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September 28 & 29
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Meeting to revise Rockingham Town Plan on the horizon

BY JOE MILLIKEN
The Shopper

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – At a Rockingham town public meeting in early September, there was an in-depth discussion revolving around the formal adoption of the revised Rockingham Town Plan. During the meeting, the Rockingham Selectboard listened to various concerns ranging from commercial development, to preserving specific residential areas in Bellows Falls, to revising service language about the Saxtons River Rescue.

Multiple selectboard members raised concern about the Town Plan providing adequate protection for the residential neighborhood, as currently, there is just one local business along Rockingham Street – a dental office – despite its convenient location and easy access to the highway and downtown.

However, it was also duly noted by multiple parties that the newest revisions to the revised Town Plan are not substantial enough changes to require another public hearing. Consequently, selectboard member and cowriter of the Town Plan revision John Dunbar pushed for a formal adoption of the newly written revision.

Rockingham development director Gary Fox was also in favor of a formal adoption, stating that the current Town Plan was technically “expired,” meaning there was no official Town Plan currently in place, which would affect upcoming developmental reviews including Act 250, the state land-use requirements. He also cited a likely upcoming Act 250 hearing revolving around a restoration project at the Rockingham Industrial Park.

“The most significant change in our current plan is the Area Wide Plan, which incorporates numerous development and land-use updates for the island area and under the bridge,” town manager Scott Pickup said in a recent interview.

“Once the revised town plan is completely adopted – it does go to the regional planning commission for one more review – we will put together a timeline for the ‘zoning bylaws update,’ and then align the land use with the plan.”

The chairwoman of the Rockingham Planning Commission and cowriter of the newly written revision, Deborah Wright, agreed that any changes

that may have come up during the last selectboard hearings were not substantial. She also stated that the current rewrite is actually the first in-depth revision of the plan in 26 years. There had been some reviews in 2016, but no significant changes were made.

“Town Plans are reviewed and adopted on a rolling five-year window,” Pickup added. “This particular cycle has produced some new information, so the review has been very thorough.”

Once the revised plan is officially adopted by the Rockingham Selectboard, the plan goes to the Windham Regional Commission for final review and adaptation.

In a separate matter, the selectboard also added specific language to recognize the Saxtons River Fire and Rescue Department as serving both the town, as well as the Golden Cross Ambulance service. Other current selectboard updates have included some town map updates, and some language development for mixed-use development.

Green on Main construction to begin

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Green on Main is a project to develop a green space next to the First Congregational Church, UCC, on Main Street in Springfield. This space is for the use of the community to gather on benches, bring lunch and use the ADA picnic table, stop under the shade of the large maple tree, and enjoy the gardens full of color and native plants.

This renovation of a green space was funded by residents and friends of Springfield, with a matching grant from Better Places, through the Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development, in partnership with the Vermont Department of Health, the Vermont Community Foundation, and Patronicity. We are grateful for the support and faith that something new is coming for downtown Springfield for all to enjoy.

The design of the space was originally drawn by Scott Morgan, a landscape architect,



Peter Andrews, Moderator of the Congregational church, Jeff Matulonis of Woodburys Landscaping, and Tuck Wunderle and Patrick Jarvis of Terrigenous Landscape Architecture with plans marked out on the green space work site. PHOTO PROVIDED

with input from the church community. The construction drawings and modifications were completed by Terrigenous Landscape Architecture of Chester. The construction, soil enhancement, and plantings will be managed by Woodbury Landscaping of Springfield and Terrigenous.

The patio and ramped walkway are made from pavers that allow rain water to soak into the ground. Three recycled Trex benches surrounding the patio have been donated in memory of loved ones, a fourth

bench is being donated by Springfield Rotary’s Trex Plastics Challenge program. A picnic table with room for a wheelchair has been donated by past members of the church, along with a tree to provide shade for the patio.

Construction began the week of Sept. 16. There will be a celebration of the green space when it is completed and plants are in place. The community and funding agencies will be invited, and thanked for their awesome support and faith in this project.

Leland & Gray to host Reality Fair

TOWNSHEND, Vt. – Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation’s Pipelines and Pathways Program has partnered with Leland & Gray High School to host the third annual Reality Fair on Thursday, Oct. 3. The Reality Fair is an interactive, hands-on experience that covers financial literacy and practical life skills all students need to confidently take their first steps into the adult world. Over 250 juniors and seniors from Windham County schools will participate in the event.



Students spin the Reality Wheel. PHOTO PROVIDED

The Reality Fair includes two separate experiences. The Financial Literacy Experience is similar to The Game of Life. In the Financial Literacy Experience, students are assigned a job that exists in Windham County and matches their career interests. Students are “paid” one month’s net earnings, which they will use to purchase all of life’s needs, such as transportation and housing. With help from financial advisors from local banking institutions, students will learn to balance their needs with their “wants,” like pets, vacations, and dining out. Budgets will inevitably be

thrown off by a few spins of the Reality Wheel, where they might get a speeding ticket or get a late fee on a credit card payment. Students who complete the assignment with at least \$1 left at the end of the month will be entered into raffles with prizes from local businesses.

An “Adulting-101” or Practical Life Skills Experience will round out the day’s events. Students will learn key skills all adults wish they had been taught at 18 years old, such as basic home repair, cooking, tire changing, tie tying, and more. Over 80 volunteers from local businesses, colleges, and nonprofits will participate in this fun-filled, community-

building event.

Local businesses support food drive

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Two local businesses are coming up with clever ways to support their local food pantries while having some fun along the way.

Weekly food-themed events at Chroma Technology began with “Anything’s Pastable,” a pasta build challenge, followed by “Eat Your Veggies and Share Them Too,” featuring a cornhole tournament, barbecue, and chili cook-off. Next up is “Cereal-iously,” a cereal-

based baking contest.

“We’ve worked harder this year to promote more facts about the food shelf and food items,” said Jannette Bombardier, one of the organizers of the events.

Employees of both Chroma and nearby Sonnax joined forces to create a “can-struction” for display in the window of Edward Jones on The Square, using canned goods and pasta boxed structures in a clever rendition of the town hall, opera house, and clock tower across the street, with

a working clock. The structure represents 125 pounds of food.

“These folks have been tremendous partners in the Overflow the Opera House food- and fund-raising effort,” said Dave Billings, executive director of Our Place.

Representatives of the two businesses will also be on hand in The Square on Thursday, Sept. 26, from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., to accept donations of food and funds.

Further information about the Overflow the Op-

era House drive is available at www.ourplacevermont.org.

can visit an online site that allows anyone to “buy” a seat at the Opera House with a donation.

“That [donation] represents a food box for a family,” said Billings. “We have better leverage with our food dollars than the average shopper, so donating money stretches the dollars even further.”

“We are also very proud to be among the handful of small communities in Vermont that provide hot meals daily to anyone in need,” he added.

Donations can be made at www.ourplacevermont.org/events any time, or by stopping by the opera house during the drive.

Employees of Chroma Technology and Sonnax are also playing a role in making the drive a big hit by holding in-house

drives, and providing on-site help. Peter “Fish” Case from KOOL-FM radio will be broadcasting live to encourage listeners to support the effort.

Also taking part are members of the Bellows Falls Woman’s Club, whose National Day of Service coincides with the OFOH drive.

“The General Federation of Women’s Club’s National Day of Service is Sept. 28, with an emphasis on food insecurity and hunger,” said BFWC President Nancy McAuliffe, “so we decided to join this effort taking place about the same time in our own hometown.”

Information about Our Place and the drive can be found at www.ourplacevermont.org, on Facebook, or by contacting Our Place at 802-463-2217.

Local food drive. PHOTO PROVIDED

era House drive is available at www.ourplacevermont.org.

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Saxtons River Chili Fest

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – Mark your calendars for a fantastic day of flavor and fun at the Saxtons River Chili Fest. This exciting event will take place on Saturday, Sept. 28, beginning at 12 p.m., at the 24 Main Street Community Building, Saxtons River, Vt.

Do you think your chili has what it takes to win? Enter the competition by emailing serenberta@gmail.com for your chance to showcase your culinary skills.

Enjoy an array of activities, including our chili cook-off, fun fair, mini golf, silent auction, quilt raffle, and 50-50 raffle. Dance the day away with music provided by WOOL 91.5 Blacksheep Radio, and join us in the assembly hall at 2:30 p.m. for Pleasant Valley Cabaret, a variety show

of local acts. Chili Cook-off tickets are affordably priced for adults, and discounted for children 12 and under. Bring the whole family for a special rate. Everyone is invited to join in on the fun, and your chili cook-off ticket automatically sets you up to participate as a judge. This is an event you won't want to miss.

Explore artificial intelligence

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – What is the buzz about artificial intelligence (AI)? Will it make our lives easier, or is it scary?

The Springfield Town Library is thrilled to announce an enlightening event on artificial intelligence featuring Ben McVety, STEAM coordinator from Black River Innovation Campus. "AI Ba-

sics: Work Smarter, Not Harder" will take place on Monday, Sept. 30, at 6 p.m., in the library's Flinn Room.

McVety will explain what AI is, unveiling the behind-the-scenes processes, and showcasing practical examples of how AI can be seamlessly integrated into everyday workflows. Whether you're a tech enthusiast, or just curious about the impact of AI on daily life, this event promises to be both informative and engaging.

Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a Q&A session following the presentation, allowing them to address their specific questions and concerns, and gain deeper insights into the evolving world of AI.

This event is open to the public, and no prior registration is required. For more information, please contact the library at 802-885-3108, or visit www.springfieldtownlibrary.org.

Tom Charlton Listening Tour coming to Chester and Grafton

REGION – Hang on to that mail-in ballot. This election you have a vote and a voice.

What do you want for the State of Vermont? What are your priorities and concerns? What ideas do you have for solutions? You are invited to tell candidate Tom Charlton about the important issues that affect you – your pocketbook, your community, your children. This is your chance to send a legislator to Montpelier who will represent you – come tell him what you're thinking.

Two events are scheduled. The first is on Friday, Sept. 27, at the Chester Town Hall; and the second is on Wednesday, Oct. 9, at the Grafton Town Hall. Both events run from 6:30–8 p.m. The format is open mic, with residents given three minutes each to speak. Participants will have a second opportunity to speak if time allows, and Charlton will take questions at the end of the evening. Further dates and a Zoom event will be announced.

This event is for the whole community, whatever your party. We have a spectacular variety of

views and priorities in this wonderful Windsor-Windham district, and the combination that will work lies somewhere within the bunch of us here at home. We learn to do this together, or someone else does whatever they want. Now is the time to strike a balance for freedom and unity.

Charlton is the Republican candidate for Athens, Chester, Grafton, and Windham. More information can be found at www.charlton4vermont.us. This event is organized and announced contributed by the Charlton Campaign Committee.

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Ask Our Department of Corrections conversation

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Thursday, Oct. 3, at 6 p.m., join us at the Springfield Town Library for "Ask Our Department of Corrections: A Com-

munity Conversation." It will be a candid discussion with representatives from the Vermont Department of Corrections. This in-person event is your chance to ask

questions, voice concerns, and learn more about the work of our local corrections department. Be a part of the conversation, and help shape the future of our community.

Cookbook Club looks at community recipes

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Part book club and part potluck, the Rockingham Free Public Library invites cooking en-

thusiasts to our cookbook club. For each scheduled meeting, we will take home copies of the same or similar cookbooks, and then prepare one of the recipes to bring to the next gathering.

The next gathering is scheduled for Monday, Oct. 7, at 5:30 p.m., at the library, and mulled apple cider will be served. This meeting's pick is a community cookbook of your choice. Community cookbooks are collections of homecooked recipes, put together by religious orga-

nizations, school groups, families, booster clubs, and women's organizations, to name a few. All these books are defined by a community, with heartfelt recipes collected from them, and bound together – usually with the signature plastic comb spine – with the goal of raising money to benefit a cause within the community. Pick your favorite, or see us at the library so we can help you find one.

The club is free to join, and cooks of all skill levels are welcome. For more information, email reference@rockinghamlibrary.org, call 802-463-4270, or visit the library online at www.rockinghamlibrary.org or in person at 65 Westminster Street, Bellows Falls, Vt.

Kim Fine earns CFRE Recertification

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – Kurn Hattin Homes is proud to announce that director of annual fund and special projects Kim Fine has once again earned recertification as a certified fundraising executive (CFRE) through CFRE International. Fine has held this prestigious credential since 2006, placing her among an elite group of more than 7,700 professionals worldwide who have achieved this designation.

The CFRE credential is a mark of excellence in the fundraising field, representing a dedication to upholding the highest standards of professional practices. To earn this certification, individuals must meet stringent CFRE International criteria, which includes a history of professional experience, education achievements, and proven fundraising success. Additionally, recipients must pass a rigorous exam that tests their knowledge and skills, and they must agree to adhere to strict guidelines set in the Accountability Standards and the Donor Bill of Rights.

"Attaining and maintaining the CFRE credential signifies my competence and commitment to fundraising standards and ethics," says Fine. "This commitment is especially important, since 95% of Kurn Hattin Homes funding comes from the generosity of individuals."

"Demonstrating high professional integrity is essential to sustaining our mission to provide children with a safe, caring environment where they can live, learn, and thrive."

Manchester Center to Chester

BY RON PATCH

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ronpatch27@gmail.com

Recently I wrote about a 1937 Vermont book I received in the mail. Contributing writers were part of Roosevelt's New Deal, the Works Progress Administration (WPA). I enjoyed reading it. One chapter is about state roads. Here are three local stories from that chapter. Remember, this is 1937.

Mileage is given from Manchester Center with an "m." in italics. Today this is Route 11.

Peru
"PERU (alt. 1,660, pop. township 156), 10.8 m., lies high in the mountains, a serene shallow-pocketed village under the dominance of Bromley Mountain (alt. 3,260). This hill village has a clean well-groomed aspect, refuting the general ideas regarding the slovenly backwardness of mountain settlements.
"Many of the homes and

buildings are painted white, and the general scene is one of neatness and quiet pride. The *Community House* contains the town library. The *General Store and Post Office* is so much the neat model of such common rural arrangements that it resembles a movie-lot setup, even to the rustic sign hanging above the entrance.
"The *Congregational Church*, built in 1846, exemplifies in the plain severity of white-painted wood a simple effectiveness of church building, with double entrances, green-blinded windows, and square bell-tower. The interior contains four hanging oil-lamps, corner stoves with overhead pipes for winter heating, and a large painting of Bromley Mountain behind the pulpit. An appropriate quotation from Psalm 121 is on the wall: 'I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills.'
"The *Bromley House* is early 19th century, a square roomy-looking structure of

white-painted brick, with an outside fireplace on the porch. Peru was settled in 1773 and first took the name Bromley. John Stark's forces cut a road through this township on their way to the battle of Bennington."
Londonderry
"LONDONDERRY (pop. township 799) 15.9 m., is built along the banks of the West River in a narrow, gully-like valley, hemmed in on the south by forested ridges. The village street has a rather raw unkempt appearance, where incomplete building mingles with decay.
"The West River was long ago dammed to provide water-power for the old *Sawmill*, where piles of logs and boards at the village center bespeak plainly the community's industrial bent.
"Above the dam and gray steel bridge, the river flows in slow smooth retention, darkly placid and deep. The little *Universalist Chapel*, a fairy-story structure in

dun and brown, has an old coach-lantern hanging on the tiny porch.
"Londonderry was chartered in 1770 by New York State as Kent, but was confiscated from the Tory proprietors in 1778, and regranted by Vermont in 1780, under the name of Londonderry."
Simonsville
"SIMONSVILLE (pop. township 258) 23.6 m., is a tiny settlement with two bridges over the swift-running pebbly mountain stream that bends through the little village in white-rippled flow. Trim stone walls follow the curving line of the street and mark the water course.
"The little white *Church* with blunted tower is neatly built in a style similar to the Peru Church. *Rowell's Inn*, was built in 1820 by Simons, who gave his name to the community. Constructed of red brick kilned on the farm, the building served as an inn and store, and retains such early features as the many

fireplaces, Christian doors, and the third-floor ballroom. A double porch now fronts the first two floors, with a third smaller porch opening from the ell. In early automobile days, this inn was a stop-over on the 'Ideal Tour' between Manchester, Vermont and the White Mountains of New Hampshire.
"The *Little Red Schoolhouse*, 24.3 m., would serve to illustrate the well-loved song of that name, and brings memories of all the sentimental songs and poems dealing with rural schooldays.
"The *Parsonage*, 25 m., stands in the attractive sturdiness of red brick, made locally in Simonsville, and is early nineteenth century, having been used as a parsonage since its construction.
"Between Simonsville and Chester, State 11 winds along an upland river valley, crossing and recrossing the rocky branch stream of



An old welcome sign for the White Church in Simonsville, mentioned in this history. PHOTO PROVIDED BY RON PATCH

the Williams River, with forested ridges paralleling the highway.
"Hard surface is resumed in its bituminous form. Eastward near Chester the country opens a bit, the valley widening to the clear land of better and more prosperous farms..."

This week's old saying - Tourist: "Where does this road go?" Vermonter: "Nowhere, it stays right there."

"The Long World War II" at Springfield OLLI

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Dr. Andrew Buchanan will present the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) program "The Long World War II" on Tuesday, Oct. 1, at 2 p.m., at the Nolin Murray Center, next to St. Mary's Church, on Pleasant Street in Springfield.

We'll hear about the long-term global effect that World War II had upon the world order, and how what happened more than 80 years ago is still crucially impor-

tant in the politics and current events of today.

Buchanan is a senior lecturer at the University of Vermont, who specializes in global, environmental, and military history. He has published several articles and books about World War II history and globalization.

Sponsored by the University of Vermont, OLLI is run by local volunteer members. The programs are held Tuesday afternoons, at 2 p.m., and last about an hour and a half.

You may view the entire semester's programs at www.learn.uvm.edu/olli/springfield. Preregistration can be done at this website. You may also register by calling 802-656-8407 during regular office hours, Monday-Friday, from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. There is a membership series fee. Nonmembers are welcome and encouraged to attend for a single program fee.

If you prefer to register by mail, send your contact information (name, address,

phone number, and email address) indicating which specific program(s) you wish to attend. Mail this information and your check made out to "University of Vermont - OLLI" to UVM Non-Credit Registration Office, 85 South Prospect Street, Box 34, Burlington, VT 05405.

If there are weather-related changes to the schedule, you can check the above website on the morning of the program.

For the following program, on Wednesday, Oct. 16, Michelle Arnosky Sherburne returns by popular demand after last year's well-attended program, and presents "A

Closer Look at Vermonters and the Underground Railroad in the Pre-Civil War Era."

"CBD and Functional Mushrooms"

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - On Tuesday, Oct. 1, at 6 p.m., join us at the Springfield Town Library for "CBD and Functional Mushrooms: An Educational Workshop."

Meet Claire Lewis, BSN, RN, as she shares her wealth of knowledge about the health benefits of hemp-derived CBD and functional mushrooms.

Lewis will guide you in identifying safe products in an unregulated market. Learn how CBD interacts with your body's endocannabinoid system, and the potential health benefits. Plus, explore the powerful impact of functional mushrooms, which have been used as one of nature's oldest forms of medicine.

With over 11 years of

nursing experience, Lewis is passionate about empowering her community to advocate for their own health and wellbeing.

This event is free and open to the public. Sign up for a reminder on our calendar of events, www.springfield-townlibrary.org/calendar.

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health news

Herbs and longevity at CHS

CAVENDISH, Vt. – In “Cancer Ward,” a fictional reflection on Soviet society, author, Nobel Laureate, and former Cavendish resident Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn relied heavily on his own experience as a cancer patient. Solzhenitsyn describes how a doctor notices that peasant patients don’t seem to get cancer, which he concludes is from their practice of drinking chaga tea. Solzhenitsyn

turned to European mandrake root to treat his cancer, along with radiation therapy. Like chaga, mandrake has been used for centuries, and it turns out, a study conducted at the National Cancer Institute found that using the formula Solzhenitsyn followed with mandrake root contained two cancer drugs. Note that American mandrake (*podophyllum peltatum*) is an entirely different

plant than the European variety used by Solzhenitsyn. On Sunday, Sept. 29, at 2 p.m., the Cavendish Historical Society (CHS) will host a talk on plants and herbs associated with longevity. One of the speakers will be Dr. Charis Boke, a member of the Dartmouth College faculty in anthropology. She is currently writing “Poison, Power, and Possibility: Building Relations with Medicinal

Plants,” which will explore the poetics, politics, and practices of contemporary herbalists. This event will take place at the CHS Museum in Cavendish Village, on Route 131, and is free and open to the public. Donations are welcomed. For more information, please call 802-226-7807 or email margocaulfield@icloud.com.

SAPCC workshops

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Tuesdays in October, during Substance Abuse Prevention Month, Springfield Area Parent Child Center (SAPCC) is partnering with area experts, regional partners, and guest speakers to host free workshops open to all, to learn more about addiction and ways of supporting our community, clients, friends, and family. The series will be facilitated by Sharon O’Neill, MAT, training and coaching specialist, and Northern Lights master trainer.

This series is being provided for free thanks to the State of Vermont’s Prevention Lead Funding (PL4), which aims to build sustainable, scalable, and equitable statewide systems in Vermont that prevent or reduce substance use and misuse across all ages and substances. Register for one or all of the workshops.

On Oct. 1, from 1-4 p.m., workshop participants will view “The Hungry Heart,” an award-winning, Vermont-based documentary. The viewing will be followed by

a discussion about the film and substance misuse in our region.

On Oct. 8, from 1-4 p.m., workshop participants will discuss the book “Hey Kiddo,” Jarrett Krosoczka’s autobiographical novel about how substance abuse impacts children, families, and communities. Participants receive a free copy of the book in advance.

On Oct. 15, from 1-4 p.m., there will be a discussion with a panel of experts from Turning Point Recovery, followed by NARCAN training. All participants receive a free NARCAN kit. From 4-6 p.m., there will be an open-house style community meal for anyone who participated in any of the workshops throughout the series.

All workshops will be held across the street from Springfield Area Parent Child Center, at the SAPCC Training Center, 51 Jack and Jill Lane, North Springfield, Vt.

Contact Springfield Area Parent Child Center to register by emailing sapcc@sapcc-vt.org, or calling 802-886-5242.

Substance Misuse Awareness

Workshop Series



Workshops are FREE and open to everyone. Register for one or all! Learn more about addiction and ways of supporting your community, clients, friends and family. The series will be led by Sharon O’Neill, MAT, Training and Coaching Specialist, and Northern Lights Master Trainer.

01 Oct

1:00 - 4PM

The Hungry Heart

Viewing of this VT-based, award-winning documentary, Directed by Bess O’Brien, followed by discussion about the film and substance misuse in our region.

08 Oct

1 - 2:45 PM

“Hey Kiddo” Book Discussion

Discussion about Jarrett Krosoczka’s autobiographical graphic novel, and how substance abuse impacts children, families and communities. Participants receive a free copy of the book in advance.

3:00 - 4 PM

Elevate Youth Services Presents

A panel of young adults will present and answer questions about how substance misuse has impacted their lives.

15 Oct

1:00 - 3PM

Discussion with Turning Point

Learn about Turning Point’s programs and listen to stories from a panel of community members who’ve experienced substance misuse.

3:00 - 4PM

NARCAN Training

Turning Point will demonstrate proper administration of NARCAN. Participants get a free NARCAN kit.

4:00 - 6PM

Community Meal

Participants who attended any of the workshops in the series are invited to stop by for dinner at the Training Center!

Grace Cottage flu shot clinics

TOWNSHEND, Vt. – Grace Cottage will host two Saturday flu vaccine clinics, on Oct. 5 and Nov. 2, from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., at Grace Cottage Family Health, 185 Grafton Road, Townshend, Vt.

You do not need to be an established patient at Grace Cottage to get a flu shot at these clinics. Preregistration is recommended by calling 802-365-4331; walk-ins will be accommodated as space permits. Anyone under age 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Most insurance covers flu shots; please bring an ID and insurance card with you. If you are not insured, payment for your flu shot is expected at the time of service.

Two different flu shots are being offered this year, one for those age 6 months to 64 years, and another for those who are 65 and older. Flu shots are also available at Grace Cottage on weekdays by appointment by calling 802-365-4331.

An annual seasonal flu

vaccine is the best way to avoid getting the flu and spreading it to others. It takes about two weeks for protection to develop after vaccination. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that everyone age six months and older get an annual flu vaccine. People over age 65, or those with a chronic disease such as diabetes or asthma, have a higher risk of contracting the flu, and are especially urged to get the shot.

For more information about the flu and vaccination, visit www.healthvermont.gov, or call the Vermont helpline at 211.

Grace Cottage will collect donations for the Townshend Food Shelf during the clinics. If you wish to support the food shelf in this way, you can bring a non-perishable food item to the clinic.

For more information about this or other Grace Cottage services, visit www.gracecottage.org or call 802-365-4331.



REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!
Scan to register while spots last or email sapcc@sapcc-vt.org

Join the Facebook Event page for updates



“After several days of being in pain from a fall, I knew I needed help. It did not take much time to get in to see Dr. David Muller, and he gave it to me straight. I needed shoulder surgery! Dr. Muller was my first and only choice of who I wanted as my surgeon. The Springfield Hospital Ambulatory and Operating Room staff were thorough, answered all my questions, and they sent me a “Get Well” card. Since then, the Springfield Hospital Physical Therapy Department has been working me hard, which is fine, as I want to get back to work. Thank you to everyone who has helped me get through this. I am now more than ready to give my granddaughter a big hug with both arms!”

- Dale Holmes, Springfield, VT



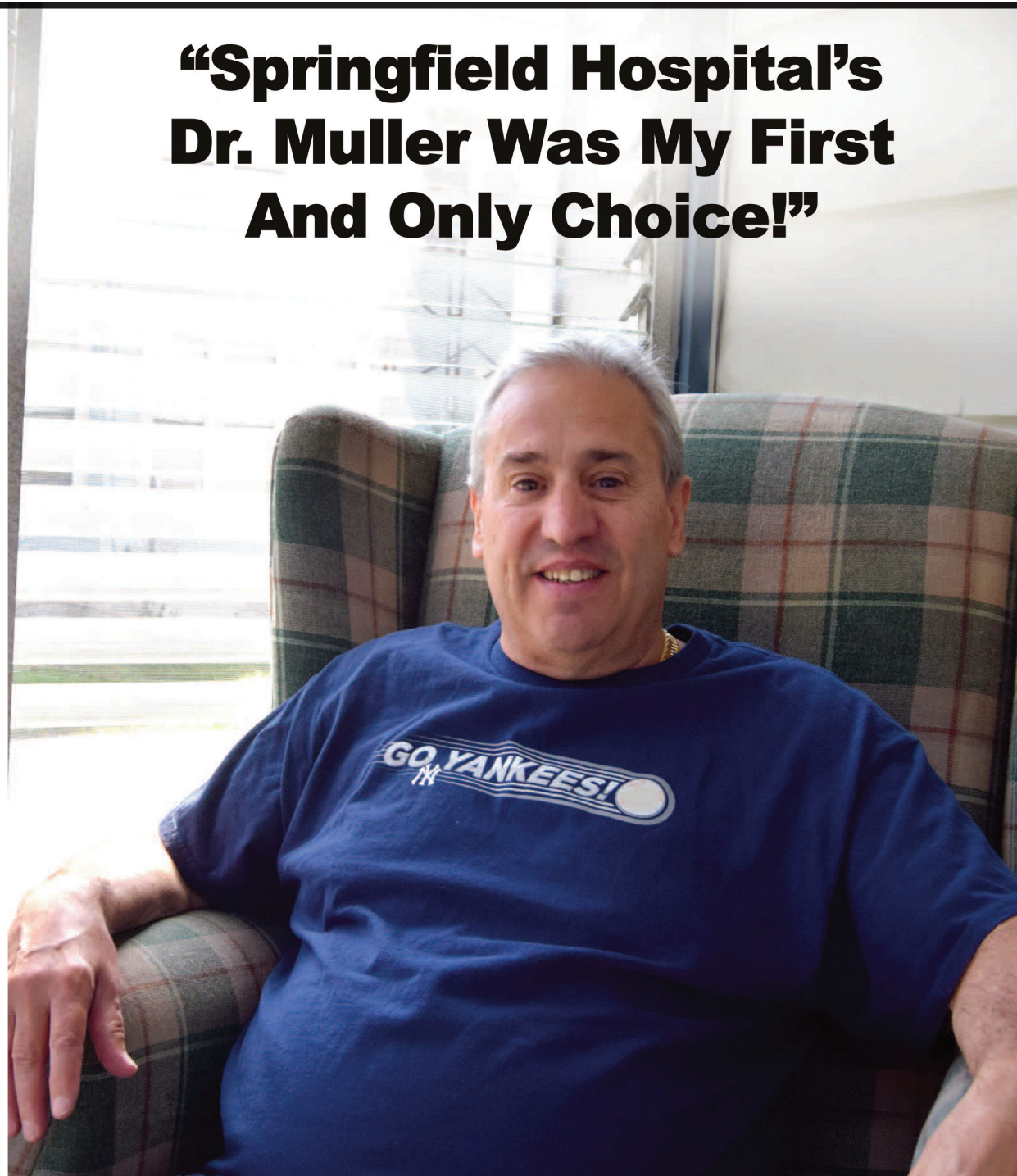
David Muller, MD Eric Richardson, RN Stacie Otis, PTA Lyle Bogart, DPT

802-885-6373



29 Ridgewood Road, Springfield, VT
www.connecticutvalleyorthopaedics.org

“Springfield Hospital’s Dr. Muller Was My First And Only Choice!”



calendar

LEGAL NOTICES

SEPT. 27-28 – LUDLOW, Vt. – The Black River Good Neighbor Services Gigantic Fall Rummage Sale will be held Friday, Sept. 27, and Saturday, Sept. 28, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. both days, at Fletcher Farm, 611 Route 103 South in Ludlow, Vt. There will be a variety of items on sale, including clothing, furniture, housewares, games, collectibles, shoes, books, active wear, and sporting goods. There will also be a bake sale, grill-out, and much more. Proceeds from the sale provide food, rent, heat, utility, and disaster assistance to neighbors in need.

SEPT. 27 – CLAREMONT, N.H. – Come enjoy an evening of song and dance with the 11-piece big band sound of Gerry Grimo & The East Bay Jazz Ensemble on Friday, Sept. 27, 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. There is a large dance floor and comfortable round table seating. Bring a friend or make new friends. BYOB. Light snacks and water will be provided. This event is open to the public. There is a small cover charge per person. For more information, call 603-543-5998.

SEPT. 28 – ATHENS, Vt. – The second annual Athens Community Center Chili Cook-off will be held on Saturday, Sept. 28, at 5 p.m., at the Athens Community Center. It is free to enter a chili in the competition; there is a small admission fee for those wishing to participate in the tasting and judging, and/or take home extra chili. Cash

prizes will be awarded to the first, second, and third place winners. To enter, email Krista at Kirsta.Ann.Gay@gmail.com before Sept. 23.

REGION – The Okemo Valley Women's Club will host a food drive on Saturday, Sept. 28, to coincide with the General Federation of Women's Clubs National Day of Service. Donations of nonperishable food items will be collected at Shaw's Plaza in Ludlow, Singleton's Store in Proctorsville, and Shaw's in Springfield, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. All food donations will be donated to local food shelves.

JAMAICA, Vt. – Kick the spooky season off the right way this year with Almost Canon Podcast and our paranormal Spooktacular Story Night at Jamaica State Park on Saturday, Sept. 28, beginning at 5 p.m. If you've experienced the paranormal or unknown, and have a story you'd like to share, or a story you've wanted to share in the past but were convinced no one would believe you, then please, join us for a no judgment story night. We are unable to waive the park entrance fee. To help offset the park fee, Almost Canon will include a free Almost Canon sticker with the first 50 tickets, or until they run out.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Join us on Sept. 28 for a great day of golf to support Okemo Mountain School (OMS). Eighteen holes of golf at Crown Point Country Club, carts included. All proceeds will go to the OMS Annual Fund to provide scholarships and financial aid. Lunch and registration begin at 12 p.m., with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. Registration fee includes lunch and a beverage. There are lots of great prizes, including a \$15,000 hole-in-one, a yeti cooler, a seven-day worldwide getaway for six people, Tour Edge EXS golf clubs, skis, rounds of golf at local courses, and much more. Every player receives an OMS hat. We hope to see you there.

SEPT. 29 – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Jean Davis from Brattleboro Branches Pregnancy Resource Center will be speaking at Living Hope Fellowship, two miles north of Bellows Falls on Route 5, on Sunday, Sept. 29, at 10 a.m. All are welcome at this free special event.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Precision Valley Fish and Game Association will host a celebration of National Hunting and Fishing Day on Sunday, Sept. 29, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., at 2879 Vermont Route 106, Perkinsville, Vt. Try your skill at target shooting

with .22 rifle and pistol, trap shooting, archery, muzzleloaders, and the running deer. This event is free and open to the public. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

SEPT. 30 – LUDLOW, Vt. – The Black River Valley Senior Center, 10 High Street in Ludlow, Vt., will host a community lunch on Monday, Sept. 30, at 12 p.m. The menu will be shepherd's pie and apple crisp. Please make reservations by calling 802-228-7421. Free cash bingo will follow the meal. All are welcome.

OCT. 1 – N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Area Parent Child Center's (SAPCC) Substance Misuse Awareness Workshop Series will begin on Tuesday, Oct. 1, from 1-4 p.m., at the SAPCC Training Center, 51 Jack and Jill Lane, North Springfield. The series will be led by Sharon O'Neill, MAT, training and coaching specialist, and Northern Lights master trainer. From 1-4 p.m., workshop participants will view "The Hungry Heart," an award-winning, Vermont-based documentary. The viewing will be followed by a discussion about the film and substance misuse in our area.

OCT. 3 – PITTSFIELD, Vt. – Author Kevin Graffagnino will be speaking at the Roger

Clark Memorial Library, 40 Village Green in Pittsfield, Vt., from 6-7 p.m., about his new book "Ira Allen: A Biography." While not as well-known as his brother Ethan, Ira was an important figure in Vermont's early history. Please RSVP for this event by calling 802-746-4067, or by emailing pittsfieldvlibrary@gmail.com.

OCT. 5 – CLAREMONT, N.H. – St. Mary's Parish will hold their Old Time Penny Sale on Saturday, Oct. 5. Doors will open at 5 p.m., and drawings will begin at 6 p.m. The grand prize is \$1,500 cash (\$1,200 if not present at the sale). More than 300 prizes will be raffled, and there will also be a free children's raffle. Door prizes will be awarded, including a 40-inch TV, two pop-up 11-foot by 11-foot tents, and a Huffy mountain bike. Food available will include hot meatball subs, hot dogs, mac and cheese, popcorn, chips, and beverages.

OCT. 6 – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Sunday, Oct. 6, the Springfield Art Gym, 335 River Street, Suite 2, will hold a fall workshop featuring five crafts suitable for adults and children, from 2-4 p.m. For more information on the workshop or how to sign up, visit www.facebook.com/springfieldartgym.

LMHUUSD School Board Has an Immediate Opening

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

Please submit a letter of interest to:

LMHUUSD Board
c/o Layne Millington
609 VT Route 103 South
Ludlow, Vermont 05149

Development Review Board Town of Ludlow, Vermont Hybrid Public Hearing October 28, 2024 at 6:00pm

A public hearing before the Development Review Board for the Town of Ludlow, Vermont, will be held on 28 October 2024 at 6:00 P.M., in the Heald Auditorium, at the Ludlow Town Hall, and via Zoom.

APPLICANT: Jeld-Wen, Inc.
2645 Silver Crescent Drive
Charlotte, NC 28273
PROPERTY LOCATION: 146 Pleasant Street Ext.
Ludlow, VT 05149
Parcel No. 230806-000

REASON FOR HEARING: Application is to construct a 12' x 40' addition to the building to be used as a lunch room. This project is in the Industrial district.

APPLICATION NUMBER: 113-97-CU, Amendment #1,
498-24-Act250

The above application is available for inspection at the Ludlow Municipal Offices. Persons wishing to participate may do so in person, be represented by an agent or an attorney, by Zoom, or by writing the Board. Written communications about the application should be filed with the Board either prior to, or during, the hearing. Hybrid meeting information will be available on the agenda, posted at www.ludlow.vt.us.

Brendan McNamara
Municipal Manager

Development Review Board Town of Ludlow, Vermont Hybrid Public Hearing October 28, 2024 at 6:00pm

A public hearing before the Development Review Board for the Town of Ludlow, Vermont, will be held on 28 October 2024 at 6:00 P.M., in the Heald Auditorium, at the Ludlow Town Hall, and via Zoom.

APPLICANT: Divided Sky Foundation Corporation
262 Fox Lane Ext.
Ludlow, VT 05149
PROPERTY LOCATION: 339 and 380 Fox Lane Ext.
Ludlow, VT 05149
Parcel No. 040233-000,
040234-001 through 006, and
040235-001 through 006

REASON FOR HEARING: Application is for a boundary line adjustment granting Fox Run Condominiums additional acreage around their buildings. This project is in the Town Residential-Commercial I district.

APPLICATION NUMBER: SUB24-011, and
474-21-CU, Amendment #2

The above application is available for inspection at the Ludlow Municipal Offices. Persons wishing to participate may do so in person, be represented by an agent or an attorney, by Zoom, or by writing the Board. Written communications about the application should be filed with the Board either prior to, or during, the hearing. Hybrid meeting information will be available on the agenda, posted at www.ludlow.vt.us.

Brendan McNamara
Municipal Manager

BELLOWS FALLS VILLAGE CORPORATION PUBLIC NOTICE WATER MAIN FLUSHING

THE BELLOWS FALLS VILLAGE CORPORATION WATER SYSTEM WILL BE FLUSHED WEEKDAYS FROM 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. BEGINNING Tuesday, October 1, 2024 AND CONTINUING THROUGH Thursday October 31, 2024.

SOME AREAS MAY EXPERIENCE ROILY WATER BUT THIS CONDITION SHOULD CORRECT ITSELF IN A SHORT TIME.

IF YOU HAVE PROBLEMS, PLEASE CALL THE BELLOWS FALLS WATER DEPT. AT 802-463-1232. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

Travis Kemp
Chief Operator
Bellows Falls Water Dept.

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.

Development Review Board Village of Ludlow, Vermont Hybrid Public Hearing October 28, 2024 at 6:00pm

A public hearing before the Development Review Board for the Village of Ludlow, Vermont, will be held on 28 October 2024 at 6:00 P.M., in the Heald Auditorium, at the Ludlow Town Hall, and via Zoom.

APPLICANT: Steven E. Meyers
81 Andover Street
Ludlow, VT 05149
PROPERTY LOCATION: 81 Andover Street
Ludlow, VT 05149

Parcel No. 220546-000

REASON FOR HEARING: Application is to subdivide one 1.3 Acre lot into two lots. This project is in the Village Residential-Commercial district.

APPLICATION NUMBER: SUB 24-012

The above application is available for inspection at the Ludlow Municipal Offices. Persons wishing to participate may do so in person, be represented by an agent or an attorney, by Zoom, or by writing the Board. Written communications about the application should be filed with the Board either prior to, or during, the hearing. Hybrid meeting information will be available on the agenda, posted at www.ludlow.vt.us.

Brendan McNamara
Municipal Manager

TOWN OF GRAFTON, VERMONT Invitation to Bid Engineering Services for Town Hall Fire Escape

The Town of Grafton is requesting technical proposals for professional architectural/engineering services for the design of the exterior fire escape staircase on the Town Hall located at 117 Main Street, Grafton VT. The Town would prefer to have construction on the project begin in the spring of 2025. An optional site visit will take place on Thursday, October 10th at 10:00 a.m. at the Town Hall. Sealed bids are due by Thursday, October 17th at 3:00 p.m. Complete bid requirements may be obtained from Morgan Wilbur, Town Administrator, P.O. Box 180, 117 Main Street, Grafton VT 05146. (802) 843-2552 or email townadmin@graffontvt.org

SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT WATER MAIN FLUSHING NOTICE MONDAY, September 30 – FRIDAY, October 11, 2024

Periodically, we clean water mains of harmless corrosion and accumulated foreign matter by opening hydrants and allowing the water to escape under high pressure. The flushing action is an important part of our program to maintain high quality water.

Although such flushing may produce temporary discoloration, the safety of the water is not affected in any way. HOWEVER, we advise you to schedule clothes washing and cleaning projects at other times.

All water mains will be flushed between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., Monday thru Friday. During the time this work is performed, IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE ENTIRE SYSTEM WILL BE AFFECTED. It is suggested that restaurants, laundromats, etc. keep their use to a minimum until water clears. The water system will be riled and cloudy, but this condition will clear up upon completion of the work.

SPRINGFIELD WATER DEPARTMENT

Development Review Board Village of Ludlow, Vermont Hybrid Public Hearing October 28, 2024 at 6:00pm

A public hearing before the Development Review Board for the Village of Ludlow, Vermont, will be held on 28 October 2024 at 6:00 P.M., in the Heald Auditorium, at the Ludlow Town Hall, and via Zoom.

APPLICANT: Stacy T. Malecki (Revocable Trust)
PO Box 998
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557
PROPERTY LOCATION: 145 Main Street
Units 200 and 207
Ludlow, VT 05149
Parcel No. 230410-021 and 230410-014

REASON FOR HEARING: Application is to create a doorway that unifies unit 200 and unit 207, resulting one unit. This project is in the Village Residential-Commercial district.

APPLICATION NUMBER: 80-50-CU, Amendment #3

The above application is available for inspection at the Ludlow Municipal Offices. Persons wishing to participate may do so in person, be represented by an agent or an attorney, by Zoom, or by writing the Board. Written communications about the application should be filed with the Board either prior to, or during, the hearing. Hybrid meeting information will be available on the agenda, posted at www.ludlow.vt.us.

Brendan McNamara
Municipal Manager

POLITICAL OPINION

classifieds

Dear Voters,

My name is Adrienne Raymond, and I am running for the Vermont House of Representatives seat recently vacated by Logan Nicoll, representing Ludlow, Mount Holly, and Shrewsbury, on Nov. 5.

I have lived in Vermont since 1979, when I moved to Shrewsbury at age 20. I followed a path similar to many; attended Castleton, worked at Pico, met and married a local (Rutland) boy, and made my life here. After graduating from Vermont Tech, my working life was varied - from veterinary assistant, to defined benefit pension analyst. When our first son was born, we moved back to Shrewsbury, had two more

sons, and I started volunteering in our local schools and working in town government. My children are now grown, mostly married (youngest next May) with careers, and I have three beautiful grandchildren, with a baby boy arriving around Thanksgiving. I continue to be involved in my local government. Currently, I'm a justice of the peace, animal control officer, and the Shrewsbury zoning administrator. In the past I've served as auditor, lister, development review board member, and I was a school board member for more than 20 years for both Shrewsbury and the Mill River districts. I continue to serve as a guard-

ian ad litem helping kids in DCF custody. I am a socially liberal, fiscally moderate Democrat.

Why am I running to be a House representative? The upcoming legislative session must successfully address the increasing costs of living in Vermont, as housing, property taxes, and health-related costs are increasing beyond affordability. These are difficult questions that require an open mind and a willingness to listen to the many competing interests for state funds.

Public schools are being asked to provide so much; are we funding them appropriately? How do we bring down the cost of health insurance?

How do we bring back vacant housing stock? Build new affordable housing? How do we enable small communities to build wastewater treatment capacity, water systems, and flood resiliency? How well does any proposal fit the needs of those who live in Ludlow, Mount Holly, and Shrewsbury?

Please consider voting for me on Nov. 5. I am happy to take phone calls and emails to discuss issues that are important to you at 802-353-0973 or raymond@vermontel.net. Learn more at www.voteadrienneraymond.com.

Paid for by Adrienne Raymond for Vermont

Dear Editor,

I am voting for Alice Emmons and Kristi Morris for state representatives representing Springfield in the upcoming election - I hope you will too. I recently served for nine years on the Springfield Selectboard, two of which as its chair. One of the most important things I learned was the importance of having representatives you can count on to work closely with our town officials to get things done, to find funds to accomplish our local goals and projects, and to ensure that we have strong voices that consistently fight for what is important for Springfield to prosper and move forward. I agree that certain statewide issues are also important. Things like affordable childcare, protecting the environment, ensuring adequate housing, and affordable healthcare. But I want more from our repre-

sentatives - I want them to open doors for us, and help navigate the bureaucracy in the Capitol. I want them to help us secure funding to help Springfield. I want them to convince their fellow legislators of all parties to support bills and policies that help Springfield.

Emmons and Morris have and will continue to do this and more. They have aggressively and consistently fought for Springfield. As a local official, I always knew that these two individuals could be counted on to alert us to funds available to support our town priorities, to arrange meetings with high-ranking state officials and other state elected officers regardless of party affiliation, to introduce and fight for legislation that helps Springfield. This is how things get done to help Springfield, this is how

projects get built, this is how rules get changed, this is how Springfield gets moved up the priority list, and this is why I'm voting for Alice Emmons

and Kristi Morris, and I hope you will too. Thank you.

Paid for by Walter Martone Springfield, Vt.

TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT LABORER

The Town of Charlestown is seeking a qualified individual to fill the position of Highway Department Laborer.

This position is full-time, year-round. Duties include but not limited to snow plowing with plow and wing, and general labor. Previous experience with heavy equipment and road maintenance. Additional requirements are a good work ethic, positive attitude, hard worker and a team player. Must pass a pre-employment physical.

Applications can be dropped off at our Selectmen's Office located at 233 Main Street Charlestown, NH, mailed to P.O. Box 385 Charlestown, NH 03603, or emailed to Ddezan@charlestown-nh.gov.

The Town of Charlestown is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

FULL-TIME and PART-TIME POLICE OFFICER OPENINGS

Full time/Part time certified in New Hampshire and/or eligible for certification through the New Hampshire Police Standard and Training Council.

The Town of Charlestown Police Department is seeking a motivated, team oriented person who possesses good problem solving and communication skills that is interested in working in a tight knit community where community policing is a priority. The candidate selected will perform criminal investigations, crime prevention and community involvement assignments along with traffic enforcement.

Minimum Requirements: Applicants must be a U.S. Citizen; must be 21 years old by the anticipated date of the agility test. Applicants must be a high school graduate or equivalent. Candidates must meet the Physical Fitness Testing minimums and will be re-tested once every three years if hired. Must be a full time certified police officer in New Hampshire, or if certified in another state, must be eligible for certification with law package through the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council. The hiring process consists of a medical screening, physical agility test, Police Oral Board, polygraph examination, in depth background investigation, psychological evaluation, and drug screening. Salary is based on experience and your time in law enforcement is transferable.

Full time positions are benefit eligible.

If you have any questions please feel free to call Chief Patrick Connors at 603-826-5747.

To Apply: An application can be found on the Charlestown Town Website at https://www.charlestown-nh.gov/employment.

Please submit a completed application, resume, and cover letter to: Chief Patrick Connors, Charlestown Police Department, PO Box 1465, Charlestown, NH 03603.

~The Charlestown Police Department is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer~

FIREWOOD

LONDONDERRY, Vt. - Firewood in the Andover, Weston, Londonderry, Windham area. \$140 you cut & split, 1.5 ton Dump Truck load of 8-10 foot delivered, cut last winter. Also cut & split, dry or green. Call 802-875-2646 evenings.

FOR SALE

CHESTER, Vt. - Commercial property for sale by owner. 3-Unit

building located on the Green. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, and 2 retail storefronts, fully rented with excellent long-term tenants. Shown by appointment. Offered at \$399,000. More information at 802-875-3000.

YARD SALE

BELMONT, Vt. - Yard sale Saturday, Sept. 28, from 9 - 4, contents of house at 102 Howland Farm Road, Belmont. Come see and make an offer.

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.

TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT OPERATOR/TRUCK DRIVER/LABORER

The Town of Charlestown is seeking a qualified individual to fill the position of Highway Equipment Operator/Truck Driver/Laborer.

This position is full-time, year-round. A CDL License is required. Duties include but not limited to snow plowing with plow and wing, and general labor. Previous experience with heavy equipment and road maintenance. Additional requirements are a good work ethic, positive attitude, hard worker and a team player. Must pass a physical, and a drug & alcohol test.

Applications can be dropped off at our Selectmen's Office located at 233 Main Street Charlestown, NH, mailed to P.O. Box 385 Charlestown, NH 03603, or emailed to Ddezan@charlestown-nh.gov.

The Town of Charlestown is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN CEMETERY SEXTON

The Town of Charlestown is seeking a Cemetery Sexton. This position is a part-time seasonal position (April 1 to November 1) with no benefits.

The Sexton supervises the operation of the cemeteries to include sales of plots, recording burials, filing permits and researching old burial records. The Sexton also performs a variety of public relations and marketing duties to include assistance with site selection and payments as well as consulting with bereaved families. Other duties include maintenance of the cemeteries such as mowing, tree trimming, etc.

REQUIREMENTS:

- 1. High School Diploma or Equivalent.
2. Valid NH Drivers License
3. Ability to be bonded.

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

The Town of Charlestown is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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.

Now Hiring

Windsor County Coordinator

Green Mountain RSVP, a program that matches volunteers aged 55+ with volunteer service opportunities is seeking a coordinator for Windsor County.

32 hour, home-based position with flexible hours (can be a four-day work week). Employer provides excellent benefits, including contribution to HSA and paid time off from start of employment.

Must have car and be willing to travel (mostly in Windsor County, VT) about 50% of the time. Must enjoy speaking with people and building relationships with non-profits.

Associate's degree or 3 years of experience in non-profits preferred, basic computer skills required.

See website for full position description and how to apply: www.rsvpvt.org

Hiring Announcement from the Bennington-Rutland Supervisory Union Bus Driver

Bennington-Rutland Supervisory Union (BRU) is a public school system located in southwestern Vermont. We are in search of Bus Drivers at Flood Brook School in Londonderry, VT. The Bus Driver will have the responsibility of a designated bus route in the morning and afternoon of school days with the possibility of additional driving throughout the day. Responsibilities include transporting students to and from school, maintaining a clean and mechanically sound bus at all times, obeying all traffic laws, performing pre/post trip inspections of the bus, and ensuring the safety of students at all times.

Compensation starts at \$22.00 per hour (with the potential for more, depending upon years of experience) with benefits. This position reports to the Director of Transportation.

We encourage all interested candidates to apply, as we are more than willing to train the right person. For more details about the role and to apply, please visit www.SchoolSpring.com and enter Job ID 4740052.

BRU is a Professional Learning Community which demonstrates best practice in teaching and is committed to high levels of achievement and success for all students. We offer a cohesive and collaborative work environment. We have excellent benefits and take pride in our inviting work culture filled with dedicated professionals. BRU is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

Sudoku grid with numbers 1-9 in some cells and empty cells for solving.

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

- 1 Peron of Argentina
4 Siestas
8 First light
12 Bud
13 - Major
14 Actor Morales
15 German shepherd
17 Teen hangout
18 Resistance unit
19 Church topper
21 British party
24 Louvre treasures
25 Khan title
26 The "G" of LGBTQ
28 Doesn't buy
32 Clothing store section
34 Gender
36 Stratagem
37 Green sauce
39 Teeny
41 Shriver of tennis
42 Rainbow shape
44 A Karamazov brother
46 Stew flavorer
50 Chi follower
51 Genesis brother
52 Music school concerts
7 Dasher's boss
8 Agriculture goddess
9 Pronto
10 Humpty's perch
11 Egyptian river
16 Sashimi fish
20 Goof up
21 Pack (mold-ing)
22 Curved downward
23 Airline to Sweden
27 Evergreen type
29 Wedding
30 Despot
31 Big rig
33 Bought time
35 Deleted
38 Tram load
40 Realm
43 Ersatz chocolate
45 Follower (Suff.)
46 Wild party
47 "Peek-!"
48 Holler
49 Disaster aid gp.
53 Scoundrel
54 Long. crosser
55 CIA operative

arts & entertainment

Fischer Arts expands —

CHESTER, Vt. — This year, Fischer Arts celebrated their fourth year on the Chester Green. The gallery has expanded, with additional room for new exhibits, events, and items, including new books and handcrafted gifts made in New England and beyond.

Fischer Arts is a Vermont art gallery specializing in antique and contemporary art inspired by nature. The gallery is organized into nature-themed areas — from “Botanicals” to “Oceans,” as well as “Mountains, Forests, and Landscapes,” and everything in between — a customer favorite is the “Mushrooms, Mosses, and Lichen” section.

In addition to the new exhibit space, each nature-themed area has expanded. To complement the antique and contemporary artwork, customers can find a curated collection of books and

gifts.

The books are carefully selected to fit in the natural history themes. Alongside the books are gifts including painting, printing, and seed collecting kits, as well as thoughtful games. The new gifts are designed and made by artists and crafters, with an emphasis on small, independent, women-owned businesses.

“The Woman in Black” —

WESTON, Vt. — Question the very fabric of reality with “The Woman in Black” playing Oct. 2-20, at Weston Theater Company’s Walker Farm.

Fear and fascination collide in this critically acclaimed adaptation of Susan Hill’s classic ghost story. Young solicitor Arthur Kipps is sent to a remote English town to settle the affairs of the recently deceased Alice Drablow. While there, he unwittingly unravels a sinister and haunting mystery.

The haunting production is directed by Jacob

Basri. Weston welcomes back David Bonanno, who, after playing King Charlemagne in Weston’s 2024 production of “Pippin,” returns to play Arthur Kipps. Lucas Dixon returns as Young Kipps. Weston welcomes Grace Guichard for her Weston debut as The Woman. Michael Cassara casts the show. Julie Foh is the dialect coach. Scenic designer Marcelo Martínez García sets the stage for this spooky tale. Costume designer Aidan Griffith decks the cast out in their Victorian and ghostly attire. Evdoxia Ragkou joins the cre-

atives as sound designer, and Yichen Zhou rounds out the team as lighting designer.

Discounts are available for Vermont residents. Tickets are available online at www.westontheater.org, and by calling the Weston box office at 802-824-5288.

Weston Theater Company builds on and enhances the unique assets of its Vermont village campus to produce a diverse, entertaining, and challenging season of live professional theater and high-impact events; enrich the theatergoing experience with education and outreach programs for all ages; and make significant contributions to the American theater.

Artic circle photographs on display, and Raku pottery workshop

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. — Have you ever wanted to see the Arctic? Here is your chance, right here in Springfield, at Gallery at the VAULT.

We have a show of incredible photos by Gene Parulis at the VAULT, on view until Oct. 30. There will be a reception on Friday, Sept. 27, from 5-6:30 p.m. Parulis will be here to tell you about the photos and his expedition to the Arctic. Come be awed by the magnificence of nature.

Parulis traveled from Greenland to Kugluktuk in Western Canada. “Into the Northwest Passage” was the theme of the expedition, as it focused on the rich history behind the quest to discover a sea route between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The photographs on exhibit provide a vivid glimpse into this vast region, comprising spectacular landscapes, monumental glaciers and icebergs, and the poignant passage of humankind. The photos are stunning.

Parulis has been photographing the world for

over 50 years. He has lived, taught, and traveled in many countries, and has had art residencies in China, Europe, and New Mexico. His photographs have appeared in numerous publications. He has recently returned from a trek in the Mustang region of Nepal.

Gallery at the VAULT is also excited to offer a raku pottery workshop with Andrew Berends on two consecutive Saturdays, Oct. 5 and 12, from 1-5 p.m. each day. Register by Saturday, Sept. 28.

Berends will be teaching the exciting Japanese firing technique known as raku. The firings take about an hour, and you get a finished piece at the end. Raku is a fun, exciting technique, where pots are fired to 1,840 degrees, pulled out of the hot kiln, and manipulated with sawdust and water to change the look of the glazes. The glazes can be metallic, and/or have a crackle effect, making each piece truly unique and one-of-a-kind. We will also fire pots with a technique known as “horsehair” raku, which creates interesting designs on the clay.

The class will include wheel throwing, slab making, as well as extruding instruction. The first day will include making all types of clay work, and the second day will be glazing and firing all the pots in the raku

tradition. Emphasis will be on being creative, and learning the basics of pottery, including making the work, glazing, as well as firing. The class is geared towards teens through adults, and limited to five students.

Berends has been a master potter for over 30 years, with a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University, as well as a Master of Fine Arts from Montana State University. He worked with a Spanish folk potter for a year, and was also a guest artist-in-residence at Anderson Ranch in Snowmass, Colo. Upon moving to Vermont in 1988, he became a professional production/art potter, and has exhibited internationally, as well as being represented by over 180 galleries nationally.

The cost of the workshop is discounted for gallery members, and includes 25 pounds of clay, glazes, and firing costs in a gas-fired kiln. Wear old clothing, and bring pottery tools if you have them. Directions to Andrew’s studio in Springfield will be given at registration.

Gallery at the VAULT is located at 68 Main Street in Springfield. For more information, call 802-885-7111, email gallervault@vermontel.net, visit www.gallervault.org, or stop by the gallery.



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Answer

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

— King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

EVA	NAPS	DAWN
PAL	URSA	ESAI
ALSATIAN	MALL	
OHM	STEEPLE	
TORIES	ART	
AGA	GAY	RENTS
MENS	SEX	RUSE
PESTO	WEE	PAM
ARC	DMITRI	
BAYLEAF	PSI	
ABEL	RECITALS	
SOLE	OMAR	LAP
HOLD	BADE	STY

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10/12 from 2-4 \$40.

Pine Needle Christmas Ornament with Irene Dizes
10/19 from 11-4 \$78.

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11/2 from 9:30-4 \$85

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(11/20/24 - 52)

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arts & entertainment

Main Street Arts String Band to play

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – The Saxtons River Park rounds out its Music in the Park series on Sunday, Sept. 29, at 3 p.m., with the Main Street Arts String Band.

Under the direction of Jill Newton, the group offers traditional French Canadian, Celtic, Scandinavian, and American fiddle tunes.

In case of rain, the concert will move across the street to Main Street Arts (MSA).

The string band meets at MSA every Wednesday, from 5-6:30 p.m., and welcomes string players of any level of proficiency to sit in on their sessions.



Main Street Arts String Band will play in Saxtons River Park. PHOTO PROVIDED

The Saxtons River Park Committee is sponsoring the series, which is open to all. Notice of rescheduling will be posted on the Saxtons River and Saxtons River Park Facebook pages.

Yemen Blues returns to the Bandwagon stage

PUTNEY, Vt. – The Next Stage Bandwagon Summer Series presents world music ensemble Yemen Blues on Sunday, Sept. 29, at 4 p.m., at the field behind the Putney Inn, 57 Putney Landing Road in Putney. The band is touring in support of their new album, “Only Love Remains.”

Formed in 2010, Yemen Blues was swiftly recognized as one of the planet’s most adventurous and invigorating bands, at once contemporary and timeless, defiantly singular, and

deliciously eclectic. Their three studio albums and over 1,000 shows to date – including prestigious bookings at Canada’s GlobalFest, Roskilde Festival Denmark, and UCLA’s Royce Hall – have cemented the quartet (Ravid Kahalani, the band’s mercurial cofounding vocalist and gimibri player; bassist/oudist Shanir Blumenkranz; percussionist Rony Irwin; and drummer Dan Mayo) as a benchmark in a world music that has both shaped and challenged the genre.

“This group is an explosive mix of sounds that incorporate Middle Eastern melodies, funk bass lines, and Ravid Kahalani, an explosive front man that croons in Arabic,” says Keith Marks, executive director of Next Stage Arts. “Yemen Blues has headlined around the globe, and we’re excited to host them on this U.S. tour.”

The four members of Yemen Blues are spread across continents, with roots that span cultures. This global patchwork manifests in their singularly exhilarating

polyglot melange of Bedouin folk, funk, blues, avant-garde, Arabian classical, fuzzed-out rock, psych, and jazz. So, wherever you’re from, Yemen Blues speaks your language.

Equally a gathering of musicians and a spiritual channeling, Yemen Blues rejects the very concept of taking sides, instead seeing only unity and love as pathways to harmony on both micro and macro levels. They explore intricate and potentially thorny issues through the simplicity of sheer fun – a universal state where we all can meet.

Tickets are discounted in advance at www.nextstagearts.org, and kids under 12 are free. Next Stage will provide a beer, wine, and cocktail cash bar. For more information, visit www.nextstagearts.org, or call 802-387-0102.

Support for the Bandwagon Summer Series is provided by M&T Bank, Lawson’s Finest Liquids, Oak Meadow, The Porch Cafe & Catering, Southern Vermont Solar, and Confluence Acupuncture.

Creative composition workshop with Lynn Zimmerman

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – The Saxtons River Art Guild will offer a workshop on Creative composition, led by Lynn Zimmerman, on Saturday, Oct. 5, from 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., at the United Church of Bellows Falls, 8 School Street, Bellows Falls. All materials will be supplied, but artists are invited to bring watercolors, watercolor pencils, and watercolor crayons, inks, brushes, paper, etc. All that is needed is an open mind, and a willingness to experiment and have fun.

The workshop is for novices and experts alike, and will explore some of the

elements that help build a strong composition. So much of creating a work of art is intuitive, but increasing one’s understanding of composition, of seeing how the various parts of our work interrelate, expands abilities and opens new possibilities. Why does that diagonal bring excitement to my painting? Why does my drawing feel so dull? Why does that pear look better over there? Where should I put the cow?

Each participant will be provided with a package of materials to use in our experiments before lunch. After lunch, artists will each

use their medium of choice to try out some of their discoveries. The day will end with time to share. Participants should bring their own art supplies to use after lunch. For questions about the workshop, contact lynn@luckydogdesign.com.

Zimmerman is excited by color and the beauty of natural things, and she combines those in her work in watercolor, oil, acrylic, gouache, colored pencil, and ink painting. Her works show her love of detail, as well as a grasp of the bigger sweep of life and light. Lynn studied at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art and

the Rhode Island School of Design. She has worked as a graphic designer and illustrator for more than 30 years. Lynn offers instruction in watercolor, oil, and gouache painting, as well as drawing, book arts, and collage. Her emphasis is always on gently supporting each student along his or her creative journey.

The workshop fee is discounted for nonmembers, including morning supplies. Coffee and tea will be available, and participants should bring a lunch. To register for the workshop, please email Carolyn at poohbear@ne.rr.com.

Reading Fall Festival

READING, Vt. – The first community-wide event since 2019, the Reading Fall Festival will take place throughout the Village of Felchville in Reading, Vt., along Route 106, on Saturday, Oct. 5. Cosponsored by The Future is Reading and the Reading Recreation Commission, the activities will take place in a number of local venues, including Reading Elementary School, the Reading Historical Society, the Reading Public Library, Puddledock Park, the Hall Art Foundation, and the Reading Greenhouse.

On Friday, Oct. 4, at 5:30 p.m., there will be a chili cookoff, sponsored by the Reading Elementary Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO). It will be held in the outdoor classroom behind Reading Elementary School, and will highlight the new wooden floor installed over two recent community build days. Attendees are encouraged to bring a pot of chili or side dish to share, a bowl, and a spoon. Beverages will be provided by the PTO.

On Saturday morning, people of all ages are encouraged to bring bikes and human-powered contraptions with wheels to the parking lot behind the Reading Town Hall at 10 a.m. Decorations will be available. A bike parade will commence at 10:30 a.m. and travel to the Reading Elementary School campus, where food vendors (Lazy Cow Ice Cream truck, Goodman’s American Pie pizza, and Kidding Around Farm’s baked goods), live music, Touch-a-Truck, face painting/henna painting, carnival games, and a bounce house will be on site. The action will shift to the North Branch of the Black River at 1 p.m., where the Reading Recreation Commission will dump 500 numbered rubber ducks into the water for the ever-popular Ducky Derby. Ticketholders for the first ducks to the finish will receive cash prizes.

At 2 p.m., the Reading Public Library will host a

Poetry Potpourri, featuring published regional poets, local students, and anyone else interested in reading, reciting, sharing, and generally indulging in all things poetic. A poetry book sale will accompany the event. Next door, in Puddledock Park, a community mural will be taking shape with the help of anyone willing to paint a section.

The Reading Historical Society will have open hours and a craft sale from

11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Reading residents will receive free admission to the Hall Art Foundation’s five galleries of contemporary art on Saturday, from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

The Reading Greenhouse will offer an opportunity to paint a pumpkin face on a pumpkin purchased from their wide selection of colors and sizes. The Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society will also be stationed at the Reading Greenhouse,

featuring food for humans and gathering food for animals, both by donation.

For more information or to volunteer for the event, please contact Lisa Kaija at lqkaija@gmail.com, or Jane Kartsch at janekartsch1@gmail.com.

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Friday - Singo at 7pm
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Beginning your journey to home ownership

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. – Windham & Windsor Housing Trust (WWHT) is here to help you become a homeowner. The first step is to familiarize yourself with the homebuying process. Their homebuyer education workshop and program are encouraged for anyone becoming a homeowner, regardless of income. There are a couple options for the course, as well as downpayment assistance information. The next step will be to meet

with one of their specialists, who will help you define a budget as you start searching for your home, whether through their shared equity program or through traditional market sales.

Homebuyer education workshops

Windham & Windsor Housing Trust is now offering an interactive homebuyer education workshop both in person and via Zoom. Find a home that fits your family and your budget. There is a registration

fee per household, which includes a one-on-one financial counseling session after you've completed the course. Homeownership specialists will analyze your credit and budget, and guide you through the process of buying a home. If you're a current WWHT resident who is up to date on rental payments, your fee is waived.

In the workshops, you'll learn about grants and other down payment assistance, as well as which

type of mortgage is right for you. Attending the workshop plus meeting with a homeownership specialist will meet the prepurchase requirement for most lenders.

All courses are on Saturdays, from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., for all classes held in person and via Zoom. The schedule of classes and registration is available on the WWHT website, www.homemattershere.org.

After the workshop, household members must meet at least once with a homeownership specialist in order to receive a lender-required certificate of completion. At that time, households can receive one complimentary tri-merge credit report, which will not affect your scores, to review with the specialist. There is no charge for meetings with homeownership specialists for ongoing support through the home-

buying process.

For questions or to register, please contact jpaquette@homemattershere.org, or visit the WWHT website.

Homebuyer education online courses

Windham & Windsor Housing Trust also offers homebuyer education courses online. These are self-paced online workshops available 24/7 through eHome America. Completing the workshop and meeting with a homeownership specialist meets the prepurchase requirement for most lenders. This course has the same registration fee as the in-person course.

Mortgage and loan assistance

Windham & Windsor Housing Trust offers down payment assistance to income-eligible homebuyers through its shared equity program. They provide

grants to assist you in purchasing an eligible single-family home of your choice, and work with you to obtain a mortgage loan from a local bank. They can also discuss other down payment assistance programs during one-on-one counseling sessions. These include USDA Direct Loans which do require a down payment, ASSIST loans from VHFA, First Generation grants, Equity Builder grants, and other programs from Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston and others.

For more loan assistance information, contact home ownership program coordinator Jeremy Paquette at jpaquette@homemattershere.org.

Windham & Windsor Housing Trust

For more information about Windham & Windsor Housing Trust and services they have to offer, visit www.homemattershere.org.

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