This treatment provided significant relief to her children, so she began training in esogetic colorpuncture in 1999. She now holds a diploma in esogetic colorpuncture, which certifies her as an esogetic colorpuncturist, certified in Kirlian energy emission analysis, and many other advanced trainings. Cornelia offers a variety of classes worldwide, from self-help classes to certification training. She moved from Germany to Minneapolis in 2002, and started practicing there. After visiting Vermont and falling in love with its seasons and energy, she relocated there and became the first colorpuncture practitioner in Vermont.

This event is free and open to the public, contact the library at 802-885-3108 with any inquiries, or visit our calendar of events to sign up at www.springfield-townlibrary.org/calendar.

HCRS new staff —

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Health Care and Rehabilitation Services (HCRS), southeastern Vermont's community mental health agency, is pleased to announce the appointment of nine new professionals in the first half of March, whose talents will augment HCRS' services across Windham and Windsor counties.

HCRS welcomes the following new employees: Sandra Schools, DSP employment in Springfield; Megan Lewis, DSP community in Windsor; Lisa Wheeler, DSP community in Windsor; Tori Lambert,

generalist I in Hartford; Tessa Daniels, behavioral interventionist in Springfield; Rianna Villemare, generalist I in Windsor; Alesha Hart, case manager I in Hartford; Luke Papke, behavioral interventionist in Springfield; and Blessed Ngoma, residential specialist at Meadowview.

These new hires will support the nonprofit agency's team of more than 500 staff providing comprehensive mental health, substance use, and developmental disability programs, which serve more than 4,000 individuals annually across southeastern Vermont.



HELP PATIENTS LIKE LEVI FIND THEIR CURE

Join NMDP™ at our registration & swab event to find out more

Levi, bone marrow recipient

For patients with life-threatening blood disorders like leukemia, lymphoma or sickle cell, a cure exists through a blood stem cell donation.

Levi needed a stem cell transplant at age 21 after he was diagnosed with Aplastic Anemia. After finding a donor from the NMDP registry, Levi received the life-saving treatment he needed.

Join the NMDP Registry™ at our upcoming registration and swab event.

Date Saturday, April 20
Time 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Location Kindred Market
 181 South Street
 Springfield, VT 05156

Can't attend the event? Scan the QR code to join the NMDP Registry today!



To learn more, contact Ann Evans at aevans5@nmdp.org.



At Brattleboro Hearing Center your hearing healthcare is our top priority.

Our Doctors of Audiology keep up with the latest technology and our research-driven practices provide the best possible outcomes in the treatment of hearing loss. We're proud to offer personalized, patient-centered care.

We look forward to hearing from you!
 Brattleboro, VT • 802-254-3922
 Swanzey, NH • 603-354-3325
 Greenfield, MA • 413-773-5119

www.BrattleboroHearing.com

INTRODUCING ACCESSA™

Innovative Treatment for Uterine Fibroids

Uterine fibroids are growths that develop on the wall of the uterus. Symptoms may include pelvic or back pain, heavy bleeding, swelling, or infertility. If you are experiencing these or other symptoms, please call for a personal consultation. Prompt appointments available.



Springfield Gynecology
A DEPARTMENT OF SPRINGFIELD HOSPITAL
Where People Come First

25 Ridgewood Road, Springfield, VT 802-885-7561
www.springfieldgynecology.org



Kira Balkcom, MD



Thusitha Cotter, MD

arts & entertainment

Doodle art workshop at WRCP

W. TOWNSHEND, Vt. – The West River Community Project (WRCP) will hold a doodle art workshop on Saturday, April 20, from 2-4 p.m., at WRCP, 6573 Vermont Route 30 in West Townshend. Discover the tranquil artform of meditative doodling, where simple lines and shapes come together to create mesmerizing patterns. Led by our experienced instructor Antje

Ruppert, this workshop will introduce you to the fundamentals of meditative doodling, guiding you through the process of creating your own intricate designs.

Whether you're a seasoned artist or a complete beginner, this workshop is for everyone. Meditative Doodling has many benefits neurologically and spiritually, as you immerse yourself in the calming rhythm

of drawing. Learn how to let go of expectations and embrace the beauty of unplanned creativity.

All materials will be provided for the cost of registration, so just bring yourself and an open mind. Join us for an afternoon of relaxation, creativity, and inspiration.

To register, please call 802-874-4759 or email Antje@Sover.net.

The Vermont Film Festival continues

S. LONDONDERRY, Vt. – On Thursday, April 25, at 7 p.m., at the South Londonderry Depot on Route 100, the Vermont Film Festival will present "Hallelujah the Hills."

Filed in Londonderry, Vt., in 1963, "Hallelujah the Hills" is an absolutely madcap, wacky romp that won acclaim at that year's New York Film Festival. It was not widely distributed, but garnered critical respect for mocking the New Wave cinema of that era.

The story is about two city boys who take to the woods to find the girl they both love, Vera, and find out which of them she will marry. When Vera's father



A still from "Hallelujah the Hills."

PHOTO PROVIDED

gleefully tells them that she married Gideon two months ago because she was tired of waiting for them to ask, the boys take to the wintry woods trying to recall in their flashbacks the reasons for their obsessive attraction to her, while never losing sight of their rivalry.

There is no cost to attend; voluntary donations will be gratefully accepted.

The Vermont Film Festival is a joint venture of the Friends of the West River Trail, the Londonderry Arts and Historical Society, and the Weston Historical Society.

Aleda Bliss at Stage 33 Live

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Aleda Bliss is a Vermont-born and -raised performer, producer, songwriter, and poet. In her first appearance at Stage 33 Live, she presents an exclusive in-the-round listening party for her unreleased new album, "Every Song on This Playlist Is for You," enhanced with performance and projection art.

The album, written on returning to her home state during the pandemic, was coproduced and recorded in Burlington, Vt., with indie-pop producer Chris-

topher Hawthorn. She calls it "a striptease with grief... it's about oppositional force, the way we simultaneously shed and bloom. And the patience that takes. And the tenderness. And the trust."

In a media world that thrives on instant saves and replays, this listening party is an open invitation to sit together and ask the question, "How do we listen with no guaranteed repeat?"

Johnny Gifford and Trevor Robinson will open with largely improvised, unnerving, ambient, treated guitar

and bass, maybe synthesizers, and maybe sax, and probably voice.

Tickets can be purchased in advance through www.stage33live.com, or at the door. Advance tickets guarantee entry. All ticket proceeds go to the performers. The show will take place on Saturday, April 27, at 7 p.m. Stage 33 Live is located at 33 Bridge Street in Bellows Falls, Vt. Admission is limited to 40; the event will be recorded and filmed.

McEachern paintings at MSA

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – Join local artist Ricky McEachern for an open reception for a new gallery show, "SEMITONES," at Main Street Arts (MSA) on Saturday, April 27, from 6-8 p.m. MSA is located at 32 Main Street in Saxtons River.

"SEMITONES" will feature several new oil paintings by McEachern. The show will run from April 25 – May 12. Gallery hours are Saturdays and Sundays, from 1-4:30 p.m. The paintings will be available for purchase.

McEachern shares that, with these works, he sought to express ideas inspired by his recent exposure to music theory and piano.

"A semitone is a musical interval, the smallest building block in western music. As this is sort of a reset of my artwork inspired by music, I wanted to start with the smallest

idea," he said.

"My past work was all representational – reflecting views we may see as we move through the world. This work is abstract, representing ideas and emotions many of us experience as we go through our journey in life," McEachern continued. "I was motivated by learning music theory and piano. Learning these made me realize that emotions and ideas can be evoked in a meaningful, thoughtful manner with abstract visual concepts."

McEachern is a native of Massachusetts, and has also lived in Philadelphia and Chicago. He moved to Saxtons River from Chicago in July 2022. McEachern has a degree in engineering, as well as having art training. He has spent most of his life in New England, where he finds his work inspired by its unique landscapes and

architecture. You can discover more about McEachern and explore his podcast, Eager To Know, and art at www.rickyartist.com.

Main Street Arts' mission is to strengthen personal and community wellbeing through diverse arts experiences and social connection.

For more information about the show or opening, please visit www.mainstreetarts.org, or email galler@mainstreetarts.org.

Avant Vermont Dance's "SEASONS: Spring"

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Avant Vermont Dance (AVD) concludes their yearlong performance series with "SEASONS: Spring" on Saturday, April 20, from 5-6 p.m., at Comtu Cascade Park in Springfield, Vt. Admission to the family-friendly event is by donation.

Avant Vermont Dance's company dancers and the AVD Youth Ensemble will showcase new works of contemporary ballet and modern dance set to the "Spring" movements from "Recomposed by Max Richter: Vivaldi – The Four Seasons," with additional music from Richard Shindell and Bobby McFerrin. Choreography is by Avant Vermont codirector Ashley Hensel-Browning.

Following the performance, nature artist Emily Burkland of Community Art Garden in Chester, Vt., returns to



Dancers perform "SEASONS: Spring." PHOTO PROVIDED

presented as part of Springfield's Downtown Holiday Program.

Funding for "SEASONS" has generously been provided by the Vermont Arts Council, The Byrne Foundation, Claremont Savings Bank Foundation, Springfield Regional Development Corp.,

lead attendees in a sculpture project that will be displayed in the space as a temporary art installation.

Set in various outdoor locations across Springfield's historic downtown, Avant Vermont's yearlong "SEASONS" series was created to serve as a "love letter to place," by exploring the seasons of the community through art. "SEASONS: Summer" debuted in June at Comtu Cascade Park, followed by "SEASONS: Autumn" in September. "SEASONS: Winter" was

ImageTEK, and IVEK, with support from the Town of Springfield, Springfield on the Move, and the Dance Factory.

Springfield-area nonprofit Avant Vermont Dance was founded by Ashley Hensel-Browning and Suzanne Stern, with the aim of reimagining community through movement while engaging the public in meaningful art-making. For more information, or to support Avant Vermont Dance, please visit www.avantvt.com.

Next Stage Arts events

PUTNEY, Vt. – Next Stage Arts is set to host a series of different performances and events. Next Stage is located at 15 Kimball Hill in downtown Putney, Vt. Tickets to events are discounted in advance at www.nextstagearts.org. For information, call 802-387-0102, or visit the website above.

April 20
Next Stage Arts and Twilight Music present roots and folk/rock quintet Session Americana with Eleanor Buckland, plus singer-songwriter Sam Robbins, on Saturday, April 20, at 7:30 pm, at Next Stage. Session Americana is a rock band in a tea cup, or possibly a folk band in a whiskey bottle. The Boston-based band/collective of musician's musicians craft a musical experience unlike any other. Eleanor Buckland has been one-third of the Boston-based folk/rock trio Lula Wiles since 2014. Sam Robbins is often described as an old soul singer-songwriter. A Nashville-based guitarist whose music evokes classic 70s singer-songwriters.

April 26 and 27
Next Stage Arts presents Sara Juli's "Naughty Bits," a dance-play set inside Juli's memories, that examines trauma while finding levity within the tragic. Through movement, text, song, projections, and humor, "Naughty Bits" finds

the forgotten bits, funny bits, and wobbly bits of putting one's mind and body back together. Performances are at Next Stage on Friday, April 26, and Saturday, April 27, at 7:30 pm.

April 28
Next Stage Arts presents an intimate encounter of voice and strings, sounds and cultures, with Duo Andalus, featuring LALA Tamar, on Sunday, April 28, at 7 p.m. "Take a trip through the Mediterranean – flamenco, Ladino, Moroccan, Jewish, Arabic – merging together with Duo Andalus. Lala Tamar's vocal virtuosity blends with Ofer Ronen's flamenco guitar style and oud," says Keith Marks, executive director of Next Stage Arts. "For this show, we may ask audiences to bring a passport."

May 4
Next Stage Arts presents Polish folk music made in Canada with Toronto's Polky, at Next Stage on Saturday, May 4, at 7:30 p.m. Toronto's Polky, led by multi-talented

immigrant female musicians, delights audiences with Eastern European-style traditional vocals, unusual instruments, and energizing performances. Drawing deep inspiration from Poland's rich cultural tapestry, they push musical boundaries by fearlessly blending Polish traditional music with sounds and rhythms from across the globe.

May 9
Next Stage Arts and Twilight Music present singer-songwriter Carsie Blanton at Next Stage on Thursday, May 9, at 7 p.m. Blanton is a songwriter with hooks, chutzpah, and revolutionary optimism. Inspired by artist-activists including Nina Simone and Woody Guthrie, her catalog careens through American popular song, from folk and swing, to pop-punk protest anthems. With her unique mix of humor, soul, and political wit, and more than 15 years on the road, Blanton has amassed a dedicated fan base and a small menagerie of viral hits.

BLACK ROCK STEAKHOUSE
284 River Street • Springfield, VT • 802-885-2200
Open 7 Days a Week, from 12 Noon to Closing
Gift Certificates Available

11:45-9 Mon-Sat and 12-8 Sun
Now Taking Reservations

All Meals are Served with House Salad, Caesar Salad, or Veggie of the Day

Early Bird Specials
\$20.00 SHRIMP & SCALLOPS BROILED OR FRIED
\$16.00 JR. PRIME RIB
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm
Monday - Friday, Excludes Holidays

WESTMINSTER
Community Festival
September 14, 2024.
will feature a display of objects and ideas created by the people of Westminster.
We invite painters, printmakers, sculptors, glassblowers, woodworkers, jewelers, potters, tilemakers, authors, musicians, quilters, weavers....

ANYONE who produces from their head, heart and hands to make the world and our community a more beautiful and special place.

CREATIVE COMMUNITY COLLAGE

We'll share your vision with the public at an exhibition in the Westminster Institute during the festival.
Participation is free and open to Westminster residents.

If you would like to participate or want more information please contact kathy.traugott@comcast.net

FLOWER, PREROLLS, EDIBLES, CARTRIDGES, AND BEVERAGES

Proudly working with dozens of quality Vermont cannabis farms!

Monday-Friday 10-7
Saturday 10-6
Sunday 10-4

25 Depot Ave, Windsor, VT

DEPOTSHOPVT.COM
FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM

Cannabis has not been analyzed or approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). For use by individuals 21 years of age and older or registered qualifying patient only. KEEP THIS PRODUCT AWAY FROM CHILDREN AND PETS. DO NOT USE IF PREGNANT OR BREAST-FEEDING. Possession or use of cannabis may carry significant legal penalties in some jurisdictions and under federal law. It may not be transported outside of the state of Vermont. The effects of edible cannabis may be delayed by two hours or more. Cannabis may be habit forming and can impair concentration, coordination, and judgment. Persons 25 years and younger may be more likely to experience harm to the developing brain. It is against the law to drive or operate machinery when under the influence of this product. National Poison Control Center 1-800-222-1222.

Spring HOME & GARDEN

Springfield Garden Club hears reasons to love trees

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Tuesday, April 9, John Snell gave a talk entitled “So Many Reasons to Love Trees,” at the Nolin-Murray Center in Springfield. The talk was cosponsored by the Springfield Garden Club (SGC) and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI), a continuing-education program with the University of Vermont. There were 72 people in attendance, including 22 garden club members, guests, or spouses; 14 were members of both the SGC and OLLI.

John Snell is a retired Vermont businessman and active photographer, and has served on the Montpelier Tree Board for over 20 years. He spoke about the different ways to look at, identify, and appreciate trees, as well as their fiscal,



SGC member Marita Johnson introduces speaker John Snell.

PHOTO PROVIDED

environmental, and psychological benefits. He also passed around twig samples of some budding and fruiting trees. Many people approached him afterwards, eager to share their stories of favorite trees.

This is the 20th year that the SGC has cosponsored talks with OLLI. The speaker was introduced by Marita Johnson, who has

been facilitator for the OLLI programs since the beginning of the partnership. She is also a Golden Trowel member of the SGC, and has served as a liaison between the two groups while serving on the garden club's program committee.

For more information on the SGC, visit their web page at www.springfieldgardenclub.org, or their Facebook page, “Springfield Garden Club of Vermont.” More information on OLLI's programs in Springfield can be found at www.learn.uvm.edu/olli/springfield.

How to green your home for maximum savings

StatePoint – Whether you own or rent the place you call home, ensuring that it's energy efficient can help you save money, increase your comfort, and contribute to improved indoor air quality. It's also better for the planet.

To help you make choices that will trim your monthly expenses and reduce your carbon footprint, here are a few tips:

Home-searching tips

When house hunting, your realtor can help you learn about the current energy usage of the homes you're interested in purchasing. If you're explicitly looking for green housing, it's helpful to work with a professional with specific expertise or credentials in this area.

Whether you're in the market to buy or rent, basic energy and water-saving features to check for when visiting properties include good insulation,

properly sealed doors and windows, smart thermostats, low-flow or dual-flush toilets, high-efficiency or tankless hot water heaters, and front-loading washing machines. The ENERGY STAR and WaterSense labels are good indicators that the property, and the appliances within it, are designed with efficiency in mind. You should also consider which direction the building faces, and whether it's shaded. The amount of direct sunlight your potential home receives can have a large impact on your HVAC needs.

Making updates

There are many steps you can take to improve your home's energy and water efficiency. If you're unsure where to start, consider referencing the Department of Energy's data-driven tools and calculators. You could also hire a professional to perform an energy audit. This will pinpoint where you're losing energy and what renovations will save you money.

Some quick DIY updates to make right now include caulking window casings, weather-stripping doors, replacing incandescent light bulbs with LEDs, and installing low-flow faucets and showerheads. Additional money-saving updates include installing a smart, programmable thermostat, replacing older appliances, and installing a tankless hot water heater.

The return

You may be asking yourself whether all this effort is worth it. Up-to-date, energy- and water-efficient technologies can save you 20-30% on your bills. And because today's savvy buyers are looking for a home that will be kind to both their wallet and the environment, efficiency improvements can also boost resale value.

There are no doubt long-term savings and gains to be reaped from greening your home. And thanks to new programs, paying for these updates is easier for more American families.

Vermont's Largest Farm Stand Garden Center & Nursery
Fresh pies and award winning cider donuts made daily!

Visit us: Exit 5 off I-91
 Route 5 South, Westminster, Vermont
 802-722-3395 • allenbrothersfarms.com

Open 7 days a week: Mon-Sat 6 a.m.-8 p.m. • Sun 7 a.m.-8 p.m.

Barn buddies

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Even though the groundhog lied to us, spring weather really is around the corner, and we have some Barn Buddies seeking employment. We currently have eight rodent control technicians that are out of work. They only ask for a dry place to sleep and some food. All are fixed, vaccinated, FIV/FeLV tested, and ready to rid your outdoor buildings of vermin.

For more information on adopting a pair or more, call 802-885-3997, or fill out a Barn Buddy application at www.spfldhumane.org.

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



www.spfldhumane.org

BK SKIDDING LOGGING AND EXCAVATING

Logging, Burning Brush, Culvert Repair, Stump Removal, Lot Clearing

74 Logan Drive
 Chester, VT
 OFFICE 802-875-1837

OWNER/OPERATOR
 BRIEN
 CELL 802-376-9751

ONE STOP FOR ALL YOUR BUILDING NEEDS

DEPOT HOME CENTER

SPRING LAWN & GARDEN NEEDS
 LUMBER, BUILDING MATERIALS, HARDWARE, TOOLS
 PAINT SHOP & SUPPLIES

Reg & Jan Bailey, Owners
 Box 390, 56 Depot St. • Charlestown, NH 03603
 Tel: 603-826-3251 • Fax: 603-826-5336
 Open 7 Days a Week

GREATER FALLS INSURANCE
servicing VT and NH since 1996

Home • Auto • Farm • Business
 Motorcycle • Recreational Vehicles

7190 US Route 5 • Westminster, VT 05158
 802-463-1900 • www.greaterfallsinsurance.com

J&H HARDWARE
HARDWARE, PAINT, HOUSEWARES, ELECTRICAL & PLUMBING

802-463-4140 | Online Service: 855-828-9792
 20 Village Square, Bellows Falls, VT

YOU NEED IT ... WE HAVE IT

CHECK OUT OUR PRODUCTS FOR YOUR PROJECTS

COMPLETE SEPTIC SYSTEM MANAGEMENT
It's Tough to Beat the Best

BEST SEPTIC SERVICE

Tank Locating - Pumping - Inspections
 Repairs - Jetting - Snaking
 Portable Toilets - Handwashing Stations
 Restaurant Grease Traps

SPRING IS COMING, BOOK EARLY FOR YOUR PUMPING & PORTABLE TOILET NEEDS BEFORE YOUR SUMMER BBQ

802-463-9444
 Westminster, VT • www.bestsepticvt.net

Love WHERE YOU LIVE

Purchase • Refinance • Renovation

Victoria Blodgett
 NMLS# 179656 | Senior Loan Officer
 802-975-0350 | vblodgett@primelending.com
www.vbprimelending.com

Your Home Loan Lender of Choice
 126 Main St #1C
 Ludlow, VT 05149

PrimeLending

State Farm
 HOME & AUTO INSURANCE

Jerry Farnum, Agent
 802-885-2939
jerry.farnum.e1ar@statefarm.com
 13 Clinton St. Springfield, VT

Thank you for your loyalty. We appreciate you.

Come visit our **Beautiful Kitchen Showroom!**

The Best Home Improvement Value!
 Come Visit us Today to See all of our Kitchen Selections!

KraftMaid
 Has more than 40 years experience building quality, customized cabinetry

Medallion
 Builds beautiful and functional crafted cabinets inspired by and personalized for your lifestyle

LaValley BUILDING SUPPLY, INC.
 Jeff Schneider | jschneider@lavalleys.com
 182 Pleasant St. | Ludlow, VT | (802) 228-4665

WW Building Supply

Big projects or small improvements, we're ready to help!

Send us a project question! We have the knowledge and customer service you want. We provide the right solutions and we're building relationships within our community.

55 YEARS STRONG 1969 - 2024

Proud To Be **Local** Est. 1969

Ready to meet with us? Reach out to Phil today!

Text or Call (802)-289-9787
phil@wwbuilding.com

wwbuilding.com
hello@wwbuilding.com