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# Wermont Journal

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**VOLUME 24, ISSUE 15** 

# Londonderry approves theater rehearsal space

BY LORIEN STRANGE

The Vermont Journal

LONDONDERRY, Vt. -The Londonderry Selectboard's April 1 meeting started with an executive session, after which they announced that they were offering the position of short-term rental (STR) administrator to Andy Dahlstrom. After returning from another executive session and moving on to a different item, they ratified their decisions to establish an STR working committee, and the South Derry Master Planning Task Force.

Londonderry's neighbor Weston is home to the Weston Theater Company, and was among the towns hit the hardest by last summer's flooding. All of the Theater Company's performance spaces sustained some flood damage, so, while they will be able to perform there this summer, they need rehearsal space in the meantime.

Susanna Gellert, executive artistic director of the Weston Theater Company, requested to use the Londonderry Town Hall as a rehearsal space for "Jersey Boys," from May 19 – June 7, Tuesday through Sunday. The Theater Company will

not need exclusive access to the space, but they do want to be able to leave instruments there overnight and be able to "trust that they'd be there the next day." The selectboard were all in favor of the idea, and even approved use of the space for another show's rehearsals from June 30 - July 19, "provided that [the initial dates] are without incident." Speaking from the audience, Bob Wells of the Londonderry Arts and Historical Society expressed excitement at the idea, saying that, "This sounds like a great opportunity for our town to help another organization that really is struggling because of the flood."

Wells also had a request for the selectboard. Wells reminded selectboard members of the successful event surrounding the installation of a historic marker commemorating Londonderry as the birthplace of Burton Snowboards, one of the early pioneers of the snowboarding industry. Burton Snowboards will be celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2027. To honor this, and to inspire pride in Londonderry residents, Wells would like to install a statue at Aiken's Corner with a similar publicity event. Since the actual event

date is still three years out, Wells just needed to ask if the selectboard would allow him to continue planning. "My mission is to do something that will make all of us in Londonderry proud," he told the selectboard.

Wells said that he and Mimi Wright have contacted a sculptor who is known to Burton owner Donna Carpenter, and learned that they could purchase a bronze sculpture for \$90,000-\$100,000. This 10-foottall sculpture, a duplicate of one installed in Breckenridge, Colo., would require a 4-foot-tall base, and would fit well within current plans for Aiken's Corner.

Selectboard Chair Tom Cavanagh warned Wells that deed issues had squashed a previous attempt to install a statue at Aiken's Corner, but the selectboard gave Wells permission to continue planning, and to come back to them with any issues in the process.

The Londonderry Selectboard meets on the first and third Mondays of each month, at 6 p.m., at the town office (Twitchell Building).

# Plymouth talks Bethany Birches' educational tax exemption ———

BY SHAWNTAE WEBB

The Vermont Journal

PLYMOUTH, Vt. – At the April 1 Plymouth Selectboard meeting, Mike Coleman was appointed as chair of the planning commission, and Jay Kullman and Keith Cappellini were appointed as planning commission board members.

The meeting moved to Brendan Donegan on Zoom, who discussed his interest in purchasing a town-owned property on Crimson Hawk Road, which has just over \$8,000 in delinquent taxes owed to the town. The selectboard agreed they needed to get the owed taxes for the property, and delinquent tax collector Elaine Pauley noted that an additional \$1,000 may be necessary to list a property, so the town needed an offer of approximately \$9,000 "to come out flush," board member Rick Kaminski stated. Donegan agreed to discuss numbers with the trustees of the Berman Trust, the current owners, and continue nego-

The board then discussed a notice of petition that was submitted to the town, which requested that the Town of Plymouth "conduct a vote by paper ballot to challenge the decision made by hand vote during the Plymouth Town Meeting held on Monday, March 4, 2024, that approved Article 6, allowing Bethany Birches to be exempt from paying the education portion of real estate taxes commencing in 2024 and be effective for a period of five years. The vote was close, and a decision should be made by the full roster of registered voters."

The petition was sent to the town's attorney, who said that the board could correct an error or consider a revote. A revote would have to be conducted in the same manner as the original vote.

The audience discussed the lack of voters - with 400 registered residents, only about 200 votes were placed at the Town Meeting. There was further discussion of the possibility that a hand vote be double checked, to be sure all voters are registered with the town, as well as how an in-person vote on the floor allows for more conversation and amendments to an article, while a paper ballot only provides a simple yes or no vote.

The board cautioned that there could be a smaller turnout at the special meeting than there was at Town Meeting. The board moved to warn a special town meeting on behalf of the petition, and to allow a revote on whether Bethany Birches Camp Inc. should be exempt from educational property taxes for five years.

Margo Marrone then voiced her concerns that the Plymouth Press no longer had a volunteer to post news items to their website. The job was previously done by Lauren Skaskiw of the community center, who is no longer in the role of director. Marrone wants to keep the news source as a community-involved process, and also make sure the service of providing news to the residents of Plymouth is done in a timely manner, which could be two to three posts a week. Cappellini agreed to facilitate a training session with a volunteer, and also coordinate with former administrator Jen Flaster.

The board plans to schedule an additional special meeting to discuss amendments to the zoning ordinance bylaws.

The Plymouth Selectboard will meet again Monday, April 15, at 6

# Chester discusses wastewater plan-

**BY NICK GIBERTI** 

The Vermont Journal

CHESTER, Vt. – The Chester Selectboard met for their first of two monthly meetings on Wednesday, April 3, covering a range of topics, with particular focus on the town's ongoing Wastewater Asset Management Plan.

First, however, town manager Julie Hance gave updates to the board on several ongoing situations in Chester. Hance informed the board that five properties in Chester, which are situated in flood plains, were seeking FEMA buyouts due to repeated flood damage. Two of the properties are on Route 11, one is on Potash Brook Road, and two more are on Fenton Road. The buyout program provides federal money to the town to purchase these properties, which then become town property in perpetuity. The properties are removed from the grand list, and any structures on the properties must be removed. New structures can never be built on them, under the conditions of the buyout. However, the properties may be used as open, public

Hance also brought the board up to date on efforts to establish a townwide alert system. This would be an opt-in system whereby Chester residents or property owners could sign up to receive notifications via text or phone call from the town. While its primary use would be for emergency situations such as July's floods, Hance did suggest that it could also be used for more general notifications of which residents may want to be aware, such as hydrant flushing. Chester has secured a contract for \$3,600 per year with a company called Catalyst to provide the service, and will soon allow interested parties to sign up for alerts through

the town website. The selectboard then approved coin drop applications from two veterans' organizations. The first was from American Legion Post 67 in Chester, scheduled for May 24, with a rain date of May 25. The second was from Ruck Up, a veterans' group based in New Hampshire that provides services to local veterans in Chester as well as throughout New England, and has done coin drops in Chester for several years running. This coin drop will be on Aug. 17 with a rain date of Aug. 18. The board discussed the possibility of increasing the maximum number of coin drops allowed, currently set at two per yer, though the issue would need to be properly warned and taken up in a future meeting.

Moving on, the board heard from Naomi Johnson,

an engineer with Dufresne Group, who is developing the town's Wasetwater Asset Management Plan. The purpose of the plan, Johnson said, is to inventory all wastewater assets – manholes, pump stations, piping, etc. – and to "identify which are the highest risk, or the highest priority for doing improvements."

Johnson said that the surveying of assets was complete, and a second draft of the plan had now been submitted to the state with requested revisions. The highest priority assets were identified as the First Avenue pump station, as well as the force main leading from that station toward Depot Street. Johnson also said that many pipes have what she called "infiltration," meaning that, "extra water that's not wastewater is conveyed to the wastewater treatment facility, which then stresses out the facility as far as the capacity...to treat normal wastewater." This could be groundwater, or storm runoff during larger weather events, Johnson said.

Some of the identified pipes are composed of asbestos concrete. While these pipes are not a concern during normal use, they will require special handling and disposal if and when they are removed from the ground, to keep asbestos particles out of the air.

Johnson also spoke to the

See **CHESTER** on Page 2

## Jump on the train



Ralph Farnsworth (third from right) with his crew.

PHOTO BY DANIELLE GOODWIN

BY DANIELLE GOODWIN

The Vermont Journal

WINDSOR, Vt. - Before we get on the train, we need to tell you who the conductor will be on the train: Farnsworth. Ok, I know what you are you thinking, with a name like that, why is he the conductor? This train I am metaphorically referring to is DePot Shop in Windsor, Vt. Ralph Farnsworth leads the enthusiastic group that has been a pioneer in the local cannabis scene since 2022.

Some might wonder why DePot Shop does so well, when it is obvious that it is not fueled by tourists. There is an easy answer. When I arrived for the interview, I was quickly offered a seat in a very big truck with Farn-

sworth, and he and I set off on a tour. We stopped at his childhood home, drove past his schools, family farmland, but lastly a stop at a rundown warehouse. When we looked at the warehouse, Farnsworth mentioned that he now owns the building that he once threw rocks at when he was a precocious teenager. The irony is that now he has had to pay to replace those windows all these years later.

It is clear to see that Farnsworth's journey has been filled with life lessons, because never have I met someone that was instantly so welcoming. After the tour, we settled in for lunch at a local pizza spot, where his crew joined us for lunch. It was clear that this was not for show just because I was there, but rather this was a regular event because he re-

ally does like the people that

work for him. Back to the dispensary, the customer is greeted by a greeter, and then welcomed by a staff that is quick to remember what you like, and showcase an ever-changing whiteboard that is filled with cannabis from growers that are both small and large from around the state. Farnsworth tries hard to focus on the whole customer, with everything from merch to events that he hosts regularly, so that he can get his customers together. It is obvious that Farnsworth, his wife, and the team are in it not just for success, but are more interested in the success of their community. DePot Shop is open Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; and Sunday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Check out www.depotshopvt.com.

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#### **CONTACT US**

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## **DEADLINES**

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

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EMAIL YOUR PRESS RELEASES, ARTICLES, AND PHOTOS editor@vermontjournal.com 2 | April 10, 2024 The Vermont Journal

## Reimagining South Londonderry meeting rescheduled

LONDONDERRY, Vt. -Residents and interested citizens are invited to a community meeting, rescheduled for Wednesday, April 24, at 6 p.m., at the Londonderry Town Offices, to "reimagine South Londonderry." The Londonderry Planning Commission has engaged consultants Stevens and Associates to develop a master plan for Londonderry's South Village. Stevens and Consultants will review the scope of the project area, its goals and objectives, and seek community input and wishes for the South Village. "This project will complement the North Village Master Plan developed in 2022, and help us plan for future improvements in our town," said Heather Stephenson, chair

of the Londonderry Planning Commission. This meeting may be attended remotely through Zoom. The Zoom link is posted on the town website, www.londonderryvt.org. "Reimaginging South is paid Londonderry" for through a grant from the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development.

## Recycle arts for Earth Day

S. LONDONDERRY, Vt. -The South Londonderry Free Library invites children to celebrate Earth Day on Saturday, April 20, with a lively program of recycle arts led by art teacher Casey Junker Bailey. The fun begins at 10:30 a.m. Bring your old envelopes, toilet paper tubes, bottle caps, and empty cereal or snack boxes, and be surprised by the wonderful things you can make out of them. You'll be part of a Vermont

Way back in 1977, Casey Junker got together with kids from the one room

**Heather Chase constituent** 

meeting cancelled

CHESTER, Vt. - The constituent meeting with State

Rep. Heather Chase scheduled for April 13, at 9:30

a.m., at the Whiting Library, has been cancelled. The

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Gift Baskets ~ 50/50 Cash Raffle

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\$10 entrance

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The Moose is handicapped accessible

The BF Community Bike Project is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit - bfbike.org

**BF Community Bike Project** 

constituent meeting will be rescheduled.



Make recycle arts for Earth Day. PHOTO PROVIDED

minster West to write "The Childcycle Ideabook." The book, illustrated by the kids and printed on brown paper by Casey, was distributed to every elementary school in the State of Vermont. was filled with ideas for using castoff materi-

als in new ways.

Casey has been

school in West-

recycling found objects and throwaway materials into art projects ever since.

This Recycle Arts program is free of charge, and appropriate for all ages. Thanks to a generous grant from The Stratton Foundation, each family will receive their own copy of "Scrap Metal Swan" to keep. For more information, contact the library at 802-824-3371.

## Ludlow Rotary prepares for 66th annual Penny Sale

LUDLOW, Vt. - The Ludlow Rotary Club is at it again. The final stages are in place for the 66th annual Penny Sale. This annual event will be held on Saturday, April 27, at the Black River High School auditorium in Ludlow. The Penny Sale starts at 6 p.m., and admission is free.

The Penny Sale is currently one of the fundraisers undertaken by the Ludlow Rotary Club. The proceeds are used for college scholarships for area high school students living in Cavendish, Ludlow, Plymouth, and Mount Holly. In addition to the scholarships, the proceeds are used for local school events and community projects such as the Cavendish/Proctorsville Greven Field, LPC-TV, Black River Valley Senior Center, Apple Blossom, Mountainside House, Black River Academy Museum, Black River Good Neighbor Services, the Rotary International Youth Exchange program, as well as other worthy causes.

The prize list is long. Over 400 prizes, totaling more than \$25,000 in value, will be given away during the evening. To name just a few of the donated prizes: bicycles, ski passes, local restaurant gift certificates, power tools, Red Sox tickets, home maintenance items, theater tickets, gas cards, fire safety items, propane grill cylinders, garden tools, maple products, and the



Last year's Penny Sale.

PHOTO PROVIDED

all-time favorite – cash. We will also have a swap table available for those of you who may want to swap your prize with another winner.

Our club is celebrating its 97th anniversary this year, and we will be giving away a free gift to the first 85 kids. Come help celebrate our 97 years of community and international service.

Our cash raffle of more than \$1,000 is always exciting. You do not need to be present to win the cash raffle, but an additional \$25 will be added to the winning ticket if present. Rotarians will be out and about selling raffle tickets at Shaw's and elsewhere in Ludlow on weekend afternoons, from now until the evening of the Penny Sale.

The prizes for the Penny Sale have been donated by area businesses, and the Ludlow Rotary Club is grateful for their generosity. Supporting businesses should supply their prizes to a club member, or deliver to Cota and Cota by Monday, April 15, for full publicity in the evening's program.

Mark your calendars now for Saturday, April 28, at 6 p.m., at the Black River High School

auditorium in Ludlow. Doors open at 5 p.m. Refreshments will be available.

For some, this mud season event is an annual tradition. So, if this is your first Penny Sale or your 66th, we hope to see you for this fun-filled evening. Again, a special thank you to all the businesses for your generous donations and participation.

If you have any questions, please contact Kim Lampert at 802-228-4000, or through our webpage, www.ludlowrotary.com. Remember, admission is free. Visit our webpage to see our club's projects and events. The Ludlow Rotary club meets weekly at DJ's Restaurant, and is celebrating our 97th year.

## "The Vermont Sugar-Maker's Song" book launch

S. LONDONDERRY, Vt. -The South Londonderry Free Library presents the book launch of "The Vermont Sugar-Makers Song" by Kim Ray on Saturday, April 13, at 11 a.m. Come celebrate the season with a story and music, and learn about the tradition of the Vermont sugaring season with samples and sweet

maple treats. This event is perfect for families, and all ages are welcome. A limited amount of delightful homemade books by Kim Ray will be available for purchase. Generous thanks to Wendy Dutton from the Dutton Farm Stand and Sugar House, and The Londonderry Village Market, for sponsoring this event.

been identified in Chester,

though two lines require

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## CHESTER

town's ongoing lead line inventory, which is required by the EPA for every municipality nationwide by October of 2024. Johnson said that no lead lines have



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"We are here to help" Serving Ludlow, Mt. Holly, Belmont, Cavendish, Proctorsville & Plymouth further research due to inability to assess them as yet. Seven galvanized lines have been identified, however, all of which are customer lines and not the property of the town. Galvanized lines are required to be replaced if it cannot be proven that they have never been downstream of a lead line, as Johnson said that studies indicate these lines can absorb lead and continue to leach it even after the lead lines are removed. The town is required to notify the customers with galvanized lines in the near future.

The Chester Selectboard meets on the first and third Wednesday of every month, at 6:30 p.m., at the Chester Town Hall.

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## A Celebration of Earth ——

PUTNEY, Vt. - Join Next Stage for an evening of discussion and music inspired by the climate crisis and environmental activism. New York Times bestselling author and historian Douglas Brinkley and environmentalist and author Bill McKibben will talk about their writings on climate action and environmental history, in a discussion moderated by Vanessa Vadim. The evening will open with music from traveling composer-performer Ben Cosgrove, whose music explores themes of landscape, place, and environment. The event will take

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. -

Atlantic Gallery presents

"Open" by Canal Street Art

Gallery, on view from April

16-May 4, at 548 West 28th

Street, Suite 540, New York,

N.Y. Join the artists at Atlan-

tic Gallery on April 18, from

6-8 p.m., for the opening re-

presents Third Friday Gal-

lery Night, April 19, from 5-7

p.m., at 23 Canal Street, Bel-

lows Falls, Vt., to celebrate the

openings of "Judy Hawkins,

An Artist's Exploration" solo

show, Judi Forman in the

Working Artist Program, and the new community art

Canal Street Art Gallery

place on Saturday, April 13, at 7:30 p.m., at Next Stage, 15 Kimball Hill in Putney, Vt.

Douglas Brinkley is the Katherine Tsanoff Brown chair in humanities and professor of history at Rice University, presidential historian for the New York Historical Society, trustee of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library, and a contributing editor at Vanity Fair.

Bill McKibben is founder of Third Act, which organizes people over the age of 60 for action on climate and justice. He helped found www.350.org, the first global grassroots climate campaign,

Canal Street Gallery shows —

The "Judy Hawkins, An

Artist's Exploration" solo

show is on view at Canal

Street Art Gallery from April

19 – June 15, exhibiting new

oil paintings by the Westmin-

ster West, Vt., artist. Hawkins

begins work on a canvas from the top down, moving quick-

ly and allowing paint drips

and accidental color combi-

nations to guide the painting.

Working Artist Program at

Canal Street Art Gallery in

Bellows Falls, open on Third

Friday Gallery Night, April

19. This program is an art-

ist's studio and exhibition

Judi Forman returns to the

which has organized protests for climate action.

Ben Cosgrove is a traveling composer-performer. He has collaborated with groups ranging from rock bands to research scientists, contributed music to several radio and film projects, and held residencies and fellowships with institutions including NASA, the National Park Service, and the National

Advance tickets for the event are available at www. nextstagearts.org. For information, call 802-387-0102 or visit the website.

space within the gallery,

and is open during the

gallery's regular hours.

"My jewelry work is all

about color and texture,"

The community art stu-

dio, following a success-

ful fundraiser to keep the

program, is now perma-

lery is located at 23 Canal

Street in Bellows Falls, Vt.

For more information, go

gallery.com, call Mike at

802-289-0104, or email

artinfo@canalstreetart-

www.canalstreetart-

Canal Street Art Gal-

says Forman.

nently open.

gallery.com.

## Forest Service.

## BY RON PATCH

802-374-0119 ronpatch27@gmail.com

I have an early ledger of interest. It begins in 1796, and ends in 1852. The cover is covered with dark blue wallpaper, with a white scroll pattern and black polka dots. Wallpaper at this time was an expensive wall treatment. This is why walls at the time were stenciled.

I found a few interesting entries. This ledger documents the first schoolhouse for District Number 1. This schoolhouse was located near Mitch's Maples on the turnpike. Today, if you drive past Mitch's, not far on the right is a stone residence. This is the second schoolhouse at School District Number

#### Feb. 29, 1796

"At a meeting of the inhabitants of the first School District in the Township of Chester legally warned and opened by Mr. Amos Sargeant Selectman of Chester this 29th day of Feb, 1796.

'1st made choice of Timothy Olcott Esquire as moderator.

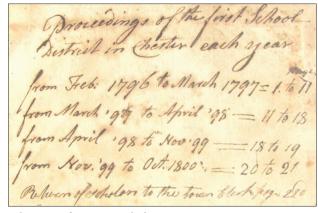
"2d made choice off Ezekiel Colburn for a

"3d Voted to request the Town at their next march meeting to divide the first School District

by the river. "5th Voted that in case the Town shall see fit to divide the said district by the River, this Committee should request the Town at their said meeting to allow the East side of said River to retain the name of the first School

District of Chester. "To Ezekiel Colburn Clerk of the first School District in Chester, Sir, we request you immediately to set up a notification warning the inhabitants of said district to meet at the dwelling house of Caleb Winn Innholder in said district to act on the following articles...

"4th to see if the District, when met, will



Title page of District #1 ledger.

School District Number 1

PHOTO PROVIDED BY RON PATCH

agree on a spot to set a Schoolhouse on.

"5th to see if the District will raise a Sum or Sums of money to build a Schoolhouse.

"6th to see if the District will determine on a way in which said School house shall be built and transact the business necessary

"7th to agree when said School house shall be raised, boarded and shingled fit for a summer school, and when it shall be finished.

"Chester March 14th 1796 Wm Gilkey, Thos Chandler, Nathan Gile."

#### March 28, 1796 "March 28 1796...

"4th Agreed that the Schoolhouse for and in said District shall be built on the rise of ground South of the little brook and East of the road on Capt Lovell land near to the place where Ejeck Earle once lived.

"5th Vote to raise 40 pounds on the Grand List for the year 1796 to build said house..."

#### My thoughts

I think Caleb Winn, the innkeeper, would be what we know as the Henry Farm today. I also think it would be possible to find the exact location of this first school with the details recorded here. This ledger continues on for years.

The name H.H. Henry or

Lower your investment fees

• Improve your performance

Hugh Henry does not appear until the early 1840s. I found this entry:

"April the 25th 1842...

'2d to see whether the District will vote to settle the suit now pending between the aforesaid District and Hugh Henry of Woodstock..."

#### Nov. 20, 1852

"Chester Nov the 20th

"To the Clerk of the 1st School District we the undersigned do hereby request you to call a meeting of the said district as soon may be for the purpose of whether the voters of this district will vote to have a school the year ensuing or any part thereof and also to see whether the district will vote to sell the old school house and also to see if the district will raise money for the support of school, the coming year.

"Samuel Weston, Charles Lee, Joshua Prouty."

I'm sure if I took my time I could find details in this ledger regarding building the stone schoolhouse we have today. It's hard on my eyes so I just skimmed it. Who knew about the first schoolhouse?

This week's old saying is from Dudley Do-Right: "It must be true. I read it in the paper."

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with any questions

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Welcome to the

**Community!** 

A Meet &

Greet

**Meet other** 

donuts

newcomers and

residents, learn

Hosted by the Rockingham

about local resources,

and enjoy coffee and

Incremental Development Working

Group (RIDWG) and underwritten

by Rockingham Arts and Museum

Development Credit Corporation's

GROW SoVermont program

Project (RAMP) and the Brattleboro

• Make sure you don't outlive your money

#### Convergence Quartet to perform CHESTER, Vt. - Upstairs of world-class musicians to Houston joins the group,

at Town Hall presents the Convergence Quartet on April 18, at 7 p.m., in the town hall theater, 556 Elm Street, Chester Vt. Admission is by donation.

Band leader Eugene Uman, pianist and director of the Vermont Jazz Center, collaborates with a group present his original compositions, many of which were inspired by his years living in Colombia, South America.

This performance will include vocalist Wanda Houston, as well as David Picchi on electric bass, and Jon Fisher on drums. When

the vibe and repertoire embraces her penchant for singing soul and gospel music, as well as classic jazz standards.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and seating is limited. For more information, email upstairsattownhall@gmail.com.

## Hands-stitching flowers -

Watercolor with O'Brien

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Gallery at the VAULT is happy to offer "Hand Stitching Flowers in Texture and Color," a fiber workshop with Julie Crabtree on April 27, from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m., at Gallery at

Create your own piece of freestyle stitchery, art-rich in color and texture. No prior knowledge is required; there will be step-by-step instructions on a ready-to-stitch background. Three simple stitches are used, as well as applique flowers. All ma-

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. -

The Saxtons River Art Guild

(SRAG) announces a one-

day workshop given by Ver-

mont watercolorist Robert J.

O'Brien on Saturday, April

20, from 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., at the United Church

of Bellows Falls, 8 School

Street. Workshop fees are

discounted for SRAG mem-

bers. SRAG will have cof-

fee and tea, please bring a

shop is "spring landscapes."

Composition and painting

light and shadow will be

explored in this workshop.

Bring your watercolors, pa-

per, and a reference photo,

preferably of a spring scene.

For a demonstration, Rob-

ert will work on a landscape

while explaining each step

of the painting process. You

will be working on your own

artwork as Robert demon-

strates. A critique and class

discussion will be held at the

The theme of the work-

lunch.

terials are provided. Bring scissors and large-eye type needles.

Julie has been teaching workshops in creative mixed media stitchery, free motion sewing, hand stitchery including experimental work, and creating design through art exploration. Her teaching background is extensive, having taught beginners to advanced levels in England and the U.S.

The cost of the workshop is discounted for gallery members. There is also a materi-

For workshop registra-

tion or more information,

contact Carolyn Berglund at

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## opinion

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

Dear Editor,

All of us at the schools of the Two Rivers Supervisory Union (TRSU) – Cavendish Town Elementary School (CTES), Chester-Andover Elementary School (CAES), Green Mountain Union High School (GMUHS), Ludlow Elementary School (LES), and Mount Holly School (MHS) - want to thank all the amazing people who helped make the Okemo Winter Snow Sports program a huge success.

The students, volunteers, and staff from our schools had six wonderful weeks of learning, growing, and hav-



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ing fun outside all over the perfectly groomed, snowcovered mountain.

Two weeks of lessons from Okemo instructors helped the new skiers and snowboarders get off to a safe start. The lift operators were always smiling and helpful. The rental staff fixed a variety of broken pieces of equipment, and food services helped with the hot cocoa every week. Last but not least, when ski patrol was needed, they were there quickly to help our injured athletes in a caring, professional manner. Thanks as well to the senior administration at Okemo, who have been longterm supporters of these pro-

In total, 409 students

and 142 instructors and volunteers were able to make memories at Okemo Mountain this winter.

Thank you, Okemo Mountain and Vail Resorts, for your commitment to local ski and ride programs.

Sincerely, Dale Mann, principal,

Joey Blane, principal,

CAES Frank Kelley, instructor,

**CAES** John Broadley, principal, GMUHS

Deb Fishwick, principal, LES Craig Hutt Vater, princi-

pal, MHS Lauren Fierman, superintendent, TRSU

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Subject to space. May be edited for clarity, gram-

matical 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

**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

ents, customers, and community for collaborating and contributing to our success as the top team at William Raveis Vermont Properties. In 2023, we achieved the highest sales volume and unit sales within William Raveis' affiliate franchise of-

The Vermont Properties

team is grateful to our cli-

Dear Editor,

fices. As an owner-broker, I am incredibly proud to be a part of this innovative team that focuses on providing our clients and customers with the most effective tools for marketing their homes to a successful close, allowing us to achieve this accolade. Earning the title of the number one brokerage with In-

man in 2023 is a true honor that highlights our company's continued commitment to excellence. Thank you to everyone who contributed to our success!

Sincerely, The Vermont Properties team

Ludlow, Vt.

## Tri-Mountain Lions gives back —

breast cancer services

LONDONDERRY, Vt. -The Tri-Mountain Lions' latest donations have been: \$500 to the Weston Little School, \$1,000 to the Londonderry Neighbor's Food Pantry, \$100 to Londonderry Volunteer Rescue Squad, \$250 to Grace Cottage, and \$250 each to the Townshend and Winhall Food

We just received a request

Shelves.

from the Mountain School for a donation to assist students to attend The Odyssey of the Mind competition. We sent \$250. Please go to www.themountainschool.org to find out about this competition.

Don't forget to get your tickets for our annual Lions Duck Race, held on July 6,



Monica Yannes, director of the Little School, Weston, accepting \$500 donation from

#### after the Londonderry Pathe Tri-Mountain Lions Club. "Mom's Day Off" raises \$12K for

BENNINGTON, Vt. Bromley Mountain's 21st annual "Mom's Day Off" fundraiser set a new record on March 1, raising \$12,000 to benefit breast cancer care at the Dartmouth Cancer Center, at Southwestern Vermont Medical Center (SVMC).

"Mom's Day Off is an event close to our hearts at Bromley Mountain," said recently retired Bromley general manager Bill Cairns. "The community really shows up each year to make a difference. I'm thrilled that my final year at Bromley is breaking records and setting the

bar a little higher for 2025." Bromley donated more than \$7,600 in proceeds from lift ticket sales, which are sold at a discounted rate. The Wild Boar Tavern at Bromley also donated 50% of its food sales to the cause,



Recently retired Bromley general manager (GM) Bill Cairns, pictured center, and incoming GM Josh Witkin (left), presented a check to President and CEO of SVMC Thomas A. Dee, FACHE, on Thursday, March 28 at the Peru, Vt. ski resort.

totaling \$2,257. Participants and community members made additional donations on Mom's Day Off, including a \$2,000 gift from the Women of Willard, which brought the grand total this year to

"Our cancer center has an exceptional team in place to support our patients," said SVMC's Tom Dee. "These philanthropic dollars make it possible for that team to go further and provide support that goes beyond treatments. Thank you to Bromley, the Wild Boar Tavern, and everyone who came out to make this possible."

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

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impact one's vote.





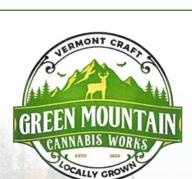
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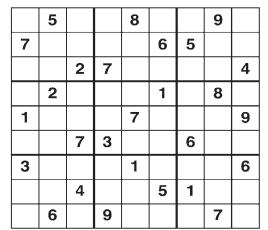
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## Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle



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

#### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging

numbers from one to nine

♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY! © 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

#### **King** Crossword

1 Flair 5 Enterprise letters 8 Stuffing herb 12 Taunt 13 Aussie hop-14 Hockey leg-end Phil, to fans 15 Home of the Packers 17 Compared to 18 Congeal 19 Sturdy tree 20 Spassky's

game - -Manuel Miranda 22 Huge 23 Bottom

26 Fear-stricken 30 "E Pluribus 49 Mosquito barrier 50 Cupid's alias 51 Thames town

31 Blue hue 32 Lighten 33 Arty area

ACROSS

35 Hinder 36 Sailor 37 Soda container 38 Norwegian

inlet 41 "It's c-ccold!" 42 Right angle

48 Diminutive

suffix

45 Actress Russo 46 Chinese brew

DOWN Omelet needs 2 Old Italian money 3 Help a crook Born abroad?

"The Italian

52 Multipurpose

truck

53 Compass point

22 Journalist 23 Gist City-related

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20 Špy org. 21 Color named for a fruit

Job" actor

Arthur 10 Transcript

16 Dark film

genre

25 "Gee, ya think?" Sauce source 26 Alias abbr

27 Yoga pad

9 Tennis champ 29 Aachen article 31 Bro or sis 34 '60s chic

Challenge El Greco's birthplace 38 Gratis 39 Joan of rock 40 Aware of

41 Author Harte 42 To be, in Toulon 43 Some July

44 Endure 46 Wildebeest 47 Up-to-date

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## obituaries

#### Donald J. Bartsch, 1940-2024

WESTON, Vt. - On the morning of April 2, Donald J. Bartsch passed away in his sleep. Don was born Jan. 7, 1940, in the Bronx, N.Y., and grew up in Pelham, Westchester County, N.Y. After graduating from high school, Don went to work on the New York Stock Exchange, where he became a full member in 1965. Donald was an accomplished trader, and became a partner of his own firm, Fernandez, Bartsch, & Mirra.

Community was always an important part of Don's life. He lived in Pleasantville, N.Y., from the 1970s until the early 1990s, where he was one of the driving forces in bringing the American Youth Soccer Organization to southern New York

Don retired to Weston, Vt., in the 1990s, where he was on the Weston Planning Commission and chaired the Weston Planning Board for many years. He also served on the Windham Regional Planning Commission, and volunteered on the National Ski Patrol at Magic Mountain.

Don will always be remembered as a strong but fair leader. He was a fierce and



Donald Bartsch, 1940-2024.

himself to become a better person throughout his life. Don is survived by his wife Martha H. Bartsch; his four sons Greg, Michael, Jeffrey, his wife Laura and sons Spenser and Griffin, and Brian, his wife Kate and their children Max and Anna. Although preceded in death by his brother Robert, Don is survived by his brother Thomas Bartsch, his sister Marylou D'Onofrio, and all of their extended family.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in his name to either Rutland Regional Medical Center, or Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. To send the family personal condolences, please visit

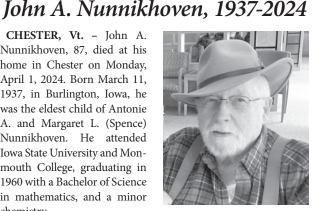
#### loyal friend, who challenged www.sheafuneralhomes.com.

CHESTER, Vt. - John A. Nunnikhoven, 87, died at his home in Chester on Monday, April 1, 2024. Born March 11, 1937, in Burlington, Iowa, he was the eldest child of Antonie A. and Margaret L. (Spence) Nunnikhoven. He attended Iowa State University and Monmouth College, graduating in 1960 with a Bachelor of Science in mathematics, and a minor chemistry.

On April 18, 1958, John married his childhood sweetheart Betty L. Miller in New Sharon, Iowa. After graduation, John began his career in the field of computer science as a system analyst with U.S. Steel. He and Betty settled their growing family in the suburbs of Chicago as John's career took him to other major corporations, including Amico International Oil, Standard Oil, and International Minerals & Chemicals During a family vacation to New England in 1967, John and Betty fell in love with the village of Weston. After searching for a job in New England, John was hired by American Can Corporation, and the family moved to Connecticut.

After nearly 20 years with corporations, in May 1979, John and Betty purchased the Colonial House Inn & Motel in Weston, Vt. They operated the inn for over 23 years, expanding the breakfast, adding evening meals, and hosting thousands of houseguests. During their time at the inn, each of their children and two of their in-law children worked in the business, a point of pride for John. In 2002, John and Betty sold the Colonial House to their daughter and son-in-law Kim and Jeff Seymour.

Raised as a Christian, John's spirituality reignited when he experienced the Weston Priory. Many of their houseguests would come to visit the priory, and became personal friends and mentors to John and Betty. With his curious mind, he was always reading and studying theological writers. He saw an ad in Christianity Today for a year-long, extensive course in Christian worldview and apologetics with Chuck Colson's Prison Fellowship. In 2005, John and Betty began a new journey in prison ministry as



John Nunnikhoven, 1937-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

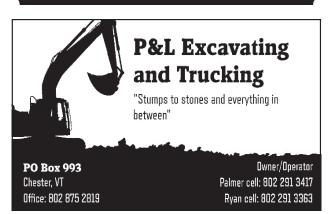
John's last career started.

For more than 19 years, they ministered in the local prisons, offering spiritual guidance and support. They occasionally provided interim housing and reentry support for former inmates, as well as hosted "Church at Home" for their "guys." He became an ordained minister in 2013 through The Church at Prison and was a founding member of the Fellowship of Ailbe. Throughout the years, John volunteered at the Gill Home in Ludlow, Vt., singing his favorite hymns to the residents there and sharing childhood stories intertwined with the gospel. For the last six years, John was an active member of the Ludlow Baptist Church. He enjoyed reading, fishing, hiking, camping, and cross-country skiing, but most of all enjoyed spending time with his family.

He lives on through his beloved wife Betty; their three children Antonie J. (Heidi) Nunnikhoven, David J. Nunnikhoven, and Kimberly A. Seymour (Jeffrey); and their six grandchildren Sandy, Marieka, Alexis, Libby, Sam (Tess), and Jack (Lauren). He is also survived by four siblings Joe, Marcia, Thomas, and Steven; his sister-in-law Thelma (Miller) Mosander; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins. John was predeceased by his parents, brothers-in-law Paul and Delbert, and sister Nelda.

A memorial service will be celebrated on Saturday, April 13, at 2:30 p.m., at the Ludlow Baptist Church in Ludlow, Vt., followed by food and fellowship. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Ludlow Baptist Church, Church at Prison in Jericho, Vt., or the Fellowship of Ailbe (www.ailbe.org).

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#### Peggylou Curtis, 1945-2024

GREENFIELD, N.H. - Peggylou Curtis of Greenfield, N.H., passed away on the afternoon of April 1, 2024, after a long illness. She was 78 years old. Peggylou was born Sept. 8, 1945, in Springfield, Vt., the daughter of Margaret (Lockwood) Barrett and Forrest Barrett, both deceased. She grew up in North Springfield, Vt., and attended schools in North Springfield and Springfield, Vt.

She worked at Osram Sylvania in Hillsboro, N.H., retiring in 2009 due to ill health.

Peggylou loved animals, especially her kitty Jasper and her Yorkie terrier Kieran. She enjoyed crocheting, and was excellent with the pineapple pattern, as well as an excellent cook and pastry maker, passing the secrets to her longtime companion John Hyman. She also enjoyed outside festivals at Hampton Beach, N.H., playing card games, and was an Elvis Presley fan.

Peggylou is survived by her longtime companion John Hyman of Greenfield, N.H.; and four sisters Shiela Rinaldi of Agawam, Mass., Monty Bidder of Franklin, Mass., Brenda Richardson of North Springfield, Vt., and Sally Stevens of Springfield, Vt.; along with nieces and nephews.

Special thanks to all her healthcare providers, and love and endless thanks to John Hyman, who gave her the needed care 24 hours a day, and provided her with the best life possible. We are so ever grateful.

A graveside service will be held at a later date, at Oakland Cemetery in Springfield, Vt.

Donations may be made to Monadnock Humane Society, 101 West Swanzey Road, Swanzey, NH 03446.

Arrangements have been made through Jellison Funeral Home, Peterborough, N.H.

#### Norman Gagnon Jr., 1946-2024

LUDLOW, Vt. - Norman Gagnon Jr., 77, of Ludlow, Vt., passed away at Woodlawn Care Center in Newport, N.H., with family by his side, on March 29, 2024. He was born July 12, 1946, in Eagle Lake, Maine, son of Norman Gagnon Sr. and Laurina (Bouchard) Gagnon. He enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1963, and proudly served this country for four years. He married the love of his life Susan Eileen Morrill on Dec. 9, 1967, in Ludlow, Vt.

For the first five years of their marriage, they traveled to California, and then to Colorado. They returned to Vermont in 1974, where they planted their roots to raise their family. He proudly built the family home in Ludlow in 1982. He worked as a carpenter and general contractor for many years, until he became a licensed property adjuster. After getting his start with Crawford and Company, he opened his own successful firm, Century Adjustment Services. He and Susan ran that company until they retired.

Norman was a devoted and loving husband and father. His unwavering love for Susan was his foundation, and was something to be admired. He had immense pride in his sons and their families, something that he would share with anyone who would listen. Norman was a friend to many, had a heart of gold, and had a passion for helping people; he had a great impact on many lives. He was always one to say "hi" to everyone, and would take the time to talk and listen. He was a man of honesty and integrity. He was admirably called the "King of Bear Hill" by his close neighbors.



Norman Gagnon Jr., 1946-2024.

Norman loved music, fishing, and spending quality time with his family and friends. He will be greatly missed, and will always be remembered.

He is survived by his two sons Norman Gagnon III and fiancé Vickie Hart of Ludlow, Vt., and Sean Edward Gagnon and wife Bonnie of Cibolo, Texas; as well as his 13 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sisters/brothers Trudy Hennessey, Darlene Milligan, Ronald Gagnon, Keith Gagnon Sr., Susan Saucier, Simone Anderson, and Karen Web, as well as numerous sisters-inlaw, brothers-in-law, nieces and nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins, and their families.

He is predeceased by his Susan E. Gagnon in 2021, his brother Kenneth Gagnon, his sister Iane Chand, his father Norman Gagnon Sr., and his mother Laurina (Bouchard) Ga-

Norman has now joined his beloved Susan, together in life, together in eternity. A private Celebration of Life will be held in the summer.

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

#### Sylvia M. Williams, 1939-2024

LUDLOW, Vt. - The Celebration of Life for Sylvia Marie Williams will be held on the morning of May 11, at 9:30 a.m., at the United Church of Ludlow, located at 48 Pleasant Street. We will be gathering at 9:30 a.m., with the service to be held at 10 a.m., with Pastor Michelle Fountain officiating. Burial will follow at Pleasant View Cemetery, located at 37 North Depot Street in Ludlow, Vt. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Meadows Sunshine Fund at 240 Gables Place, Rutland, VT 05701; or at the Rutland County Humane Society Inc., 765 Stevens Road, Pittsford, VT



Sylvia Williams, 1939-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

05763. Please contact Yvonne MacLauren at 802-236-8595 with any questions or con-

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#### Richard H. Dansingburg,

1935-2024

CHESTER, Vt. - Richard (Dick) Hayes Dansingburg passed away peacefully at his home in Chester, Vt., on the afternoon of March 28, 2024, after a lengthy illness. He was 88 years old. Dick was born on May 10, 1935, in Rochester, Minn., to Gertrude (Boothby) and Hayes Dansingburg. He grew up in Rochester with his older sister Janet.

Dick graduated from Rochester High School in 1953 as an Eagle Scout, a three-sport athlete (football, swimming, and tennis), and senior class president. Following high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy, where he completed his service as an aerographer's mate second class (weather forecaster) onboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Hornet, for a tour of duty to Japan and the Far East. Among his fondest memories of the tour was teaching the game of baseball to Japanese school children who lived near their ship's base.

In 1957, following his honorable discharge from the Navy, Dick enrolled at the University of Minnesota, where he was active in the university's Outing Club. He transferred to Springfield College in Springfield, Mass., in 1959, to major in recreation and youth leadership. While at Springfield College, he met the love of his life Brenda (Beyer) Dansingburg. They were married in June of 1960, in Brenda's family home in Auburn, N.Y.

After receiving his bachelor's degree from Springfield College, in 1961 Dick began a 12-year career as a district executive with the Boy Scouts of America. He initially worked for the Scouts in Minneapolis, Minn., then went to district offices in Ann Arbor, Mich., and White Plains, N.Y. While at the Washington-Irving Boy Scout Council, he was the director of the newly-developed Explorers Program, which enabled boys and girls of high school age from Westchester and Putnam counties to develop their career interests.

Dick left the Boy Scouts In 1973, and continued his work with youth and young adults with a variety of secondary and postsecondary education programs doing work-study, vocational, and career education, first in Westchester and Putnam Counties, and then in Chenango and Delaware Counties, when Dick and Brenda moved their family of three daughters to Brenda's hometown, Norwich, N.Y., in 1974. A lifetime passion for assisting youth and young adults in developing their career interests concluded with a position as the job placement coordinator for SUNY Morrisville's Norwich campus.

Upon his retirement, Dick continued to volunteer with

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Richard Dansingburg, 1935-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

the Boy Scouts in New York State, and later in Chester, Vt., where he and Brenda moved in 2010, to be closer to their daughter Julie and her family. Dick was a longtime lover of the outdoors, especially Minnesota's Boundary Waters Canoe Area (B.W.C.A.), and New York's Adirondack Park, where he enjoyed many canoeing and camping trips with family and friends. He passed on his passion for outdoor activities and adventures to his three daughters and Minnesota nephews Scott and Kent Moe. Dick also enjoyed supporting the Minnesota Twins and Vikings, woodworking projects, and the community he and Brenda found at Broad Street United Methodist Church in Norwich and the United Church of Ludlow.

Dick is survived by his wife of 63 years Brenda (Beyer) Dansingburg of Chester; his daughter Jodi Dansingburg and son-in-law Kevin O'Brien of Rushford, Minn; daughter Julie Dansingburg Kelley and son-in-law Frank Kelley of Chester; daughter Jami Dansingburg of Philadelphia, Pa.; sister Janet Moe of Lake City, Minn.; granddaughter Heather (Mark) Herrmann of Minnetrista, Minn.; grandson Kobi Dansingburg of Minneapolis, Minn.; sister-in-law Betsy Beyer of Waukesha, Wis.; and seven nieces and nephews Scott (Carrie) and Kent (Renee) Moe, Steve (Eleni) and Gary (Betsy) Beyer, Theodore Summers, Wendy Summers, and Kate Beutner.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his granddaughter Marina Kelley; brothers-in-law Ed Beutner, Barry Beyer, Clint Moe, and Ted Summers; and sisters-in-law Judy Beyer and Beverlyn Summers; as well as several beloved family dogs.

A Celebration of Life is being scheduled for June 22, in Chester, Vt. Memorials can be directed to the Green Mountain Council of the Boy Scouts of America, P.O. Box 557, Waterbury, VT 05676, www.scoutingvermont.org; or the United Church of Ludlow, 48 Pleasant Street, Ludlow, VT 05149, www.unitedchurch.us.

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

#### OBITUARIES:

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

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

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## calendar

## **LEGAL NOTICES**

#### **APRIL 11 –**

S. LONDONDERRY, Vt. -The Green Mountain School of Crafts, 50 Hearthstone Lane, will hold a Spindle Spinning class on Thursday, April 11, from 5-8 p.m. In this beginners class, you will learn how to use a drop spindle to create your own hand-spun yarn. We will cover the basics of spinning, drafting, and plying. You will get to make your own sample length of hand-made yarn to take home. Materials are included in the price of the class. For more information, or to register for a class, go to www.greenmountain schoolofcrafts.com.

#### **APRIL 13 -**

CHESTER, Vt. – Don't miss out on a fantastic day of live music at the Town Hall Bluegrass and Old Time Country Open Mic, at 556 Elm Street in Chester, Vt., for an afternoon of bluegrass and old time country music. This is the last open mic event until fall. Doors open at 11 a.m., with performances continuing until 4 p.m. Musicians are welcome to sign up at the door to showcase their talent with acoustic instruments only. Indulge in homemade food and beverages available for purchase. Admission is free, and donations are appreciated. For more information, please call 802-380-4106.

WALPOLE, N.H. - The First Congregational Church in Walpole is holding a community potluck supper on April 13, at 5 p.m. Beverages are provided. Please bring a main dish, side dish, or dessert to share, or if unable to,

come anyway. A free-will offering is taken to benefit the World Central Kitchen. This will be the last potluck supper of the season.

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - The Bellows Falls Community Bike Project will hold a silent auction fundraiser on Saturday, April 13, from 6-9 p.m., at the Moose Family Center, 59 Westminster Street in Bellows Falls. There will be live music by local jazz ensemble Swing Low. The cost of admission includes a raffle ticket for a basket of your choice. The baskets will include gift certificates and other unique items. There will also be a 50-50 cash raffle, and delicious hors d'oeuvres and baked goods for purchase, as well as a cash bar. Proceeds will go towards the purchase of the Community Bike Project building.

#### **APRIL 14 -**

S. LONDONDERRY, Vt. -The Green Mountain School of Crafts, 50 Hearthstone Lane, will hold a Batik Art class on Monday, April 14, from 5-8 p.m. There will also be a Needle Felted Owls class from 3-6 p.m. Materials are included with the cost of these classes. For more information, or to register for a class, go to www. greenmountainschoolof crafts.com.

#### **APRIL 15 –**

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Black River Valley Senior Center, 10 High Street, will be serving lunch on Monday, April 15, at 12 p.m. The menu will consist of American chop suey, tossed salad, and cupcakes. Free cash bingo will follow. Please make reservations

#### **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@chestervt.gov with subject line "Chester EWP Proposal".

#### **Town of Westminster**

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

#### **DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD (DRB)** WESTMINSTER TOWN HALL Westminster, Vermont **Legal Notice**

The Westminster Development Review Board will meet at 6:00 pm on Monday, May 6, 2024 to consider the following:

Application # 24-35 PRELIMINARY PLAT HEARING Jose Guallpa (Owner & Applicant) property located at US Route 5 & Metcalf. The Applicant is requesting a Major sub-division. Application will be reviewed under Section 311 Site Plan Review; Section 445 Historic Village District; Article IX Historic Preservation Overlay; Article X Agricultural Overlay District; Article VIII Sub-Division of Land (Major Sub-Division) of the adopted 2017 Zoning Bylaws.

Application # 24-36 Peter & Jeanne Bennett (Applicants) Kevin & Sarah Brennan (owners) property located at 160 Wright Way. The Applicant is requesting a Lot Line Adjustment. Application will be reviewed under Section 311 Site Plan Review; Section 448 Resource Conservation District; and 215 Zoning Permit Procedures of the adopted 2017 Zoning Bylaws.

Application # 24-37 Ron Rhodes, Connecticut River Conservancy (Applicant) Vermont Agency of Transportation & Island Corp (Owner) Property located at ROW adjacent to Granger Street and Paper Mill Road & 0 Granger Street. The Applicant is requesting the removal of the concrete dam and timber cribbing. Excavation and removal of upstream sediment. Installation of heavy stone to protect US 5 bridge piers and restoration of access paths. Application will be reviewed under Section 445 North Westminster Village District; and Article XI Flood Hazard Areas Overlay

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

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

by calling 802-228-7421. All are welcome.

S. LONDONDERRY, Vt. -The Green Mountain School of Crafts, 50 Hearthstone Lane, will hold a Batik Art class on Monday, April 14, from 5-8 p.m. Batik is an Indonesian technique of wax-resist dyeing applied to the whole cloth. In this class we will be working with 20-inch by 20-inch squares of cotton. We will get our designs down, and draw with hot wax using tjanting tools. Then have fun mixing colors to create one-of-a-kind masterpieces. Materials are included with the cost of this class. For more information, or to register for a class, go to www. greenmountainschoolof crafts.com.

#### **APRIL 16 –**

S. LONDONDERRY, Vt. -The Green Mountain School of Crafts, 50 Hearthstone Lane, will hold a Stained Glass Earrings class on Tuesday, April 16, from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Choose your shape and colors, and learn the process of stained glass. We will cut, grind, foil, and solder these beautiful, wearable works of art. Each person can make two pairs of earrings. Materials are included with the cost of this class. For more information, or to register for a class, go to www. greenmountainschoolof crafts.com.

#### APRIL 17 -

CHESTER, Vt. - All are welcome to attend a Community Vegan Potluck and Film Viewing on Wednesday, April 17, at 6 p.m., at the First Universalist Parish of Chester, 211 North Street. No reservations are needed, just bring a vegan dish to share; no meat, dairy, eggs, honey, or gelatin. This potluck meal will be followed by a viewing of the 90-minute film "Common Ground." The film profiles a hopeful and uplifting movement of farmers who are using alternative "regenerative" agriculture that could help balance the climate, save

to the Municipal Plan.

our health, and stabilize America's economy. For information, call Jon Hart at 802-875-8577.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The First Congregational Church of Springfield will hold a free community lunch on Wednesday, April 17, from 11:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. The menu will be pancakes plain or with blueberries, sausage, Vermont maple syrup, oranges, and apple sauce.

#### **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.

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.

#### **SUNDAYS** -

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

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The Catamount Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol meets Sundays, from 3:30-5:30 p.m., with emergency response, ground services, youth development, and promotion of air, space,

at Hartness Airport in Springfield. The Civil Air Patrol is the auxiliary unit of the U.S. Air Force tasked with the mission of supporting America's communities diverse aviation and

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

and cyber power. Cadets as young as 12 and senior members of any age make up this diverse group of volunteers.

#### **MONDAYS** -

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

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

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

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 -

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. -Come check out TOPS -Take Off Pounds Sensibly. We are a nonjudgmental, affordable, and supportive weight loss group. The first visit is free. We are taking Covid precautions so a mask is required while attending the meeting. All are welcome; youth must be at least 9 to attend and have parental permission. Meetings are every Tuesday at 25 Cherry Hill in Bellows Falls. Weigh-ins start at 5:45 p.m.

CHESTER, Vt. - Bone Builders Class in Chester every Tuesday, from 10-11 a.m. Classes will be held in the First Universalist Parish of Chester community room. Classes are free and open to all. Drop-in class, no registration needed. For details, contact Barbara at bwquilter1778@gmail.com.

#### WEDNESDAYS -

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

WESTMINSTER, Vt. - The First Congregational Church of Westminster's Souper Wednesdays are held every Wednesday until May 1, from 12-2 p.m., in the Church Fellowship Hall, with several delicious soups to try. All are welcome.

#### THURSDAYS -

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

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.

WALPOLE, N.H. -Alcoholics Anonymous women's meeting, a 12-step recovery program for women who have a desire to stop drinking, is happening every Thursday at 6 p.m. at the St. John's Episcopal Church at the corner of Westminster and Elm streets in Walpole, N.H. For more information, call Viva at 802-732-8330.

#### 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.

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. -Main Street Arts, 35 Main Street, will hold the "Originals & Traditionals" Open Mic Night on the fourth Friday of every month, from 7-9 p.m., hosted by musician Putnam Smith. Sign-ups begin at 6:30 p.m. All material should be original or "traditional" (i.e., in the public domain). Each performer can perform two songs or up to 10 minutes, whichever comes first. If you have any questions, please contact Smith at putnamsmith@gmail.com.

#### 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.

#### Town of Londonderry, VT Job Opening - Parks Maintenance Employee

The Town of Londonderry, Vermont is accepting applications for a part-time, seasonal Parks Maintenance position. This position will help maintain grounds and recreation infrastructure in all of Londonderry's Town-owned parks.

A hiring package including the job announcement, job description, and employment application can be found on the Town website: www.londonderryvt.org. Position open until filled. EOE.

#### **DESTRUCTION OF EDUCATIONAL RECORDS**

SPRINGFIELD VERMONT SCHOOL DISTRICT 301 South Street Springfield, Vermont 05156 (802) 885-5121

The Springfield School District (Vermont) will be conducting a "Destruction of Records."These are special educational records and personally identifiable information used within the Individuals With Disability Education Act but are no longer needed to provide educational services to students. The aforementioned records for students with a birth year of 1998 or earlier, will be available for pick up or will be destroyed if arrangements are not made for pick up before May 10th, 2024. Any person desiring their records must submit that request in writing or in an email to the Special

Requests must include the student's name (including any possible name changes) and the student's date of birth.

Please send your request in before May 10th, 2024, to:

**Director of Special Services** Springfield School District 301 South Street Springfield, Vermont 05156 (802) 885-5121 (email requests to: dgray@ssdvt.org)

Other instructions will be provided after making initial contact.

#### **Municipal Fire Chief Employment Opportunity Ludlow Fire Department, Ludlow Vermont**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Town of Baltimore Planning Commission will hold a

public hearing in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §4384 on May,

15, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Baltimore Town Office in Balti-

Additional copies of the proposed Municipal Plan can be

Town Office, during normal business hours.

obtained from the Town Clerk, whose office is located in the

A digital copy is also available online at https://www.marcvt.

Loreen Billings, Chair

org/town-of-baltimore---2024-town-plan-update.html.

more, Vermont to receive comments regarding amendments

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 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

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

If you have any questions, please call the Water Department

7:00 AM to 3:30 PM.

annual distribution system maintenance.

at 228-8431 or the Municipal Office at 228-2842 or 228-

Thank you.

**WANTED** 

SPRINGFIELD AREA - Hardwood

logs wanted. If you need trees

removed give me a call. If you

want hardwood trees cleaned up

and removed, log length or cut, I'm

your guy. 603-443-7009.

## **LEGAL NOTICES**

## classifieds

online marketing platforms. The

ideal candidate is organized, team-oriented, works well on a deadline, and has exceptional

customer service skills. Checking

in to the office and seeing clients

in person required. Base pay,

commission, and gas allowance.

Email publisher@vermontjournal.

com for details and to apply.

## Cavendish calendar seeks photos

CAVENDISH, Vt. - For more than 20 years, the Cavendish Community and Conservation Association (CCCA) has produced a community calendar featuring photographs taken by Cavendish/Proctorsville residents of Cavendish/Proctorsville scenes. Planning for the 2025 calendar is underway, and the planners are asking for local submissions.

The theme for next year is "Cavendish: Resilient and Strong." What images come to mind when you think of the strength and beauty in our community? How do you see nature renew itself? Photos of landscapes, buildings, people, and animals

within Cavendish will be considered for publication.

All photographs will be displayed in the Cavendish Fletcher Community Library, and the public will be able to vote on their favorites during the last week of May. The purpose of the calendar is to bring a greater appreciation and sense of pride about the town, which is the foundation of conservation and good stewardship.

Whether you are a fulltime or a part-time resident, and even if you have never submitted pictures to the calendar before, this is your chance to capture a sight that you appreciate and share it with the community. The

ing residents. The GROW

network is a program of

Think Vermont, and is

funded in part by Vermont's

Agency of Commerce and

OVER 2000 BROKEN-IN TIRES

MANY SETS OF 4

CANON TIRE

I-91, Exit 8, Ascutney, VT

802-674-5600

**NEW TIRES TOO!!** 

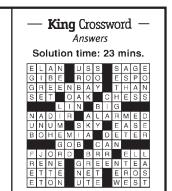
Community Development.

#### **GUNS WANTED** usual submissions are from ordinary people who find

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

#### **HELP WANTED**

Advertising Sales Representative. Candidate will work with local businesses via phone, email, and in person to expand their brand identity and support their future success using our print and



#### Weekly SUDOKU \_\_\_ Answer

beauty in ordinary places.

The deadline for entries is

and rules are available at the

CCCA website, www.caven-

dishccca.org. Please contact

CCCA at cavendishcom-

munityconservation@gmail.

com, or call Robin at 802-

259-2327 if you have ques-

Application procedures

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#### **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.

## DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD HEARING

Wilson & Lawrence Inc.

**Tennis Courts Contractors in** 

Grafton, Vt. is now hiring for our

summer crews

Please call 802-732-8494 Mon-Fri

NOTICE OF WESTON

Jeffrey and Kimberly A Seymour have submitted an application for a two lot subdivision of land owned by Byron C Hart at 341 Piper Hill Rd. The application will be reviewed under Section 590 of the Weston Zoning Regulations.

The Weston Development Review Board will hold a hearing on this application at the Weston Town Hall on May 1, 2024 starting at 5:00 PM. Those interested in seeing the application, submitting written comments, or attending the meeting online should contact the Zoning Administrator at: Town of Weston P.O Box 98, Weston Vt. 05161 or zoning@westonvt.org.

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



THM

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICES

129 Lincoln Avenue, Suite A - Manchester Center, V7 05255

(802) 362-4663 - Fax (802) 362-2630 - TDJ 1-360-545-1832 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,

THM is an equal opportunity provider and employer

FOUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

## **GROW SoVermont** seeks local hosts

**REGION** – With Vermont as a top state for relocators three years in a row, our region has seen a significant amount of recent in-migration. GROW SoVermont is seeking local "hosts" to help welcome newcomers throughout Windham County. Learn more and sign up at www.sovermont. com/grow-partners.

The GROW SoVermont initiative, a program of Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation (BDCC), connects new residents with their communities through newcomers mixers, and by matching them with local

Hosts help newcomers get oriented to their new community and discover ways they might like to get involved, meeting for a hike, coffee, or walking tour of their town. In small towns that are powered by volunteers and community engagement, and whose culture is built on interwoven networks, helping newcomers find their way into meaningful community involvement is essential.

BDCC is a regional parter in a statewide network helping to grow Vermont by welcoming new and return-

#### **LMHUUSD School Board**

Has an Immediate Opening

The Ludlow-Mount Holly Unified Union School District (LMHUUSD) seeks two Ludlow Town resident interested in serving as a member of our local school board. The term of this position will be until Town Meeting Election Day held on Tuesday, March 4th, 2025. The Board meets regularly, the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. and others as necessary. Members may fulfill additional responsibilities such as serving on board committees

Please submit a letter of interest to:

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

## 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. til 7

**Shop** Pottery, Glass, Children's Items, Woodenware, Scarves,

Jewelry, Cards, Fine Art, and More http://galleryvault.org

Photography Show Oceania by Len Emery Open Wall: Thoughts of Spring

Workshops http://galleryvault.org/workshops

Raku Pottery w/ Andrew Berends 4/6 & 4/13 Painting Flowers in Watercolor w/ Rob O'Brien 4/6 Flowers in Texture & Color w/ Julie Crabtree 4/27

#### **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**

**BUIDING 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

#### 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

#### Chiropractor

#### FOUR SEASONS CHIROPRACTIC, PC

Dr. Denise Natale 58 Parker Avenue, Proctorsville, VT 05153, 802-226-7977 Hours: Tuesday 1pm-6pm, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

#### 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.

#### 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

#### **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.

#### Okemo Valley TV

#### **LOCAL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK**

- Pickleball at Ludlow Community Center Yoh Theatre vlog-scenes from "Little Women"
- Ludlow Rotary Club Guest Speaker series
- Legislative Update with Rep. Tesha Buss • Average Daves TV & Movie Talk

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)

# HOME & GARDEN

## Get cash with a cash-out refinance

**LUDLOW, Vt.** – Life happens, and sometimes you need some extra cash. Ever consider looking to your home for the answers? If your home is worth more than what you have left to repay on your mortgage, you may be able to use a cash-out refinance to increase your cash flow.

What is a cash-out refi-

A cash-out refinance is

74 Logan Drive

OFFICE 802-875-1837

ONE STOP FOR ALL YOUR BUILDING NEEDS

Chester, VT

a loan option for a homeowner whose home is worth more than what they owe on their mortgage. With a cash-out refinance, they can replace their old mortgage with a new one and get the difference their equity - as cash to use however they want.

Why get a cash-out refi-

Roofs get damaged, tuition comes due, unex-

OWNER/OPERATOR

CELL 802-376-9751

HOME CENTER

BRIEN

**BK SKIDDING LOGGING** 

AND EXCAVATING

Logging, Burning Brush, Culvert Repair,

Stump Removal, Lot Clearing

**SPRING LAWN & GARDEN NEEDS** 

**LUMBER, BUILDING MATERIALS, HARDWARE, TOOLS** 

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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

pected medical conditions emerge. Maybe you want to build a deck, or complete an improvement project this spring. Whatever the reason is, having some extra cash flow would give you more financial flexibility and more room to breathe. With a cash-out refinance, you'll have the cash flow you need by tapping into your home's equity for a lump sum payment. That's money you can access quickly.

How can you use a cashout refinance?

Optimizing your cash flow is unique to every situation. With a cash-out refinance, you can use the funds from a portion of your home's equity however you see fit. Common uses for a cash-out refinance include:

- Paying for education
- Financing unexpected

expenses

· Consolidating highinterest debt • Funding home im-

provements/repairs Unsure if a cash-out refinance is right for you? That's where I can help. If you're looking

for ways to access more cash, let's take a look at refinancing your mort-

All loans are subject to credit approval and meeting eligibility and equity requirements. Restrictions may apply. By refinancing an existing loan, the payments and total finance changes may be higher over the life of the loan.

Submitted by Victoria Blodgett, production manager of Prime Lending, 802-975-0350, lo.primelending.com/ vblodgett.

## Gardening to absorb the storm

REGION - Seed catalogues in the mail and planting supplies at the store are welcoming signs of spring. Given the rains and flooding of 2023, now is a good time to think about creating gardens that can help protect vour property as well as local rivers, streams, and lakes.

Rain gardens are a cost-effective stormwater management tool that can be incorporated in a variety of landscapes. A rain garden is a bowlshaped garden designed to capture and absorb rainfall and snowmelt. When stormwater is captured, it helps to reduce the volume of runoff, thereby reducing flooding that can erode stream banks. It also helps to reduce excess nutrients, sediment, and pollutants from entering our water

To learn how to create a rain garden, check out the Vermont Rain Garden Manual online at www.dec.vermont.gov/ sites/dec/files/wsm/erp/ docs/sw\_WNRCDrain garden manual.pdf, or pick up a copy at the Cavendish or Ludlow Libraries. This manual includes "The Vermont Rain Garden Plant List" for ferns, grasses, perennials, shrubs, and trees which

This is a handy list to take when going plant shopping this spring, as it provides information on what type of sun exposure a plant needs, salt tolerance, seasonal interest, what pollinators it attracts, and lots more useful information.

While rain gardens are not recommended in a naturally wet area of a lawn, there are other trees and shrubs to plant that will absorb the water in such locations. If you have a low-lying spot that collects rain, an easy solution is to use this space to grow plants that thrive in wet areas. The right plants will absorb the moisture and prevent runoff. Use the plant list in the manual to determine what might work best for your property.

If you are wanting to know more about planting to maintain riverbanks in and around the Black River watershed, contact Black River Action Team (BRAT) at blackrivercleanup@gmail. com or 802-738-0456

If you have gardening questions, take advantage of the free University of Vermont (UVM) Extension Master Gardener Hotline. Volunteers are available to take phone calls on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., at 802-656-5421. Or you can submit your question online at www.uvm. edu/extension/mastergardener/helpline.

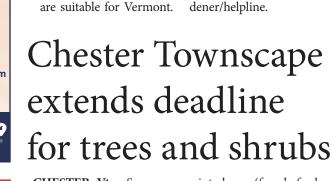












plans for spring, but Ches- (male pollinator), little quick ter Townscape has extended the deadline for orders for its 2024 Tree and Shrub Sale to Friday, April 12. This event offers good-size trees and shrubs at below regular nursery retail prices to help people beautify their properties. Choose from seven proven winners: red sprite

CHESTER, Vt. - Snow re- winterberry (female for berality might have held back ries), Jim Dandy winterberry fire hydrangea, autumn brilliance shadbush, dwarf buttonbush, firelight hydrangea, and PJM elite rhododen-

All specimens are hardy and low maintenance, feature multiseason interest, and sport beautiful blossoms. Most are native. All appeal to pollinators and/or birds. Proceeds from the sale support Chester Townscape's charitable civic projects, such as the floral pots and bridge boxes that beautify the town for residents and visitors.

Buyers do not have to be Chester residents, but they do have to preorder and pay by April 12, and then pick up the shrubs in early May from Main Street in central Chester. For an informative order form that gives details about the shrubs, their botanical names, prices, and where to send the check and order form, please hurry and visit www.chestervt.gov/chestertownscape.html, or contact Lillian Willis at 802-875-1340 or lbwillisct@comcast.





