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MAY 01, 2024 | WWW.VERMONTJOURNAL.COM

VOLUME 24, ISSUE 18

Chester community meeting for neighborhood watch

CHESTER, Vt. – The wellbeing and security of our community are paramount interests for the residents of Chester. In response to this, the Chester Police Advisory Committee is announcing a planning meeting aimed at gauging interest in launching a neighborhood watch program. This meeting will serve as an opportunity for residents to learn about the program, its benefits, and

how they can get involved.

Inspired by the principles outlined by the National Neighborhood Watch Program, our local initiative seeks to empower residents to take an active role in supporting one another through collaboration and communication.

Neighborhood watch programs have a proven record of accomplishment in communities across the nation. By working together,

residents can effectively deter crime, reduce fear, and improve quality of life for everyone.

To kick off the planning process for the neighborhood watch program, the Chester Police Advisory Committee invites all interested community members to attend an informational meeting on May 14, at 6 p.m., at the Chester Town Hall. This meeting will provide an overview of the

program, discuss its benefits, and allow residents to express their interest in participating.

Join us in building a stronger, more connected community through the neighborhood watch and neighborhood association programs.

For more information, please contact the Chester Police Advisory Committee at cac.chester.vt@gmail.com.



Proctorsville Green Up Day

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – Daffodils are blooming, so it is time to tidy up the Proctorsville Green and surrounding gardens. All Cavendish Streetscape volunteers and neighbors are invited to bring work gloves and garden tools to work together on Saturday, May 4, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Hope to see you on the Green.

PHOTO PROVIDED

ESBR hosts open house for prospective students –

LUDLOW, Vt. – With the current school year winding down fast, The Expeditionary School at Black River (ESBR) hosted an open house on the evening of Thursday, April 25, to showcase to prospective families, as well as curious community members, what the school offers, how far it has come, where it will grow, and how it benefits our small community. An intimate gathering, the board and staff in attendance were pleased with the turnout. Current students and families spoke up about their positive experiences, and guests were eager to learn more. Board and staff members also expressed how unique ESBR

is, and the role it fulfills for the students is admirably apparent.

Choice-town families can now utilize their education tax dollars for their children at ESBR, and the school is excited for the opportunity to expand and welcome more students and families. ESBR is also offering several scholarships for families outside of choice towns, and home-school families are also welcome to inquire about ESBR, as the expeditionary school model allows for many flexible and creative options for education.

As an independent school, ESBR offers a unique opportunity to utilize funding locally and help the com-

munity expand. Providing a specialized and financially viable secondary school option will help the community find ways to thrive. Everyone is invited to get involved. ESBR looks forward to the 2024-2025 school year. Further information on ESBR is available at www.esblackriver.org. If you would like to learn more about the school or get involved, please contact Gary Blodgett, chair of the board, at gblodgett@esblackriver.org, and please visit our website. Donations can be made on the website, or by mailing a check to P.O. Box 485, Ludlow, VT 05149.

BRGNS Spring Rummage Sale

LUDLOW, Vt. – Black River Good Neighbor Services (BRGNS) will hold its annual Spring Rummage Sale at Fletcher Farm, 611 Route 103 South in Ludlow, on Friday, May 24, and Saturday, May 25, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. each day.

This gigantic sale includes a barn full of spring and summer clothing for the entire family, a boutique, shoe department, sporting goods department, housewares department, linens, books, furniture,

bake sale, and grill. An amazing amount of merchandise at rock bottom prices.

Proceeds from the sale benefit Black River Good Neighbor Services food and financial assistance programs. According to executive director Krey Kellington, “All monies are directed back into our community, where most needed.”

Funds raised will help cover food, costs of utilities, heating fuel, rent, and flood and disaster relief for qualified individuals and

families residing in Ludlow, Mount Holly, Belmont, Cavendish, Proctorsville, and Plymouth.

Mark your calendar and come explore the many unique bargains on May 24 and 25. Donations of furniture and household goods are also most appreciated. To arrange a drop off, please call 802-228-3663.

For further details, please contact Krey Kellington at Black River Good Neighbor Services, 37B Main Street, Ludlow, at 802-228-3663 or kkellingtonbrgns@gmail.com.

Local dispensary encourages holistic pain management –

BY PAULA BENSON

The Vermont Journal

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – The slogan around Green Mountain Therapeutics cannabis dispensary is “We’ve got the gas,” and owner Kellie D’Elia-Laskin appreciates it when people pick up on the double entendre that calls back to a mid-2000s slang expression referring to a strong or “dank” strain of marijuana, with a nod to the previous tenant at the North Main Street location in Londonderry, Willy’s Mobilgas. A framed 1957 photo of the old gas station and garage stands on a counter.

Last July, the building construction was nearly complete and they were about to have the final electrical inspection, when Londonderry was battered by the storm that came through the state on July 9-10, flooding Main Street and all but destroying many of the businesses along Route 11.

Inside the dispensary last week, D’Elia-Laskin pointed to the watermark remaining on one unfinished section of wall – 4 feet up from the floor. The flood heavily damaged the walls, floor, shelving, and cabinets, which all had to be replaced.



The front of Green Mountain Therapeutics.

PHOTO BY PAULA BENSON

Along with her partner Kevin Bopp, and with a lot of help from the Londonderry community, D’Elia-Laskin put her head down and just kept moving forward. She said the ladies from the Second Congregational Church across the street were “amazing,” bringing them water and meals during the first couple of weeks of recovery.

Neighborhood Connections were also incredibly supportive, Bopp said. “They fed us, found us volunteers. I can’t say enough good things about that organization.”

D’Elia-Laskin’s appreciation for natural health and

wellness is why she ventured into the cannabis industry; she has been a yoga and Pilates instructor for over 30 years. Both she and Bopp want to remove the stigma surrounding cannabis, and the strong bond they now share with the community is a welcome silver lining to come from the flood.

One of D’Elia-Laskin’s reasons to open the dispensary is very personal.

After graduating from Green Mountain College, D’Elia-Laskin moved out west, where she met and married Bradley Laskin, and they had a son. Laskin worked in construction, and after being injured on



Photo of the old gas station.

PHOTO BY PAULA BENSON

a job site, Laskin underwent pancreas surgery. He passed away only ten days after the operation. In those ten days, D’Elia-Laskin witnessed her husband quickly become addicted to opioids, and feels strongly about offering people an alternative, safer, more natural pain relief, in the form of legal cannabis products.

The goal of Green Mountain Therapeutics is to provide customers with top quality, Vermont-curated cannabis flower, concentrates, and edibles, in a calming environment that lets people feel safe and comfortable. The shop finally had its soft opening

just this spring, and they continue making progress.

Bopp enjoys talking with their customers and helping them figure out what might work best for them.

The couple grew up in Cheshire, Mass., but didn’t really run in the same circles. “I had a crush on him,” D’Elia-Laskin remarked. “It’s true!”

They kept in casual contact during D’Elia-Laskin’s time in Colorado and Lake Tahoe, and after she and her son moved to Stratton, Vt., in 2016, Bopp reached out and invited her to join him at the Wanderlust Yoga and Music Festival at Stratton Mountain.

Since then, they have merged their lives, managing to raise three teenage boys (Bopp has two) while getting Green Mountain Therapeutics up and running. Now, they work together, sharing ideas and making decisions about the space and products, pivoting when necessary.

Plans to expand into beekeeping and infused honey products, and an idea to help couples plan a “weed wedding” are two new concepts.

The shop currently stocks an elegantly packaged box of “dog-walkers,” small joints meant to smoke in a short amount of time, which would make cute bridesmaid gifts for the right bridal party.

Ultimately, the renovations created some new opportunities, such as installing a concrete floor rather than another wooden one. The chance for a do-over also allowed them to make the dispensary handicapped accessible.

“We’ve been learning to make small adjustments,” relayed Bopp. “Just like in yoga and Pilates.” D’Elia-Laskin smiled.

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Fundraising concert for the Weston Playhouse

WESTON, Vt. – University of Vermont Professor and internationally renowned pianist David Feurzeig will complete his 56th performance in the Play Every Town: Concert for a Cooler Climate series at the Old Parish Church in Weston, Vt., on Saturday, May 11, at 2 p.m.

Feurzeig tailors his Play Every Town community concerts to suit each of the 252 towns in Vermont that he will visit between 2022 and 2026. Every program is different, at least in some part, and is adapted to the piano at each venue, which vary from concert grands to antique uprights, and everything in between.

The devastating flooding which occurred in the town of Weston and other towns statewide in July 2023 saw

many families and businesses throughout Vermont experience the impact of the climate crisis on their own doorstep. Almost a year later, the Weston community still hasn't fully recovered from the flood damage. The concert on the Old Parish Church grand piano will raise funds for much-needed repairs to the Weston Playhouse, which saw a record level of 10 feet of water from the West River pour into the basement and part of the auditorium. The Weston concert will also feature local professional musicians, Vermont State University Professor Peter Miller on the violin, and soprano Anne D'Olivo, who is the Old Parish Church music director and an alumna of the Weston Theatre Com-

pany.

Admission is free; donations at the door (cash or check) are welcome. Checks should be made payable to the Weston Community Association, which owns the playhouse. For further information, go to the Play Every Town website at www.playeverytown.com.

Teen open mic at Chester Town Hall Theater

CHESTER, Vt. – Aspiring musicians (solo, duo, or trio), singers, dancers, and poets, ages 13-18, are invited to perform at Chester Town Hall's second-floor theater on Saturday, May 4, from 6:30-8 p.m., before an appreciative audience of neighbors, friends, and family. Each artist will have 10 minutes to perform. If

time allows, performers will be given a second set.

Microphones, a music stand, sound system, and guitar and bass amplifiers will be provided, and a sound engineer will be there to provide professional audio. Bring your instrument. Singers are welcome to bring a backing track on a USB drive in MP3 format. Performers are strongly

encouraged to sign up in advance, especially if you have equipment to set up, by emailing upstairsatownhall@gmail.com. Include a description of your performance, and any musical instruments you will be playing. In-person sign up the night of the event opens at 5:30 p.m. Soft drinks will be available. Feel free to bring snacks. Admission is free.

Adjusting to life financially after a divorce

REGION – There's no doubt about it – going through a divorce can be an emotionally trying time. Ironing out a divorce settlement, attending various court hearings, and dealing with competing attorneys can all weigh heavily on the parties involved.

In addition to the emotional impact a divorce can have, it's important to be aware of how your financial position will be impacted. Now more than ever, you need to make sure that your finances are on the right track. You will then be able to put the past behind you, and set in place the building blocks that can be the foundation for your new financial future.

Assess your current financial situation

Following a divorce, you'll need to get a handle on your finances and assess your current financial situation, taking into account the likely loss of your former spouse's income. In addition, you may now be responsible for paying for expenses that you were once able to share with your former spouse, such as housing, utilities, and car loans. Ultimately, you may come to the realization that you're no longer able to live the lifestyle you were accustomed to before your divorce.

Establish a budget

A good place to start is to establish a budget that reflects your current monthly income and expenses. In addition to your regular salary and wages, be sure to include other types of income, such as dividends and interest. If you will be receiving alimony and/or child support, you'll want to include those payments as well.

As for expenses, you'll want to focus on dividing them into two categories: fixed and discretionary. Fixed expenses include things like housing, food, and transportation. Discretionary expenses include things like entertainment, vacations, etc.

Keep in mind that you may need to cut back on some of your discretionary expenses until you adjust to living on less income. However, it's important not to deprive yourself entirely of any enjoyment. You'll want to build the occasional reward (for example, yoga class, dinner with friends) into your budget.

Reevaluate/reprioritize your financial goals

Your next step should be to reevaluate your financial goals. While you were married, you may have set certain financial goals with your spouse. Now that you are on your own, these goals may have changed. Start out by making a list of the things that you now would like to achieve. Do you need to put more money towards retirement? Are you interested in going back to school? Would you like to save for a new home?

You'll want to be sure to reprioritize your financial goals as well. You and your spouse may have planned on buying a vacation home at the beach. After your divorce, however, you may find that other goals may become more important (for example, making sure your cash reserve is adequately funded).

Take control of your debt

While you're adjusting to your new budget, be sure that you take control of your debt and credit. You should try to avoid the temptation to rely on credit cards to provide extras. And if you do have debt, try to put a plan in place to pay it off as quickly as possible. Some tips to pay back your debt are: keep track of balances and interest rates, develop a plan to manage payments and avoid late fees, pay off high-interest debt first, and take advantage of debt consolidation/refinancing options.

Protect/establish credit

Since divorce can have a negative impact on your credit rating, consider taking steps to try to protect your credit record and/or establish credit in your own name. A positive credit history is important, since it will allow you to obtain credit when you need it,

and at a lower interest rate. Good credit is even sometimes viewed by employers as a prerequisite for employment.

Review your credit report, and check it for any inaccuracies. Are there joint accounts that have been closed or refinanced? Are there any names on the report that need to be changed? You're entitled to a free copy of your credit report once a year from each of the three major credit-reporting agencies. You can go to www.annualcreditreport.com for more information.

To establish a good track record with creditors, be sure to make your monthly bill payments on time, and try to avoid having too many credit inquiries on your report. Such inquiries are made every time you apply for new credit cards.

Review your insurance needs

Typically, insurance coverage for one or both spouses is negotiated as part of a divorce settlement. However, you may have additional insurance needs that go beyond that which you were able to obtain through your divorce settlement.

When it comes to health insurance, make having adequate coverage a priority. Unless your divorce settlement requires your spouse to provide you with health coverage, one option is to obtain temporary health insurance coverage, up to 36 months, through the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA). You can also look into purchasing individual coverage or, if you're employed, coverage through your employer.

Now that you're on your own, you'll also want to make sure that your disability income and life insurance coverage matches your current needs. This is especially true if you are reentering the workforce, or if you're the custodial parent of your children.

Finally, make sure that your property insurance coverage is updated. Any applicable property insurance policies may need to be modified or rewritten in order to reflect property ownership changes that may have resulted from your divorce.

Change your beneficiary designations

After a divorce, you'll want to change the beneficiary designations on any life in-

surance policies, retirement accounts, and bank or credit union accounts you may have in place. Keep in mind that a divorce settlement may require you to keep a former spouse as a beneficiary on a policy, in which case you cannot change the beneficiary designation.

This is also a good time to make a will or update your existing one to reflect your new status. Make sure that your former spouse isn't still named as a personal representative, successor trustee, beneficiary, or holder of a power of attorney in any of your estate planning documents.

Consider tax implications

You'll also need to consider the tax implications of your divorce. Your sources of income, filing status, and the credits and/or deductions for which you qualify may all be affected.

In addition to your regular salary and wages, you may have new sources of income after your divorce, such as alimony and/or child support.

Your tax filing status will also change. Filing status is determined as of the last day of the tax year, Dec. 31. This means that even if you were divorced on Dec. 31, you would, for tax purposes, be considered divorced for that entire year.

Finally, if you have children, and depending on whether you are the custodial parent, you may be eligible to claim certain credits and deductions. These could include the child tax credit, and the credit for child and dependent care expenses, along with college-related tax credits and deductions. Ask a tax professional for information on your individual situation.

Consult a financial professional

Although it can certainly be done on your own, you may want to consider consulting a financial professional to assist you in adjusting to your new financial life. In addition to helping you assess your needs, a financial professional can work with you to develop a plan designed to help you address your financial goals, make recommendations about specific products and services, and monitor and adjust your plan as needed.

Written by Huntley Financial Services, Ludlow, Vt., 802-228-5774.



Cleanup underway at the Weston Playhouse. PHOTO BY ROB AFT

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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
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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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦♦

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

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 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
- Mendes and Camila Cabello
- "Oops!"
- Walked (on)
- Standard
- Infatuated
- Bohemian
- Swiss peak
- "Walk on the Wild Side"
- King's cousin
- "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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Journal, LLC is a member of the Vermont Press Association

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:
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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 fiance 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 – BELLOW 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.

BELLOW 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.

BELLOW 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 – BELLOW 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 rickschumann@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.

HCRS welcomes Annal-

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

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.

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 / wRep. 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)

