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Ludlow class 4 road talk stalls, ARPA funds allocated

BY NICK GIBERTI
The Vermont Journal

LUDLOW, Vt. – On Monday, Aug. 5, the Ludlow Selectboard met for their regularly scheduled monthly meeting, continuing their discussion of ARPA funding and the ongoing issue with a class 4 section of Freedom Hill Road.

Prior to those discussions however, Ludlow resident James O'Malley addressed the board regarding the Jewell Brook Dam spillways, two of which are in need of repair, telling the board that "75 miles difference in those thunderstorms [on July 10], and we'd be in a very different situation." Town manager Brendan McNamara explained to O'Malley that the designs and approval for the spillway remediation project were completed, but that that the town was waiting on the federal government to begin the work. The total cost for the project is \$750,000. O'Malley questioned the decision to wait on the federal government, asking "Do we think it's wise...to rely on an entity that's \$35 trillion in debt?" McNamara conceded that this was a "valid point."

Next on the agenda, Tim Calabrese, director of Ludlow Area Sport Trails (LAST), rose to request from the board an allocation of ARPA funds totaling \$193,000. These funds, Calabrese explained, would be used to complete the mountain biking trail project running behind Fletcher Farm and into Cavendish, as well as in the other direction toward Plymouth.

While the board was largely supportive of the work LAST has done and continues to do on the trails, most members felt that the amount requested was too much for a single project. Calabrese argued that mountain biking is becoming a large driver of economic activity in the non-skiing seasons for many towns, which would justify the large investment. However, the board largely remained firm on their stance, and board member Noah Schmidt asked Calabrese what amount he would need to "keep the project going." Calabrese told Schmidt that, to finish a section he referred to as the "back 40," LAST would need around \$46,000. The board then tabled the discussion for the next meeting, as the agenda item was not warned as a possible allocation.

Two more ARPA funding allocations were then made. The first was for Fletcher Memorial Library in the amount of \$30,700, for necessary repairs and maintenance. The second went to Ludlow's emergency services departments, to reposition radio repeaters and provide a command vehicle to Fire Chief Ben Whalen, to allow him to respond more effectively to calls without resorting to his personal vehicle, which McNamara described as a "liability" for the town. Echoing past discussion, some board members, particularly Hyjek and Schmidt, felt that using ARPA funds this way was a missed opportunity to expand recreation, as they felt town voters would support an increased emergency services budget.

However, board member George Tucker reminded the board that the original intended use of ARPA money was for emergency services and infrastructure, and that use for recreation was added later.

The board also continued discussion of what to do about class 4 roads in Ludlow, specifically in regards to a class 4 section of Freedom Hill Road which has had a recent problem with ATV traffic. McNamara enumerated the options previously discussed, those being reclassification as a trail, or a class 4 road ordinance prohibiting ATV use. The board, however, generally felt that the issue was one of enforcement, believing that no ordinance could be properly enforced without wasting police department resources that were better applied elsewhere.

Without naming names, Tucker pointed out that the main offenders were "known quantities," and that the board had discussed a plan of action "internally" with regard to these specific individuals. McNamara determined to follow this plan of action and report back at the next selectboard meeting as to whether it had any impact on the ATV issue. The board then tabled the discussion, taking no action.

The next Ludlow Selectboard meeting will be held on Sept. 2, Labor Day, at 6 p.m., in the Heald Auditorium.

Leyla's Restaurant coming soon to Weston

WESTON, Vt. – The Orton family, proprietors of The Vermont Country Store, announced recently that they have partnered with Manchester's Depot 62 Café owners Leyla and Alp Basdogan to open a new restaurant next door to their store in Weston, called Leyla's.

"We have always been honored to serve our customers lunch in Weston, whether it was a lunch counter in the back of the store in the 1940s, our beloved Bryant House restaurant that we opened in the early 1950s, or, most recently, Mildred's Grill, named for our late grandmother, Mildred Ellen Orton," said Eliot Orton. Leyla's will carry on this tradition with a new wood-fired oven as the central focus in the historic building, which still houses

a vintage mahogany bar, eating rooms, and seasonal dairy bar.

Over the years, many locals and visitors have enjoyed the Mediterranean cuisine at Depot 62, especially the incredible wood-fired pizzas that had been longtime customer favorites. "We have been close friends with Leyla and Alp for the last 20 years, and our children grew up together. They run an outstanding business in Manchester," said Orton. "Five years ago, they cut back on pizzas after a change in staffing. Ever since then, customers have begged that they bring them back. Leyla's in Weston is going to be amazing, with legendary pizza, salads, and ultimately many more options as the business evolves."

"We are so excited to be

working with Eliot on this project and the many talented folks at The Vermont Country Store who are making this possible," said Alp Basdogan. "We're excited that our family will be working alongside this great family business to create something wonderful for their customers and the larger community of Weston and surrounding towns. We heard a lot from folks, and there is definitely a buzz of excitement in the air."

Please come and enjoy Leyla's Restaurant in Weston soon, and welcome Leyla and Alp's family. Stay tuned for updates on The Vermont Country Store's Facebook page where more announcements will be made.

New adventures await Golden Stage innkeepers

BY PAULA BENSON
The Vermont Journal

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – Before moving to Vermont, Massachusetts residents Mike and Julie Wood were already enamored with the bucolic New England state. They got married in Vermont, escaped to Vermont's countryside whenever they had the chance, and in December 2010, made the decision to purchase the Golden Stage Inn in Proctorsville.

"The best decision ever," Julie exclaimed. "We immediately fell in love with the magic of innkeeping."

By increasing the services and amenities offered at the inn, the couple grew the business into a viable income and lifestyle, while raising their two youngest children in the idyllic setting of rural Vermont. They renovated the attached barn into a sizeable yet cozy owners' quarters, and Julie admits, "We have absolutely loved living here. We are surrounded by employees and guests who have been an essential part of our love affair with innkeeping."

In July, on the inn's Facebook page, Julie shared a post revealing that she and Mike, after much consideration, conversation, and meditation, listed the inn for sale. "Alas, after thirteen years...we are getting

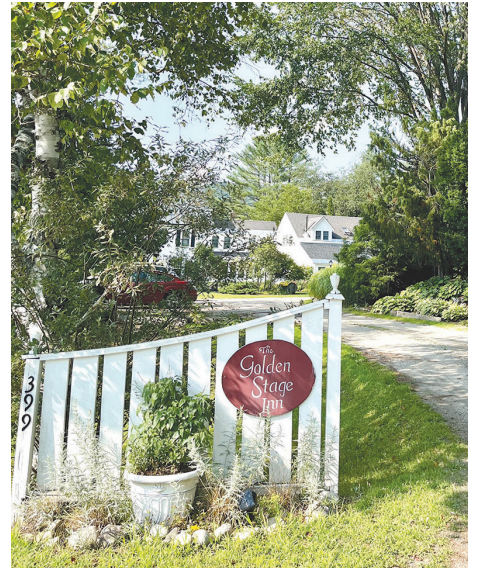
pooped," the post read in part.

Julie has mixed feelings about the transition. "In one sense, we are conflicted. We love what we do. We love our guests. [But] we have started imagining what's around the next corner."

Mike has been able to maintain his CPA career, and will continue to work with clients. Julie, on the other hand, is weighing options and keeping an open mind. She is considering a potential career in writing or teaching, perhaps another entrepreneurial business, or renovating an antique home.

Mike and Julie will take their time finding the right buyers for the special place that has been their home for over a decade, and they have been told selling an inn can take several months to a year or more. In the meantime, Julie said the inn is not going anywhere, and they will "savor every breakfast, every guest greeting, every employee shift just that much more."

"We have always been grateful for our guests, our employees, and our lifestyle, but now this gratitude is infused with a sweet nostalgia we've not felt before,"



The Golden Stage Inn in Proctorsville has been listed for sale.

PHOTO BY PAULA BENSON

Julie expressed.

On Sept. 14, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., the Golden Stage Inn will host the Vermont Golden Honey Festival for the 12th year. Part farmers market, part craft fair, the festival features local produce and hot food vendors, artists and crafters selling their unique creations, beekeepers, and bee-themed items like honeybee print fabrics, honey gin, beeswax balms and soaps, and more. Friends and cohorts Craig and Jess Goodman of Goodman's American Pie in Ludlow created their signature honey apple pizza for the inaugural event, and will be there as always, serving from their 1940s tow truck/mobile wood-fired beehive pizza oven.

The Woods are not planning to move too far from the inn, and plan to remain in the Okemo Valley area, the adopted home they treasure.

South Londonderry Reimagining Task Force

S. LONDONDERRY, Vt. – The South Londonderry Reimagining Task Force was granted by the selectboard an extension for the South Londonderry Master Plan project, funded by a Municipal Planning Grant and in collaboration with Stevens & Associates (S&A), our consultants. The task force aims to ensure community participation and successful project completion within the originally intended scope before 2025.

The project commenced with Stevens in early spring 2024, with the initial phase/walk-around focusing on the general site and analyzing challenges and opportunities.

The first community meeting was on April 24, publicized through social media, posters, a posted agenda, and online announcements, which resulted in an excellent community turnout.

The creative atmosphere was positive, informed, and productive; the residents shared their concerns, ideas, and visions for South Londonderry's future. Feedback was collected on maps, with assets, constraints, and suggestions indicated.

S&A developed three initial concepts, incorporating high-level visionary ideas and designing more immediately achievable projects. Feedback from the community has been and will be instrumental in refining these concepts. These conceptual plans will evolve through a robust research and development phase. Efforts are ongoing to engage key town partners, including VTrans, VTDEC, EPA, and GMP, to integrate their input into the master plan.

With our extension now into the fall, there will be a schedule of additional community engagement activities/committee meetings, leading up to our next full community meeting with Stevens & Associates in mid-

late September, enabling us as residents to conduct further outreach, including creating enhanced and informative publicity through flyers, posters, and social media to engage South Londonderry community members as well as greater Londonderry; developing independent, smaller committees and public meetings to gather more comprehensive community input (these meetings will happen in mid-late August and early September, then continue into the late fall); continuing with ongoing collaboration with town partners to ensure all perspectives are considered; gathering information about our historic district designation, performing a building inventory, and developing a status report; researching the status of the Route 100 bridge at the town center, of interest to town residents; looking into a Sidewalk Feasibility Study, requested by

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Okemo Valley TV recognizes volunteers

LUDLOW, Vt. – Okemo Valley TV has recognized volunteers, including board members and community producers, who have made important contributions to the nonprofit community media organization.

At its Annual Meeting on June 27, two outgoing board members were recognized for their longevity of service. First, George Thomson, who served for 19 years, was presented with the Community Impact Award, for his longtime dedication to the organization, as well as contributions to the wider community. Outgoing board member Noah Schmidt was recognized for his contribution to the board over the last eight years, including serving as board president over the past four. The board also thanked another outgoing member, Zachary McNaughton, for his volunteer service. Newt Rose was re-elected to another term on the board, while Sammy Blanchette and Stefan Beau-

mont were newly-elected. Okemo Valley TV has also recognized the community members and volunteers who have made noteworthy contributions in the production of programming over the past year. The four annual Producer Awards were presented for Producer of the Year, Best Youth Programming, Community Impact, and Outstanding Achievement. This year's winners of the Producer Awards are: Claire McKey Berkman, Producer of the Year, for the production of the Yoh Theatre Players vlog, which was a series of behind the scenes segments of productions from the student theater program at Woodstock Union High School throughout the past school year; Cavendish Fletcher Community Librarian Amy McMullen, Youth Programming, for the recording of her series of Story Time readings, as well as for her involvement in the Cavendish after



Clockwise from top left: Claire McKey Berkman, Amy McMullen, The Rev. Joseph Arnold, Noah Schmidt, George Thomson, and Will Simmoneau.

PHOTO PROVIDED

school media club, resulting in the production of "Little Miss Muffet;" The Rev. Joseph and Jessica Arnold from Calvary Church in Proctorsville, Outstanding Achievement, for providing recordings of their church services to Okemo Valley TV for many years – the audio and video quality are high-value, demonstrating mastery of the production process; and Will Simmo-

neau of TecGym Sports, Community Service Award, for the ongoing coverage of youth sports. Simmoneau has provided recordings of numerous youth basketball, baseball, and soccer games. These include basketball tournaments at Ludlow Community Center, as well as American Legion Post 36 baseball games from Pullinen Field.

Summer Art at Custer Sharp

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – This summer, the historic Custer Sharp House, at 2461 Middletown Road in Londonderry, is hosting art classes in addition to historic exhibits, talks, and a gallery show by local artists.

In July and early August, artist and former kindergarten teacher Bev Foster taught classes in needlework and watercolor for children.

On Aug. 12-16, Art teacher Casey Junker Bailey will be offering her popular Art with the Masters class for

children ages 6 and up. Students will meet in a lovely studio attached to the house, and spend Monday-Friday afternoons making art inspired by famous artists. As they create drawings, paintings, collage, and sculpture, students will explore a wide variety of materials and artistic styles. This year, they will be inspired by artists Gustav Klimt, Henri Rousseau, Georgia O'Keeffe, Frida Kahlo, and Vermont artist Stephen Huneck. The class runs from 1-3:30 p.m. daily. The cost for the week



Kids create art at the Custer Sharp House in Londonderry.

PHOTO PROVIDED

includes all materials and a simple snack. As always, class will end with a celebratory art show for family and friends.

The public is invited to join us at the Custer Sharp

House on Friday, Aug. 16, at 2:30 p.m., for art making and refreshments. For information and registration, contact caseyjunkerbailey@gmail.com.



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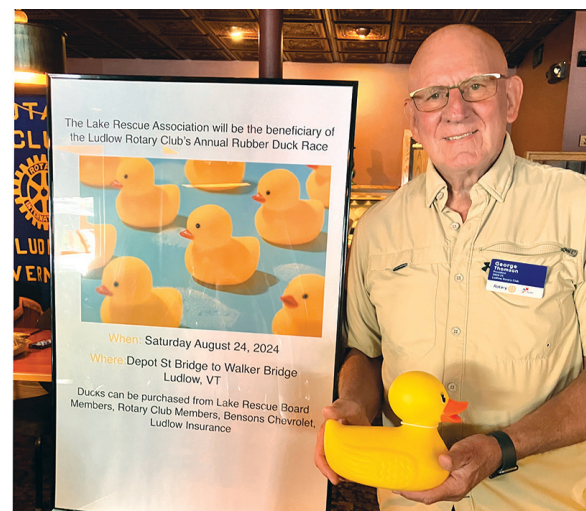
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LRC Duck Race

LUDLOW, Vt. – Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) President George Thomson is pictured holding a rubber ducky as the LRC kicks off planning for its 25th annual Duck Race down the Black River on Saturday, Aug. 24, at 12 p.m. The rubber duckies, purchased by individuals and businesses, get dumped into the river from the Depot Street bridge, and finish at the Walker Bridge.

PHOTO PROVIDED

BRRGC annual Field Day

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Black River Rod and Gun Club (BRRGC) will be hosting their annual Field Day on Sunday, Aug. 11, 2024, from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., at the BRRGC range on Rod and Gun Club Road in Ludlow. This event is free and open to the public.

There will be a variety of activities available, from trap shooting to a slew of

pistols, rifles, and shotguns available to test fire. A rifle will be raffled off, and there will be a barbecue with hot dogs, hamburgers, salads, and more, available by donation.

The BRRGC would like to extend an invitation to all who would like to join for fun, food, and music. Questions can be directed to Steven Howard, president of the BRRGC, at 802-779-4447.

PLAN

From Page 1

residents; performing outreach to local business owners; and gathering information.

Mimi and Emmett will keep you posted about all future meetings. There was some confusion at our first meeting about the community vs. committee designations. As the information gathering develops, community members will have the opportunity to break down into smaller committee groups to research various ideas should the topic pique their curiosity. Please contact Mimi or Emmett if you want to work on some topic, including those above, in more depth.

Mimi can be reached at maryadamslines@gmail.com, and Emmett can be reached at anjalifarmvt@gmail.com.

In the Stevens & Associates Reimagining Master Plan for South

Londonderry, our goal is to create flexible scenarios to accommodate growth, meet resident needs, and attract new businesses. The Master Plan is not final and can be adjusted as needed. By listening to residents, we will develop a comprehensive plan that can serve as a point of departure for future changes as the town grows. We are focusing on a village center that promotes walkability, traffic calming, and connectivity; that covers the wastewater study area, the historic district, and the mixed-use town center; and promotes existing businesses and residential properties and our housing needs. The gradual development will be done in small stages, funded through grants and private investment. Building our business community will strengthen our business tax base.

We welcome everyone to be a part of and collaborate in this thrilling reimagining process with Stevens & Associates. These professionals will help you envision the possibilities.

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Some quill history

BY RON PATCH

802-374-0119
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Quills

I have some experience with hedgehogs and quills. Growing up we had beagles for rabbit hunting. It wasn't uncommon for a young, inexperienced beagle to get quilled.

From my most recent article I repeat this paragraph about the Manchester panther.

"THOMPSON'S VERMONT APPENDIX 1853

"In taking off the skin, the head, neck and inner sides of the fore legs were found very much filled with Hedge-Hog quills, which, in many cases, had passed entirely through the skin and were deeply embedded in the flesh."

This paragraph really bothered me. This animal suffered terribly. The quills migrated deeper and deeper as time passed. It got me to thinking about what Dad taught me.

Quills vary in length and color. Three inches long is probably average. What I call a hedgehog, others call a porcupine. Hedgehogs are covered with quills. The business end of a quill has hundreds of sharp barbs. These barbs protrude off the quill at a reverse angle. This makes them very painful to remove. Imagine a modern barbed fish hook embedded in the palm of your hand. Now imagine it had to be extracted from whence it came. A beagle could have as many as 30 quills in its mouth, nose, and tongue.

When one of our dogs got quilled, I would sit on top of it and hold it down. With a pair of scissors, Dad clipped off the tips of the quills. Then, with pliers, Dad pulled each quill. All the while we sympathetically said, "Good girl, Heidi."

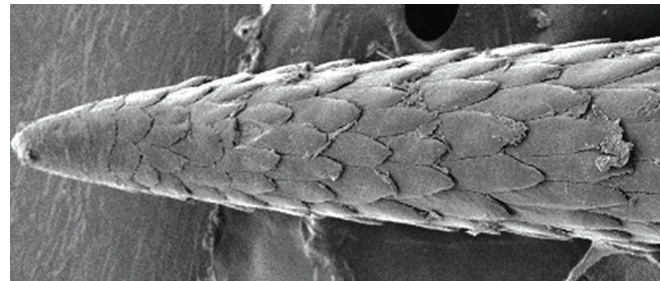
Quills are hollow and filled with air. By clipping the tips off the quills, the air escapes, somewhat deflating the quill, making quills a little less painful to pull. Still, it is so painful that dogs never forgot the experience. Very few dogs would ever attack a hedgehog again. Woe to the beagle that did.

Dad explained to me what could happen if we did nothing. A quill will continue to work its way deeper if not removed. This is confirmed in the Manchester panther. Dad said a quill could work along the snout of a beagle, and end up piercing an eye or brain. It was crucial all quills were removed.

When we thought we had all the quills, we would take our fingers and pass them over the snout and chin, feeling.



A man photographs a porcupine on the roof of the Boy Scout camp on Okemo. PHOTO PROVIDED BY RON PATCH



Barbs on a quill.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY RON PATCH

Odd Fellows artifacts at Saxtons River Historical Society

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – With costumes, banners, swords, a coffin, and other artifacts, the Saxtons River Historical Society (SRHS) has mounted a display that highlights the local Odd Fellows lodge from its beginnings in 1888.

The items are being seen for the first time, after having been stored for many years in a locked room at the Main Street Arts building, where the lodge met for about 100 years.

"We are grateful to Main Street Arts for allowing these historic treasures to be preserved, and for donating them to the historical society," said SRHS President Louise Luring.

"We always had some idea who the Odd Fellows are, but, while preparing the display, we have learned so much more about the important mutual aid role they played in the welfare of the community,"

With the slogan "Friendship, Love, Truth," the command of the Odd Fellows has always been to "visit the sick, relieve the distressed, bury the dead, and educate the orphan."

Saxtons River Lodge #33 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF) was a spin off from the lodge in Bellows Falls, which had grown so large that the Saxtons River members decided to start their own.

The original group of 13 founders included George Riley Tower, a veteran of the Civil War who enlisted at 17 and spent four years in service to the Union Army, the last year as a captive in the notorious Andersonville prison. Tower and the others were carpenters, wagon makers, stonemasons, bricklayers and other so-called blue-collar workers. Tower took leadership as the lodge's first Noble Grand.

A parallel female organization, the Daughters of



A symbol of mortality and the costume of the Good Samaritan's attacker in the Odd Fellows display. PHOTO PROVIDED

Rebekah, was established in the 1850s, and organized in 1890 in Saxtons River as Crystal Rebekah Lodge #14.

The Saxtons River group was similar to the original Odd Fellows, who joined together in England in the 18th century for mutual assistance. One theory for their name is that it was considered odd for people to help each other in this way. Another is that they did odd jobs to make ends meet, just as many Vermonters do today.

The first lodge in America was formed in New York

City in 1806 by three boat builders, a comedian, a vocalist, and the keeper of the tavern where they met. The War of 1812 put a dent in membership, and it was not until Baltimore resident Thomas Wildey, born an orphan in England, became involved in 1819 that the organization really took off. By 1896, it was the largest fraternal organization in the country, with lodges in every state.

Today there are 3,500 lodges in 26 countries, and one active lodge in Vermont, Queen City Lodge #01 in Burlington. All for-

If you had missed a quill, you would find it this way.

For some reason, Dad named every female beagle we had Heidi. I remember one male beagle with AKC papers. His name was Mickey Finn. Mickey was a slow learner.

Our best beagles came from John Maranville up in East Wallingford. He raised, trained, and sold beagles. John had a reputation for the best dogs.

Hillary
Hillary was a second-hand dog from Springfield Humane Society. She was a shepherd/beagle mix. She loved to hunt. We spent many days in the woods.

About 25 years ago, Linda and I were snowshoeing deep behind my place. As usual, Hillary would run off great distances, but she always came back after 45 minutes or so to check on us. When Hillary returned this day, she had a face full of quills.

We came home. I sat on her, cut the quill tips off, and with pliers, pulled the quills one at a time. Today I would take a dog to the vet.

A baby porcupine
Recently at Kendall church we got to talking about hedgehogs and quills. Lee told us about a baby porcupine he once found. He said it was about the size of a peach or pear. Its quills were not yet fully developed. Lee said the quills were prickly, but wouldn't puncture the skin.

Mi'kmaq quill boxes
In the antiques business I learned about quill boxes

decades ago. Native Americans used quills to decorate objects. I have seen and owned what we call "quill boxes" in my trade. Quill boxes were an East Coast woodland Indian creation.

I have seen small dresser boxes, sometimes made of sweet grass, with the lid decorated with quills. I was always told they were Mi'kmaq Indian from Maine. The Mi'kmaq sold these quill boxes to tourists a hundred years ago.

Most often quills are laid parallel to each other, but sometimes the crafter made geometric patterns, carefully selecting colors. They can be beautiful.

And then there's the 1950s reintroduction of the fisher cat, and why. That's another story.

This week's old saying:
"What is your point?"
Reply: "Just beyond your grasp."

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political opinion

Dear Editor,

My name is Gerald Malloy. I am running for U.S. Senate. I love Vermont and, frankly, all Vermonters have a critical decision to make: move forward, or continue struggling.

The banner on my self-proclaimed socialist opponent's X/Twitter account reads "the struggle continues." Please think about that. Vermont is unaffordable, unsafe, and a place to leave – and it all has happened on his watch.

We've seen 12 vetoes from our governor overridden by the supermajority, and those overrides delivered the 14% average property tax and an additional



Gerald Malloy. PHOTO PROVIDED

carbon tax of \$3.20/gallon. Every day I meet Vermonters 18-50 that are moving away. Older Vermonters are truly struggling – yet Congress keeps running up the \$35,000,000,000,000 debt.

Vermont is not business friendly. Career politicians have

led us to this state.

We've seen the truth come out, the misleading, about President Biden's capacities. We've seen all three members of Vermont's Congressional delegation skip the Israel PM's visit. We've seen an assassination attempt.

Now is not the time to check out.

My opponent has been a member of Congress for 34 years. He has delivered little except false promises; self-fulfilling "the struggle continues." Please check my website, www.deploymalloy.com. I respectfully request your vote for U.S. Senate.

Paid for by Gerald Malloy For U.S. Senate Limited

Dear Editor,

Please give Cris Ericson a write-in vote for U.S. Senator on the Progressive ballot. Thank you.

I have the best plan to bring the most federal tax dollars back to Vermont. When the U.S. Congress votes to give our federal tax dollars to corporations as subsidies, they make products they sell internationally and they don't give us a share of their profits, even though they made them using our taxpayer dollars.

I will go to Washing-

ton, D.C., and demand a fair share of profits that corporations, pharmaceutical companies, and defense contractors make using our tax dollars taken from our paychecks, sent to the IRS, and then given by votes of the U.S. Congress to the National Institute of Health, the Pentagon, and corporations, all of whom shuffle the bucks around to profit-making ventures.

It is time to stop the U.S. Congress from voting to give our hard-earned money away unless we get a

share of the profits. Other candidates talk about the rich getting richer and hard-working people struggling more, but I am teaching you, on my website, how they do it.

Please give me, Cris Ericson, a write-in vote for U.S. Senator on the Progressive ballot.

Please visit my websites, www.vt2024.com and www.crisericson.com. To contact me, text 802-289-1000.

Paid for by Cris Ericson Chester, Vt.

Who are scam victims?

REGION – Summer is beginning to fade away. Sadly, daylight hours are in decline, but scam activity continues to grow.

We tend to believe that intelligence can protect us from harm. A commonly heard statement is "I'm too smart to be scammed!" The reality is that being "smart" is not a protection against fraud, regardless of one's knowledge, education, or area of expertise. Just read about these well-known celebrities from a variety of fields who joined the victims list: Sandy Koufax, John Mal-

kovich, Steven Spielberg, Ben Stiller. What do they have in common? They're well-educated, highly successful, and trusted the wrong people with their finances. In fact, being well-educated can be seen as why some people become scam targets; higher education often translates into higher income.

A second myth: "I have nothing of value for a scammer." Wealth, while certainly attractive to criminals, is not the key to victimization. The end goal is financial gain through theft and use of assets or personal information. For example, a younger person can be an attractive target for identity theft where data is used to impersonate and create new credit or bank accounts.

Finally, there is a sense that "fraud is something that happens to old people." Yes, that is true. The elderly are victimized, but so are the new-born and everyone in between. Con artists are truly nondiscriminatory. Victim age, gender, personal health, sexual orientation, race, religion, national origin, marital status, assets, or physical location really do not matter. To paraphrase a marketing slogan, "There's a scam for that!"

The Federal Trade Commission regularly compiles statistics on scams and fraud, noting that there is a higher likelihood of victimization between the ages of 25-45 than for senior citizens. Seniors, who typically have more assets, see higher dollar losses, but successfully scamming younger people can have a high long-term payoff. The likelihood of a scam vic-

tim being scammed again is higher than those who have not been victimized. Common sense may say, "Fool me once, shame on you; fool me twice, shame on me." The reality is that most of those who are scammed do not truly learn from the episode. Consider this as you might consider New Year's Resolutions. On Jan. 1, we resolve to lose 10 pounds by Valentine's Day. By the third week of January we have abandoned the cause. It's not a matter of forgetting the resolution; it is a matter of changing behavior. Similarly, suffering losses a second time is not the result of a lack of education or abandonment, it is a failure to change root behaviors that led to the first loss.

Fraud self-defense, whether in dismissing the myths or by increasing awareness, requires a commitment to behavior change; recognizing risky behavior on the phone, online, or in person. AARP Fraud Watch focuses on public education and awareness of the fraud environment and ecosystem through distribution of literature, public media, special events, and seminars. Contact me, egreenblott@aarp.org, if you are interested in accessing our resources or scheduling a presentation. Also, consider becoming an AARP Fraud Watch volunteer to assist in raising awareness in others. We assist in training, and the nature of your involvement is yours to determine.

Elliott Greenblott is a retired educator and coordinator of the AARP Vermont Fraud Watch Network.

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Subject to space. May be edited for clarity, grammatical errors, and libelous statements. Must be kept under 400 words. Must include name and town for publication. Viewpoints do not necessarily reflect the views of The Vermont Journal & The Shopper.

POLITICAL LETTERS
Due to the volume of political letters we receive during elections, and the increased cost of adding pages to the paper to print them all, political letters are charged at the rate of \$75 for 200 words, and \$0.50 per word thereafter. Political letters include endorsing, electioneering, or campaigning for a specific candidate or party.

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

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I	R	A	N	I	S	U	P	P	L	E					
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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.

CAVENDISH, VT.

Cavendish Baptist Church, 2258 Main St.
Sunday services are 10 a.m. online or in person. Online services are on Facebook at 10 a.m. Go to www.facebook.com/Cavendish-Baptist-Church-258814894244302. More at www.CavendishBaptist.com or call 802-226-7131.

CHESTER, VT.

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

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

GRAFTON, VT.

Grafton Community Church, 55 Main St.
Worship begins Sunday at 10 a.m. View sermons on Zoom. For more information, go to www.graftoncommunitychurch.org or call 802-843-2346.

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.firstbaptistlondonderryvt.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.

PERKINSVILLE, VT.

Bow Baptist Church, 1102 Route 5, Weathersfield Bow
Sunday services are 10 a.m., 11 a.m., and 6 p.m., and Wednesday Bible Study and prayer at 7 p.m. For more information, call 802-546-4902.

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.

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.

WESTON, VT.

The Old Parish Church, 644 Main St.
A diverse, informal, and welcoming congregation. Sunday service begins at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom. For more information, contact Jon Bliss, minister, at 802-824-4452 or email easthillfarm@vermontel.net.

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



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Scott K. Chapman, 1958-2024

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Scott Kelley Chapman, 66, died on June 1, 2024, in Springfield, Vt., the same town where he was born on April 3, 1958.

Named after Randolph Scott the cowboy, he emulated his name by dedicating his life to helping others. He was a lover of music and all things dark chocolate. Driving around Vermont and New Hampshire, you can see his life's work as a carpenter preserved like a museum. From elementary schools to home additions, Scott helped design and actualize dreams for those in the Upper Valley and beyond. As a loyal throwing and vaulting coach, he helped bring the indoor and outdoor track and field teams to many championships over 14 years. As an extra gift, he created unforgettable memories coaching his own kids – the little league team the Ligers, and an indoor soccer team, the Atomic Roosters. He always loved welcoming new athletes, and encouraged everyone to try their hardest. Despite battling pancreatic cancer for a year and a half, he was still bringing joy to others in the form of humor and success in track and field.

Being a dedicated dad of Post Mills, he is survived by many, including his two loving cats Violet and Bust-



Scott Chapman, 1958-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

er. He is survived by Olivia, his life partner and mother of their children; his brother Darrell and wife Joanne; as well as beloved nieces and nephews. He is also survived by his loving children Ethan, Ella, and Cole, who miss him very much.

He was predeceased by his parents Donald and Priscilla (Rumrill) Chapman, and his sister Carol.

Scott will be honored at the Post Mills Cemetery, on Aug. 31, at 10 a.m. There will also be a special tribute field meet open to the public at Thetford Academy, on Aug. 17, starting at 9:15 a.m. In lieu of flowers, please consider contributing to a memorial plaque at Thetford Academy honoring Scott's track and field coaching. For further information about the event and how to donate, please reach out to run.jump.throw1958@gmail.com.

David Savoy, 1928-2024

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – David Savoy passed away on July 28, 2024, at the Jack Byrne Center in Lebanon, N.H. David was born on April 15, 1928, in Athol, Mass., to Francis X. and Caroline (Russell) Savoy. David served in the United States Air Force as a major in the Korean War. David would spend his career in education, and was principal of Central Elementary School in Bellows Falls for many years. On Nov. 25, 1954, he married Georgette Noel, who passed away in 2020.

David was a member of St. Charles Church.

David is survived by his son Phil Savoy of Westminster and daughter Cathy Savoy of Charlestown, N.H. He is also survived by his grandchildren Jessica, Lisa, Laura, Katelyn, and Eric; and great-grandchildren Liam, Hunter, and Magnolia.

David was predeceased by his parents, wife Georgette, and son Roland Savoy.



David Savoy, 1928-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

David was a kind and generous man who loved nothing more than to talk with everyone. You could often find him sitting on the porch at Sterling House, chatting with people that walked by.

A private graveside service will take place in St. Charles Cemetery.

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

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

The surviving siblings of Francis Clark, who is currently buried in the Pleasant View Cemetery in Ludlow, Vermont, have requested the exhumation of his remains for the purpose of reburial in his parents, Allen and Rachel Clark's, cemetery plot in the same cemetery. Descendants of Francis, the Ludlow Cemetery Commissioner or other municipal authority responsible for the cemetery may object to the proposed exhumation by filing a complaint with the Windsor County Probate Division.

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Marilyn Gagliardi, 1936-2024

LUDLOW, Vt. – Marilyn Murray Gagliardi, 87, of Wethersfield, Conn., and Ludlow, Vt., died peacefully on Thursday, Aug. 1, 2024, at Hartford Hospital. Born on Nov. 16, 1936, in Hartford, Conn., she was the daughter of the late Mary L. Murray and Salvatore J. Gagliardi. Marilyn earned her associate's degree at Green Mountain Junior College, and her bachelor's degree from the University of Hartford. She worked in public relations for the Fuller Brush Company and retired from the Travelers Insurance Company. A woman of strong will, Marilyn was loyal, methodical, thrifty, and a lover of dogs and all things Vermont. She very much enjoyed the time she spent at her "camp" on Lake Rescue in Vermont. Marilyn was an enthusiastic member of the RVing Women for 24 years, traveling throughout the United States with these intrepid women. She cheered on the UConn and Connecticut Sun women's basketball teams, and was an avid Elvis fan.

Marilyn is survived by her nephews Clay (Lisa) Gregory and Mark (Kara) Gregory; niece Karen Versanti; as well as eight great-



Marilyn Gagliardi, 1936-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

nephews and great-nieces; and her Gagliardi, Brandt, and Cunningham cousins.

In addition to her parents, Marilyn is predeceased by her brother James, and her companion of 43 years Beverly Newton. The family is grateful to her wonderful caregiver for nearly four years, V. White.

Funeral services and burial were held in Connecticut. Donations in Marilyn's memory may be made to the American Cancer Society, 111 Founders Plaza, 2nd Floor, East Hartford, CT 06108. The D'Esopo Funeral Chapel in Wethersfield, Conn., has been entrusted with the arrangements. To share a memory of Marilyn, please visit www.desopofuneral-chapel.com.

Donna M. Law, 1945-2024

LUDLOW, Vt. – Donna Marie Law, 79, of Ludlow, passed away peacefully on the night of July 30, 2024. Donna was born in Springfield, Vt., to Wilbert and Helen Law, on Dec. 27, 1945.

In her early years, Donna lived and attended schools in Springfield, Vt., later moving to Ludlow, where she lived up until her death.

Donna was known for her strong work ethic, holding several jobs, many times more than two at once, over the years. Most notably, she worked for Ron and Toni Parry of Ludlow's Okemo Inn for more than two decades.

Donna is survived by her son Scott Stevens and his wife Melissa of Mount Holly, Vt.; her grandson Brandon Stevens of Lowell, Mass.; and granddaughter Andrea Stevens of North Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Special thanks to the staff



Donna Law, 1945-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

at the Gill Odd Fellows Home, and to her trusted physician Trish Brown of Ludlow Health.

Arrangements are under the direction of Davis Memorial Chapel, and a private service will be held at the convenience of the family.

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LEGAL NOTICES

AUG. 9 –
 S. LONDONDERRY, Vt. – On Friday, Aug. 9, at 10:30 a.m., the South Londonderry Free Library is presenting another summer reading adventure, “Off We Go to Mexico,” with art teacher Casey Junker Bailey. Children are invited to learn about Mexican folk art as they make their own finwork ornaments and colorful amate paintings. The program is free of charge, and appropriate for children of all ages. Each child will receive a free copy of the lively picture book, “Off We Go to Mexico,” thanks to a generous grant from The Stratton Foundation. For more information about ongoing monthly programs for children, contact the library at 802-824-3371.

W. TOWNSHEND, Vt. – On Friday, Aug. 9, from 5-7 p.m., Sam Chapin will be performing at the West Townshend Country Store’s pizza night. The store is located at 6573 Route 30 in West Townshend. For more information, email info@westtownshend.org or call 802-874-4800.

AUG. 10 –
 N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The North School Preservation Society will hold a yard sale and fundraiser on Saturday, Aug. 5, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., at 5 School Street in North Springfield, rain or shine. The sale will include a variety of household items, furniture, books, tools, vintage jewelry, and much more.

W. TOWNSHEND, Vt. – On Saturday, Aug. 10, from 5-7 p.m., The Buzzards will be performing at the West Townshend Country Store’s taco night. The store is located at 6573 Route 30 in West Townshend. For more information, email info@westtownshend.org or call 802-874-4800.

CLAREMONT, N.H. – Come enjoy a night out on Saturday, Aug. 10, from 7-9 p.m., in the beautiful event room at the Claremont Senior Center, 5 Acer Heights, just off Maple Street, Claremont, N.H. Enjoy dancing, socializing, or just listening to live music by Gerry Grimo and the East Bay Dance Combo. Large dance floor and comfortable round table seating. Bring a friend.

Make new friends. Light snacks and water provided. BYOB. Open to the public. Small cover charge per person. For more information, call 603-543-5998.

AUG. 11 –
 LUDLOW, Vt. – Rick Redington and the Luv will be playing live music on Sunday, Aug. 11, 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.ludlowvtparksandrec.com.

AUG. 13 –
 W. TOWNSHEND, Vt. – On Tuesday, Aug. 13, from 5-7 p.m., Bard Owl will be performing at the West Townshend Country Store’s burger night. The store is located at 6573 Route 30 in West Townshend. For more information, email info@westtownshend.org or call 802-874-4800.

AUG. 16 –
 W. TOWNSHEND, Vt. – On Friday, Aug. 16, from 5-7 p.m., The Buzzards will be performing at the West Townshend Country Store’s pizza night. The store is located at 6573 Route 30 in West Townshend. For more information, email info@westtownshend.org or call 802-874-4800.

AUG. 17 –
 NORWICH, Vt. – The Montshire Sensory Friendly Hour, on Aug. 17, from 9-10 a.m., is a time for families to enjoy a less-crowded visit, and may be appealing to individuals who have sensory processing differences.

Admission is free. There will be reduced lights and sounds from select exhibits, a quiet respite space, sensory kits to borrow with noise-cancelling headphones and other supplies, and a sensory map. Preregistration is appreciated, but not required. To register, visit mms.formstack.com/forms/sensory_friendly_visit.

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

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.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Catamount Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol meets Sundays, from 3:30-5:30 p.m., at Hartness Airport in Springfield. The Civil Air Patrol is the auxiliary unit of the U.S. Air Force tasked with the mission of supporting America’s communities with emergency response, diverse aviation and ground services, youth development, and promotion of air, space, and cyber power. Cadets as young as 12 and senior members of any age make up this diverse group of volunteers.

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

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Overeaters Anonymous 12-Step Recovery Program is Mondays, from 6-7 p.m., at Parks Place, 44 School Street Extension in Bellows Falls. The program is free. For more information go to www.oa.org.

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

WESTON, Vt. – Bingo is Monday nights at 7 p.m. at the Weston Rod & Gun Club, 982 Route 100, 1.5 miles north of Weston Village. All are welcome.

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

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

LUDLOW, Vt. – Cardio

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

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

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

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.

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Genealogy enthusiast Wayne Blanchard will be at the Rockingham Library on Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. If you own a laptop, please bring it along. Both beginners and seasoned genealogists are welcome.

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.

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

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

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

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

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.

River Valley Technical Center School District Notice of Nondiscrimination

The River Valley Technical Center does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, gender identity, marital/civil union status or disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities. Any person having inquiries concerning the River Valley Technical Center’s compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 or other state or federal non-discrimination laws or regulations is directed to contact:

Derek Williams, Assistant Director
 River Valley Technical Center
 307 South Street
 Springfield, VT 05156
 802-885-8302

TOWN OF LONDONDERRY VERMONT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Londonderry Development Review Board will meet at 100 Old School St at 5:30 PM on Wednesday August 21, 2024, to hold a public hearing for an application from McCurdy Vt LLC to do a three-lot subdivision at 1533 Little Pond Rd.

Those interested in seeing the application, submitting written comments, or attending the hearings remotely should contact the town’s Zoning Administrator at zoningadmin@londonderryvt.org.

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. Sections 4464(a)(1)(c) and 4471(a), participation in the local proceedings is a prerequisite to take any subsequent appeal.

TOWN OF WESTON ROAD CREW MEMBER

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 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:

- Maintaining the recycling area and insuring the proper disposal and classification of all recycled materials.
- Assisting residents and commercial users in the appropriate placement of refuse and recyclables.
- 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.

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

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD (DRB)
WESTMINSTER TOWN HALL
Westminster, Vermont

Legal Notice

The Westminster Development Review Board will meet at 6:00 pm on **Monday, September 9, 2024** to consider the following:

Application # 25-07 Application #25-07 Jonathan Whitman (Owner) – property located at 18 Metcalf Drive. The Applicant is requesting a lean to, stone facade, replacement of the existing fence with the same height vinyl fencing, three foot picket fence running the front of the property along Route 5, and a gazebo in the back of the property in the Historic District. This Application will be reviewed under **Section 311 Site Plan Review, Section 445 Village District Zone and Article IX Historic Preservation District Zone** of the adopted 2017 Zoning Bylaws.

Application # 25-08 Application # 25-08 Steven Thomas (Applicant) Chad & Melissa Bacon (owners) property located at **1226 Pine Banks Rd.** The Applicant is requesting a Lot Line Adjustment. Application will be reviewed under **Section 311 Site Plan Review; Section 446 Residential District; and 215 Zoning Permit Procedures** of the adopted 2017 Zoning Bylaws.

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

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

STATE OF VERMONT

SUPERIOR COURT	PROBATE DIVISION
Windsor Unit	Docket No.: 24-PB-04848
In re ESTATE of: <u>Alina M. Stearns</u>	

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the Creditors of: Alina M. Stearns Decedent

late of Weathersfield 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: 8-1-2024 Signature of Alina M. Stearns

Executor/Administrator Carl H. Stearns and Mary J. Stearns Phone Number 802-885-2582 Email	Mailing Address c/o Parker & Ankuda, P.C. PO Box 519 City, State, Zip Springfield, VT 05156
--	--

Name of Publication: The Vermont Journal

Publication Date: August 07, 2024

Name of Probate Court: VT Superior Court - Windsor Unit - Probate Division

Address of Probate Court: 12 The Green Woodstock, VT 05091

REAL ESTATE SECTION

classifieds

How declining mortgage rates could impact the Okemo Valley housing market

LUDLOW, Vt. – According to the July Fannie Mae housing forecast, the average 30-year fixed rate mortgage will be at 6.7% by the end of the year, which is a slight decline from 6.8% in the third quarter of 2024. The federal mortgage association predicts a further drop in the average interest rate in 2025, to a rate of 6.4%.

Tylen Murray, senior broker associate for Kelley Real Estate in Ludlow, relayed, “I have had a couple of buyers looking for awhile now [who] are talking about taking a break until they see rates drop, but for the most part buyers are hopping on any property that is a good fit for them.”

“I would say inflation is coming down and the federal reserve may cut short-term interest rates later this year,” said Victoria Blodgett, senior loan officer at the Ludlow branch of Prime Lending, a company specializing in mortgage, refinance, and renovation loans for over 35 years. “The housing market will recover, but it will not happen overnight. Mortgage rates are projected to come down in the coming months.”

Brian Vaughn with Fairway Mortgage told Murray, “We’re expecting interest rates to begin a long-awaited decline in the final quarter of the year. With unemployment reaching 4.3%, this all but guarantees a cut to the Federal Funds rate in September, which, while not directly reducing mortgage rates, should assist them in moving lower.”

“With inventory so limited, buyers need to act fast with a strong offer to have a chance at securing a property, and if they wait, they may be waiting a while for a suitable home to come on the market,” Murray stated.

“In my 20-plus years as a realtor, we have seen activity fluctuate and it change from a buyers’ market to a sellers’ market. It’s a matter of supply and demand, and

with inventory so low, I would say that it is still a sellers’ market. That could change as we see more for sale signs pop up.”

Murray reported that Kelley Real Estate has been selling quite a few area properties to second homeowners who do not require financing, “which keeps our inventory flying off the shelves. [But] it has been nice to have some primary homebuyer sales this year

with buyers satisfied with their rates and payments.”

“Refinancing down the road is always an option too,” Murray pointed out, “just so buyers don’t miss out on their ideal home.”



FOR RENT

PLYMOUTH, Vt. – Share beautiful, well-kept home with woman in her 70s who needs help organizing her garage. Private bedroom, semi-private bath. \$400/mo. all included. 802-863-5625 or www.HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO.

HELP WANTED

PLYMOUTH, Vt. – The Plymouth Schoolhouse licensed childcare has opened up a second classroom and we looking for a toddler teacher to join the team for the upcoming school year. The right individual will have a background in childcare and college credits in Early Childhood Classes. Must be first aid/CPR certified. This could be a part or full time position. We value creativity, kindness and community, and helping children find the wonder in the world around them. We look forward to welcoming a new person to the staff, so we can continue to best serve our surrounding communities with providing high quality childcare in a small setting. If you are interested in visiting the program and learning about the opportunity, please contact Lauren Skaskiw at 802-417-6895 or email plymouthschoolhouse@gmail.com.

FOR SALE

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Enhanced Vision Merlin HD Ultra projector for sale. Projects photos, small print documents, and more onto its built-in monitor, which also swivels to the position you need it. Multiple zoom settings, and light and brightness adjustments. \$250 OBO. Call 802-289-4389.



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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

- "Bow-wow!"
- Dol. fractions
- Ornamental jug
- Ballet bends
- Resident of Tabriz
- Limber
- Goes on
- Sault — Marie
- Quarterback Tom
- La-la lead-in
- Cat call
- Antelope's playmate
- Map feature
- Goethe play
- Thor's father
- Sax range
- Consumer protection agcy.
- Ryan's daughter
- Ninny
- Refuses to answer
- Italian ice cream
- Paris school
- Turkish coins
- Modern money
- Lith., once

DOWN

- "— a deal!"
- Heron's kin
- Jog
- Listener
- Not dozing
- ISP choice
- Thrown beach toy
- Pair with an air
- Tipped off, with "in"
- In one's cups
- Aug. follower
- Part of Q.E.D.
- "Hogwash!"
- Schedules charges
- Frequently
- A Musketeer
- Despots
- Perfume ingredient
- Earlier, in verse
- Normandy battle site
- "Thar — blows!"
- Yale students
- Hosp. areas

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arts & entertainment

David Feurzeig “Play Every Town” in Athens

ATHENS, Vt. – On Sunday, Aug. 11, at 3 p.m., composer-pianist David Feurzeig will play a concert at the Athens Brick Meeting House, 2 Meetinghouse Road in Athens, Vt., as part of his “Play Every Town” series of concerts. Admission is free, and donations will be accepted to benefit the Nature Museum in Graf-ton, Vt.

In May 2022, Feurzeig embarked on “Play Every Town,” 252 free concerts in each of Vermont’s 252 towns to confront climate change through the power of community and music. With this project, David will become the first musician to perform in every Vermont municipality. He is traveling in his solar-charged electric vehicle throughout the state, offering free concerts to bring attention to the interrelated issues of climate and community, and to call into question the normality of long-distance touring and travel, while bringing the joy of music to his audiences.

Feurzeig, a professor of music at UVM, specializes in genre-defying recitals that bring together the mu-

sic of an astonishing variety of musical styles, from ancient and classical, to jazz, avant-garde, and popular traditions. These striking juxtapositions, peppered with informative and humorous commentary, create eye- and ear-opening programs that will change how you hear all kinds of music.

Each program is locally tailored. In Athens, David will be joined by local musicians Matt Shea and Will Danforth to play some environmentally-themed songs of Danforth’s. David will play a sonata by Muzio Clementi written in 1780, the year Athens was chartered, and Mozart’s beloved variations on “Twinkle Twinkle,” written in 1781, the year the town was organized. Two polonaises by the 7-year-old Chopin will mark the year of the meeting house’s construction, and Mary Gibbons’ 1871 “Athenian March” will honor the town’s storied name. As with every concert in the project, this one will include its own unique sonata by Domenico Scarlatti, “Sonata no. 63,” for this 63rd concert in the project. And, in honor of the other

Athens’ reputation as a birthplace of democracy, David will play Robert Buechel’s 1913 “Democratic Fun: A Campaign Cake-Walk.” Other solo pieces will round out the program.

Feurzeig finds his approach attracts new audiences to so-called “classical” concerts, and brings new insight to existing fans. “Classical music culture puts the ‘Great Composers’ on an almost religious pedestal. Once this was an indication of the audience’s love and respect, but now it just distances people from the music. It turns away new listeners, who feel like they’re in a stuffy museum instead of a live concert. Sure, the music can be serious, but there’s no reason anyone should feel intimidated. If I don’t get a laugh from the audience in the first two minutes, I get worried.”

Follow Feurzeig on his journey on Instagram, find up-to-date events for your town via Facebook at www.facebook.com/playeverytownvt, or visit the website at www.playeverytown.com.

Upcoming events at Next Stage

PUTNEY, Vt. – Below is a list of events to be held at Next Stage Arts, located at 15 Kimball Hill in Putney, Vt., in the coming weeks.

Aug. 10 – Yann Falquet and Keith Murphy, and The Murphy Beds

Next Stage Arts and Twilight Music present a double bill of traditional and original folk, with Yann Falquet and Keith Murphy, and The Murphy Beds, on Saturday, Aug. 10, at 7:30 p.m., at Next Stage.

Tickets are are discounted in advance at www.nextstagearts.org; there is also a livestream ticket option. Next Stage will provide a cash bar. For information, call 802-387-0102 or visit the website.

Aug. 15 – Rainbow Girls and Children of Divorce

Next Stage Arts and Twilight Music present an evening of folk, roots, and Americana music by California-based trio Rainbow Girls, on Thursday, Aug. 15, at 7 p.m. at Next Stage. Children of Divorce open. Tickets are are discounted

in advance at www.nextstagearts.org; there is also a livestream ticket option. Next Stage will provide a cash bar. For information, call 802-387-0102 or visit the website.

Aug. 17 – Hannah Harvester, “Landscapes”

The NXT Gallery is pleased to present “Landscapes,” an exhibition of paintings by artist Hannah Harvester. The exhibit runs Aug. 17 – Nov. 10. The gallery is open to the public during scheduled performances in the theater, and by appointment.

Sundays on the Hill

WESTON, Vt. – The Sundays on the Hill Concert Series Committee is so delighted to have Hiroya Tsukamoto perform on Aug. 11, in the Old Parish Church, on Route 100, in Weston, Vt., at 4 p.m.

Tsukamoto is an innovative guitarist and composer who fuses together folk, jazz, and world music through a blend of masterful fingerstyle guitar and evocative storytelling that transcends

cultural barriers. Born and raised in Kyoto, Japan, he received a scholarship to Berklee College of music and came to the U.S.

Tsukamoto’s instrumental abilities are breathtaking, but his performances are so much more than that. He has the unique capability of engaging an audience with his personable and genuine approach, transfixing and transcending his capabilities as a guitarist.

Tsukamoto has been recognized for his talents on stages, such as at Blue Note in New York City, Japanese National Television (NHK), International Storytelling Center, and United Nations, and by scoring second place at the International Fingerstyle Guitar Championship both in 2018 and 2022. For more information on Tsukamoto, visit www.hiroyatsukamoto.com.

Ensemble Aubade will perform in the Old Parish Church on Aug. 18, at 4 p.m. Ensemble Aubade, consisting of Peter H. Bloom, flute; Francis Grimes, viola; and Steven Sussman, piano, captivates audiences with vibrant chamber music by

European and American masters. Highlights include the exquisite “Kegelstatt Trio, K. 498” (1786) by Mozart; the exhilarating “Seven Postcards to Old Friends” (1966) by legendary Broadway arranger Robert Russell Bennett; and the magnificent “Trio Opus 45” (1856) by the great 19th-century composer Louise Farrenc, who was famous in her time but is rarely heard today.

The esteemed ensemble, based in Boston, concertizes across the United States, winning praise for stellar musicianship, vibrant performances, and engaging residencies. For more information on Ensemble Aubade, visit www.americanmusicworks.com/ensemble-aubade.

Admission cost is low for adults, and children 12 and under may attend at no charge. The doors open around 3:30 p.m., and there are no reserved seats, no advance tickets, and admission is paid at the door. For more information on the Sundays on the Hill Concert Series, visit www.sundaysonthehill.org.

“Art for the Senses” at Gallery at the VAULT

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Gallery at the VAULT is delighted to present a beau-

tiful show of oil paintings by Lynn VanNatta, “Art for the Senses,” an artist’s journey through light, color, and emotions, on view until Sept. 18.

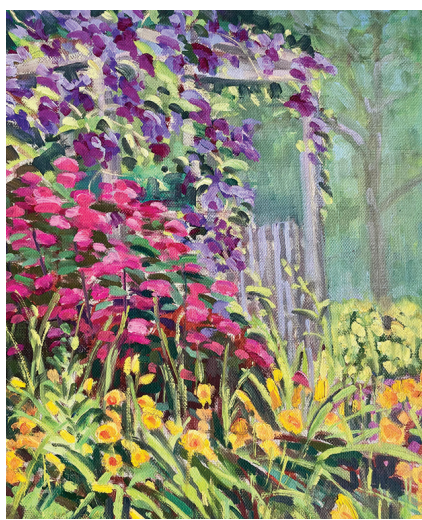
VanNatta’s collection explores emotions through color and light. The indoors, outdoors, and still life paintings all share the same attention to expressing emotions. Photo references and still life arrangements were used for inspiration in her in-studio paintings, and the beautiful Vermont landscape inspired her plein air, outdoor works.

“Art for the Senses” implies a story of feeling which reveals the moods and the narrative in VanNatta’s

work.

VanNatta is a University of Massachusetts graduate, with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in art education. During the mid-1990s, VanNatta began her studies in oil painting with plein air master Caleb Stone of Rockport, Mass., and Copley Society Master Painter Mark Hayden of Bradford, Mass. Please visit her website at www.lynnvannatta.com, or make an appointment to visit her West Windsor studio by calling 802-291-1394.

Gallery at the VAULT is located at 68 Main Street, Springfield. The gallery is



“Outback” by Lynn VanNatta. PHOTO PROVIDED

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“Celebration” at Gallery at the VAULT

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Gallery at the VAULT is proud to present a new Open Wall Show, “Celebration.” This show includes beautiful paintings, photographs, graphite drawings, embroidery, tatting, knitting, a ceramic planter, wood, metal sculpture,

jewelry, and an owl made from nature’s objects. We are amazed at the talent of our neighbors and friends around Springfield. This is a wonderful, celebratory show. Thank you to all the participants. The works will

See **VAULT** on Page 9

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arts & entertainment

Soul Rockers rescheduled for Aug. 15

CAVENDISH, Vt. – Soul Rockers, a group of talented local musicians, were scheduled to perform at the Concert on the Green series in Proctorsville when Hurricane Beryl was also due to appear. That concert has been rescheduled to Thursday, Aug. 15, at 5:30 p.m.

Soul Rockers is 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.

This concert is sponsored by Gassetts Group.

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 and Singleton's

General Store have take-out 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, the concert will be held in the Proctorsville Fire Hall at 513 Main Street, three doors down from the Green. Please check the Cavendish Community and Conservation Association Facebook page for any additional information. Email cavendish-communityconservation@gmail.com with any questions.

Slavic Soul Party! at Bandwagon Series

PUTNEY, Vt. – The Next Stage Bandwagon Summer Series is thrilled to announce the return of Slavic Soul Party! on Friday, Aug. 9, at The Putney Inn Field, 57 Putney Landing Road, Putney, Vt. This event promises to be an unforgettable celebration of Balkan brass, jazz, and funk.

Slavic Soul Party! has carved out a unique niche in the music world with their fiery Balkan brass sound, irresistible beats, and virtuoso jazz chops. Hailing from New York City, the nine-piece ensemble brings together influences from across the globe, blending them into a high-energy musical experience that is

both infectious and soul-stirring.

The band's Tuesday night residency in Brooklyn, spanning over two decades, has garnered international acclaim and a reputation for delivering an electrifying live show. Their latest album, "SSP! Plays Duke Ellington's Far East Suite," has been praised for its innovative reinterpretation of Duke Ellington's iconic work, combining Eastern European, Romani, and American sounds into a seamless fusion.

"Royalty of the Balkan Brass sound, we had them a few years ago with a crowd of more than 600 people showing up to dance and feel the joy of their performance, and the community has asked us to bring them

back to southern Vermont," says Keith Marks, executive director of Next Stage Arts. "The power of a 12-member brass band bringing the party is a not-to-be-missed opportunity. We're excited to be able to present them again as part of the series."

Tickets for the event are discounted in advance at www.nextstagearts.org. Children under 12 are free. Advance ticket sales will close two hours before showtime. Gates open at 5 p.m., and attendees are encouraged to bring picnic blankets or fold-up chairs.

Thanks to generous support from M&T Bank, Lawson's Finest Liquids, Oak Meadow, The Porch Cafe & Catering, Brattleboro Reformer, The Commons, and We Clean Heat Pumps.

Springfield Community Band Children's Concert

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Tuesday, Aug. 13, at 6:15 p.m., the Springfield Community Band, under the direction of Nick Pelton, will present its very popular Children's Concert, which was rained out in July. Please note the earlier time this year, and remember to bring a chair.

The concert, which wraps up the band's summer season, will take place at The Common, a park in Springfield opposite the Summer Hill Cemetery, 140 Summer Hill Street.

The musical selections for the evening will include music from the Disney movies "Moana" and "Encanto." In addition, the band will play a musical

tribute to jazz superstar Duke Ellington.

We are pleased to welcome back to our stage vocalist Kelly DeAngelis, who will sing Elsa's big hit "Let it Go" from the movie "Frozen."

Also, in a rare treat, band director Nick Pelton will give his saxophone a substantial workout, playing the challenging piece "Lightning Fingers." The title speaks for itself.

As is usual at our Children's Concerts, any child who wants to conduct the band will have the chance to do so. There will also be free ice cream for the kids.

On the occasion of this final concert, the band thanks its director Nick

Pelton for his readiness to impart musical knowledge, and for his many years of enthusiastic direction of the band. He is the true heart of the band; he chooses interesting music, he makes practice fun, and he unfailingly improves the quality of our performances.

The band also thanks its hardworking announcer, Pat Ankuda, whose research and fun facts enrich every concert.

In addition, the band is certainly grateful to the owner and staff of the beautiful Hartness House for providing us with a superb concert venue throughout the summer. And finally, but certainly not least, the band thanks its loyal audience for their enthusiasm and support. You make it all worthwhile.

We plan to start practicing soon for a second annual holiday concert, which is planned to take place in December at the Riverside School. We hope to see you there.

Walpole Players auditions for "A Christmas Story"

WALPOLE, N.H. – It may be August, but get ready for Christmas. More specifically, get ready for "A Christmas Story: The Musical." Get in the holiday spirit early by auditioning for The Walpole Players' holiday production of the musical version of the 1983 comedy classic.

Auditions will be held Sunday, Aug. 11, from 2-5 p.m.; and Monday, Aug. 12, from 6-8 p.m., upstairs at the Helen Miller Theater at the Walpole Town Hall in Walpole, N.H. Callbacks and additional auditions will be held on Monday, Aug. 26, from 6-8 p.m. This production is sponsored by Mascoma Savings Bank.

"A Christmas Story" is a musical version of the 1983 film comedy about a young boy named Ralphie Parker, who wants an official Red Ryder carbine action BB gun

for Christmas. With music by Oscar- and Tony-winning songwriters Benj Pasek and Justin Paul ("La La Land," "Dear Evan Hansen," "The Greatest Showman"), this promises to be a fun holiday event for the whole family.

"A Christmas Story" has a large cast of children, teens, and adults. The show will be performed at the beauti-

ful Helen Miller Theater in Walpole, N.H., in December. We are looking for children and adults who love to perform. All roles are open.

If you would like more information, please visit The Walpole Players' Facebook page. If you would like to audition, but can't make it on the audition dates, please email us at WalpolePlayers@gmail.com.

Stand-up comedian Lee Hardin returns

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – All the way from Nashville, Tenn., stand-up comedian Lee Hardin will be at the Springfield Community Players Studio, 165 South Street in Springfield, on Friday, Aug. 16, at 7:30 p.m. Hardin has appeared on NBC, The Mike Huckabee Show, and has his two comedy specials on DryBar Comedy. Hardin has also shared the stage with notable

acts like Henry Cho and Nate Bargatz. Hardin's comedy is clean, family-friendly, and for everyone to enjoy. We had a blast last year, so don't miss out.

Tickets are available www.springfieldcommunityplayers.org, by emailing springfieldcommunityplayers@gmail.com, and at the door. Tickets are discounted for students and seniors.

VAULT

From Page 8

be on display until Oct. 9.

Open Wall is a nonjuried show for any artists living in a 30-mile radius of Springfield. Gallery at the VAULT is located at 68 Main Street, Springfield. The gallery is open Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.; and Friday, 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. For more information, drop

by the gallery, call 802-885-7111, email gallervault@vermontel.net, or visit the gallery's Facebook and Instagram pages or website, www.gallervault.org. Gallery at the VAULT is handicap accessible.



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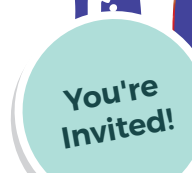
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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

802-428-4023 Jeff@fmpvx.com fmpvx.com



WHY FALL MOUNTAIN PHARMACY?

At Fall Mountain Pharmacy, we are committed to offering personalized care, comprehensive health services, and a welcoming environment for all our customers. Our team is here to support your health and wellness needs with professionalism and a personal touch.

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health & wellness

Overeaters Anonymous in Bellows Falls

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Overeaters Anonymous (OA) is modeled after the successful 12-step recovery program of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). Our meetings are attended by those living with food addiction and abstaining

from overeating, much like the alcoholic who attends AA and is sober. Like AA, OA has helped thousands of compulsive overeaters, bulimics, and anorexics recover and restore their physical and emotional health.

There are no dues or fees. A voluntary contribution is suggested at meetings, but not required. The only requirement to attend OA is a desire to stop eating compulsively.

Our goal is simply to support all those who suffer so they know there is a solution. They don't have to live alone and suffer in shame – recovery and long-term weight loss and restored health are possible and available.

Meetings are held on Monday evenings, from 6-7 p.m., at Parks Place, 44 School Street Extension, Bellows Falls, Vt.

Grace Cottage presents to Wantastiquet Rotary

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – The Wantastiquet Rotary Club recently had guest speakers Martha Dale, president of the Grace Cottage Board of Directors; Olivia Sweetnam, new CEO; and Charma Bonanno, director of development, who talked about the 75-year-old Grace Cottage Family Health and Hospital history and future plans. A \$20 million capital campaign is now in the early phases, with a \$5 million grant to kick it off, and it has already raised over \$9 million to add on to the current facility.

The Rotary Club learned that the family health and hospital center offers many great services, and is still accepting new patients. They have 15 primary care providers on staff. There are full laboratory services, diagnostic imaging, hospice suites, and 19 inpatient beds in the hospital. They are well known in the



Representatives of Grace Cottage recently spoke to members of the Wantastiquet Rotary Club.

PHOTO PROVIDED

area for their physical and occupational therapy. Their newly expanded emergency room is available 24 hours a day, and is very accommodating. They also have Messenger Valley Pharmacy, and a community wellness center.

For several years in a row, the Brattleboro Reformer's Readers' Choice Awards have named them Best

Hospital, Best Emergency Room, Best Physical Therapy, Best Doctor, Best Pediatrician, Best Pharmacy, and Best Place to Work.

In the past four years, primary care visits have increased by 50%. However, due to age and space limitations, the increased volume has become a real concern, and thus the need to expand the current facility.

We Are MOVING!!

We will be closed August 5th-9th to get settled in our new space!

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Parks Place welcomes DHMC CARES Van

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – On Friday, Aug. 23, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., the Community Awareness and Research Education Program from Dartmouth-Hitchcock will be at Parks Place Community Resource Center in Bellows Falls, Vt. This program brings free, no-hassle blood pressure, blood sugar, and cholesterol screenings to individuals over the age of 18. Their

goal is to help educate people who might not be aware of their risk for heart disease. The CARES team sees themselves as the first step in "spinning the web of community connections to support heart-healthy living for the residents of rural New England."

To learn more about this event or other events at Parks Place, please call 802-463-9927. To learn how you can support HVC CARES, please contact Dorothy Heinrichs at 203-257-2689 or Dorothy.B.Heinrichs@hitchcock.org.

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DAISY Awards

WINDSOR, Vt. – Three nurses, two licensed nursing assistants (LNA), and one licensed practical nurse (LPN) at Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center (MAHHC), a member of Dartmouth Health, were recently recognized for providing extraordinary patient care with DAISY Awards by the DAISY Foundation, an international organization founded to celebrate nurses. The hospital also awarded some of these outstanding nurses with a PETALS Award, which stands for "Professional Extraordinaires That Always Lend Support."

The DAISY Committee at MAHHC, which scores blinded nominations and selects winners, awarded Kimberly Rich, RN, CAPA, the DAISY Nurse Leader Award. As a clinical supervisor in the surgical services department, Rich supports the staff, provides exceptional care to patients, and provides educational opportunities for fellow nurses.

Nurses Lily Burke, RN, and Ruth Doiron, RN, also received DAISY Awards. Burke is known not only for her patient care, but the comfort she gives to patients' loved ones by showing compassion and sharing her deep knowledge of her practice. Doiron is an acute care nurse recognized for regularly stepping up to help her fellow nurses, attentiveness to patient needs, and empathy.

The hospital also awarded PETALS Awards to Katherine Flynn, LNA, Elaine Nestor, LNA, and Brianna Henault, LPN.

For more information about Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center, visit www.mtascutneyhospital.org.

community news

Experience sanctuary life —

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. — On Saturday, Aug. 10, from 12-3 p.m., VINE Sanctuary invites you to a special public day where you can experience life at the sanctuary firsthand. This event offers a unique opportunity to connect with the sanctuary's animal residents and become an active participant in their community.

The day will begin with a volunteer project, where attendees will assist with simple chores under the watchful supervision of the sanctuary's nonhuman inhabitants. This hands-on experience allows guests to engage with the animals and the sanctuary's mission.

Following the volunteer

activities, participants will enjoy a guided tour of VINE Sanctuary, offering an up-close look at the lives of the animals who call the sanctuary home. The tour will conclude with a selection of vegan snacks, providing an opportunity to relax and chat with sanctuary staff.

For those who wish to continue their experience, an optional hike to the sanctuary's forested back pastures will be offered. This hike will provide a chance to meet "the hardy herd," a group of semi-feral cows that roam the scenic landscape.

This event is free and open to the public. To participate, please arrive at VINE Sanc-

tuary at 201 Massey Road at or shortly before 12 p.m.

VINE is a farmed-animal sanctuary that works for social and environmental justice and animal wellbeing in Springfield, Vt. The solar-powered sanctuary was the first to rehabilitate roosters used in cockfighting. It is currently home to over 500 residents, including formerly farmed animals and survivors of vivisection, the entertainment industry, and situations of abuse and neglect.

For more information, visit www.vinesanctuary.org, or follow VINE on Instagram at @vinesanctuary.

School supply drive —

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. — Springfield Roots Pizzeria and Edward Jones financial advisor Daniel Richardson are collecting school supplies through the end of August to donate to local schools. If you'd like to donate supplies, visit Springfield Roots Pizzeria at 40 Main Street, or Daniel Richardson at Edward Jones, at 300 River Street.



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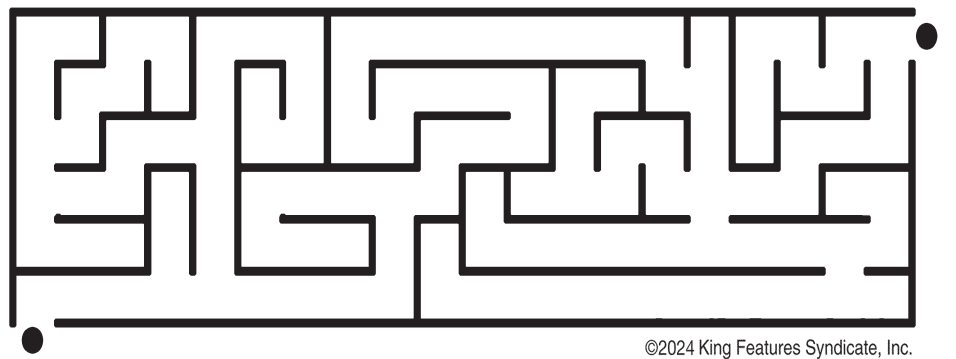
My Favorite Color: _____

My Favorite School Subject: _____

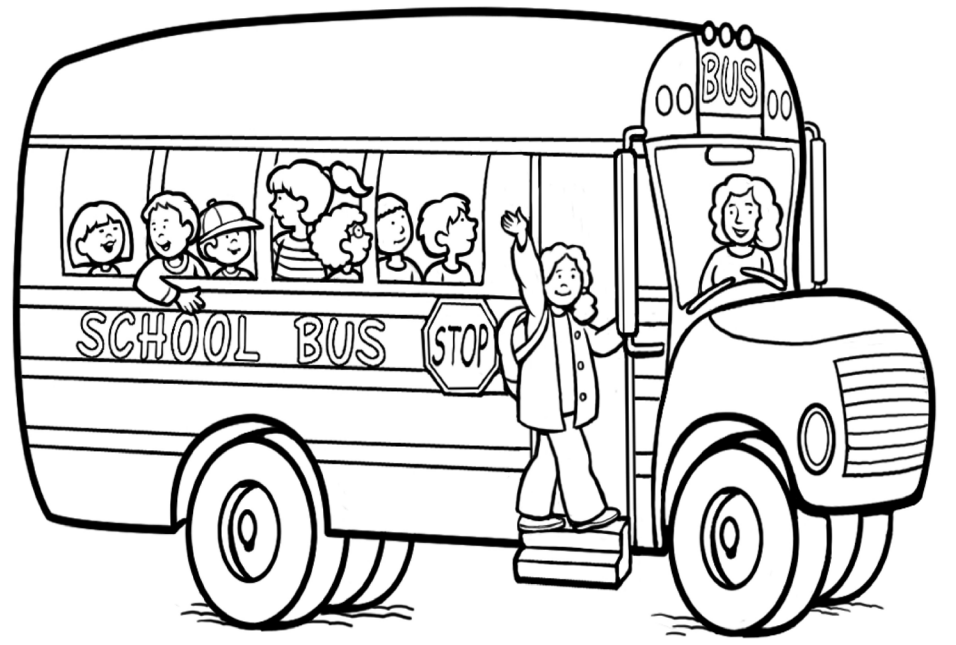
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