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# THE Vermont Journal

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## Londonderry talks FEMA Community Assistance and Hazard Mitigation Grants

BY SHAWNTAE WEBB  
*The Vermont Journal*

**LONDONDERY, Vt.** – Sam Young from the FEMA Community Assistance team attended Londonderry's Sept. 9 meeting, to assist the town towards long-term recovery. Young said the team has worked with a few other Vermont towns, while also working with other federal agencies, in a process that helps determine and prioritize what projects need to be completed.

The projects are state and federally supported, and the group is locally lead. Young said the FEMA Community Assistance team brought on Londonderry's recently resigned town clerk Kelly Pajala, adding, "Sorry you lost her." The town would appoint a committee of interested volunteers, likely with a selectboard member to help lead the group. The FEMA Community Assistance staff are then available to help guide the committee in the direction best fit for the town. Pajala noted, "Our enrollment will be time-specific, but that's not to say the committee can't make changes to the plan [thereafter]."

"This sounds like something that's a great outline that every town is going to need," remarked board member Taylor Prouty.

Board member Martha Dale, who was also leading the Sept. 9 meeting, agreed. "I worry that we've left the individuals on their own," she said, and this community-wide program seems to help "bridge that gap."

Prouty added that the committee could become a multipurpose group. He said the volunteers may not have a full list of tasks in terms of prioritizing and planning town recovery and mitigation projects, but they could add other similar items and community projects, and the committee could create a means of communication between each of the boards and the community.

The board agreed to put the topic on the next agenda, when Chair Tom Cavanaugh and town administrator Shane O'Keefe return.

Short-term rental (STR) coordinator Andy Dahlstrom then spoke on obtaining a software subscription that helps the town generate a list of registered owners, and compiles the information of each. Dahlstrom spoke with a few neighboring towns, researched a few companies, and recommended Deckard Technologies to the board. He noted Chester spent about \$14,000, which got them into a program immediately, while Woodstock spent \$30,000 for a "whole suite"

of services that Dahlstrom didn't think Londonderry needed.

Deckard Technologies has an entry level service for \$3,500, and Dahlstrom added all the time spent speaking with them has been professional, with excellent support. He also said the town may not need some of the higher-end services, such as automated uploading, as the town often gets paper documents instead of online registrations. Dale agreed that often, it's nice to meet the registering owner and see what their plans are. Prouty worried about the initial fee, and considered adjusting registration fees to offset the cost.

The board moved to start with a one-year, entry-level service, and update and add services if and as needed.

On other agenda items, Prouty announced that paying of "a few aprons around town," such as Windy Rise Road and Derry Woods Road, would begin the last week of September, and should be completed by the first week of October. He added that Cody Road is already near completion.

The board accepted the proposal from Everett Hammond for the Rinehart Road culvert replacement project. O'Keefe reiterated that it washed out twice during the July 2023 storm. He explained it is a public

assistance project, and that FEMA will pay for at least 75%, and the state will kick in roughly 10%, leaving the town with around 10-15% to cover the project expenses. O'Keefe added a nice recommendation for Hammond, saying the town has worked with him before, he does a nice job, and his rates are reasonable.

O'Keefe then updated the board on the town hall renovation project, saying work began the week of Sept. 2, and thanked the road crew for helping town officials vacate the office building. There are project meetings every Thursday morning with the architect, clerk of the works, project management, and other teams to keep everyone updated. O'Keefe said they are still waiting on the office trailer, noting it's been "a bit of struggle working with the supplier."

O'Keefe announced they had heard back from the state on one of the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program applicants. The Rosses submitted an application to elevate their property, to which the state agreed, giving the invitation to officially apply for the funding. O'Keefe hopes to get letters like these for the rest of the applicants in town.

O'Keefe added, it's going to be "a lot of heavy lifting"



## LRC hears from district governor

**LUDLOW, Vt.** – Pictured is Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) President George Thomson with the 2024-2025 district governor, Bill Stevens, who is a member of the Bellows Falls Rotary Club. Bill is visiting all 55 Rotary Clubs in district 7870 during his one-year term. Bill discussed the current status and initiatives of the district. He presented the president with a flag with the International theme for the year "The Magic of Rotary," and complimented the Ludlow club for their support of Rotary initiatives local and international.

PHOTO PROVIDED

for the town and property owners. The town needs to hire an engineer to look at each applicant's property, to determine the scope of each project for submission with the application. If the funding is approved, those engineering costs would be refunded. However, if a property application is not approved, the town and property owner would be left to pay those fees. O'Keefe was not familiar with the exact engineering costs, noting that flood proofing would likely be more work and costlier than an elevation project,

but each property could cost \$3,000-\$5,000.

"The nature of the situation is, we're dealing with people that have already suffered," said Prouty, struggling with the thought of adding more hardship to the property owners. O'Keefe agreed it's a difficult choice to make, and after getting more information, property owners can decide whether or not they want to move forward with their application.

The next Londonderry Selectboard meeting will be held Monday, Sept. 23, at 6 p.m.

## South Londonderry Master Planning Task Force public meeting

**S. LONDONDERY, Vt.** – The South Londonderry Master Planning Task Force is an effort by local citizens, along with Stevens & Associates engineering consultants, to reimagine our village. This meeting is a followup to an informational meeting on Aug. 26, and a public meeting in April.

Stevens & Associates has developed possible plans

for the area based on public comment, and will present maps and information on Monday, Sept. 23, from 6-7:30 p.m., at Neighborhood Connections, 5700 Route 100 in Londonderry, on Zoom, and on the GNAT-TV YouTube channel.

We welcome all public participation, comments, and questions. We are especially interested in resi-

dents' ideas on the uses of land and buildings, the character of the village, and possible future activities. The goal is to create a vibrant, walkable district, centered on the post office building.

To see the video of the April 24 meeting, go to [www.youtube.com/watch?v=cmy2Y8OVTAs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cmy2Y8OVTAs).

This is a project of the former Londonderry Plan-

ning Commission, and paid for by a grant from the Vermont Agency of Commerce & Community Development.

For a Zoom link, go to [www.londonderryvt.org](http://www.londonderryvt.org).

For more information, contact Emmett Dunbar at [anjalifarmvt@gmail.com](mailto:anjalifarmvt@gmail.com), or Mimi Lines at [maryadamslines@gmail.com](mailto:maryadamslines@gmail.com).

## Four-town housing collaborative discussions

**LONDONDERY, Vt.** – On Sept. 24 and 26, from 6-8 p.m., at the Flood Brook School, 91 Vermont Route 11 in Londonderry, join your neighbors in a discussion and conceptual design process about housing needs in Jamaica, Londonderry, Weston, and Winhall, where to locate it in a place that builds community and is safe from flooding, and what it would take to make it a reality.

Most housing conversations take place on a

town-by-town basis. This is an experiment to convene a conversation across town boundaries to explore where residents see themselves, their family members, neighbors, co-workers, and the next generations living throughout the different stages of their lives. The end product is not a new plan or regulation, but the ideas and concepts that may be built upon by your communities.

For more information, contact Sue Westa at [swesta@windhamregional.org](mailto:swesta@windhamregional.org).

## 33rd annual Ludlow Chili Cook-off

**LUDLOW, Vt.** – The Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) is sponsoring its 33rd annual Ludlow Area Chili Cook-off on Saturday, Oct. 12, from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. The cook-off will be located at the traffic light on Depot Street. The admission price includes chili, bread, ice cream, and cider. Proceeds will benefit the Ludlow Area Rotary Charitable Fund, to enable the LRC to continue its programs of local support.

According to Cook-off Chairman Kevin Barnes, the LRC will welcome chili entries from individuals, clubs, and businesses. New and exciting for this year,



Last year's Chili Cook-off.

PHOTO PROVIDED

the serving positions will be randomized.

Plaques and three cash prizes will be awarded in the "People's Choice" cate-

gory. First place will receive \$200, second place will receive \$100, and third place will receive \$50. Plaques will be awarded to the chili

with the most votes in the Judges Choice, Spiciest, and Team Spirit categories. Judges this year will be police officers from our area, Chief Jeff Billings, Sheriff Ryan Palmer, and trooper Kevin Hughes.

Unless arranged otherwise, participants should deliver their heated chili by 10:45 a.m., set up, and be ready to serve at 11 a.m. There is a small entry fee. Participants will be provided with a table, ladle, and sterno. Chili entrants are asked to provide five gallons of

See **CHILI** on Page 2

## CORRECTION

The article "Ludlow talks flood mitigation, reappraisal," which appeared in the Sept. 11 edition of The Vermont Journal, stated that Ludlow allocated \$32,730.50 in ARPA funds to "Fletcher Farm School," and identified Susan Balch and Pollyanna Sidell incorrectly as associated with "Fletcher Farm." We would like to clarify that the ARPA funds were awarded to the Society of Vermont Artists and Craftsmen, who operate the Fletcher Farm School for the Arts and Crafts on Fletcher Farm Foundation-owned property. The funds were not awarded to the Fletcher Farm Foundation, nor are Balch and Sidell affiliated with the foundation.

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

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# Tech Time with Matt at Fletcher Memorial Library

LUDLOW, Vt. – Fletcher Memorial Library will host Tech Time with Matt Sydorowich of Sydscompufix, on Saturday, Sept. 28, from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Sydorowich will offer one-on-one assistance with your device, phone, or computer. Please call the library at 802-228-8921 to

register. Sydscompufix offers computer repairs and sales at their shop on Main Street in Ludlow. “Thanks to Matt for offering assistance to Fletcher Memorial Library and community members,” comments librarian Michelle Stinson. “Many of our patrons need just a bit

of assistance with their technology, or a simple fix.”

Fletcher Memorial Library is located at 88 Main Street in Ludlow. Please find more about the library at [www.fml-news.org](http://www.fml-news.org). This program is free and open to the public.

# Submit special dates to LRC calendar

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) is pleased to announce the upcoming publication of its annual community calendar. This free calendar is a valuable resource for local residents, providing important dates and events throughout the year.

For just \$1, individuals can add a special date to the calendar, such as a birthday, anniversary, holiday, or memorial. This is a great way to recognize special occasions and keep track of important events.

The calendar will be available to the public in early December 2024, and can be obtained at local post offices in Ludlow, Mount Holly, Plymouth, and Cavendish.

The Ludlow Rotary Club would like to express its gratitude to the local businesses that generously sponsor this calendar. The proceeds from this fundraiser are used to support various community projects and charitable donations.

The Ludlow Rotary Club

is a vibrant and active organization that has been serving the community for 97 years. The club meets weekly, on Tuesdays, at DJ’s Restaurant in downtown Ludlow, for lunch at 12:15 p.m.

For more information or to submit a special date for the calendar, please contact Tammi at 802-228-8821.

The Ludlow Rotary Club is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing humanitarian service, addressing global issues, promoting peace, and fostering goodwill. The club is committed to making a positive impact on the community and the world.

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<b>2017 Ford Escape</b> Fully Loaded	<b>2016 Jeep Cherokee</b> Fully Loaded V6

# New convenience store, Dunkin’ drive-thru coming to Rockingham –

BY JOE MILLIKEN  
*The Shopper*

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – Sandri Energy, based in Greenfield, Mass., is ready to build a new, \$2 million convenience store and Dunkin’ restaurant at Exit 6 off I-91, in Rockingham, near where the existing Sunoco Energy convenience store sits.

According to Erika Young, Sandri Energy vice president of store operations, the company is hoping to start construction in late September. This will take approximately three months, and the existing store will remain open during construction.

The new store has already received approval from the Town of Rockingham, as well as the Vermont Agency of Transportation, and an Act 250 state land-use permit is currently in the works. The land being utilized for the new store, restaurant, and drive-

thru is an 11-acre lot on Route 103, next to the Exit 6 southbound onramp. It is also the same area where the current store stands.

“We are closing out the Act 250 permitting process; given that we may run out of time with winter approaching, the project will likely start in early spring 2025,” Young said in a recent interview. “We will build the new store behind the current location, to lessen the interruption in business. Once the new building is complete, which will take approximately three to four months, we will tear down the current building.”

The new store and restaurant/drive-thru window will be constructed behind the current store and further away from the road, and the existing gas pumps and canopy will remain in place, with new landscaping surrounding the property. The current store is 2,300 square feet, while the size of the new store will increase to some 4,300 square feet. Store parking will be on the footprint of the old

store. “The new store is going to be much bigger than the existing store, doubled in size,” Young said. “We will be adding diesel fuel to the pumps, as well as a much larger selection of beverages, fresh and warm food offerings, and self-checkout for those who prefer that option. The new store will be much bigger, cleaner, and more modern.”

The decision to either start construction at the end of September or wait until the spring to begin building should be made within the next week. Once that decision is made, bids will go out to choose a contractor. Sandri Energy is investing an estimated \$2 million in the project, and the new store and restaurant will require a new water and wastewater system.

Sandri Energy also owns and operates similar convenience stores in Williston and Greenfield, Mass. A decision is not being made at this time on whether the new store will apply for a liquor license.

# Discussion circle about incarceration

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – On Saturday, Sept. 28, at 2 p.m., the Rockingham Library will host a discussion circle exploring the realities of life while incarcerated, the challenges of re-entering society after-

wards, and the meaningfulness of creating art during these life adjustments. Two women who work closely with incarcerated persons in Vermont, Heather Newcomb of Vermont Works for Women and Mel Dawson of Greater Falls Com-

munity Justice Center, will share their perspectives, and answer any questions. A number of formerly incarcerated persons might also join in. The public is invited to take part in this conversation. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, email [programming@rockinghamlibrary.org](mailto:programming@rockinghamlibrary.org), call 802-463-4270, or stop by the library at 65 Westminister Street in Bellows Falls, Vt.



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# CHILI

From Page 1

chili for this event, to ensure we have chili to serve to the end. The Ludlow Rotary will provide the servers if you can’t attend, so even if you can’t be there, your chili can still win cash and recognition. Let Barnes know in advance if arrangements are needed to pick up your chili.

If you can’t make chili, you can support our fundraising effort as a sponsor. There are three levels of sponsorship, each named after a hot pepper: Jalapeno Pepper Level, giving you donor recognition on the ballot; Chili Pepper Level, netting you two free event tickets and prominent placement on the ballot; and Cayenne Pepper Level, which includes four free event tickets, prominent placement on the ballot, and social media recognition.

Please mail your name, address, and phone number, along with the chili entry fee or sponsorship fee, to Ludlow Area Rotary Charitable Fund Inc. (LAR-CF), P.O. Box 216, Ludlow, VT 05149. All entry fees and sponsorships are tax-deductible.

For more information, contact Kevin Barnes at 802-558-0479 or [ludlowrotary@gmail.com](mailto:ludlowrotary@gmail.com).

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# “The Sale on the Green”

**BY RON PATCH**

802-374-0119  
ronpatch27@gmail.com

The Chester Festival on the Green is celebrating its 50th year this Sept. 21 and 22. I got to thinking about it in years past. I always knew it as, “The Sale on the Green.”

Over its half-century, it has been run by different organizations, and under different names. It has always been a great get-together. I always manage to wander down.

A number of years ago, Theresa Johnson donated to the Chester Historical So-

ciety her collection of The Message newspapers. Theresa and Wes ran The Message for years. These newspapers are boxed by year, beginning in 1982.

I met Carla Westine at the historical society this past week to search the papers for relevant history. Carla took the 1982 box of The Message, I took 1983. We sat apart, reading out loud, when we found mention of the “The Sale on the Green,” or maybe an ad, or news event that piqued our interest. Year by year, Carla and I searched these newspapers. It was fun. It is from these newspapers I can give

you some history of changes made over the years.

**Our findings**

In the June 1982 edition of The Message is a press release that reads in part, “The Summer Sale on the Green is a recent sibling of Chester Chamber’s Autumn Sale on the Green.”

In the same edition was an ad for the July 4 Sale on the Green. I remember when vendors included antiques dealers. There was some opposition about allowing antiques dealers, some said they didn’t want it to turn into a flea market.

The Message in September 1982 offers more in-

formation: “The Chester Chamber of Commerce has officially designated Saturday October 2 as the date for the Annual Sale on the Green.” They boasted 30 exhibitors.

The Sept. 30, 1986, edition of The Message has a press release for the October event: “Chester Celebrates Fall with The Sale on the Green...The Sale on the Green has become one of the area’s largest and best attended celebrations of the foliage season.” They boasted 55 vendors.

By October 1989, The Sale on the Green had grown to the point where more space was needed. They thought the answer was expanding to Memorial Field off Coleigh Street. It was billed as, “The Sale on the Bigger Green,” I remember a few antiques dealers set up on Memorial Field. This field did not work out well. Not many shoppers ventured out back. They soon gave up this location. They boasted 100 exhibitors.

By 1991, it was billed as “Chester Chamber of Commerce Annual Foliage Fair (Formerly The Sale on the Bigger Green...)”

By 1992, another name change came. A full-page ad headline read, “Chester’s Fall Foliage Fair.”

At some point, the Ches-



1985 “Smiles of Sunshine at the Sale on the Green.” PHOTO PROVIDED BY CHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ter Chamber of Commerce gave the venue up. That’s when Okemo Valley Chamber of Commerce took it over. It continued under their direction, until it was taken over by Chester Rotary. In 2020, Chester Rotary turned the reins over to the current group.

Today it is called “Chester Festival on the Green.” A committee was formed made up of five volunteers. The committee is known as Chester Community Events. There are five members: Scott Blair, Lee Whiting, Shannon Parker, Ruthann Batchelder, and Julie Hance.

This year there are two street dances, one in front of the Fullerton, the other in front of Free Range. In older ads I found mention of Ali Lubin playing and singing on the porch of the Chester Inn, and cloggers in the street. I remember these dances. This year, cloggers are back.

They have many food vendors, so you won’t die of starvation.

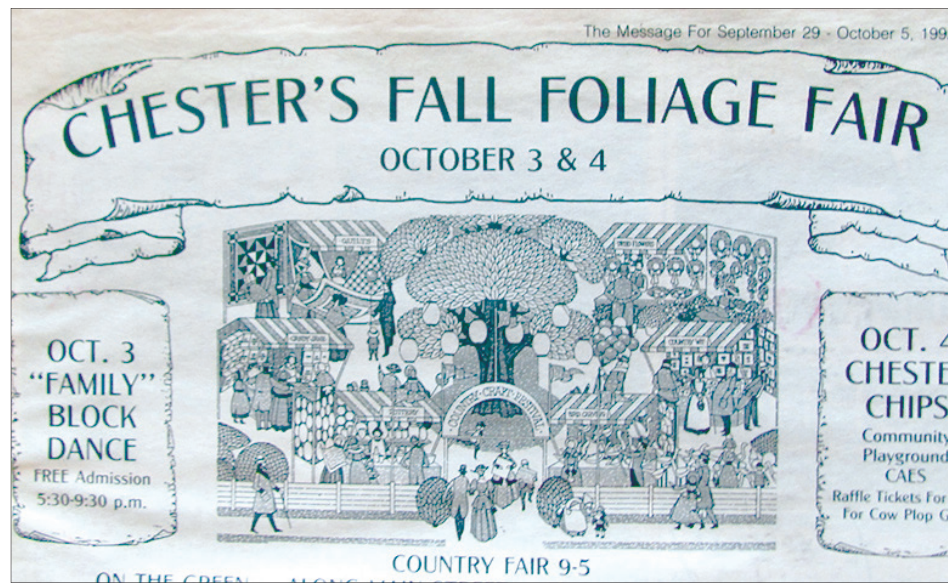
The historical society lawn is for nonprofit organizations. Behind the historical society will be The Vermont Culture Area, where artists and professionals will offer demonstrations, how they do what they do. By the way, Chester Historical Society will be open both days.

This year there are over 85 vendors. Maybe I’ll see you there.

*This week’s old saying is a joke I heard years ago. A fellow from the city counterfeited 18-dollar bills, thinking he could pass them in Vermont. He stopped at a general store and asked, “Can you break an 18-dollar bill for me?” “Sure. Do you want three sixes or two nines?”*



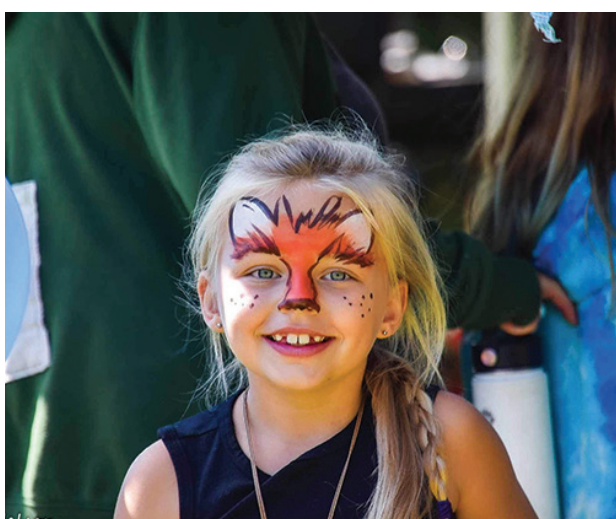
Don’t miss this year’s 50th annual Chester Festival on the Green. PHOTO PROVIDED



1992 full page ad for “Chester’s Fall Foliage Fair.” PHOTO PROVIDED BY CHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Tractor on last year’s display. PHOTO BY OTIS NELSON



Face painting is always a great attraction for the kids. PHOTO BY OTIS NELSON

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# 50th annual Chester Festival on The Green

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**SUNDAY, SEPT. 22, 9 A.M. – 4 P.M.**  
*Along The Common in Chester, Vt.*

50th anniversary display – Historical information about the Chester Festival will be on display at a 50th anniversary booth, and inside the Chester Historical Society, which is open to the public during

event hours. **Artisan booths** – More than 95 artisans and 100% handmade products, including pottery, fiber art, fine woodwork, glass, jewelry, photography, and more.

**Maker's space** – Festival-goers are invited to watch and learn about everything from glass blowing and ceramics, to chainsaw carving, and new this year, maple syrup boiling. **Vermont Culture Cor-**

**ner** – Street performers, historical tours, sheep herding, games, and other fall fun. Also featuring face painting for kids by Oh Hello Face Painting, and a live radio broadcast by WOOL FM.

**A la carte refreshments** – Sample the local flavor with apple crisp, donuts, ice cream, fresh-squeezed lemonade, and more from over 15 food vendors. **Live music** – Local artists will play live on the Chester Fall Festival Stage both days. See the full lineup below:  
*Saturday, Sept. 21:*  
10 a.m. – Dustin Marshall  
12:15 p.m. – Adam McMahon  
*Sunday, Sept. 22:*  
10 a.m. – Sammy Blanchette  
12:15 p.m. – Lonnie Griffiths  
2:30 p.m. – Maven Jamz

Thanks to local sponsors Engel & Volkers, Alva Waste, Southern Pie Company, and Down to the Roots.

**More information at** [www.chesterfestival.org](http://www.chesterfestival.org) **or scan the QR Code here.**



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ATTORNEY AT LAW  
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# CHURCH SERVICES

# obituaries

## Ronald A. Ameden, 1958-2024

JAMAICA, Vt. – Ronald Alan Ameden, 66, of Jamaica, Vt., died peacefully on Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2024, with his wife by his side, following a brief illness. Ron's death, like all his life, was "on his own terms."

Ron was born Jan. 19, 1958, in Townshend, Vt., to Alwin and Joyce (Slade) Ameden. He attended the Winhall Elementary School, and graduated from Leland & Gray Middle and High School in 1976. He owned and operated a property management company in the Winhall/Stratton area for many years.

He married Debra D. Nadeau on July 16, 2024, but they spent the last 12 years building a life and home together in Cavendish, Vt.

Ron was an avid hunter, and always looked forward to the "first weekend in hunting camp." He was also a firearms enthusiast, and enjoyed sharing his knowledge of firearms with others. Ron enjoyed his weekly bowling nights with his team, and took much pleasure in riding his Harley and spending time RVing with friends. He was a member of the Rutland Elks Lodge #345. Although Ron had no children of his own, he thoroughly enjoyed spending time with his nieces and nephews.

Survivors include his wife, stepdaughters Kaylee (Roger) Purdy of Rutland, Vt., Kristie (Jason) McGraw of North Carolina, and Melissa (John) Colvin of Proctor, Vt.; a sister-in law Brenda of Cavendish; a brother Randy (Teresa) Ameden; and



Ronald Ameden, 1958-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

his sisters Nancy (Robert) Oakes and Robin Ameden, all of Bondville, Vt. He is survived by nieces Amanda (Nick) Bergeron of North Stratford, N.H., Angela (Jared) Ryan of Poultney, Vt., and Andrea (Nate) Ameden of Bondville, Vt.; and nephews Tim (Elizabeth) Oakes of Bondville, Vt., Jared Ameden of Bondville, Vt., and Riley Kenney of Chester, Vt. In addition, he is also survived by numerous great-nieces and great-nephews, and step-grandchildren. He was predeceased by both parents.

As per Ron's wishes, there will be no services, but a Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, Oct. 13, at 2 p.m., at 2184 East Road in Cavendish, Vt. Charitable donations may be made in Ron's name to Shriners Hospitals for Children, Attn: Office of Development, 2900 N. Rocky Point Drive, Tampa, FL 33607; or The Dorset Equine Rescue, P.O. Box 92, East Dorset, VT 05253.

Arrangements are under the direction of Clifford Funeral Home.

## Robert Blish, 1953-2024

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – Robert "Chicky" Blish Sr. of Sunrise Village passed away Sunday, Sept. 8, 2024. He was born on Sept. 13, 1953, to Margaret (Allen) and George Blish Jr. He is survived by his children Robert Blish Jr. and partner, Angela Bly Scanlon and family, Samantha Blish and her partner, and Michael Fowler and family; Wend; Macia; his brother William Blish (Diane); his sister Sharon Lambert (Roland); his former wife Gail Matthews; and stepchildren Amy Brown and family, Adam Hooper and family, and Nicole Hooper and family. He had many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews who adored him. He was predeceased by his parents, sister Joyce Mason, and brother-in-law Jim.

Bob was currently working at the Charlestown Transfer Station. He also worked as a mechanic at many local shops, and also as an attendant at Blish Trucking. He had wandering feet, and loved to travel, go to the races, and later



Robert Blish, 1953-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

in life fishing, especially at Lake Warren with his friend Brian. There will be a Celebration of Bob's Life on Sept. 21, at 1 p.m., at 52 Bowker Street in Claremont.

Please wear a pocket T-shirt in honor of him. Be Ready to laugh and have a good time, as he wanted it. "I'm not here for a long time. I'm here for a good time."

Arrangements are with Stringer Funeral Homes and Crematorium, 146 Broad Street, Claremont, N.H. To view an online memorial or send a private message of condolence, visit [www.stringerfh.com](http://www.stringerfh.com).

## Scott B. Hinds, 1949-2024

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Scott Bradford Hinds, 74, formerly of Springfield, Vt., and, since May of 2023, a resident at the Gill Odd Fellows Home in Ludlow, Vt., passed away at the Gill Home on Sept. 11, 2024, a few weeks shy of his 75th birthday, with his sister by his side, of a sudden medical event related to multiple declining health issues. Scott was born Oct. 19, 1949, in Springfield, Vt., to John F. Hinds and Eileen M. (Simonds) Hinds. Throughout his life he also lived in Burlington, Vt.; Chicago, Ill.; Hanover, Mass.; North Kingstown, R.I.; Newfane, Vt.; and while under Developmental Services with shared living providers, in Bellows Falls, Vt., and Bethel, Vt.

Scott attended special education at Brookside School in Springfield, Vt. After completion of the required curriculum, he went to the Vocational Occupational Training Center in Proctorsville, Vt. He worked briefly at the Brattleboro Retreat in Brattleboro, Vt., and in 1970 went to work at The Old Newfane Inn in Newfane, Vt. He worked at The Old Newfane Inn for 41 years, until 2011, when

the inn closed. At this point he retired.

Scott is survived by his sister and brother-in-law, Sherry and Ralph Goings of Perkinsville, Vt., as well as Ralph's extended family. Also an uncle, Steve Simonds, of Maine; Jacqueline Rousseau of Bethel, Vt., special friend and previous home provider; and many cousins located throughout the country. He is predeceased by his parents, his sister Kathleen "Kate" Hinds, his grandparents, as well as several uncles and aunts.

The family wishes to extend a very heartfelt thank you for their loving care and support to all employees at the Gill Home. They were right beside him and his sister during the last few days of his life. Thanks also to Developmental Services at HCRS during his time there receiving services.

There will not be services, and a private burial will take place at the family plot at a later date. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to a charity of your choice.

Arrangements are being assisted by the Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt.

## Andon C. Wilson, 1952-2024

BRISTOL, Vt. – Andon Charles "Sandy" Wilson, born Feb. 27, 1952, in Leicester, Vt., lost his battle with heart failure Aug. 3, 2024, at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, Mass. Sandy will be cremated and placed at his family plot in Bristol, Vt.

A memorial service will be held Oct. 5, at 10 a.m., at the Baptist Church, 2258 Main Street, Cavendish, Vt. Andon served in the Navy from April 10, 1969, to Feb. 12, 1970, when he was honorably discharged from the service. He was a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7823. He was a member of the American Legion for 55 years, mostly at the local Ludlow Post 36, and enjoyed serving his community through his membership. He also served the community of Bristol, Vt., as a volunteer firefighter, and obtained his license as a propane gas installer, and worked for his uncle delivering oil. He enjoyed travelling to Virginia



Andon Wilson, 1952-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

Beach, taking his daughter to amusement parks and beaches, and attending her school events. Sandy fondly remembered his summers camping out near Red Bridge, and enjoyed the company at the lakeside. Sandy also enjoyed his time in Virginia Beach.

Andon was survived by his daughter Donnia Blagrove. He was predeceased by his parents Donald Edward Wilson and Anne "Lovell" Wilson, and his wife Donna Angella "Ellis" Wilson, whom he married April 8, 2008. She tragically passed away May 28, 2009, of cancer.

## Gary and Karen Balch graveside service

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – A graveside service for Gary and Karen Balch will be held Oct. 12, at 11 a.m., at the Oakland Cemetery in Springfield, Vt., followed by a reception at the Crown Point Pub, 155 Gold Club Road, Springfield.

## William D. Hodgson Sr., 1944-2024

N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – William D. Hodgson Sr., 80, died Sunday, Sept. 8, 2024, at Cedar Hill Nursing Home in Windsor, Vt.

William was born on Dec. 7, 1944, in Taunton, Mass., the son of George and Lillian (Wilkinson) Hodgson. He grew up in Taunton and attended Taunton Public Schools. In 1961, he joined the Navy. A Vietnam veteran, William was a cook, and was stationed throughout the United States and traveled the world for 23 years, until retiring in 1984 as a chief in the Submarine Service of the U.S. Navy. He was married to Shirley Gouveia in 1967, in Taunton, Mass., where they started a family together. They would later divorce, and he would make his home in Hubbardton, Vt., where his son and daughter have many fond memories of summers spent together. He later moved to West Rutland, and then Ludlow, where he met his future wife, Mary Michalke, at the Ludlow school where he worked in the kitchen, and she taught. They married in 2003, and made their home in North Springfield, where they lived together until Mary's death in 2013.

William was a former member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He loved to go fishing with his family and friends, always searching for that perfect bass. He would make regular trips to Lake Champlain with his good friend John Montgomery.

William is preceded in



William Hodgson Sr., 1944-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

death by his two brothers George Hodgson Jr. and Ralph Hodgson; and three sisters Carol Clark, Virginia Farrah, and Marjorie Baertschi. He is survived by a son William D. "Bill" Hodgson Jr. and his wife Aniela of Taunton, Mass.; a daughter Victoria Warner and her husband Wade of Uxbridge, Mass.; a stepson Mike Michalke and his wife Jennifer of Ludlow, Vt.; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren; his sisters Marilyn Travers of Dennis, Mass., and Ruth Beauvais of Taunton, Mass.; along with loving friend Carol Hastings of Vermont.

A memorial service with military honors was held Friday, Sept. 13, at 3 p.m., at the Knight Funeral Home in Windsor, Vt. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Condolences may be expressed in an online guestbook at [www.knight-funeralhomes.com](http://www.knight-funeralhomes.com).

In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy can be made in William's honor to the Alzheimer's Association, [act.alz.org](http://act.alz.org).

## BELLOWS FALLS, VT.

### Rockingham Meeting House, 11 Meeting House Rd.

The United Church in Bellows Falls and the First Congregational Church of Westminster will hold a combined service on Sunday, Sept. 22, at 10 a.m., at the historic Rockingham Meeting House in Rockingham. A time of fellowship will follow. Both pastors, Rich O'Donnell and Matt Rogalski, will be officiating. All faiths are very welcome to this service.

## CHARLESTOWN, N.H.

### Charlestown Seventh-day Adventist Church, 242 Main St.

Saturday Services include Bible Study at 9:30 a.m. and Worship Service at 11:15 a.m. and a healthy lunch for all after the service. All are welcome, call 603-276-2383 for more information.

## CHESTER, VT.

### St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 313 Main St.

Services are on Wednesdays at 5:30-6 p.m. and on Sundays at 10 a.m., both in person and by Zoom, followed by coffee hour. All are welcome. Handicapped accessible. For a link to the Zoom service or more information about services and events, please visit [www.stlukesepiscopalvt.org](http://www.stlukesepiscopalvt.org).

## LONDONDERRY, VT.

### Second Congregational Church of Londonderry, 2051 N. Main St.

Worship service is at 9:30 a.m. in person or online. Fill out a form at [www.2ndcongregationalchurchvt.org](http://www.2ndcongregationalchurchvt.org) to be sent a link to the live stream.

## LUDLOW, VT.

### Annunciation Catholic Church, Corner of Depot and High St.

Masses are celebrated on Saturday at 4:30 p.m. and on Sunday at 9 a.m. For further information, see our website at [churchoftheannunciation.org](http://churchoftheannunciation.org), or call us at 802-228-3451.

## WALPOLE, N.H.

### Walpole Unitarian Church, Union and Main St.

Sunday Service begins at 10 a.m. Services are also available via Zoom. For links and updates, go to [www.walpoleunitarianchurch.org](http://www.walpoleunitarianchurch.org)

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**CHURCH SERVICES:**  
We run Church Services on an alternating schedule. Subject to space. All services are posted online at [www.VermontJournal.com](http://www.VermontJournal.com).

**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](mailto:editor@vermontjournal.com) by Monday at 12 p.m.

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# calendar

## LEGAL NOTICES

**SEPT. 20 – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. –** Senior Solutions, in partnership with Our Place Drop-In Center of Bellows Falls, Vt., will be hosting the second annual Age Successfully, A Health & Benefits Fair on Friday, Sept. 20, from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., at the Waypoint Center in Bellows Falls. This event is free and open to the public, and there will be a free barbecue. The fair is an opportunity for older Vermonters to learn about and sign up for wellness-based goods and services, with over 30 exhibitors scheduled to appear. There will be a free Bone Builders class demonstration presented by Green Mountain RSVP, and a tai chi class demonstration that people are welcome to participate in.

**SEPT. 21-22 – CHESTER, Vt. –** The Whiting Library Trustees will hold their annual book sale on Sept. 21 and 22, during the Chester Fall Festival. For more information, call the library at 802-875-2277.

**CHARLESTOWN, N.H. –** The Fort at No. 4's Revolutionary War Reenactment Weekend will be held on Sept. 21, from 10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.; and Sept. 22, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., with a battle staged at 1 p.m. each day. The Fort at No. 4 is located at 267 Springfield Road. Experience the camp life of the British forces and colonial militias, see demonstrations of 18th-century life, explore the grounds of the fort, visit Sutler's and see their wares, and climb to the lookout tower and have some fun with children's games on the courtyard. On Saturday, Ken Burke will be showing off his local finds, and author Laurel Smith will read an excerpt from her new book at 11 a.m.

**SEPT. 21 – LUDLOW, Vt. –** Black River Academy Museum will host the Applefest Fundraiser on Saturday, Sept. 21, from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., at Mini Park next to the town hall in Ludlow. There will be music, homemade soups, a bake

sale, items to purchase, and lots of fun.

**SPRINGFIELD, Vt. –** Celebrate the last day of summer at the Unitarian Universalist Meetinghouse, 21 Fairground Road, with a delicious lasagna dinner, including fresh garden salad, garlic bread, beverages, and dessert. Different kinds of homemade lasagna will be available, including meat, vegetarian, and gluten-free. Dinner will be served from 5:30-7 p.m., and takeout is available. The cost is discounted for children age 5 and up. For more information, email [uuspringfieldvt@gmail.com](mailto:uuspringfieldvt@gmail.com).

**SPRINGFIELD, Vt. –** The Springfield United Methodist Church is having its fall rummage sale on Saturday, Sept. 21, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., at 10 Valley Street, Springfield, Vt. There will be many great items available, as well as coffee and donuts for sale. Everyone is welcome.

**SEPT. 22 – CAVENDISH, Vt. –** The Cavendish Fletcher Community Library is having their dedication of Kate's Corner on Sunday, Sept. 22, at 1 p.m. Kate's Corner, the new early literacy space, has been created in loving memory of Kate Lorenz. Please join friends and the Lorenz

family to honor and remember Kate Lorenz at the library at 573 Main Street in Proctorsville, Vt.

**SPRINGFIELD, Vt. –** Sound Investment will be performing classic rock and modern country music on Saturday, Sept. 22, at 7:30 p.m., at VFW Post 771, 191 River Street, Springfield, Vt. This performance is open to the public. For more information, call 802-885-6008.

**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.

**SUNDAYS – 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 – 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 – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. –** Come check out TOPS – Take Off Pounds Sensibly. We are a nonjudgmental, affordable, and supportive weight loss group. The first visit is free. We are taking Covid precautions so a mask is required while attending the meeting. All are welcome; youth must be at least 9 to attend and have parental permission. Meetings are every Tuesday

at 25 Cherry Hill in Bellows Falls. Weigh-ins start at 5:45 p.m.

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

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

**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.

**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](mailto:info@edgarmay.org), or visit [www.edgarmay.org](http://www.edgarmay.org).

### Town of Springfield Notice

The Springfield Cemetery Commissioners will be cleaning stones in the Summer Hill Cemetery on Saturday, September 28th from 8:00 a.m. to noon. The public is welcome and encouraged to participate and help clean stones. Contact Town Clerk's office at 802-885-2104 for information.

### Town of Springfield- Selectboard Notice of Public Hearing Proposed Ordinance Change Designate a portion of Wall Street as One-Way and correct existing ordinance

The Town of Springfield will hold a Public Hearing at 6:00PM on Monday, October 14, 2024 for the purpose of receiving public input concerning the Proposed Ordinance Change to designate a portion of Wall Street as one-way traffic and correct errors and omissions in the existing ordinance. This will be a hybrid meeting. The Public Hearing will be held at 96 Main Street, Springfield, Vermont. It will also be possible to attend via Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85120846397>  
Meeting ID: 851 2084 6397

Kristi C. Morris, Chair  
Springfield Selectboard

### TOWN OF WINDHAM VERMONT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Windham Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing at the Meeting House (26 Harrington Rd) at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, October 2, 2024 for the purpose of hearing a request from George Wichelns to remove a wood shed located at 24 Chase Road in the South Windham Historic District and rebuild a structure in the same location.

Those interested in submitting written comments or attending the hearing remotely should contact Vance Bell, co-chair of the ZBA, at [vancebellphotography@gmail.com](mailto:vancebellphotography@gmail.com).

The application for this project is available for review at the Windham Town Office (5976 Windham Hill Rd, Windham, VT, 05359).

Participation in the hearing is a prerequisite for making any subsequent appeal.

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83521447482?pwd=kGXQczu-TYv5r0MSIu1qFwSwqwbkFZ9.1>  
Meeting ID: 835 2144 7482  
Passcode: 018770

### 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](http://www.SchoolSpring.com) and enter Job ID 4740052.

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### 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 CHESTER NOTICE OF HEARING FOR SUBDIVISION PERMIT

Paul Hamilton has applied for a Subdivision Permit for a property located at 616 Mattson Road in the Town of Chester. The proposed minor subdivision will divide an existing parcel of 22.50 acres into two lots of 3.24 and 19.26 acres.

The Town of Chester Development Review Board will conduct a site visit at 5:00 PM on Monday, October 7, 2024, at 616 Mattson Road and will hold a hearing on this application at 6:00 PM on Monday, October 7, 2024, at the Chester Town Hall at 556 Elm Street in Chester. A copy of the application and additional information may be obtained from the Zoning Administrator. Participation in this hearing in person, via videoconference, or in writing is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

A link to participate in this hearing via Zoom videoconference may be found on the Town of Chester website home page at [www.chestertv.gov](http://www.chestertv.gov).

Dated at Chester, Vermont this 12th day of September 2024.

Preston Bristow  
Zoning Administrator  
(802) 875-2173  
[zoning@chestertv.gov](mailto:zoning@chestertv.gov)

### TOWN OF CHESTER NOTICE OF HEARING FOR SUBDIVISION PERMIT

Richard Whitham has applied for a Subdivision Permit for a property located at the end of Putnam Hill Road in the Town of Chester. The proposed major subdivision will divide an existing parcel of 7.00 acres into six approximately 1-acre lots and a proposed road.

The Town of Chester Development Review Board will conduct a site visit at 5:30 PM on Monday, October 7, 2024, at the end of Putnam Hill Road and will hold a hearing on this application at 6:00 PM on Monday, October 7, 2024, at the Chester Town Hall at 556 Elm Street in Chester. A copy of the application and additional information may be obtained from the Zoning Administrator. Participation in this hearing in person, via videoconference, or in writing is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

A link to participate in this hearing via Zoom videoconference may be found on the Town of Chester website home page at [www.chestertv.gov](http://www.chestertv.gov).

Dated at Chester, Vermont this 12th day of September 2024.

Preston Bristow  
Zoning Administrator  
(802) 875-2173  
[zoning@chestertv.gov](mailto:zoning@chestertv.gov)

### 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](mailto: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 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](mailto:clerk@plymouthvt.org). Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The Town of Plymouth is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

### PUBLIC NOTICE TOWN OF PLYMOUTH REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Town of Plymouth is seeking qualified contractors to demolish and stabilize a residential property located at 4283 Route 100 that has been acquired through the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. We are inviting you to submit a proposal for this project.

The scope of work includes the complete demolition of residential structures, site stabilization, and compliance with all applicable environmental regulations.

Please find the detailed RFP outlining the project requirements, submission instructions, and evaluation criteria on our website at [www.plymouthvt.org](http://www.plymouthvt.org) or call 802-500-1815 ext. 1

Please send bid proposals to [clerk@plymouthvt.org](mailto:clerk@plymouthvt.org) or mail to Town of Plymouth, 68 Town Office Road, Plymouth, Vermont 05056, Reference 4283 Route 100 no later than 2 P.M. on Thursday, October 3, 2024 and bid selection will happen on October 7, 2024 at the regular Select Board meeting.



# LEGAL NOTICES

# classifieds



"Peace," by Plymouth resident Willow Bascom.

PHOTO PROVIDED

## "We All Want Peace"

P – Persian minakari is the art of decorating metals and ceramics with a glaze that is fired at very high heat. "Mina" means "heaven" in Persian, and is represented by the blue color. This art form has been practiced for at least 3,000 years.

E – Ukrainian pysanky eggs are decorated with a wax-resist method. An old Ukrainian saying declares that, "As long as people paint pysanky, there will be love in the world." Each element and color has meaning. Those used here are: butterflies (angels), fish (Christianity), flower (beauty and love), wheat (good health and harvest), red (happiness and hope), and black (darkest time before dawn and respect for

the dead).

A – A Jewish shawl, worn during prayer, creates a sense of personal space and provides a portable spiritual home. Called a "tallit," it has become an iconic symbol of the Jewish people.

C – Russian artist Ivan Bilibins' response to Soviet authoritarianism was to collect folktales and designs, and peasant perspectives. He used his art to encourage and remind the Russian people of their strength and longstanding traditions.

E – Early homesteaders in America saved every scrap of cloth to make quilts. President Calvin Coolidge pieced a tumbling blocks quilt top at age 14. Coolidge once said that, "The government of the United States is a device for main-

taining in perpetuity the rights of the people, with the ultimate extinction of all privileged classes."

! – The top of the exclamation point is in the style of traditional Chinese brush painting; it is meant to embody the inner spirit, with bamboo symbolizing the balanced way of an upright humble life. The kingfisher symbolizes peace. The bottom is a rendering of the ancient Taoist yin-yang symbol for harmony and the enduring dynamic balance between all things, such as light/dark, male/female, and heaven/earth.

*Written and designed by Willow Bascom Plymouth, Vt.*

### FIREWOOD

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Premium dry/seasoned hardwood for sale, 16' length, \$350 per cord, \$150 1/3 cord. Free box of hardwood kindling with full cord purchase. I also have solo stove 12" dry hardwood 1 cubic foot for \$8 per bundle. Call 802-376-1168.

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 HIRE

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – For Hire: new 10 yard Maxx-D dump trailer. Need mulch or other material delivered or demolition removed? Tractor services also available with backhoe and grapple. Give us a call at 802-376-1168.

### FOR RENT

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – EZ-Dump Enterprises, New Maxx-D dump trailer 7'x14' 10 yards for rent, \$450 per day including 1st ton disposal fee. Call or text 802-376-1168.

### 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

WALPOLE, N.H. – Garage Sale Saturday, Sept. 21, at 8 a.m. Power

tools, chain saws, trimmers, plumbing, carpentry items, files, and drills. 156 Old Cheshire Turnpike, Drewsville, N.H.

N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Multi-family yard sales on Saturday, Sept. 21, from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Pine Brook Condominiums, Route 106, North Springfield.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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~

### Town of Londonderry, VT JOB OPENINGS

#### Road Crew Member/Equipment Operator

Work includes plowing, grading, ditching, road repair, roadside mowing, culvert work, chainsaw operation, equipment maintenance, and other duties. A clean driving record, a CDL license, and the ability to pass drug/alcohol tests are required. Highway/road maintenance experience preferred. This is a full-time position with excellent benefits.

Further information is available on the Town website: [www.londonderryvt.org](http://www.londonderryvt.org). Applicants must complete and submit a required Employment Application, which can be found in the Town Forms section of the Town website. Submit via email to [townadmin@londonderryvt.org](mailto:townadmin@londonderryvt.org) or mail to: Town of Londonderry, 100 Old School Street, South Londonderry, VT 05155. Other supporting information from applicants is welcome.

Positions opened until filled. The Town of Londonderry is an equal opportunity employer.

### 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](http://www.charlestown-nh.gov) or at the Town Office 233 Main St. Charlestown, NH.

The Town of Charlestown is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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 septic candidate or party.

#### Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

#### King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.

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

### Art Crafts Gifts

#### GALLERY AT THE VAULT

Art Crafts Gifts & Workshops  
68 Main St., Springfield 802-885-7111  
OPEN Wed. to Sat. 11-5 & Fri. til 7  
Register for Workshops & Shop Online [www.galleryvault.org](http://www.galleryvault.org)

Vinegar Graining Workshop with Corky Bond  
9/28 from 10-4 \$60.

Doodle Art - Yoga for the Brain with Antje Rupert  
10/12 from 2-4 \$40.

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

Painting the Vibrant Colors of Fall with Rob O'Brien  
11/2 from 9:30-4 \$85

Open Wall Show: Celebration  
Until October 9  
(10/16/24 - 1FN - 13)

### Builders/Contractors

#### HAMMER FOR HIRE LLC

"Not just for bangin' nails."

We handle a variety of projects, from home repairs, restorations on up to full renovations, and new construction too. Our clients can expect professionalism, proficiency, customer care, and quality. Call or email today at 802-376-3275 [edwin.mortensen@gmail.com](mailto:edwin.mortensen@gmail.com). Follow us on Instagram @nedthehammer (11/20/24 - 52)

### PETER JORDAN CONSTRUCTION

Over 25 years of experience in all phases of construction. Framing, finish carpentry, custom showers and tile work, hardwood flooring, decks, and siding. Fully insured and registered with the State of Vermont. Lead Paint Certified. Located in Proctorsville. 802-558-5267. (11/13/24 - 13)

### Campground

#### CATON PLACE CAMPGROUND

2419 EAST ROAD, CAVENDISH VERMONT  
SEASONAL SITES AVAILABLE FOR 2025! REASONABLE RATES!  
802-226-7767, [Catonplacecamp@gmail.com](mailto:Catonplacecamp@gmail.com).

Full hook up sites, pull thru, and tent sites. Views of Okemo! Large Private Sites!  
(11/06/24 - 13)

### Chiropractor

#### FOUR SEASONS CHIROPRACTIC, PC

Dr. Denise Natale 58 Parker Avenue, Proctorsville, VT 05153, 802-226-7977 Hours: Tuesday 1pm-6pm, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 10am-6pm.  
(08/13/25 - 1FN - 52)

### Electrician

#### KJ ELECTRIC LLC

802-428-6224  
[kjelectric63@gmail.com](mailto:kjelectric63@gmail.com)  
Chester, VT  
Licensed and Insured  
Quality installation and service since 2005  
"Wiring is not a hobby! Call a professional!"  
(01/29/25 - 52)

### Masonry

#### DRC STONE DESIGN

Specializing in all Stone Masonry Applications including veneer, walls, patios, walkways. Fully insured. Free estimates. 32 years experience. Contact Dan Field at 802-384-0122 or [stoneart49@gmail.com](mailto:stoneart49@gmail.com) or visit [drcstonedesign.com](http://drcstonedesign.com).  
(11/20/24 - 13)

#### MOORE MASONRY

Fireplaces, chimneys and liners, chimney sweeps, patios, walls, steps, restoration and repairs. Fully insured, free estimates. Contact Gary Moore at 802-824-5710 [mooremasonry802@gmail.com](mailto:mooremasonry802@gmail.com).  
(12/04/24 - 26)

### Tools

#### \$\$ CASH PAID FOR OLD TOOLS \$\$

PLANES, AXES, STANLEY ITEMS, ETC.  
802-579-5891  
(09/18/24)



# arts & events

# OUTDOOR

## Percussionist Cyro Baptista to perform

PUTNEY, Vt. – The Next Stage Bandwagon Summer Series presents Brazilian-born percussionist in jazz and world music Cyro Baptista, on Saturday, Sept. 21, at 5 p.m.

Baptista is a Brazilian-born percussionist and composer whose vast talent and penchant for innovation brought him to be praised as one of the most respected musicians in the world.

Baptista's endless sonic curiosity and intense rhythm led him to create several musical ensembles, and record many albums of his own. He has also lent his sounds to several Grammy award-winning records and to over 300 CDs with many of the most beloved musicians in the world.

"Easily the most famous of all of the artists of the series, Cyro has played with Trey Anastasio, Paul Simon, Yo-Yo Ma, Herbie Hancock, and John Zorn. This project, Chama, is his new group that explores

Brazilian themes, but with obvious surprises," says Keith Marks, executive director of Next Stage Arts. "Cyro is a musician's musician, and it goes without saying that we're blessed to have this performance as part of our outdoor summer series. Cyro is a playful soul whose music is imbued with playfulness and virtuosity."

Baptista leads four different ensembles with 10 released albums under his name. He tours continuously throughout the world with them. He conducts master classes at major musical institutions, such as Juilliard School, Berklee College of Music, New York University, Mannes College of Music, The New School, Holy Cross University, New World Symphony Orchestra, University of Vermont, University of Buffalo, Kimmel Center Jazz Camp, and K-12 schools across the country.

Baptista has a great interest in education and shar-

ing his knowledge and experiences, especially to underserved factions of society, through his "Sound of Community" initiative.

This performance is copresented with The Stone Church.

Cooper Field is located at 41 Sand Hill Road in Putney. Tickets can be purchased in advance at [www.nextstagearts.org](http://www.nextstagearts.org); kids under 12 get in free. For more information, visit the website 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.

## Almost Canon's Paranormal Story Night

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.

We'll be taking the show out of the studio and into the wild, with the hopes of hearing your paranormal encounters inside one of Vermont's very own haunted state parks. We'll be spending the night around

the campfire, hosting this special event for you, the public, to share your personal encounters with the unknown or paranormal, free of judgment.

So, 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 at Jamaica State Park on Sept. 28, for a no-judgment story night.

That's right folks. If you've seen or encountered a big-foot, dogman, ghost, lake monster, UFO/UAP, alien, or some sort of other unexplainable phenomenon not mentioned above, then come down to Jamaica State Park on Saturday, Sept. 28. Our night starts at 5 p.m.

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.

## Killington Cup returns

KILLINGTON, Vt. – Vermont's Killington Resort, the largest ski and snowboard destination in eastern North America, announced today that

tickets for the 2024 Stifel Killington Cup were made available for purchase, starting Sept. 17, at 10 a.m. Taking place Nov. 29 – Dec. 1, the Audi FIS Ski World Cup will once again bring women's giant slalom and slalom races to Vermont. The event is expected to attract Stifel U.S. Ski Team superstars, including seven-time Stifel Killington Cup slalom victor and winningest alpine skier in history Mikaela Shiffrin, who may be going for her historic 100th victory. She'll be joined by teammates, former Uni-

versity of Vermont skier Paula Moltzan, Olympian AJ Hurt, and Nina O'Brien, who is making her return from injury this season.

A percentage from all ticket options benefit the Killington World Cup Foundation, which supports athlete team services and provides grants to bolster winter sports infrastructure and access to winter sports throughout the region.

For additional information about the 2024 Stifel Killington Cup, please visit [www.killington.com/worldcup](http://www.killington.com/worldcup).

### National Hunting and Fishing Day

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.



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DERK BEARDMORE  
[beardmorepainting802@gmail.com](mailto:beardmorepainting802@gmail.com)



**HIGGINS HILL ORCHARD**  
Open from 9 am - 5 pm everyday  
Pick Your Own APPLES  
Mac, Cortland, Honeycrisp, Paula Red, Ginger Gold, Mutsu, Gala, and Macoun Raspberries  
Senior Citizen Discount  
5 Mins from Exit 5, I-91 • Westminster, VT  
Westminster Heights Rd. to Orchard Hill Rd. Follow Signs  
Open Daily 9am - 5pm



**1ST ANNUAL CHILI COOK OFF**  
American Legion Post 37  
Bellows Falls, Vt. (802) 463-9700  
**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2024**  
Open to the public 5:00 to 8:00 pm  
(ALL ENTRIES NEED TO BE SUBMITTED BY 4:45)  
WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT 8:00 pm  
ENTRY FEE: \$25.00  
ADULTS: \$5.00 / CHILDREN: \$3.00 EACH  
You get to sample each of the chili's & vote on the different ones.



**~ OUR OWN ~**  
CORN  
PUMPKINS  
LOCAL CHEESE & MEAT  
APPLES  
TOMATOES  
WINTER SQUASH  
Open Daily 9-6  
Route 12  
Walpole, NH  
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Hudson W Hagland, CFP®  
Investment Advisor  
[www.afswm.com](http://www.afswm.com)  
802-875-8100

Please join us for the 40th Annual Ludlow PTG **Harvest Fair** Saturday, Oct. 5, 2024  
10am - 4pm on the Black River Expeditionary School front lawn (outside, rain or shine) Ludlow, VT  
Crafters, Artists, Musicians, and Food Vendors!  
Doodoo Bingo! It has been a massive success since 2020!  
Calling all crafters, artists, and vendors! Booth Spaces 10x10 for \$35. Crafters provide their own tent, tables, and chairs. Must be set up by 9:30 am, and stay up until 4 pm.  
To sign up as a vendor, or for more information Email: [LudlowPTG@gmail.com](mailto:LudlowPTG@gmail.com)  
Call or Text Courtney: 603-219-3491  
[www.Facebook.com/LudlowVTHarvestFair](http://www.Facebook.com/LudlowVTHarvestFair)



QUESTION THE VERY FABRIC OF REALITY.  
**the WOMAN in BLACK**  
OCT 2 - OCT 20 | [WESTONTHEATER.ORG](http://WESTONTHEATER.ORG) 802-824-5288



SCAN FOR TICKETS & INFO:  


**Weekly SUDOKU**  
by Linda Thistle

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

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**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12			13				14				
15			16				17				
18		19				20					
21		22	23		24		25	26	27		
28	29	30				31		32			
33			34				35		36		
37			38			39			40		
41			42			43					
44			44			45			47	48	49
50	51	52				53	54		55		
56						57			58		
59						60			61		

**ACROSS**  
1 Bit of butter  
4 "Dream on!"  
8 Half (Pref.)  
12 "Kinda" suffix  
13 Mandolin's kin  
14 Redact  
15 LAX info  
16 Embraces among team members, say  
18 Mideast peninsula  
20 "Gee, ya think?"  
21 Nevada city  
24 Pansy part  
28 Floor coverings  
32 Luau dance  
33 Paul Newman film  
34 Refine metal  
36 Male turkey  
37 "M\*A\*S\*H" star  
39 Pub vessels  
41 Sand castle site  
43 Clear the decks?  
44 Gearwheel tooth  
46 Mary Poppins, e.g.  
50 Hydrants  
55 Tic-tac-toe win  
56 Totals  
57 Mine, to Marcel

**DOWN**  
58 — de mer  
59 Sheepish remarks  
60 Swimmer  
61 Moody rock genre  
8 Sneaky laugh  
9 Sch. URL  
10 "Top Gun" target  
11 TGIF part  
17 Young seal  
19 Coach  
22 Feeling no pain  
23 Curved moldings  
25 Ballet wear  
26 Sleep like —  
27 Felonious flights  
28 Melville captain  
29 Hold sway  
30 Icelandic epic  
31 Whole lot  
35 Trains, buses, etc.  
38 Entry  
40 CEO's deg.  
42 Jump  
45 Glitz partner  
47 Alaskan seaport  
48 Linguist  
49 Present-day "carpe diem"  
50 "Terriff"  
51 Wyo. neighbor  
52 Vitamin stat  
53 Hollywood's Thurman  
54 Acquired

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**Taco Tuesday**  
Half Price Tacos

**Nacho Typical Wednesday**  
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# arts & entertainment

## Vermont Comedy All Stars at Next Stage

**PUTNEY, Vt.** – Gordon Clark and his Vermont Comedy All Stars return for a night of stand-up comedy at Next Stage Arts. Featured performers will include several contest-winning and touring comedians most often seen in the Burlington area.

“We’ve got to keep laughing to handle the news these days,” says Keith Marks, executive director of Next Stage Arts. “We’ve had a number of Vermont comedians go into New York and start careers. We’re proud to give them a space in southern Vermont to be seen.”

Ang Buxton is a wild comedian and tiny-handed DJ. Born and raised in Springfield, Mass., Buxton is high-energy and smart in a stupid way. They’ve done Denver’s Rise Festival, and were featured as P3 Comedy Festival’s Queer of the Year. Buxton has headlined at Radio Bean, Cinema Salem, Don’t Tell Burlington, and Nate Jackson’s Comedy Club in Tacoma, Wash., to name a few. They also produce a bunch of stuff like the Far Out Comedy Festival. Follow them on all social media platforms @bux\_wild.

Tracy Dolan has been a staple of Vermont’s comedy scene for the past 12 years, and has been featured in Boston’s Women in Com-

edy Festival and New York City’s She Devil Comedy Festival. She teaches stand-up comedy at the Vermont Comedy Club, and regularly features there for national headliners.

Tim Lovett launched his comedy career in Massachusetts, and has now been entertaining audiences across New England for the past 10 years with his unique blend of wit and energy, an engaging style, and sharp observational comedy. Along the way, Lovett has shared the stage with some of the biggest names in comedy, including Donnell Rawlings, Talent Harris, Damon Williams, the late AJ Johnson, Jessica Kirson, and Robin Montague. Lovett is also the founder of Comedy as a Weapon, a comedy production brand that showcases diverse comedic voices and brings laughter to a wide variety of venues. As relatable as he is outrageous, Lovett has quickly become a big fan-favorite of Vermont Comedy All Stars, and has performed this year at our other shows in Burlington, Montpelier, and Waterbury.

Danny Pee hails from the White Mountains of New Hampshire, and now calls the city of Manchester his home. He got his start in the Manchester comedy scene, and soon earned write ups

in the local press. Danny serves as the host of The Laugh Attic at Strange Brew Tavern, and has been featured in Laugh Boston’s Roast Battle series. He has enjoyed performing throughout New England, and is very excited to return to Vermont.

Host Gordon Clark is proof that you can teach an old dog new tricks. A lifelong organizer and activist, he took up comedy when he was nearing 60 and never looked back. Mostly because it hurts his neck when he turns that way. Clark is the director of the non-profit Vermont Comedy All Stars, through which he produces and hosts monthly stand-up comedy showcase specials in Burlington at the iconic Nectar’s, and Montpelier’s Bent Nails Bistro, as well as the quarterly showcase at the Next Stage Arts Theater in Putney. He lives in Burlington with his wife, dog, and cat.

Next Stage is located at 15 Kimball Hill in downtown Putney, Vt. All talks are free to attend, but donations are appreciated. Advance registration is available at [www.nextstagearts.org](http://www.nextstagearts.org). For information, call 802-387-0102.

## Three new shows at Canal Street Art Gallery

**BELLOWS FALLS, Vt.** – Canal Street Art Gallery presents the “Ceramic | Fiber” show and the Carol Keiser Solo Spotlight show, open Sept. 20 – Nov. 9. The gallery is also pleased to announce the opening of its new Artist Made Stationary Department. Join the gallery for Third Friday Gallery Night in historic downtown Bellows Falls, Vt., Sept. 20, from 5-7 p.m., to celebrate fall in Vermont with local art and an opening reception for the artists. All gallery events are free and open to the public, for wheelchair accessibility call 802-289-0104.

The “Ceramic | Fiber” exhibition shows work by five local artists who use one or both of these historically and culturally significant mediums in their art. One-of-a-kind blankets by Christine Cole consist of hand-dyed luxury fibers from around the world and are treated as paintings, blending threads of different yarns together to mix colors. Meghan Dogherty builds hollow ceramic sculptural forms, utilitarian wares, and occasionally whimsical creatures. Her sculpture is heavily influenced by her previous

work as a tenured research professor of media ecology. Kristen Donegan’s work combines both textile and ceramic, and comes from a place of introspection and investigation into nature and myth, and where the two intersect through art and craft. D. Brooks Heley creates painted clay sculptures which challenge the fundamental nature of knowledge, reality, and existence. Su Lin Mangan’s art quilts are inspired by urban landscapes, and informed by her background in anthropology and fashion design.

Carol Keiser, in her Solo Spotlight show, shares acrylic paintings depicting floral still-lives, Mexican interiors, and friends gathering, all created by the artist over the winter of 2023-2024. “My work is inspired by the world around me, my life in the countryside of Putney, Vt., and my time living in Mexico, a country of color and contrast,” explains Keiser.

The new Artist Made Stationery Department, located within Canal Street Art Gallery, features original artwork on hand-folded paper. The Artist Made Stationery Department debuts with a collection from

MC Noyes Studio. Products include note cards, greeting cards, and writing sets, all with matching envelopes. Also available are gift tags, as well as accordion-folded, stab-bound sketch and notebooks in three sizes. Initial designs include woodland forget me not, hawksbeard, lady fern, seven-spot ladybug, brook trout, wild turkey, aurora pink and luminous red dots, fluorescent green with fluorescent blue, and luminous lemon stripes. The gallery invites artists to present their own original artwork on stationery products to be sold in the gallery. To submit, send images with details on materials used and retail prices to [submissions@canalstreetartgallery.com](mailto:submissions@canalstreetartgallery.com).

Canal Street Art Gallery is located at 23 Canal Street, in historic downtown Bellows Falls, Vt., and is open Tuesday-Saturday, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. For more information about the “Ceramic | Fiber” show, the Carol Keiser Solo Spotlight show, or the Artist Made Stationery Department, go to [canalstreetartgallery.com](http://canalstreetartgallery.com), call Mike at 802-289-0104, or send emails to [artinfo@canalstreetartgallery.com](mailto:artinfo@canalstreetartgallery.com).

## Nordic Harmoni at the Peru Fair

**PERU, Vt.** – Nordic Harmoni invites all to join us at the Peru Fair on Sept. 28, at 12 p.m., in the Peru Church, Peru, Vt. We are delighted to be back singing together under the wonderful direction of Lorri Bond.

The Peru Fair started in 1978 as a tag sale event, and

has grown to much, much more, with over 100 exhibitors and upwards of 6,000 visitors each year. The spirit of the fair is one of community and small town life. Proceeds from the fair are donated to the Peru Scholarship Fund. Scholarships are awarded to graduating high school seniors of Peru

continuing on to higher education. Check out the Peru Fair website at [www.perufair.org](http://www.perufair.org).

Nordic Harmoni is the only Swedish-American chorus in southern Vermont, and enjoys sharing Scandinavian heritage and traditions. We welcome all interested singers to join us for rehearsals at the Second

Congregational Church in Londonderry, where we sing both in English (70%) and Swedish (30%). You do not need to know Swedish to join – we will help all with pronunciations. To learn more about Nordic Harmoni, see [www.auss.org/nordic](http://www.auss.org/nordic), find them on Facebook, or call Carl-Erik Westberg at 802-824-6578.

## Julian Gerstin

### Sextet at Stage 33

**BELLOWS FALLS, Vt.** – Julian Gerstin Sextet will be at Stage 33 Live, 33 Bridge Street in Bellows Falls, Vt., on Sunday, Sept. 29, at 7 p.m. Tickets are available in advance through [www.stage33live.com](http://www.stage33live.com), or at the door. Advance tickets guarantee entry. There is limited seating, and the performance will be recorded and filmed.

Julian Gerstin has spent a lifetime playing the music of the Caribbean, Africa, the Middle East, and the U.S. – funk, R&B, and jazz. He’s lived and studied in Martinique, Cuba, and Ghana, mastering dozens of percussion instruments and hundreds of traditional rhythms. On a given song you might hear him playing congas, jawbone, an enormous beaded shaker, or the tanbou drum of Martinique, on which he sits and uses his heel to change the pitch.

Gerstin founded the sextet to bring his wide range of instruments and influences to a jazz setting, where they serve as a platform for his

fellow musicians’ creativity. The group includes some of New England’s most creative talents: clarinet virtuoso Anna Patton; versatile trumpeter Don Anderson; pianist Eugene Uman, who, like Julian, ranges across traditions, and from funky grooves to experimentalism; bassist Wes Brown, whose career spans gigs with early jazz master Earl “Fatha” Hines to avant-gardists like Wadada Leo Smith and Anthony Braxton; Ben James, who was John Tchicai’s drummer for several years, and can both swing and go wild.

This is global jazz – music with lively Caribbean drums and sparkling trumpet, velvety clarinet and muscular piano. Music by turns lyrical and humorous, intense and peaceful, grooving and thoughtful, and always surprising.

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# home sweet home

## Some do's and don'ts for home buyers

**REGION** – Purchasing a house is an exciting endeavor, and it doesn't have to be a stressful one. Choosing a

good realtor, lender, and attorney to assist you through the process can smooth out a lot of the bumps, and allow

you to focus on your future plans while your team keeps the process moving forward. I highly recommend working with local lenders who are familiar with Vermont real estate transactions and property taxes. Vermont recently passed some major changes to our property transfer tax, which was reduced for home buyers looking for a primary residence, but be mindful it actually increased substan-

tially if you are purchasing a second home.

Here are some suggested do's and don'ts for a successful closing. Do keep your attorney aware of any changes to the deal as it progresses, sometimes there are price reductions following an inspection, or the parties decide to close sooner or later than originally planned, and it is important the attorney is aware. Don't make any major

purchases right before your closing. A new car loan may negatively impact your credit score or impact your debt-to-income ratio in a way that prevents your home loan from getting approved. Don't plan to rely on money from friends or family to come up with the downpayment on your house. Your lender will verify the source of the funds used to put money down. You'd need specific advanced approval to utilize any gifted funds, so make sure you discuss it with your lender and attorney if it is part of your plan.

Do consider seller credits. When you purchase a home there are a number of expenses that get paid at closing, including homeowner's insurance for the next year, the cost of the heating fuel currently in the tank, a portion of the upcoming property taxes, your appraisal, lender fees, recording costs, and the Vermont Transfer Tax, among other costs. In most cases, assuming the appraised value of the property is sufficient, you can arrange the purchase so that the seller will give you a credit out of the purchase price to assist with your purchaser's closing costs. For example, if you have an agreement to buy a property for \$100,000, but want to preserve a little of your cash on hand, you can suggest a purchase price of \$105,000, with the seller giving you a \$5,000 credit towards your closing costs.

This can allow you to utilize less of your cash on hand to fund the closing, and instead utilize funds you are borrowing from your bank.

Do remember to contact the power company and set up an account with them so you don't have any disruption in power. Do obtain homeowner's insurance in advance of the closing, so they can have your insurance begin as soon as you own the property.

Do make sure you have all your closing funds accessible in time to close. Selling stocks, moving funds between different banks can require time for transactions to clear and allow the funds to be available. Plan on being able to provide a bank check to your attorney days before the closing, so your attorney has cleared funds in time to close. In most instances you will need to bring two forms of ID to closing, so as you pack up your apartment or house, make sure you keep your social security card, passport, or other form of identification accessible. If you are wiring funds, you need to personally verify the wiring information (not via email) to protect yourself. There are risks in wiring funds, so make sure you discuss the process with your attorney.

*Submitted by Ethan B. McNaughton, Esq., Lamb & McNaughton P.C., Springfield, Vt.*




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## Okemo Valley Women's Club to hold food drive

**REGION** – The General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) Okemo Valley Women's Club (OVWC) is pleased to announce the kickoff of the National Day of Service (NDS), spotlighting food insecurity and hunger in the United States. This year's NDS is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 28, nationwide. GFWC clubs nationwide are participating, to help increase public awareness and provide food resources to residents and families in their communities.

The Okemo Valley Women's Club will hold a food drive on the National Day of Service, Saturday, Sept. 28. They will be collecting donations of nonperishable food items 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.

"The GFWC National Day of Service is an exciting opportunity for our clubwomen to demonstrate their volunteer know-how," said Suellen Brazil, GFWC international president. "The GFWC tagline is 'living the volunteer spirit,' which is the essence of this national public awareness campaign about hunger and food insecurity. It takes a village of concerned community leaders, public servants, and compassionate neighbors to solve hunger."

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, 34 million people in the U.S are food insecure, 9 million children are hungry, 53 million people turned to food banks following Covid due to un-

employment, and 100% of U.S. counties have families suffering from food insecurity.

GFWC women work tirelessly to be of service to their local communities. If everyone in their community works together, no one in the United States needs to suffer from hunger or food insecurity.

For more information on the National Day of Service, contact OVWC President Sally Scarp at 407-242-0901, or Karen Haskell, committee chair, at 603-826-0197.

The General Federation of Women's Clubs is an international organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service.

## Senior Solutions presents Creative Play for Seniors

**REGION** – Senior Solutions, with sponsorship from AARP, is pleased to announce our offering of a wonderful free program featuring three longtime artists, friends, and collaborators, who are also older adults, to engage with our community elders in arts activities that will provide fun and creative ways to strengthen cognition and wellbeing while making new friends. This series of weekly workshops is presented by creative

artists Ham Gillett, Marv Klassen-Landis, and Michael Zerphy.

All workshops take place at Senior Solutions, 38 Pleasant Street, Springfield, Vt., from 1-2:30 p.m. The kickoff opening event and final performance take place at 4 p.m., at Nolin-Murray Main Hall, 38 Pleasant Street, Springfield.

The program was highly successful last year in Woodstock, Vt., when hosted by the Norman Williams Public Library and the Thompson Senior Cen-

ter. Senior Solutions looks forward to bringing it to Springfield.

A full list of workshops can be found at www.seniorsolutionsvt.org/services/staying-safe-healthy/creative-play. Registration is recommended, as space is limited to 25 individuals. These are individual sessions – sign-up for one, all, or something in between. For more information, please visit the website above, email us at info@seniorsolutionsvt.org, or call us at 802-885-2669.

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