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Great Falls Regional Chamber of Commerce director retiring

BY JOE MILLIKEN

The Vermont Journal

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The Great Falls Regional Chamber of Commerce (GFRCC) recently announced that the organization's popular executive director Deb Collier will soon be retiring from the position after seven years of serving our local community and its businesses with pride and enthusiasm.

A 1980 graduate of Bellows Falls Union High School, Collier brought a wealth of experience and leadership to her position at the chamber – general manager of two local newspapers (Eagle Times, Bellows Falls Town Crier), interim development director at Parks Place in Bellows Falls, executive account sales at Sonnax in Bellows Falls, sales/marketing director at Global Technologies, and administrator at Community College Vermont.

"Each of these roles helped equip me with a deep understanding of local economic development and community engagement," Collier said in a recent interview. "And it all seemed to perfectly align with the GFRCC mission to support our local businesses."

Over her seven-year tenure, Deb was not only a part of many successful regional events and fundraisers, but a creator and facilitator as well. "During my tenure as chamber director, one of our most significant achievements, that I am particularly proud of, is the creation of the annual Southern Vermont Flannel Festival," Collier stated. "This initiative began as a modest idea, but has evolved into a successful annual event that reflects the rich local culture and fosters community and tourist engagement."

"The collaboration between the town board, local artisans, and organizations

has been instrumental in bringing this festival to life, showcasing our dedication to promoting local heritage and strengthening community ties, and just having lots of fun."

Collier also demonstrated leadership in challenging times as well. To ensure the chamber's resilience during the Covid pandemic, she showed her commitment to the chamber members by volunteering her time to ensure the chamber remained operational, provided guidance on state and federal assistance programs, and addressed inquiries from both members and non-members – all reassuring gestures for friends and businesses of the chamber.

"My continued efforts included keeping traditions such as Rockingham Old Home Days alive and well, along with revamping our annual dinner with new fun themes to recognize and celebrate our valued community members, bringing

in many more tourist buses to the Waypoint Center during the busy autumn season, and reaching out to our local schools to provide many interactive tours of the historical timeline within our visitors center."

Other areas of focus during Collier's tenure as director included focusing on initiatives to enhance the chamber's website and social media presence, as well as working with local businesses to increase memberships and participation.

"As I reflect on my journey as the chamber director, I am filled with immense gratitude for the unwavering support from my dedicated board of directors, loyal and new members, generous sponsors, my hometown community, my family, and the many exceptional volunteers," Collier concluded.

"All your encouragement has been a constant source of motivation, and it has truly been a rewarding



Deb Collier (center) at her signature event, the Southern Vermont Flannel Festival.

PHOTO PROVIDED

experience that resonates deeply with my passion for community engagement and local culture.

"As I prepare to bid farewell to my position, I can't help but reflect on the incredible journey I've had with GFRCC. Moving forward, I am committed to focusing on my family's increasing health issues as I explore opportunities for remote or hybrid employment. I will carry all these memories in my heart as I move forward, always

grateful for the impact the chamber and all of you have had on my life and our community."

Collier's track record in community service, public relations, and events is prolific, and her dedication to civic leadership and promoting local businesses over the years truly shows her love and loyalty for our region. There will be a retirement celebration for Collier, to be held at the Moose Lodge in Bellows Falls, on Nov. 7, at 5:30 p.m.

Springfield Rotary Club donates books

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Through the Rotary Ideals Literacy Project, the Springfield Rotary Club has donated a set of books to each second and third grade student at the Elm Hill School and the Union Street School in Springfield.

One book, "Andy & Elmer's Apple Dumping Adventure," shares the system of beliefs of the Rotary Four-Way Test: Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build goodwill and better friendships? And will it be beneficial to all concerned? The other



Left to right: Springfield Rotary Club President-elect Sue Dana, Elm Hill School Principal Rachel Hunter, and Springfield Rotary Club Immediate Past President Emma McGuirk show off the books donated to 94 second graders.

PHOTO PROVIDED

SRDC awarded state grants to support local economic development

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Springfield Regional Development Corporation (SRDC) announced recently that it is the recipient of two grants to support a pair of economic development projects in the region. The awards were part of the Regional Economic Development Grant Program, administered by the Department of Buildings and General Services. The goal of the program is to promote stimulation or retention

of economic opportunities in the state.

The grants that SRDC received will support two business projects in the Springfield region. The first is to assist with purchasing equipment for ImageTek Manufacturing, to help with their growth. The other grant will help the Vermont Packinghouse to expand their production capacity.

SRDC executive director Bob Flint said that the grants would be an important part of projects for job creation

and retention. "We appreciate the support from the state for these projects. These are two important regional employers, and we're happy to assist with their continued success," Flint said.

SRDC serves the 10 towns in southern Windsor County. To learn more about Springfield Regional Development Corporation and how it can help existing companies, as well as those looking to start a business, call 802-885-3061 or email bobf@springfield-development.org.

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BFUHS DAR Good Citizen

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – It is a pleasure to announce that Isabella “Izzy” Stoodley has been named the 2024-2025 Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen for Bellows Falls Union High School. The DAR Good Citizen Award, created in 1934, is intended to encourage and reward the qualities of good citizenship. Izzy, a senior, is the daughter of Ryan and Karen Stoodley of Westminster, Vt.

This award is given based on the following criteria set forth by the DAR national organization: dependability, including truthfulness, loyalty and punctuality; service, including cooperation, courtesy and consideration of others; leadership, including personality, self-control, and ability to assume responsibility; and patriotism, including unselfish interest in family, school, community, and

nation. Stoodley is an excellent representative of these characteristics.

Stoodley works hard in her classes, and sets high expectations for herself. She is engaged in class, attentive, and always eager and willing to participate in group activities and class discussions. Teachers can rely on her to come to class prepared, work hard, and participate in a positive way.

One of the more dependable students at BFUHS, Stoodley is independent, prepared, helpful, and a team player. She takes initiative to go after what she wants, and works hard to succeed. Always willing to help, she steps forward, often without being asked. A good role model for others, Izzy is someone that people can count on without hesitation.

As a dedicated member of the BFUHS commu-

nity and surrounding area, Stoodley has almost 400 hours of community service over her high school career. Willing to give freely of her time to share her talent and knowledge in sports, she has coached area youth in field hockey, basketball, and softball. She offers youth clinics throughout the school year for younger athletes to hone their skills in a safe and supportive environment. She works hard to get others involved, and students and staff look up to her for her contributions. She advocates for others

who may be struggling, and is often the first to offer an encouraging word to someone who might be feeling down. Stoodley is friendly, and always willing to brighten someone's day with her huge smile.

Stoodley has been the captain of both her softball and field hockey teams at BFUHS. She has been a peer advocate, BFUHS Elks Student of the Month, and is a current member of the Jesse A. Judd/Marilee Huntoon BFUHS Chapter of the National Honor Society. Stoodley has been involved in Student Council

at BFUHS for all four years of her high school career. She has also served as class historian, class secretary, and is the president of the Class of 2025 for the second year. She is a leader for all, but most specifically to younger girls who look up to her, which is a valued position to hold at such a young age.

Stoodley has shared her love of country by singing the national anthem at sporting events, and when not singing herself, she has organized the performance and music by others.

Her actions and man-



Isabella Stoodley.
PHOTO PROVIDED

ner clearly embody the values of the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen, and BFUHS is proud to have her represent us with the award this year.

Generosity Fair in Saxtons River

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – On Saturday, Nov. 16, from 2-4 p.m., nonprofit organizations associated with the greater Rockingham area will be gathering at the 24 Main Street Community Building in Saxtons River, to showcase their activities and provide the opportunity to turn your generosity into meaningful holiday

gift-giving. The public is invited to attend, to learn more about charitable work done near and far by those living in our area. The Generosity Fair has been organized by 24 Main Street Community Building and Anne Manner-McLarty, a nonprofit consultant who lives in Saxtons River.

Please join us and con-

sider making donations in the name of your friends, family, neighbors, and coworkers. For each donation made, attendees will receive a gift card provided by the nonprofit organization, and an ornament will be placed on the holiday tree inside the community building. Some organizations will

have other items for sale, and special incentives for different levels of giving.

Light snacks and general holiday cheer will be shared with all.

Please remember to bring a checkbook and/or cash, as not all organizations accept credit cards in person or through online giving.

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BOOKS
From Page 1

book, "Becky & Lin's Apple Orchard Park," is a story that demonstrates the idea of Rotary's motto, "service above self."

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 both locally and internationally. For more information, visit www.springfieldvtrotary.org.

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Whalers

In the days of whaling, whalers spent weeks or months between whale kills. Some whalers took up scrimshawing to break the monotony. Some scrimshawed whales' teeth. Depending on the skill of the whaler, these teeth can be works of art.

In the mid-1980s, fake scrimms began to show up at auction. They were very good, sometimes with a colored American flag. A simple test can detect these fakes. Heat a needle and stick it in the tooth. If it's a genuine tooth, the needle will not penetrate. But if plastic, as the fakes are, the hot needle will sink into the tooth.

Whalers made and scrimshawed oval ditty boxes. Ditty boxes were made of whale baleen. Other whalers made figurative ivory jaggging wheels, sailors' valentines, or table-mounted ivory knitty-noddys.

In the country

Away from the sea, long hours of darkness were difficult. Not for those living in towns and villages, but those living and working in the woods.

In the 1970s I met several old men, some in their late 80s or early 90s, who had worked in logging camps in their prime. It was long hours and hard work, except for winters. In the winter, the sun comes up late and sets early. This limited the hours men could work. You can't log by candlelight. There were more idle hours than working hours.

These loggers were deep in the woods, far from civilization, where they would remain until spring. All they saw, day after day, were other loggers, horses, and deep snow.

Loggers passed the time any way they could. Playing cards, harmonica, or guitar were common. Some loggers, like the whalers, needed to keep their hands busy.

Loggers created what we call "whimsies" in my trade. The photo with this article is an example of a logger's

whimsy.

How it was done

First, a section of white pine about 30 inches long was selected. "Selected" is the key word. To carve in this detail required a piece of pine with straight grain, no knots or twists. This piece of pine might have begun an inch and a half square.

With a couple very sharp knives, the logger went to work. You'll notice each chain link is independent, as a real chain link is. The logger carved the first link. Then the piece of pine was turned 90 degrees to carve the second link, then turned another 90 degrees, and repeated many times.

With a small knife, he carefully carved between the first and second link to free it from the neighboring link. This took time, a good eye, and a steady hand. And, it was done by dim oil lamp.

Sometimes these whimsies have an interesting beginning or ending. You'll notice this chain has an oval pendant type ending, looks something like a plum bob. One of the most interesting chains I remember had an

unusual top.

That chain had a 2-inch tall rectangle at the top. The rectangle was carved into four columns, creating a cage. The material in the middle was removed, well, all but a section that was carved into a round ball, maybe 1/2 inch in diameter. This ball, like the chain links, was independent of the surrounding wood, and could freely move inside the cage.

Back in the 1980s, I bought from Jane Farrell in the Stone Village the best piece of logger's art I have ever seen. Jane found it in Windsor. It was a standing tom turkey with his tail feathers spread like a fan. Carved of white pine, the workmanship was incredible.

Tom stood 2 feet tall, with each tail feather carefully split maybe 8 inches deep. The body, neck, and head were equally well carved. I sold it to Bill Orcutt. I wish I had it today.

When I handle these arti-



A 28-inch wooden logging chain "whimsy."

PHOTO BY RON PATCH

facts, I am reminded of the old loggers I knew over 50 years ago. I didn't realize it at the time, but it was an honor to have known them.

Church supper

I went to Kendall church this Sunday. As I walked in, Lee was putting a skillet on the woodstove. When the skillet was hot enough, Lee added fresh, neatly sliced slices of venison liver. Adam

had just got his deer. It was a great church supper.

This week's old saying. "Idle hands are the devil's workshop."

Proctorsville Ghost Walk

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. - Proctorsville Village is home to Vermont's most haunted inn. One house includes a ghost in the deed, while the fire department is periodically visited by "Homer." Learn more about these and other eerie tales at the Proctorsville Ghost Walk.

On Sunday, Nov. 10, the Cavendish Historical Society will be sponsoring the Proctorsville Ghost Walk. Meet at the Proctorsville War Memorial, which is at the intersection of route 131 and Depot Street in Proctorsville, across the green. Wear comfortable shoes, and dress weather appropriate.

This event is free and open to the public. Donations are appreciated. For

more information, please call 802-226-7807 or email margocaulfield@icloud.com.

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health news



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HCRS launches new website

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Health Care and Rehabilitation Services (HCRS), southeastern Vermont’s nonprofit community mental health agency, is thrilled to announce the official launch of its newly redesigned website, now live at www.hcrs.org.

According to HCRS CEO George Karabakakis, “We’ve listened to your feedback, and have worked diligently

to create an online experience that is not only more accessible, but also tailored to meet the diverse needs of our community.”

The new website is equipped with nine innovative accessibility tools, and supports over 130 languages, ensuring that every visitor can easily access vital information and essential

services in a person-centered manner.

The site also offers a new section dedicated to existing clients, enabling quick access to important information and resources tailored to their needs.

The improved layout ensures visitors can find the information they need quickly and easily.

Karabakakis invites everyone in the community to explore the new website, and experience the enhancements designed to better serve people with mental health, substance use, or developmental service needs. “Your feedback is invaluable, and we look forward to continuing to improve our services to better support you.”

Dear Editor,

When I was a high school math teacher, my students were regularly tested on their skills and problem-solving ability. The tests did a decent job of measuring what they were designed to measure, and provided useful feedback. This was good, as basic mathematical literacy is vital in our modern world. Mathematical reasoning and skills, however, are relatively easy to assess compared to most of the other aspects of learning that we expect our schools to provide. Some are so hard to measure that we don’t even try. Of course, that doesn’t mean that those qualities don’t matter. Indeed, they can be critically important. When

we focus just on what we can easily test, it can be easy to lose sight of the bigger picture. In many schools across the country, art, music, PE, and recess were cut. It was a disaster.

I fear we may be doing something similar with rural hospitals. The Green Mountain Care Board recently received a report that analyzed the costs of hospital care in Vermont. This study recommends a number of changes to the services offered by four small community hospitals. Some of these recommendations are quite drastic. Gifford Medical Center, located in my Town of Randolph, is one of those hospitals. Some of the proposed changes to its operations would have large, negative effects that would ripple out far beyond the institution. It is not enough to measure a hospital simply by how efficient and cost effective it is in delivering care. There are many individual patient, local community, and regional benefits that would be lost with the elimination of the services suggested.

When we do examine these relatively easy-to-calculate financial measures, however, we should make sure we get it right. The report is centered on making the case that hospital costs are increasing faster than our ability to pay for

them. It contains side-by-side charts showing median household income in Vermont increasing 22% between 2018 and 2022, and hospital costs increasing 38% between 2018 and 2024. Do you see the problem? Those charts don’t cover the same time intervals. The second one covers two additional years. If you instead calculate the increase in hospital costs for the interval between 2018 and 2022, it comes out to 22% – the same as the increase in income. There are other problems with how the consultants presented the data in the report, but this example is the most blatant and easiest to describe. These misrepresentations undermine my confidence in the entire report. It’s as if they started with their conclusions, and then figured out how to support them.

The Agency of Human Services will decide on the next steps. I urge AHS to keep in mind the broader effects of the proposed changes, take a critical look at the data in the report, and closely examine the premises upon which the report’s recommendations are based.

Sincerely,
Larry Satcowitz
Representative, Orange-Washington-Addison District

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- Geoff Illingworth, PT, ATC

Physical Therapy Services Will Continue in Bellows Falls

Springfield Hospital is pleased to share that a familiar face will continue to provide Physical Therapy services in Bellows Falls. Geoff Illingworth, PT, ATC, has been with Springfield Hospital for over thirty years, and we are grateful for his commitment to his patients and community.

Springfield Hospital Physical Therapy is located in the Greater Rockingham Area Services building at 1 Hospital Court, Bellows Falls, VT. For more information, or to schedule an appointment, please contact Terri at 802-463-2712.

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obituaries

Jeanette V. Angers, 1930-2024

PERKINSVILLE, Vt. – Jeanette V. Angers, 94, of Perkinsville, Vt., passed away at the Gill Odd Fellows Home in Ludlow on Thursday, Oct. 31, 2024. She was born to Raymond and Violet (Batchelder) Buxton in St. Johnsbury, Vt., on June 4, 1930.

Jeanette spent much of her time as an adult raising her 10 children. She also worked as a grocery clerk at Grand Union for 25 years.

She loved to travel, some of those highlights were to Europe, the Western U.S., and Alaska. She enjoyed spending time outside hiking, camping, and fishing. Bingo was also a favorite pastime, as well as spending time with all her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Jeanette is survived by her children Sharon Tucker (Glen), Leslie "Pat" Bobar (Arlan), Rodney Nathan Austin Jr. (Tina), Pamela Gordon, Charles Austin, Raymond Austin, Jeanette Austin, and Gretchen Austin Ward (Roger); two sons-in-law Steven Simonds and



Jeanette Angers, 1930-2024.
PHOTO PROVIDED

Robert Westney; sisters Sally Buxton and Linda Bergeron (Victor); many grandchildren; and many more great-grandchildren.

She is predeceased by her husband Edward Angers; daughters Melody Simonds and Heather Westney; son-in-law Frank Gordon; and many siblings.

A graveside service will be held Nov. 8, at 1 p.m., at the Oakland Cemetery in Springfield, Vt.

Davis Memorial Chapel is assisting with the arrangements.

John Morse, 1941-2024

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – John Morse, 83, passed away peacefully at home on Oct. 30, 2024, surrounded by his family. He was born on May 17, 1941, in Cambridge, Mass., to the late John and Mary (McDonnell) Morse.

John grew up in Portland, Maine, graduating from Cheverus High School, Class of 1960. He then received his teaching degree from Lyndon State College in Lyndonville, Vt., in 1964. During his years at Lyndon, John met his love, Rita Fairbrother. The college sweethearts married Dec. 12, 1964, and have two children, Christopher and Colleen.

John began his teaching career at Central School in South Londonderry, and then afterwards at Flood Brook Elementary School in Londonderry. His passion for history was shared by generations of students over a timespan of 33 years. John was always willing to lend a hand as a mentor, bus driver, custodian, and advisor, and coached numerous sports teams. John's achievements were recognized in 1985 by the University of Vermont honoring him "Outstanding Vermont Teacher." This award was very gratifying, as it was voted on by his peers.

John retired from the classroom in 1997, but remained at the school in a custodial position until full retirement in 2008. When John was not teaching, his passions were spending time with his family, and helping on the Fairbrother Farm in Fairlee, Vt. He was an avid sports fan, and enjoyed travelling the back roads throughout New



John Morse, 1941-2024.
PHOTO PROVIDED

England. Everywhere John went, someone always recognized him, saying, "Hi, Mr. Morse."

John was predeceased by his sisters Joan Bragdon and Helen Clonan.

John is survived by his wife Rita; their son Christopher Morse of Windham; their daughter Colleen Edgcomb and her husband Michael of Northwood, N.H.; four grandchildren Jacob, Taylor, Megan, and Caleb of Northwood, N.H.; and many nieces and nephews.

The family would like to extend sincere thanks and gratitude to the VNH Hospice team for their specialized care. Their compassion and support were flawless.

A memorial service will be held at the Second Congregational Church in Londonderry, Vt., on Nov. 16, at 2 p.m. A Celebration of Life will follow the service at Flood Brook Elementary School. There will be a private burial at Post Mills Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations in John's honor to the Londonderry Volunteer Rescue Squad or Alzheimer's Foundation of America.

Olavene L. Haas, 1929-2024

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Olavene L. "Olie" Haas, 95, formerly of Springfield, passed away on Oct. 30, 2024, at the home of her daughter in Pennsylvania. Olie was born in Springfield on Jan. 31, 1929, the daughter of Arthur and Margaret (Felch) Robinson, and graduated from Springfield High School. She married Harold Haas on Oct. 15, 1949.

For many years, Olie worked for the State of Vermont as a claim's taker at the Springfield Unemployment Office. Olie and Harold enjoyed camping and taking trips to Maine. After Harold's passing in 1993, she enjoyed reading, knitting, antiquing, yard sales, volunteer work, and trips with the Springfield Senior Center.

Olie had a kind and loving heart, and could always be counted on to help others. She was often found driving friends and neighbors to work, appointments, or to run errands. She loved having her family gather at the Haas home, especially for the holidays.

Olavene was predeceased by her husband Harold, sister Arlene Veysey, nephew



Olavene Haas, 1929-2024.
PHOTO PROVIDED

Duane Veysey, and niece Euleta Veysey. She is survived by her daughter Luanne Bailey of Cresco, Pa.; nephew Brent Veysey of Quincy, Mich., and several great-nephews and great-nieces, cousins, and their families.

A memorial service will be held on Thursday, Nov. 7, at 11 a.m., at the Oakland Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Olie's memory to the Springfield Senior Center, 139 Main Street, Springfield, VT 05156; or to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield is assisting with arrangements.

Dorothy Pease, 1924-2024

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Dorothy Ella (Clark) Burton Pease, 100, passed away Nov. 1, 2024. She was born Sept. 3, 1924, in Springfield, Vt., daughter of Lauren Elmer and Charlotte (Renaud) Clark.

She attended Springfield schools, and graduated from Springfield High School, Class of 1942. She also attended nursing training school. She worked as a wire inspector for more than 35 years at Jones and Lamson.

She was a member of the North Springfield Baptist Church and the Springfield Elks Emblem Club. She was an avid Red Sox fan.

Dottie's larger-than-life smile and love that she showed to all will be missed by many.

Dorothy is survived by son William Burton (Ritva) of Springfield, Vt., and daughter Brenda Bingham (Robert) of Windham, Vt.

She is predeceased by husbands Wendall Burton, Harland Miles, and Dwight Pease; siblings Rob-



Dorothy Pease, 1924-2024.
PHOTO PROVIDED

ert Clark, Roger Clark, Luther Clark, Norman Clark, Doris Turco, Evelyn Carley, Eleanor Swanson, and Elizabeth Babson; grandchildren Todd Bingham, Jed Bingham, and Laura Burton (Dottie's only granddaughter); and by many nieces and nephews. The family wants to thank the staff at Genesis and Bayada Hospice Care for the love and attention that they gave Dottie.

A graveside service will be held on Saturday, Nov. 9, at 11 a.m., at the Oakland Cemetery in Springfield, Vt.

Judith Foster Jacobsen, 1945-2024

WESTON, Vt. – Judi Foster Jacobsen grew up on Holden Hill Farm in Weston, Vt., but spent most of her life in Lake Tahoe and Smith Valley, Nev. She passed away on Sept. 29, 2024, from the effects of a stroke.

Judi was born on Oct. 8, 1945, firstborn child of Charlie and Betty (Waite) Foster. Her childhood on Holden Hill Farm in Weston was one of being part of a large family of siblings, and an extended family that lived nearby, and where every birthday and holiday was celebrated together. Judi was a sixth-generation Vermonter.

Judi was cherished by her Vermont and Nevada families. They all admired her for her beauty, generosity, love of music and dancing, gambling, and a nice glass of wine. She was also known in Vermont as an expert skier. Her love for skiing eventually led her to go on a spring skiing trip "out west" in 1970, where she found Lake Tahoe and spent many years there skiing and working at Harvey's Casino. She never returned to Vermont to live, but made many trips home to Weston to visit friends and family and to get her fill of whole belly fried clams.

Later on, she met and married the love of her life, Ben Jacobsen, to whom she was married for more than 40 years. They built a life together in Gardnerville and Wellington/Smith Valley, Nev., raising strawberries and alfalfa, as well as breeding and raising thoroughbred horses on their large farm. Judi also owned Smith Valley Real Estate, and became a well-known figure in the valley. Ben and Judi were rarely apart from one another, and had won-



Judith Jacobsen, 1945-2024.
PHOTO PROVIDED

derful times through the years in their second homes in Hawaii, then in Arizona. Mostly though, they loved their community of Smith Valley and their many close friends there.

Judi belonged to, and was a driving force in, the Cowboy Church, the So-roptimist Club, the Red Hats, the Rotary Club, and Student of the Month – all in Smith Valley.

Judi is survived by her husband Ben Jacobsen; his daughter Erin Jacobsen; son Chris Jacobsen and wife Karyn; along with grandchildren Quinn, Ryan, and Ian Jacobsen; and four great-grandchildren. They all knew her as Mom and Gramma. She is also survived in Vermont by sisters Nancy Angel and Joanne Prouty with husband Ron, and brother Bruce Foster. Judi's nieces and nephew are Megan Tiftt, Catherine and John Angel, Alyssa Prouty, Jill Prouty Coombs and husband Brent (Caroline and Georgia), Lucy Prouty and partner Cory Sweitzer, and Nicole Foster and Allison Foster (Azailya). She was predeceased by her beloved sister Kathy Foster Ahlers, niece Molly Whiting Tiftt, and her never-forgotten mother and father.

A memorial gathering on Holden Hill will be held in the near future.

OBITUARIES:

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

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calendar/church

LEGAL NOTICES

NOV. 8 – LUDLOW, Vt. – On Friday, Nov. 8, at 9:30 a.m., at the Ludlow Elementary School gym, please join Ballard-Hobart American Legion Family Post 36, the students of Ludlow Elementary School, Mount Holly Elementary, and the Expeditionary School at Black River, for a Veterans Day assembly, as they come together with the community to honor our brave men and women of the armed forces. Doors open at 9:10 a.m.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION, Vt. – On Friday, Nov. 8, from 9:30-10:30 a.m., at the Briggs Opera House, 5 South Main Street, JAM welcomes the public to join this interactive Supreme Court oral arguments simulation in which you, the audience, will decide the case. Discussion about this case, larger issues of free speech and social media it raises, and the workings of the U.S. Supreme court will follow. Presented in partnership with Vermont Law and Graduate School and Lebanon High School, this event is free, open to the public, and will be recorded by JAM. Please RSVP at www.uvjam.org/event/the-united-states-vs-tiktok.

NOV. 9 – N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The North School Preservation Society, 5 School Street, will hold a holiday sale and fundraiser on Saturday, Nov. 9, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., rain or shine. The sale will feature holiday decorations and other holiday-related items.

WESTON, Vt. – The annual Weston Rod & Gun Club Game Supper will be held on Saturday, Nov. 9, at 5 p.m. Kids under 8 eat for half price. Takeout orders will be available by calling 802-824-6824 from 12-5 p.m. that day. The Weston Rod & Gun Club is located at 982 Route 100, one mile north of Weston.

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – There will be a Harvest/Costume Dance at the Charlestown Senior Center, featuring the Silvertones, on Saturday, Nov. 9, from 3-5 p.m. Let's have fun and come in costumes. There is a small cover charge. There will be door prizes and refreshments available. Please plan to come and join in the fun.

NOV. 11 – PERKINSVILLE, Vt. – The Horses for Hope Open Barn for veterans, first responders, and their family and friends, will be held on Monday, Nov. 11, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., at 295 Cascade Falls Road in Perkinsville, Vt. There will be horse connection sessions at 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. for attendees to meet and groom horses who help in the healing of PTSD and addictions. There will also be a birds nest walk, and attendees can make bird feeder cones. Snacks will be provided, and door prizes will be awarded. For more information call 802-738-6219, or email ascutneymtnhorsefarm@gmail.com.

NOV. 13 – BRATTLEBORO, Vt. – As part of the 10th annual global Rich Earth Summit, Rich Earth Institute will host a free open house at its Brattleboro Research Center on Nov. 13, from 4-5 p.m. The Rich Earth Summit is a global gathering dedicated to advancing urine reclamation to create sustainable and just nutrient cycles. The open house will provide a unique opportunity for both summit attendees and the local community to learn more about the institute's research and community-scale demonstration program.

NOV. 14 – PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – On Thursday, Nov. 14, at 6 p.m., Damien Costello presents "That the People May Live: The Life and Legacy of Nicholas Black Elk" at the Cavendish Fletcher Community Library, 573 Main Street. Costello explores the life and legacy of Nicholas Black Elk, the Lakota holy man made famous by the book "Black Elk Speaks." This event is free, and recommended for those aged 10 and older.

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.

MONDAYS – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Leslie's Tavern, 660 Rockingham Road, Bellows Falls, Vt., holds cooking classes two Mondays per month, from 6-8 p.m. Classes cover a wide range of topics from fish cookery to vegetarian cookery, including recipes and techniques to easily create new and exciting dishes to impress your friends and family. For full details and schedule, visit www.lesliestavern.com/cooking-classes.

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

TUESDAYS – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Come check out TOPS – Take Off Pounds Sensibly. We are a nonjudgmental, affordable, and supportive weight loss group. The first visit is free. All are welcome; youth must be at least 9 to attend and have parental permission. Meetings are

every Tuesday at 25 Cherry Hill in Bellows Falls. Weigh-ins start at 5 p.m.

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.

THURSDAYS – TYSON, Vt. – The Tyson Ladies Aid Library Association meets the first Thursday of each month, typically at the Tyson Library. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. and meetings start at noon. New potential members are always welcome. Please call Janine Norman at 802-228-8764 for more information or to verify meeting location.

N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Support group for parents of pregnancy and infant loss on the first Thursday of the month, from 6-7 p.m., at Springfield Area Parent Child Center, 6 Main Street

in North Springfield. For details or to register, email dominiquer@sapcc-vt.org or call 802-886-5242 ext. 258.

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

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

DAILY – REGION – If you want to drink that's your business, but if you want to stop, that's ours. Contact Alcoholics Anonymous at www.aavt.org or call your local hotline at 802-802-2288 and join a meeting.

website www.immanuelepiscopal.org.

CHESTER, VT.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 313 Main St. Services are on Wednesdays, from 5:30-6 p.m.; and on Sundays, from 10-11:30 a.m., both in person and by Zoom, followed by coffee hour. All are welcome. Handicapped accessible. For a link to the Zoom service or more information about services and events, please visit www.stlukesepiscopalvt.org.

LUDLOW, VT.

United Church of Ludlow (UCC and Methodist), 48 Pleasant St.

Sunday services are held in person and streamed online at 10 a.m. Email unitedchurch@tds.net for more information. Visit www.unitedchurch.us to receive updates on services and meetings.

MOUNT HOLLY, VT.

Village Baptist Church, 32 Church St.

We welcome all to come and worship with us Sunday at 9:30 a.m. For more information, call 802-259-2440.

SPRINGFIELD, VT.

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, 90 Park St.

Sunday Liturgy is 9:30 a.m. and Saturday vespers at 5 p.m. For more information, call 802-885-2615 or Parish Council President Thomas Barton at 802-263-5719.

First Congregational Church, UCC, 77 Main St.

Sunday services are at 10 a.m. in person. Singing is encouraged! For more information, call 802-885-5728, email fccucc@vermontel.net, or go to www.firstchurchspringfield.org.

Unitarian Universalist Church, 21 Fairground Rd.

Sunday Services are at 10 a.m., in person and on Zoom. For more information, go to www.uuspringfieldvt.org.

WALPOLE, N.H.

First Congregational Church of Walpole UCC, 15 Washington Sq.

Sunday services are at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary, or via Zoom. For Zoom links, please call 603-756-4075. For more information, go to www.walpolenucc.org or www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalWalpoleNH.

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 Weston

PO Box 98

Weston, VT 05161

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR PAINTING ANNEX BUILDING (THE LITTLE SCHOOL) OUTSIDE

The Town of Weston is requesting bids to paint two outside walls of The Little School located on 8 Lawrence Hill Rd Weston, VT 05161

• Please visit the Town of Weston Scope of Work at www.westonvt.org

Proposals may be sent to Shawna Batogowski, Selectboard Administrative Assistant at selectboard@westonvt.org or mailed with a postmark date no later than **March 31, 2025** addressed to: **Town of Weston Selectboard PO Box 98, Weston VT 05161 Attn: Annex Painting**

All proposals will be opened at the Selectboard meeting scheduled on **April 8th, 2025**

The Town of Weston reserves the right to withdraw this Request for Proposals, to accept or reject any or all proposals in part or in their entirety.

The Town of Weston is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CHURCH SERVICES: We run Church Services on an alternating schedule. Subject to space.

After School Program (ASP) Director

Two Rivers Supervisory Union has an opening for the After School Program (ASP) Director. The ASP Director is responsible for planning, maintaining funding and executing the program. Responsible for the supervision of ASP Site Coordinators, staff, and daily operations. For more information or to apply please go to School Spring Job ID: 4829947.

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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

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opinion

CLEAN OUTS

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – EZ-Dump Enterprises is available for home/apartment/storage clean outs and disposal, and all other junk removal in the Windham and Windsor counties. Call 802-376-1168 or email ezdump.bl@gmail.com.

Dear Editor,

“On Oct. 12, Ludlow Rotary Club held its 33rd annual Chili Cook-off.” This is the introduction to an Okemo Valley TV video where one of the participants is featured receiving an award for his chili in the spiciest category (see at 4 minutes, 58 seconds). No surprise, the name of his chili was “Reactor No. 4”, same as last year. Once more this mysterious name for chili appeared in the video, zoomed in at 3 minutes, 33 seconds. If you google “reactor 4,” here is what comes up: “The Chernobyl disaster began on April 26, 1986, with the explosion of the Number 4 reactor of the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant near the City of Pripyat in northern Ukraine.”

Since the winner had used the name “Chernobyl” in 2022, I do not believe he did not know the origin of the name. Did the organizers know? Did the interviewer? If not, this was the chance to ask the winner the question I posted to the Ludlow Rotary Club on Oct. 7, 2023, “Why did the chef choose the name ‘Reactor No. 4?’” The answer from the club was, “Sorry, we don’t know.” Don’t you want to know? The saga of this question had continued on Oct. 17, 2023, with my letter to the editor of the Vermont Journal, “LTE Chili names reference tragic events.” Here are some

HELP WANTED

LUDLOW, Vt. – DCI Concepts is now hiring experienced lead and general carpenters. Call 802-461-3573.

excerpts: “On April 26, 1986, Chernobyl’s reactor No. 4 melted down due to human error and released radioactive particles into the air, 400 times more radioactivity than the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima. Is this why this chili is the spiciest? Both were horrific tragedies. Living witnesses to these disasters may not want to associate a bowl of chili with a disaster they lived through. What would any sensible person think of chili named Three-Mile Island?”

My hope is that next year’s Chili Cook-off organizers would ask questions about origins of chili names. This year they failed. Using the name associated with tragic events in any country is in bad taste. It is especially insensitive when it comes to Ukraine, as the country is bleeding from fighting the Russian invasion. We Americans are better than that.

Sincerely,
Svetlana Phillips
Cavendish, Vt.

Dear Editor,

The 2024 Warm Hands Warm Hearts Committee would like to thank you for placing our free warm clothing event, in its 17th year, in your paper. Much appreciated.

First and foremost, thanks to the First Baptist Church of Chester, Vt., Pastor Matt, Crystal in the office, and Glen, for their help; to the congregation for their many clothing donations, and allowing us to use the building to hold this free coat drive;

Dear Editor,

Having grown up on a small dairy farm in western Pennsylvania, I enthusiastically agree with Stu Lindberg that we should milk cows. But that’s about all I can agree with him on. I’ll stick to two issues involving science: the Covid vaccine and climate change.

Mr. Lindberg asks, “Which candidates will genuinely seek solutions to address the opioid epidemic?” In the past Mr. Lindberg has denigrated the Covid vaccine. In the June 7, 2022, edition of the VT Digger, he made egregious statements about the numbers of deaths from the vaccine, misinterpreting FDA statistics on adverse events attributed to it.

and to Chester-Andover Family Center and Thrift Shop manager Mike for storing and giving the first load of coats and clothing.

We also would like to thank the many businesses for their contributions, and those that allowed a bin for collection in their businesses.

Thanks to the many who brought in bags of coats, blankets, pants, and shirts, crochet and knitted handiwork, and winter wear; to area churches, The American Legion Auxiliary Unit

67, and private donors who gave wrapped snacks and juice drinks for our free snack bags; to Smitty’s Chester Market, Chester Sunoco, and Chester Hardware for the many bags needed; and to Spring Hill Farm, and Smitty’s Chester Market, for apples and oranges.

This thank-you could go on and on. I’m sure I will miss someone. Please know if you did anything to help put this event in motion, your part was important.

An enormous thank-you to the many who showed up throughout the week to set up, sort, and fold clothes, and take down the hall in one day.

To Randy Miles, Sean Snyder, and son Ian from the Boy Scout Shed, who helped bag and cart all the extra clothing away.

Every part that helped was important to putting this free event on.

Thank you,
The 2024 Warm Hands Warm Hearts Committee

Mr. Lindberg. He, like Mr. Lindberg, appears to have no significant education or work experience in any branch of science. Still, Mr. Stern confidently answered a question on climate change in the VT-Digger’s election guide by saying, “The legislators have gone off the rails to try and fix a nonexistent problem.” In The Chester Telegraph on Oct. 23, 2024, at 8:52 a.m., after an inane statement about climate change, he comments that “When a Nobel-winning scientist puts his reputation on the line

to state that humans have no effect on the climate, I am listening.” Maybe Mr. Stern should look at the website for National Academies of Sciences, which unequivocally points to human activity as causing climate change. He should note that this highly regarded organization has among its 3,000 or so members 200 Nobel Prize winners who obviously endorse this fact. Maybe Mr. Stern should do a little more “research.”

Paid for by Kem Phillips
Cavendish, Vt.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD TAXPAYER NOTICE

The second quarter installment of the 2024-2025 Town & Town School District Taxes is due and payable November 15, 2024. Payments can be made as follows:

- In person or through the mail.
 - Dropped into our mail slot located in the white door that faces Main Street or into the mail slot located in the door on the second floor at the top of the outside stairs.
 - Electronically on the town’s website at <https://springfieldvt.gov>. A fee is charged for this method of payment.
- Payment receipts available in person or by including a stamped self-addressed return envelope or an email address. Town Hall is open M-F 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Barbara A. Courchesne, Treasurer, CVT

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DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD (DRB)

WESTMINSTER TOWN HALL
Westminister, Vermont

Legal Notice

The Westminister Development Review Board will meet at 6:00 pm on **Monday, December 2, 2024** to consider the following:

Application # 25-28

Application #25-28 David Gorham (Owner & Applicant) – property located at **7752 US Route 5**. The Applicant is requesting a Lot Line Adjustment. This Application will be reviewed under **Section 311 Site Plan Review, Section 444 Commercial/Industrial District; and Section 215 Zoning Permit Procedures** of the adopted 2017 Zoning Bylaws

Application # 25-29

Application #25-29 Anthony Vastola (Owner & Applicant) property located at **543 Daigel Road**. The Applicant is requesting a Change of Use; from a barn to a residence. Application will be reviewed under **Section 311 Site Plan Review; Section 447 Rural Residential District; and Section 215 Zoning Permit Procedures** of the adopted 2017 Zoning Bylaws.

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

The application is available for review in the Westminister Town Hall, 3651 US Route 5 Westminister, Vermont 05158, Monday – Thursday from 7:00 am - 4:30 pm.

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, or against, a specific candidate or party.

arts & entertainment

NXT Gallery photographs by Nick Ellison

PUTNEY, Vt. – The NXT Gallery is pleased to present “Water: Shape and Time,” an exhibition of palladiotypes by photographer Nick Ellison. The exhibit runs Nov. 16 – Feb. 9, with an opening reception on Sunday, Nov. 17, from 3-5 p.m.

Ellison reminds us that time is a critical element of photography. From exposure, to development, to printing, each step in the process is defined by time. At each step, time is taken to allow the chemical and physical processes to create the final image. Ellison has chosen to have an element of water in each photograph in this series as a way to depict the passing of time, to draw attention to change that is often overlooked. He is trying to narrow the gaze,

to focus in on these particulars, on how time changes our view of the environment, because it’s happening incrementally, and we often don’t have the time to notice. But if you pause, as a photograph asks you to do, you can see that the force and power of the water, just like time, offers change.

These images are handmade prints using the palladium printing process, and are known as palladiotypes. This process dates back to the early days of photography in the 19th century. To create the print, a sheet of cotton rag paper is sensitized by hand-coating a mixture of ferric and palladium salts onto its surface. When the coated paper has dried, the paper and a negative is sandwiched in a frame and exposed to

ultraviolet light. When the exposure is complete, the print must then be developed to complete the chemical reaction necessary to convert the palladium salts to palladium metal, which forms the image. Since this process requires the use of ultraviolet light, enlarging is not possible, and large-format negatives must be used. While it is possible to create



A palladiotype by Nick Ellison.

PHOTO PROVIDED

negatives using digital methods, Ellison only uses large-format film negatives as a way to stay true to this historical process, and to create a deeper connection to his subjects without electronic intervention.

Ellison is a mechanical engineer who lives in Putney with his wife and daughter. His love of photography began in childhood. His interest grew into

a passion that has led him to experiment with many different forms. Around six years ago, he discovered that film photography and historical printing processes created an escape from the ubiquity of electronics, while also creating images that highlighted the beauty of nature.

The exhibition will continue through Feb. 9. The Next Stage Gallery, located at 15 Kimball Hill in Putney, is open during events, and by appointment with the artist, or by contacting Next Stage at info@nextstagearts.org or 802-451-0053.

“Glistening Wonders” at the VAULT

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Gallery at the VAULT is proud to present a new Open Wall show, “Glistening Wonders.” This show includes beautiful paintings, photographs, colored pencil, creative sewing, aluminum sculpture, and digital art and cards. It is a real joy to showcase the remarkable talents of our friends and neighbors. The works will be on display until Dec. 26.

Open Wall is a nonjuried

show for any artists living in a 30-mile radius of Springfield. Gallery at the VAULT is located at 68 Main Street in Springfield, and is open Wednesday and Saturday, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.; and Friday, 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. For more information, call 802-885-7111, email galleryvault@vermontel.net, visit www.galleryvault.org or the gallery’s Facebook page, or stop by the gallery. Gallery at the VAULT is handicap accessible.



“Silent Blue Night” by Kathleen Eames.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Weekly SUDOKU								
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Answers												
Solution time: 25 mins.												
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yellow page BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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arts & entertainment

Weston Theater Winter Cabaret returns

WESTON, Vt. – Kick off the winter season in Weston with Weston Theater Company's beloved annual Winter Cabaret. This fun, festive, and tastefully irreverent tradition is sure to get you in the holiday spirit – and provide enough joy and laughter to carry through to the new year. Proceeds from this event will benefit the theater's ongoing effort to bring its free Young Company tour to towns across central and southern Vermont.

Weston icon David Bonanno, last seen on Weston's stage in Season 88's productions of "The Woman in Black" and "Pippin," will emcee the show.

Joining him are former Young Company members and Weston alumni, and together they're bringing you an annual tradition – this time full of all new skits and songs.

Says Weston Theater Company's executive artistic director Susanna Gellert, "We're thrilled to be presenting our Winter Cabaret for its seventh annual rendition, and are looking forward to sharing this wonderful holiday tradition with friends, neighbors, and visitors to Vermont. As in years past, this holiday favorite will be performed as a benefit to support Weston's Young Company. We are hard at work prepar-

ing for the 2025 season – Weston's 89th – and one of its highlights is sure to be our Young Company tour, which is free to all and enjoyed by children and families throughout Vermont. By joining us at the Winter Cabaret, you are helping to ensure that we can continue to bring this important and fun summer show to communities across the state."

The event will be held on Dec. 6 and 7, at 7:30 p.m., at Walker Farm. Tickets go on sale to the general public on Nov. 13, and can be purchased at www.westontheater.org, or by calling the box office at 802-824-5288.

OLLI presents "Poetry of Vermont Landscape"

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Sydney Lea will present the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) program "Poetry of Vermont Landscape" on Tuesday, Nov. 12, at 2 p.m., at the Nolin-Murray Center, next to St. Mary's Church, on Pleasant Street in Springfield.

Lea, Vermont's poet laureate from 2011-2015, will begin with a look at our iconic Vermont poet Robert Frost, who is very much a poet of landscape. As we examine how poems express the views of traditional agricultural hill farms, we'll also consider the challenge of expressing changes of the

landscape implicit in the last line of Frost's "The Oven Bird," "What to make of a diminished thing?" With discussion and readings of Frost and other poets' work, including Lea's own, we'll hear illustrations of how the language of poetry can express the environment around us.

Lea is a former Pulitzer finalist in poetry. In 2021, he was presented with the Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts. He has published 26 books, both novels and poetry collections.

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 older. Anyone who would be interested in this type of program, regardless of their age, is welcome. The programs last about an hour and a half.

You may view all of the programs by visiting www.learn.uvm.edu/olli/springfield. Preregistration can be done online, or by calling 802-656-8407. If there are weather-related changes to the schedule, you can check the above website on the morning of the program.

The final program of the fall semester will be on Tuesday, Dec. 3, with Mark Breen presenting "In the Land of Shadow and Light: The Science, Beauty, and Nature of Eclipses."

"Where the Rivers Flow North" to screen

S. LONDONDERRY, Vt. – The Vermont Film Festival returns Nov. 14, with a showing of "Where the Rivers Flow North." The time is 7 p.m., and the venue is the Depot, on Route 100 in South Londonderry.

Set in 1927, "Where the Rivers Flow North" tells the story of an old Vermont logger (Rip Torn as Noel Lord) and his Native American mate (Tantoo Cardinal as Bangor) who face the extinction of their way of life, when the building of a giant hydro dam threatens to flood them off their land. Lord and Bangor face emotional and physical challenges as they struggle with the power company, unforgiving terrain, and their quirky relationship.

The movie also stars Michael J. Fox, and features appearances by Vermont's own Treat Williams, Sam Lloyd Jr. and Sr., and Rusty DeWees. It was directed by noted Vermont filmmaker Jay Craven. It was filmed in the St. Johnsbury area of Vermont's Northeast Kingdom in 1993.

The Vermont Film Festival is presented by a consortium of the Weston Historical Society, the Londonderry Arts and Historical Society, and the Friends of the West River Trail. It features movies either filmed in Vermont, or which attempt to portray it though actually filmed elsewhere.



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Tuesday Trivia at 6pm with Rick Davis
Thursday Irish Session with Gypsy Reel at 6:30pm

arts & entertainment

Canal Street Gallery Solo Show Program

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Canal Street Art Gallery presents the Solo Show Program, offering an exhibition schedule of small, eight-week-long shows of varying sizes open to all artists. Solo shows, formerly offered by the gallery only to its represented artists, are now open to help build all artists' careers. The Solo Show Program replaces the gallery's open call group shows, mounted several times per year since the gallery's opening in 2017. This new programming continues to support the gallery's mission of offering an open space where all creative voices may be heard.

The Solo Show Program provides up to 12 flexible spaces. Shows are eight weeks long, and open on the third Friday of every month with a reception for the artists, from 5-8 p.m. Exhibition fees have an affordable range, with a low commission taken by the gallery to process sales. The Solo Show Program offers full spaces, as well as individual walls. Some of the same spaces are occupied by the Working Artist Program, each being available to fill

as needed.

Canal Street Art Gallery's programming, now consisting of the Solo Show Program, Working Artist Program, and artist representation, is inspired by owner and director Mike Noyes' time working at The Contemporary Art Workshop (CAW) in Chicago. CAW was a nonprofit, artist-run gallery and community arts organization founded in 1949 by sculptor John Kearney and his wife Lynn, as well as artists Leon Golub, Cosmo Campoli, Ray Fink, and Al Kwitz. CAW supported emerging artists by staging solo exhibitions to promote their work, and featured Chicago and Midwestern, as well as national and international, artists. In addition, CAW hosted community outreach programs, offered classes and other technical assistance, and rented 20 low-cost studios.

Submissions for the Solo Show Program are taken on an ongoing basis. Canal Street Art Gallery works to give opportunities to all artists. Decisions are made mainly based on time and space. To apply, please visit

www.canalstreetartgallery.com/exhibition-opportunities, and complete the artist registration, artwork information, and email artwork images.

Canal Street Art Gallery is located at 23 Canal Street in historic downtown Bellows Falls, Vt., and is open Tuesday-Saturday, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. For more information about the Solo Show Program or the gallery, go to www.canalstreetartgallery.com, call 802-289-0104, or email to artinfo@canalstreetartgallery.com.

David Becker at Stage 33 Live

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Guitarist, composer, and producer David Becker is one of the most highly regarded jazz musicians working today, combining diverse influences and a passion for the new and different – playing for the present, with an eye on the past and future. He has notched up accolades over

the past four decades, sharing stages with Miles Davis, Chick Corea, and Michael Brecker, to name a few, and collaborating with Pat Metheny, John Abercrombie, Mike Stern, and more.

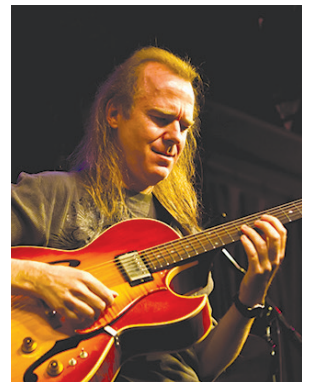
Becker has performed at some of the world's most prestigious venues, including London's Barbican Centre, Rotterdam's

originality – all with a lot of soul and groove." This dynamic eight-piece band has toured and performed original songs for more than 25 years, with genre-defying music that is quintessentially New York – vibrant international cultures meets American roots. Diverse backgrounds in gypsy jazz, downtown avant garde loft music, blues, soul, country, rock 'n' roll, and roots is written and performed by musicians whose ages span every decade, from their 20s to their 70s.

Unique instrumentation matches virtuosic trumpet, saxophone, trombone, guitar, tuba, harmonica, drums, banjo, and violin, with a fantastical array of folk instruments and guest performers. The extraordinary vocals by lead Wade Schuman are riveting, rousing, and emotive,

and his mastery of harmonica is unparalleled.

Worldwide performances include WOMAD (England, Australia, and New Zealand), jazz and folk festivals of Berlin, Vienna, Montreal, Pori, Cambridge, Vancouver, and Calgary, FMM Sines, and Live on BBC 3. They have toured from China to Brazil, Mexico, Russia, India, Malaysia, central Asia, and across Europe. Musical collaborators have included The Kronos Quartet, Gangbé Brass Band (Benin), Natalie Merchant, Son of Dave, Tuva's Huun-Huur-Tu and Alash, and Balla Kouyate (Mali). They have written for Japanese television, Wim Wenders' film "Pina," and the Nobel Laureates 75th Anniversary. Their newest album, "Bonfire," was released in May 2023.



David Becker. PHOTO PROVIDED

De Doelen, and Madison Square Garden and Birdland in New York, as well as international festivals including Monterey Jazz Festival, Buenos Aires Jazz Festival, Attila Zoller Festival, and more. He has released 20 albums, many topping the jazz and contemporary music charts.

In addition to Grammy and Emmy nominations, Heritage guitars introduced a David Becker Signature

Model at the 2015 Winter NAMM Show, and Homestead Guitars debuted his signature acoustic in 2020. Sheptone produces David Becker Signature Strings.

In 2021, during the pandemic, Becker taped a series for the Space Channel called "Planets" – a trip around the solar system with music for each planet. He will be performing excerpts from this program, with stunning artwork from the series projected onto a large screen.

He's been selling out theaters in Japan, Germany, Italy, New Zealand, and America, but also loves an intimate audience. That's where Stage 33 Live's 40 seats come in. Becker will perform his solo show "Planets" on Saturday, Nov. 23 – a captivating audiovisual expedition with projections of the cosmos enhancing his compositions and improvisations, a celestial odyssey aboard a transcendent spacecraft through the sounds, energy, and mystery of the planets of our solar system.

Tickets can be purchased in advance through www.stage33live.com, or at the door subject to availability; advance tickets guarantee entry. Only 40 tickets will be sold. The performance will be recorded and filmed.

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EVENTS

outdoor news

Songwriter duo workshop and concert



Stephanie Hollenberg and Luke Concannon. PHOTO PROVIDED

GUILFORD, Vt. – Guilford resident Luke Concannon has early memories of falling asleep to the sounds of singing, fiddle, and guitar at Irish family parties, and he's been sharing song in community ever since, including a number-one hit in the U.K. and Ireland. In Scotland, Luke met and fell in love with Stephanie Hollenberg, a classically-trained singer/performer and recent graduate of Harvard Divinity School, where she trained for chaplaincy. They moved to Guilford, Vt., in 2019, and have been releasing music, hosting workshops, and touring Europe and the U.S. Hollenberg and Concannon

are excited to host the daylong Song Seeds songwriting workshop at the Broad Brook Community Center on Nov. 9, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. We'll cap off the day with an evening concert, from 6:30-9 p.m., in which participants will have the chance to perform, followed by an hourlong set by their hosts. For more information, see www.lukeconcannon.com/workshops.

For more information, contact Luke Concannon info@lukeconcannon.com, or Stephanie Hollenberg stephanie.hollenberg@gmail.com.

CCCD Conservation grant program

WALPOLE, N.H. – Make your biodiversity dreams a reality. The Cheshire County Conservation District (CCCD) is excited to announce the 2025 round of the Conservation Opportunity Fund. This grant provides up to \$1,500 for wildlife habitat improvement projects in Cheshire County, N.H.

CCCD seeks proposals from landowners and stewards of small tracts of land 25 acres or fewer who are interested in making a meaningful long-term impact on wildlife habitat and biodiversity. Eligible applicants include individuals, businesses, farmers, and/or forestland owners.

Past funded projects include the installation

of native pollinator habitat, rain gardens, vegetated buffers along surface waters, early successional habitat creation/maintenance, forest management for wildlife, and conversion of lawns or fields to native plant landscapes. Other projects which benefit native wildlife habitat may be considered.

Grant information, 2025 application, project resources, and more can be found on CCCD's website at www.cheshireconservation.org/cof.

There will be an optional virtual informational session for interested applicants on Thursday, Dec. 12, at 6 p.m., on Zoom. Register at www.cheshireconservation.org/event-details/conservation-opportunity-fund-informational-session.

Completed applications

are due to the CCCD no later than Feb. 1, 2025, and can be submitted digitally or by mail. Applications must be postmarked or received by email by the due date. Proposals can be mailed to Conservation Opportunity Fund, Cheshire County Conservation District, 11 Industrial Park Drive, Walpole, NH 03608, or emailed to info@cheshireconservation.org

Successful grant applicants will be notified of award by March 15, 2025.

The Conservation Opportunity Fund is a grant program that is privately funded and administered by the Cheshire County Conservation District. For further information, and to discuss project proposals, contact Bence Hershon at 802-518-0993 or bence@cheshireconservation.org.

The Cheshire County

Conservation District promotes the conservation and responsible use of our natural and agricultural resources for the people of Cheshire County by providing technical, financial, and educational assistance. Our goal is to encourage the stewardship of healthy soils, productive ecologically sound farms, diverse wildlife, productive sustainable forests, healthy watersheds, and clean water, to ensure those resources are available for future generations. Established in 1945, the Conservation District operates out of Walpole, N.H., where we work alongside the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and other conservation partners. For more information, contact Amanda Littleton at 603-756-2988 extension 4, or at amanda@cheshireconservation.org.

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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 the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦
♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword

ACROSS
1 Story lines
5 Entanglement
8 Victor's cry
12 Barking mammal
13 Artist Yokoyama
14 Scrapped mission
15 Hawaiian city
16 Tic-tac-toe win
17 Corrida bull
18 Surround
20 Edge
22 Standard
23 Fiddle stick
24 Umps
27 Revolt
32 — Baba
33 To and —
34 Modern, in Bonn
35 They can hold their heads high
38 Aussie greeting
39 Takeoff stat
40 Comic Philips
42 On the job
45 Destroys
49 Hoodlum
50 Privy
52 Small combo
53 Oklahoma tribe
54 GI entertainers
55 Full house, e.g.

DOWN
1 Tennis legend
2 Check
3 Young whale
4 Sailing vessels
5 PBS anchor
6 Rock's Brian
7 Nitwit
8 Preambles
9 Oboe, for one

10 Folklore monster
11 Queen dowager of Jordan
19 — Boheme
21 Kimono closer
24 Tatter
25 Yalie
26 Kindling
28 Opposite of "post-"
29 Guitar-making material
30 PBS supporter
36 Makes amends
37 New Deal pres.
38 "Faust" dramatist
41 — Deeds
42 Awestruck
43 Dorothy's dog
44 Heidi of "Project Runway"
46 Rocky outcrop
47 Monarch
48 Freshens lawns
51 Sugar suffix

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real estate

Real estate negotiations making a comeback



REGION – After several years of a highly competitive – some might say chaotic – real estate market in Vermont, recent indicators point to the fact that things might be starting to calm down. As the inventory of new listings increases, a slow shift into a more buyer-friendly market is creating more opportunities and flexibility during the negotiation process.

In a seller's market, many homebuyers make the choice to waive the inspection to strengthen their offer, but that move can be risky. An inspection can reveal multiple issues that would otherwise go undetected, and eliminating the inspection can leave the buyer unprepared for negative health, safety, or financial consequences down the road.

However, according to the Vermont Real Estate Company in Burlington, "In this shifting market,

many buyers are returning back to requesting inspections, and sellers are more likely to accept offers whether they do or don't include an inspection."

As the market transitions, buyers are able to negotiate more in general. Typical items considered negotiable during a home exchange include closing costs, closing date, home repairs, appliances, or other large items such as furniture.

Shelly Salas, broker and owner of Your Home Sold Guaranteed Realty, said she has negotiated concessions where sellers pay off solar panels, so the buyer owns them and the house, free and clear. "In one case the concession for the panels amounted to \$60,000 in saved costs to the buyer."

Salas advises buyers not to assume sellers won't negotiate, and to "look to your agent to help you get the best deal. As a buyer,

you may go in, and because it's an emotional purchase, you might say 'okay' if the seller tells you no. We come in and negotiate for the buyer. We're able to pull market data and see if the neighbors paid concessions. If so, we can share that data with the seller, and say, 'I know you're saying you don't want to pay for this, but let me show you what your neighbors did.' It's powerful."

A blog post from Vermont Real Estate Company reports, "Buyers are now starting to have more leverage, with the ability to include inspections, negotiate contingencies, and influence closing timelines. [This] allows buyers to request longer closing periods if needed, perhaps to align with the sale of their current property, or to secure financing without feeling rushed. Sellers, now facing less competition for

their properties, may be more willing to accommodate these requests to secure a sale. This flexibility can lead to more balanced and mutually beneficial transactions, where both parties' needs are considered."

Contingencies will vary depending on the contract, but the most requested are financing and inspection. In Vermont, other contingencies frequently include well water, septic, and/or radon inspection. Talk to your real estate agent about what is important to you, while staying realistic about expectations.

Online tenant and fair housing workshop

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Wednesday, Dec. 11, at 1 p.m., CVOEO's Vermont Tenants and Fair Housing programs are hosting a Tenant and Fair Housing Know-Your-Rights Workshop for the Springfield community, via Zoom. This workshop is an introduction to the fundamentals of tenant rights and responsibilities, as well as fair housing protections, and it is designed for tenants, landlords, and all community members in between. We will briefly cover the housing landscape in Vermont, basic tenant skills, landlord obligations, who is protected under state and federal fair housing law, what housing discrimination can look

and sound like, and what we can do to prevent housing discrimination.

This workshop provides information that is essential to all community members, community advocates, and housing providers. It is crucial that people are aware of these rights and fair housing protections, to have the knowledge to navigate a variety of housing experiences and conflicts. Our goal is to help everyone be informed about where they can find support, resources, and information to prevent and fight illegal housing discrimination.

This event is free and open to the public. Register at us02web.zoom.us/j/81012345678. Meeting ID: 810 123 4567. Meeting Password: 1234567890. Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81012345678>. Meeting ID: 810 123 4567. Meeting Password: 1234567890. Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81012345678>.

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We do not discriminate against tenant applications on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, age, creed, gender identity, gender related characteristic or because a person intends to occupy a dwelling unit with one or more minor children or because a person is a recipient of public assistance, sexual orientation, marital status or disability.
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