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Shaw's reopens in Ludlow

BY NICK GIBERTI
 The Vermont Journal

LUDLOW, Vt. – Nearly a year after closing, having lost all its inventory and sustained significant damage in the flood of July 2023, Shaw's in Ludlow held its grand reopening on Friday morning, June 28, at 9 a.m. The long-empty parking lot was full to capacity, with many residents, town officials, Shaw's employees, and members of the Okemo Valley Chamber of Commerce on hand for the ribbon cutting ceremony. Some appeared to already be taking advantage of the ability to shop for groceries in Ludlow for the first time since the flood.

With the adjacent Rite Aid electing not to reopen, Shaw's has now expanded into the space which the pharmacy chain formerly occupied, adding its own Shaw's Pharmacy in its place. The wall separating the spaces has been opened, creating a seamless transition from the main grocery store to the new pharmacy area. The phar-



Shaw's on the morning of its grand reopening. PHOTO BY NICK GIBERTI

macy opened at the same time as the grocery store, and is managed by Dillon Sutherland, Pharm. D.

During the grand opening celebration, store director Mark Largerberg furnished two \$2,500 donations to the Black River Valley Senior Center and Black River Good Neighbor Services, local organizations serving the Ludlow community.

"On behalf of Shaw's, we thank the Town of Ludlow for partnering with us on the grand reopening of the store," said Jim Sussmann, Shaw's Vermont district manager, in a provided press release. "We are extremely proud of our Lud-

low store, and today's grand reopening is an exciting day for our employees, vendors, and community partners."

The proposed flood wall, part of the flood-proofing measures meant to keep the building from being inundated in any future floods, did not appear to have materialized as of the reopening. When contacted for comment about the flood mitigation measures, Shaw's spokesperson Teresa Edington stated that, "We will continue to work with FEMA and the Town of Ludlow to comply with related requirements."

Ludlow Fire Chief Peter Kolenda retires after 25 years

BY PAULA BENSON
 The Vermont Journal

LUDLOW, Vt. – Retiring Ludlow Fire Chief Peter Kolenda waved as he exited the Ludlow Fire Station on Sunday, June 30, at 12 p.m. Kolenda was being honored with a boisterous "escort home," sirens blaring and lights flashing in celebration of the chief's last day on the job. Kolenda recently announced his retirement from the department, after serving the town for 25 years.

Led by three of the Ludlow Fire Department (LFD) lime-yellow trucks, the procession included firetrucks from the neighboring towns of Proctorsville, Chester, Plymouth, and Mount Holly, as well as the Ludlow Ambulance Service.

A statement posted on the Proctorsville Volunteer Fire Department

(PFD) Facebook page read, "Many folks may not realize that Chief Kolenda started out in the fire service here at PFD. He even became our chief before relocating to Ludlow and joining the Ludlow Fire Department many years ago. Once with LFD, he continued to make a difference here in Proctorsville through mutual aid."

"Thank you, Chief, for all your years of service to Ludlow and the greater area," the statement from PFD concluded.

Before climbing into LFD Fire Engine #2 for the escort to his home on Freedom Hill, Kolenda quipped, "I'm still fire chief for 12 more hours!"

Traditionally an all-volunteer fire department, Ludlow decided to hire its first full-time fire chief. Ben Whalen, who previously served as fire chief in Chester, and as



Retiring Fire Chief Peter Kolenda. PHOTO PAULA BENSON

state fire marshal, will take over the position on July 1. Whalen worked alongside Kolenda for two weeks prior to stepping in as chief.

"Knowing Peter was going to retire, we thought it was the right time to take this crucial step," said municipal manager Brendan McNamara. "As a town [whose occupancy] can go as high as 30,000 in winter, we made the decision to hire a full-time fire chief."

LRC honors changing of the gavel –

LUDLOW, Vt. – Members of the Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) gathered at the summer home of member Tom Harris for their annual Changing of the Gavel and picnic. The summer picnic was highlighted by the introduction of the new LRC president, George Thomson, as he assumed that responsibility from Thomas Ray, the outgoing president of the club. At that time, Thomson honored Ray with a plaque for his leadership and guidance of the LRC for the past year. In addition to this ceremony, LRC members enjoyed the fun and camaraderie of each other offered by the lakefront site of the picnic.



Incoming LRC President George Thomson (left) awards a plaque to outgoing President Thomas Ray. PHOTO PROVIDED

Springfield Garden Club 2024 scholarship winners

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Garden Club (SGC) is pleased to announce the winners of the Springfield Garden Club Scholarship and the Sandy MacGillivray Scholarship for 2024.

Abbigale Williams is the recipient of the 2024 Springfield Garden Club Scholarship. Williams lives in Andover, and is a graduate of Green Mountain Union High School in Chester, Vt. She will be attending Elmira College in New York this coming fall. Her major is in



Scholarship winners Abbigale Williams and Jacob Stockman (center) with SGC scholarship committee members. PHOTO PROVIDED

BRAM personalized brick fundraiser

LUDLOW, Vt. – Support the Black River Academy Museum (BRAM) and purchase a brick for a loved one, friend or neighbor, someone's birthday, or in support of a class like "The Class of 87."

The bricks are personalized by you, and will then be sent to be engraved. They will be positioned in our memorial brick sidewalk.

Bricks can be purchased at the academy building, 14 High Street in Ludlow, or

from anyone on the board of trustees: Sue Polender, Heidi Baitz, Sharon Bixby, Paula Ferro, Joyce Washburn, Stephanie Rowe, Frank Ellison, Joan Merrill, Lorraine Hughes, and Joy Donnelly. Or call the director, Georgia

Brehm, at the museum at 802-228-5050.

Help support the local museum, the alma mater of former President Calvin Coolidge, and pay tribute to a friend or loved one at the same time.

criminal justice, however, it is her minor that caught the attention of the garden club. She has a passion for the environment, and will be minoring in environmental science. "I want to help people, as well as my environment, thrive among each other. I want to keep everyone safe and help people use and respect the earth as they should," says Williams.

The Garden Club Scholarship Committee will present Williams' college with \$1,000 for the first semester, and will follow that with an additional \$1,000 for the second semester.

The winner of the 2024 Sandy MacGillivray Scholarship is Jacob Stockman, a graduate of Bellows Falls Union High School and student at River Valley Technical Center. This scholarship of \$1,000 is given to one River Valley Technical Center student each year in remembrance of former teacher, SGC

member, and outstanding citizen of Springfield Sandy MacGillivray. MacGillivray taught business courses at the tech center and at Springfield High School for many years. She loved to work with students, and to encourage and guide them in any way she could into living productive lives.

Stockman plans to major in elementary education at Vermont State University in Lyndon, Vt. He shared with the garden club members, "I am extremely excited to have the opportunity to pursue education. I have wanted to become a teacher since the sixth grade."

The Springfield Garden Club is delighted to award these scholarships to two outstanding young adults. "We look forward to seeing them achieve their dreams, and we are happy to be able to support the efforts of Abbigale and Jacob," says Barbara Riotte, SGC treasurer.

Written by Sandy Peplau, SGC scholarship chair.

DNA identifies remains found in Cavendish

CAVENDISH, Vt. – DNA testing has revealed that a human skull discovered four years ago in Cavendish is that of a man who had been reported missing in June 2010.

The remains were positively identified as Bryan Gomez of Cavendish, who was 48 years old when he disappeared. A neighbor reported him missing to the Vermont State Police on July 6, 2010, after having not seen him since June

10. Search efforts and ongoing investigation into his whereabouts had been unsuccessful.

In November 2020, a hunter in the woods in Cavendish located a human skull and reported the discovery to the police. Forensic examiners were able to obtain DNA from the skull and compare the genetic profile to the siblings of Gomez. The comparison indicated there was strong support for relatedness.

The Vermont Chief Medical Examiner's Office determined the DNA comparison was sufficient to make positive identification, and earlier this year formally concluded that the remains were those of Gomez.

Forensic work has been unable to determine the cause or manner of Gomez's death. Anyone with information relevant to this case should contact Sgt. Jason Lengfeller at the West-

minster Barracks at 802-722-4600. Information also may be provided anonymously online at www.vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit.

The Vermont State Police thanks the individuals and agencies involved in the search for Gomez over the years, and the work to positively identify him, and expresses deep condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Gomez for their loss.

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

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Singo fundraiser packs United Church hall

LUDLOW, Vt. – A special Singo Bingo Night held to raise funds for the United Church of Ludlow’s “Ring Out Love” Capital Campaign packed the church hall with enthusiastic members of the Ludlow community on Monday, June 24, and raised \$1,120 to rehabilitate the church’s historic church bell.

“We were thrilled to see so many people in the community come out and support our efforts to restore the old church bell,” said Pastor Michelle Fountain. “We are planning more opportunities to open up our church for fun and fellowship and to support community organizations as well. Stay tuned.”

Jane McGarry, who runs the popular Singo games at Off the Rails, Black Line Tavern (Magic Mountain), and other New England venues, hosted the special event. Ludlow musician Sammy Blanchette, aka Sammy B, performed the songs live, adding a unique twist to a fun event that usually offers recorded music.

The evening produced three rollicking hours of

guitar licks, loud sing-alongs to classic rock tunes, and the screeches of happy winners. Two people took home 15-punch cards for the Spring House at Okemo, and the grand prize winner received a Lamere Square Gift Basket that included pizza, bedsheets, wine, hot sauce, and more, donated by the merchants of that downtown shopping center.

The night would not have happened without the generosity of many people and businesses in the community. McGarry and Blanchette donated their time and talent; Off the Rails donated pizza; Johnny’s Kitchen donated a tray of sandwiches; The Spring House at Okemo Mountain Resort provided punch-cards and granola bars; Goodman’s American Pie gave a pizza gift certificate; Tygart Trading Post provided a gift certificate for bedsheets; Yeah!



Sammy Blanchette entertains the crowd at the United Church Singo fundraiser. PHOTO PROVIDED

Wine Shop provided a bottle of red wine; Tacos Mexican Restaurant gave a T-shirt, bottle opener, and a hot sauce sampler; and members of the United Church of Ludlow provided desserts, beverages, coffee, and more.

Singo is a musical variation of bingo that uses songs instead of numbers to fill playing cards. It’s fun for all ages, everybody sings along, and winners get prizes for each of three Singo rounds. Normally the host uses recorded music, but at the United Church, Blanchette played live a combination of classic rock tunes and original songs.

Learn more about Singo at www.playsingo.com. Sammy Blanchette is online at www.sammy-blanchette.net.

The Hub at Weston earns 2024 Wine Spectator Restaurant Award

WESTON, Vt. – Wine Spectator, the world’s leading authority on wine, has awarded The Hub at Weston their coveted Restaurant Award, declaring it one of the world’s best restaurants for wine. The honor was announced this week on Wine Spectator’s website, and will appear in their August print edition that reaches more than 3 million readers worldwide.

Launched in 1981, the Restaurant Awards represent the world’s only program focused exclusively on restaurant wine service. The Award of Excellence recognizes restaurants whose wine lists feature a well-chosen assortment of quality producers, along

with a thematic match to the menu in both price and style.

The Hub at Weston has been called a southern Vermont gem. Nestled beside the enchanting Walker Farm Theater, The Hub invites guests to indulge in a culinary adventure. Fresh, local ingredients take center stage on the seasonally inspired menu, while the warm atmosphere fosters connection and community.

“I believe wine is food,” says Michael Ehlenfeldt, chef and wine director at The Hub at Weston. “It’s grown and often made by farmers just as the vegetables, fruit, and meat that we serve at the Hub. It’s as important to me to know where our wines come from

and how they are made as it is with the food we serve. Our wines are chosen to pair with our menus throughout the year and adapt with the seasons.”

Ehlenfeldt curates themed wine dinners several times during the year, showcasing the best of European and American wines paired with his seasonal, locally sourced delicacies. The Hub’s next wine dinner is on July 20, and will offer an opportunity to taste Failla wines with winemaker Ehren Jordon, and east coast representative Katie Spigner. The multicourse meal features six outstanding wines from the Failla vineyards. More information about the dinner can be found at www.thehubatweston.com.

Black River Academy Museum raffle and thanks

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Black River Academy Museum (BRAM) is selling raffle tickets for a quilted wall hanging designed by Susan Damone for one of our fundraisers. These raffle tickets can be purchased at the mu-

seum, Aubuchon Hardware, The Eatery, The Book Nook, and/or at Hair by Paula. In addition, you could ask any board member if interested.

We are very thankful and most appreciative to these businesses for their support, and are glad we live in a community where people

are willing to help one another.

Lastly, we would like to thank Aggie Sheldon for selling 23 raffle tickets for us. We are indebted to you for your help.

The drawing for the raffle ticket is Aug. 24, so purchase your tickets now.

Kids art program at the library

S. LONDONDERRY, Vt. – The South Londonderry Free Library invites kids of all ages to a summer art-making adventure with art teacher Casey Junker Bailey on Friday, July

12, at 11 a.m. Learn how to draw Bear and friends, get some library swag, and receive a copy of “Bear Came Along” to keep. For more information, contact the library at 802-824-3371.

Fletcher Memorial Library expands summer hours

LUDLOW, Vt. – Fletcher Memorial Library is happy to announce the return of Saturday open hours during this summer. The library will be open on Saturday mornings, from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., starting on Saturday, July 6. Look forward to special programs

on occasional Saturdays as well. We are able to expand our hours due to the commitment of community members to volunteer their time at the library. Stop by and thank them. Fletcher Memorial Library is located at 88 Main Street, Ludlow, Vt. Please contact us with questions at 802-228-8921. For more information, visit www.fmlnews.org.

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July Fourth

BY RON PATCH

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July Fourth is my favorite holiday. Our rights and freedoms, outlined in the Constitution, come at a horrific price. Protect them.

Ned Larkin
I don't know a lot about Ned Larkin, but I will tell you what I know. Danny looked him up for me. Ned was born in Chester in 1871. He was living on Cobleigh Street when he died in 1945. It is known he worked at the National Survey on School Street. Ned is buried in East Putney with his parents. His father was James. His mother was Nancy Peabody Larkin. Nancy was from Andover.

It was probably 40 years ago, Bob Farnsworth had an auction on upper Main Street. This was the house with porches beyond where I.J. Nichols lived. Many years have passed now, but I remember it was an excellent antiques auction. My memory fades, but it might

have been the Sargent family.

At this sale I bought the unframed painting (since framed) you see with this article. There was a note with it that it was painted by Ned Larkin. I have since lost the note.

I have always collected patriotic antiques. I love the American flag and the bald eagle. When I saw this painting, I had to have it. It dates from between 1941 and 1945.

The painting

The painting is a watercolor and gouache on paper. Standing at center is an American Indian with his eagle feather war bonnet. His arms reach up to the Great Spirit. In the background are snow-covered Rocky Mountains. At upper left, three U.S. fighter planes appear in the distance.

The American flag in the painting makes the hair on the back of my neck stand up. It is prominent, as it should be. The furles are incredible. The text below says it all:

"O! Say, SHALL THE STAR-SPANGLED-BANNER Still Wave?" Can you imagine living at a time when your very existence was threatened? We have it so easy today.

As I said, I am very patriotic. Even my suspenders are red, white, and blue. These colors don't run, they bleed.

The home front

Ned Larkin, as mentioned before, painted this patriotic scene during World War II. Americans were fighting on two fronts, in Europe and in the Pacific. Even in a small town like Chester, everyone would have known a soldier overseas, or a soldier who had been killed.

No television in those days, so you got your news from a newspaper or a radio. The entire country was behind this effort. We knew we had to win or submit to Hitler or Tojo. "Never surrender," was often heard.

Families would listen to the radio before retiring for the night. Children didn't understand and were frightened. This continued from

December 1941 into August 1945. Many went to bed worried about family members serving.

Newspaper headlines brought the news home, including losses we endured. Still the home front kept on, everyone doing what they could to help. Chester women organized to make much-needed bandages for the war effort, making over 100,000 bandages total. This effort was repeated countless times across the country. School children collected pots and pans and scrap metal for the war effort. The Chester Fire Department on School Street scrapped their obsolete firefighting steam pumper for the war effort. There was a shortage of knives for our troops, so knife drives were held. Everyone pitched in.

Ted Spaulding told me his parents, Edward and Lou, sold Ned's estate at auction in the summer of 1945. I had Ned's painting framed and archivally matted at the Framery of Vermont. UV protecting glass was used to



Ned Larkin's patriotic painting.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY RON PATCH

protect it from fading caused by any damaging UV light source.

There are two things I can never be. One is educated, the other a veteran. I often feel inadequate when in the company of someone educated, but more so in the

company of a veteran. I never saw the elephant.

This week's old saying: "I don't mind if you do something that gets you killed, but I'll be damned if I'll let you do something that gets me killed."

SRDC announces loan awards

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Springfield Regional Development Corporation (SRDC) has announced the approval of \$155,000 in financing for two area companies through the Springfield Area CARES Act Revolving Loan Fund and Springfield Area Revolving Loan Fund. Both loan funds utilize grants

from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) to assist businesses in southern Windsor County.

The loans that were approved include financing for the pending expansion of Blake Hill Preserves in Windsor, and for Meditrina in Chester, which is planning to open a wine

bar and restaurant.

The Springfield Area Revolving Loan Fund is available for companies in the 10 towns within the SRDC service region. For more information, or to get a loan application, please contact us at SRDC at 802-885-3061 or bobf@springfielddevelopment.org.

Rockingham Old Home Days seeks vendors

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Rockingham Old Home Days will be held at the Waypoint Center, 17 Depot Street, Bellows Falls, Vt., on Aug. 3, from 1-9:30 p.m.

Vendor spaces are available now. Email info@gfrcc.org, or call 802-463-4280 or 802-384-0739 for vendor registration form and more details. Reservations and payments must be received by July 24.

Setup is from 10:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Booths are 10-foot by 10-foot spaces. Vendors are responsible for tables, tents/pop-ups, chairs, extension cords, trash cans, and trash removal. Please advise us if you require electricity to operate your booth. Please do not offer silly string, knives, or weapons of any kind for resale

or as prizes. The chamber

popcorn, water, and lemonade.

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health & wellness OPINION

“Break the Bias” at the library

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Join us on Wednesday, July 24, at 6 p.m., at the Springfield Town Library, for “Break the Bias,” a special event to reduce the stigma around addiction and mental illness. The event will feature personal stories from individuals who have experienced shame due to their addiction and disability. Attendees can watch a short video and listen to community members share their experiences, either in person or through anonymous

writing. The event will be facilitated by Patricia Jones of VINE Sanctuary. This event is part of a series by VINE Sanctuary for Disability Pride Month, and is being organized in collaboration with the Springfield Library. The event is free for all and open to the public. To sign up for a reminder, visit our calendar of events at www.springfieldtownlibrary.org/calendar.

Valley Village long-term care awards

TOWNSHEND, Vt. – Three team members from Valley Village senior housing (formerly known as Valley Cares) were recognized recently with excellence awards at the Vermont Health Care Association’s annual award ceremony at the Spruce Peak Lodge in Stowe, Vt. Valley Village’s management and staff were awarded as Assisted Living Administrator of the Year, the Dietary and Housekeeping Services Director of the Year, and the Administrative Assistant of the Year.

The Vermont Health Care Association (VHCA) represents the state’s long-term care facilities. Each year they recognize employees from long-term care facilities across the state for their outstanding dedication and achievements. Nominations are reviewed based on dedication and commitment to residents, the facility, and their profession. The VHCA committee

also considers the number of years candidates have worked in health care, their ability to function as team members, and efforts that go above and beyond their job descriptions.

Each of Valley Village’s award winners had been nominated in secret by the organization’s management team. This team said they could not think of anyone more deserving of this recognition than their executive director, JoAnne Blanchard. The VHCA committee agreed, and awarded Blanchard the title of Assisted Living Administrator of the Year. Blanchard came to Valley Village in 2020, looking for a challenge, and happily took on reorganizing Valley Village into the well-functioning establishment it is today. Blanchard is a team player, who will help out with whatever needs doing. She believes in the power of positivity, and shares that power with her entire team. Since her arrival at Valley Village, Blanchard has revamped and strengthened

almost every department, improving efficiency, sustainability and resident service. Put simply, Blanchard has conquered every challenge that arose before her – and all for the benefit of the facility, staff and residents.

As Dietary and Housekeeping Services Director of the Year, Amanda Hescocock was recognized for her unwavering commitment to the assisted living. Having worked at the assisted living for 12 years, she was employed by three different companies as kitchen management changed hands. She worked in two different departments, and eventually rose to become the director of them both. Hescocock was recognized for her profound respect for all residents, her accommodating demeanor, and her flexibility as a team member.

Anyone who has walked through the doors of Valley Village’s assisted living over the past 2 ½ years can attest to Danielle St. Lawrence deserving the Administrative Assistant of the Year

award. She is exceptionally helpful, and often has residents in her company as she assists them in navigating paperwork or other confusions. St. Lawrence came to Valley Village with a background in resident care, which made her particularly well suited for any challenges that might arise in this setting. She answers phones, provides tours, assists with paperwork, helps with resident activities, and much more. She is often the first person residents and their families get to know at Valley Village, and they soon find they can always turn to her when they need assistance.

These award winners were recognized for their excellence at a banquet in their honor on June 13. Although Blanchard was unable to attend due to her son’s high school graduation, Valley Village made a strong showing with nurses Heidi Carley, RN, and Mary Jo Dansereau, LPN, in attendance, along with awardees Hescocock and St. Lawrence.



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Dear Editor,

I wanted to express my

family’s gratitude to Scott Coursen and the Class of 1984 for their rendition of my father, Richard Comtois, fondly known to kids as “Crash,” driving a school bus in the annual Alumni Day Parade in Bellows Falls recently. Never, ever did we think that we would see our dad/Poppy driving a

bus again, but there he was looking so happy behind the wheel. Seeing his long arm up waving out the side window was the perfect touch! We are beyond grateful for your vision to remember him, and your amazing display of a school bus that certainly was never driven by him, as it was missing

lots of dents and dings! Even though it received second place, it was certainly first place in our hearts, and the same to those who remembered “Mr. C.” driving the bus!

Thank you,
The Comtois Family
Bellows Falls, Vt.



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Dear residents,

As your state representative, I am proud to have participated in the democratic process of legislating this week. On June 17, the legislature reconvened at the state house to vote to override the governor’s veto of six bills of importance to Vermont residents, taxpayers, and public school students, including:

H.887 (the so-called “yield bill”) is a balanced bill that fully funds local school budgets approved by voters, invests tens of millions of dollars to immediately lower property tax rates in

all communities, provides additional tax relief for the many Vermonters eligible for a property tax credit based on income, establishes a commission on the future of public education, to reimagine how Vermont provides a high quality education to our children at an affordable and sustainable rate for taxpayers.

H.687 (Land Use Modernization) is a critical land use modernization bill, and the first significant update to Act 250 since its inception in the 1970s. Act 250 has played a critical role in preserving Vermont’s rural character by supporting compact development in downtown and village centers while protecting Vermont’s forests and open lands. A lack of housing stock combined with increased environmental impacts due to climate change necessitated changes to Act 250. This bill sets out strategies to make it easier to build much-needed housing in the right places, and better protects our natural resources.

H.289 (Updating the Residential Energy Standard) reflects a remarkable collaboration among electric utilities, environmental groups, and legislators, to more quickly bring more renewable energy into the grid. The updated Renewable Energy Standard raises electric utility requirements for use of renewable energy to 100% by 2030 for most utilities. The bill doubles the amount of new renewable energy built in the state, creates good-paying clean energy jobs, and provides protection from rising fossil fuel energy prices. To ensure all Vermonters have access to the benefits of renewable energy, the bill funds a study to evaluate current housing programs and to make recommendations for expanding affordable housing developments for lower- and moderate-income residents.

H.72 (overdose prevention pilot program) establishes an overdose prevention center (OPC) pilot program in Vermont. As opioid-related fatalities continue to rise alarmingly, the creation of these centers becomes imperative. Modeled after suc-

cessful initiatives elsewhere, and funded with the Opioid Abatement Settlement Fund, the OPC adopts a harm-reduction approach, aiming to prevent overdose deaths and mitigate public drug-related risks. The primary functions of the OPC pilot program include the provision of harm reduction supplies, emergency medical care, facilitation of access to addiction treatment and vital services, and dissemination of overdose prevention education.

H.645 (expanding access to restorative justice). With public safety a top concern for the governor this year, it was disappointing to see that he vetoed H.645, a bill specifically adopted to expand access to restorative justice programs across the state. Restorative justice is a proven tool to address crime, repair harm, and rebuild trust. It also reduces our prison population. Communities asked for a broader array of tools for addressing low-level criminal offenses. Override of the governor’s veto reflects the legislature’s commitment to offering a variety of options this session to accomplish this goal of ensuring justice for all.

H.706 (protecting pollinators) would restrict the use of highly toxic pesticides, such as neonicotinoid pesticides, where they are used the most, with a timeline and waiver process designed to protect our threatened native pollinators while providing a just transition to alternatives for our Vermont farmers.

These six legislative bills are but a few of the many bills of importance to Vermonters that were passed into law by the legislature during the past two years. They reflect the legislature’s and my commitment to strengthening education, preserving the environment, developing housing, and improving our communities.

Please contact me by email at hchase@leg.state.vt.us, or by phone at 802-875-4663 with your thoughts and concerns.

Sincerely,
State Rep. Heather Chase

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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

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ACROSS

1 Old Italian money
5 Profs’ degrees
9 “The Matrix” role
12 Caspian Sea feeder
13 Mine, in Montreal
14 Cleric’s garment
15 When sports events start
17 Avril follower
18 Whine
19 Representative
21 Chicago transport
22 Sanctioned by Islamic law
24 Pottery oven
27 Nourished
28 Hotel furniture
31 JFK info
32 Genetic letters
34 Jewels
36 Weaponize
37 D-Day carriers
38 Boredom
40 Little — Peep
41 Move laterally
43 Least possible
47 Actor Ferrigno

DOWN

1 Schleps
2 Pakistan neighbor
3 “Bohemian Rhapsody” star
4 Football team
5 Sandbox toy
6 “Let me think ...”
7 Female hare
8 Twine fiber
9 Anonymity
10 Flair
11 Life story?
16 Website contact no.
20 Talk on and on
22 Artist matinee
23 Eden evictée
24 Beer barrel
25 Mineral suffix
26 Politico with limited power
27 Lady of the haus
29 Speck
30 Sound from a hot wok
35 NBC show since 1975
37 Yogurt variety
39 Violin parts
40 “Don’t — stranger!”
41 “Citizen Kane” prop
42 Greek vowel
43 Accomplishment
44 French 101 verb
45 Crystal gazer
46 Streetcar
49 Writer Rand
50 Hosp. scan

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CHURCH SERVICES

obituaries

BELLOWS FALLS, VT.

First Baptist Church of Bellows Falls, 9 Church St.
Traditional Baptist Services held Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. Handicap accessible. 802-463-3220.

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

CHESTER, VT.

Chester Baptist Church, 162 Main St.
Worship is Sundays at 10:30 a.m. For more information, including online streaming, go to www.chesterbaptist.org.

Andover Community Church, 928 Weston-Andover Rd.
Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. and worship service 10:45 a.m. For more information, go to www.andovercommunitychurch.org.

LONDONDERRY, VT.

First Baptist Church, 62 Crescent St., S. Londonderry
Worship service is Sunday at 10 a.m. at the church. Services will still be live streamed at www.firstbaptistslondonderryvt.org/streaming-worship.html. For more information, visit www.firstbaptistslondonderryvt.org or call 802-856-7266.

LUDLOW, VT.

Ludlow Baptist Church, on the Green, 99 Main St.
Weekly worship services are in-person. Sunday school is at 9:30 a.m. for all ages, and Sunday worship is at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday's prayer meeting is at 6:30 p.m. For more information, go to www.LudlowBaptist.org.

SPRINGFIELD, VT.

Calvary Baptist Church, 156 Main St.
Sunday services are 9:30 a.m. in person. Services are still streamed at www.facebook.com/calvarybaptistchurchspringfieldvt. For more information, go to www.calvarylovesspringfield.com.

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

WALPOLE, N.H.

St. John's Episcopal Church, corner of Westminster and Elm St.
Sunday services are 10 a.m. in person or via Zoom. For more information, go to www.stjohnswalpole.org, email pastor@stjohnswalpole.org, or leave a message at 603-756-4533.

Laura Billings, 1933-2024

PLYMOUTH, Vt. – Laura A. Dailey Billings, 90, died June 4, at her home in Plymouth, Vt., surrounded by her family.

Laura was born July 3, 1933, at home in Worcester, Vt., to Helen and Henry Richardson. She was the second child of 13. She attended Worcester schools, and Montpelier High School, until her marriage to Glenn Dailey in 1950. Laura was the mother to 10 children. She returned to school to get her GED, and then went on to community college to get a degree in nutrition. She worked many years as a dietitian at the Gill Odd Fellows Home. Laura also worked as nursing assistant, as well as a caregiver to people right up until her 86th birthday.

She loved gardening, her birds, as well as her family.

Laura is survived by her 10 children Glenn Jr. and his wife Phoebe, Doug and his wife Peg, Bill and his wife Karen, Gary and his wife Pam, Joy Clingenpeel, Pattie Dailey, Michael and his wife Amy, Mark Dailey, Cindy Ostrout and her husband Bo, and Alan Dailey. She is survived by her sisters Winnie Perkins and her husband Richard, Shirley Lee, Esther Gregory, and Natalie Young and her husband Harry; her brothers Harold Richardson and his wife June, Herbert Richardson, Lee Richard-



Laura Billings, 1933-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

son and his wife Joanne, Roy Richardson, and Albert Richardson and his wife Marilyn. Laura has 27 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her parents, her husband Glenn Dailey Sr., her husband Ray Billings, a sister Beatrice Hill, two brothers Joe Richardson and Arnold Richardson, a sister-in-law Arleen Richardson, a brother-in-law Paul Gregory, a niece Joyce Richardson, a nephew Arnold Richardson Jr., and a grandson Caleb Dailey.

Laura will be missed by family and friends, and anyone whose lives she touched. She was a ray of sunshine on a gloomy day. As per family request, a graveside ceremony will be held at Worcester Cemetery on July 7, at 1:30 p.m.

An online guestbook can be found at www.cabotfh.com.

John S. Sailer, 1926-2024

PLYMOUTH, Vt. – John S. "Jack" Sailer passed away on Sunday, May 26, at the age of 97, after several years of visual impairment and health challenges. Jack was surrounded by those who loved and cared for him, and family members, his wife, children, and grandchildren during his final days and hours. Jack was born on July 15, 1926, in Plymouth, Vt., to Lillian Sailer (Michael) and John Sailer, and grew up on their dairy farm in Plymouth. He attended Plymouth School and Woodstock High School.

Jack and his two brothers Arnold and Paul built their first sawmill in 1948, and a few years later expanded into the heavy construction business. He continued running a business with his brothers until 1988, when Jack and his son Jeff bought out the business. Jack was a member of the Vermont National Guard, with two years of active service and six years in the reserves. In the 1960s, Jack and his brothers built Round Top Ski Area. The entire Sailer family spent many weekends skiing together at the mountain, creating a lifetime of fond memories.

Jack was a devoted citizen and volunteer in his local community. He served as a selectman for Plymouth town for 18 years, and was a member of the Plymouth Planning Commission for 23 years. He was also a member of the Ottauquechee Planning Commission in Woodstock, which later became the Two Rivers Planning Commission. The Town of Plymouth recognized Jack for 36 years of dedicated service as a founder, trustee, and member of the volunteer fire department. Jack also had a recreational pilots license, and enjoyed flying in his free time.

Jack married Bette Anne Woods on July 24, 1954. They spent the next few years building their home in Plymouth, making it an oasis for their family and friends to relax, have fun, and enjoy their time together. Jack's later life was filled with many wonderful memories of time spent



John Sailer, 1926-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

with his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

There were many things Jack enjoyed: spending time with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, playing golf, skiing, hunting, and driving the tractor-trailer loaded with logs and hauling them to northern Vermont. Most of all, Jack enjoyed staying busy, whether it was with work or helping those who he loved and cared about.

Jack was predeceased by his brothers Arnold (Shirley), Paul (Eliane) and his beloved Siamese cats, Benny, Buddy, and Willie. Jack leaves behind his wife Bette Anne; daughter Debra (Robin Dayman) of Burlington, Vt.; his son Jeff (Nancy Sawyer) of Plymouth, Vt.; four grandchildren Morgan (JP Carlisle) of Plymouth, Vt., Elizabeth (Jarrod Pulsifer) of Rutland, Vt., Caitlyn (Steve Gogel) of South Burlington, Vt.; Samantha (Sean DeMayo) of Greenlawn, N.Y.; seven great-grandchildren Harper, Colby, Jack, Freddie, Lincoln, Charlotte, and Hudson; and several nephews and nieces.

A service and interment will be held on July 13, at 1 p.m., at the Calvin Coolidge Cemetery in Plymouth, Vt. A reception will immediately follow at the Plymouth Fire Department in Plymouth Union.

Donations in Jack's memory may be made to the Lucy MacKenzie Humane Society; or the Bridgewater Congregational Church, P.O. Box 4, Bridgewater, VT 05034.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Cabot Funeral Home in Woodstock, Vt. An online guestbook can be found at www.cabotfh.com.

Joanne E. Burke, 1951-2024

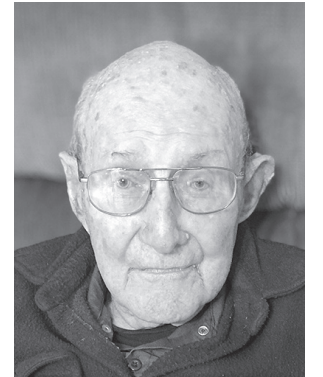
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Joanne Burke of Bellows Falls passed away unexpectedly on June 21, 2024, at her home. She was 73. Joanne was born on June 14, 1951, in Bronx, N.Y., the daughter of the late William Weinstein and Anna Bub. Joanne worked for Whelen Eng. Company, in Charlestown, N.H., in the assembly division. Joanne was a member of the Moose, the Polish Club #1, the Elks Lodge #1619, and the American Legion. She was a very outgoing and social person.

Joanne is predeceased by her parents, and her husband Brian Burke. She is

survived by her children Michael Clark, Eric Clark and wife Myriah, Constance Williams and husband Gordon, and Ronda Morris. She is survived by six grandchildren. Joanne is also survived by her siblings Irene Ayer, Anita Lyon, Roland Lyon, and Therisa Lyon. A private graveside service will take place at St. Charles Cemetery. A Celebration of Life will take place at a later date to be announced.

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

Donald E. Prouty, 1929-2024



Donald Prouty, 1929-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

W. TOWNSHEND, Vt. – Donald Earl Prouty, 95, of West Townshend, passed away peacefully at home on June 18, 2024, surrounded by his family. Don was born April 18, 1929, in Manchester, Vt., the son of Benjamin and Etta (Jefts) Prouty.

Mr. Prouty is survived by a son Raymond C. Prouty of West Townshend; a daughter Debra M. Lloyd and her husband William of Apollo Beach, Fla.; a sister Mildred Williams of Bellows Falls; granddaughter Serena M. Lett and her husband Jason of Columbus, Ohio; granddaughter Jennifer D. Escobar and her husband Alejandro of Orlando, Fla.; and many nieces, nephews, and close friends. He was predeceased by his loving wife of almost 55 years Elaine (Howe) Prouty; and his siblings Theodore, Raymond, Norman, Ralph, Harold, Howard, Clyde, and Edna.

At his heart, Mr. Prouty was a proud patriot and family man. He served in Germany from 1951-1953 during the post-World War II Allied occupation as a combat engineer. After his time in the service, he was a longtime logger and truck driver. He made a loving home with his wife Elaine and two children in West Townshend, Vt. He spent his life caring for others, and was often seen at the local diner, attending the July Fourth parades, and spending time with his family and friends. Prior to retirement, Mr. Prouty was dedicated to his caretaking business, and took great joy in serving his

community. A graveside committal service for Mr. Prouty will be held on Friday, July 5, at 1 p.m., at the South Windham Cemetery, 3026 Windham Hill Road, West Townshend, Vt. A Celebration of Life will follow from 2:30-4:30 p.m., at the Mt. Lebanon Lodge, at 3580 Vermont Route 30, Jamaica, Vt.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in his memory may be made to Grace Cottage Foundation, Townshend, VT 05353; or Rescue Inc., P.O. Box 593, Brattleboro, VT 05302.

To view Donald's online tribute, send condolences to the family, or for more information, please visit www.phaneuf.net.

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**Town of Plymouth, Vermont
Highway Department Position Available**

The Town of Plymouth has an opening for a Town employee in its Highway Department. This is a full-time, year-round position. Duties will include snow plowing, sanding and salting roads, road construction, maintenance and other related duties. Applicant must hold a valid VT CDL and have experience operating a dump truck with a plow and sander.

Competitive salary as well as a great Municipal Benefit Package to include health & dental insurance, retirement plan, paid holidays, and paid vacation. Overtime is required in the winter for storm events and compensation is 1.5 times the hourly rate.

Please submit a completed application to the Plymouth Town Clerk's Office at 68 Town Office Road, Plymouth, Vermont 05056 or email clerk@plymouthvt.org. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The Town of Plymouth is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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

CHURCH SERVICES:
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calendar

LEGAL NOTICES

JULY 4 –
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Stars & Stripes 7.4K and 4K run and walk will take place at the Toonerville Trail on Tuesday, July 4, at 8:30 a.m. This event is a fundraiser for Springfield High School Cross Country. Registration is discounted prior to race day at www.runlikeardy.com/races/starsstripes.

JULY 5 –
LUDLOW, Vt. – Join the Ludlow Parks and Recreation Department on Wednesday, July 5, at the Okemo base area, for fireworks, food, music, and fun. Squeels on Wheels and other vendors will begin selling food at 6:30 p.m., and live music by Rustie Bus begins at 7 p.m. The fireworks display begins at

dusk, sponsored by Magris Talc and William Raveis Vermont Properties. There is a rain date of July 6.

WESTON, Vt. – Kinhaven Music School will hold a Senior Session Student Concert on Friday, July 5, at 4 p.m., at Kinhaven Concert Hall. For more information, visit www.kinhaven.org/kinhaven-concerts.

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – Gerry Grimo and the East Bay Jazz Ensemble will perform a free concert

on Friday, July 5, at the Charlestown Senior Center, 223 Old Springfield Road, from 6:30-8 p.m. Refreshments will be on hand, including burgers, hot dogs, chips, popcorn, and hot or cold beverages, along with a sweet treat. We hold a 50-50 raffle, and ask that you remember your lawn chairs, unless the weather forces us inside. Please join us for a fun evening of musical entertainment.

JULY 6 –
JAMAICA, Vt. – TommyFest

2024 will be held on July 6, at 2 p.m., on Pikes Falls Road, at the Giant Jamaica Jam in Jamaica, Vt. The rain date will be July 7. TommyFest gives free instruments and lessons to new and old musicians. Donations are accepted at www.gofundme.com/ny6qu-Tommy-fest. Information on donating instruments can be found at www.tommyfest.fun, and general information can be found at the TommyFest Facebook page.

JULY 7 –
LUDLOW, Vt. – The Springfield Community Band will be playing live music on Sunday, July 7, from 6:30-8 p.m., at Veteran's Memorial Park in Ludlow. The rain venue is the Ludlow Town Hall. For more information, visit www.ludlowtparksandrec.com.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Food for Life Vegan Potluck will be held on Sunday, July 7, from 3:30-5:30 p.m., at Commons Park, 63 Summer Hill Street. All are welcome. Please bring a plant-based dish to share.

WESTON, Vt. – Kinhaven Music School will hold a Senior Session Faculty Concert on Saturday, July 6, at 7:30 p.m., at Kinhaven Concert Hall. A free wine and cheese gathering will be held outside of the concert hall before the concert, at 6:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.kinhaven.org/kinhaven-concerts.

JULY 14 –
LUDLOW, Vt. – Sammy B & Friends will be playing live music on Sunday, July 14, from 6:30-8 p.m., at Veteran's Memorial Park in Ludlow. The rain venue is the Ludlow Town Hall. For more information, visit www.ludlowtparksandrec.com.

SUNDAYS –
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Bellows Falls Loyal Order of Moose will be hosting a community breakfast on the first and third Sunday of every month downstairs at the Bellows Falls Moose Lodge, 59 Westminster Street in Bellows Falls, from 8-10 a.m. All you can eat for a minimal cost.

LUDLOW, Vt. – Meet on Depot Street in downtown Ludlow every Sunday through Oct. 13, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., to shop at our vibrant farmers market. Find a variety of local produce each week, along with fresh baked goods, handmade crafts and gifts, cold beverages, live music, and more. We can't wait to see you for fresh food, community, and fun.

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 6-7 p.m., at Parks Place, 44 School Street Extension in Bellows Falls. The program is free. For more information go to www.aa.org.

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.

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

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

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

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.

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

SATURDAYS –
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The

See **CALENDAR** on Page 7

TOWN OF CHESTER Temporary Road Closure

Please be aware there will be a temporary road closure for Green Mountain Turnpike beginning July 8, 2024. The road will be closed at Rhoman Wai Farm, 686 Green Mountain Turnpike, for approximately 3 weeks for a culvert replacement. The road will be accessible from both sides only up to this point. Please seek alternate routes during this closure. Thank you for your patience.

TOWN OF CHESTER Local Cannabis Control Commission

Looking for an opportunity to serve your community? The Local Cannabis Control Commission has a three year volunteer position open for appointment. This commission was formed to assess and control the sale and distribution of retail cannabis in Chester. Interested parties should submit a letter to julie.hance@chestervt.gov or Town of Chester, P.O. Box 370, Chester, VT 05143 by July 26, 2024.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT BYLAWS

The Chester Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on proposed amendments to the Town of Chester Unified Development Bylaws on Monday, July 22, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at the Chester Town Hall at 556 Elm Street in Chester, Vermont. This public notice is given pursuant to 24 V.S.A. Section 4444.

The purpose of the proposed development bylaws amendment is to implement the sixth and final phase of a bylaw modernization and reform initiative that principally affects Chester's rural districts. Changes include renaming districts to more closely match their purpose and allowed uses, creating wildlife and habitat and travel corridors, replacing minimum lot sizes in rural districts with a maximum density standard, better defining uses including building and construction trades, heavy construction trades, and tourist lodging, and to enable clustering of residential units as tiny house and cottage courts.

The proposed amendment will affect every geographical area of Chester. The amended Sections of the Bylaws include 2.1 Classes of Districts, 2.3 Village Center District, 2.4 Village Mixed Use District (was Mixed Use), 2.5 General Business District, 2.6 Stone Village District, 2.7 Neighborhood District, 2.8 Residential 2-Acre District (was Residential 40,000), 2.9 Rural Mixed Use District (was Adaptive 3), 2.11 Rural 5-Acre District (was Residential 120,000), Rural 8-Acre District (was Conservation-Residential), 2.13 Conservation District (was Forest), 8.2 Definitions, and adding 3.32 Tiny Houses and 3.33 Cottage Courts.

The full text of the proposed amendment to the Town of Chester Unified Development Bylaws may be viewed at the Town Clerk's office and on the home page of the Town's website at www.chestervt.gov.

Dated at Chester, Vermont this 17th day of June 2024.
Hugh Quinn, Planning Commission Chair

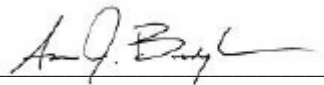
ACT 250 NOTICE MINOR APPLICATION 2S1162-2 10 V.S.A. §§ 6001 - 6111

Application 2S1162-2 from Adrian Baraw-Nelson and Kaitlin Wells, 119 Prior Rd, Cavendish, VT 05142 and Theresa and Tom Parker, 119 Prior Rd, Cavendish, VT 05142 was received on May 23, 2024 and deemed complete on June 17, 2024. The project is generally described as subdivide and adjust the parcel boundaries of the land as follows: Lot 1, consisting of 19.06 acres and the existing permitted auto repair shop and residence; Lot 2, consisting of 10.32 acres; and a third lot, identified as Tax Map 6 Lot 19.01, consisting of 7.24 acres with an existing residence. Lot 2 is approved for the construction of a single-family residence. The project is located at 115 Prior Rd in Cavendish, Vermont. The application may be viewed on the Natural Resources Board's website (<http://nrb.vermont.gov>) by clicking "Act 250 Database" and entering the project number "2S1162-2."

No hearing will be held and a permit will be issued unless, on or before Tuesday, July 23, 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 Aaron Brondyke at the address or telephone number below.

Dated this June 28, 2024.

By: 
Aaron Brondyke
District Coordinator
100 Mineral Street, Suite # 305
Springfield, VT 05156-3168
(802) 595-2735
Aaron.Brondyke@vermont.gov

Landgrove PC/ZBA Hearing

The Landgrove Planning Commission/ Zoning Board of Adjustment will meet at the Landgrove Town Hall, 88 Landgrove Rd at 5:30 PM on 7/18/24 to hear an application for the replacement of a garage at the Careless Residence, 108 Landgrove Rd in the Utley Flats Scenic Overlay District. Those interested in seeing the application, submitting written comments, or attending the hearing remotely should contact Landgrove's Zoning Administrator at: zoning@landgrove.vermont.gov.

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

TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN TRANSFER STATION ATTENDANT

The Town of Charlestown is seeking a qualified individual to fill the position of Transfer Station Attendant.

This position is part time and year-round. Weekly schedule is Tuesday through Saturday. Duties include but not limited to:
1. Maintaining the recycling area and insuring the proper disposal and classification of all recycled materials.
2. Assisting residents and commercial users in the appropriate placement of refuse and recyclables.
3. Assist the Road Agent in all matters related to the operation of a solid waste/recycling facility.

Additional requirements are a good working ethic, positive attitude, hard worker and a team player.

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

The Town of Charlestown is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

PART TIME WINDOW CLERK

The Town of Charlestown seeks qualified applicants for the position of Part-Time Window Clerk, working under the administrative direction of the Town Clerk/Tax Collector, responsibilities will include but are not limited to:

Issuing motor vehicle registrations, plates and titles; Tax collection; Issuing vital records; birth, marriage and death certificates; Maintaining official municipal records; Issuing licenses, including Fish and Game and dogs; Assisting with elections, including voter registration.

You must be highly organized and detail oriented, with ability to process transactions efficiently and accurately and provide information in a positive manner to all stakeholders, including Town departments, Boards, Commissions/Committees and the general public. You must be a self-starter and possess excellent cash handling and computer skills, including Excel; will be focused on customer service and opportunities to enhance operational procedures; and, must be bondable. Ability to handle sensitive information, employ good judgment and communicate effectively is essential. Must have strong communication skills and be able to work cooperatively with all Town departments.

Education: A high school degree is required.

Experience: Two to three years of progressively increased responsibility in applicable office operations; experience in a municipality, or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

Please submit a Town of Charlestown application, cover letter and resume to: Town of Charlestown, Attn: Patricia Chaffee, PO Box 834, Charlestown, NH 03603 or by e-mail at patricia@charlestown-nh.gov. Applications accepted until position is filled.

STATE OF VERMONT

SUPERIOR COURT
Windham Unit

PROBATE DIVISION
Docket No.: 24-PR-02636

In re ESTATE of: ROHR B. COOK

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the Creditors of: ROHR B. COOK
Decedent
late of WESTMINSTER, VT
Decedent's Town of Residence

I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period.

Dated: 6/23/24



Executor/Administrator Parker C. Cook & Ashley A. Carmack Phone Number 802-463-4507	Email maryjoelark@salmon-nostrand.com	Mailing Address c/o Salmon & Nostrand, PO Box 535 City, State, Zip Bellows Falls, VT 05101
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Name of Publication: Vermont Journal/Shopper

Publication Date: July 3, 2024

Name of Probate Court: Vermont Superior Court-Windham Unit-Probate Division
Address of Probate Court: 30 Putney Road, Floor 2
Brattleboro, VT 05301

LEGAL NOTICES

classifieds

CALENDAR CONT.

From Page 6

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

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.

ESTATE SALE

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Estate sale July 5 and 6, 8-4. Antiques and collectibles, modern décor, art, paper, no junk. Cash only. Dealers welcome. 76 Elm Hill, Springfield, Vt. 802-885-3050.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Estate sale July 12, 13, 14, from 8-5. 604 French Meadow Road, Springfield.

FOR SALE

WESTON, Vt. – 1978 Wurlitzer Funmaker organ with matching bench in perfect condition and fully functional. \$350 or best offer. Call 281-960-7409.

WANTED

Searching for used 3 bedroom

mobile home to put on my own lot. Within 50 miles of Springfield, Vt. Call 802-263-5296.

Town of Springfield Selectboard Public Hearing to Amend Town Plan 6:00 pm, July 15, 2024

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

BROOKVIEW APARTMENTS WHITE RIVER JUNCTION, VT

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Manchester Center, VT 05255

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

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(802) 362-4663 • Fax (802) 362-6330 • TDD 1-800-545-1833 EXT. 326 OR 175

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802-367-5252

802-367-5251

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY
THM is an equal opportunity provider and employer

Town Of Weston
PO Box 98
Weston, VT 05161

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR NEW SEPTIC SYSTEM

The Town of Weston is requesting bids to install a new septic system per permit # WW-2-0030-3 at 48 Greendale Road Weston VT

- Please visit the Town of Weston website for the Scope of Work at www.westonvt.org

Proposals may be sent to Shawna Batogowski, Selectboard Administrative Assistant at selectboard@westonvt.org and must be received by August 9, 2024. In person, email and mailed proposals must be received no later than August 9, 2024 mailed proposals should be addressed to: Town of Weston Selectboard PO Box 98, Weston VT 05161 Attn: Town Garage Septic RFP

All proposals will be opened at the Selectboard meeting scheduled on August 9, 2024

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.

The Town of Weston is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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billing@vermontjournal.com

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8 High Street • Ludlow, VT 05149
802-228-3600

Journal, LLC is a member of the Vermont Press Association

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Executive Orders 11988 (Floodplain Management) and 11990 (Wetlands) and Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) implementing regulations at Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 9, FEMA hereby provides final notice of its decision to provide Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding for an action located in a floodplain and wetland. Funding would be provided through Vermont Emergency Management to the Town of Weston for the acquisition and demolition of a property.

The action is located on VT-100, Weston, VT. The project would demolish and remove structures, associated impervious surfaces, outbuildings, and facilities; include minor ground disturbance; site preparation and restoration work; and the use of fill for minor grading and/or filling subsurface facilities where fill would meet existing grade. Staging would take place on existing driveways.

The project is within a mapped special flood hazard area of the 100-year floodplain (the regulatory floodway) and designated wetlands. The property was substantially damaged by flooding. Demolition work and associated site restorations would have limited temporary effects and no permanent adverse effects on the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains or wetlands. Long-term, the values of the floodplain and wetlands would be restored and natural flood storage capacity at the sites would improve.

The project must be in a floodplain and wetland because it is dependent on the property's existing location. Alternatives considered include relocation, elevation, and No action. Demolition is the preferred alternative as it is cost effective, eliminates flood risk to homeowners to the maximum extent, promotes open space use, and restores natural floodplain and wetland values. Grant conditions will also require compliance with all federal, state and local laws, including coordination with the local floodplain administrator.

Map requests and comments about this project and potential floodplain and wetland impacts should be submitted within 15 days of the date of this publication to:

Victoria Hanley, Environmental Protection Specialist
Federal Emergency Management Agency, Cambridge, MA
victoria.hanley@fema.dhs.gov; (256) 283-7393

— Weekly SUDOKU —

Answer

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

— King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

yellow page BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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(07/17/24 - TFN - 13)

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(11/20/24 - 52)

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(08/14/24 - 13)

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(08/07/24 - 13)

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(08/14/24 - TFN - 52)

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(01/29/25 - 52)

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(10/02/24 - 26)

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(08/21/24 - 13)

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(12/04/24 - 26)

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Online: Go to okemovalley.tv/watch to watch Live TV or on video on demand
You Tube: okemovalleytv
Streaming App: Download Okemo Valley TV app for free (Apple TV, Roku, Fire TV, Google Play, & mobile)
(07/03/24 - TFN - 13)

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(08/07/24 - 26)

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arts & entertainment

Matsiko World Orphan Choir returns

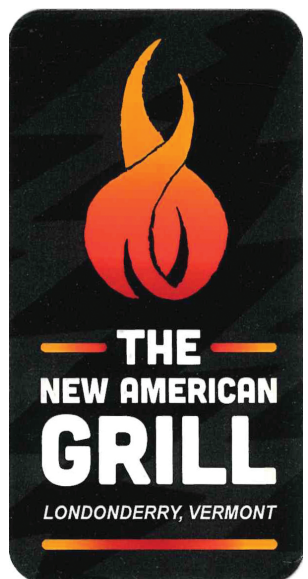


MatsikoWorld Orphan Choir to perform.

PHOTO PROVIDED

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. –

On July 12, at 6 p.m., the Matsiko World Orphan Choir will give a concert hosted by St. Luke's Mission Theatre, at 176 Main Street in Charlestown. The choir brings together orphaned and vulnerable children to share their story of turning the pain of loss, hunger, and hopelessness into personal empowerment through music, dance, and storytelling. Come and hear the unifying power of music to uplift every child, bringing joy to all who listen. A freewill offering will be taken.



Villalobos Brothers at Bandwagon Series

PUTNEY, Vt. – The Next Stage Bandwagon Summer Series presents contemporary Mexican ensemble Villalobos Brothers on Saturday, July 13, at 6 p.m., at the field behind the Putney Inn, 57 Putney Landing Road in Putney.

The Villalobos Brothers are a Grammy Award-winning family band, recognized as one of the foremost contemporary Mexican ensembles in the world. With their unique fusion of Mexican folk, jazz, and classical music, they have captivated audiences across the United States, Mexico, India, Russia, and Canada.

Their music is deeply rooted in the traditions of Veracruz, showcasing a vibrant blend of Son Jarocho, Son Huasteco, and Latin jazz. The Villalobos Brothers have mastered the art of crafting original compositions and arrangements that not only pay homage to the richness of Mexican folklore, but also push the boundaries of musical exploration.

Orchestras. Throughout their journey, the Villalobos Brothers have had the privilege of collaborating with legendary musicians, including Grammy winners Bruce Springsteen, Dolly Parton, Antonio Sánchez, Regina Carter, Eduardo Magallanes, Dan Zanes, and Ana Tijoux. These collaborations have further enriched their musical palette and expanded their artistic horizons.

Following their 2023 appearance at the World Trade Center's opening season of the Perelman Performing Arts Center in New York City, they were invited to showcase at IS-PA's 75th anniversary and globalFEST 2024 at Lincoln Center.

This concert is funded in part by the New England States Touring program of the New England Foundation for the Arts, made possible with funding from the National Endowment for

Arts Regional Touring Program and the six New England state arts agencies. The Bandwagon Summer Series is a family-friendly outdoor cultural performance series running from early May through mid-October. More than 20 performances ranging from a diverse group of musical styles, circus arts, dance, and theater will take place at ballfields, farms, and parks throughout Windham County. Kids under 12 always get in for free, and a dedicated play area will be available at all shows. Refreshments are sold on site, including the return of the hugely popular Barr Hill cocktails. Bring a picnic and a blanket or fold-up chair to enjoy our concerts.

The Putney Inn is located at 57 Putney Landing Road in Putney. Tickets are discounted in advance at www.nextstagearts.org. For more information, call 802-387-0102 or visit the website.

The Springfield Community Players present "It Had to Be You"

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Community Players, our lo-

cal community theater in Springfield, Vt., located at 165 South Street, are

pleased to announce the cast of their second production of the 2024 season.

"It Had to Be You" was written by Renee Taylor and Joseph Bologna, and was performed on Broadway in 1981, at the John Golden Theatre.

This delightful comedy is about Theda Blau, an out of work, ex-B movie actress, a health food nut, and would-be playwright, who has no money and has been struggling desperately for three years to write a play for herself. She wants to find love and success in New York. Along comes Vito Pignoli, a hugely successful TV commercial producer and director. The story that follows is a path of finding love and companionship in New York on Christmas Eve.

This romantic comedy is directed by Gary Am-



"It Had to Be You" performance. PHOTO PROVIDED

erman and features Tera Monroe Murray as Theda Blau and Scott Magnuson as Vito Pignoli. Caroline Wade is taking on the role of stage manager.

Murray is a local performer who has performed in the recent productions with The Springfield Community Players in last year's productions of "Puffs" and "Clue." Most recently she has performed "Hedda Gabler" with the Amplified Arts Theatre.

Magnuson is no stranger to local theater. He played Colonel Mustard in last year's production of "Clue," and has appeared in local theater productions of "Romeo and Juliet," "Emma," "Stardust," and "A Christmas Carol."

Ammerman is new to the community. Having worked many years in theater as an actor, singer, director, stage manager, and technical director. He hails from Cincinnati, Ohio. He is a retired teacher and elementary school principal.

Be sure to purchase your tickets for this production. The play is onstage at The Springfield Community Theater on July 12, 13, 19, and 20, at 7 p.m.; and July 14 and 21, at 2 p.m. Tickets can be purchased by calling 802-885-4098, or by visiting www.springfieldcommunityplayers.org/store.

"It Had to Be You" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French Inc., www.concordtheatricals.com.

arts & entertainment

Vermont Jazz Center Sextet on Tavern Lawn

PUTNEY, Vt. – Twilight Music continues its 21st Twilight on the Tavern Lawn series of bluegrass, folk, rock, world beat, jazz, pop, and Zydeco summer concerts on Sunday, July 7, with the Vermont Jazz Center Sextet. The seven-concert series continues every other Sunday through Aug. 18. All concerts begin at 6 p.m., in downtown Putney, on the Putney Tavern lawn – bring a lawn chair or blanket – or at Next Stage, 15 Kimball Hill, in case of rain. Copresented with Next Stage Arts Project, the series is sponsored

by the Town of Putney, The Mockingbird Tavern, Rod's, and many other Putney-area businesses and organizations. The concerts are free to the public, donations are accepted, and food will be available. For more information, call 802-387-5772 or visit www.twilightmusic.org.

The Vermont Jazz Center Sextet is the Vermont Jazz Center's (VJC) community outreach ensemble. Rob Freeberg (trumpet), Bill Ballard (alto saxophone), Ron Kelley (tenor saxophone), Cathy Martin (piano), Wim Auer (bass), and

Steve Rice (drums) have developed programs which are performed in schools, assisted living homes, and libraries, bringing live jazz into less formal settings. Through these performances and clinics, people who might not attend concerts at the VJC are given the opportunity to hear and learn about the music of Duke Ellington, Miles Davis, Art Blakey, and others, with original music and arrangements often written by members of the ensemble.

Impact Children's Theatre

CLAREMONT, N.H. – Experience a summer of magic, adventure, and timeless tales as Claremont Opera House proudly announces the highly anticipated return of Impact Children's Theatre. This professional touring children's theater company will captivate audiences with a new fairytale every week for six weeks. With a lineup of beloved stories brought to life by a talented cast, this is a theatrical experience not to be missed.

The schedule of performances is as follows: "The Emperor's New Clothes" on July 5, "Return to Oz" on July 12, "Neverland" on July 19, "Hansel and Gretel" on July 26, "Lost in Wonderland" on Aug. 2, and "Rapunzel" on Aug. 9. All shows are on Fridays, at 10

a.m. Thanks to the generous support of the Couch Family Foundation, all child tickets for those aged under 18 are free, making this an accessible and delightful event for families. Adult tickets are affordably priced, ensuring that everyone can experience the joy of live theater.

Impact Children's Theatre, known for its professional touring productions, brings these stories to life with a cast of five skilled actors, vibrant set pieces, enchanting costumes, dynamic props, and original music. Each 45-minute adaptation is crafted to entertain both children and adults, creating a shared experience of wonder and delight.

Join us at the historic Claremont Opera House

for a magical journey through classic fairytales that inspire and entertain. The Claremont Opera House also thanks Bank of New Hampshire for their sponsorship to help bring these theater performances to our community, and Violet's Book Exchange in downtown Claremont for their youth engagement support.

Purchase tickets for adults online at www.cohnh.org. You may also call in at 603-542-4433, or schedule an appointment to visit the box office at 58 Opera House Square in Claremont, N.H. An additional convenience fee will be applied for tickets purchased through the box office.

Pikes Falls Music Festival

JAMAICA, Vt. – Pikes Falls Chamber Music Festival (PFCM) is returning to celebrate the 2024 summer season with an admission-free concert series. Concerts begin on Tuesday, Aug. 6, in Jamaica, Vt., and run through Saturday, Aug. 10.

In the summer of 2012, Susanna Loewy founded a summer festival emphasizing music and visual art. In the foothills of the Green Mountains, Pikes Falls Chamber Music Festival was born. Since then, PFCM has performed 63 concerts in southern Vermont, commissioned 13 world premieres, and has shown 13 works of visual art. This year will add four

concerts to celebrate the communities in southern Vermont.

The Pikes Falls Chamber Music Festival highlights musicians from the Grammy-nominated In-scape Chamber Orchestra in Washington, D.C., as well as musicians from in and around Vermont. As is PFCM's tradition, a piece by the festival's composer-in-residence will be performed at the concluding concert.

The 2024 season includes numerous events that are free and open to the public. On Aug. 6, a children's program will be held in the morning at the Jamaica Library, and a garden concert and celebration at 3417 Vermont Route 30 in the eve-

ning. The festival's main performances will be held at the Jamaica Town Hall on Aug. 7 and 10, and the Grafton Community Church on Aug. 8.

Throughout the week, PFCM will also perform private concerts for southern Vermont assisted living facilities in Manchester and Townshend.

For more information on the Pikes Falls Chamber Music Festival, visit us online at www.pikesfallschambermusicfestival.com. If you have questions, email executive director Susanna Loewy at info@pikesfallschambermusicfestival.com, or managing director Andy Sabol at andysabol@pikesfallschambermusicfestival.com.

SOOL at Stage 33 Live

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Experimental pop collective SOOL, a musically schizophrenic hodge-podge of experimental curiosities that you can dance to, will perform on Thursday, Aug. 15, at 6 p.m., at Stage 33 Live.

SOOL has been recording and making music since 1994, traversing genres in a "pin-the-tail-on-the-cosmic-monkey" approach.

SOOL, which plays live only sporadically, is Kevin Quinn and Neal Spaulding of the 80s underground psychedelic pop band The Dead Monkeys, plus musician/producer/studio-rat Pete Weiss. For this show, the original drummer of The Dead Monkeys, Ken O'Keefe – who now lives in Japan – joins the fun. It's The Dead Monkeys original lineup plus Pete Weiss, and the SOOL original lineup

plus Ken O'Keefe. A win either way.

This will be their first show of a tiny tour. It will be louder than most shows at Stage 33 Live. Dancing will be encouraged.

This show will be presented in association with community radio station WOOL-FM. The band will do a radio interview in the next room on WOOL-FM at 5 p.m., and ticket holders are invited to come early and heckle them live on the air.

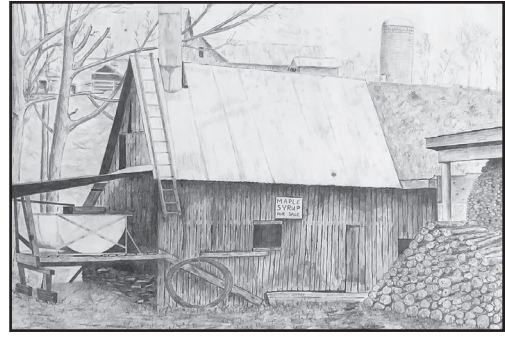
At the band's request, tickets are priced low. Only 40 tickets will be sold; advance tickets guarantee entry. Advance tickets are available through www.stage33live.com.

Stage 33 Live is located at 33 Bridge Street in Bellows Falls, Vt. The event will be recorded and filmed.

Main Street Arts presents Vincent DiBernardo

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – Main Street Arts Gallery in Saxtons River, Vt., is pleased to present "Pencil Me In," a selection of graphite drawings by Vincent DiBernardo, July 6 – Sept. 1. The artist's reception is Saturday, July 6, 3-5 p.m., in the gallery at 35 Main Street, Saxtons River, Vt., with light refreshments provided by the artist's daughter Sarah DiBernardo, who creates "Smokin' Bowls" at her site on Route 103 in Rockingham.

DiBernardo's drawings feature various familiar scenes in the Rockingham, Vt., area, some captured en plein air by DiBernardo, and some inspired by old photographs of antique buildings, trains, covered bridges, and life in southern Vermont. Graphite is a black medium, and DiBernardo is skilled at creating depth and drama with just his white surface and his pencils.



"Sugarhouse" by Vincent DiBernardo.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Viewers will be tempted to name the local rivers, meadows, buildings, and bridges featured in his work.

DiBernardo's artist statement says, "I started drawing in the early 80s after graduating from The University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine and starting my own practice. I initially drew for enjoyment and relaxation, but discovered I had some talent for drawing. However, having no formal training, I took a few basic drawing lessons from an artist friend and client. I practiced and practiced several variations of still lifes. I started a picture of a local sugarhouse

and liked my progress. But then life and career happened! I didn't pick up a pencil to draw for thirty plus years. After I sold my veterinary practice, I had more free time and started

drawing again. After thirty years I finished that sugarhouse and, liking the result, started drawing in earnest. I mostly draw landscapes, waterscapes, and local subjects. I draw mostly from pictures I have taken, other friends have taken, or old photographs I may come across that appeal to me. I only draw in graphite. I equate graphite art to black and white photography which, like black and white photography, is a study of darkness versus light. The compositions, without color, allow the viewer to concentrate on contrast, texture, and tones present in the scene."

Counterpoint Chorus to perform in Weston

WESTON, Vt. – The Sundays on the Hill concert series is delighted to have Counterpoint Chorus start the 26th year of providing wonderful concerts in Weston, Vt., on July 14. All of the concerts will be held in the Old Parish Church on Route 100 in Weston, Vt. Admission cost is kept low thanks to generous support from Patrons of Sundays on the Hill and other anonymous donors. Children under 12 may attend at no charge. Please be aware that the doors open at 3:30 p.m., and there are no reserved seats, no advance tickets, and admission is paid at the door. See www.sundaysonthehill.org for additional information and a complete list of the concert series.

Founded by legendary choral director and arranger Robert De Cormier, and based in Montpelier, Vt., Counterpoint is dedicated to performing choral chamber music and engaging with student musicians in Vermont and beyond. Praised for "clarity, skill,"

and "sophisticated musical expressiveness," they present concerts throughout Vermont and the surrounding region. Counterpoint has recorded seven CDs with Albany Records, and has released four further CDs independently. Artistic director Nathaniel G. Lew holds degrees in music from Yale, Cambridge, and the University of California Berkeley. He currently serves as professor of music and director of the honors program at St. Michael's College in Colchester, Vt.

Three of Vermont's finest classical instrumentalists – violinist Laura Markowitz, cellist John Dunlop, and pianist Annemieke McLane – join the singers of Counterpoint for this fascinating crossing of folk traditions and classical music: Johannes Brahms's passionate "Zigeunerlieder," a collection of Ludwig van Beethoven's settings of Scottish folksongs, and folksong settings by Béla Bartók, plus piano trio movements by Fanny Hensel and Clara Schumann.

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Retirement Sale

The Picker is retiring on July 31, 2024. Vermont Picker Antiques on Rte. 103 in Chester is closing. Everything must go. Stop by and "dicker" with the picker for a deal.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Annual Springfield Duck Run —

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. — The Springfield Area Parent Child Center (SAPCC) presents its annual Fit 'N Fun Duck Run on Saturday, July 6, at 80 Jack and Jill Lane, North Springfield, Vt. This is a free, family-style block party and fundraiser that will be held outdoors, from 4-7 p.m., to benefit the life-changing programming that SAPCC provides to nearly 12,000 individuals — children, families, and caregivers — in the greater Springfield, Vt., region each year.

Come have fun and enjoy the water slide, bounce house, foam cannon, food vendors, auction, raffles, resources, and more. Admis-

sion is free, and all are welcome. Thanks to McGee Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram of Springfield for once again being our largest sponsor of this community event.

Tickets are on sale now for those who would like to sponsor rubber ducks to race down the Black River in the famous Duck Run starting at 6 p.m. The small cost per duck gets you a



Hundreds of tiny numbered rubber ducks wait to be sponsored.

PHOTO PROVIDED

chance at big cash prizes up to \$200. Winners for first, second, third, and last place will also receive some great prizes. You do not have to be present to win, so sponsoring ducks is open to everyone near and far. Visit www.sapcc-vt.org for more information and to sponsor ducks through July 4. Any remaining ducks will be for sale at the welcome booth at the event, from 4-5 p.m.

For more information, contact SAPCC by calling 802-886-5242, or send an email to sapcc@sapcc-vt.org.

Soul Rockers to play in Proctorsville

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. — The Town of Cavendish and the Cavendish Community and Conservation Association are thrilled to announce that Soul Rockers, a group of talented local musicians, will be performing at the Concert on the Green series in Proctorsville on Wednesday, July 10, at 6 p.m.

Soul Rockers are renowned for their captivating performances and exceptional musical talent. This group of diverse musicians comes together to perform an eclectic

repertoire spanning various genres. From soulful ballads to energetic rock anthems, their music has the power to touch the hearts of all who listen. Five lead singers bring beautiful harmonies and accomplished musicianship. Immerse yourself in a fusion of rock, blues, and soul that will uplift your spirit.

Join your neighbors and friends for an evening of unforgettable music. This event is an opportunity for the community to come together, celebrate their love for music, and create lasting memories. Bring a picnic and your favorite chair, or

spread a blanket and lay on the grass. Murdock's Restaurant, Outer Limits Brewery, and Singleton's General Store have takeout food options, and are located on or near the Green.

As always, the concerts are free and open to the public. In case of inclement weather, check the Cavendish Community and Conservation Association Facebook page for cancellation and rescheduling information. Email cavendishcommunityconservation@gmail.com with any questions.

This concert is sponsored by Gassetts Group.

Ray Massucco concerts —

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. — The 2024 Ray Massucco Concert Series gets underway this month at the Bellows Falls Opera House. Mark Erelli and his String Quintet, with special guest Phil Henry, kick off the series on Thursday, July 18, with a very special concert,

partially underwritten by the Massucco family.

"Mark Erelli has always been a Massucco family favorite," says Charlie Hunter, volunteer consultant for the series. "Mark had always been one of Ray's favorites, and after Mark made a special trip up to play at Ray's Celebration of Life at the Rockingham Meeting House last year, the family let us know how much it would mean to start our second season with him."

Massucco, a civic-minded attorney, part-time concert promoter, and full-time music lover, passed away unexpectedly in September 2022. Members of the team who had worked with Massucco on Rockingham's beloved Roots

on the River music festival quickly coalesced around the idea of a concert series under the name Ray's the Roof Productions. "These were the folks who oversaw much of Roots on the River, and they were eager to keep Ray's spirit and vision alive," says Hunter.

2023, the debut year for the series, was hugely successful. Monies raised went to deposits for this year's artists, and also contributed significantly to the donation, at no cost to taxpayers, of a sound system for the Opera House, capable of amplifying live performances throughout the hall. That system is being installed before the Erelli concert.

The second show in the series will be Garrison Keillor, long-time host of NPR favorite "A Prairie Home Companion," in a matinee performance on Sunday, Aug. 4. Sept. 28 sees Roots on the River favorite Mary Gauthier pairing with Texas' renegade poet and roadhouse saint Ray Wylie Hubbard. Legendary acoustic bluesman Chris Smither, currently riding high on the Billboard blues charts with his new recording "All About The Bones," rounds out the series with a special band show on Nov. 14.

The Bellows Falls Opera House has become known as one of the best movie houses and performance venues in the region. "The sightlines and acoustics in the room are fantastic," boasts Hunter. "Movies are, and will continue to be, the bread and butter of the opera house," says Hunter, "but between the Massucco concerts, Wild Goose Players' annual theatrical presentation, conferences, and a classical series that is coming in, there's a lot going on here."

The Bellows Falls Opera House is located at 7 Village Square, Bellows Falls, Vt. Tickets and information at www.bellowsfallsoperahouse.com. The Ray Massucco Concert Series is presented by Ray's the Roof Productions in association with Next Stage Arts.

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