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OCTOBER 02, 2024 | WWW.VERMONTJOURNAL.COM

VOLUME 63, ISSUE 40

New Fall Mountain Pharmacy now open —

BY JOE MILLIKEN

The Shopper

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. — Marc and Gina Cote, the former owners of Greater Falls Pharmacy in Bellows Falls, have reopened their pharmacy business under a new name — Fall Mountain Pharmacy — at the same location, 78 Atkinson Street. The Cotes also own the building.

The previous business (under a different owner) had closed in September of 2023, but the Cotes always promised their customers they would reopen the pharmacy under a new name and business model and, surely enough, the new Fall Mountain Pharmacy successfully opened its doors on June 17. The Cotes' son Jeff, who worked at the previous pharmacy on and off, is now the full-time manager of the new pharmacy.

"After the previous owner had broken the lease, it was rather quick to get our building back," Jeff Cote said in a recent interview. "We started working towards opening the new store right away, but pharmacy is a complicated and highly regulated industry, so it takes time to set everything up; licensing, insurance, and all the vendor contracts, just to name a few of the many hurdles."

"Things worked out nicely for us because right after Greater Falls Pharmacy had closed, I was already planning to move back to the Vermont area, and I was able to arrive and help with the new business model and opening the store."

A few of the services Fall Mountain Pharmacy now offers includes a local delivery service, compound-



The staff of Fall Mountain Pharmacy in Bellows Falls. PHOTO PROVIDED

ing, compliance packaging, vaccine services, and a new customized phone app.

Co-owner Gina Cote is in charge of the front-end of the store.

"Currently, we are working on selling through the inventory of seasonal and household items, gifts, and cards we have, because we will not carry these items in the future," Gina said. "Scrapbooking supplies will remain a thriving part of our store, and new inventory is on the way."

"We are also going to be adding more holistic, over-the-counter medication, supplements, and merchandise to provide more choices for our customers. We are also going to create an information-based space in the store with printed handouts and supporting products. There will be sections on how to improve sleep, improve digestion, support vascular health, diabetes, and inflammation, to name a few."

"The front end of our store will emerge over time, as this is a brand-new concept and means of engaging with customers. We are literally creating the store one section at a time."

Mark Cote concluded, "We now have an app that allows patients to stay in-

formed about their medications and can reach out through a built-in, HIP-PA-compliant messenger, allowing us to answer any questions or concerns quickly.

"We are aiming to focus on health care for the community, and have been exploring many different approaches to this. We serve southeastern Vermont, but for compounding, we plan to serve the entire state. We will continue to make free deliveries within the Village of Bellows Falls, and are expanding the delivery service to include anyone within 25 miles of the pharmacy..."

"Fall Mountain Pharmacy is also a one-stop vaccine center, as we offer many other vaccinations such as RSV, pneumococcal, and shingles. Now is the best time to get your flu shot, as no appointments are needed and walk-ins are always welcome."

Fall Mountain Pharmacy is located at 78 Atkinson Street in Bellows Falls, and the telephone number is 802-428-4023. The store hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. — 6 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. — 5 p.m.

Springfield High School improvements —

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. — The administration of the Springfield School District would like to thank the school board and the community for their support of improving our facilities. From ideas and needs that were identified in 2019, the district is concluding three years of construction at the high school that has seen new heating and ventilation systems, new LED lighting, new ceilings, a fire sprinkler system, and new electrical transformers throughout the building; corroding heating pipes replaced; a significant amount of asbestos abated; and a new reimaged and redesigned cafeteria.

The improvements that have occurred make the high school a healthier, more comfortable environment for learning.

We have been talking about renovating the cafeteria and integrating the use with the needs of the after-

school program since before the pandemic. The pandemic switched our focus to the ventilation system, and the expiring lighting grant from Efficiency Vermont strongly encouraged us to do the LED lighting upgrades. With all the pre-planned work in the cafeteria, and the floor in need of replacement, all that was left to reimagine the space was painting, furniture, and finishing touches.

In the new cafeteria, you can expect to see new lighting, including sound-absorbing panels making the space quieter; a state of the art ventilation system with dehumidification; new windows into the kitchen, so that students can see what is on the menu; new doors in and out of the serving lines and the hallways; "action" cooking stations in front of the new windows on each side of the cafeteria for cooks to serve specials (not necessarily all the time); new ep-

oxy flooring and subbase; new pub-style furniture on the west side of the cafeteria; some additional furniture added with the existing tables on the east side of the cafeteria; new paint on both the ceiling and walls; added electrical outlets for charging of personal devices and to create more flexibility in using the space; a new larger, refrigerated salad bar (coming in late October); and multiple TVs hung on the walls for entertainment.

There is an open house scheduled in the cafeteria for Thursday, Oct. 3, from 5-7 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged to stop by.

For more information, contact Bindy Hathorn, Springfield High School principal, at 802-885-7900 or bhathorn@ssdvt.org; or Rick Pembroke, CFO, at 802-885-7900 or rpembroke@ssdvt.org.

Springfield reviews housing report —

BY PAULA BENSON

The Shopper

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. — Israel Maynard from Stantec engineering consultants attended the Monday, Sept. 23, Springfield Selectboard meeting, to revisit the Northern Gateway Scoping Project and review the parking plans for each of the alternatives. The board had previously considered three proposals to develop a pedestrian-bicycle path and greenway connecting the downtown area to the shops along River Street, but wanted to further clarify the parking options.

Maynard explained that the challenge with parking in the area currently is that vehicles must back out across the sidewalk into the roadway to exit a parking space, which results in an unsafe situation. Maynard ran through the alternatives for parking with the board. Alternative 1 would create around 47 perpendicular parking spaces adjacent to the roadway. The parking plan for Alternative 2 and 3 would improve safety by managing access with a 1-way aisle with 40 angled parking spaces. Alternative 4 would leave the parking informal, but with managed access and two entry/exit points.

The property is privately owned, and town manager Jeff Mobus expressed that the owner is not on board with making changes to the lot because there is not enough parking for tenants as it is. Alternatives 1-3 would each require an easement from that owner, while alternative 4 requires no easement, as it makes no change to the parking set up.

Vice Chair Michael

Martin asked Mobus if the town might negotiate with the owner, since the improvements to safety and aesthetics would be mutually beneficial. Mobus said he didn't think they would agree to any alternative that would reduce the number of parking spaces. Martin remarked that Alternative 3 would come closest to achieving the goals originally set in the Main Street Master Plan, and provide a gateway to downtown.

Maynard added that negotiating with the owner "would need to be a bit of a swap. You're giving up part of the right-of-way so that they can park in it, and they give up part of their property for the shared use path."

The board chose Alternative 3, with Alternative 1 as a backup in the event the owner was unwilling to lose parking spots.

The board heard objections to their recent call for a ban on firearms discharge in Hartness Park from resident Ramona Emery and other citizens, who have been circulating a petition to repeal the new ordinance.

Chair Kristi Morris told the petitioners they would need at least 320 verified signatures for the petition to be accepted, and as of Wednesday, Sept. 25, the residents had collected the required number of signatures. The board then scheduled a special meeting for Tuesday, Oct. 1, where they will set the date of the townwide vote on the ordinance, as well as the date and time of the informational hearing to precede the vote.

The board heard from Frank Knaack from the Housing and Homelessness Alliance of Vermont (HHAV), who presented them with an overarching housing report that can be viewed within the meeting packet on the town website. The report includes data on

unhoused people, people in government-assisted housing programs, individuals covered under Social Security (SSI) and disability (SSDI) benefits, potential housing solutions, and more. The study was conducted in accordance with Act 113, which allows for the use of hotel and motel rooms as emergency housing for vulnerable households who meet the eligibility requirement. Recent changes to Act 113 have lowered the cap on the number of rooms made available for the program, which presents new challenges.

Mobus reported that he has participated in a state-wide initiative "driven by town officials to discuss the homelessness challenge. I believe that Springfield will begin seeing growth in the unhoused population and an increased demand in our services," Mobus stated in his manager's report. "There aren't any easy solutions, but this conversation needs to continue."

In his public safety update, Springfield Police Chief Jeff Burnham reported that the department had onboarded a "full-time recovery coach." Jen Pierson, an employee of Turning Points Recovery Center, started working with the department last month.

"With Jen working with substance misuse issues and Donna Burns working with issues involving mental health, the police department is better equipped to address the calls for service that don't actually need a police response," stated Burnham.

Burnham also commented that the department's intent was not to become "the homeless police," and told Knaack he would appreciate any advice he might share down the road.

The next regular board meeting will be held Monday, Oct. 14, at 6 p.m.

Donated car helps Springfield family forge ahead —

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. — It's a scenario that's all too familiar for families trying their hardest to make ends meet. A sudden loss of access to transportation sets off a series of unfortunate events that often starts with a loss of employment. Without a car, many people cannot get a new job, and without a job, they can't afford a car or safe housing. For a Springfield family whose totaled car put them in this dilemma for the last three years, they finally have a way forward.

Samantha Lane's family was awarded a 2010 Honda Civic from the car-donation nonprofit Good News Garage. The Burlington-based organization was founded in 1996 as one of the nation's first charitable car dona-

tion programs. Over the last 28 years, it has helped car donors give nearly 6,000 vehicles to neighbors in need.

Upon being handed the keys to her donated car, Lane said, "This car is life-changing for me. Words can never be enough to describe the appreciation and gratitude."

According to Good News Garage, postpandemic car prices have meant that many lower-income individuals and families are unable to afford reliable vehicles, restricting their ability to obtain steady employment, bring their kids to school or child care, and live self-sufficiently here in New England. The organization also says the need for donated vehicles is at a critical level. Car donations are down, and being far outpaced by the demand and need for reliable used cars.

Good News Garage awards cars to Vermont residents through a partnership with the state's Reach Up agency. Car recipients must be Reach Up participants to qualify for cars. Those interested can find out more about Reach Up at www.dcf.vermont.gov/benefits/reachup.

For more information or to donate, visit www.good-newsgarage.org.

Good News Garage is a member of Ascentria Care Alliance, one of the largest human services organizations in New England. With locations throughout the region, Ascentria is creating measurable, positive impact in communities by empowering people to reach beyond life's challenges and thrive. For more information, visit www.ascentria.org.

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DEADLINES

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

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“Ask SOM: A Community Conversation”

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Town Library is excited to host our next community event, “Ask Springfield on the Move,” on Monday, Oct. 7, at 6 p.m., for an engaging discussion about the future of our downtown area. We are pleased to welcome Jessica Martin, executive director of Springfield on the Move (SOM).

SOM is a nonprofit that partners with business, citizens, property owners, and the town government to make Springfield’s downtown an attractive, desirable, and economically sustainable destination

for residents and visitors. SOM’s key partners include the Town of Springfield, Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce, Springfield Regional Development Corporation, and residents who want to help revitalize Springfield’s downtown and the surrounding areas.

Martin will share insights into the organization’s ongoing efforts to revitalize historic Springfield’s Designated Downtown area. This is a unique opportunity for community members to ask questions, express opinions, and engage in meaningful dialogue about how

we can work together to enhance our town.

“This conversation is key to understanding what SOM is doing to shape Springfield’s future,” says Sue Dowdell, library director at the Springfield Town Library. “We encourage everyone to come, share their ideas, and be part of this collaborative effort.”

Community conversations are a series of events designed to keep our residents engaged. They offer an in-person opportunity to get answers to their questions in an informal setting.

Sacred Cloth to be unfurled in Bellows Falls

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Bellows Falls Pride will unfurl the historic 14-foot by 25-foot Sacred Cloth, aka Section 93 of the original Key West Sea-to-Sea Rainbow Flag, to recognize National Coming Out Day. The flag will be unfurled 25 feet from the top of the Windham Hotel, which houses Caio Popolo, and was formerly the site of the iconic Andrews Inn in downtown Bellows Falls, Vt. The public is welcome to witness this unique opportunity on Wednesday, Oct. 9, to recognize the importance of National Coming Out Day. The event will begin at 10 a.m., in front of Caio Popolo, prior to the unfurling. Special guests have been invited to offer remarks.

“The flag, known as Section 93, measures 14 by 25 feet, is one section of the historic Rainbow25 flag sewn together by Gilbert Baker in Key West, Fla., in 2003, to create a 1.25-mile-long flag in the original eight colors (versus the six colors that became more common). That flag marked the 25th anniversary of the

1978 flag originally created by Baker. The Sea-to-Sea Flag was later cut into sections, and Section 93 is preserved as the Sacred Cloth. It has traveled the globe to be displayed at celebrations, occasions of mourning, and historic moments. Section 93 was displayed in downtown Orlando in June 2016 following the deadly Pulse nightclub shootings, and has returned to Orlando each year on the anniversary of the tragedy.”

Attendees and residents are invited to visit the Caio Popolo lounge from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m., to participate in the “Postcards to Swing States” project. The goal of Bellows Falls Pride is to send 500 completed postcards to Ohio residents. The national project aims to send 25 million postcards nationwide. Coffee and refreshments will be available during this time. The bar will open at 2 p.m., and the new dinner and a movie deal is available beginning at 4 p.m.

That evening at the Bellows Falls Opera House, the classic 1939 black-and-white film “Mr. Smith Goes

to Washington,” is sponsored by Bellows Falls Pride. The award-winning film was directed by Frank Capra, and stars James Stewart as an idealistic, small-town senator who heads to Washington, and suddenly finds himself single-handedly battling ruthless politicians out to destroy him.

The annual remembrance, which officially takes place on Oct. 11, encourages gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgender people, and other members of the LGBTQ+ community to “come out of the closet,” which is a metaphor the community has used to mean recognizing and revealing one’s authentic self.

Mark Ebenhoch of Key West and Brattleboro manages stewardship of the Sacred Cloth throughout the country, and is bringing it to Bellows Falls. Most recently, CNN created a display in Atlanta.

Keller Williams Metro Keene Realty and M&T Bank Bellows Falls are sponsors of this event. Find Bellows Falls Pride on Facebook, Instagram, and on www.bellowsfallspride.com.

SoVerA October Meeting

REGION – Join the Southern Vermont Astronomy Group (SoVerA) on Oct. 8, at 7 p.m., for a presentation by member Greg Shanos. This will be an online meeting at www.zoom.us/j/94691230307. This presentation is titled “The Smart Scope Revolution: Introducing the Seestar

S50.”

A smart scope combines a telescope, camera, tracking mount, and computer into a compact portable imaging system. These marvels of technology are revolutionizing amateur astronomy by making deep sky astrophotography easy, affordable, and most of all, fun. This presentation will introduce

you to an inexpensive smart scope, the ZWO Seestar S50. This smart scope can take incredible images of the sun, moon, planets, and deep sky objects for only \$449. The images you will see are absolutely amazing.

Shanos resides in Sarasota, Fla., and joined SoVerA during the Covid lockdown of 2020.

Fastest Kid in Town free, fun race in Springfield

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Fastest Kid in Town Race is back. Join us on Saturday, Oct. 12, at 10 a.m., at Riverside Park, as part of the 40th annual Vermont Apple Festival & Craft Fair. Sponsored by the Edgar May Health and Recreation Center and Springfield Hospital, the Fastest Kid in Town Race encourages local youth to get active and incorporate physical ac-

tivity in their daily lives. The race is fun, free, and open to all children ages 5-12.

There will be a 100-yard race for children ages 5-8, and a 200-yard race for children ages 9-12. Children are divided into age groups: 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, and 11-12. Participants will receive a free T-shirt for all entries while supplies last, and the top boy and girl finishers in each category will receive medals. The race begins at 10

a.m., and will be followed by an award ceremony at 11 a.m. Preregistration is recommended, but not required. To sign up for the event, stop by the Edgar May Health and Recreation Center at 140 Clinton Street in Springfield, or visit www.edgarmay.org. For more information, contact Valley Bromley, youth and family programs coordinator, at 802-885-2568 or vbromley@edgarmay.org.

VINE, Springfield Library National Coming Out Day

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – In honor of National Coming Out Day, VINE Sanctuary and the Springfield Town Library invite the community to a Speak Out event on Oct. 11, from 5-6:30 p.m., at the Springfield Town Library. This event welcomes LGBTQ+ community members and allies to come together, share stories, and show solidarity in a safe and supportive environment.

Speak Out events provide an essential platform for members of the LGBTQ+ community to share their experiences. Personal stories have the

power to dismantle stereotypes, challenge biases, and foster greater understanding. Creating a space in Springfield for these voices helps build a town where everyone can freely express their authentic selves.

The journey of “coming out” can be life-changing for those who take that courageous step. The annual Speak Out event in Springfield offers a supportive setting where individuals can freely share personal reflections, thoughts, and ideas, promoting mental wellbeing and fostering a sense of community.

In addition to its mental health benefits, the LGBTQ+ Speak Out serves as

an inspiring opportunity for adults to become role models for the next generation. By sharing their stories, they provide LGBTQ+ youth with reassurance and the understanding that they are not alone. These moments of connection can significantly reduce feelings of isolation, and offer hope and solidarity.

Springfield has consistently demonstrated its commitment to inclusivity and celebrating diverse experiences. Hosting this event reinforces the city’s dedication to creating a welcoming and respectful community for everyone.

The event is free and open to all.

BF Woman’s Club meeting

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Members of the Bellows Falls Woman’s

Club will meet on Oct. 8, at the United Church, School Street, beginning at 1:30 p.m. The program presenter will be Kelly O’Ryan, principal of Bellows Falls Union High School. She will speak on a grant-funded program sponsored by the Jed Foundation, which is focused on mental health and suicide prevention initiatives among the student body.

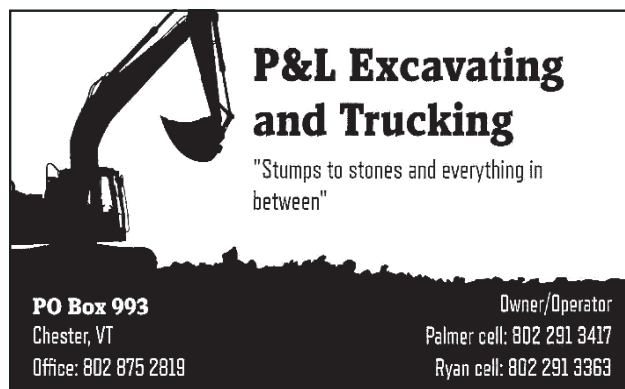
At the Sept. 10 opening meeting of the club, members and guests heard a presentation on women in prison led by Michelle Bos-Lun, representative to the Vermont Legislature, where she serves on the corrections committee. Bos-Lun highlighted the standard conditions of facilities for the women, and helpful outside supports such as community justice centers.

The club’s annual budget was accepted. Program booklets for the current club

year were available. The club’s recent pasta dinner fundraiser was a good success. The club participated in the General Federation of Women’s Clubs’ (GFWC) National Day of Service and its focus on hunger and food insecurity. The members piggybacked with the Sept. 26 Overflow the Opera House food drive for Our Place Drop-in Center by donating nonperishable food and money.

The local club is a member of the GFWC, an international women’s organization dedicated to community improvement through volunteer service. Its signature program is domestic violence awareness and prevention.

Area women interest in joining the club and helping with its projects may contact Membership Chairman Sally McGaffigan at 603-445-2527.



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Peter Lee-Thompson and Charles Bronson

BY RON PATCH

802-374-0119
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Vermont has a long history of attracting famous people as residents. Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn moving to Cavendish in 1976 is a perfect example.

In a previous life I knew Peter Lee-Thompson. I met Peter at the Pioneer House. Over time we became good friends. Peter was from London, and the son of John Lee-Thompson. John was a famous British film director. He directed the 1961 "Guns of Navarone," starring Gregory Peck, David Niven, and Anthony Quinn. John went by J. Lee-Thompson. His son Peter was a film editor in Hollywood.

In the early 1980s, an Englishman showed up at the Pioneer House in Chester, now Salon 2000. He dressed differently and spoke with an English accent. I kept my distance for a while, just watching him. He moved and spoke differently than anyone I had known before.

One night Peter was shooting pool against me at the P-House. As you play pool, you sometimes think out loud, trying to show your opponent just how good you really are. I won the game. Peter intrigued me. I wanted to know him. Peter liked a good time and liked to drink. We became good friends. I enjoyed hearing his stories of Hollywood and Charles Bronson, "Charlie," as Peter called him.

Charlie had bought a place over Brownsville, Vt., way. That's what induced Peter to move to Chester. Peter worked with Charlie editing his later movies.

Peter lived on Route 103 North, across from the turn to Bailey's Mills. Today his house is painted a light lavender color. One summer day I stopped to visit. Peter said he was going to see Charlie, and did I want to go. I jumped at the chance.



Charles Bronson's gravesite.

PHOTO BY RON PATCH

Adventure was calling.

We arrived at Charlie's in good order. Peter and Charlie were happy to see each other. Then Peter introduced me. Charlie shook my hand and was very welcoming. We sat in a large room. I listened as the two men talked about films and such. I didn't have much to contribute, although Charlie had an interest in antiques, and showed me what he collected.

Charlie is buried in Brownsville. In the center of Brownsville is a road that goes over to Skunk Hollow. Turn here and head up the hill. Not far there is a cemetery on your left and right. Charlie is buried in the cemetery on your right. His long epitaph reads in part:

CHARLES BRONSON
CHERISHED HUSBAND
AND FATHER
DO NOT STAND AT MY GRAVE AND WEEP
I AM NOT HERE I DO NOT SLEEP
I AM A THOUSAND WINDS THAT BLOW
I AM THE DIAMOND GLINT ON THE SNOW
No Dogs or Movies

Peter had an old photograph of a rooming house in Hollywood. If I remember correctly, the film industry began in New York, eventually moving to Hollywood for better climate and light conditions. When the actors moved to Hollywood, they were not welcome. In those days, actors were nick-

named "movies," as they were always moving from one location to another.

Peter's photo of the rooming house had a sign overhead the entrance that read, "No Dogs or Movies."

Peter edited a number of films. His first major work was editing the 1973 World War II British series, "The World at War." This was a British documentary film series consisting of 26 parts. It was released in this country for television in the late 1970s. I remember watching them all. Peter won an award for his work on this series.

Peter had a small cardboard sign, black with white letters. It reads: "THE SLIGHTLY TAKEN CARE OF MAN IS GOING MAD." This can be interpreted many ways. Peter and I shared the same meaning. Because of this mutual interest, Peter gave it to me. Whenever I look at it, I recall those days.

In the late 1980s, Peter sold his home and moved back to California. I never saw him again.

This week's old sayings are from Peter. Instead of saying "I'll stop by sometime," he would say, "I'll knock you up sometime." If he was going to call, he would say, "I'll ring you up sometime."

40th Vermont Apple Festival & Craft Show

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce is getting ready for the 40th annual Vermont Apple Festival & Craft Show, to be held on Oct. 12, from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., at Riverside Middle School in Springfield, Vt. This year, the festival promises a day full of fun and surprises. Visitors will have the opportunity to explore the unique creations of over 50 craft and artisan vendors. Come shop for gifts, decor, local art, quilts, clothes, and more. At the perfect time for foliage season, celebrate autumn, farmers, artists, bakers, and the community in Springfield, Vt. We have activities and vendors for the whole family, come spend the day with us.

Seven food trucks and vendors will serve a wide variety of delicious foods. You can enjoy waffles, hot dogs, burgers, ice cream, comfort food, apple cider, and more, to be eaten at the fair or taken home for dinner. We have many handmade packaged food vendors spread throughout the event offering culinary delights such as baked goods, pies, freeze-dried candy, cupcakes, gluten-free goodies, sauces, jams,



PHOTO PROVIDED

and many more homemade and delicious creations. From the chamber, we will be selling apple crisp made by the River Valley Technical Center culinary program, as well as apples, and the iconic cider doughnuts from Wellwood Orchards.

The children will enjoy the Fastest Kid in the Town Race, brought to you by the Edgar May Health and Recreation Center and Springfield Hospital. Kids will also get to explore the circus arts with the always-popular Troy Wunderle's Big Top Adventures, and try their driving skills on a UTV obstacle course with the Windsor County Sheriff's Department. Get a drawing of your face from our caricature artist, or get a drawing on your face from our face painting booth.

For the adults, we have a beer and wine garden, which will be located by the Grafton Cheese Company Tent, and ongoing live music both indoors and outdoors with a dance floor. Uplift Acrobatics will be giving a performance outdoors in the afternoon between musicians. Come dance, listen, watch, and relax.

The Vermont Apple Festival & Craft Show will also be hosting our annual apple pie baking contest in the cafeteria, with judges including Miss Vermont. Do you have a famous pie recipe your family loves? Bring your pie and ingredient list the morning of the festival to be entered and see how you stack up.

Get your animal fix by stopping by to see the puppy kisses with the Springfield Humane Society, visit the goats, and explore the sheepskin and wool display from Wool on Wheels. Rain or shine, this local tradition offers a chance for locals and tourists to appreciate the beauty of fall in Vermont. Shop, eat, and enjoy a stress-free day at the 40th Vermont Apple Festival & Craft Show. We hope to see you there.

Howard Coffin to speak on ancient stone structures

WESTON, Vt. – Did America receive prehistoric visitors from multiple other continents? Do ancient standing stones and chambers in Vermont hold clues?

Howard Coffin, noted Vermont historian and author, will present his reporting on Harvard University professor Barry Fell's research on ancient stone structures and chambers in Vermont that led to Fell's conclusion that Europeans, Africans, and Asians visited America at least 3,000 years prior to Columbus.

Fell wrote three popular books on the subject in the late '70s and early '80s, suggesting ancient global visitors to America. Coffin, who wrote the first stories on Fell's research and traveled with him to the sites, will explain these theories, and share insights from his travels with Fell.

Coffin's two earlier presentations on Fell have been extremely well attended and received, and we encourage your attendance.

"Once Upon a Time with Barry Fell" will be presented by the Weston Historical Society at Weston's Old Parish Church, on Main Street,

on Sunday, Oct. 13, at 1:30 p.m. There is no admission charge, donations are accepted, and seating in the church is accessible.

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health news

An open letter from Springfield Hospital

Dear Editor,

Despite a forecast to the contrary outlined in a recent healthcare consultant's report, Springfield Hospital is proud to report that, year to date, we have a \$2.4 million improvement over fiscal year 2023. We are extremely proud of the work being done every day by our staff caring for patients and making these performance improvements possible.

In accordance with Act 167 (An Act Relating to Health Care Reform Initiatives, Data Collection, and Access to Home- and Community-based Services), the final Oliver Wyman recommendations were recently presented to the Green Mountain Care Board.

Springfield Hospital was, again, highlighted, referencing our prior Chapter 11, which we successfully exited in December of 2020. The report recommends that Springfield Hospital, along with three other hospitals, undergo significant restructuring, such that we would no longer offer some or all of the services of a traditional hospital. One recommendation is to consider eliminating inpatient beds and converting to a Rural Emergency Hospital. Springfield Hospital leadership has researched the Rural Emergency Hospital designation and, at present, we do not find it to be a financially attractive option that ensures long-term sustainability.

We want to communicate to our employees, medical staff, and the communities we serve that the recommendations are just that, recommendations. Options to consider. We do not believe the recommendations are reflective of the wants

and needs of the communities we serve – nor do they accomplish the goal of equitable and affordable access to care. To the contrary, additional cuts would negatively impact access to care, and do nothing to ensure equitable access for our most vulnerable patients with limited financial resources and ability to travel long distances.

In past discussions with our board of directors relative to Act 167, and in communications with the Green Mountain Care Board, Springfield Hospital has already undertaken restructuring as a result of our past financial difficulties. The suggested collaboration with other hospitals is something we have been doing for many years. We will certainly continue to consider any collaboration that improves services to our patients.

The report's recommendations are long-term in nature, and first require significant investments by the State of Vermont for workforce development, housing, outpatient services, transportation, and more. What the report fails to include are any financial projections for the cost to taxpayers for the proposed suggestions; nor does it take into consideration the critical impact to the workforce and the local economy. Absolutely no changes should be considered until plans and financing are in place to ensure success.

We certainly recognize the challenging healthcare situation in Vermont, and also the financial pressures of our residents and businesses. Our goal is to be part of the solution. Our experiences and performance to

date have improved local access to care for our patients, and shown us to be a valuable provider of local healthcare services. Our strategy is showing positive results.

The bottom line is we are here to provide quality healthcare services to the communities we serve. Ensuring equitable access and affordability are key components in that work.

Our Springfield Hospital Board of Directors recognizes the hard work and progress made over recent years, and supports continuing Springfield Hospital's directional plan of aligning core services to meet community needs, strengthening consumer awareness and confidence in our services, and continuing our work to make Springfield Hospital a first choice for quality healthcare services.

We are prepared to work together with our state and local hospital colleagues to find solutions that transform healthcare delivery. In the meantime, we want to express our sincere gratitude to our local communities for your ongoing support for Springfield Hospital. Allowing us the privilege of serving your healthcare needs, and supporting us with your financial gifts, is essential to the ongoing sustainability of your local community hospital, and equally important to a strong and vibrant local economy.

With gratitude,
Robert S. Adcock, CEO
Springfield Hospital

Intergenerational Lap Quilt Project

REGION – Senior Solutions, the area agency on aging for southeastern Vermont, and Springfield Area Public Access TV (SAPA TV), with funding from the Vermont Arts Council, proudly sponsor the Intergenerational Lap Quilt Project. Students from Riverside Middle School (RMS) in Springfield will spend the next two and a half months making quilted lap blankets for older Vermonters. This project is the brainchild of Marlboro resident Linda Fuhrman, a former NASA engineer and avid quilter who originated the concept, donated much of the fabrics, and is the artist behind the designs. The students, working with guidance from Riverside Middle School fiber arts teachers Jessica Shepa and Marguerite Janiszyn,

and other local quilters, will design and make their own tactile lap blankets. In the process of doing so, they will learn sewing and quilting skills, and get an opportunity to connect with older members of the community. Around Thanksgiving, the quilts will be presented to participants in a memory cafe, a gathering for people with dementia and their caregivers, which is organized by Senior Solutions. Senior Solutions offers monthly cafes in Chester, Ludlow, Wilmington, Brattleboro, and White River Junction.

Research has shown that dementia patients benefit from tactile experiences. Touching a variety of textures can help stimulate a patient's existing memories, and even bring back those memories thought to be lost. Many of these individuals are often isolated from social interaction, es-

pecially with young people. These quilted lap blankets will provide an opportunity for the aging and the young to interact in their community together. This project aims to foster a sense of community among its participants, as well as artistic enthusiasm and pride on the part of the quilters, and tactile enrichment for the quilt recipients.

SAPA TV, the Springfield area's public access TV station, will record the process of quilt creation and the gifting ceremony, and will distribute the recordings on social media and to other stations around the state. To view SAPA TV's programming from anywhere in Vermont, please visit www.sapatv.org. For more information about this project and the Chester Memory Cafe, please contact project coordinator Joann Erenhouse of Senior Solutions, at jerenhouse@seniorsolutionsvt.org.

Senior Solutions nutrition and wellness director

REGION – Senior Solutions, the area agency on aging for southeastern Vermont, is excited to announce the hiring of Eliza "Liza" Eager as the new nutrition and wellness director, replacing Thom Simmons. In this role, Eager will oversee our congregate meal programs, Meals on Wheels contracts, the Foxy Fund pet food assistance program, and a variety of other nutrition and wellness initiatives.

With many years of experience in nutrition, community outreach, and public health, Eager brings a wealth of expertise to Senior Solutions. Eager comes to us from

the Vermont Department of Health (VDH), where she led efforts to support prevention and management of chronic diseases. Prior to her work at VDH, she managed community health programs at Cheshire Medical Center in Keene, N.H.

"We are thrilled to welcome Liza to the team," said Mark Boutwell, executive director of Senior Solutions. "Her extensive experience and passion for fostering healthy lifestyles align with our mission to promote the wellbeing and dignity of older adults. We look forward to her leadership in advancing our nutrition initiatives and fostering a healthier community."

In her new role, Eager

will be responsible for developing comprehensive nutrition and wellness programs tailored to meet the diverse needs of our clients and partners. She will also collaborate closely with our community and home-delivered meals programs to ensure that our offerings are both nutritious and aligned with current dietary trends.

"I am excited to join Senior Solutions, and contribute to its mission of promoting healthier living," said Eager. "I look forward to collaborating with the talented team here, and making a positive impact on the wellbeing of our clients and the broader community."

HCRS August new hires

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Health Care and Rehabilitation Services (HCRS), southeastern Vermont's community mental health agency, is pleased to announce the appointment of 16 new professionals from the month of August, whose talents will augment HCRS'

services across Windham and Windsor counties.

HCRS welcomes the following new employees: Steven Harper, clinician 1 in Hartford; Janette Carson, employee relations and workplace safety in Springfield; Zoe Avent, behavioral interventionist in

Springfield; Kolbi Briere, behavioral interventionist in Springfield; Kristie Palowski, behavioral interventionist in Springfield; Dani Rae Hutchins-Martin, community outreach specialist in Springfield; Mugisa "Alex" Abraham, residential specialist in Springfield; Willoughby Carlo, peer support advocate in Brattleboro; Lauren Iraci, crisis intervention specialist in Springfield; Phillip Gatenby, shift leader in Bellows Falls; Michele Lane, direct support professional community in Brattleboro; Jacob Anderson, peer support advocate in Brattleboro; Esther Behling, community integration specialist in Bellows Falls; Ariana Keenan, DSP employment in Springfield; Kristin Bratton, clinician 1 in Brattleboro; and Madeline Fuller, behavioral interventionist 1 in Hartford.

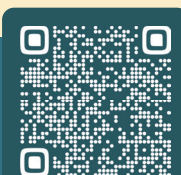


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CHURCH SERVICES

obituaries

Raymond J. Chamberland, 1950-2024



Raymond Chamberland, 1950-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – It's with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Raymond J. Chamberland, 74, of Bellows Falls, Vt., after a long battle with cancer, on Sept. 13, 2024, surrounded by his loving family, at the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. Ray was born on April 10, 1950, in Bellows Falls, Vt., one of five children of Raymond and Leona (Pouliot) Chamberland, and was raised in Cambridgeport, Vt. He graduated from Vermont Academy in 1968, and also attended Bellows Falls High School during his sophomore year. He then studied at the University of Vermont and earned his Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, graduating with high honors in 1972.

During his one year at BFHS he became good friends with Chris Barry, leading him to meet the Barry family and his future wife. During his senior year of college, he married the love of his life Julie Barry during a blizzard on Jan. 2, 1972. Ray and Julie were married for 52 years, until the time of his passing. They raised three sons together, whom they devoted their lives to, and shared many wonderful memories with.

After graduating from UVM, Ray trained as an apprentice electrician at A.L. Tyler and Sons in Brattleboro. Honing his skill and with his drive to getting the job done correctly, Ray was honored as Vermont's Electricians Apprentice of the Year. To be closer to home, Ray moved to Crowley Electric in Bellows Falls. Drawing upon his business acumen, his meticulous attention to detail, and his extraordinary understanding of his craft, Ray founded Chamberland Electric in 1978. Ray took great pride in his work, and whatever the job, always did things the right way, to the best of his ability. Due to Ray's rare combination of skill, ingenuity, and fair-mindedness, Chamberland Electric provided exemplary electrical contracting services to southern Vermont and New Hampshire for 33 years before he retired in 2011.

Ray was an integral part of the community of Bellows Falls. With his passion for community service, he was a member of the Elks and Knights of Columbus for many years. However, with his admirable reserve and modesty, Ray primarily chose to help people in the community one-on-one with projects they were working on. His lifelong commitment to others made him a rock of support for family and friends. Ray was especially generous with his sons, lending his vehicles, tools, supplies, and above all, his time, for fundraisers, proms, float building, and rebuilding playgrounds. He was also happy to help with projects like Extreme Make-over Home Edition in Athens, Vt. Family members, recalling Ray's devotion to the needs of others, remember him spending numerous holidays – Thanksgiving, Christmas, or Easter – making service calls because someone's stove wasn't working and they needed to get their family dinner ready.

Besides his life's work providing service to his community, he was a devoted husband, father, and grand-

father. He was affectionately referred to by his family and friends as "Big Ray" or "Big Joe," and "Poppy" to his eight grandchildren. No matter the title of distinction, however, Ray was known to one and all as a man of great integrity. In his reputed pragmatic, quiet, good-humored manner, he was forever generous with his time. Within his large extended family and among a wide circle of friends who recognized his ability, energy, and uncanny knack to imagine and construct solutions to problems that challenged homeowners, Ray would do anything to help family and friends at any time in any place.

Ray was a man who liked to keep busy. Although Ray retired from Chamberland Electric over a decade ago, true to his passion for innovative work and craftsmanship and his delight in improving the lives of those around him, he never truly retired. Thus, he was excited to use his wide array of skills to help his sons remodel their homes, and after Barry bought his grandparents' house in 2019, Ray dedicated himself to renovate the home, for as long as his health allowed, with a commitment that continued to prove his dedication to his family and his craft.

Ray was predeceased by his parents, his brother Frank, his cousin Arthur Lundberg (who lived with him growing up), and his parents-in-law John and Topsy Barry.

Ray is survived by his wife Julie; and sons Raymond P. (wife Wanda), Michael (partner Erin), and Barry (fiancé Katie). His grandchildren include Ray's kids Evelyn and Raymond; Mike's kids Hatteras and Nash; and Barry's kids Reghan, Dean, Livia, and Adeline. He is also survived by his brother Richard (wife Eileen); sisters Diana (husband Jerry Pirnie) and Suzanne (who was predeceased by her husband Warren Albrecht); and his brother Frank's wife Diane; along with his brothers-in-law Chris Barry (wife Julie), Steve Barry (wife Valerie); and sisters-in-law Mary Kay (husband Tim Pfadenhauer) and Barbie (husband Michael Janiszyn); as well as countless nephews, nieces, great-nephews, and great-nieces.

A Funeral Mass will take place on Saturday, Oct. 19, 2024, at 11 a.m., at the St. Charles Catholic Church in Bellows Falls, Vt., which will be followed by a Celebration of Life at the Moose Club, 59 Westminster Street in Bellows Falls.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the American Cancer Society or American Heart Association in his memory.

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

Marcia Galloway, 1941-2024



Marcia Galloway, 1941-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Marcia Galloway passed away on Sept. 24, 2024, peacefully at home, with her loving family by her side. She was born on Sept. 11, 1941, in Providence, R.I., to Curtis and Anna Congdon.

Marcia graduated from North Providence High School and Rhode Island Hospital of Nursing. She enjoyed a long career as a registered nurse at Rockingham Memorial Hospital.

She was predeceased by her husband Russell Galloway, and stepson Brad Galloway.

Marcia is survived by her siblings Curtis Congdon and his wife Betsey of Oak Groves, Mo.; Betty Ribsam and her husband John of Georgetown, Texas; and Martha Colson and her husband John of Stonington, Conn. Marcia leaves many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews, whom she loved very deeply.

Marcia was a member of the Altar Rosary Society of St. Peter's Church, and was an active member of various organizations and clubs in the town of Walpole. Marcia was the former president of the Hooper Hill Hoppers Snowmobiling Club.

Marcia wants to be re-

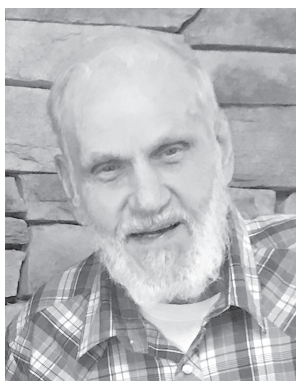
membered for her love of snowmobile riding, kayaking, and long days at the beach with her feet in the salt water.

An hour of visitation will take place on Saturday, Oct. 5, from 9-10 a.m., at the Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home, 55 Westminster Street, Bellows Falls, Vt. A Memorial Mass will be held at 10:30 a.m., at St. Peter's Church in North Walpole, with burial to follow at the Walpole Village Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to HCS Hospice, 312 Marlboro Street, Keene, NH 03431; or to the Fall Mountain Food Shelf, www.fallmountainfoodshelf.org.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home.

Donald F. Slie Sr., 2024



Donald Slie Sr., 2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – On Sept. 13, 2024, Donald F. Slie Sr., 88, of Westminster, Vt., left this earth peacefully, surrounded by his family.

Donald leaves behind his loving wife Charlotte; his daughters Alice, Leeann, and Holly; and his stepchildren Kathleen and her husband Richard, Colleen and her husband Richard, Eileen, and William and his wife Jennifer. He also leaves behind grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

He is predeceased by his son Donald F. Slie Jr., his parents Robert and Sadie Slie, and 10 brothers and sisters.

There will be a Celebration of Donald's Life on

Saturday, Nov. 9, from 1-3 p.m., at the Westminster Institute, for family and friends to come together and share memories.

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

Perkinsville Community Church to begin services

PERKINSVILLE, Vt. – In the fall of 2021, the ceiling collapsed in the sanctuary of the Perkinsville Community Church, causing considerable damage to the entire interior space. The church family was faced with a massive cleanup and repair job, and an insurance company which did not want to pay for that to happen. Through the efforts of two of the members, Gloria Clark Ballantine and Terry John Woods, the insurance company finally came through. Resident artist and author Terry John Woods oversaw the extensive repairs and refurbishing that took many months.

Beginning Oct. 13, the church will once again be holding services. The Rev. Michael Boy, pastor of the Ascutney Union Church, will preside over services on Sundays, at 5 p.m.

The Perkinsville Community Church is an open and affirming church that is extending an invitation to everyone to attend the first-in-a-long-time service. Whether you are looking for a church community that is safe and welcoming, or even if you have just always wanted to see what the church looks like inside, this is an opportunity to bring new life to an old and trusted institution.

BELLOWS FALLS, VT.

St. Charles Church, 31 Cherry Hill St.

Masses are held on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, at 7 a.m.; Wednesday, at 7 p.m.; Saturday Vigil Mass, at 4 p.m.; and Sunday, at 9 a.m. For more information, call 802-732-8721.

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

William D. Hodgson Celebration of Life

LUDLOW, Vt. – William D. "Bill" Hodgson passed Sept. 8, 2024, at the age of 79.

A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, Oct. 12, at 10 a.m., at the Church of the Annunciation's hall, located at 7 Depot Street, Ludlow, Vt. Pastries and coffee will be served.

Martha R. Kingsbury, 1928-2024



Martha Kingsbury, 1928-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

WALPOLE, N.H. – Martha R. (Faulkner) Kingsbury, aged 96, passed away peacefully at home on Sept. 20, 2024, in Walpole, N.H. Born on June 9, 1928, in Swanzy, N.H., she was a lifelong resident of the area, and attended local Swanzy schools.

Martha was a dedicated worker, spending many years at Hubbard Farms, and also worked at Woodward's Florists and Fanning's Garage. Her commitment to community extended into her religious life as a devoted member of the First Congregational Church of Walpole.

Her life was rich with hobbies and interests. Martha was an avid gardener, enjoyed watching birds, and loved fishing. Her trips to the coast of Maine were among her most cherished moments, always including a lobster dinner. She was also an active member of the Red Hats Society, and the Scarlet Marauders drum corps, reflecting her vibrant and spirited personality. Martha's love for animals was profound, often saying, "they all have to eat too."

Martha is survived by her children William Kingsbury and his wife Patricia, Shirley Gorton and her husband Aquilla, Ronnie Kingsbury and his partner Jig Tetrault, and Margaret Charbonneau and her husband James, all of Walpole. She also leaves behind her brothers Gilbert Faulkner and his wife Mary, and Francis Faulkner, both of Swanzy, as well as sisters-in-law Ruth Faulkner and Winifred Faulkner. Her legacy includes eight grandchildren, 19 great-

grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild. Martha was preceded in death by her parents Lester and Ethel (Phillips) Faulkner; brothers Richard, Jason (Iona), Clarence, and Elwin Faulkner; sister-in-law Winona Faulkner; grandson Benjamin Charbonneau; and her husband Albert Kingsbury.

A time of visitation will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 8, from 5-7 p.m., at the Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home, 55 Westminster Street, Bellows Falls, Vt. A funeral service will be held at the First Congregational Church, 15 Washington Street, Walpole, N.H., on Oct. 9, at 10 a.m. Burial will immediately follow the service at the Walpole Village Cemetery. Reception will take place back at the First Congregational Church after the graveside service.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Walpole Ambulance, 34 Elm Street, Walpole, NH 03608; or Amazing Grace Animal Sanctuary, 161 Centre Street, Sullivan, NH 03445, in memory of Martha.

Arrangements are entrusted to the Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home, 55 Westminster Street, Bellows Falls, Vt.

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

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LEGAL NOTICES

OCT. 3 –
PITTSFIELD, Vt. – Author Kevin Graffagnino will be speaking at the Roger Clark Memorial Library, 40 Village Green in Pittsfield, Vt., from 6-7 p.m., about his new book "Ira Allen: A Biography." Please RSVP for this event by calling 802-746-4067, or by emailing pittsfieldvtlibrary@gmail.com.

CHESTER, Vt. – A memory cafe for caregivers and their loved ones will be held at St. Luke's Willard Hall, 313 Main Street in Chester, on Thursday, Oct. 3, from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

OCT. 4 –
BELLOW FALLS, Vt. – On Friday, Oct. 4, from 5-6:30

p.m., the First Baptist Church of Bellows Falls, 9 Church Street, will hold a fundraiser supper, to benefit the First Baptist Church United Missions Fund in honor of Jane French. The menu will be spaghetti with meat sauce or veggie sauce, green salad, garlic bread, dessert, and a beverage. There is a small suggested donation.

OCT. 5 –
CLAREMONT, N.H. – St. Mary's Parish will hold their Old Time Penny Sale on Saturday, Oct. 5. Doors will open at 5 p.m., and drawings will begin at 6 p.m. The grand prize is \$1,500 cash (\$1,200 if not present at the sale). More than 300 prizes will be raffled, and there will

also be a free children's raffle. Door prizes will be awarded, including a 40-inch TV, two pop-up 11-foot by 11-foot tents, and a Huffy mountain bike. Food available will include hot meatball subs, hot dogs, mac and cheese, popcorn, chips, and beverages.

WESTON, Vt. – Wilder Memorial Library in Weston invites children to join art teacher Casey Junker Bailey for a special art-making workshop on Saturday, Oct. 5, at 10:30 a.m. Listen to a story, then make watercolor trees and decorated leaves to celebrate the season. The program is free of charge, and appropriate for all ages. For more information, you may contact the library at 802-824-4307.

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

OCT. 8 –
LUDLOW, Vt. – On Tuesday, Oct. 8, at 11 a.m., Amanda Topham, BSN, RN, will be at the Black River Valley Senior Center, 10 High Street in Ludlow, to answer questions about the fall 2024 flu and Covid vaccines. Vaccines will be available for those

who are interested. For more information, call 802-228-7421.

N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Area Parent Child Center's (SAPCC) Substance Misuse Awareness Workshop Series will continue on Tuesday, Oct. 8, at the SAPCC Training Center, 51 Jack and Jill Lane, North Springfield. The series will be led by Sharon O'Neill, MAT, training and coaching specialist, and Northern Lights master trainer. From 1-2:45 p.m., workshop participants will discuss the book "Hey Kiddo," Jarrett Kroszcza's autobiographical novel about how substance abuse impacts children. Then, from 3-4 p.m., a panel of young adults will present and answer questions about how substance misuse has impacted their lives.

OCT. 10 –
CHESTER, Vt. – The Red Cross will hold a blood drive at Green Mountain Union High School, 716 Vermont Route 103, on Thursday, Oct. 10, from 12-5 p.m. Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit www.redcrossblood.org and enter "GMUHS" to schedule an appointment. You can also enter for a \$10 gift card for giving blood in October by visiting www.rcblood.org/treat.

OCT. 13 –
LUDLOW, Vt. – The annual Fall into Winter Celebration

will be held at the Jackson Gore Courtyard and Roundhouse on Sunday, Oct. 13, from 12-5 p.m. Join in for fall fun with hayrides, live music, an apple cider bar, dunk tank, Okemo barbecue, pumpkin decorating, and more. Admission to the event is free, but you can purchase Fall Activity tickets in advance online, or the day of at the ticket windows.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Sunday, Oct. 13, from 2-4 p.m., Mona Frye returns to the Springfield Art Gym, 335 River Street, Suite 2, for a workshop on painting a patchwork quilt. For more information on the workshop or how to sign up, visit www.facebook.com/springfieldartgym.

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

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

MONDAYS –
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.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Community

Chorus invites you to come sing with us on Mondays, from 6-8 p.m., at the United Methodist Church, 10 Valley Street. These sessions will be led by our new music director, Patty Meyer. No experience is necessary, just a love of singing. Dues are collected, and assistance is available. Concerts will be held on Dec. 14 and 15.

TUESDAYS –
LUDLOW, Vt. – Fletcher Memorial Library's infant and toddler playgroup is held on Tuesday mornings, from 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m., from Sept. 10 – Nov. 19.

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

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

THURSDAYS –
LUDLOW, Vt. – Certified instructor Helena Wu will teach tai chi classes every Thursday, from 9-10 a.m., at the Black River Valley Senior Center, 10 High Street in Ludlow. Classes are free, and are limited to 10 participants. Registration is required. For more information, contact the Senior Center at 802-228-7421, or Helena Wu at 802-289-7369.

SATURDAYS –
LUDLOW, Vt. – Zumba classes, Saturdays at 9 a.m. at the Spring House at Jackson Gore. All fitness levels welcome. Call 802-228-1419 for more information.

TOWN OF WESTON ROAD CREW

The Town of Weston seeks to add full-time and part-time, year-round member to our Road Crew. Candidates are required to hold a VT Driver's License and a valid CDL and participate in drug/alcohol testing.

Mail or return your resume to: Town of Weston PO Box 98 Weston VT 05161 or drop off at the Town Office. You can also email the application to selectboard@westonvt.org. Applications will be reviewed as received with the position open until filled. The Town of Weston is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

HELP WANTED
TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD

Fulfilling Career as a Water Technician

The Town of Springfield, VT is seeking a Water Technician for a full-time position in the Water Department. The Water Technician is mainly responsible for operations dealing with all aspects of metering water, recording and maintaining flow data as well as routine maintenance of the supply pumping stations. The Technician must have the technical skills and physical capabilities necessary to deal with the daily operation of the Water Division. Must have a High School Diploma or GED with associate courses and experience relating to the Water Division. Must possess a valid Motor Vehicle Operator's License. Must be able to acquire a Commercial Driver's License within one year of hire. Requires a VT Class 3 public water system certification or higher (willing to train the right applicant). Pay is \$21.04 – 23.66 depending on experience, CDL requirement and certifications. This is a non-exempt, Union position with an excellent benefits package. Applications and a complete job description can be found at <https://springfieldvt.govoffice2.com/jobs>. Apply at the Human Resources Office, 96 Main Street, (802) 885-2104 (tosh@vermontel.net). Equal Opportunity Employer.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD
HELP WANTED

Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation

The Town of Springfield, VT is looking for an Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation. This is a full-time; non-exempt position with an excellent benefit and retirement package. Salary range is \$23.70 to \$25.82, depending upon qualifications and experience. Position requires graduation from a college or university of recognized standing with a Bachelor's Degree based on a major in Parks & Recreation Leadership; Sports Management; or Physical Education. The ideal candidate will have a minimum of at least one year of proven, successful, and progressive experience in recreation leadership. Candidates may substitute a combination of education, training, and experience, especially experience within a municipal setting. Applicant must have or will be trained for a Vermont Certified Pool Operator Certificate, required renewal every 5 years, OSHA Required Respirator knowledge and usage. First Aid Certification and renewal required, and CPR Certification and renewal required for Adults & Children. Apply at the Human Resources Office, 96 Main Street, (802) 885-2104 (tosh@vermontel.net). Applications may also be downloaded from the Town's website (<https://springfieldvt.govoffice2.com/jobs>). Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The Town of Springfield is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD

The Town of Springfield Development Review Board will hold a public hearing at 6:30 pm, Tuesday, October 8, 2024, to review three different zoning applications. (1) Mixed use development located at 31 French Meadow Road. (2) Mixed use development located at 363 River Street. (3) Exterior building improvements in the downtown design review district at 120 Main Street. Individuals wishing to participate in the public hearing may do so in person, via Zoom video conferencing, or by submitting written comments. Participation in this hearing is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal. Please contact the Town Planner (802-376-6102 /toszoning@vermontel.net) for copies of the agenda and zoning applications.

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

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

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

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

SPRINGFIELD WATER DEPARTMENT

Vermont Absentee Ballot Mailing for November 5th General Election:

The Vermont Secretary of State's office is mailing absentee ballots to all registered voters for the November 5th General Election. On September 9th and 20th, the Secretary of State's office exported voter mailing addresses from the Vermont Elections Management System, in preparation of mailing absentee ballots to all voters for the General Election on November 5th. Voters are expected to receive their ballots on or around September 25th. Each Vermont Town Clerk's office will also receive a supply of absentee ballot materials for mailing to those newly registered voters and to new town residents after the September export dates. Voters that prefer to vote in person, should plan to bring their mailed ballot to their polling location to cast their ballot on voting day, rather than mailing back their absentee ballot to the Town for processing. Voters that do not bring their mailed ballot with them will be required to complete and sign an affidavit form that swears they have not yet voted in the election. Only then can they receive a ballot to cast at the polls. Please contact your Town Clerk's office with any questions. For Westminster residents needing additional information, please contact the Town Clerk's office, clerk@westminstervt.org, 802-722-4091.

STATE OF VERMONT

SUPERIOR COURT
Windham Unit

PROBATE DIVISION
Docket No.: 24-PR-00532

In re ESTATE of: John "Kevin" O'Shaughnessy

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the Creditors of: John "Kevin" O'Shaughnessy
Decedent:
late of Windham
Decedent's Town of Residence

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

Dated: 24/09/2024
Signature of Fiduciary: David A. Smith
David A. Smith (Exp. 23, 2024 16:02 EDT)

Executor/Administrator		Mailing Address	
David Smith		c/o Law Offices of Amanda L. S. George	
Phone Number	Email	City, State, Zip	
802-875-7777	chaffee@amandageorgelaw.com	PO Box 578, Chester, VT 05143	

Name of Publication: The Vermont Journal

Publication Date: October 2, 2024

Name of Probate Court: Vermont Superior Court
Address of Probate Court: 30 Putney Road
Brattleboro, VT 05301

STATE OF VERMONT

SUPERIOR COURT
Windsor Unit

PROBATE DIVISION
Docket No.: 24-PR-03793

In re ESTATE of: Birgitta Sutter-Davis

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the Creditors of: Birgitta Sutter-Davis
Decedent:
late of Weston, Vermont
Decedent's Town of Residence

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

Dated: 26/09/2024
Signature of Fiduciary: David Smith
David Smith (Exp. 23, 2024 07:41 EDT)

Executor/Administrator		Mailing Address	
David Davis		c/o Law Offices of Amanda L. S. George, PO Box 578	
Phone Number	Email	City, State, Zip	
802-875-7777	chaffee@amandageorgelaw.com	Chester, VT 05143	

Name of Publication: The Vermont Journal

Publication Date: October 2, 2024

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

OPINION

classifieds

Dear Editor,

The people in Windsor District are so fortunate to have Alison Clarkson representing us in the Vermont Senate, where she is currently the Senate majority leader. Alison is one of our three state senators from the Windsor District, and is seeking re-election for her fifth term in the senate.

In her 20 years representing our communities,

in both the House and the Senate, Alison's knowledge, hard work, and ability to form working relationships with others, even across the aisle, has earned her colleagues' trust and my enthusiastic support.

Alison is vice-chair of the Senate Economic Development, Housing, and General Affairs Committee, and serves on Senate

Government Operations. Some of the major initiatives she has worked hard on include making historic investments in housing, enshrining reproductive liberty into our Vermont Constitution, enacting marriage equality, expanding common sense gun safety measures, reducing the cost of childcare, and protecting our environment.

Alison is teaming up with Sen. Becca White and a strong new candidate, Joe Major, as our Windsor Senate District Democratic ticket in the general election. Please support this trio with your vote on or before Nov. 5.

Paid for by Sue Schiller Norwich, Vt.

Dear Editor,

Thank you for publishing the article "Chester holds rural zoning hearing." It is important landowners and residents understand the changes being proposed in the rural districts of Chester. The planning commission began rewriting the rural district bylaws in January 2024. The current plan is to eliminate minimum lot size requirements, and allow density-based zoning. This change would impact Chester's two largest rural zoning districts, the R-120 District and the Conservation Residential District, which represent 90% of the town, or about 45 square miles. The current minimum lot size is three acres in R-120, and five acres in the Conservation Residential District. If the town eliminates minimum lot size requirements, it is unclear exactly how small lots in the rural areas would be. Changes to road frontage

and setback requirements are also proposed.

Another substantial change in the proposed R-2 would decrease lot size from three acres to two acres along the east side of Route 103, from Trebo Road to Wyman Falls Road, as well as up Trebo Road about the same distance. The same decrease in lot size is also slated for Route 10, from Gassetts east to the town line.

The 2023 Vermont Home Act 47 provides for affordable housing and density-based zoning in areas of towns served by sewer and water. The Home Act does not support density zoning in Vermont's rural landscape. Yet that is what Chester's planning commission is proposing.

Replacing minimum lot size with density zoning in rural districts would make development in the rural areas harder to regu-

late; increase development on smaller lots (lot size unknown); encourage strip development along roads in the rural areas; add traffic on unpaved roads, which are prone to flooding; collect no impact fees to help cover added costs to the town; allow for a suburban, subdivision housing model in the rural districts; set an experimental precedent moving forward; and impact the town's scenic

and rural character.

If these proposed bylaw changes are concerning, you are encouraged to attend the Chester Selectboard public hearing on Oct. 16, at 6:30 p.m., as the selectboard welcomes input from the general public.

Sincerely,
Amy and Brian Mosher
Chester, Vt.

Shawntae Webb, publisher@vermontjournal.com
Joe McCaffrey, sales@vermontjournal.com
Nick Giberti, editor@vermontjournal.com
Paula Benson, billing@vermontjournal.com

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.

TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN PART TIME WINDOW CLERK

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

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

You must be highly organized and detail oriented, with ability to process transactions efficiently and accurately and provide information in a positive manner to all stakeholders, including Town departments, Boards, Commissions/Committees and the general public.

You must be a self-starter and possess excellent cash handling and computer skills, including Excel; will be focused on customer service and opportunities to enhance operational procedures; and, must be bondable. Ability to handle sensitive information, employ good judgment and communicate effectively is essential. Must have strong communication skills and be able to work cooperatively with all Town departments.

Education:
A high school degree is required.

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

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

ESTATE SALE

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Estate Sale at 174 Oak Hill Terrace, Bellows Falls. Antiques, collectibles, furniture, dishware, milk bottles, and so much more. Friday, Oct. 4 and Saturday, Oct 5, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

FIREWOOD

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

FOR RENT

PLYMOUTH, Vt. – Two bedroom apartment for rent, utilities included, pets allowed, \$1,200. Call 603-372-2398 (leave message).

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.

HELP WANTED

WALPOLE, N.H. – ENTRY LEVEL MECHANICS – We're looking for you! Start a new career and join our railroad family. Vermont Rail System is hiring! Full-time, fantastic benefits, great people. Visit www.vrs.us.com to view job description and apply.

YARD SALE

BARTONSVILLE, Vt. – Lower Bartonville Community Yard Sale on Oct. 12 and 13, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Multiple locations along Lower Bartonville Rd. Tools, furniture, collectibles, household items, antiques, big assortment.

CHESTER, Vt. – Yard sale Saturday, Oct. 5, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. 188 South Main Street, Chester. Antiques, household, holiday, ETC. Rain date Oct. 6.

N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Garage sale Friday – Sunday, Oct. 4-6, from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Outdoor table, chairs, lamps, home decorations, and many more miscellaneous items. 37 Northfield Drive, North Springfield.

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

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

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

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

The Town of Charlestown is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN CEMETERY SEXTON

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

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

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

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

The Town of Charlestown is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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~

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 specific candidate or party.

LMHUUSD School Board Has an Immediate Opening

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

Please submit a letter of interest to:

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

Now Hiring

Windsor County Coordinator

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

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

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

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

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



WATER FLUSHING NOTICE VILLAGE OF LUDLOW

On Tuesday, October 15, 2024 through Thursday, October 17, 2024, the Village of Ludlow Water Department will be flushing the water system and testing the fire hydrant system. The flushing will take place each day from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM.

Please note: The entire water system will be affected. Residents may experience discolored water during this time. When the flushing is complete, please be sure to let your cold water run until your water runs clear. We appreciate your patience and understanding while we perform our annual distribution system maintenance.

If you have any questions, please call the Water Department at 228-8431 or the Municipal Office at 228-2842 or 228-3923.

Thank you.

arts & entertainment

Open Studio at River Artisans Cooperative

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – During the weekend of Oct. 5 and 6, when artists and craftspeople throughout Vermont open their doors and studios to visitors, the River Artisans Cooperative on The Square in Bellows Falls invites people to make a stop there as part of their tour. In addition to a wide range

of art and unique craft items, there will be refreshments available. There will also be a free gift for visitors to choose from with each purchase. Artist Cindy Moses is offering silver jack-o'-lantern earrings as a choice, and book artist Deborah Stuart is offering one-of-a-kind bookmarks. The shop has many great

items in a wide range of prices, so it's the perfect time to get a head start on holiday shopping. Our address is 28 The Square, and we are open Thursday-Monday, from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. We hope that you'll stop in during Open Studio days, or any other time you're in the area.

International Concert Series begins

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – On Friday, Oct. 4, at 7:30 p.m., a new International Concert Series begins at the Bellows Falls Opera House, presented by Ashuelot Concerts. The four concerts will feature international artists such as the Sitkovetsky Trio, cellist Nina Lee, and British chamber musicians Louisa Stonehill (violin) and Nicholas Burns (piano). Friday's concert features a program of masterworks by Tchaikovsky, Brahms, and Grieg.

Ashuelot Concerts is a nonprofit organization that brings live chamber music from the world's leading concert halls into rural classrooms and concert halls in New Hampshire and Vermont. Its mission is to promote live classical music as a powerful force for good in the community. By exposing thousands of local children and adults to a powerful live experience of the highest quality, Ashuelot

Concerts strives to be an inspirational force during challenging times.

Founded by British concert pianist Nicholas Burns and British American violinist Louisa Stonehill, Ashuelot Concerts aims to make classical music more accessible. Each concert features relatable introductions to each piece, offering the audience unique insights into the music presented. In schools, Ashuelot Concerts offers thousands of children their first opportunity to experience live classical music at the highest level. The program is designed to support teachers by using live classical music as a tool to inspire students to persevere. Through the powerful example of a live performance, students learn that challenges which seem insurmountable today can be transformed into enjoyable and achievable goals with the right mindset, dedication, and learning strategies. This program brings internationally touring musicians into classrooms to share

with children their own stories of overcoming seemingly impossible difficulties to succeed in pursuing their passion at the highest level, offering students a unique opportunity to connect with the artistic process.

To open the series at the Bellows Falls Opera House, Stonehill and Burns will explore the extraordinary story of New Year's Day 1888, when Anna and Adolph Brodsky conspired to get Tchaikovsky, Brahms, and Grieg around the dinner table in their home in Leipzig.

"This program reveals the human side of these great composers," says Burns. "In between each piece, we will be reading from the diary entries of those who were there. It offers a fascinating glimpse into the rivalries and respect that existed between these incredibly famous composers."

Ahead of the concerts, the duo will be performing to hundreds of children at Gathering Waters in Keene and the Compass School in Bellows Falls. "Our schools program focuses on inspiring local kids with powerful performances and messages of encouragement," says Stonehill. "The kids' reaction to the music is so enthusiastic that, while we have their attention, we try to encourage them to discover the power of perseverance and determination in their own lives. The story around this program is a great way of reminding children that the composers who wrote these incredible pieces were just as human as the rest of us, with all the same worries, insecurities, and doubts about whether they could make it."

Stonehill and Burns have been performing worldwide for nearly two decades. Together they have released four critically acclaimed albums for Nimbus and Lyrita, and performed live for BBC Radio 3. In 2016 they moved to Keene from London, and shortly after created Ashuelot Concerts. This season they will be joined on stage by some of the world's leading chamber musicians.

Online booking for the concerts at the Bellows Falls Opera House is encouraged in advance at www.ashuelotconcerts.org.

Robert O'Brien Open Studio Weekend

WEATHERSFIELD, Vt. – Watercolor artist Robert O'Brien of Weathersfield will be exhibiting his paintings and prints during Vermont Fall Open Studio Weekend on Saturday, Oct. 5, and Sunday, Oct. 6, at his stu-

dio/gallery, located at 2811 Weathersfield Center Road in Weathersfield Center.

Some of his recent original watercolors will be on display and for sale during the event, which runs from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. both days. All are welcome, and refreshments will be served each day. Follow the yellow road signs to Studio #73. Maps with directions and minitours are available at various locations throughout the region, and at welcome centers statewide.

Open Studio Weekend is

sponsored by the Vermont Crafts Council, with a tour of 112 studios throughout Vermont. Robert is a national award-winning artist, who has been painting in watercolor for over 50 years. This will be an ideal weekend to get out, view spectacular foliage, and support our wonderful local arts and crafts community. For more information, call 802-263-9394.

VISIT US ON
facebook
@VermontJournal

URBAN ENIGMA BARBERING
RODNEY SPURGEON | 603-826-0820
16 North Main Street | Charlestown, NH

BFOH Independent Filmmaker Showcase

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – A dark comedy about bungling criminals will be the first indie film to screen as part of the Bellows Falls Films Independent Filmmaker Showcase, at the Bellows Falls Opera House, in September and October.

The Bellows Falls Opera House is a municipally owned film and live event venue located in the heart of Bellows Falls. In an effort to provide accessible opportunities for independent filmmakers to screen their films in a fully operational theater, the Bellows Falls Opera House has created BFFilms, in special arrangement with Rockingham Entertainment Development (RED). BFFilms seeks to offer a variety of films to the public by inviting independent filmmakers from throughout New England to present commercially viable projects without the burden of excessive upfront costs. Ticket sales will be handled through the Bellows Falls Opera House website, www.bellowsfallsoperahouse.com.

"Dead English" (www.vimeo.com/891311592?share=copy) will be pre-

sented on Tuesday, Oct. 8, with actor, filmmaker, and musician Matt Munroe (www.mattmunroe.com). The dark comedy explores what happens after a bungled heist goes wrong, and two friends are forced to deal with the body of the individual they burgled. A Brothers Munroe Production, Munroe is a Vermont native who spent twenty years in Los Angeles, and has returned home to live in southern Vermont. He was cast in the film "Independence Day: Resurgence." Munroe will be available for a Q&A after the film. Reserve tickets online at www.bellowsfallsoperahouse.com/whats-playing-2.

Additional films are booking throughout the end of the year, and will be announced soon. Dates in 2025 are being reserved now. For more information, or to explore booking your independent film, contact Susan MacNeil at susan@svdol.com.

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Weekly SUDOKU
Answer

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

King Crossword
Answers
Solution time: 26 mins.

M	A	C	A	C	S	F	E	T	E	S	
E	R	A	D	O	T	L	A	W	N	S	
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M	I	N	E	O		N	E	W	I	R	E
G	A	T	O	R		O	R	S		N	E

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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
(10/16/24 - TFN - 13)

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(11/20/24 - 52)

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(12/04/24 - 26)

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arts & entertainment

Doris Ingram Open Studio –

WESTON, Vt. – Watercolor artist Doris Ingram, a long-time resident of Weston, is returning for her second studio tour. She is a signature member of both the Vermont Watercolor Society and the Delaware Watercolor Society. She has won multiple awards, including, most recently, second place in the Vermont Watercolor Society's fall show.

Ingram loves to capture the essence of the old homes and barns that are rapidly disappearing from our landscape. She has donated many house portraits to benefit the Weston Theater Company and Neighborhood Connections.

Ingram is an enthusi-



Doris Ingram.

PHOTO BY DEBORAH TWOMBLY

astic teacher, who enjoys sharing her passion for art with her students. Her studio is filled with paintings of Vermont barns, landscapes, flowers, and European paintings from her

trips abroad.

The studio is located at 83 Trout Club Road in Weston. Open studio is Saturday, Oct. 5, and Sunday, Oct. 6, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. both days.

Bandwagon Folk Festival –

PUTNEY, Vt. – Next Stage Arts continues its 2024 Bandwagon Summer Series of concerts with a folk, roots, and Americana music festival, featuring The Clements Brothers, The Jacob Jolliff Band, and The Mammals, on Sunday, Oct. 6, at 2 p.m., at Cooper Softball Field in Putney, Vt.

The Clements Brothers are George and Charles Clements, identical twins from New England. They've been playing and writing music together for as long as they can remember, and their duo marks their first project together since playing in the internationally touring grassroots band The Lonely Heartstring Band, with whom they put out two albums on Rounder Records. With roots, rock, bluegrass, jazz, and classical influences, George (guitar) and Charles (bass) aim to capture their singer-songwriter sensibilities in a unique blended voice, at once entrancing and intimate, groovy and serene. The duo is a fusion of each brother's unique musical journey, and the result is a music all its own, filled with vocal harmonies, instrumental virtuosity, and a genuine love of song.

Born into a musical family in Newberg, Ore., Jacob Jolliff started playing mandolin at age 7, and performed in a bluegrass gospel band with his father as a teenager. At age 18, he was awarded a full scholarship to The Berklee College of Music in Boston, where he joined the New England-based roots music band Joy Kills Sorrow. They toured extensively throughout the U.S., Canada, and

Europe, playing hundreds of clubs, theaters, and festivals. In 2012, Jolliff won the National Mandolin Championship in Winfield, Kan., and two years later joined the progressive bluegrass jam group Yonder Mountain String Band, releasing three albums and touring with the band until the end of 2019. In 2022, Jolliff was called on by world-famous banjo player Bela Fleck to tour as part of My Bluegrass Heart. He performed around the country alongside Fleck and some of the very best musicians in the genre – Bryan Sutton, Cody Kilby, Justin Moses, Mark Schatz, Michael Cleveland, Stuart Duncan, and Billy Contreras. Jolliff's main focus now is The Jacob Jolliff Band, an ensemble of virtuosic pickers who play his original instrumentals, and showcase his singing. They tour nationally in the U.S., and have also travelled to Scotland and Australia to perform.

The Mammals are folk-singers Ruth Ungar, Mike Merenda, and a cohort of compelling collaborators, who form a touring quintet on the fiddle, banjo, guitar, organ, bass, and drums. Over the past 20 years, they have quietly composed a canon of original songs that both reflect our culture, and offer a vision of how the world might yet be. A rough and tumble decade in the 2000s forged The Mammals' identity as "subversive acoustic traditionalists" and a "party band with a conscience," equally inspired by their folk predecessors and Americana peers. Re-emerging in 2017 from a hi-

bernation period during which the band's founders explored new songwriting terrain (releasing five albums under the moniker Mike + Ruthy), the quintet effortlessly spans the horizons of Americana, from soulfully harmonized indie-folk ballads, to zealous fiddle and banjo-driven foot stompers.

Cooper Field is located at 41 Sand Hill Road in Putney, Vt. Tickets are discounted in advance at www.nextstagearts.org; kids under 12 are free. Next Stage will provide a beer, wine, and cocktail cash bar, and Smokin' Bowls will serve an ever-changing variety of seasonal dishes using local produce, dairy, and meat. Bring lawn chairs or blankets for outdoor seating on the grass. For more information, visit 802-387-0102 or visit the website.

Happenings at the VAULT

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Gallery at the VAULT is delighted to offer upcoming workshops, and also calls for artworks for their Open Wall Show.

Doodle art workshop
Join a relaxing "Doodle Art – Yoga for the Brain" workshop with Antje Ruppert on Saturday, Oct. 12, from 2-4 p.m.

In this workshop you will learn to draw a series of different patterns with pencil and sharpie felt pens. You will then combine a number of different patterns on a 5-inch by 5-inch sheet of card stock, and thereby create a lovely and very unique piece of art effortlessly. You can then choose to color your piece with watercolor pencils and brushes.

This art technique is very beginner-friendly, and truly relaxing. All patterns will be explained in easy-to-follow steps. All materials are provided.

The cost of the workshop is discounted for gallery members. Register by Wednesday, Oct. 9.

Call for work

You are invited to show your work at Gallery at the VAULT in our Open Wall Show. This is a chance to display your work in a nonjuried show. There is no fee. It is a great opportunity for artists who would like to get their work out there for the first time, as well as for seasoned artists.

The next show's theme is "Glistening Wonders," which will be on display from Oct. 16 – Dec. 26. You can bring in two works if they are 18 inches by 20 inches or smaller, or one if it is larger. Sculpture, pottery, etc. are appreciated just as much as wall art.

The work needs to be suitable for viewing by all ages. Wire on the back of wall art is needed for our hanging system. The time to bring in your creation is Wednesday, Oct. 9, from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Thursday, Oct. 10, from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Friday, Oct. 11, from 11 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.; or Saturday, Oct. 12, from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.



Ruppert's doodle art workshop. PHOTO PROVIDED

Pine needle Christmas ornament workshop

Gallery at the VAULT will offer a one-day workshop, "Pine Needle Christmas Ornaments," on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m., with Irene Dizes.

You will create a unique, beautiful Christmas ornament using long pine needles from Florida, which will be formed around a 3-inch metal ring with decorative stitching. You will learn a simple and easy stitch to attach the pine needles. A small decorative winter ornament hangs in the center. Beading embellishments are optional. All supplies will be provided.

Dizes is a creator work-

ing with multiple mediums, and enjoys using natural materials to create. Her passion is fiber arts.

The cost of the workshop is discounted for gallery members. Register by Saturday, Oct. 12. Please include your phone number.

Gallery at the VAULT is located at 68 Main Street in Springfield, and is open Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.; and Fridays, from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. For more information, call 802-885-7111, email galleryvault@vermontel.net, visit www.galleryvault.org, or stop by the gallery. Gallery at the VAULT is handicapped accessible.



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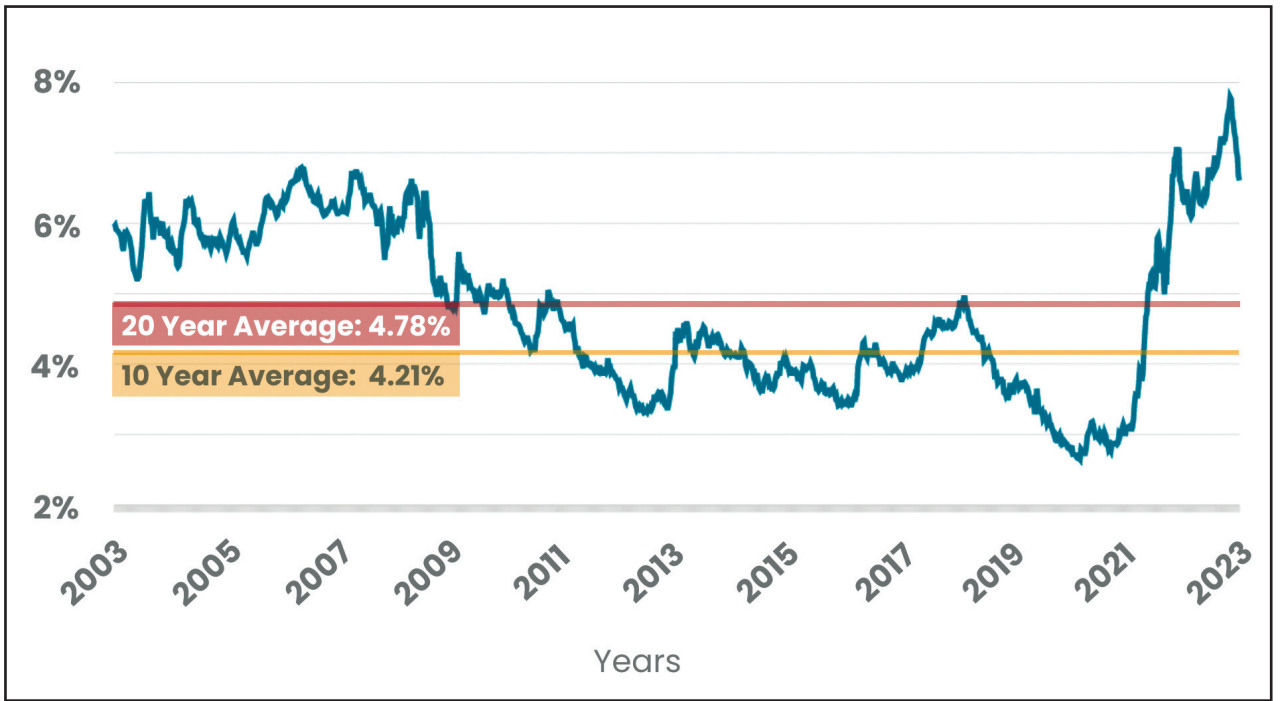
REGION - Buying a home is the single-largest financial commitment most people ever make. And sorting through mortgages involves a lot of critical choices. One of these is choosing between a fixed or variable interest rate mortgage.

True to its name, fixed-rate mortgage interest is "fixed" throughout the life of the loan. In contrast, the interest rate on a variable-interest-rate loan can change over time. The mortgage interest rate charged by a variable loan is usually based on an index, which means payments could move up or down, depending on prevailing interest rates.

Fixed-rate mortgages have advantages and disadvantages. For example, rates and payments remain constant despite the interest rate climate. But fixed-rate loans generally have higher initial interest rates

than variable-rate mortgages; the financial institution may charge more because if rates go higher, it may lose out. If prevailing interest rates trend lower, a fixed-rate mortgage holder may choose to refinance, and that may involve closing costs, additional paperwork, and more.

With variable-rate mortgages, the initial interest rates are often lower because the lender is able to transfer some of the risk to the borrower; if prevailing rates go higher, the interest rate on the variable mortgage may adjust upward as well. Variable-rate mortgages may allow borrowers to take advantage of falling interest rates without refinancing. One of the biggest advantages variable-rate mortgages offer can be one of their biggest disadvantages as well. Rates and payments are subject to change, and they can rise over the life of the loan.



According to the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, the annual rate on the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage was 6.63 percent (as of February 2024).

PHOTO PROVIDED

Should you choose a fixed or variable mortgage? Here are four broad considerations:

First, how long do you plan to stay in the home? If you plan on living in the home a short time before selling it, you may want to consider a variable-rate mortgage. With a shorter time frame, the loan will have less time to move up or down.

Second, what's happening with interest rates? If interest rates are below historic averages, it may make sense to consider a fixed rate. On the other hand, if interest rates are above historic averages, it may make sense to consider a variable-rate loan. Then, if interest rates decline, your interest rate may fall as well.

Third, under what conditions can the lender adjust

the rate and payment? How frequently can it be adjusted? Is there a limit on how much it can be adjusted in each period? Is there a lifetime limit on how high the interest rate and payment can be raised?

And fourth, could you still afford your monthly payment if interest rates were to rise significantly? How would it affect your finances if your payment

were to rise to its lifetime limit and stay there for an extended period?

For most, buying a home is a major commitment. Selecting the most appropriate mortgage may make that long-term obligation more manageable.

Written by Mark Huntley, Huntley Financial Services, 802-228-5774, www.huntleyfs.com.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- Buddy
- Rm. coolers
- Bashes
- Epoch
- Speck
- Mowing sites
- Goal
- Handel compositions
- Author Harper
- Purse part
- Trudge
- Mess up
- Prejudice
- Mardi Gras VIP
- Borneo beasts
- Pocket breads
- Harley rider
- Delphi figure
- In shape
- Title for Helen Mirren
- Gorilla
- Wild guess
- Cornell and Yale, e.g.
- E.T.'s craft
- Citrus drink
- Carnival city
- Sal of "Exodus"
- Just out
- Rage
- Croc's kin
- Hosp. areas

DOWN

- Daily trio
- Disney mermaid
- Star's bit part
- Big fusses
- Brain layer
- Fab Four drummer
- Dud
- Hearing thing
- Prefix with night
- Rock producer Brian
- Snake's warning
- Tropical tuber
- Preprandial prayer
- Entices
- Pen filler
- Get older
- Old map letters
- Immigrant's subj.
- Hitter's stat
- Group of seals
- Nest egg acronym
- Highland hat
- Roof overhang
- Birdseed holder
- Steinway product
- Shroud city
- Blazing
- Greeted a bully
- Borodin's "Prince —"
- Gives a darn?
- Texter's "Heavens!"
- Estuary
- Busy insect
- Opposite of paleo-

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outdoor news

Muzzleloader woods walk

PERKINSVILLE, Vt. – A traditional muzzleloader woods walk will be held on Oct. 5, from 10 a.m. to midafternoon, at the Precision Valley Fish and Game Association, Route 106, Perkinsville, Vt., about a mile south of Downers Four Corners (Exit 8 off I-91).

The course of fire consists of a dozen or more shots from different stations at breakable or gong targets at

varied, unknown distances, generally 20-50 yards. Guns may be either caplock or flintlock, rifled or smoothbore, and sidelocks only – no modern inlines, no sabot bullets. Moderate loads and soft lead round balls are required to avoid damage to gong targets. This is a “blanket” shoot; every competitor donates a prize related to muzzleloading shooting, and the top shooter gets first

pick from the “prize blanket,” and so forth in descending order. Everyone wins something. Prizes should be worth \$15 or more.

There is a small entry fee. Bring good walking shoes, a lunch, and drinking water. Spectators are welcome. For further information, contact Eric Bye at bye@vermontel.net or 802-886-1777.

Britton Farm receives award

WALPOLE, N.H. – Each year, the Cheshire County Conservation District honors an individual, business, or organization with the “Cooperator of the Year” award. This is done to celebrate the efforts the recipient has undertaken to steward the natural resources on their land in cooperation with the conservation district and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). This year, we are happy to announce Britton Farm of Walpole, N.H., as our 2024 Cooperator of the Year.

Britton Farm, founded in 1948 by Lawrence and Yvonne Britton, is a multi-generational dairy farm on Watkins Hill Road in Walpole, N.H. In 2023, the Britton family celebrated 75 years of milking cows and producing milk for sale in the commercial market. Their total herd size is 200 head, including registered Holsteins who are milked along with Jerseys and other crosses. Britton Farm is a member of the Agri-Mark Cooperative, and produces 2 million pounds of milk annually. In addition to the dairy farm, they have diversified to also produce Wagyu beef, pork, and maple, which are for sale at their farm store on site. As Josie Britton shares, they value having a “high quality prod-

uct at a reasonable cost for the local community.” They love that their neighbors are their customers, and important partners in the success of their farm business. To support their operation, they grow 300 acres of hay, 110 acres of corn, and have 100 acres of pasture and 1,500 maple taps, with the potential for growth. As Larry shared, “Farming is a great way to live, and a tough way to make a living,” and the Britton family is committed to the future success of their business and the stewardship of their land and farming heritage.

Larry and Josie Britton are the third generation of stewards. They both went to Fall Mountain High School, where Josie participated in Future Farmers of America and 4-H working with horses, cows, and sheep. Larry grew up on the farm and never wanted to miss a

moment of the action on this traditional New England dairy farm he called home. Larry farmed this ground alongside his brother Andy Britton until his passing in May 2005, and took over the reins from his parents Alfred and Mary Britton in 2015. Larry serves as the farm manager, dedicated to managing daily operations, and Josie does the bookkeeping, helps as needed on all tasks, and also works full time off the farm as a histology technician.

Join our community in celebrating Britton Farm, 2024 Cooperator of the Year, at CCCD’s 79th Annual Celebration on Thursday, Oct. 10, from 6-8 p.m., at Stonewall Farm. Registration is required by visiting www.cccdcelebrates79.eventbrite.com.

Sons of the American Legion Golf Tournament

LUDLOW, Vt. – On Sunday, Sept. 8, the Ludlow Sons of the American Legion Squadron 36 held their 20th annual golf tournament at Killington Golf Course. The overall winners, shooting a 19 under par score of 53, consisted of the defending team of Jake Lombard, Joel Lombard, Kurt Lombard, and Troy Demers. Second place honors, shooting a score of 59, went to the team of Todd Anderson, Jon Emmons, Chris Haynes, and Jack Maloney. Rounding out the top three with a score of 62 was the team of Tom Hyjek, Mike Hyjek, Mike Martin, and Woody Rodrigues. This tournament was a fundraiser to support our local veterans and children, and with the support of all the players as well as our local sponsors, we can donate to these worthy causes. Other tournament winners were: closest to the pin for men, Steve Gebeault; closest to the pin for women, Mary Lou Shaw; and closest to the line, Earle Brown.

The Sons would like to thank all the volunteers who helped make this tournament possible, especially Mark and Beth Lombard, and Becky and Bethany Parker, who served up a fabulous lunch for all the players.

We would also like to thank the following hole sponsors, who helped make this tournament a huge success with their very generous donations: Ballard Hobart American Legion Auxiliary Unit #36, Baker Distributing, Beardmore Excavating Inc., Benson’s Chevrolet Inc., Boondocks Welding & Fabricating LLC, Brewfest Beverage Company, Carleton Plumbing & Heating, Clear Choice Pool & Spa Service LLC, CSStoneworks, Colton Bright Side Electric, Countryside Alarms Inc., Crown Point Country Club, David Berry Woodworking Inc., 802 Auto Body, Farrell Distributors, Formula Ford of Rutland, Fostering Wellness, Gassetts Group, George B. Tucker Inc., Gilcris Enterprises Inc., Green Mountain

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Ludlow harvest fair

Saturday, Oct. 5, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Ludlow PTG to host 40th annual Harvest Fair

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Ludlow Elementary School Parent-Teacher Group (PTG) will host this year's Harvest Fair, on the front lawn of Black River High School, on Saturday, Oct. 5, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. The event will be held rain or shine.

Attractions will include more than 45 local vendors, artisans and crafters, food trucks, a bake sale, and live music. There will also be kids' games put on by volunteers from the Expeditionary School at Black River (ESBR), and

pumpkin painting. The PTG will also be running their annual "Doo Doo Bingo." Bingo squares will be sold at a variety of locations prior to the event, as well as on the day of the fair if any spaces are remaining, until 1 p.m. A friendly farm friend will make his debut on the squares from 1-3 p.m., or until whenever the animal makes its deposit. Where the animal decides to "doo" will be the grand prize winner.

If you would like more information, or would like to purchase a Donkey Doo Square, please contact the PTG at Ludlowptg@gmail.com. Follow the event on Facebook at "Ludlow Vermont's Annual Harvest Fair."



Join the 40th annual Ludlow Harvest Fair.

PHOTO PROVIDED



Doo Doo Bingo from a previous year.

PHOTO PROVIDED

VENDORS

802 Heat Hot Sauce
A Scent of Success – Scentsy fragrance and home decor
AJ'S Catering – Fried dough and cold drinks
Angel Bones – Dog bones
Anne Perreault, author – Inspirational Christian fiction books
Ashley Taylor Art – Paintings and drawings
Bianchi Street Studio – Functional and decorative hand-built mugs, bowls, vases, pipes, wind chimes, ornaments, and beads
Black River Glass –

Pendants and sun catchers made from rare pieces of old, well-tumbled Black River glass
Drouin's Glen Woodworking – Cutting boards, charcuterie boards, drink rails, and custom furniture
Handpicked by Rachel – Handcrafted fall decor
Holiday Wreaths by Jeannine – Decorative mesh wreaths, grapevine, and hydrangea
Hulett Farm Inc – Handcrafted, eco-friendly soaps, lotion bars, shampoo, and conditioner bars
Jamaican Jewelz – Jamaican food and sauce
Karey's Creations – Quality sewn items; bowl cozies, hot/cold packs filled with cherry pits, dog bandannas and bow ties, key fob wristlets, and accessories

Karma Sanctuary – Interact with goats
Loffredo's Italian Bakery – Cannoli, zeppole, pastries, assorted Italian cookies, and cakes
Lori's Luxurious Nails and More – Nail strips, makeup, and more
Ludlow Health Center, North Star Health – Flu vaccines (Covid if available at that date)
MRS Unlimited Visions – Watercolor paintings, arrangements, driftwood pieces, and signs
Rhys Chalmers – Music
Sheila Jacobs – Wool and felt penny rug (table runners, candle mats, plant mats) folk art, with assorted candles to display the penny rugs, with a fall, country theme
P Manship Designs – Unique silver jewelry and bohemian necklaces
Parker Ave Confections – Baked goods

Paulie's Veggies – Veggies and fruits
Peabody Mountain Artisans – Beeswax candles, luminaries, wood turned ornaments and vessels, and silver jewelry
Peter's Wildflower Honey
Pop's Biscotti & Chocolates
Sandra Lombardi – Pottery
Christine Chapman – Quilts
Salsa Sisters – More than 20 different flavors and heat levels of homemade salsa
Scentsy – Fragrances
Swisher Apparel
Teds Wicked BBQ Sauce
The New Line – Jewelry
Vermont Fire Rocks – Oil lamps made from slate, marble, and granite
Villa Boutique North – Upcycled leather accessories and clothing
Wild Woods – Laser cut and engraved, hand-painted wooden items
Robert Patterson – Woodworking

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