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# SHOPPER Newspaper

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**VOLUME 63, ISSUE 41** 

### Springfield to vote on firearms restrictions ordinance Nov. 5

BY PAULA BENSON

The Shopper

**SPRINGFIELD, Vt.** - The Springfield Selectboard held a special meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 1, where they set the dates for an informational meeting and special town meeting pertaining to the ordinance that prohibits the discharge of firearms in Hartness Park.

The selectboard signed Ordinance 2024-0002 on Aug. 12, at the recommendation of the ordinance committee, although it has not gone into effect yet. When a group of Springfield residents learned of the new restrictions, they exercised their rights as citizens and distributed a petition to repeal the ordinance, which they presented to the board at the Sept. 23 meeting. Once the required number of signatures was obtained, it was incumbent that the board put the ordinance up for a townwide vote.

Town manager Jeff Mobus noted that holding the special vote on Nov. 5 to coincide with the national election would elicit a higher voter turnout and save the town the cost of a separate election. He reminded the board that voter turnout for this type of special vote was typically something like one registered voter out of six, but holding the vote on Election Day could give almost half the town the opportunity to weigh in on the issue.

Since the informational meeting can be no more than 10 days in advance of the voting date, the board determined that meeting would take place on Monday, Oct. 28, at 6 p.m., prior to the regular selectboard meeting.

Town clerk Barbara Courchesne said she would be mailing out the ballot and information packets on the special vote starting Oct. 7. Courchesne also

told the meeting that absentee and early voting would be available. Interested voters should visit the town hall or the town's website.

The polls will be open on Tuesday, Nov. 5, from 8 a.m. - 7 p.m., at Riverside Middle School. Courchesne explained that as voters arrive, they will receive, separately, ballots for the general election and a ballot for the vote on the ordinance repeal. The ordinance vote will utilize "separate checklists, checkers, and a separate conversation about whether or not [voters] want to participate in the local election." At the end of the night, different individuals than those working the general election will hand-tally the paper

Ordinance 2024-0002 is posted on the Springfield town website.

### Blake Higgins Dam on Saxtons River successfully removed –

BY JOE MILLIKEN

The Shopper

**BELLOWS** FALLS, Vt. - Located on the Saxtons River in Bellows Falls, the 90-foot-long Blake Higgins Dam has a long history, and several rebuilds going back as far as 1838, when it was originally created to generate electricity for one

of the nearby paper mills. Fast-forward some 185 years, and a recent \$450,000 removal project headed by the Connecticut River Conservancy (CRC) that recently removed the old concrete and timber dam that had been blocking fish access to the Saxtons River for spawning for nearly two centuries.

Recognized as a "clear water project," the endeavor has taken years of fundraising, grant writing, and planning to reach this point, according to Ron Rhodes, the director of restoration programs for the CRC.

"The State of Vermont contacted me back in 2019," Rhodes stated in a recent interview. "So, it has taken six years to get this project done. The dam removal was first identified as a 'priority project' in the state's 2010 Stream Geomorphic Assessment and in subsequent Basin Plans, which is how the Agency of Natural Resources sets priorities for such things as state funding in each of our Vermont watersheds."

Along with the unblocking of the spawning access, the dam removal also frees up sediment that continues to build up behind the dam and subsequently seeps into the Saxtons River. In addition, it will also relieve and lower potential flood elevations in the area by some 7 feet, which in turn gives the river more room to expand.

"Removing the dam will increase sediment transport downstream, instead of it being trapped upstream of the dam," Rhodes said. "It will also improve water temperatures for cold water species, as water ponding above a dam is warmer."

The dam removal also benefits the spawning of sea lamprey, the American eel, and American shad, as the Saxtons River is one of the best sea lamprey spawning rivers in Vermont.

"The spawning for our native sea lamprey is the reason why we received Vermont Fish and Wildlife and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services funds for the project," Rhodes added. "Another of our largest supporters was the State of Vermont Clean Water Block Grant, which focuses on water quality."

The habitat in the Saxtons River, from the Connecticut River to the Twins Falls in North Westminster, is considered prime spawning habitat, as the gravel in the streambed is the ideal size for the lamprey to spawn in. While some sea lampreys become parasitic because of overcrowding, and can endanger trout populations, lamprey are relatively benign in the waters of the Connecticut

"Projects like this take a lot of time and partnerships to make happen," Rhodes concluded. "CRC couldn't complete projects like this without our federal and state agency partners, the local groups, neighbors and town entities, and really good local contractors, in this case, SLR Engineering and Adams Construction.

"Another cool aspect of this project is that CRC now owns the abutting land, and a recreational access has been installed as part of the dam removal project, with new parking and steps." For more information, visit www.ctriver.org.

### Rollin' on the River concludes —

**SPRINGFIELD, Vt.** – The second annual series of Rollin' on the River roller skating events rocked and rolled every Saturday evening in September.

After a successful first year in 2023, SAPA TV and Springfield on the Move brought back this fun and healthy community event for children K-12. The upper parking garage area at 100 River Street was transformed into a popup roller skating rink pumping with music and full of smiles over four consecutive Saturdays.

In addition to skating to their hearts' content, around 100 students in grades K-12 enjoyed playing the giant yard games provided by the Springfield School District's afterschool program, All-4-One, who also sponsored the Sept. 7 event. SAPA TV and Markee Lawrence of "Word Time with Miss Markee" ran arts and crafts, literacy, and board game tables, with plenty of color and sparkle. The Edgar May Health and Recreation Center sponsored the Sept. 14 event, bringing an information table with free passes and gear to share the gift of healthy family activity. Letti's Besitos served up delicious Mexican food and drinks for both of these

On Sept. 21, the Springfield Area Parent Child Center sponsored the event, and provided fun activities outside, including a delightful bubble machine. That evening, Twin State Roller Derby skaters also came out to pump up the energy on



Skaters had fun at a Rollin on the River event.

PHOTO PROVIDED

our skate track and demonstrate their amazing skating skills. By popular demand, we added a Grownups' Skate Sesh this year, and saw some totally rad skaters. The Springfield High School Alumni Association sponsored our Cosmos Night event on Sept. 28, where we held an '80s and '90s costume contest, with a prize going to the skater with the best costume. Springfield on the Move provided free pizzas, snacks, and drinks on these two evenings.

We are grateful for the ability to access the parks and recreation department's Cosmos Closet, as well as the generous donations to our Amazon wish list that made it possible for nine of our participants to get free roller skates and safety pads to keep. The Dance Factory and Uplift Acrobatics each donated gift certificates for raffle prizes, sharing the gift of artistic movement and camaraderie with our community. We thank our community partners: the 100 River Street owners

and maintenance staff, the Town of Springfield, Springfield Public Safety, and the Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce, as well as several volunteer parents, guardians, and community members, who all were so generous with their time and resources to make these safe and fun events for all.

This has truly been a team effort by a wide range of local stakeholders who want to provide opportunities for youth to have fun, healthy activities to choose from outside of school hours. We are already looking forward to skating with you all again next September.

You can help make this event accessible to more families next year. Donations can still be made to our Amazon wish list so even more skaters can participate in 2025, at www.amazon.com/ hz/wishlist/ls/M2JUX 1UE3OP?ref\_=wl\_share.

### **BFWC** helps to vverflow **BFOH**

Vt. - Members of the Bellows Falls Woman's Club are pictured at the recent food drive at **Bellows Falls Opera** House (BFOH) to benefit Our Place Drop-in Center. They and others donated many bags and boxes of nonperishable food to the cause, and also volunteered at the drive. The club par-

ticipated as its part

in the General Federation of Women's Clubs annual National Day of Service, with its focus on hunger and food insecurity.

PHOTO PROVIDED



### Businesses owners come together under BizConnect

**BELLOWS** FALLS, Vt. - Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation (BDCC) is excited to announce that the popular BizConnect series will be hosting its first event in Bellows Falls. Building upon their ongoing commitment to foster a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem, the program invites business owners and leaders to connect for a light breakfast and a big opportunity at the Waypoint Center, 17 Depot Street, Bellows Falls, Vt.,

on Oct. 16, at 8 a.m.

"We are excited to host the BDCC and this BizConnect, and opportunities for business owners to meet in Bellows Falls to have coffee together," said Betsy Thurston, the executive director of Bellows Falls Downtown Development Alliance (BFDDA). "This is an opportunity to discuss shared business issues and collaborate on solutions."

This event is cohosted by the Bellows Falls Downtown Development Alliance and the Town of Rockingham Development Office, entities with long histories of supporting business development, connection, and growth in their communi-

Refreshments are provided. Attendance is complimentary, though registration is required. Business owners interested in joining BDCC and Southeastern Vermont Economic Development Strategies (SeVEDS) at the BizConnect event should sign up at www.brattleborodevelopment.com/bizconnect.

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#### **CONTACT US**

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### **DEADLINES**

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

**EMAIL YOUR SHORT, 2-3** SENTENCE CALENDAR EVENTS calendar@vermontiournal.com

**EMAIL YOUR DISPLAY ADS AND CLASSIFIED LISTINGS** ads@vermontjournal.com

**EMAIL YOUR PRESS RELEASES, ARTICLES, AND PHOTOS** editor@vermontjournal.com

2 | October 09, 2024 The Vermont Journal/The Shopper

### Grafton Village Cheese seeks buyer or partner

Foundation, Windham based in Grafton, Vt., announced today that it is seeking a partner or buyer for its iconic Grafton Village Cheese Company (GVCC). A program of the foundation for decades, the cheese company is the award-winning producer of hand-crafted aged cheddar and cave-aged sheep milk cheeses. Part of the mission of the Windham Foundation is supporting Vermont rural towns economically and culturally, the cheese company being an example of a local food company that benefits both agriculture and employment.

Last year, the foundation brought in CEO Curt Alpeter, a seasoned business leader, to position the company for long-term success. Alpeter sees great opportunity for the GVCC brand with adequate financial support. Alpeter and a committee of the Windham Foundation Board that oversees GVCC have determined that taking advantage of this opportunity will require either new investment to grow the company, or a sale to a better-positioned partner with access to larger markets.

"Grafton Village Cheese Company is an iconic Vermont brand with a great deal of potential. It has been built over years with so much love and commitment by our employees," shared Alpeter. "We have a great team, an award-winning product, and a dedicated customer base which we are very proud to serve. We are hopeful a new partner will emerge with the resources to build on this legacy and take advantage of the huge potential to grow the brand?

Lisa Ventriss, incoming chair of the Windham Foundation Board, shared that the decision was based on the company's considerable potential and the resources needed to meet that potential. "After thoughtful consideration of Curt's analysis, the foundation has determined it is no longer the right partner to take advantage of this next level of exciting growth. This is a difficult but necessary step forward to capitalize on the potential of the business and ensure its future success. The foundation remains a strong and critical local partner, and will continue to focus its efforts on the Grafton Inn; Grafton Trails/ Outdoor Center; grantmaking; and philanthropic, charitable, and educational programs in and around the village of Grafton."

Citing the tremendous value of the Grafton Vil-Cheese Company lage

brand and the quality of the products, the chair of the foundation's committee overseeing the cheese company, Tim Briglin, said that he is hopeful a partner or buyer will emerge who values the enterprise and sees the opportunity as much as the foundation has over the years. He shared, "GVCC has a bright future with the right partner, resources, and access to larger markets. We look forward to the conversations we will have with interested partners and exploring the next chapter of this great organization."

The foundation credits the skilled staff and artisanal cheesemakers of GVCC for its many awards, including multiple first, second, and third place awards in recent vears at the American Cheese Society, The Big E, and the International Cheese & Dairy Awards. The foundation believes this record of achievement will carry it forward into its next chapter.

### Kurn Hattin hosts annual Adopt-a-Cottage

WESTMINSTER, Vt. -Wonderful things happen when friends and family gather around the dinner table, and that was certainly the case at Kurn Hattin Homes' annual Adopt-a-Cottage event this month.

The evening provided Kurn Hattin's family of children and staff an opportunity to express their gratitude to the sponsors who support the cottages. It also gave sponsors the chance to spend quality time with the children and visit the six cottages on campus.

Guests enjoyed icebreaking activities and dinner with the children they sponsor, fostering warm interactions. One standout activity - a communal art project - sparked lively conversations and produced artwork that will be displayed in the cottages as a special keepsake of the evening.

Following dinner, sponsors visited their adopted cottages, accompanied by the children and their houseparents. They shared dessert, learned about the children's daily lives, and saw firsthand how their contributions positively impact cottage life.

"The girls took us on a tour of Maysilles Cottage. They were all so proud to show us around, and of how neat and clean they keep it," said Mascoma Bank area manager Cat LiVolsi. "The best part of the evening for me, though, was getting outside and joining the girls for a good laugh on the playground. We were pushed on the swings, we played in leaf piles, and we were able to 'hang out' and be kids with the kids."

Mike Chelstowski, a longtime member of Keene's Elm City Rotary (ECR), reflected on the event and said, "The ECR main focus in its community service is to help children. It's rewarding to see how well the kids are cared for, how appreciative everyone is, and how the kids, who may be shy at first, warm up to us.

"The world should know that Kurn Hattin Homes is a beautiful facility, with caring staff who provide the kids with structure and warmth in a safe environment," he added.

Echoing the supportive sentiment, LiVolsi said, "It's important that Kurn Hattin receives as much support from the community as possible to ensure that the children who arrive there are provided with what they need to succeed in life."

The Adopt-a-Cottage program provides funds for essential needs and special projects each year. This year, donations will help furnish bookshelves and reading materials for the cottage libraries, enriching the children's learning environment.

Thank you to the sponsors who support the Kurn Hattin Homes Adopt-A-Cottage program: Diane and Luke Bazin, Cota & Cota, Keene Elm City Rotary, Mascoma Bank, Savings Bank of Walpole, Streeter Contractors LLC, and Dave and Lisa Therrien.

For more information about the Adopt-a-Cottage program, please contact Kim Fine at kfine@kurnhattin.org or 802-721-6914.

### "Vermont's Demonic Dozen

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - On Thursday, Oct. 17, at 6 p.m., Springfield Town Library welcomes author Joseph Citro for "Vermont's Demonic Dozen."

Dare to be scared? Please join us for a curated selection of the strangest things that have ever happened in the Green Mountain State, all with Halloween overtones. Gear up for America's spookiest holiday with a sampling of terrifying treats,

**SPRINGFIELD, Vt.** - The

70th annual Springfield

Rotary Club Penny Sale

returns this year on Satur-

day, Oct. 19, at 6 p.m., with

doors opening at 5 p.m., at Riverside Middle School in

Springfield.

presented and evaluated by Citro, Vermont's minister of mysteries. So gather 'round for some pre-Halloween chills. Bring your tale to tell.

Native Vermonter Citro has done more than anyone to keep Vermont's weird tales alive in popular culture. After publishing five successful novels, he turned his attention to collecting offbeat Vermontiana, historic and folkloric. He was the first writer in the history

businesses and individu-

als. And, as always, each

chance at a prize costs only

series - Red, White, and

Blue - and each series

boasts at least 100 priz-

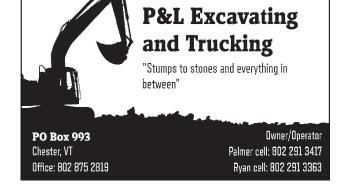
There are three prize

of our state to compile and publish a volume of Vermont's most unusual tales; "Green Mountain Ghosts, Ghouls, & Unsolved Mysteries" has been in print since 1994. Through some 20 books, and with more than 20 years on public radio, Citro has revealed many of Vermont's most fascinating and darkest secrets. Now in semi-retirement, he and Vermont artist Robert Brunelle are developing a

series of illustrated books collectively called "Green Mountains, Dark Tales." So far three have been pub-

There will be a discussion to follow. A selection of Citro's books will be available for sale.

This event is free and open to the public. Sign up for a reminder on our calendar of events at www.springfieldtownlibrary.org/calendar.



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#### There will be over es Each series ticket is prizes donated by area a chance to win any of



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70th Springfield Rotary Club Penny Sale the prizes – a penny per chance. Of course, to in-

crease chances of winning,

most people buy several

tickets in each series. Members of the Springfield Rotary Club are out in the community soliciting prizes They also are selling chances for the penny sale's grand prize drawing for \$5,000 in cash. In addition to the grand prize, the tickets give the holder a chance in the door prize drawing for \$500 in cash. Attendees must be present to win the door prize. Grand prize tickets are now available



from any Springfield Rotarian, and they will also be available at the penny sale.

The penny sale is the Springfield Rotary Club's single largest annual fundraiser, money that the club returns to the community through scholarships and financial support to community projects and organizations. Thanks to the success of past Penny Sales and their supporters, the Springfield Rotary Club has raised and given back to the community over \$600,000.

The Rotary Club of Springfield, founded in 1927, is an active community service club of more than 40 members who engage in community and human service projects. For more information, visit www.springfieldvtrotary.



### A Vermont legend

**BY RON PATCH** 

802-374-0119 ronpatch27@gmail.com

Bob and Susie Turco and I have been friends since my high school days. When I first knew them, they lived in the little house next to the library. I would often stop by when walking home from high school. As the pages of the calendar turned, we went our separate ways.

Last week, Bob invited me to stop by on Sunday. His son Justin was bringing his apple grinder and cider press to make cider. After Kendall church, I stopped by. It was a beautiful fall day.

When Bob was doing his farrier work, he took the cider press as partial payment. The apple grinder he built from scratch. His grinder is classic Yankee ingenuity.

How it was built For the grinder, Bob took

a round and straight piece of limb wood, through which he bored a hole lengthwise. Then he put an iron rod through the center. The outside diameter of the limb has hundreds of sheetrock screws driven halfway in. You load the apples in the top of the hopper. Unless you want your knuckles softened, a block of wood is used to push the apples

One end of the rod stuck out an inch or so, to which a pulley was fastened. Below this, Bob used something like an old washing machine motor with another pulley. A fan belt was placed around the two pulleys. Turn the power on and you are ready to grind apples.

The grindings drop into a five-gallon bucket. Justin passed the apple pulp though the grinder three times. Everything of these

unwashed apples ground; skin, stems, and seeds. The pomace was dumped over the bank for deer to enjoy.

The cider press

Justin lined the press with burlap. An iron leadscrew rises vertically from the center. Load the pulp into the burlap-lined, wooden-slatted barrel. A two-piece cover is placed on top of the slotted barrel, then some cribbing, with a huge nut on top of the leadscrew. You screw the nut down to squeeze the juice out of the pulp. Threefoot long extension bars on the nut provided more pressure. Those turning the extension bars worked hard. I went home with two gallons.

Munchies

Susie and her granddaughters prepared a wonderful fall fare. There was a large pot of chicken soup with gluten-free noodles. Another pot was chicken and rice, crackers on the side. We dipped our cups in the cider. We had fresh donuts and warm apple crisp with vanilla ice cream on the side to top it off.

Woodsman

I don't know a better woodsman than Bob. He's an excellent tracker, knows wild mushrooms and conks, and how to read sign. A couple years ago, Squatty wounded a monster buck. Bob took up the trail, tracking him several miles before he was found. These are skills few have today.

Furs, ginseng, and ant-

For many years beginning in the late 1970s, Bob had his fur buyer's license. Bob would take his furs to the city to get the highest price. For several years, Bob had his ginseng license. He bought ginseng dug by pick-

Left to right: Bob Turco, me, Justin Turco, and Susie Turco.

ers from Vermont and New Hampshire. This he also sold in the city.

Bob bought antler sheds from moose and deer. In northern New Hampshire and Maine are shed hunters. Bob put an ad in a sportsman magazine that he was buying sheds. His phone rang off the hook. Shed hunters spend hours and hours in the woods in late December and January. This is when moose and deer shed their antlers. Bob drove as far as Jackson Hole, Wyo., to sell his antlers. It was very profitable. Bob provided well for his family.

Bob and I both made the right decision as how to make a living. Buy here, sell

Instead of an old saying, I offer my thoughts. "I love Vermont and her people."

### Springfield Hospital diagnostic imaging

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. Springfield Hospital's diagnostic imaging (radiology) department is pleased to host the upcoming Springfield Regional Chamber of Commerce Mixer on Wednesday, Oct. 16, from 5:30-7 p.m. This event is open to chamber members and the public.

Over the past few years, Springfield Hospital has

made a substantial investment in upgrading the MRI, nuclear medicine, fluoroscopy, echocardiogram, and digital X-ray units, as well as a new C-arm for X-ray use in the operating room, and portable Xray unit for use in the

emergency department and inpatient care unit. Come and learn more about the new diagnostic imaging equipment at Springfield Hospital, as staff guide you on a tour of the department. Springfield Hospital staff collaborate with Dartmouth Health, whose radiologists read the exams based on their protocols, and the results are shared with your doctor.

Please join us to learn more about all that is new in diagnostic imaging at Springfield Hospital, as staff guide you on a tour of the



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department. Refreshments will be served. Attendees are encouraged to use the front entrance of the hospital, and a staff member will escort you to the reception area on

Please RSVP to the mixer event by contacting Taylor at the Springfield Chamber of Commerce. Visit www.

springfieldvt.com/event-details/october-member-mix-

The new nuclear medicine unit at Springfield Hospital.

PHOTO PROVIDED

er, or call 802-885-2779.

For more information about the diagnostic imaging department, contact Hayley Druschel, director of diagnostic imaging, at 802-885-7324, or visit www.springfieldhospital.org/radiologydiagnostic-imaging.

### Living well and long -

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. -On Thursday, Oct. 17, at 6:30 p.m., at the Rockingham Library, Dr. Carol Blackwood will discuss what steps to take in order to live a healthy and long

During her medical career spanning 20 years, she has cared for people of all ages, from prenatal to death. Let her plant some seeds of evidence-based

HUNTLEY

knowledge to help you along your way. It's never too early or too late to improve your health and wellbeing.

Blackwood has most recently worked at the VA Community Clinic in Keen, N.H., retiring in 2021. She currently fills in for doctors at the Springfield Hospital, and

serves as the vice-chair of the Rockingham Library Board of Trustees. This program is free and open to the public. For more information, email programming@rockinghamlibrary.org, call 802-463-4270, or stop by the Rockingham Library at 65 Westminster Street, Bellows Falls.



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#### Want to hear from the candidates seeking your votes in Montpelier?

#### Come to the Candidates Forum Thursday, October 10 at 7 PM **Heald Auditorium, Ludlow Town Hall**

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#### **Aging in Place: Exploring the Sharing Housing Option** Monday, October 21st

1 PM - 3 PM Mount Holly Town Library 26 Maple Hill Road Belmont, VT

#### Come to this workshop and learn how a housemate can make all the difference!



Annamarie Pluhar, our presenter, is the author of Sharing Housing: A Guidebook for Finding and Keeping **Good Housemates** and is also the founder of Sharing Housing, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit.



Find more info at SharingHousing.org and SharingHousing.com

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Registration for this event is being handled by our friends at Green Mountain Neighbors. Since space is limited, we encourage you to visit this link, https://tinyurl.com/mw7rwuyf and register today!

# outdoor news

### Bellows Falls Tweed Ride

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. -Bellows Falls joins a global community of people who enjoy a vintage-inspired biking event. The foliage this year aligns perfectly with the second annual Tweed Ride, sponsored by Bellows Falls Pride. Meet up on Saturday, Oct. 12, at 51 The Square, downtown Bellows Falls, Vt., at 11 a.m., for an 11:30 a.m. de-

This is not a race, no pre-

registration or admission for a loaner bike, Anasfee is required. The Tweed Ride harkens back to an earlier time of enjoyable, casual outings that provided a chance for families and riders to come together. This casual round-trip route is accessible for everyone on a bike, with no large hills, and the group will stop for anyone needing to catch up.

Contact Bellows Falls Community Bike Project lowsfallspride.com.

tasia's Closet for the perfect costume, and, upon return, join fellow riders at the Flat Iron Cooperative for tea and prizes. Vintage attire is encouraged, but not required. Helmets are welcome. The Tweed Ride is led by Aaron Almanza, an experienced tweed rider. More information on Facebook and www.bel-

### Springfield Lions Fishing Tournament a success

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The Springfield Lions Club held its 11th annual fishing tournament on Sunday, Sept. 15. The winning bass was 4 pounds, 12 ounces, caught by Robert Morrill; the winning perch was 15 ounces, caught by Scott Wallace. In all, 36 anglers spent a wonderful day on the water and reported a total of 47 fish. This was another year without a north-

ern pike reported. The Springfield Lions Club provides over 2,500 vision screenings for school and preschool age children





Anglers show off their catches.



A smallmouth bass caught.

in over 10 area towns, eyeglasses for those who cannot afford them, and sponsors work activities and funding to a number of area charities. Lions Clubs International is the leader in measures to prevent blindness and restore vision around the world. We are always looking for new members who want to join our mis-

The Springfield Lions Club is pleased to thank our 2024 Fishing Tournament sponsors for their generous donations. Platinum sponsors were Alva Waste Services, HB Energy

Solutions, Ken Millay, and Stanley Patch. Gold sponsors were VTel, Willow Farm Pet Services, Wolfe Dental Care, Cota & Cota, Imagetek, Ultimate Auto Body, State Farm Insurance, and Vermont Timber Works. Silver sponsors were Green Mountain Classics, Red House Press, Brady & Donahue, and Parker & Ankuda Law Office. Bronze sponsors were Beardsley Inc., Springfield Food Co-op, Vermont Dry & Cure Technologies, Woodbury Florist, and Peter Andrews.

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### Native plants presale for next spring

Looking to plant more native species next year? The Fourth Corner Foundation in Windham is offering a presale for native plants.

Now through Oct. 30, a listing of over 40 native plant species is available for pick up in May 2025. To order, visit www. thefourthcornerfoundation.org. Pricing is based on a wholesale structure to make them highly afford-

Proceeds will go towards

a 2026 donated native plant installation for a local organization. If you know an organization that would benefit from a garden installation, or have any questions about the sale, please email Kate Fellows at kate@4cfoundation.org.

### Springfield Hospital Golf Challenge a success

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. -Springfield Hospital hosted its 24th annual Golf Challenge on Sept. 12, at the Crown Point Country Club in Springfield, Vt. Proceeds from this year's fundraising event go to the annual giving campaign to support the refurbishment of the patient rooms on the inpatient care unit.

Ninety-five tournament participants enjoved a variety of competitions on the course, in addition to 18 holes of scramble golf tournament play. Ten-thousand dollars was available on hole five, for a hole-inone, thanks to the Ludlow Insurance Agency. This prize was not awarded, but the weather, course conditions, and work by the staff and volunteers made for a fantastic day of golf.

Winners in the A Flight were: first place, gross score - Eric Abel, Bob Kay, Maki Kobayashi, and Parker Hewit; second place, gross score - Rick Marasa, Brian Perkins, Christina Graves, and John Jackson; first place, net score - Dan Patria, Mary Patria, Jeff Matulonis, and Mike Langdon; second place, net score - Carri Cahoon, Denel McIntire, Tim Rumrill,

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Members of the Red House Press Team celebrating Mary Patria making the putt for the putting contest. PHOTO PROVIDED

and Richard Cahill.

Winners in the B Flight were: first place, gross score – Chad Illingworth, Beverly Rakin-Byrne, David Byrne, and Roger Gillies; second place, gross score - Eric Warren, Dan Frost, Robert O'Brien, and Stuart Currie; first place, net score - Peter MacGillivray, Steve Ankuda, Deke Dexter, and Mike Martin; second place, net score -Mike Pinney, Collin Pinney, John Jeinnings, and Logan Jeinnings.

Closest to the pin for women through a random draw was Sarah Flore. Closest to the pin for men was Bob Kay, and closest to the 150 pole was Mike Lang-

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The sponsors and raffle prize donors made this year's tournament a fundraising success. The sponsors this year at the Gold Tournament level of \$5,000 were Coverys, M&T Bank, and The Richards Group.

Sponsors at the Tournament level of \$1,000 were BlueWater Health, Connecticut Valley Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine, NFP Property & Casualty Services, Ovation Healthcare, Splendid Splinter Vacation Rental, Springfield Cadillac GMC, and Vail Law Office.

Sponsors at the Tee/Green level of \$500 included Claremont Savings Bank, Connecticut Valley ENT, GPI Construction, Health Plans Inc., ImageFIRST, Infinitt North America, Kinney Drugs Foundation, Richard and Carole Lechthaler, Mack Molding Company Inc., Northeast Delta Dental, and Vermont Mechanical Inc.

The Eagle sponsors at the \$250 and up level were American General Life Insurance Company, Bellows Falls Country Club, Black Rock Steakhouse, Corebridge Financial, Crothall Healthcare, Fullerton Inn, Gilberte Interiors, KGA Inc., Red House Press, and Nathan and Sarah Roth.

The Birdie sponsors at the \$100 level included Mike and Diane Halstead, Leader Distribution Systems Inc., and David and Cindy Lox-

"Many thanks go to our sponsors and participants for their generous support, and to the staff and volunteers that organized this event. I am grateful to all who made this event a fundraising success," commented Robert Adcock, CEO of Springfield Hospi-

To see a list of all of the sponsors and donors of the raffle prizes, go to www.springfieldhospital. org/sponsors-for-the-2024-golf-challenge.



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### **CHURCH SERVICES**

# obituaries

#### Debra L. Cook, 1962-2024

**CONCORD, N.H.** – Debra Lynn Cook passed from this life peacefully on Sept. 22, 2024, at Pleasant View Center in Concord, N.H.

Born Aug. 7, 1962, in Rutland, Vt., Debra grew up in the Chester and Ludlow area, where she attended local schools. She will always be remembered for being a beacon of love and joy in her family's lives.

Debra had a passion and love for dogs, as well as horses. In her younger years she would often be found with friends on a horseback ride, or grooming and caring for them. She will be remembered for her passion for cooking and baking. You would never leave her home hungry.

Debra is survived by her daughter Sarah J. Fuller, and sons Jerome J. Fuller and Seth K. Fuller. Debra was blessed with 10 wonderful grandchildren whom she dearly loved: Elijah, Angelina, Troy Jr., Ciara, Dillon, Noah, Gabriel, Jerome Jr., Abraham, and Hannah; one



Debra Cook, 1962-2024.

great-grandson Levi; as well as her beloved dog Roxie, who will miss her dearly. Debra is predeceased by her mother Marjorie Cook and brother Timothy Gilchrist.

Debra was firm in her faith in Jesus, and her family finds peace knowing she is now in the arms of her Lord. A Celebration of Life will be held Oct. 12, from 12-2 p.m., at 55 Bradley Street in Concord, N.H. All family and friends are welcome to attend to enjoy food and memories of Debra.

#### ASCUTNEY, VT.

#### Brownsville Community United Methodist Church, 66 Brownsville-Hartland Rd.

Sunday service is 9:30 a.m., held in the church with reduced occupancy or streaming online at www. facebook.com/brownsvillecommunitychurch and www. brownsvilleumc-vt.org.

#### **BELLOWS FALLS, VT.**

#### United Church of Bellows Falls, UCC, 8 School St.

Worship service starts at 10 a.m. every Sunday. All are welcome to attend. Following the service, there will be a time of refreshments. Many other services are offered throughout the week. If you have any questions or want to learn more, call 802-463-4323, visit the church, or find them on Facebook.

#### 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.

#### CAVENDISH, VT.

**St. James United Methodist Church, 570 Main St.** Please join us Sundays at 8:45 a.m. with Pastor John Hawkins. All are welcome. For more information, call 802-674-3443 or go to www.facebook.com/stjamesumcproctorsville.

#### CHARLESTOWN, N.H.

#### North Charlestown United Methodist Church, 471 River Rd.

Worship is Sundays at 9 a.m. Holy communion is celebrated the first Sunday of every month. Go to www. facebook.com/UMCOfNorthCharlestown for more information.

**Charlestown Congregational Church, 71 Main St.** Sunday service starts at 10 a.m. All are welcome. For more information, call 603-826-3335.

#### CHESTER, VT.

First Universalist Parish of Chester, Route 103 North

Services are Sundays at 10 a.m. in person. Sunday services run from September to early June. Contact chestervtuu@gmail.com for a Zoom link for the service.

#### LONDONDERRY, VT.

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

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

#### SPRINGFIELD, VT.

North Springfield Baptist Church, 581 Giddings Street, North Springfield.

All are welcome and invited to join us for worship on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. For more information, please email the church office at office@nsbcvt.org, or call 802-886-8107. We are handicap accessible.

#### Precision Valley Baptist Church, 69 Rt. 106

Join our worship service every Sunday at 10 a.m. Women's Study group meets on Tuesdays at 6 p.m., and Mens Study Group meets on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. All are welcome! For more information, check out Facebook @PrecisionValleyBaptistChurch.

#### WESTON, VT.

#### The Old Parish Church, 644 Main St.

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

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#### Roger Roys, 1946-2024

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Roger Roys, 77, passed away Oct. 2, 2024, at the Jack Byrne Center in Lebanon, N.H., with his family by his side. He was born at Springfield Hospital in Springfield, Vt., on Nov. 24, 1946, son of Donald and Elmira (Longe)

He attended Springfield schools, graduating from Springfield High with the Class of 1964.

Roger married Bonnie Olney in September 1965.

He served in the Army Reserves for 7 years, based in Chester, Vt.

Roger worked for Eric R. Bibens as a carpenter, and later with Russell Construction. In 1971, he started working as a self-employed carpenter, retiring in 2009.

He was an avid hunter and fisherman.

Roger is survived by his

wife Bonnie, his son Donald



Roger Roys, 1946-2024.
PHOTO PROVIDE

Roys (Lisa), two grandsons Sage (Lyndsay) and Hunter (Shealyn), and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He is predeceased by his sisters Sylvia Roys and Patricia Bashaw, and by his brother Gilbert Roys.

In honor of his wishes, there will be no funeral.

Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield, Vt., is assisting with arrangements.

#### John F. Spindler, 1938-2024

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - John Frederick Spindler, 85, of Springfield, Vt., died peacefully on Sunday, Sept. 29, 2024, after a long illness. He was surrounded by his loving family, at Springfield Hospital. He was born on Oct. 9, 1938, in Springfield, Vt., the son of Frederick and Frances (Lafko) Spindler. The eldest of eight, he attended Springfield schools, graduated with the Class of 1956, and attended St. Michael's College.

In 1961, he married Sandra Randall at St. Mary's Church. He served in the United States Army for two years, stationed at Fort Dix, N.J. They returned to their hometown, and were lifelong residents of Springfield. They were married for 63 years.

John was employed in the purchasing department at Fellows Gear Shaper for many years. He later worked at Grand Union and Shaw's grocery stores. In the Ludlow store, he especially enjoyed talking with seasonal travelers.

Although he suffered a heart attack, and was a long-time cancer survivor, he continued to live a long fulfilling life.

John loved playing the lottery, collecting wheat pennies, riding on backroads with Sandy, watching his grandkids play sports, com-



John Spindler, 1938-2024.
PHOTO PROVIDED

pleting crosswords, and Sudoku puzzles.

He is survived by his wife Sandy; three daughters Lisa Ellis (Stephen), Linda Lyon (Tim), and Laurie Spindler (Nathan); one brother Casey Spindler; three sisters Kristine West (George), Paula Ross (Tom), and Julie Daniel; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by his parents, sister Marcia Spindler Sheppard, brothers James Spindler and Frederick Spindler, and brother-inlaw Donald Daniel.

In gratitude for the loving end of life care he received, memorial donations may be made to Springfield Hospital for Palliative Care at P.O. Box 2003, Springfield, VT 05156.

Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield is assisting with arrangements for a private family service.

# Blessing of the Animals ——

**WESTMINSTER, Vt.** – The First Congregational Church of Westminster, 3470 Route 5, will bless animals at on Saturday, Oct. 12, at 2 p.m. Bring your pet or a picture, and a small gift will be given to participants. Services are held every Sunday, at 10 a.m.

CHESTER, Vt. – On Sunday, Oct. 13, at 9:30 a.m., St. Luke's Episcopal Church – the gray church at 313 Main Street, a few doors west of the Fullerton Inn in Chester, Vt. – will hold a Blessing of the Animals on its back lawn. Members of the public are invited to bring an animal with whom they live or work, or a photo of an animal about whom they care or are concerned. Participants should come a bit early to the service, which will start promptly at 9:30 a.m., and conclude at 10 a.m., and bring a small lawn chair, if they need to sit, as well as a leash or restraint for their animal.

The pet blessing ceremony is in commemoration of St. Francis of Assisi, who was famous for preaching to a wolf which then spared the lives of those who would feed him, and for leading a simple life of poverty and charity that honored all creatures – a lifestyle still honored in the monastic orders that bear the saint's name. Blessing events traditionally take place on or closely after St. Francis Day, which is Oct. 4.

Immediately after the blessing, there will be a regular Eucharistic service of thanksgiving for creation inside the church sanctuary. All are welcome to attend the communion service. Pets are also welcome to be with their owners inside the church, to celebrate God's love for all creation, if the animals are well-behaved and on leash or in a carrier.

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#### Jessica Ryea, 1983-2024

WINDSOR, Vt. – Jessica Elizabeth Ryea of Windsor, and formerly of Westminster West, passed away suddenly on Sept. 30, 2024, at her home. Jessica was born in Brattleboro, Vt., on May 18, 1983, to Diana (Williams) and the late Bradley Ryea.

Jes attended schools in Westminster and Bellows Falls, Vt. She loved the outdoors, woodworking (a passion she got from her dad), cooking, and spending time with her friends and family. Jes was the life of the party. She always had a smile on her face and a hug to share with all. She had many friends both near and far.

Jes is survived by her mother Diana, brother Braden Ryea, her partner Alethea Rivera, her stepson Blake Sargent, her niece Reghan Ryea and nephew Dean Ryea, her grandparents Hollis and Sally Ryea, and many aunts, uncles, and cousins. Jes was predeceased by her father Bradley Ryea, her maternal grandparents Robert and Jacqueline



Jessica Ryea, 1983-2024.
PHOTO PROVIDE

(Johnson) Williams, and her beloved dog Brooklyn.

Visitation will take place on Oct. 12, from 10-11:45 a.m., at the Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home, 55 Westminster Street, Bellows Falls. A graveside service will take place at 12 p.m., at the Westminster New Cemetery. A reception will follow at the Westminster Fire Station, Grout Avenue, Westminster.

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

#### Richard A. Wallace, 2024

E. ACWORTH, N.H. -Richard A. Wallace, 94, passed away peacefully in his home in East Acworth on the last day of summer, Sept. 21, 2024, after a very short period of declining health. Family, favorite pictures, and pets were ever nearby, and he was surrounded with love. He was blessed to have enjoyed over 31 years of retirement in Acworth, at a place called Sunnybrook Farm, in an 1876 centennial farmhouse that he and his wife Carole (Ring) Wallace lovingly restored, having purchased the home in 1974 when it was in need of repairs. But they had a vision, and Richard enjoyed taking care of the home and maintaining the property. Richard kept the lawns and the field "wellmanicured," as he would say, weeded the flowers, fed the

getting it in the barn before the first snow fell. Richard wore many hats a dad, husband, grandfather, teacher, soldier, and veteran. He was a retired colonel and very proud of it, and a genuine, caring, and devoted pastor, having served eight churches in Vermont and New Hampshire, and ministering to all who sought his council and help in times of joy or sorrow. He tried to keep track of all the marriages he officiated at, and all the funerals - he cared about everyone he met.

birds, and stacked the wood

to dry outside in summer,

Richard was a native of New Hampshire, and the Great Depression, born in Deerfield, N.H. on Oct 18, 1929, the son of the late Otto and Gladys Wallace. He was also predeceased by a younger brother, Bruce.

The joy of his life was his



Richard Wallace, 2024.
PHOTO PROVIDED

family, his wife Carole (Ring) Wallace, also a New Hampshire native and a native of Acworth, and with whom he shared 57 years of love and memories. Carole was his devoted caretaker, especially for the last two weeks of his life.

Richard is survived by his six children Lynne, Glenn, Christopher, Erica, Rebecca, and Hilary, who all were able to have their special visits and goodbyes with him. Also surviving are his grandchildren Michael, Erin, Parker, Makayla, Tyler, Libby, Emma, Jordan, Austin, and Jayden. He was predeceased by an infant granddaughter, Hannah.

As per his request, services will be private for the family, a graveside service at the Acworth Cemetery. Memorial gifts in Richard's memory may be made to an Acworth cause near and dear to Richard's heart, and one he supported generously, The Friends of the Acworth Meeting House (FAM), P.O. Box 2011, Acworth NH 03601.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of 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.

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

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# calendar

### **LEGAL NOTICES**

#### 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. 12 -

BELMONT, Vt. - The members of Colfax Lodge are holding a ham supper at the Odd Fellows Hall in Belmont on Saturday, Oct. 12, at 5 p.m. Eat in or take out, with takeout available at 4:45 p.m. The cost is discounted for those under 12 years old. Under 5 are free. Please call 802-259-2460.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. -Springfield Moose Lodge 679, 39 South Street, is hosting an open to the public Area First Responders Day event on Saturday, Oct. 12, from 1-3 p.m. First responders will include our local police, fire department with fire truck, and state police with canine unit. The lodge will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, and salads free to all who attend.

WESTMINSTER, Vt. - The Westminster Historical

Society is hosting a Sons of American Revolution (SAR) ceremony to honor five Revolutionary War soldiers on Saturday, Oct. 12, at 1 p.m., at East Parish Cemetery.

#### OCT. 12-13 -

WESTON, Vt. - The annual Weston Rod & Gun Club Tag Sale will be held on Saturday, Oct. 12, from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.; and Sunday, Oct. 13, from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m., at the Weston Rod & Gun Club, 982 Route 100, one mile north of Weston. For more information, call Noreen at 802-824-3418.

#### 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.

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.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - On

#### OCT. 15 -

N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. -The Springfield Area Parent Child Center's (SAPCC) Substance Misuse Awareness Workshop Series will continue on Tuesday, Oct. 15, at the SAPCĆ 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 1-3 p.m., participants will learn about Turning Point Recovery Center's programs, and listen to stories from a panel of community members who have experienced substance misuse. Then, from 3-4 p.m., Turning Point will demonstrate proper administration of NARCAN. From 4-6 p.m., there will be a community meal for those who attended any of the workshops in the series.

#### OCT. 16 -

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The First Congregational Church of Springfield will hold a free community lunch on Wednesday, Oct. 16, from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. The menu will be baked ziti, tossed salad, rolls, pumpkin and chocolate chip bars, and fruit.

#### OCT. 17 -

LUDLOW, Vt. - The Black River Academy Museum's Annual Dinner will be held on Oct. 17, at 6 p.m., at the Church of the Annunciation, 7 Depot Street in Ludlow. Come join us for a fun-filled evening, and bring a dish to share.

#### OCT. 18-19 -

CHESTER, Vt. - The annual Warm Hands Warm Hearts Clothing Drive will be held on Friday, Oct. 18, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., and Saturday, Oct. 19, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., at the Chester Baptist Church, on Main Street in Chester, Vt. We will take your clean, useable clothing of all sizes, and display it for two days of free shopping. We also will take blankets, quilts, linens, pillows, sweaters, pants, shirts, etc. For more information, or to schedule a dropoff of donated items at the church, contact Carla at 802-376-4822 or fae12rae@gmail.com.

#### **SUNDAYS** -

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

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** -

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. - On Mondays at 6:15 p.m., join Mikayla for a yoga class. Contact Lori Wright at 603-401-8123 or visit www. dgbodyworks.com for more information. Private classes are available.

LUDLOW, Vt. – Zumba classes, Mondays at 9:30 a.m. at the Spring House

at Jackson Gore. All fitness levels welcome. Call 802-228-1419 for more information.

LUDLOW, Vt. - Aquatic Aerobics, Mondays at 10:35 a.m. at the Spring House at Jackson Gore. Call 802-228-1419 for more information.

#### TUESDAYS -

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

W. TOWNSHEND, Vt. -Burger night is held every Tuesday, from 5-7 p.m., at the West Townshend Country Store, 6573 Vermont Route 30, West Townshend, Vt. There will be live music provided by a different local artist each week. For more information, visit www.westtownshend. org, call 802-874-4800, email info@westtownshend. org, or message the store on Facebook.

#### WEDNESDAYS -

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

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

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. -Frances LeMoine Barsky facilitates a creative writing workshop at the Rockingham Library every Wednesday, from 1-2:30 p.m. Poetry, flash/short fiction, and narrative fiction is emphasized,

#### but not to the exclusion of other genres. Even memoirs can be included in the mix. Make sure to bring a laptop, or a pad of paper and a favorite pen. This program is free and open to the public. For more information, call 802-463-4270, email programming@ rockinghamlibrary.org, or stop by the Rockingham Library at 65 Westminster Street in Bellows Falls.

#### THURSDAYS -

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

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

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

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. - On Thursdays at 6 p.m., join Lori Wright for a yoga class. Contact Lori Wright at 603-401-8123 or visit www.dgbodyworks.com for more information. Private classes are available.

#### FRIDAYS -

W. TOWNSHEND, Vt. -The Townshend Farmers Market is held on Fridays, from 4:30-6:30 p.m., every Friday from May 24 - Oct. 11, at 6573 Vermont Route 30 (behind the post office/WRCP building), rain or shine. There will be wood-fired pizza, vendors, farmers, artisans ceramics, cloting, crafters, woodworking, blown glass, beverages, baked goods, and more. Leashed dogs are welcome, and the farmers market is handicap accessible. EBT is accepted.

W. TOWNSHEND, Vt. -Pizza night is held every Friday, from 5-7 p.m., at the West Townshend Country Store, 6573 Vermont Route 30, West Townshend, Vt. There will be live music provided by a different local artist each week. For more information, visit www.westtownshend.org, call 802-874-4800, email info@westtownshend.org, or message the store on Facebook.

#### SATURDAYS -

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. - On Saturdays at 9 a.m., join Lori Wright for a yoga class. Contact Lori Wright at 603-401-8123 or visit www.dgbodyworks.com for more information. Private classes are available.

W. TOWNSHEND, Vt. -Taco night is held every Tuesday, from 5-7 p.m., at the West Townshend Country Store, 6573 Vermont Route 30, West Townshend, Vt. There will be live music provided by a different local artist each week. For more information, visit www.westtownshend. org, call 802-874-4800, email info@westtownshend. org, or message the store on Facebook.

REGION - If you want to drink that's your business, but if you want to stop, that's ours. Contact Alcoholics Anonymous at www.aavt. org or call your local hotline at 802-802-2288 and join a meeting. You are not alone.

#### com/springfieldartgym. STATE OF VERMONT **SUPERIOR COURT** PROBATE DIVISION Windsor Unit Docket No.: 24-PR-06004 In re ESTATE of: David Norton NOTICE TO CREDITORS To the Creditors of: David Norton Decedent late of Springfield, Vermont 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. claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period. October 1, 2024 Lynn M. Norton c/o Parker & Ankuda, PC, PO Box 519 Springfield, VT 05156 802-885-2582 parkerankudajp@vermontel.net Name of Publication: Vermont Journal October 9, 2024 **Publication Date:** Vermont Superior Court, Windsor Unit Probate Division Name of Probate Court: 12 The Greene Address of Probate Court: Woodstock, VT 05091



#### **Town of Westminster**

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#### WESTMINSTER TOWN HALL Westminster, Vermont

#### Legal Notice

The Westminster Development Review Board will meet at 6:00 pm on Monday, November 4, 2024 to consider

Application # 25-18

Application #25-18 Andrew Pearl (Owner & Applicant) - property located at 378 Our Road. The Applicant is requesting a Variance (Non-Conforming Lot) for a Garage as well as a Variance for Non-Conforming Lot Frontage. This Application will be reviewed under Section 311 Site Plan Review, Section 447 Rural Residential District; and Article V, Section 520 Non-Conforming Uses and Non-Complying Structures of the adopted 2017 Zoning Bylaws

Application # 25-19

Application #25-19 Anthony Perri (Owner & Applicant) property located at 3338 US Route 5. The Applicant is requesting Two Single Car Garages; Office with Kitchen & Bathroom; and a Lean-To. Application will be reviewed under Section 311 Site Plan Review; Section 445 Historic Village District; and Article IX Historical Preservation Overlay Districtof the adopted 2017 Zoning Bylaws.

Application # 25-20

Application # 25-20 Malcolm & Dianne Potter (Owners) Jacob & Brooke Potter / Chris Potter (Applicants) property located at 265 Goldies Road. The Applicant is requesting a Minor Subdivision. Application will be reviewed under Section 311 Site Plan Review; Section 444 Commercial/Industrial District; Section 446 Residential District; and Article VIII Subdivision of Land (Minor) of the adopted 2017 Zoning Bylaws.

Application # 25-21

Application # 25-21 Jose Guallpa (Owner & Applicant) property located at US Route 5 & Metcalf. The Applicant previously subdivided his land into 2 parcels and is requesting to construct a home on each parcel. Application will be reviewed under Section 311 Site Plan Review; Section 445 Historic Village District; Article IX Historic Preservation Overlay; Article X Agricultural Overlay District of the adopted 2017 Zoning Bylaws.

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

application is available for review in the Westminster Town Hall, 3651 US Route 5 Westminster, Vermont 05158, Monday — Thursday from 7:00 am - 4:30 pm. S:\Zoning\2025 DRB\LEGAL NOTICES\11.04.2024 LEGAL NOTICE.de

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.

#### TOWN OF ATHENS, VERMONT **Equipment Operator / Truck Driver**

The Town of Athens, Vermont is seeking qualified applicants for a full-time Equipment Operator / Truck Driver. Job duties include snow plowing, salting and sanding in the winter months and general highway maintenance and construction work in the other months. The employee must be able to perform general labor duties and minor repairs and maintenance of highway equipment. The ability to communicate in a courteous manner to coworkers and the general public is required. Must have a valid Commercial Driver's License (CDL). The Town of Athens is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer and offers an excellent benefits package.

Applications are available at the Athens Town Office at 25 Brookline Rd., Athens, VT 05143, or can be downloaded at www.athensvt.com. Questions can be directed to the Town Clerk at townoffice@athensvt.gov or (802) 869-3370. The town requests that interested applicants submit their materials by October 17, 2024. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

#### TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN NH We're Hiring! Join Our Team Today!

Looking for a career with great Pay & Benefits? Look no further! Come work for the Town of Charlestown!

We're seeking motivated, passionate individuals to join our team. With competitive pay, excellent health and dental benefits, retirement plans, and more, this is more than just a job—it's your future!

#### **Positions Available:**

Water/Waste Water Licensed Superintendent FT & PT Police Officers Highway Dept. Driver/Equipment Operator/Laborer

Transfer Station Attendant Cemetery Sexton

Don't miss out! Start your career with us today. Apply now and take the first step toward a brighter tomorrow!

For more information Visit www.charlestown-nh.gov, click on Volunteer & Employment.

Application available on the website or come in to the Town Office at 233 Main St. Charlestown NH

local organization. If you know

an organization that would

benefit from a garden installation

or have any questions about the

sale, please email Kate Fellows at

BARTONSVILLE, Vt. - Lower

Bartonsville Community Yard Sale

on Oct. 12 and 13, from 9 a.m.

- 3 p.m. Multiple locations along

Lower Bartonsville Rd. Tools,

furniture, collectibles, household

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Yard Sale

Saturday, Oct. 12, 8 a.m. - 3

p.m. Furniture, household goods,

decorative items, jewelry. 6 White

Birch Drive, Springfield.

items, antiques, big assortment.

kate@4cfoundation.org.

YARD SALE

#### **OPINION**

# classifieds

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

WINDHAM, Vt. - Looking to

plant more native species next

year? The Fourth Corner Founda-

tion in Windham is offering a

presale for native plants. Now

through October 30, a listing

of over 40 native plant species

are available for pick up in May

2025. To order visit their website

at www.thefourthcornerfounda-

tion.org. Pricing is based off

a wholesale structure to make

them highly affordable. Proceeds

will go towards a 2026 donated

native plant installation for a

description and apply.

**PLANT SALE** 

Dear Editor,

I am excited to support Becca White in her bid for re-election as one of our Vermont state senators.

She has been dedicated to serving the people of Vermont for 10 years four years on the Hartford Selectboard, four years as a state representative, and these last two years in the State Senate. While serving in the House, Becca worked effectively on modernizing the transportation systems in Vermont, and was an active member of the Climate Solutions Caucus. She is now cochair of the Climate Solutions Caucus in the Senate, serves on the Senate Natural Resources and Energy Committee, and is the communications director for the Senate Democratic Caucus. I am proud to support someone so committed to our shared belief that everyone has a right to health care, affordable housing, childcare, and public education,

and is so committed to protecting our environ-

Becca is following in the footsteps of her district-mate, Sen. Alison Clarkson, in her commitment to being accessible to her constituents. She is always willing to have a conversation with her fellow Vermonters, and hear about the issues that are most important to them to effectively represent our community in Montpe-

Please join me in voting for Becca, Alison, and their Democratic teammate Joe Major in the general election on or before Nov. 5.

Paid for by Sue Schiller Norwich, Vt.

#### **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

#### **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

**Town of Mount Holly** 

Seeks Highway Maintenance Worker The Town of Mount Holly seeks an experienced highway

maintenance worker to join its road crew starting imme-

diately. A valid CDL is required. The Town of Mount Holly

offers competitive pay with starting pay ranging from \$21-

\$24/hr and benefits including municipal group health and

dental insurance, paid time off, and retirement pension plan

(VMERS). A detailed description of the position and employ-

ment application can be found by visiting www.mounthollyvt.

Employment. Paper copies of the job description and applica-

tion can also be picked up in person at the Mount Holly Town

Interested candidates should submit questions and letters of

application to the Mount Holly Select Board at mountholly-

selectboard@gmail.com or can mail letters to Mount Holly

cations can also be hand-delivered to the Town Office.

Select Board at PO Box 248, Mount Holly, VT 05758. Appli-

**TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD** 

The Town of Springfield Development Review Board will hold

a public hearing at 6:30 pm, Tuesday, November 12, 2024, to

review a zoning application involving a nonconforming struc-

may be forthcoming, but this hearing is being publicly noticed

ahead of time. 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.

on or after October 18, 2024.

Please contact the Town Planner (802-376-6102 /toszoning@ vermontel.net) for copies of the agenda and zoning application

**TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD** 

**HELP WANTED** 

**Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation** 

The Town of Springfield, VT is looking for an Assistant Di-

position with an excellent benefit and retirement package.

Salary range is \$23.70 to \$25.82, depending upon qualifica-

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 candi-

date will have a minimum of at least one year of proven, suc-

cessful, and progressive experience in recreation leadership.

Candidates may substitute a combination of education, train-

ing, 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

the Human Resources Office, 96 Main Street, (802) 885-2104

(toshr@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.

Aid Certification and renewal required, and CPR Certifica-

tion and renewal required for Adults & Children. Apply at

tions and experience. Position requires graduation from a

rector of Parks & Recreation. This is a full-time; non-exempt

ture located at 21 Highland Circle. Additional applications

org and navigating to Announcements→Job Openings and

Office at 50 School Street in Mount Holly.

The upper portion of the Okemo Mountain Road to public access between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 19, 2024 and Sunday, October 20,

#### Okemo Mountain Road Closed

from the Base Lodge area to the summit will be closed

#### **TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD** ADVERTISEMENT FOR QUOTES

Barbara A. Courchesne

2024 for the Killington Sports Car Club Time Trials.

### PRINTING OF ANNUAL REPORT

The Town of Springfield is seeking sealed competitive quotes from printing firms for the printing of the Annual Report for the 2024 fiscal year. Sealed competitive quotes will be received at the office of the Town Clerk, 96 Main Street, Springfield, Vermont, 05156, on or before 4:30 pm on Friday, November 1 2024. Quotes shall include the price per page and a guarantee that a stringent deadline will be met. Specifications and quote forms for the printing of the Annual Report can be obtained by contacting Barbara A. Courchesne, Town Clerk, at 96 Main Street, Springfield, Vermont, or by calling 802-885-2104. Sealed quotes should be clearly labeled "Annual Report Printing Quote." The Town of Springfield reserves the right to reject any and all quotes, to accept the quote most acceptable to the Town of Springfield, and to waive any informality.

Town Clerk, CVC Town of Springfield, Vermont tosclerk@vermontel.net

#### Fulfilling Career as a Water Technician

**HELP WANTED** 

**TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD** 

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 (toshr@vermontel.net). Equal Opportunity Employer.

NOTICE TO SPRINGFIELD VOTERS

Absentee Ballots for the Springfield Special Town Meeting being held Tuesday, November 5, 2024, are available at the Springfield Town Clerk's Office. If you wish to vote by absentee ballot, and you did not already make a request for "all local elections" earlier this year, please contact the Town Clerk's Office in person, in writing, by phone or by email. If you make your absentee request in person, you can choose to vote your ballot and return it before leaving the Town Clerk's Office. If returning your ballot by mail, allow extra time for postal delivery. An Absentee Request Form can be found on the town's website https://springfieldvt.gov or you may request your ballot online at https://mvp.vermont.gov. The deadline for requesting an absentee ballot is Monday, November 4, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. You may register to vote on Election Day at the polls and then proceed to vote on that day. You may also register to vote any time at the Town Clerk's Office or online at https://mvp.vermont.gov. On or before Monday, November 4, 2024, absentee ballots may be returned in person, through regular mail and after hours through mail slots located in the entrance doors of Town Hall. All voted absentee ballots must be received at the polls by the Town Clerk before the close of polls at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 5, 2024. The polls are located at Riverside Middle School in the gymnasium and will open on Tuesday, November 5, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. Town Clerk's Office will not be open on November 5, 2024.

NOTE: The Springfield Special Town Meeting is a local vote separate from the Vermont General Election. If you have already returned your Vermont General Election ballot, the local Springfield Special Town Meeting ballot is also available to you upon request prior to November 4, 2024 or at the polls on November 5, 2024.

The Secretary of State has mailed all active voters the Vermont General Election ballot. If you are an active registered voter in Springfield and have not received your absentee ballot from the Secretary of State by mid-October, please contact the Town Clerk's Office.

Barbara A. Courchesne, Town Clerk, CVC - 96 Main Street, Springfield, Vermont 05156 (802) 885-2104 tosclerk@ vermontel.net

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calendar@vermontjournal.com

Paula Benson

Billing Department, Staff Writer billing@vermontjournal.com

**Corporate & Production Office:** 8 High Street • Ludlow, VT 05149 802-228-3600

Journal, LLC is a member of the Vermont Press Association



#### 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.

#### Town of Londonderry, Vermont Notice of Site Inspection and Public Hearing

In accordance with the provisions of 19 V.S.A. § 709, the Selectboard of the Town of Londonderry, Vermont, will hold a public hearing on October 21, 2024, at 6:00 PM to hear public comments on the proposed change of classification of an approximately 400-foot portion of Rest Haven Road (Town Highway #33) in Londonderry from class 3 to class 4 in the vicinity of the Rest Haven Cemetery. The hearing will be held at the Londonderry Town Hall, 139 Middletown Road, South Londonderry, Vermont immediately following a site examination that will take place on October 21, 2024, at 5:30 PM on Rest Haven Road at the entrance to the Rest Haven Cemetery at which time the Selectboard will inspect the location.

Anyone wishing to attend is warned to be present at the above-mentioned locations at the appointed date and time. Persons wishing to be heard may do so in person, be represented by an agent, or my file written comments with the Selectboard prior to the hearing.

Shane O'Keefe, Town Administrator

### WARNING AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD - SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

VOTE TO DISAPPROVE ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE TO RESTRICT DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS IN HARTNESS PARK

said Town on Tuesday, November 5, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. to vote by Australian Ballot on the following ARTICLE 1: Shall the voters of the Town of Springfield disapprove of Ordinance 2024-0002 To Restrict Discharge

The legal voters of the Town of Springfield are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Riverside Middle School in

Of Firearms In Hartness Park as adopted by the Selectboard on August 12, 2024? There will be a hybrid (in-person and remote) Public Informational Hearing on Monday, October 28, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Selectboard's Hall located at 96 Main Street, Springfield, VT for the purpose of discussing the presented

> Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86548002531 Meeting ID: 865 4800 2531 One tap mobile +16465588656,,86548002531# Dial by your location • +1 646 558 8656

Dated this 1st day of October, 2024 at Springfield, County of Windsor and State of Vermont

Recorded in Springfield Town Acts on the \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of October 2024.

Notice posted in four public places, in addition to the town's website Springfield, Vermont (springfieldvt.gov) on the 3rd day of October 2024.

Multiple Courchesne Barbara A. Courchesne, Town Clerk, CVC

M&T Bank Mall

A copy of the Ordinance To Restrict Discharge Of Firearms In Hartness Park is available in the Town Clerk's Office from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday or posted on the town's website Springfield, Vermont (springfieldyt.gov)

#### **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 sepcific candidate or party.

# arts & entertainment

### "Just Getting By" to screen in Bellows Falls

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. -"Just Getting By," a new documentary film by Bess O'Brien focused on Vermonters struggling with food and housing insecurity, will play at the Bellows Falls Opera House on Saturday, Oct 12, at 7 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the door, or on the Bellows Falls Opera House website. Director Bess O'Brien will be part of a special Q&A after the film.

"Just Getting By" is a sweeping, and yet intimate, look at the lives of Vermonters who are struggling with food and housing insecurity. The film has been touring the state over the last five months, and is raising consciousness about the pressing issues that working and lowincome people are dealing with every day in their lives.

Vermont has the second highest rate of homeless people in the United States, right after California. One third of Vermonters struggle to put food on the table. These are big issues for a small state. these issues in the lives of everyday people.

The film tells the stories of working families, folks who are homeless and accessing food shelves, and soup kitchens and people who are living in temporary hotel/motel programs. In addition, the film focuses on new Americans grappling with the cost of living in America, Native people creating innovative farming practices, and folks on the ground providing services to their fellow Vermonters in need.

"Just Getting By" explores the day-to-day challenges and incredible resiliency that low-income Vermonters bear witness to every day.

The film was shot during 2022-2023 by director O'Brien and cinematographer Patrick Kennedy. "We wanted to capture the dayto-day lives of Vermonters who were living paycheck to paycheck, and who were struggling to keep food on the table and a roof over

"Just Getting By" focuses on their head. We also wanted to show the incredible resiliency and courage of folks who have very little, and still manage to get up every day and strive for a better life," O'Brien says.

The movie is produced by Kingdom County Productions, and has garnered rave reviews as it crosses the state.

Vermont Lt. Gov. David Zuckerman says, "This film puts our societies' realities into a visible and real format for people to see. It is such critical work for Vermonters to see."

Seven Days movie reviewer Margot Harrison said, "Bess O'Brien's film presents us with vivid case studies that give life to economic facts and figures. For anyone concerned about the state's future, this film is an important watch."

For more information, go to www.kingdomcounty.org, or email O'Brien at bobrien@pshift.com.

films that offer a uniquely

### Three zydeco bands play on Oct. 13

**PUTNEY, Vt.** - Three of New England's top zydeco bands will perform at the Vermont Zydeco Party, held at Next Stage Arts in Putney on Oct. 13, from 3-8 p.m. This celebration of zydeco music, known for its infectious joy and energetic rhythms, will be held in the community room, where there's plenty of room for dancing. Those already familiar with, and passionate about, zydeco will have an opportunity for nonstop dancing. And, for anyone new to this dance, a free lesson is available at 3 p.m.

Planet Zydeco captures

the essence of traditional, rural-style, accordiondriven dance music as it is played in clubs and dance halls in southwest Louisiana today. Their funky, syncopated sound is a popular mix of up-tempo songs, as well as slower, bluesinspired numbers, and traditional waltzes enjoyed by enthusiastic audiences and dancers throughout the Northeast.

The Squeezebox Stompers, a Boston-area Americana Roots band, has performed Americana, Cajun, zydeco, blues, folk, and original songs for the past 15 years. Members of the band have received Boston Music Awards and Songwriting Awards.

Bayou X is led by New Orleans native Peter Simoneaux on fiddle and vocals, with his partner Linda Simoneaux on various accordions, fiddle, and vocals. This dance band plays original and traditional Cajun/Zydeco dance music of southwest Louisiana, from classic Cajun two-steps, to syncopated zydeco beats, to traditional waltzes.

The admission covers a zydeco lesson, a line dance lesson, and performances by all three bands. There will be a potluck and cash bar. For questions, contact vtzydeco@gmail.com or visit Vermont Zydeco Party

### Arun Ramamurthy Trio at Next Stage

**PUTNEY, Vt.** - Next Stage Arts presents an evening of South In-

dian classical Carnatic music and contemporary American jazz by Brook-

lyn-based Arun Ramamurthy Trio (ART) on Friday, Oct. 18, at 7:30 p.m., at Next Stage. ART is touring in support of their latest album, "New released on Moon," Sept. 20.

Arun Ramamurthy Trio brings together South Indian classical Carnatic music and contemporary American jazz. Boundaries are blurred in this organic and seamless integration of styles as the group expands on traditional forms in explosive, improvisational flights of fancy. ART explores the kindred spirit of raga music and jazz, resulting in a deeply invigorating and spiritual experience. Their sound is driven by the dynamic rhythm section of drummer Sameer Gupta and electric bass-

**American Legion** 

ist Damon Banks. ART released their latest album "New Moon" on Greenleaf Music on Sept. 20. "New Moon" reflects on the inspiration of ancestors, family, and tradition, while embracing a spirit of creation and freedom.

The similarities between American jazz and Indian classical music can often be found within the spirit of the musicians themselves. The shared artistic pursuit of carefully crafting a fluent, spontaneous voice, and the deep reverence for artists who came before are just two common threads between the kindred traditions.

"New Moon" is the second release from Arun Ramamurthy Trio, and it's evident from listening to the album that the group is in a place of comfort with each other musically. The listener can sense the connection in the recording studio. There's a sense of genuine spontaneity, an ensemble able to adjust at any moment, all aware, all ready. Carnatic music and jazz are kindred spirits in the philosophy of awareness amongst musicians, as well as in the love and reverence for the elders, those who shaped us and our music. Arun Ramamurthy Trio's "New Moon" presents musical practitioners at the highest level of their art, seamlessly blending Carnatic music and jazz in an exciting furthering of both

Next Stage is located at 15 Kimball Hill in downtown Putney, Vt. Tickets are discounted in advance at www.nextstagearts.org. For more information, call 802-387-0102. Next Stage will provide a beer, wine, and cocktail cash bar.

genres.

### 'A Tour of Vermont Short Films"———

**PUTNEY, Vt.** – Next Stage Arts screens "Family Matters: A Tour of Vermont Short Films" on Saturday, Oct. 19, at 6 p.m., at Next

"Part of the love we have of programming is highlighting Vermont-based talent. These are filmmakers who choose to live in Vermont, while creating professional

and personal tendrils into the larger filmmaking ecosystem," says Keith Marks, executive director of Next Stage Arts.

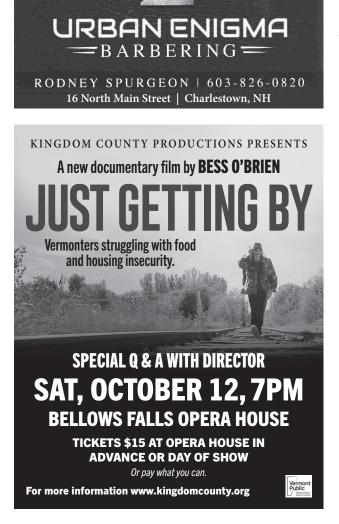
mont Production Collective, a group of four awardwinning filmmakers explore what it means to be a family in Vermont. The program features four short fiction

Vermont perspective on the pains and joys of being a family. The film screening will be followed by a film-Presented by The Vermakers mixer in the Next Stage community room. All are welcome to join and build the southern Vermont creative community.

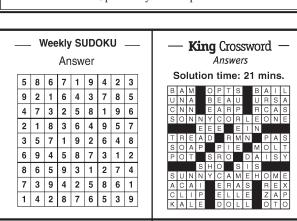
The four films to be shown are as follows: "Bloodroot" is a tender relationship portrait of two brothers, told over the course of their lives. In "Bad Mother," a mother copes with her husband's confession of infidelity on the eve of a funeral. "I Guess It Might Be Selfish" is a poetic reflection on the clash between individual and family needs. "The Thaw" is a beautifully rendered 19th-century Vermont hor-

"In the growing sea of content, it's essential that independent movies find the right audience. And viceversa, audiences need help finding movies that speak to them," said Lukas Huffman, program organizer.

Next Stage is located at 15 Kimball Hill in downtown Putney, Vt. Tickets are by a small suggested donation. For information, call 802-387-0102. Advance tickets are available at www.nextstagearts.org. Next Stage will provide a beer, wine, and cocktail cash bar.









**Post #37** 

42 Rockingham St.

Rice Pilaf, Vegetable, Salad, Roll w/ Butter, and Dessert Hosted by the American Legion

\$12.00/person Reservations until 6:00 PM

PR Smokey Aumand

Cmdr. Pete Squires

#### Electrician

KJ ELECTRIC LLC 802-428-6224 kjelectric63@gmail.com Chester, VT Licensed and Insured Quality installation and service since 2005 "Wiring is not a hobby! Call a professional

#### Masonry

#### **DRC STONE DESIGN**

Specializing in all Stone Masonry Applications including veneer, walls, patios, walkways. Fully insured. Free estimates. 32 years experience. Contact Dan Field at 802-384-0122 or stoneart49@gmail.com or visit drcstonedesign.com.

#### **MOORE MASONRY**

Fireplaces, chimneys and liners, chimney sweeps, patios, walls, steps, restoration and repairs. Fully insured, free estimates. Contact Gary Moore at 802-824-5710 mooremasonry802@ amail.com.

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

#### Tools

PLANES, AXES, STANLEY ITEMS, ETC 802-579-5891

#### Art Crafts Gifts

#### GALLERY AT THE VAULT

Art Crafts Gifts & Workshops 68 Main St., Springfield 802-885-7111 OPEN Wed. to Sat. 11-5 & Fri. til 7

Exhibit/Sale- Moonlight in Vermont Handpainted Silk Scarves by Terri Flowers

Northwest Passage - Photography Show by Gene Parulis until 10/30

Register for Workshops & Shop Online www.galleryvault.org 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

#### **Builders/Contractors**

#### HAMMER FOR HIRE LLC

"Not just for bangin' nails."

We handle a variety of projects, from home repairs, restorations on up to full renovations, and new construction too. Our clients can expect professionalism, proficiency, customer care, and quality. Call or email today at 802-376-3275 edwin. mortensen@amail.com.

Follow us on Instagram @nedthehammer

#### PETER JORDAN CONSTRUCTION Over 25 years of experience in all phases of construction. Fram-

ing, finish carpentry, custom showers and tile work, hardwood flooring, decks, and siding. Fully insured and registered with the State of Vermont. Lead Paint Certified. Located in Proctorsville. 802-558-5267.

#### Campground

#### **CATON PLACE CAMPGROUND** 2419 EAST ROAD, CAVENDISH VERMONT

SEASONAL SITES AVAILABLE FOR 2025! REASONABLE RATES! 802-226-7767, Catonplacecamp@gmail.com.

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

#### Chiropractor

#### FOUR SEASONS CHIROPRACTIC, PC Dr. Denise Natale 58 Parker Avenue, Proctorsville, VT 05153, 802-

226-7977 Hours: Tuesday 1pm-6pm, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 10am-6pm (08/13/25 - TFN - 52)

# arts & entertainment

### River Artisans

### Cooperative Yard Sale —

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. -On Saturday, Oct. 14, the members of the River Artisans Cooperative will be holding their annual yard sale event along the sidewalk next to Ciao Popolo, right in the center of Bellows Falls. We'll be there at the intersection of The Square and Bridge Street. The coop members have been saving great stuff all year, and you will find treasures galore. This is a yard sale not to be missed.

As one of the oldest cooperatives in the state, we are proud to represent over 25 members. We invite you to stop in and enjoy browsing all the many items beautiful jewelry, knitwear, paintings and photography, handmade journals, soaps and candles, leather and wood items, stained glass, and much more. If you make

a purchase at the yard sale and mention that you saw this article, we invite you to go around the corner and into our store to be given a free unique bookmark as well. You can find us at 28 Village Square in Bellows Falls, Thursday-Monday, from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. For more information, visit www. riverartisanscooperative.

### Seth Glier and Rosier at Next Stage

**PUTNEY, Vt.** - Next Stage Arts Project and Twilight Music present an evening of contemporary and indie folk music from the U.S. and Canada, by Massachusetts-based singersongwriter Seth Glier and Montreal-based quintet Rosier, on Friday, Oct. 11, at 7:30 p.m., at Next Stage.

Five-time Independent Music Award winner and Grammy-nominated contemporary folk singersongwriter Glier's gifts are an innate curiosity and a fierce desire to connect with other people. His musical acumen provides him with a vehicle for both. Glier has shared the bill with a diverse list of artists, ranging from the likes of Ronnie Spector, James Taylor, Ani DiFranco, and Glen Campbell. As a producer, music director, or studio musician, he has collaborated with Sophie B. Hawkins, Tom Rush, Antje Duvekot, Richard Shindell, Doctora Qingona, Dar Williams, Nick Carter, and Cyndi Lauper. With a commitment to using songwriting as a tool for positive change, he has written with the students in Parkland, Fla., for the Parkland Project, cowritten with sol-

SMOKESHIRE DESIGN

diers at Walter Reed, and is an advocate for autism awareness, citing his autistic brother Jamie as his greatest nonmusical musical influence.

Bilingual, female-fronted Rosier balances traditional melodies and lyrics, and instrumentation firmly rooted in indie-pop. By blending the pop textures of synthesizers and the rock tones of electric guitars with more traditional instruments like acoustic guitar, banjo, and fiddle, with lyrics rich in Franco-Canadian living heritage, Rosier creates a bridge between the stories of yesterday and today. Béatrix Méthé (vocals, fiddle and synthesizers), Sarah Marchand (vocals, piano, and keyboards), Marie Savoie-Levac (bass), Éléonore Pitre (acoustic and electric guitar, backing vocals), and Colin Savoie-Levac (guitar, banjo, lap steel, feet, and backing vocals), with guest drummers, have been sharing this Quebecois heritage around the world for over a decade.

Formerly known as Les poules à Colin, Rosier redefines Quebec's living heritage through a modern

lens. With their sixth album "Elle Veille Encore" to be released this fall, they paint a multifaceted portrait of women in society, past and present.

Next Stage is located at 15 Kimball Hill in downtown Putney, Vt. Tickets are are discounted in advance at www.nextstagearts.org. For more information, call 802-387-0102. Next Stage will provide a beer, wine, and cocktail cash bar.

### Silk scarf show at Gallery at the VAULT

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. -"Moonlight in Vermont" is a special show of exceptional, hand-painted flowing silk scarves by guest artist Teresa Flowers, at Gallery at the VAULT, only until Oct. 30. The scarves includes flowers, music, and celestial magic, with a bit of whimsy. There are square as well as long scarves.

Flowers brings this latest selection of original, hand-painted designs from her studio in Lincolnshire, England. Her work is on display in galleries around the U.K., and exclusively available at VAULT. They really are beautiful, and a fabulous way to add the new season's colors to your wardrobe.

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 handicap accessible.

### John John Brown at Stage 33

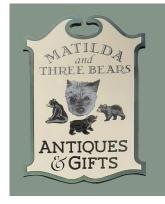
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - John John Brown's "Songs, Stories, & Art -Lessons from Strangers" brings giant comics, iconic photographs, and moving panoramas to the stage, weaving together storytelling songs and visual arts in live performance. The protagonists come from all walks of life - from an aging Vietnam vet, to a trumpet-playing orphan, a married couple debating evolution, to a young man with mental illness wandering the aisles of Walmart.

Steeped in storytelling

and fingerpicking, Brown is deep in the singer-songwriter tradition. He's a Kerrville New Folk winner, a winner of the South Florida Folk Fest, an Emerging Artist at the Falcon Ridge Folk Festival, and an invited performer at the 50th anniversary of Woodstock at the original site of the legendary festival.

Brown's "Songs, Stories, & Art - Lessons from Strangers" is at Stage 33

Live, 33 Bridge Street in Bellows Falls, Vt., on Saturday, Oct. 19, at 7 p.m. Tickets are a discounted in advance through www. stage33live.com. There is limited seating; advance tickets guarantee entry. Advance ticket sales will close at midnight the day before the show, or when 40 tickets have been sold. Tickets at the door as available. The event will be recorded and filmed.



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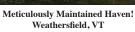


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Lot 2-62 Goshawk Road in Hawk Resort -Plymouth 1.5+/- acres lot. Power on site plus connection to community septic system. Call or Text Listing Agent Ty Murray at 802-777-8047



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Don Eatmon Broker/Owner

# HOME Sweet HOME Factors that affect real estate rates

**REGION** - Do real estate agents have a crystal ball?

The answer is no. This doesn't mean we don't get asked nearly every day, "So, how's the market?" This is always a loaded question. Our local real estate market these past four years has been dynamic to say the least, with rising prices leading to higher property values, which leads to higher property taxes, which leads to some owners assessing their options. In some cases, this can lead to more inventory on the market, and the cycle continues. Higher inventory will eventually bring prices down, but how much? Throw in a highly contested presidential election year, and interest rates trending downward, and well, there are lots of variables at work.

Here in the Okemo Valley area, at any given time we have a diverse assortment of property types in our market, from farmhouses on acreage, to ski condos, to village multifamily homes, and no two are alike.

Some say that a property is worth whatever a seller is willing to sell it for and a buyer is willing to pay for it. This is partly true, but unless a buyer is paying cash, and an appraisal isn't needed, "worth" or "value" needs to be substantiated. This process is very much tied to the type of loan a buyer is qualified for, and how much money the buyer has for a downpayment on that loan. An appraisal is essentially a professional assessment conducted by a licensed appraiser who analyzes various factors, such as the property's location, size, recent sales of comparable homes, and unique features that may enhance or detract from its value. This comprehensive analysis culminates in a formal report, which serves not only as a benchmark for pricing, but also as a necessary document for lenders during the mortgage approval process. For sellers, a well-executed appraisal can affirm their asking price, while for buyers, it protects them from overpaying in a



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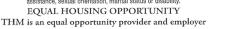
Rent is based on 30% of your monthly-adjusted income. Monthly rent includes heat, electric, water, sewer, snow/trash removal, and maintenance. Off-street parking and on-site mail delivery are available.

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competitive market.

A realtor works to help determine the value of your property and best listing strategy by weighing several factors beyond square footage and the number of bedrooms and bathrooms in

The first factor is location. The age-old adage, "location, location, location," remains true in the real estate market. This is arguably the most influential factor in pricing a property for the market. A property's location can dramatically influence its desirability, accessibility, and ultimately, its price. Ensure and don't assume that your real estate agent is educated about the nuances of your location in order to properly determine value.

The second factor is the condition of the property. When it comes to real estate pricing, the condition of a property plays a crucial role. A well-maintained home not only enhances its aesthetic appeal, but also gives potential buyers peace of mind. We all know first impressions count. A real estate professional can help you determine the priorities for updates and addressing any deferred maintenance.

The third factor is supply and demand. Certainly, in our seasonal market, real estate pricing is also influenced by seasonal fluctuations. Typically, in primary home markets, spring and summer often see heightened activity as families prefer to move during warmer months. While this can be true in a resort

market, the seasons are viewed much differently depending on the primary draw, such as a ski resort market, which will be heavily influenced by the start and end of their winter season. Learning the market for your property, who your buyer most likely will be, and what months your property will most likely attract the most buyer activity are factors to consider with your agent in making an informed

Another factor is comparable home sales. "Comps" are properties that are similar in characteristics to the one being evaluated, typically located within the same community. They provide a realistic snapshot of the local real estate market, reflecting current buyer demand and pricing trends. Comparable sales not only provide essential data points for pricing, but also serve as a crucial tool in strategizing how to present a property in the market.

Whether you are buying or selling, your realtor is your resource. Realtors are said to be the "source of the source." A true professional helps buyers and sellers connect with the information and the services they want and need. No, we don't have a crystal ball to determine the future, but we do have a treasure chest of tools and resources to help you along your

Written by Suzanne Garvey, owner/broker, Mary W. Davis Realtor & Associates, Inc.





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WILLIAM RAVEIS



### Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

#### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆

Moderate

Challenging ◆◆◆ HOO BOY! © 2024 King Features Synd., Inc



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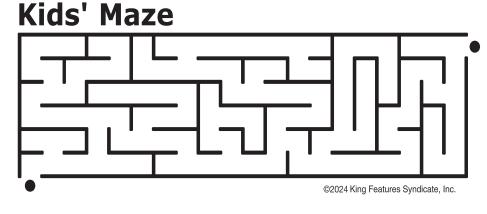
Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any food allergies?

Videl Mane

What are you going to be for Halloween?



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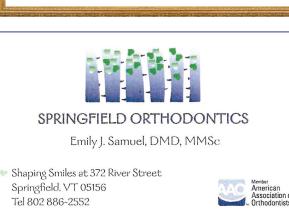
























### Vermonters and the Underground Railroad"-

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Michelle Sherburne will present the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) program "A Closer Look at Vermonters and the Underground Railroad in the Pre-Civil War Era" on Wednesday, Oct. 16, at 2 p.m., at the Nolin Murray Center next to St. Mary's Church, on Pleasant Street in Springfield. This is on a Wednesday rather than a Tuesday, when the OLLI programs are usually held.

Building upon last year's tremendous interest in Vermont's role in the Underground Railroad, Sherburne will return for a closer look



at its local history. We'll zoom in on networking examples from four compass points in Vermont: Burlington, Springfield, Thetford, and Ferrisburg. In Burlington and Thetford, locals had a system in place to aid freedom seekers from one household to another discreetly, due to dangers of exposure, capture, and ruined reputations. Underground Railroad agents worked together to move people through their town northward to full freedom in Canada.

Another form of networking will be shared about the Robinsons in Ferrisburg, who used their Quaker ties and family connections to receive and pass along freedom seekers. We'll meet Vergennes native Delia Webster, whose mission to help freedom seekers in Kentucky and Indiana made

her notorious, for which she was in and out of jail and the news constantly. We'll hear more about Springfield's own Noah Safford and his association with New England abolitionists, and his local Springfield efforts of moving freedom seekers along the Underground Railroad.

Sherburne is an author, Vermont historian, and newspaper publisher. She has spent decades researching pre-Civil War and Civil War history, specifically about Vermont's abolitionist movement and the effort to help freedom seekers in the Underground Railroad. She has written several books on the subjects.

Sponsored by the University of Vermont, OLLI is run by local volunteer members, and is geared mainly towards seniors who are 50 years of age and over who

enjoy learning for the fun of it. Anyone who would be interested in this type of program, regardless of their age, is welcome. The programs are held Tuesday afternoons, at 2 p.m., and last about an hour and a half.

You may view the entire semester of programs by going to the website www. learn.uvm.edu/olli/springfield. Preregistration can be done online at this website with a credit card. You may also register over the phone, using your credit card, by calling 802-656-8407 during regular office hours, Monday-Friday, from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. There is a membership series fee, or nonmembers are welcome and encouraged to attend individual programs for a single program fee.

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

UNDERGROUND RAILROAD NEW HAMPSHIRE

Michelle Sherburne's history books.

PHOTO PROVIDED

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

If there are weather-relat-

ed changes to the schedule, you can check the above website on the morning of the program.

The following program, on Tuesday, Oct. 29, will be 'Vermont's Supernatural Side: Chronicling Our State's Ghost Stories and Unexplained Phenomena." Joe Citro, a Chester native, will present this special Halloween program.

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