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Springfield prioritizes public safety at demo appeals meeting

BY PAULA BENSON
The Shopper

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Monday, April 15, the Springfield Selectboard heard appeals from Community Restoration Corps Inc. (CRC), the owner of three properties deemed unsafe by the board and ordered to be demolished. The properties are located at 52 Valley Street, 67 Furnace Street, and 105 Clinton Street, in Springfield.

In addition to board members, attending the meeting were town manager Jeff Mobus and town attorney Steve Ankuda. Fire Chief and health officer Paul Stagner, Deputy Health Officer John Clafin, and structural engineer Todd Hindinger were in attendance representing the inspection committee, the team responsible for inspecting each of the properties.

Speaking on behalf of CRC was Will Hunter. SAPA TV recorded the meeting as a document of record.

Ankuda walked everyone through the format of the meeting, explaining that the “substance of the testimony” would come from Hindinger, who would review his engineer’s report and discuss his findings. Ankuda added that Hunter would then be welcome to “cross examine anybody that he wants about any of this.”

Hindinger began speaking about 52 Valley Street, reporting that planning and zoning administrator Chuck Wise had participated in the inspections. Wise was also at the meeting.

Hindinger presented a list of issues he described as

“dangerous,” and “liable to cause injury or damage by collapsing.” These included such things as a rotting roof with loose and broken slate, leaving the building open to the elements. Hindinger mentioned buckling interior walls, and chimneys deteriorating to the point of being cracked and leaning over the side. His report cautioned the fire department that they should not enter the structure until the competence of the floors can be confirmed. The list continued with several more entries.

His conclusion was that the cost to repair the structure, making it sound, stable, and up to all codes and permitting requirements would greatly exceed – between three to six times – the value of the property.

Hunter then addressed the board, saying, “I’m not quite sure how these three properties got picked. You drive around town and see a lot of others...I’m not sure if they have been issued orders and nobody’s appealed, but...” He mentioned a specific property further down on Valley Street that had been a recurring topic of concern as an example.

Of 52 Valley, Hunter said, “This building does not seem to me to pose an imminent threat to the public.” He asked the board to consider allowing him more time.

Board Chair Kristi Morris responded to Hunter’s comments by stating that, since he’s been on the board, they have addressed “well over a dozen properties,” and some of them did go through a full appeal process through

the courts. “Ultimately the town did win in the courts, and we were able to take down those structures.”

Morris continued, “We just met as a selectboard last Monday night, and approved a bid for taking down three properties in town. One of them is on Valley Street.”

“We have received complaints about these three structures,” Morris concluded, “and that’s why we are here this evening.”

Board member Michael Martin asked Hunter to confirm that, in the 90 days since the order was issued, no additional structural engineers or estimates were made to get estimates for repairs and remediation. Hunter confirmed.

Hunter explained that CRC has gone through the first round of grant applications for the Vermont Housing Improvement Program (VHIP), and the second round just opened up. However, with a total amount of \$50,000, some on the board questioned whether that would cover the cost of reconstruction.

Mobus interjected, noting he was not “offering testimony,” but asked whether granting this extension to CRC would amplify further risk. Mobus wondered, for instance, if the building could withstand more rain this summer, or another load of snow next winter.

See **DEMO** on Page 2

Fit Body Boot Camp speaks of commitment and community

BY JOE MILLIKEN
The Shopper

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – Located at the Allen Brothers complex on Route 5 in Westminster, Fit Body Boot Camp (FBBC) is a facility specializing in 30-minute, weight loss boot camps designed to challenge the body and deliver results in a positive and supportive atmosphere.

Owned and operated by Bellows Falls Union High School graduate Sarah Dumont, the facility had originally been launched by her mother Lisa Dumont, a fitness instructor who, in 2006, had moved with her family to the area from northern California.

In 2009, Lisa had started working out at a local facility called Ripples, and before long was organizing her own fitness sessions, and then started offering evening sessions at the local gymnastics facility called Le Studio.

In 2011, during the aftermath of Hurricane Irene, as the community was rebuilding, Lisa had stumbled upon the FBBC franchise program online. After making a connection with the owner of a local business facility, she had found the location to launch her business, in exchange for completely



The Fit Body Boot Camp leaders.

PHOTO PROVIDED

rebuilding and renovating the space for the owner.

When Lisa’s FBBC finally opened, it immediately began to grow and thrive under her leadership, which included the opening of a second facility in West Lebanon, N.H., as well. However, an unthinkable tragedy would strike in 2019, as Lisa was diagnosed with cancer. Her daughter Sarah then left her job in Boston to come home and be with her mom and family, and help the business.

Sadly, after Lisa lost her battle with cancer in 2021, Sarah was determined to keep her mother’s strong legacy and her business alive, by taking ownership and leadership of the Fit Body Boot Camp her mom had worked so hard to create.

“The biggest obstacle for me was the immense responsibility that comes with

becoming a leader,” Sarah Dumont said in a recent interview. “I came into this opportunity without understanding the fundamental philosophy of leadership: it’s all about the people. When you are a leader, you are no longer responsible for doing the job; you are now responsible for inspiring, coaching, mentoring, and motivating your team to produce their very best work and reach their full potential.”

With Fit Body, it’s definitely about the people. Peggy Jellie has been a FBBC member since 2019. “I had colleagues trying to get me to join FBBC, and I kept telling them that I’d probably die if I joined. Long story short, I won a 21-day pass and figured okay, if I don’t like it, I can just quit. Well, here I am five years later and still going strong. I love the

See **FIT** on Page 2

Springfield Rotary earns two more Trex benches

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – As a reward for Springfield residents collecting more than a ton of thin-film plastics for the Trex Thin Film Plastics Challenge, the Trex Company (Trex) provided the Springfield Rotary Club with two outdoor benches that were placed at the bus stop on Main Street in Springfield.

The Rotary Club entered the Trex Thin Film Plastics Challenge in February of 2023 on behalf of the Springfield community, placing a Trex bin in the Springfield Town Library. In addition, thin-film plastic was collected at McGee CDJR of Springfield, Springfield Hospital, and the Springfield Food Co-op. Since that time, Springfield residents have been avidly pitching in to recycle their share of thin-film plastics, diverting over 4,100 pounds (i.e. over two tons) of thin-film plastics from the waste stream.

The challenge is part of the Trex Recycling Program, aimed at encouraging the public to

recycle their grocery bags, bread bags, produce bags, cereal bags, ice bags, case overwrap, bubble wrap, dry cleaning bags, Ziploc and other resealable bags, and similar bags and wrap for other objects. If the sponsoring group’s participants collect 1,000 pounds of thin-film plastics, Trex will send the group a Trex Outdoor Furniture 48-inch Yacht Club Bench. Trex does not manufacture the benches, they are a purchased gift for meeting the minimum requirement in the program. The plastic that is turned in is being upcycled into Trex decking (www.trex.com). The benches are part of the Trex-branded furniture line through Polywood (www.trexpolywood.com). Polywood uses milk jugs and water bottles to manufacture their furniture.

These are the fifth and sixth benches that have been donated. The first two can be found at The Common, the third at the Park Street School overlooking the Kingsbury House, and the fourth at the North Springfield Bog Trailhead.

Volunteers from the Springfield Rotary Club and

from the Springfield Town Library collect and weigh the bags, report the bags’ weight to Trex, and deliver the bags to Trex’s closest participating drop-off retailer location, Shaw’s Supermarket in Springfield.

The Trex bin will remain in place at the Springfield Town Library. The Springfield Rotary Club has partnered with Friends of Springfield Town Library, the Union Park Neighborhood Association, the Black River Action Team (BRAT), and Springfield On The Move (SOM). Working with the Friends of Springfield Town Library, Springfield Rotary Club has launched another Challenge to earn an additional outdoor bench for the Springfield community.

The benches are dedicated to the 95th anniversary of the Springfield Rotary.

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

Field trip to 2016 Saxtons River riparian restoration site

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – In May 2016, the Windham County Natural Resources Conservation District worked with the Rockingham Conservation Commission and local volunteers, including AmeriCorps members, to plant several hundred native trees along the Saxtons River in Rockingham. The site was a FEMA buyout, a 3.4-acre parcel that had three mobile homes on it before it was flooded during Hurricane Irene in 2011. FEMA wanted to prevent rebuilding on a flood-prone site, so they bought the land from the owners and gave it to the town, with the stipulation that nothing be built there. Some of the volunteers had lost their houses during Irene. The planting was done to improve wildlife habitat, help stabilize the soil in future flooding of the site, and help discourage the growth of inva-



Volunteers planting trees at the site on May 6, 2016.
PHOTO PROVIDED

sive Japanese knotweed. This field trip, led by RCC members who were part of the 2016 effort, will revisit the site to see how the trees and knotweed have changed since the planting, and explain the dynamics of riparian restoration. The site has poison ivy, a brook, and some dense brush with thorns, so participants should wear long sleeves and pants and tall rubber boots if possible,

and tick repellent. Please park along Barbers Park Road, which is just east of the field-trip site; please do not park along Route 121 (Saxtons River Road), because it has no shoulder.

If you have questions, contact Rockingham Conservation Commission member Peter Bergstrom at 802-444-1860 or rockinghamvtenergy@gmail.com.

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Book discussion at Rockingham Library

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Pick up a copy of the short story “Allah Have Mercy” by Mohammed Naseehu Ali, and join the discussion about it on Monday, May 6, at 3 p.m. The story features a 12-year-old boy, Yaro, trying to stay in his Uncle Asama’s good graces. This proves difficult to do, for

Asama often flies into unpredictable, violent rages, with Yaro as his target. Will Yaro finally figure out how to please his uncle, or will a concerned adult stand up to Asama and stop the violence?

It’s surprising how many personal connections can be made reading this compact

form of literature. Large-print copies are available too. The Rockingham Library will meet on the first Monday of each month to discuss a different short story. For more information, email programming@rockinghamlibrary.org, or call the library at 802-463-4270.

Cinco de Mayo Vegan Celebration

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Join us for a celebration of vegan Mexican food on Cinco de Mayo (Sunday, May 5), from 1-3 p.m., in the Huber Building, 80 Main Street in downtown Springfield, Vt. It’s easy to make Mexican food with just plants and minerals. We are asking people to bring either their favorite vegan Mexican dish, or ingredients for tacos or burritos. Vegan desserts are always welcome. Some ideas include: tortillas, salsa, refried beans, plant-based fajitas, guaca-

mole, chopped scallions and sweet peppers, sliced olives, plant-based cheese, and vegan sour cream, and leafy greens. If you can’t bring plant-based food to share, come anyway. We usually have plenty of food.

We have been holding vegan potlucks in Springfield since August of 2022, and we always have great food and company. Right after Thanksgiving in 2022, we had only four people attend, and we have recently had gatherings of 15-21 people. We tend to have a

great mix of people from Springfield and surrounding towns, and a combination of people who are strongly committed to a plant-based diet, and people who are just open to trying it. Ages range from 2 to over 80 years. Most people bring food to share, but if you can’t afford it this month or just can’t imagine what to eat that doesn’t have animal products in it, just bring yourself. We usually have plenty of food to share.

SRDC director Community Conversation

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Springfield Town Library is excited to announce its upcoming Community Conversation featuring Bob Flint, the executive director of Springfield Regional Development Corporation (SRDC).

“Ask SRDC: What’s Happening in and for Springfield?” will offer the chance to ask questions and receive updates on the latest events and initiatives in the area.

The in-person event will be held on Thursday, May 9, at 6 p.m., at the

Springfield Town Library, 43 Main Street, Springfield, Vt. Residents are invited to join and connect with fellow community members, share their thoughts, and stay informed about the work of Springfield Regional Development Corporation. Topics of discussion will include, but are not limited to, questions about the J&L site, Parks & Woolson building, and Park Street School, among others.

Springfield Regional Development Corporation is a private, nonprofit regional development organization

serving towns in southern Windsor County, Vt. Their services include guidance with site location, financing, training, permits, and commercial site development, in collaboration with local, regional, state, and federal partners.

Community Conversations are an opportunity for the citizens to ask questions and get answers. For more information about this event, or to suggest other topics, call the library at 802-885-3108, or email springfieldlibrary@hotmail.com.

Butterfield Library new director

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – Alison Baitz has been hired as the new director of the Butterfield Library in Westminster, Vt. She starts work on May 20.

Baitz received her Master of Arts in children’s literature, and Master of Science in library and information science from Simmons University satellite programs, located in South Hadley and Amherst, Mass. She

has worked in a variety of library settings, and enjoys every aspect of the work.

Outside of libraries, Baitz is deeply involved with Art+Feminism, an organization dedicated to closing information gaps related to gender, feminism, and the arts, largely through editing Wikipedia.

She also maintains a sporadic self-publishing practice, and enjoys knitting in her spare time.

“I’m really looking forward to meeting the wonderful people of Westminster and beyond, and cannot wait to share my ideas and enthusiasm with the community,” Baitz said.

Baitz takes over from Linda Fawcett, who is retiring after 37 years as librarian for the Butterfield Library. Stop by an open house at the institute on Thursday, May 30, from 3-6 p.m., to wish Linda well.

Springfield May Farmers Market

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Celebrate May by joining us at the Springfield Farmers Market’s second indoor

event on Saturday, May 11, from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., at the United Methodist Church in downtown Springfield,

Vt. As the summer holidays approach, shop for natural meats, artisan breads, and luscious confections to celebrate mom. Beeswax candles, delicately crafted one-of-a-kind gifts, free-range

eggs, pies, natural honey, kitchen necessities, jams, jellies, pickles, relishes, and a wide selection of maple products are all available.

On Saturday, June 1, the Springfield Farmers Market will open for the season

at its outdoor location on Clinton Street. The Market runs every Saturday, from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., rain or shine, except for Saturday, June 15, when Clinton Street hosts the Springfield High School Alumni Pa-

rade. We have grass, ample and safe parking, and several new vendors. There is plenty of room, so if you are interested in being a vendor, contact us at sfog@vermontel.net and we will help you get started.

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DEMO

From Page 1

Chief Stagner added that, from his perspective, they need to restrict anyone from entering the building, and protect the public from anything that might happen with this building.

Vice Chair Michael Martin made note of the fact that CRC has owned the property for four years and “virtually nothing has been done to secure the building beyond locking the doors, and securing a couple of floor joints.”

Morris told Hunter, “I

would feel much more comfortable if you had a plan, either contractors, or estimates.” Morris said he was sensitive to the fact that VHIP just came out, but said there is a timeframe involved with that as well.

67 Furnace Street was up for discussion next. Once again, Hinderger read through a list of his findings for this property, which included faulty construction, potential collapse, neglect, destruction either partially or totally by fire, decayed filth, and vermin infestation. He stated that the building had been in violation of the Unsafe Building

Ordinance for a long time. “The structure is dangerous so as to constitute a material menace danger in any way to the adjacent property or to the public,” Hinderger’s report found.

Hunter responded that this is the same situation as with the previous property, and they were working with VHIP funds to begin planning renovation.

Chief Stagner told Hunter he appreciated his vision and hoped something could come of that, but something needed to be done right away. Stagner remarked that there is a playground less than 100 yards away from

the property.

Regarding 105 Clinton Street, Mobus stated that he believed the owner had already complied with their orders for the property, and Stagner confirmed. Hunter told the board his reasons for appealing this property pertained to the timeframe for repairs, but said it is vacant and secured.

After coming out of their deliberative session, the selectboard noted no action would be taken at this time.

The full engineer’s report can be found on the town website, www.springfieldvt.gov, within the packet for the April 15 meeting.

FIT

From Page 1

support I get from all the coaches, and the workouts are never the same. If you can’t do certain exercises, the coaches are great about modifying the exercise so you get the best workout possible.”

Craig Mellish is a Fit Body member since 2011.

“I first learned about the boot camp when a colleague at work said I should try it, which I did, and I’ve been going there for 13 years now. Since joining, I’ve learned that I like, or even need, to be told what to do when working out. Going to other gyms over the years, I could spend a lot of time thinking about what I was going to do or wasting time waiting to use certain equipment.

But with boot camp, that’s not an issue. They tell you what you’re going to be doing, and for the 35 minutes there’s no wasted gym time, and the classes are different every day.

“There’s also a sense of community that started with Lisa and her husband Marc, and continues now with their daughter Sarah. That sense of community has gotten me doing things that I might not have otherwise done, like running 5Ks, helping families in need during the holidays, and picking up trash on the side of the road. All stuff that keeps me coming back year

after year.”

Sarah and her coaches continue to grow and thrive, challenging their members to strive and be the healthiest people they can be.

“As we continue to grow as an organization, both in Fit Family members and teammates,” Sarah concluded, “I am committed to the continued exploration of opportunities that allow me to use my business as a vehicle for changing the health and consciousness of our planet in a positive way. I’ve started to uncover my passion for engaging our team and clients in collective efforts that will facilitate said change.”

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Wild brook trout

BY RON PATCH

802-374-0119
ronpatch27@gmail.com

Well, trout season is here. I'll wait until the water warms up, maybe another two weeks, before I go. I have spoken with a couple fishermen I know. They report some success.

Small brooks and beaver ponds

There are a couple small brooks in the area I like to fish, but nothing beats a 2- or 3-year old beaver pond. I mention beaver ponds for a reason. Trout grow rapidly in a beaver pond. Trout 3 or 4 inches in length the first year the dam is built can be 8 inches the next year.

After a number of years, submerged vegetation and branches stripped of bark by beavers begin to decompose, creating stagnant water. It seems this water is too toxic for trout to sur-

vive. I know of several beaver ponds like this in the area.

I use a short spinning rod of very light action. Short is easier to manage along a wooded brook or a brushy beaver pond. My rod is so light that a 4-inch trout provides some lively action. How these little trout thrash and wiggle as you pull them out of the water, and how they glisten in the sunlight. Seriously, on my light-action rod, their thrashing almost feels like an electric current!

The photo with this article shows what two Windham brothers caught one day. The photo probably dates to 1907. At the bottom of the photo are a number of trout that have been dressed and are ready for cooking. Above are about 50 trout on a stringer. This was a very successful day.

The trout at top center

might be 12 inches long. They vary in length, maybe down to 5 or 6 inches. I'm sure many of these trout were caught in a beaver pond. What fun!

Preparing a feast

I fish for small trout, maybe 3-4 inches long, for a reason. First, make sure they are clean. On the inside, along the backbone, is a dark-colored substance. With your thumbnail, this is easily removed. Dad taught me how to dress trout. If you run your finger from the head to the body, you will feel a small dimple behind the head. This is where you remove the head. No waste this way.

I'll go out and pick a bunch of dandelions. I soak them in the sink a couple hours, swishing them around to remove any sand. Once cleaned, I steam 'til tender, sprinkle with vinegar, and a little salt and

pepper. Others sauté dandelions with garlic in olive oil. If you use any fertilizers or chemicals on your lawn, don't eat those dandelions. I like small red potatoes that I quarter and roast in the oven with olive oil and seasoning.

The trout I lightly sprinkle with flour. Try not to get flour on the inside. In a cast iron skillet I heat butter, not olive oil. When the skillet is hot enough, drop the trout in. You'll notice fresh caught trout curl up in the skillet. Turn them over for another two minutes or so. I like the skin and tails crunchy. They really are a delicacy. A slice of warm strawberry rhubarb pie with vanilla ice cream on the side is a happy ending. I'm not a pie maker.



Trout caught by two Windham men, circa 1907.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY RON PATCH

Chester fishing derby

The annual Chester Rod and Gun Club Fishing Derby is Saturday, May 11, from 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. Danny and I have been attending this derby for years. We have fun watching the kids. Of course it reminds us of our youth.

I try not to interfere, but I could offer some suggestions to improve your kid's chances. In some cases parents admit they don't

know how to fish. This is not shameful. If you fall in this category, and want tips or instructions, I would be happy to assist. All you have to do is ask. I know Danny would offer instruction too.

This week's old saying I once heard in regard to Vermont fish and game laws. "Fish and game laws are for nonresidents. For residents these laws are only suggestions."

Adventure begins at the Rockingham Library

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – As the weather begins to warm up, the Rockingham Free Public Library invites you to find adventure this spring – starting at the li-

brary. The library is pleased to be launching a new outdoor, immersive experience throughout the village and history called "Bellows Falls in Time."

Part scavenger hunt and part history lesson, all anyone needs to play is a cell phone. Bellows Falls in Time begins in front of the library by texting "Hello" to a number, or scanning a QR code, both available at the library, to start receiving messages from someone lost in time who



Main Street in Bellows Falls showing the old town hall.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Ludlow Fishing Derby

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Black River Valley Rod and Gun Club will hold its annual Youth Fishing Derby on May 11, at Cook's Pond, on Rod and Gun Club Road in Ludlow, for kids ages 3-15. Sign up begins at 8 a.m., and fishing is from 9-11 a.m. There are three age brackets – ages 3-5, ages 6-10, and ages 11-15.

needs to visit historic locations in the village to remember who they are, and why Bellows Falls is important to them. Participants will need to have their cell phone sounds up, answer their phone or check their messages, and click the links to find the clues, get instructions on where to go, and solve the mystery.

The game was developed with help from the community. Says youth services librarian Sam Howard, "One aspect of designing this that I enjoyed was being able to include other organizations, like the historical society and Rockingham for Progress, as well as other individuals who lent their voices and talent to making

the game more interesting."

This project is made possible through a program called "Engaging Beyond Our Walls," with funding and support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, Playful City Lab, and American University Game Center. The library now joins a small group of libraries nationally offering community game-based programming. The goal of this game is to connect the community more deeply to our neighborhoods and our history. For more information about this program, email youthservices@rockinghamlibrary.org, call 802-463-4270, go to www.rockinghamlibrary.org, or visit the library at 65 Westminster Street in Bellows Falls, Vt.

Saxtons River Fishing Derby

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – The Saxtons River Recreation Area will hold its annual fishing derby on Saturday, May 4, at the ponds on Pleasant Valley Road. Registration begins at 8 a.m., with fishing starting at 8:30 a.m.

Adults are responsible for providing their children with all the gear, bait, and assistance need-

ed while at the derby. Trophy prizes will be given for first fish, biggest fish, and most fish.

Donations towards expenses and snacks will be accepted at the derby, and volunteers of all ages are needed and can contact derby organizers at saxtonsriverra@gmail.com, or through the Saxtons River Rec Facebook page.

Vermont Historical Society Local Societies and Museums Conference

REGION – The Vermont Historical Society is pleased to announce this year's League of Local Historical Societies and Museums annual conference will take place at Hotel Coolidge in White River Junction on May 10. Now in its 70th year, the event is the state's largest gathering of local history and museum professionals.

This year's theme is titled "Now & Then." What has changed in the last 70 years for local historical societies and museums, and what has stayed the same? A report from the first conference notes that organizations should have "a real story to tell," and emphasized the importance of "attracting the interest of children and

young people," which might sound familiar to many of us today.

Presenters and attendees will explore some of the bedrocks of doing local history, and ways to accomplish them today, learn more

about how we can utilize the impending 250th anniversary of the U.S. as a rallying point in our own communities, and learn from the experts in our ever-popular, practical, and hands-on sessions.

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community news

Lisa Murray at River Artisan Cooperative

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The River Artisan Cooperative in Bellows Falls is excited to welcome a new member to our roster. Lisa Murray is a well-known local artist, whose work is in many shops and galleries in this region, and we are delighted to have her things among our offerings. These include beautiful marbled silk scarves and candles. Lisa also does painting with alcohol inks, a creative process which produces unique images which she puts on box paintings.

School for many years. She did marbling with her students, and in her last year there also worked with the alcohol ink process with her students. She loved teaching these older students, and now in her retirement she has become a working artist and branched out with her own work. Her paintings are often seasonal, representing our Vermont landscapes and views.



Paintings by new RAC member Lisa Murray. PHOTO PROVIDED

Come visit us and enjoy our rich array of artistic crafts. We're the perfect shop for finding made-in-Vermont gifts. The River Artisan Cooperative shop is located at 28 Village Square in Bellows Falls. We are open Thursday-Monday, from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. For more information, visit www.riverartisanscooperative.com, or call 802-591-2085.

“JFK’s Reliance on Proverbs” at OLLI

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Professor Wolfgang Mieder will present “Freedom is Indivisible: John F. Kennedy’s Reliance on Proverbs” for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) on May 7, at 2 p.m., at the Nolin Murray Center, next to St. Mary’s Church on Pleasant Street in Springfield.

Mieder, University of Vermont (UVM) German and proverb professor emeritus, will weave the story of how President John F. Kennedy effectively used Biblical and folk proverbs for rhetorical prowess in his speeches. JFK was also able to create his own moralistic remarks that have become proverbial, such as, “Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country,” from his memorable inaugural address of Jan. 20, 1961. His oral and written messages are replete with proverbial wisdom that adds a certain traditional authority to his speeches and writings.

The maritime proverb “a rising tide lifts all boats” was clearly one of his favorite expressions. Its metaphor served him well to express his optimistic worldview, and his commitment to the wellbeing of not only the American nation, but the world community, where everybody is in the same boat and rowing as a team towards a future of equality, freedom, and peace.

Professor Mieder is one of the OLLI group’s favorite speakers, because of his extensive knowledge and engaging presentation style. He loves to come to Springfield, and enjoys the welcoming OLLI audience.

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 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.

This is the final program of the spring semester. Many interesting programs are planned for the fall semester, which begins on Sept. 17. Descriptions and registration will be available online in mid-August.

Pets: Roxy and Peaches

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Roxy and Peaches are two beautiful girls looking for loving homes. Peaches might be a collie or sheltie mix, and is 6 months old. Roxy is an 8-month-old shepherd mix. These sweet puppies love people and other dogs. To come fall in love with one, the Springfield Humane Society is open Wednesday-Saturday, from 12-4 p.m., or



call 802-885-3997 for more information. Join us May 11, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., in front of Shaw’s, for our annual Mother’s Day Bake Sale and Basket Raffle. You can bid on baskets online now. Check out the event on our Facebook page for more information.

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

New business in conflict consulting

REGION – “No conflict too big or too small. You can always find a middle ground,” Tom Salmon, certified public accountant (CPA), quips as he describes the business he started called The Flat Table, using his experience

as a certified dispute resolver, CPA, and Master of Arts in conflict resolution. “Helping people get traction when they are stuck and take simple – not easy – actions toward resolution is very rewarding work,” Salmon adds. Spending 21 years in the Navy Seabees, Salmon learned the importance of a “can do” attitude where a solution will be found for every problem.

Salmon works with seniors and families with life care decisions, property division, elder care decisions, neighbors, and businesses that need to work on sensitive matters. “It’s really a grab bag of important matters. People are wanting to brainstorm, bounce off ideas, have a facilitator, rather than get the legal system involved,” Salmon states.

One of the fastest-growing areas of conflict resolution guidance is related to adult children. Issues like employment, housing, transportation, finances, and health have fallen onto more parents and guardians these days, and our service helps people get a handle on the real, not apparent, state of affairs. We make no judgements, and our work is confidential. Clarity is the primary focus, and The Flat Table partners with other professionals when warranted, to get folks to optimal stability.

For a free consultation, call or text Tom at 802-535-1555, or go to www.theflattable.com.

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Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦♦

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

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- Scene stealer
- Pilgrimage to Mecca
- Auction
- Carte lead-in
- Pakistani language
- Carrier's partner
- Florida city
- Clothing store section
- Intimidates, with "out"
- Apprehend
- Shade
- Pictures
- Throat affliction
- Sault — Marie
- Fib
- Cobra feature
- IRS employee
- Exceptional
- Mornings, briefly
- "Oy —!"
- Duck down
- "Pop Goes the —"
- Evening hrs.
- Chopping tool
- Portugal's place
- Apple computers
- Hit song by Shawn

DOWN

- Door fastener
- Regrettably
- Creche figure
- "Quiet!"
- Stood
- Banned pesticide
- "Walk on the Wild Side"
- The Lion King" lion
- "Hall!"
- Actor Cariou
- Curved letter
- Yearned
- Soul, to Camus (Abbr.)
- Pleased
- Green land
- Crystal gazer
- "Candida"
- playwright
- Hefty book
- Activist Parks
- Covert agent
- Piano's cousin
- Stair part
- Puzzle
- Represent
- Malia's sister
- Wine grape
- TV host Kelly
- Slanted type (Abbr.)
- Org. for seniors
- Coffee holder
- "Caught ya!"
- Gear tooth
- Goof up

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CHURCH SERVICES

obituaries

Rocco Mittica, 2024

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Rocky was one of two boys born to Rocco and Rose Mittica in Hillsville, Pa. Rocco's father migrated from Calabria, Italy, in 1906, with his mother Rose coming a few years later.

At the age of 12, Rocky became a barber, as did his brother Nick, in their father's barber shop. During World War II, this skill came in handy, as Rocky cut hair as a Navy man on the Philippine Sea aircraft carrier, even cutting Admiral Rickover's hair more than once.

In 1946, he left the Navy and went to the University of Pittsburgh for bacteriology, where as a student he helped Jonas Salk collect data and monitor his monkeys in the discovery of polio. As a Navy man, Rocky was a strong swimmer, which he carried into college, even telling his children that he went to an Olympic try out, and his size 11 feet were no match for the flippers the others had.

In 1948, Rocky and brother Nick went to Cleveland to see Satchel Page at the age of 42 pitch his first major league game. Rocky became a secret Indians fan thereafter.

In 1953, Rocky married a nursing student, Joni Swanson, that caught his eye at Shady Side Hospital. The newlyweds moved to Bellows Falls, Vt., where, until 1967, Rocky was the administrator of Rockingham Memorial Hospital. It was during this time that Joni, a nurse at the time, gave birth to four boys in five years, all on Saturdays. The family traveled to the Keene, N.H., YMCA a few times a week, all four boys with their Navy haircuts, learning to swim while Rocky did laps. Also during this time, Sen. John F. Kennedy came to Bellows Falls, and Rocky, a lifetime Rotarian of over 70 years, introduced him.

It was during his time as a Rotarian that Rocky and Lenny Lisai became friends for life. At Lenny's funeral service, we were kneeling down and it was real quiet when someone's cell phone played an Irish jig. Three times it sounded, and our Dad could not believe the disrespect. Later, when we got into the car, he began to speak, and the Irish jingle played again. It was his Irish music tie Lenny had bought him. He looked up and said, "Oh Lenny, you're still playing tricks on me?"

The family then moved north of Boston to Lynnfield, Mass., in 1967, where Rocky became administrator of the Everett Whidden Memorial for the next 22 years. Along the way, Rocky was associated with Tufts Medical, Mass Eye and Ear, and the president of the Massachusetts Hospital Administrator Association multiple times. The Whidden Memorial had the first nurses' union in the state. When they all sat down to negotiate a contract, the nurses stated their demands. Rocky looked them straight in their eyes and said ok to everything. Later he said to us, "Happy employees



Rocco Mittica, 2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

mean happy patients. Give them what they want. Nurses are the best-hearted people in the world. You should marry one". Rocky had a way with people.

Later, after he retired, the nurses' union asked him to be involved in the negotiations. He was flattered, but of course declined. Rocky loved that hospital and the entire staff. He made it a point to visit every patient each day.

During World War II, Rocky's bunkmate in the Navy was Chuck Tanner, the Pittsburgh Pirates coach. Rocky was able to attend the Red Sox World Series in 1967 and 1975 as a "reporter" for the Pittsburgh Tribune. Down on the field before the game, Rocky interviewed players with 8 mm film, no audio. While the press guys were typing, Rocky was cheering. When asked by a reporter how he got his story, Rocky replied, "I have a photographic memory".

Rocky and Joni retired to Rio Verde, Ariz., in 1990, and he golfed into his 89th year. That year he shot an 87 from the long tees. He also made his third hole-in-one, and then decided it was time to stop playing. A strong man all the way until his final days.

Both Rocky and Joni wanted their bodies donated to science, and then cremated. When talking about urns, Joni, always wanting to save money, suggested only buying one urn, and mixing both sets of ashes. Rocky wanted separate urns, commenting, "That puts a whole new meaning to 'rest in peace'".

Rocky was blessed with so many wonderful people during his life. From his early days in Hillsville, Pa., to his final days in New Hampshire, Rocco made many friends. In addition to his parents, Rocky is predeceased by his brother Nicholas, and his beloved wife Joni. He leaves four wonderful sons Larry (Su), David, Gerry (Judy), and Jimmy (Sandy); six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren; as well as his two nephews Jeffrey Mittica and Dr. Nicholas Mittica; a cousin Theresa Pazzullo; and all his many relatives back in Hillsville, Pa.

He was a wonderful man and a loved father.

There are no services planned.

Assisting the family with arrangements is the Cremation Society of New Hampshire. To view Rocky's online tribute, send condolences to the family, or for more information, please visit www.csnh.com.

Barbara E. Westine, 1929-2024

CHESTER, Vt. – Barbara Evelyn Westine, 95, passed away peacefully at her home in Chester, Vt., on April 15, 2024.

"Barbie" was born in Sheffield, Vt., on Feb. 11, 1929, to Harold and Evelyn (Cushing) Gonyaw. The family moved to Newfane, and then Chester, where Barbie graduated from Chester High School in the Class of 1947. After World War II, Barbie met Glenn Westine of Weston, Vt. They were married on July 31, 1948. Barbie and Glenn raised two children, Lynne and Roger, in the home that Glenn built in Chester.

In 1960, Barbie began what would become a lifelong career starting at what was known then as Readex, and now as NewsBank, in Chester. The accolades, accomplishments, friendships, and source of immense pride in her job spanned 57 years. During that time, she was a member of countless civic and community organizations, which she loved. Barbie retired from NewsBank as the facilities director in 2017, at the age of 88, working more than full time until that day.

Barbie thrived at being busy. She found time to travel the world with friends over the years, visiting at least a dozen European countries, as well as exploring North America and the U.S. At home, flower gardening was her hobby and talent. On any given summer evening, she could be found outside maintaining her gardens, and likely planting more flowers. An excellent cook, she loved hosting Sunday family dinners. Known lovingly as "Gramma Barbie" by her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, she kept up with all of them and



Barbara Westine, 1929-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

never missed an accomplishment, birthday, holiday, performance, or event.

Barbara is survived by her children Lynne Wilcox (Raymond) and Roger Westine; her grandchildren Shayne Hill (Jason), Reiko Renfro (Scott), and Max Wilcox (Lindsay); and great-grandchildren Ava Hill, Rex Hill, Oliver Wilcox, and Maggie Wilcox. She is also survived by her sister Linda Keith, and many nieces, nephews, extended family, and cherished friends.

Barbara was predeceased by her husband Glenn L. Westine in 1988, her parents, her brother Bernard Gonyaw, and niece Kolleen Keith.

A private burial service will be held at Pleasant View Cemetery in Chester.

A Celebration of Barbie's well-lived Life will be held at The NewsBank Conference Center, on Main Street in Chester, on Saturday, May 4, at 2:30 p.m. Memories to share are welcome.

In lieu of flowers, enjoy a glass of wine and toast to Barbie, she would love that. Memorial Contributions can be made to Chester Townscapes, P.O. Box 561, Chester, VT 05143.

Robert A. Williams, 2024

CAVENDISH, Vt. – Robert A. "Bob" Williams, 61, of Cavendish Vt., passed away peacefully after a courageous battle with cancer on April 25, 2024.

He was born in Claremont, N.H., to George and Arlene (Towle) Williams. He attended Green Mountain High School, and served in the Vermont National Guard.

Bob was a passionate and successful entrepreneur. In the 80s, he continued the family pond and snowmobile business with his brother in Whitesville. In the winter, he was always busy plowing for family and friends. Bob opened Williams' Country Store in the 2000s with his partner, and later became a school bus driver for Cavendish Elementary School.

In his younger years, Bob was known by many for his lively parties on the hill, where all were welcome to enjoy music and life.

Bob is survived by his partner Arlene (Sis) Willis; sister Mary Lou Williams; four children Kimberly, Bobby, Dylan, and Prudence; and 12 great-grandchildren. He is prede-



Robert Williams, 2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

ceased by his brother George Williams.

A private Celebration of Life will be held by family at Bob's home in Cavendish.

Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt., is assisting the family with the arrangements.



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

Christine A. Williams, 1958-2024

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Christine "Chris" Ann Williams passed away peacefully, surrounded by her family on April 21, 2024, after a long battle with cancer. Chris was born on Oct. 29, 1958, to Mildred (Prouty) and Charles Williams in Bellows Falls, and was raised in Saxtons River.

Chris graduated from Bellows Falls Union High School in 1976, the bicentennial year. On April 22, 1978, she married Richard Sherwood. They had Sheradia in 1979, and Avery in 1983. Their marriage ended in 1998. In 2004, Chris met April Tibbetts, and they started dating. Finally, on Dec. 17, 2016, they were married. April came to the relationship with her daughter Sarah, which Chris welcomed with open arms. In 1999, Chris became a grandmother for the first time when her granddaughter Aleesia was born, and again in 2004 when Samantha was born. They were "Grammy's girls," and, as expected, she loved the role of grandmother. In 2016, when Sher started dating Ed, she opened her arms again, and became grandmother to Brayden and Christopher as well.

Chris was an amazing daughter, sister, wife, mother, and friend. She was one of the sweetest people, and the biggest advocate for anyone that needed her, especially her son Avery, who had cerebral palsy. There was no limit to what she would do to make sure he had the best life he could, while still making sure everyone else was also getting everything they needed.

Chris loved to go biking, and fondly talked about a bike trip she went on with Upward Bound. Recently, she was talking about how they slept in a shed during that trip, and ended up cramped in there because it was pouring, and they brought all the bikes inside as well. She continued to ride bikes throughout her life, with her kids and then with April. As her health declined, she got an electric bike that enabled her to still ride, however she would still pedal most of the time. She was able to go on three bike rides this year due to some early beautiful days. Chris also enjoyed camping. Always camping when the kids were little, and continued this with April. All winter long she would talk about camping, and how the time wasn't coming fast enough to go.

Chris worked in so many places throughout the area. She worked at IGA, Bellows Falls Trust Company, 5-C HeadStart, Merchants Bank, and Westminster Auto.

Chris was predeceased by her dad Charlie Williams, and her son Avery Sherwood. She is survived by her wife April Tibbetts of Bellows Falls; her



Christine Williams, 1958-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

mother Millie Williams of Bellows Falls; brothers John (Debbie) Williams of Saxtons River, Russ (Ronda) Williams of Saxtons River, and Roy (Barbara) Williams of Westminister; and sisters Linda (Leo) Fournier of Enfield, Conn., Sandra (Donnie) Nickerson of Conway, S.C., and Lisa (Richard) Higgins of Saxtons River. She is also survived by her daughter Sher and her husband Ed Sleeper of Hinsdale, N.H., stepdaughter Sarah and her husband Gary of New Gloucester, Maine, granddaughter Aleesia Joy and her fiancé Jeremy Saysanam of Vernon, granddaughter Samantha Marie of Hinsdale, and grandsons Brayden Sleeper and Christopher (Cheri Abrams) Sleeper of Spofford. She is also survived by great-granddaughters Vaelynn and Lux, and great-grandsons Aidrix and Ezra. Chris is also survived by more cousins, nieces, nephews, aunts, and uncles than we could ever count.

In lieu of flowers, we are asking people to donate to the Bellows Falls Community Bike Project, to help kids that may not be able to afford a bike or to have work done on their bikes. Please send these donations to BF Community Bike Project, P.O. Box 883, Bellows Falls, VT 05101. We believe that, with Chris's love of bikes and of children, this is something she would be very excited about. She loved what this organization did for this community.

Calling hours will be May 4, 2024, from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., at Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home, 55 Westminster Street, Bellows Falls, Vt., with a Celebration of Life to follow at her brother Roy's house.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home.



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calendar

LEGAL NOTICES

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.

CHESTER, Vt. – The Chester Memory Cafe will be held on Thursday, May 2, from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., at St. Luke's Church. A memory cafe is a wonderfully welcoming

place for caregivers and their loved ones who are challenged with forms of dementia or other cognitive disorders and debilitating conditions. It is a safe and comfortable space where caregivers and their loved ones can socialize, listen to music, play games, enjoy nutritious snacks, and connect. All memory cafes are free and open to all. People with early stage Alzheimer's are welcome and encouraged to join.

MAY 4 – CAVENDISH, Vt. – Daffodils are blooming, so it's time to get outside and spruce up our Village Green. Wear work gloves, bring your favorite tool, and join the volunteer crew of Cavendish Streetscapes to clear away winter's debris from the Proctorsville Green and surrounding

gardens on Saturday, May 4, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., rain or shine. Dig in and enjoy good conversation.

CHESTER, Vt. – Upstairs @ Town Hall will host a Teen Open Mic on Saturday, May 4, at 6:30 p.m., open to ages 13-17. Sing, play an instrument, dance, or recite. Solo, duo, or trio. A music stand, vocal mic, and amplifiers for guitar and bass will be available. Ten minutes will be allotted for each performance. Admission is free.

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – Springfield Supported Housing Programs is having our annual fundraiser on May 4, at Magic Mountain in Londonderry, Vt. Doors open at 5 p.m., and music begins at 7 p.m. Come groove with us for "Cinco Dead Mayo," with Zach Nugent & Dead Set. For more information, or to purchase tickets, visit www.facebook.com/events/408682795077221.

WALPOLE, N.H. – The First Congregational Church of Walpole, on the Common, will hold a rummage sale on Saturday, May 4, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. There will be all seasons clothing and select housewares on sale, as well as food, including grilled hot dogs starting at 10 a.m. A bag sale will be

held from 12-1 p.m.

MAY 5 – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – There will be a Cinco de Mayo Mexican food vegan potluck held on Sunday, May 5, from 1-3 p.m., at the Huber Building, 80 Main Street. Everyone is welcome.

MAY 9 – LUDLOW, Vt. – The Ludlow Memory Cafe will be held on Thursday, May 9, from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., at the United Church of Ludlow. A memory cafe is a wonderfully welcoming place for caregivers and their loved ones who are challenged with forms of dementia or other cognitive disorders and debilitating conditions. It is a safe and comfortable space where caregivers and their loved ones can socialize, listen to music, play games, enjoy nutritious snacks, and connect. All memory cafes are free and open to all. People with early stage Alzheimer's are welcome and encouraged to join.

MAY 11 – N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The North Springfield Baptist Church will be holding an indoor yard, rummage, and bake sale on Saturday, May 11, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Lots of good, clean items to choose from. The church is located at 581

Giddings Street, North Springfield, Vt., and is handicap accessible.

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 – 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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.

Town of Londonderry, VT JOB OPENINGS

Road Crew Member/Equipment Operator

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

Parks Maintenance Employee

Part-time, seasonal Parks Maintenance position to help maintain grounds and recreation infrastructure in all of Londonderry's Town-owned parks.

Transfer Station Attendant

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

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

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

ACT 250 NOTICE MINOR APPLICATION 2W1306-1 10 V.S.A. §§ 6001 - 6111

Application 2W1306-1 from Palmer & Laurie Goodrich, P.O. Box 993, Chester, VT; Richard Palmer, 431 North Street, Greenwich, CT; and Jahangir Mozaffari, 5 Henry Street, Bellows Falls, VT was received on May 22, 2020, and deemed complete on March 8, 2024. The project is generally described as documenting the 3.12-acre expansion area that was extracted under Executive Order 03-23 (for a total extraction area of 19.42 acres) and approval of the proposed reclamation plan for this expansion area. The project is located at 1465 Eastman Rd in Grafton, Vermont. This application can be viewed online by visiting the Act 250 Database: (<https://anrweb.vt.gov/ANR/Act250/Details.aspx?Num=2W1306-1>).

No hearing will be held and a permit will be issued unless, on or before Tuesday, May 21, 2024, a party notifies the District 2 Commission in writing of an issue requiring a hearing, or the Commission sets the matter for a hearing on its own motion. Any person as defined in 10 V.S.A. § 6085(c)(1) may request a hearing. Any hearing request must be in writing, must state the criteria or sub-criteria at issue, why a hearing is required, and what additional evidence will be presented at the hearing. Any hearing request by an adjoining property owner or other person eligible for party status under 10 V.S.A. § 6085(c)(1)(E) must include a petition for party status under the Act 250 Rules. To request party status and a hearing, fill out the Party Status Petition Form on the Board's website: <https://nrb.vermont.gov/documents/party-status-petition-form>, and email it to the District 2 Office at: NRB.Act250Springfield@vermont.gov. Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law may not be prepared unless the Commission holds a public hearing.

For more information contact Quin Mann at the email address or telephone number below.

Dated this April 22, 2024.

By: 
Quin Mann
District Coordinator
100 Mineral Street, Suite # 305
Springfield, VT 05156-3168
802-661-8041
Quin.Mann@vermont.gov

ACT 250 NOTICE MINOR APPLICATION 2W1388 10 V.S.A. §§ 6001 - 6111

Application 2W1388 from The Nature Museum at Grafton, Inc., Attn: Nikolas Katrick PO Box 38, Grafton, VT 05146 was received on March 11, 2024 and deemed complete on April 12, 2024. The project is generally described as the construction of a 24'x40' pavilion; improvements to a natural playscape (small seating area w/ 8x10' rain shelter, kid's play campsite w/ 6x8' Adirondack shelter); and two hemlock boardwalks in the wetland. The project is located at 186 Townshend Rd., Grafton, VT 05146 in Grafton, Vermont. This application can be viewed online by visiting the Act 250 Database: (<https://anrweb.vt.gov/ANR/Act250/Details.aspx?Num=2W1388>).

No hearing will be held and a permit will be issued unless, on or before Tuesday, May 21, 2024, a party notifies the District 2 Commission in writing of an issue requiring a hearing, or the Commission sets the matter for a hearing on its own motion. Any person as defined in 10 V.S.A. § 6085(c)(1) may request a hearing. Any hearing request must be in writing, must state the criteria or sub-criteria at issue, why a hearing is required, and what additional evidence will be presented at the hearing. Any hearing request by an adjoining property owner or other person eligible for party status under 10 V.S.A. § 6085(c)(1)(E) must include a petition for party status under the Act 250 Rules. To request party status and a hearing, fill out the Party Status Petition Form on the Board's website: <https://nrb.vermont.gov/documents/party-status-petition-form>, and email it to the District 2 Office at: NRB.Act250Springfield@vermont.gov. Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law may not be prepared unless the Commission holds a public hearing.

For more information contact Stephanie Gile at the address or telephone number below.

Dated this April 22, 2024.

By: 
Stephanie Gile
District Coordinator
100 Mineral Street, Suite # 305
Springfield, VT 05156-3168
802-261-1943
Stephanie.Gile@vermont.gov

Okemo Mountain Road Closed

The upper portion of the Okemo Mountain Road from the Base Lodge area to the summit will be closed to public access between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 8, 2024 and Sunday, June 9, 2024 (Saturday, October 19, 2024 and Sunday, October 20, 2024) for the Killington Sports Car Club Time Trials.

LEGAL NOTICES

classifieds

BUYING/SELLING

BUYING-SELLING Coins, Paper Money, Vintage Sports-Postcards, Comics. See our displays at ANTIQUE CENTERS in Chester and Quechee. Open 7 Days. 802-379-2353. House calls available.

FOR 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.

HYDRANT FLUSHING

The North Walpole Water Department will be flushing hydrants on Saturday May 4th. During this time you may experience some discolored water, however this should remedy itself. Any questions or concerns please contact Robert McGuirk, Water Operator, at 603-313-5422

HELP WANTED:

Concrete Form Workers
Must be able to lift 100 lbs, have a valid drivers license, and transportation to and from Rockingham, VT. 40-60 Hours per week.

Experienced Concrete Floor Finisher
Capable of pouring, leveling, and finishing garage and basement floors. Must have valid drivers license, transportation to and from Rockingham, VT, and able to lift 100lbs. Must be dependable.

RECORD CONCRETE INC.
802-875-3702 recordconcrete@yahoo.com

Chester Ambulance Full-time EMT/AEMT

Chester Ambulance is excited to announce a full-time EMT/AEMT position. The ideal candidate will be an AEMT or have the ability to achieve it within one year. Candidate will also have a strong passion for community-oriented health care. Chester Ambulance has a strong passion for the community. As a department we are building a community paramedicine program, interfacility transfers as well as advancing to the paramedic level. The ideal candidate would have strong leadership skills, as leadership opportunities could become available. Candidate should possess the following knowledge and skills:

1. Possess a valid Vermont EMT/AEMT license.
2. Possess a Highschool diploma or GED.
3. Ability to pass a background check.
4. US Citizen.
5. 18 Years of age or older.
6. 2 years of healthcare experience.
7. Ability to lift 50 pounds.
8. Possess VT drivers license

We work closely with the Chester Police Department and Fire Department and encourage cross-training such as, Fire fighter, Rope Rescue, Swift Water, law Enforcement.

Inquire by sending your resume with a Town of Chester Application to:
Town of Chester, VT
PO Box 370, Chester, VT 05143
Or emailed: michael.randzio@chestervt.gov

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 two new professionals in the second half of March, whose talents will augment HCRS' services across Windham and Windsor counties.

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.

HCRS welcomes Annal-
eise Stevenson, CYF, behavior analyst in Brattleboro/Springfield; and Benjamin Robb, CYF, respite provider in Brattleboro.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 26 mins.

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

SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT WATER MAIN FLUSHING NOTICE MONDAY, May 6th - FRIDAY May 17th, 2024

Periodically, in Springfield, Vermont, we clean water mains of harmless corrosion and accumulated foreign matter by opening hydrants and allowing the water to escape under high pressure. The flushing action is an important part of our program to maintain high quality water. Although such flushing may produce temporary discoloration, the safety of the water is not affected in any way. HOWEVER, we advise you to schedule clothes washing and cleaning projects at other times. All mains will be flushed between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., Monday thru Friday. During the time this work is performed, IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE ENTIRE SYSTEM WILL BE AFFECTED. It is suggested that restaurants, laundromats, etc. keep their use to a minimum until water clears. The water system will be riled and cloudy, but this condition will clear up upon completion of the work.

SPRINGFIELD WATER DEPT.

Plymouth Selectboard Notice of Public Hearing On the Draft Plymouth Zoning Ordinance

To be held in the Municipal Auditorium
68 Town Office Road, Plymouth, VT
May 21, 2024 @ 7:00 P.M.

The proposed draft covers all of the lands in the Town of Plymouth. The purpose of this hearing is for the Selectboard to take comments from the public on the draft ordinance that was approved by the Planning Commission after a warned public hearing on February 6, 2024, and presented to the Selectboard at their regularly scheduled meeting on March 18, 2024. The ordinance is meant to further the purposes of the Town Plan and 24 VSA § 4302. Copies of the draft can be found at the Town Clerk's office or on the town website at plymouthvt.org. Comments may also be mailed to the attention of the Selectboard at 68 Town Office Road, Plymouth, VT 05056.

General Sections of the proposed Regulations are:

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

Plymouth Selectboard



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.

Warning

The legal voters of the of the Town of Plymouth, County of Windsor, State of Vermont, are hereby notified and warned that a petition has been filed by at least 5% of the registered voters, of the Town of Plymouth, County of Windsor, State of Vermont, to reconsider Article 6 from the annual town meeting held on March 4, 2024 that was done by a show of hands vote at the meeting. As a result, the Town will hold a Special Meeting at the Plymouth Municipal Building at 68 Town Office Road, Plymouth, Vermont on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at seven o'clock PM (7:00 PM) to re-vote Article 6. The meeting shall be conducted by the Moderator consistent with Robert's Rules of Order. The vote for reconsideration shall be controlled by a simple majority vote of the registered voters present at the meeting. Article 6 stated the following:

Article 6. To see if the legal voters of the Town of Plymouth will vote to exempt the property owned by Bethany Birches Camp Inc. located at 2610 Lynds Hill Road (parcel id: 000167) from the educational portion of the property taxes for a period of five (5) years commencing with the 2024 tax year?

Dated at Plymouth, Vermont, this 15th day of April, 2024.

Town of Plymouth, Select Board

Jay Kullman, Chairman

4-15-24
Date

Richard Kaminski

4-15-24
Date

Keith Cappellini

4/15/24
Date

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. til 7
Shop Pottery, Glass, Children's Items, Woodenware, Scarves, Jewelry, Cards, Fine Art, and More
<http://galleryvault.org>

Faces of Mass Incarceration
Portraits by Rein Colts, May 3 to May 24
Reception: May 3, 5-6:30

Silk Scarf Show & Sale by Teresa Flowers
Open Wall: *Thoughts of Spring*
Raku Pottery Workshop w/ Andrew Berends
5/4 & 5/11 <https://galleryvault.org/workshops/>
(07/17/24 - TFN - 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)

PETER JORDAN CONSTRUCTION

Over 25 years of experience in all phases of construction. Framing, finish carpentry, custom showers and tile work, hardwood flooring, decks, and siding. Fully insured and registered with the State of Vermont. Lead Paint Certified. Located in Proctorsville. 802-558-5267.
(05/15/24 - 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)

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)

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)

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)

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)

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)

Okemo Valley TV

LOCAL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK

- Divided Sky Foundation Plugs 3rd Annual Fun(d) Run
- Latest Legislative Update / w/Rep. Tessa Buss
- GMUSD Restructuring
- Talk with Paula
- Sustainable Woodstock "Green Drinks" series

Okemo Valley TV now has its own app on all of the main streaming platforms! Apple TV, Roku, Amazon Fire TV, Google Play, and mobile (iOS & Android)
(07/03/24 - TFN - 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)

