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# THE **Vermont** Journal

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## Resignation in Londonderry sparks public input

BY SHAWNTAE WEBB  
*The Vermont Journal*

**LONDONDERRY, Vt.** – At the Nov. 18 Londonderry Selectboard meeting, town administrator Shane O’Keefe announced they received a resignation letter from Emmett Dunbar, cochair of the SoLo Master Planning Task Force. Rachel Febbie, a previous Williams Dam Advisory Committee member, also wrote to the town acknowledging Dunbar’s resignation.

Melissa Brown, former selectboard member, pressed the board to get answers as to why volunteers continue to resign in the Town of Londonderry. Brown declared there have been “14 resignations in the last six months...I’m pushing to say, ‘please do something.’”

Board cochair Martha Dale expressed, “When the planning commission resigned, I said that we owned it.” Dale continued to verbalize that occurrence was something the board needs to understand and learn from.

Brown urged the board to speak with those individuals to determine why they each could not continue in their roles. Board member Taylor Prouty stated they have hosted exit interviews in the past for specific positions. Dale agreed they could privately meet with resigned volunteers to determine what went wrong. Board member James Ameden expressed, “I’m open to hearing anyone’s concerns...To me it’s a communication gap that hasn’t been fixed since.”

Dunbar’s letter read, “After the undeserving ill treatment, escalated tones, and finger waving I received from some of the Londonderry Planning Commission members and an audience member

(Tom Cavanagh) on Nov. 11, I am respectfully resigning as the cochair of the SoLo Master Planning Task Force.” He continued to state, “This project is worthy and good. It can help our village be even better than it already is. Perhaps, the deliverables will aid in positive economic and community development in South Londonderry? Respectfully – yet discouraged, Emmett Dunbar.”

Febbie wrote to the board on the evening of the Nov. 18 meeting, requesting that it be read aloud. “I recently heard of another resignation from a town committee member...I’ve never seen so many resignations, it’s truly concerning,” she wrote. “I would have resigned from my positions as well if we had not disbanded the Williams Dam Advisory Committee.”

Febbie continued that the committee was always very mindful of the townspeople’s values and tax dollars, and referenced the research and study the committee did. “The changes made to the scope of the study completely undermined the committee’s purpose, and the fact that someone from above made those changes without communicating them to the committee is an unfathomable level of deceit, and exhibits entitlement and arrogance. I will also add, those changes were made at a cost to the townspeople. Quite honestly, I feel being on that committee was a complete waste of my time and energy.”

She went on to say her feelings were validated when the Williams Dam Advisory Committee was disbanded. “Moreover, validation came once again when Tom Cavanagh disrespected our se-

nior community member Bob Forbes, who served on the Williams Dam Advisory Committee, when Bob was trying to share findings with the selectboard.”

“I have never served on a selectboard, but I do feel there should be a level of professionalism and objectiveness, and if you can’t adhere to that, then maybe you should be the one considering your resignation.” Febbie concluded her letter, “We’re all learning and growing, and perhaps this letter is a stepping stone in some way.”

Resident Heather Stephenson suggested making meetings more interactive, with the ability for residents to participate without attending in person. O’Keefe noted the meetings are not required to be hosted remotely, though they are required to be recorded and posted for 30 days. Part of the restrictions, he explained, is the personnel to make that happen.

Stephenson said, “In the direction of transparency, the town may get a volunteer to help, ‘but doing nothing is going in the opposite direction.’”

The board agreed that action needed to be taken, and Dale expressed that she would be interested to look into the underlying issue, and the “ethics we want to embrace.”

Full article online at [www.vermontjournal.com](http://www.vermontjournal.com). Further details from the Nov. 18 meeting will be reported on in the next printed edition. The next Londonderry Selectboard meeting will be held Monday, Dec. 2, at 6 p.m.

## ESBR Giving Tuesday

**LUDLOW, Vt.** – The Expeditionary School at Black River (ESBR) is excited to announce that several supporters are providing a Matching Fund Challenge, totaling \$10,400. That means if you help us reach \$10,400, then these do-

nors will match with their own personal pledges for a total of at least \$20,800 being raised for Giving Tuesday 2024. Remember, proceeds go directly to ESBR, as it is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit school; funding helps ESBR continue to provide an authentic education for the children

in our community and surrounding area. One such example is to provide funding for students to receive tech school programming, and gain experience in specific trade careers. So please help us reach our goal this giving season. As always, thank you all for your support.

## Chester approves snowmobile club road use

BY NICK GIBERTI  
*The Vermont Journal*

**CHESTER, Vt.** – The Chester Selectboard began their Wednesday, Nov. 20, meeting by hearing updates from town manager Julie Hance, who told the board that the town had been awarded a Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP) grant totaling nearly \$500,000. The grant, Hance said, will be used to upgrade the energy infrastructure of municipal buildings, including the town hall, Whiting Library, and Chester Academy building.

The board then moved to approve use of a short list of town roads by the Chester Snowmobile Club. During the discussion, Chester landowner Paul Bidgood rose to address the board, asking if the list of roads included in the selectboard’s packet was the “complete list of roads that the snowmobile club can use?” Bidgood was informed by board member Peter Hudkins that, in the State of Vermont, “any unplowed road” is automatically allowed for snowmobile use.

Bidgood has been engaged in a longstanding struggle with the towns of Chester and Cavendish to prevent snowmobile use

of a portion of Bailey Hill Road, also known as Town Highway 136, which runs through his property, and which he says is actually private property that has been improperly classified as a Class 4 road. Reading from a lengthy statement, Bidgood reiterated his claim that a section of the road in question was “discontinued” in 1905, and another section was similarly discontinued in 1932. However, according to Bidgood, at a meeting of the Cavendish Selectboard on March 21, 1997 – “that fateful day,” as Bidgood repeatedly referred to it – there was “collusion between the Town of Cavendish and the Town of Chester, for the benefit of VAST,” resulting in the road being classified as a town highway despite the previous discontinuances, which has resulted in use by the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers (VAST) each winter up to the present day.

The selectboard informed Bidgood that they had been working on the matter with the town’s attorney Jim Carroll since he had initially brought the issue to them in February, and would be issuing a decision in the coming weeks. “There is a lot more to this than just the presentation that you gave us. There’s documents stacked this high,” responded Board Chair Arne Jony-nas, indicating a stack nearly a foot high.

Bidgood, in his final words to the board, explained, “I do not want to get accosted or arrested when I stop snowmobiles from coming from Chester’s side into Cavendish. The Chester road only goes as far as the town line,” addressing the latter part of his comments to members of the Chester Snowmobile Club in attendance at the meeting. Jony-nas shrugged and brought an end to the discussion, noting that the road Bidgood was speaking about was not included on the list of roads currently being approved, and that therefore, by the rules of order governing the meeting, this was not the proper time for discussion of the issue.

The board also heard from Joe Karl of the Chester Housing Commission, who wanted the board to seek approval from the voters of Chester at March’s Town Meeting to set up what he called a “housing trust fund.” This fund would be controlled by the housing commission, and would be used to “assist in funding projects...without going to the tax base,” Karl stated. The fund would provide capital subsidy for housing developments, accessory dwelling unit creation, use of publicly owned land for housing, bringing vacant lots into code compliance, and permitting for housing projects, according to Karl,

See **CHESTER** on Page 2

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## DEADLINES CLOSED NOV. 28 + 29

The deadline for all content is **Wednesday, Nov. 27, at 12 p.m.** for the Dec. 4 publication.

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# Three Ludlow businesses awarded 2024 Dukies

LUDLOW, Vt. – On a rainy Thursday in Ludlow, three local businesses were awarded the 2024 Dukie Awards. It was a new experience for Divided Sky and their indomitable leader Melanie Gulde. “This is our very first award of any kind, and we’ve only been open for one year,” gushed the program director for the residential recovery program. Mojo, on the other hand, are veterans when it comes to bagging the vaunted Dukie. Mojo last received a Dukie in 2021, and John and Jodi Seward were thrilled, saying “laissez bon temps roulez,” which of course is Cajun French for “let the



**Betsy and Pat Ross of Tygart Mountain Sports with Duke DaLoose.**

PHOTO PROVIDED



**Jodie and John Seward of Mojo Cafe with Duke DaLoose.**

PHOTO PROVIDED



**Melanie Gulde of Divided Sky Foundation with Duke DaLoose.**

PHOTO PROVIDED

good times roll.” Patrick and Betsy Ross of Tygart Mountain Sports had an unusually grand day receiving their third award, which was nicknamed the throuple. The selection committee for the Dukie award has obviously seen something they like down

at Tygart, and rewarded them accordingly.

The Duke DaLoose Foundation Award for Excellence, also known as the Dukie, is an annual award presented to businesses who exhibit the traits embodied by the award’s namesake Duke DaLoose. The Duke DaLoose Foundation Committee for Awarding the

Duke DaLoose Foundation Award for Excellence is responsible for choosing the recipients of the prestigious award. As Patrick Ross from Tygart Mountain Sports expressed, “Wow, just wow, I am speechless.” And to anyone who knows Ross, that is indeed an accomplishment.

# Mary Davis to match donations to BRGNS

LUDLOW, Vt. – Mary W. Davis Realtor & Associates is offering to match donations made to Black River Good Neighbor Services during this holiday season up to \$2,500, for a total of \$5,000.

Black River Good Neighbor Services’ mission is to provide confidential, temporary food, clothing, and financial and disaster assistance to those in need, helping them return to self-sufficiency. During the flood of July 2023, they provided great assistance to those affected in our area. For the holiday season, they provide cheer with food and gifts to families who have experienced economic reverses. Over the past four years, they have served over 526 families, or 1,242 individuals, with gifts.

Black River Good

Neighbor Services works diligently to empower those who are underserved. Families and individuals living in Ludlow, Proctorsville, Cavendish, Mount Holly, Belmont, and Plymouth benefit from the food shelf, thrift store, and furniture store.

If you are interested in donating, please visit our office in the Shaw’s Plaza or mail a check payable to Black River Good Neighbors to Mary W. Davis at P.O. Box 419, Ludlow, VT, 05149. We will give you a collectible 2024 holiday ornament as a token of our appreciation. Let’s work together to make this a very happy holiday for everyone.

The Mary Davis office is open Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. When we work together, we are able to accomplish great things for our community.

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## CHESTER

From Page 1

and could be funded in a number of ways. One of the funding methods discussed at the meeting was a 1% local options tax, which would also require voter approval. However, this was not pursued concretely, and the board intended to revisit the issue if and when the voters approve the housing trust fund.

The board also looked over draft budgets for the Whit-

ing Library and the Chester recreation and facilities departments. Of particular note, the Whiting Library was requesting that Chester cover all personnel expenses, at a total of \$125,356. The library, treasurer Lora Colokat told the board, has in the past struggled to retain personnel due to low wages. While the library is now providing competitive wages to its employees, this has required a commensurate increase in their budget for the last several years, though the payroll budget for 2025

is actually slightly lower than that for 2024. The full text of the draft budgets can be seen in the selectboard’s Nov. 20 meeting packet at [www.chestervt.gov/selectboard.html](http://www.chestervt.gov/selectboard.html).

Finally, Hance requested Economic Development Funds from the board, to aid in making electrical upgrades to the town hall auditorium, which has recently been used for an expanded array of events brought in by the volunteer group Upstairs at Town Hall. The project is intended to be done in two phases, with the first phase consisting of upgrades to the electrical panel on the balcony, and then installation of 16 electrical outlets total along both walls on the main floor. This phase is es-

timated to cost \$17,000. Phase 2 would be the installation of a panel box on the stage, and an upgrade to utilize three-phase power. This phase would cost \$14,000, though Hance hoped that some could be offset with the MERP grant the town had received. While the board was generally supportive of this effort, some questioned whether three-phase power was feasible or necessary. Ultimately the board gave Hance the go-ahead to proceed with Phase 1, and will revisit plans and approval for Phase 2 in the future.

The Chester Selectboard’s next meeting will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 4, at 6:30 p.m., at the Chester Town Hall.

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# Ashley's Ferry

BY RON PATCH

802-374-0119  
ronpatch27@gmail.com

A while back, Ted Spaulding gave me a book written by Richard Whitcomb of Springfield, titled "Rambling Reminiscences." I just got around to reading it.

Here's a little history from the title page.

"Richard Whitcomb was born in Spencer Hollow, Springfield, Vt., on April 21, 1911, and grew up there on the home farm. He graduated from Springfield High School and the University of Massachusetts. He had a dairy and poultry operation until 1971 when his wife Ethel Bishop died. He sold the farm to his daughter Ann and her husband Len Germain. Richard remarried and lives in Perkinsville in the Pink House with his wife, formerly Doris Stapleton.

"Gardening and wood-

working have been his hobbies, and he has kept a keen interest in Springfield. The Springfield Reporter has used the many articles that follow."

### Ashley's Ferry

"As a 9-year-old boy I rode with my father from our farm home in Spencer Hollow up toward Eureka and down the old Ferry road to Weathersfield Bow, a distance of perhaps three miles. Then on down past good meadow land to Oliver Ashley Ferry carrying a wagon load of apples to be pressed for cider by the man who lived across the river and operated a cider mill and the ferry. (The one and only time I ever rode on the ferry boat.)

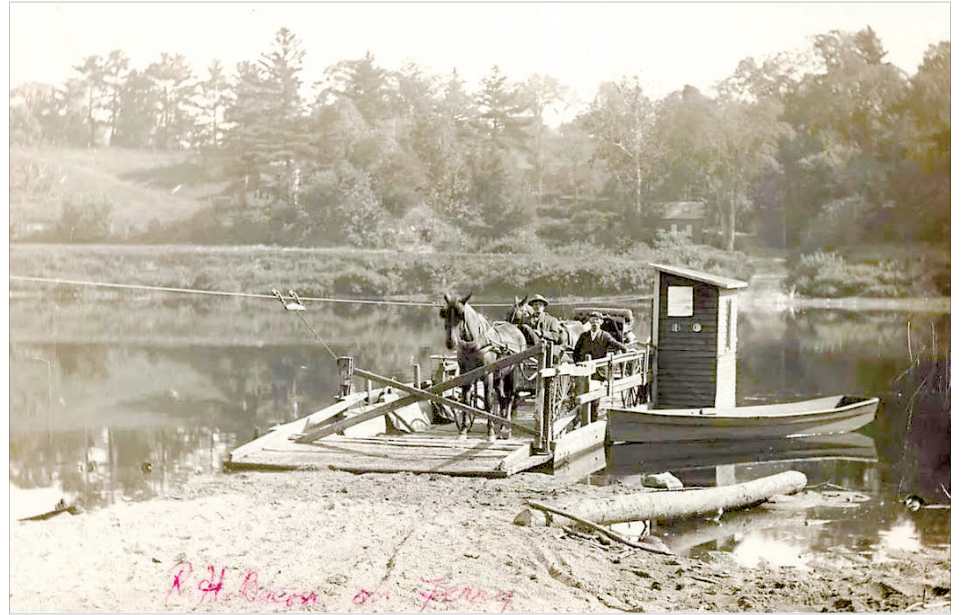
"This Ferry was commissioned in 1784 and operated for 143 years, being destroyed at the time of the 1927 flood. It was the main route from Springfield to Claremont along with the

ferries at Charlestown and Ascutney, so the ferryman must have kept busy.

"The ferry was secured by two sets of cable and pulleys to a steel cable which crossed the river and was fastened to a tree on the Vermont side and to the ferryman's house on the New Hampshire side. The boat could be angled by adjusting the cables so the river current propelled it across and the angle was reversed on the return trip. A gate at either end of the ferry kept the two or three wagons safe on board.

"On one occasion a horse panicked and backed the wagon and travelers off the boat, but all survived. The ferry must have been a seasonal convenience. In the winter they must have crossed on ice.

"Dr. Bernard Taylor, a local dentist and good story teller, lived with his parents on the Hubbard Farm in Eureka (the big brick house) and farmed there for some years. At the time farmers shipped cream to Boston. Bernard and brother Ivan transported theirs and some of the neighbors' with a team and wagon to Claremont Junction where



R.H. Bacon on the Charlestown ferry in 1910.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY DANNY CLEMONS

it was put on freight cars about a mile beyond the ferry landing.

"They probably took turns driving, but Bernard did the heavy lifting all the heavy cans of cream into the freight cars. They had an old dog that always went along with them traveling at will and wandering off looking for woodchucks. On one trip he wandered quite a distance from the wagon presumably having good luck hunting and by the time he arrived at the landing he found the ferry had left!

"So what to do but swim

across which he did, but because of the river current he landed downstream quite a distance. According to Bernard, the next time the dog was late he traveled upstream in the meadow before crossing and reached the New Hampshire side just where he should at the

landing! Smart dog! And I bet he was smart enough to hitch a ride home in the wagon at least part of the way."

*This week's old saying is from my mother. "There is nothing you can do that hasn't been done before."*

# Jay Craven's "Lost Nation" at Next Stage

PUTNEY, Vt. – The Putney Historical Society presents a screening of Jay Craven's new film "Lost Nation," followed by a Q&A session led by Craven, on Saturday, Nov. 30, at 7 p.m., at Next Stage. The event is part of the film's Vermont 50 Town Tour, and is a fundraiser for the Putney Town Hall Renovation Project, to make the building more efficient, and provide a home for the Putney Historical Society.

"Lost Nation" is a Revolutionary War-era action drama set in the early upstart Republic of Vermont. It features Vermont founding father and rebel schemer Ethan Allen, who leads resistance to New Yorker land claims, launches an ill-fated attack on British forces in Montreal, and leads invasions by his Green Mountain Boys into the Yorker strongholds of Guilford and Brattleboro.

The film's parallel and intersecting story features pioneering poet Lucy Terry Prince, who was enslaved at the age of 3 in western Massachusetts, and settled a Guilford, Vt., homestead with her family during this same time. Like Allen, the Princes found themselves caught up in turbulent times that threatened their prospects for the land and freedom they sought. Like Allen, Lucy Prince upset the status quo in her assertive use of early Vermont's legal and political systems to defend her family.

Next Stage is located at 15 Kimball Hill in downtown Putney, Vt. For information, call 802-387-0102

or visit [www.nextstagearts.org](http://www.nextstagearts.org). Advance tickets are available at [www.kcprepresents.org](http://www.kcprepresents.org). Next Stage will provide snacks and a beer, wine, and cocktail cash bar.

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# health news

## OPINION

### Giving Tuesday at Grace Cottage Hospital

TOWNSHEND, Vt. – After Black Friday and Cyber Monday comes Giving Tuesday, a worldwide day of philanthropy during the season of gratitude. This year, Giving Tuesday falls on Dec. 3.

Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital is asking for Giving Tuesday donations for the purchase of several pieces of state-of-the-art equipment for the newly renovated outpatient rehab clinic build-

ing. This equipment is designed to help patients return to optimal health as fast and completely as possible.

With the number of patients seeking physical and occupational therapy growing, Grace Cottage is in the final stages of renovating the Heins Building on its campus to become the new outpatient rehab clinic, featuring more treatment rooms and an expanded gym. The public

is invited to tour the new facility during the ribbon cutting ceremony on Wednesday, Dec. 18, from 12-1 p.m.

Community support will help to get this expanded space up and running at full capacity. Checks can be made payable to Grace Cottage, with "Giving Tuesday" on the memo line, and sent to P.O. Box 1, Townshend, VT 05353. For details on the equipment and more information, visit [www.gracecottage.org/givingtuesday](http://www.gracecottage.org/givingtuesday), or call 802-365-9109.

Dear Editor,

Thanks to the voters of Springfield/North Springfield, who voted to re-elect me as your state representative. I held off submitting this thank-you letter until this week, as the third-place finisher requested a recount. The difference from first place to third place was 36 votes. The recount was held last Friday, at the Windsor County clerk's building in Woodstock.

Though I am not necessarily superstitious, I do believe in waiting until the official results are determined and announced before acknowledging the results. Nothing could be more embarrassing than making claims that ultimately prove to be false or get overturned. Waiting until the results of the recount just seemed logical

to me.

Having been a part of the elections process for many years, I could not be prouder of the staff in our town clerk's office. The Woodstock recount totals matched the town's local tabulation to produce the same results. This speaks volumes to the integrity of our election process, its controls, and accountability. This year I couldn't be part of the election tally, as my name was on the ballot.

The recount process was facilitated by the Windsor County clerk, Woodstock's town clerk, and 22 volunteers who worked all day through the recount process to tabulate the results. I am extending a sincere appreciation and thank-you to all the volunteers who sorted and counted through the 4,590 ballots that resulted in confirming the election of your two representatives.

Likewise, I am expressing my appreciation and thank-you to the Springfield general election volunteers, some of whom labored into the early morning hours on election day.

This does not end here for me. Through our neighborhood campaign efforts, I heard from hundreds of concerned citizens. Instead of ending with the recount, I see our work as just beginning. There are several major topics that the administration and legislature will need to focus on, including healthcare, education, housing, public safety, and taxpayer affordability. I look forward to working for you, Springfield, in the upcoming session starting in January.

Sincerely,  
Kristi Morris  
Windsor-3 State Representative

Dear Editor,

The speakers at the Liberty Food Fest in Belows Falls have a great opportunity to recognize and celebrate everyone who has a part in bringing food from the earth to your table. I'm disappointed by messaging I've seen from some of these featured folks.

Having come to Vermont and New Hampshire as a migrant apple picker in 1969, I've seen

a lot of hardworking people of many colors and countries of origin. Fellow workers have been speakers of lots of languages; their gender preferences have been their own choice. And all my fellow workers except a few Native Americans had ancestors from outside North America. All were contributing labor to our food economy.

Instead of claiming the supremacy of whiteness

in farming and whiteness in land ownership, these speakers could be more generous in recognizing the shared work ethic that anyone can apply to farming. The result is more food on your table regardless of the color, gender, or origin of the hand that produced it.

Sincerely,  
Julie Levy  
Weathersfield, Vt.

Dear Editor,

Recently, I found myself waiting an entire week after paying a tailor \$15 to wash and press a pair of pants and replace a missing button. As I reflected on this small but oddly frustrating delay, I realized something: I could have easily done the job myself. After all, I own an ironing board, an iron, and even a basket filled with threads and needles. Not to mention, we have a washing ma-

chine and dryer at home.

So why didn't I handle it on my own? I'm retired, and certainly have the time. Growing up, my parents taught me how to sew and make simple repairs, skills they likely saw as essential to self-reliance. Yet, somewhere along the way, I outsourced this straightforward task.

This small moment led me to think more broadly about what we're teaching the children of today. In an

age of convenience, are we inadvertently sending the message that such basic skills no longer matter? Are we modeling a reliance on services for tasks that, not so long ago, were considered everyday responsibilities?

The art of sewing and repairing clothes is more than just a practical skill – it's a lesson in resourcefulness, patience, and self-sufficiency. By stepping away from these habits, we risk losing more than just money or time. We lose a connection to a mindset that values making do with what we have, rather than constantly seeking external help for minor problems.

Perhaps it's time to reclaim these skills – not only for ourselves, but also to pass them on to future generations. After all, something as simple as sewing on a button or pressing a pair of pants isn't just about clothing; it's about fostering a spirit of independence in a world that seems to increasingly favor dependence.

Sincerely,  
Offie C. Wortham  
Johnson, Vt.



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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.

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802-228-3600

# CHURCH SERVICES

# obituaries

## Janet L. Cobb, 1951-2024

CAVENDISH, Vt. – Our beloved mother, Janet Cobb, 73, sadly and unexpectedly passed away in her home on Nov. 17, 2024. She was born in Bellows Falls, Vt., on Feb. 1, 1951, to father Maurice Cobb and mother Pearl Slade.

Janet dedicated her life to her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Known as “Crazy Grandma”, she found great joy in her “rugrats,” and cherished the time spent with family.

Janet is survived by her siblings, sister Maurice Duby and brother Bryan Cobb; her five children Henry Rowe, Marsha Rowe, Edward Rowe, Norman Rowe, and Phillip Rowe Jr.; as well as her many grandchildren and great-grand-



Janet Cobb, 1951-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

children whom she loved dearly with all her heart.

In lieu of flowers, donations will be greatly appreciated at our GoFundMe link to support the funeral expenses at [www.gofund.me/40e79a87](http://www.gofund.me/40e79a87). A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

## BELLOWS FALLS, VT.

### Living Hope Assembly of God, 582 Rockingham Rd.

Pastor Brenda Farkas welcomes all to Sunday worship at 10 a.m., the message at 10:30 a.m. with Children’s Church for ages 3-7, and fellowship. Live streaming available at 10:30 a.m. at Living Hope Fellowship Facebook page, and Living Hope Fellowship Youtube. Services can also be found at [www.sapatv.org](http://www.sapatv.org) and [www.fact8tv.com](http://www.fact8tv.com).

## CAVENDISH, VT.

### Cavendish Baptist Church, 2258 Main St.

Sunday services are 10 a.m. online or in person. Online services are on Facebook at 10 a.m. Go to [www.facebook.com/Cavendish-Baptist-Church-258814894244302](http://www.facebook.com/Cavendish-Baptist-Church-258814894244302). More at [www.CavendishBaptist.com](http://www.CavendishBaptist.com) or call 802-226-7131.

## CHARLESTOWN, N.H.

### Charlestown Bible Church, 37 Hammond Rd.

Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship at 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting at 7 p.m. To hear a sermon or learn more go to [www.charlestownbiblechurch.org](http://www.charlestownbiblechurch.org). Call 603-826-5121 for more info or to request a personal Bible study.

## SPRINGFIELD, VT.

### Church of Christ, Rt. 11, 972 Chester Rd.

Sunday Bible Study for all ages at 10 a.m.; Worship Service at 11 a.m. includes a group meeting for children. Live or past services can be viewed on Facebook at [SpringfieldVTChurchofChrist](http://SpringfieldVTChurchofChrist). Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., adult class on different topics meets in the Fellowship Hall, accessed by parking in the back of the church. For more information, call Jamie Kurpiel, Evangelist, at 870-615-0452 or email [jckurpiel@yahoo.com](mailto:jckurpiel@yahoo.com). If no answer, call 802-886-2670.

## Huzon J. Stewart III, 1943-2024

CHESTER, Vt. – It is with heavy hearts that we share Huzon J. “Jerry” Stewart III passed away comfortably and well-loved at his family home in Chester, Vt., on Nov. 13, 2024. Born July 30, 1943, in Springfield, Vt., he was the son of Huzon J. Stewart Jr. and F. Ernestine (Jones) Stewart.

Jerry was a graduate of Chester High School, Class of 1962, although friends from the Class of 1961 often claimed him as one of their own. He kept the camaraderie alive by attending monthly class lunches whenever he could.

After high school, Jerry joined the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War and was stationed in Germany, where he flexed his skills on their ski team. Following five years of service, he returned to his hometown of Chester. Over the years he explored various careers, from being an electrician’s apprentice, to a ski instructor at Magic Mountain and Stratton Mountain, to following his true passion for moving dirt.

He founded H.J. Stewart Excavating, which eventually evolved into H.J. Stewart & Sons Excavating with the involvement of his sons, Huzon IV and Nathan. Additionally, Jerry enjoyed several years as a truck driver, hauling show horses around the country for JR Hudson. He later worked with Springfield Paving until he retired to care for his parents. But his love for the dirt never faded. For years he worked with his backhoe on small jobs and plowed snow, making winters easier for many in Chester for 60 years.

Jerry’s love for his country and fellow veterans was evident as a lifetime member at Chester American Legion Post 67. He served in every officer position at least once, and even took on the role of commander multiple times. In 2017-2018, he was elected as the American Legion State of Vermont Commander after a statewide campaign led by his buddy Milton Willis. Jerry was also a member of the Sons of the Legion Squadron 67.

Last year, Jerry cherished a momentous trip to Pearl Harbor with his wife Gail. Outside of his service to the community, Jerry had many interests: he was a big



Huzon Stewart III, 1943-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

NASCAR fan and a huge Dale Earnhardt fan, loved snowmobiling and snowmobile racing, enjoyed hunting and deer camp with his boys, and was always up for a game of cribbage. Jerry was a member of The Romeoos (Real Old Men Eating Out), sharing breakfast with the gang once a month. He loved traveling with Gail and their pets in their RV. Meeting up with friends at the Fryeburg Fair every year was a highlight, as was spending quality time “up on the hill” with family and friends. Jerry could often be found working around his home and yard, mowing his lawn, splitting and stacking firewood, raking leaves, rebuilding stone walls, and mowing his lawn again. In the last few years, he would often be accompanied by his daughter Laura, who enjoyed helping her dad.

Jerry is survived by his wife of 16 years Gail; sons Huzon “Jerry” IV and Nathan (Carla); daughter Laura Daniels; grandchildren Samantha, Huzon V, Cody, Jordan, and Keeli; great-grandchildren; and his cherished sister Suzanne Macey of Concord, N.H., along with her children Kim and Greg.

He is predeceased by his parents, his brother Robert, and his brother-in-law Bruce Macey.

There will be no formal funeral. Instead, family and friends are invited to a Celebration of Life at the Chester American Legion Post 67 on Jan. 11, 2025, at 12 p.m. It will be a time to share stories, laughter, tears, and wonderful memories of Jerry.

For anyone wishing to honor Jerry’s legacy, donations may be made to the Chester Post 67 Flag Fund, or the Veterans Help Fund, P.O. Box 75, Chester, VT 05143.

Jerry, you will be dearly missed, but forever in our hearts.

## Duane A. Blanchard, 1961-2024

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Duane A. Blanchard, 62, died unexpectedly at his home on Saturday, Nov. 16, 2024. He was born Dec. 7, 1961, in Springfield, Vt., the son of Gilford and Florence (Goodrich) Blanchard. He graduated from Green Mountain Union High School.

He served in the United States Air Force and the Vermont National Guard, serving in the Gulf War.

Duane was a carpenter and builder in the area for many years, a job he very much enjoyed.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and being outdoors. He loved animals, especially his dogs.

Duane is survived by his daughter Courtney Blanchard; sister Diane Ponto and her husband Robert of Rutland; and grandchildren Camden Chase, Jayda Chase, Sage Chase, and Gavin Cady. He



Duane Blanchard, 1961-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

is also survived by several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was predeceased by his parents Gilford Blanchard, Florence and Milton Baker, and by two brothers Donald Blanchard and Douglas Blanchard.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date, and burial will be in the North Street Cemetery in Chester, Vt.

Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield is assisting with arrangements.

## Arthur G. Willard, 1938-2024

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Arthur G. Willard of Rockingham Road passed away on Saturday, Nov. 16, at the Veterans Hospital in White River Junction, Vt. Art was born on Nov. 6, 1938, in Westminster, Vt., the son of Ralph and Lottie Comstock Willard. He attended schools in Bellows Falls, and graduated from Bellows Falls High School in 1958, after which he served in the Navy. Following his time in the Navy, he worked for Melanson Roofers and later for Whitney Blake, where he retired. Art was a member of Pierce Lawton American Legion in Bellows Falls. He enjoyed woodworking, watching Red Sox and Patriots games, and especially high school football.

On Feb. 14, 1999, in Rockingham, Vt., he married Clara Wilson, who survives him. Others who survive are three sons David, Kevin (Pam), and Eric (Melissa); two daughters Tamara (Warren) Richardson and Jessica (Kevin) Shanahan; three stepchildren Butch (Dianna) Wilson, Vivian



Arthur Willard, 1938-2024. PHOTO PROVIDED

(Charles) Layton, and Patrick (Buffie) Wilson; and one sister Grace Parrott.

He is also survived by several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents and four siblings. A graveside service will be held in Oak Hill Cemetery on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 11 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to the Pierce Lawton American Legion or the VA Hospital in White River Junction.

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

## David Chaves EXCAVATING

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

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

# calendar

# LEGAL NOTICES

**NOV. 28 –** SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Toonerville Trail Turkey Trot 5K Run and Walk will take place at the Toonerville Trail, at 9 a.m. This is a fundraiser for Meals on Wheels of Greater Springfield, and Springfield High School cross country. The registration fee is discounted in advance at

www.runlikeardy.com/races/toonerville-trail-turkey-trot.

**NOV. 29 –** WEATHERSFIELD, Vt. – The Weathersfield Community Contra Dance & Social will be held on Friday, Nov. 29, from 5:30-9 p.m., at the Weathersfield Center Church and Meeting House, on Center Church

Road in Perkinsville, Vt. Meet your neighbors, and dance off the big dinner. Dudley Laufman will be the caller, with music led by Naomi Morse (fiddle) and Amy Englesberg (piano). No special clothing, footwear, or experience is required. You're welcome to dance, listen, sit, or chat and enjoy that cold beverage you brought

along. All are welcome, and all dances will be taught. The admission fee is discounted for children, and there is a special household rate.

**NOV. 30 –** CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – Buying and selling coins, paper money, sports postcards, comics. Saturday, Nov. 30, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., at the Charlestown Senior Center. House calls available, 802-379-2353.

**DEC. 5 –** SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Senior Solutions, 38 Pleasant Street in Springfield, will hold their Annual Meeting on Thursday, Dec. 5. The meeting will begin with a coffee hour from 4-4:30 p.m., followed by the meeting from 4:30-6 p.m. Join us as our staff, volunteers, and the older adults we serve gather to

share and reflect on the past year. Please RSVP to Kevin Golden at 802-731-9468 or kgolden@seniorsolutionsvt.org.

**DEC. 18 –** LUDLOW, Vt. – The Black River Valley Senior Center, 10 High Street, will serve lunch on Wednesday, Dec. 18, at 12 p.m. The menu will be hot roast beef sandwiches, fresh green beans, and homemade Christmas cupcakes. Please make reservations by calling 802-228-7421. Free cash bingo will follow, as well as a special visit from Santa. All are welcome.

**SUNDAYS –** BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Bellows Falls Loyal Order of Moose will be hosting a community breakfast on the first and third Sunday of every month, downstairs at the Bellows Falls Moose

Lodge, 59 Westminster Street in Bellows Falls, from 8-10 a.m. All you can eat for a minimal cost.

**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](http://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.

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

**TUESDAYS –** 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.

STATE OF VERMONT

SUPERIOR COURT  
WINDSOR UNIT

CIVIL DIVISION  
CASE NO. 24-CV-04348

IN RE: ABANDONED MOBILE HOME  
OF KRISTIE PALOWSKI

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

A hearing on The Housing Foundation, Inc.'s Verified Complaint to declare as abandoned the mobile home of Kristie Palowski located at the Windy Hill Acres Mobile Home Park, Lot #15, 35 Cyprus Lane in Springfield, Vermont and to authorize the sale by auction has been scheduled on December 16, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at the Vermont Superior Court, Windsor Unit, Civil Division located in Woodstock, Vermont. To participate in this hearing, the WEBEX Login Information is as follows:  
App: Cisco Webex Meetings  
Website: <https://vtcourts.webex.com>  
Meeting Number: 2347 351 3269  
Password: courtroom1

If you do not have a computer or sufficient bandwidth, you may call (802) 636-1108 to appear by phone. (This is not a tollfree number). When prompted enter the meeting ID number listed above, followed by the pound symbol (#). You will be prompted to enter your attendee number (which you do not have). Instead, press pound (#). If you have technical difficulties, call the Court at (802) 457-2121.  
Date: October 31, 2024  
Judicial Assistant

**VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR ABANDONMENT  
PURSUANT TO 10 V.S.A. § 6249(h) (Auction)**

NOW COMES The Housing Foundation, Inc. ("HFI"), by and through its counsel Nadine L. Scibek, and hereby complains as follows:

- HFI, a Vermont non-profit corporation with a principal place of business in Montpelier, County of Washington, State of Vermont, is the record owner of a mobile home park known as the Windy Hill Acres Mobile Home Park (the "Park") located in the Town of Springfield, Vermont. The Park is managed by the Vermont State Housing Authority.
- Kristie Palowski ("Palowski") is the record owner of a certain mobile home described as a 1984 Titan, 14' x 50-60' (the "Mobile Home"), located on Lot #15, Windy Hill Acres Mobile Home Park, 35 Cyprus Lane in Springfield, Vermont (the "Lot"). See attached Vermont Mobile Home Uniform Bill of Sale.
- Palowski leased Lot #15 in the Park from HFI pursuant to a written lease. Palowski paid a security deposit in the amount of \$439.00 to HFI. See attached Lease.
- Palowski's last known mailing address is 36 Barker Street, #2, Bellows Falls, VT 05101.
- The mobile home has been abandoned and is empty/unoccupied. The last known resident of the mobile home was Kaylie Palowski (Palowski's sister). All of Palowski's personal property is believed to have been removed from the mobile home and utility services have been terminated.
- Kaylie Palowski was evicted from the Park on or about February 8, 2024 by the Windsor County Sheriff's Department. The mobile home has been vacant since that time. A Judgment Order for the outstanding lot rent and court costs was entered against Palowski on January 9, 2024 in the amount of \$5,037.09. See Vermont State Housing Authority v. Palowski, Vermont Superior Court, Windsor Civil Unit, Docket No. 23-CV-03976. See attached Judgment Order, Writ of Possession & Sheriff's Returns of Service.
- The Park's Counsel has communicated with Palowski with respect to her intentions with her mobile home via first class mail and email on March 13, 2024. See attached. On March 27, 2024 Palowski emailed Park's Counsel stating that she had individuals who could move into her trailer and pay rent as soon as they were accepted by HFI. On May 9, 2024 HFI notified Palowski that an individual had been approved to lease the Lot in the Park and on May 30, 2024 a payoff statement of amounts owed was provided to the approved Buyer. To date, the Mobile Home has not sold and no additional applications have been approved. HFI has had no further contact with Palowski.
- The following security interests, mortgages, liens and encumbrances appear of record with respect to the mobile home:  
a. Property taxes to the Town of Springfield are current according to the Town Clerk. See attached Tax Bill.
- Uriah Wallace, a duly licensed Vermont auctioneer, is a person disinterested in the Mobile Home and the mobile home park who is able to sell the mobile home at a public auction.
- Mobile home storage fees continue to accrue at the rate of \$505.00 per month. Rent, storage fees and late charges due the Park as of October, 2024 total \$7,348.50. Court costs and attorney's fees incurred by the Park in this action currently exceed \$2,000.00.
- The Park sent written notice by certified mail to the Town of Springfield on August 16, 2024 of its intent to commence this abandonment action. See attached.

WHEREFORE, the Park Owner respectfully requests that the Honorable Court enter an order as follows:  
1. Declare that the mobile home has been abandoned;  
2. Approve the sale of the mobile home at a public auction to be held within 15 days of the date of judgment, pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 6249(h); and  
3. Grant judgment in favor of the Park Owner HFI and against the mobile home for past due and unpaid rent and mobile home storage charges through the date of judgment, together with HFI's court costs, publication and mailing costs, auctioneer's costs, winterization costs, lot cleanup charges, attorney's fees incurred in connection with this matter and any other costs incurred by HFI herein.

DATED this 30th day of October, 2024.  
THE HOUSING FOUNDATION, INC.  
BY: Nadine L. Scibek  
Attorney for HFI

I declare that the above statement is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that if the above statement is false, I will be subject to the penalty of perjury or other sanctions in the discretion of the Court.  
October 30, 2024 By: Thomas Young, Duly Authorized Agent for HFI

**Town of Plymouth  
Invitation to Bid**

The Plymouth Select Board is soliciting proposals from Design Build Contractors for Phase II, the Energy Conservation Project. The work will include installation of heat pumps in the Municipal Offices and Fire Department as well as radiant heat in a new concrete slab in the Highway Department.

Plans and Specifications can be viewed at the Plymouth Town Office and purchased through Boss Printing located at the Pico Base Lodge. There will be a Pre-Bid Conference on December 4, 2024 at 2:00 PM on site.

Please send bid proposals to [clerk@plymouthvt.org](mailto:clerk@plymouthvt.org) or mail to Town of Plymouth, 68 Town Office Road, Plymouth, Vermont 05056, Phase II – Energy Conservation Project no later than 2 P.M. on Monday, December 16, 2024. The Select Board will open bids at their regular Select Board meeting on Monday, December 16, 2024 6:00 PM.

**Town Of Plymouth, Vermont  
Delinquent Tax Collector**

A tax collector's job description includes a variety of responsibilities, such as:

- Collecting taxes:** Collecting unpaid taxes from individuals and businesses, and ensuring that the correct amounts are received by the government.
- Helping taxpayers:** Contacting taxpayers who have not paid their taxes, and helping them to set up payment plans.
- Analyzing financial information:** Conducting background and financial status checks, and analyzing financial information.
- Maintaining records:** Keeping detailed records of tax receivables, and maintaining files of past tax collection efforts.
- Preparing reports:** Preparing statistical reports and analyzing tax data.
- Collection actions:** Including tax sales of the property, when necessary.
- Interacting with the public:** Dealing with taxpayers and the public in a professional and courteous manner.

**Recommended Qualifications**

Degree in business administration, finance, accounting or related field preferred; at least two years of experience in business or financial management preferably in a municipal Treasurer and/or Collectors office; or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Knowledge of local tax laws and requirements. Strong computer skills and experience with NEMRC a plus.

Please submit a completed application to the Plymouth Town Clerk's Office at 68 Town Office Road, Plymouth, Vermont 05056 or email [clerk@plymouthvt.org](mailto:clerk@plymouthvt.org). Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The Town of Plymouth is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

# LEGAL NOTICES

# calendar

**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.

**GRAFTON, Vt. –** A free playgroup for children from newborns to age 5 will be held at Grafton Elementary

School on Thursday mornings, from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Activities will include songs, games, and arts and crafts. Contact Heather with any questions at 802-843-4792.

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

**SATURDAYS – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. –** The Edgar May Health and Recreation Center offers Springfield residents the opportunity to come for a free swim every Saturday, from 1-3 p.m. Participants

may need to show proof of Springfield residency. For more information, call 802-885-2568, email info@edgarmay.org, 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. You are not alone.

**Town of Londonderry, Vermont**  
**Notice of Proposed Zoning Bylaw Amendment**

The Town of Londonderry Selectboard hereby gives notice pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §4415, that on December 16, 2024 at 6:15 PM the Board will hold a public hearing on a proposed interim amendment to the Londonderry Zoning Bylaw at the Town Hall, 139 Middletown Rd in South Londonderry. The only sections of the Zoning Bylaw proposed for amendment are Sections 418(4) General Sign Standards - Businesses within Commercial Districts and Section 418(5) General Sign Standards - Mixed Uses, including shopping centers and business, manufacturing or industrial parks. The purpose of the amendment is an emergency measure to allow businesses in the Londonderry Shopping Plaza and other mixed-use areas to be able to have signs as big as the signs elsewhere in Londonderry's commercial districts. The full text of the proposed amendment can be examined at the Town Office, 100 Old School Street, South Londonderry, and the Town website – www.londonderryvt.org. Those interested in receiving an electronic copy of the proposed interim bylaw or submitting written comments should contact the town's Zoning Administrator at zoningadmin@londonderryvt.org.

**CHESTER SELECTBOARD**  
**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**  
**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT BYLAWS**

The Chester Select Board will hold a public hearing on proposed amendments to the Town of Chester Unified Development Bylaws on **Wednesday, December 18, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.** at the Chester Town Hall at 556 Elm Street in Chester, Vermont. The proposed development bylaws amendment has been approved by the Planning Commission and submitted to the Select Board pursuant to 24 V.S.A. Section 4441(g).

The purpose of the proposed development bylaws amendment is to implement the sixth and final phase of a bylaw modernization and reform initiative that principally affects Chester's rural districts. Changes include renaming districts to more closely match their purpose and allowed uses, creating wildlife and habitat and travel corridors, better defining uses including building and construction trades, heavy construction trades, and tourist lodging, and to enable clustering of residential units as tiny house and cottage courts.

The proposed amendment will affect every geographical area of Chester. The amended Sections of the Bylaws include 2.1 Classes of Districts, 2.3 Village Center District, 2.4 Village Mixed Use District (was Mixed Use), 2.5 General Business District, 2.6 Stone Village District, 2.7 Neighborhood District, 2.8 Residential 2-Acre District (was Residential 40,000), 2.9 Rural Mixed Use District (was Adaptive 3), 2.11 Rural 3-Acre District (was Residential 120,000), Conservation Rural 5-Acre District (was Conservation-Residential), 2.13 Conservation Forest District (was Forest), 8.2 Definitions, and adding 3.32 Tiny Houses and 3.33 Cottage Courts.

The full text of the proposed amendment to the Town of Chester Unified Development Bylaws may be viewed at the Town Clerk's office and on the home page of the Town's website at www.chestervt.gov.

Dated at Chester, Vermont this 21st day of November 2024.  
Julie Hance, Town Manager, Town of Chester, Vermont

**Town of Grafton, Vermont**  
**117 Main Street, P.O. Box 180, Grafton, VT 05146**  
**Invitation to Bid**

The Town of Grafton is seeking sealed proposals for the removal of the existing culvert (82"x59"x55' long) and headwalls and installation of a CONCRETE BOX CULVERT on Hinkley Brook Road, Grafton, VT, TH 6.

A **mandatory** site visit shall occur on Thursday, December 5, 2024, at 8:00 a.m.

Bids are due in the Town Administrator's office by December 12, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.

For the full invitation to bid, please contact Morgan Wilbur, Town Administrator, at townadmin@graftonvt.org or 802-843-2552. The invitation is also available on the Town of Grafton's website: [https://graftonvt.org/public\\_notices/hinkley-brook-road-culvert-24-replacement/](https://graftonvt.org/public_notices/hinkley-brook-road-culvert-24-replacement/)

**TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN, NH**  
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Transfer Station Attendant  
Cemetery Sexton  
Deputy Building Inspector  
PT Tax Office Clerk  
Fire Chief

**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](http://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

— **Weekly SUDOKU** —  
Answer

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

— **King Crossword** —  
Answers

Solution time: 22 mins.

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

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(01/15/25 - TFN - 13)

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(11/05/25 - 52)

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# classifieds

## LEGAL NOTICES

### STATE OF VERMONT WINDSOR COUNTY, SS NOTICE OF TAX SALES

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Springfield, in the County of Windsor are hereby notified that the taxes and/or water and sewer taxes assessed by such Town for the years, 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 are, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described lands in such Town, to wit:

**80 Lovell Road**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Hubert J. Lovell and Charles I. Lovell to Adam Amsden by deed dated April 3, 2012 and recorded in Book 496 at Page 59 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**54 Reservoir Road**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Diana Inglesse to Zachery Beam and Ariana Davidonis by deed dated May 16, 2017 and recorded in Book 580 at Page 54 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**428 South Street**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Florence H. Bingham to Margaret E. Bingham and Florence H. Bingham (now deceased) by deed dated October 30, 1996 and recorded in Vol. 157 at Page 167 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**33 Southridge Street**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by DSV SPV3, LLC to Kathleen Blanchard by deed dated December 10, 2019 and recorded in Book 624 at Page 74 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**10 Buena Vista Street**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Cody L. Root and Ashley R. Root to Jennifer M. Caminiti by deed dated March 15, 2022 and recorded in Book 662 at Page 78 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**1 Union Street**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Leland A. Taylor and Frances L. Taylor 2010 Revocable Trust to Community Restoration Corps, Inc. by deed dated August 27, 2014 and recorded in Book 540 at Page 97 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**7 School Street**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Connecticut River Bank, N.A. to Community Restoration Corps Inc. by deed dated May 1, 2014 and recorded in Book 532 at Page 214 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**11 Union Street**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Beneficial New Hampshire Inc. to Community Restoration Corps, Inc. by deed dated October 16, 2015 and recorded in Book 559 at Page 195 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**12 Central Street**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as Trustee for Option One Mortgage Loan Trust 2005-4 to Community Restoration Corp, Inc. by deed dated May 23, 2014 and recorded in Book 536 at Page 125 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**22 Chester Road**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Merchant Bank to Community Restoration Corps, Inc. by deed dated March 31, 2016 and recorded in Vol. 562 at Page 136 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**35 Patnode's Way**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by the Tax Collector's Deed of Barbara A. Courchesne, Collector of Taxes for the Town of Springfield to Community Restoration by deed dated November 19, 2021 and recorded in Book 655 at Page 142 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**52 Valley Street**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Michael Curran, Executor of the Estate of Franklin E. Curran to Community Restoration Corps Inc. by deed dated December 18, 2020 and recorded in Book 637 at Page 25 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**61 Furnace Street**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Town of Springfield to Community Restoration Corps, Inc. by deed dated December 16, 2020 and recorded in Book 637 at Page 70 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**67 Furnace Street**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Donna Builder to Community Restoration Corp Inc. by deed dated May 19, 2015 and recorded in Book 551 at Page 59 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**104 Union Street**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by United States District Court for the District of Vermont, Order of Confirmation in the matter entitled United States of America v. Andrew Kingsbury, et al. to Community Restoration Corps, Inc. by deed dated December 23, 2015 and recorded in Book 559 at Page 200 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**104 Valley Street**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Clifford Bergh and Eliza Greenhoe-Bergh to Community Restoration Corp, Inc. by deed dated October 21, 2015 and recorded in Book 556 at Page 89 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**105 Clinton Street**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Stella M. Dempf to Community Restoration Corp, Inc. by deed dated July 23, 2015 and recorded in Book 552 at Page 212 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**30 Precision Drive**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc. to Ernest LLC by deed dated July 1, 2021 and recorded in Book 646 at Page 297 of the Springfield Town Land Records and by deed from Gurney Brothers Construction, Inc. to Ernest LLC by deed dated June 29, 2021 and recorded in Book 646, Page 303 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**54 Route 106**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. to Ernest LLC by deed dated April 13, 2021 and recorded in Book 642 at Page 338 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**141 Grover Road**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Anna Orobello to Steven S. Guerri by deed dated December 6, 2022 and recorded in Book 674 at Page 271 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**945 Eureka Road**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Merrilee J.M. Fortune Living Trust to David Hatch by deed dated June 11, 2020 and recorded in Book 627 at Page 33 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**2 Pinebrook Lane A-6**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Eaton Spousal Revocable Trust Dated April 28, 2005 a/k/a Elwin and Nancy Eaton Irrevocable Trust to Jeremy Holmes by deed dated February 21, 2023 and recorded in Book 677 at Page 242 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**100 Harvard Street**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by John W. Reynolds and Robert T. Reynolds to Samuel Armstrong Hensel-Hunter by deed dated September 30, 2012 and recorded in Book 508 at Page 75 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

## BUYING/ SELLING

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – BUYING/SELLING coins, paper money, sports-postcards, comics. Saturday, Nov. 30, from 9 am – 3 pm, at the Charlestown Senior

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LUDLOW, Vt. – American Legion Post 36 looking for full time bartender, nights, experienced. Starting \$9.50 per hour with insurance assistance. Send resume to 135 Main Street, Ludlow, VT 05149.

**32 Valley Street**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by The Bank of New York Mellon to William Hunter and Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development by deed dated September 11, 2018 and recorded in Book 602 at Page 334 of the Springfield Town Land Records and Housing Recovery Fund and Housing Subsidy Covenant dated October 19, 2021 and recorded in Book 653 at Page 335 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**1 Slack Avenue**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Edson C. Tefft and Mildred E. Tefft to Ralph A. Jacobs and Kathryn S. Jacobs (now deceased) by deed dated July 1, 1976 and recorded in Book 71 at Page 202 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**128 Olive Street**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed to Roy F. Kempf, Sr. (deceased) and Joan M. Kempf by deed of Elmer and Elizabeth DeRosia dated September 18, 1987 recorded in Book 89 at Page 174-175 of the Springfield Town Land Records. Also being all and the same lands and premises conveyed to Roy F. Kempf, Jr., Carol-Lee A. Ripley, Edward T. Wilson, Jr., Mark Wilson and William P. Simoneau, Sr. by the deed of Joan M. Kempf said deed dated October 31, 2008 and recorded in Book 436 at Page 215 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**269 Brook Road**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Eileen S. Rupsis and Steven A. Rupsis to La Sable Ruby, LLC by deed dated February 21, 2023 and recorded in Book 677 at Page 314 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**650 Brook Road**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Mark L. Tapper to Guy A. Lariviere by deed dated November 6, 1991 and recorded in Book 102 at Page 74 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**30 Commonwealth Avenue**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Seth T. Lauritsen and Stephen F. Greene to Seth T. Lauritsen and Monica Lynn Lauritsen by deed dated March 6, 2020 and recorded in Book 623 at Page 294 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**284 Kirk Meadow Road**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Nicholas Paige and Marguerite Paige to John David McCarthy by deed dated November 28, 2018 and recorded in Book 605 at Page 60 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**6 Wall Street**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Ershel O. Patterson to Kevin G.A. Melloy by deed dated September 10, 2021 and recorded in Book 650 at Page 316 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**456 Old Connecticut River Road**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by General Morris Estate, LLC to Scott Redding Mixer by deed dated April 7, 2020 and recorded in Book 625 at Page 49 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**53 Brockway Mills Road**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Town of Springfield to Richard A. Parry by deed dated August 14, 2014 and recorded in Book 539 at Page 297 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**20 Orchard Lane**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by John E. Polidor to John E. Polidor and Robin A. Polidor, husband and wife, by deed dated December 4, 1996 and recorded in Book 158 at Page 17 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**6 Bellows Road**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Richard M. Veysey, Jr. and Ann Marie Veysey to Ram Enterprises, LLC by deed dated October 14, 2014 and recorded in Book 540 at Page 215 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**220 Front Street**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by David R. Martel and Barbara C. Martel, Trustees of the Martel Family Revocable Trust U/A Dated April 14, 1987 to Ram Enterprises, LLC by deed dated March 9, 2018 and recorded in Book 594 at Page 20 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**6 Mineral Street**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Marta C. Reichenbecher f/k/a Marta C. Ruck and Edward E. Ruck to Marta C. Reichenbecher by deed dated July 20, 2006 and recorded in Book 382 at Page 102 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**25 Holt Street**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Jody T. Smith and Linda M. Smith to Bradley A. Reynolds and Ashley M. Reynolds by deed dated July 30, 2019 and recorded in Book 615 at Page 39 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**15 Cemetery Road**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Estate of Eva E. Morris to Machias D. Rhodes and Diana L. Rhodes by deed dated April 9, 2010 and recorded in Book 463 at Page 244 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**5 Juniper Hill Road**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Henry F. Robinson and Louise B. Robinson, Co-Trustees of the Robinson Revocable Trust U/A October 8, 1997 to Richard M. Veysey, Jr. and Ann Marie Veysey by deed dated July 8, 2005 and recorded in Book 342 at Page 298 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

**17 Crescent Street**

For the tax years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Christopher Story, VI to Roger V. Woods by deed dated November, 2020 and recorded in Vol. 636 at Page 249 of the Springfield Town Land Records.

and so much of said lands will be sold at public auction at Springfield Town Office, 96 Main Street, Springfield, Vermont, a public place in such Town, on the 12th day of December, 2024 at Ten O'clock in the forenoon, as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, unless previously paid.

You have the right to request in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the tax sale date set forth above, that only a portion of the property be sold to satisfy the delinquent tax bill. Should you wish to proceed with this request, you must follow the procedure set forth in 32 V.S.A. § 5254; clearly identify the portion of the property to be sold, and include a certification from the Act 250 district coordinator and the town zoning administrator that the portion identified may be legally subdivided.

If you qualify under 24 V.S.A. § 1535, you may be able to receive an abatement of the property taxes, interest and collection fees you owe to the town. Abatement means that your taxes could be reduced or eliminated. You have the right to appear before the Board of Abatement and explain why you think your taxes should be abated. To apply for an abatement, you must write to Barbara A. Courchesne, Town Clerk, 96 Main Street, Springfield, Vermont 05156.

Be advised that the owner or mortgagee, or the owner's or mortgagee's representatives or assigns, of lands sold for taxes shall have a right to redemption for a period of one year from the date of sale pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 5260.

Dated at Springfield, County of Windsor and State of Vermont, this 8th day of November, 2024.

Barbara A. Courchesne, Collector of Town, and Town School District Taxes, Town Water, and Sewer Taxes





# sports & outdoor

## Stingrays have successful first meet of the season

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Connecticut River Valley Stingrays youth swim team competed in the Dorsi Reynolds Memorial Swim Meet at the Upper Valley Aquatic Center on Saturday, Nov. 9, and Sunday, Nov. 10.

“This was our first meet of the season,” says Stingrays swim coach Julia Lamb, “and there were a lot of nerves from both new and experienced swimmers.”

Despite the nerves, the team had a great first showing. Aquinna Allen, 8, of Chester, and Emily Arnold, 9, of Putney, achieved bronze standard in the 25-yard and 50-yard breaststroke respectively. Dean Long, 12, of Peru, achieved the bronze cut in the 50-yard fly, and came in sixth



Members of the Connecticut River Valley Stingrays at their first swim meet of the season.

PHOTO PROVIDED

place in the 500-yard freestyle, where he also made his best times.

Several other swimmers also accomplished their best times during the meet. Fiona McFarland, 13, of Windsor, had her best time in the 100-yard freestyle, and Carl Johnson, 13, achieved his best time in the 100-yard back-

stroke. Lizzy Warren, 12, of Springfield, knocked 30 seconds off her 50-yard fly. Ella Pelletier, 12, of Chester, achieved her best times in the 50-yard freestyle and the 100-yard individual medley (IM). Janey Whipple, 10, also of Springfield, beat her best times in the 100-yard IM and the 200-yard freestyle, and Nora

Waters, 9, of Perksinsville, had her best time in the 50-yard backstroke.

A few Stingrays were competing for the first time, including Caleb Root, 11, of Weathersfield; Nizhoni Trahan, 10, of Bellows Falls; and Evita Pelletier, 7, of Chester. Root competed in the 50-yard breaststroke and 50-yard freestyle. Trahan had an awesome showing in the 50-yard backstroke and 50-yard breaststroke, and Pelletier swam in the 25-yard backstroke. Roxcy Cammock, 13, of Windsor, stepped out of her comfort zone and competed in the 200-yard breaststroke for the first time.

“We raced well,” Lamb concluded. “It was impressive to see how supportive the kids were of each other.”

The Stingrays will travel to Upper Valley Aquatic Center for their next meet on Dec. 6-8. For more information on the Stingrays youth swim team, contact coach Julia Lamb at [jlamb@edgarmay.org](mailto:jlamb@edgarmay.org).

## Discoveries in the Connecticut River

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – The Connecticut River Valley chapter of Trout Unlimited (CRVTU) is pleased to present Annette Spaulding, an experienced master scuba diver whose favorite place in the whole world – and yes, she has visited dive sites worldwide – is to dive in the Connecticut River. The presentation will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 3, at 6 p.m., at the Westminster Institute, 3534 U.S.

Route 5.

Her PowerPoint presentation, along with a display of items, will show attendees some of the unusual and interesting things she found in our river. Spaulding will be asking for your help in identifying some of the more unusual items.

CRVTU invites adults and kids who swim, boat, fish, bird, catch frogs, or paddle on the river to attend this free event, to see what is below the surface of our great river.

## Vermont's Lost Ski Areas

STOWE, Vt. – Vermont's lift-service skiing history began in 1934, with the installation of the first ski lift in the country: a rope tow powered by a Ford Model T engine on Gilbert's Hill in Woodstock. A year later, the second rope tow in Vermont was built by Wesley Pope on Glenn

Skiff's farm in Jeffersonville. After that, small ski areas began popping up all around the state.

The Vermont Ski and Snowboard Museum has been documenting Vermont's “lost” and “lost and found” ski areas for 25 years. To date, 184 have been identified, including four that were in the planning stages but never opened. The upcoming exhibit, “Searching for Vermont's Lost Ski Areas – Part 2,” is a schuss down memory lane for those who learned to ski or ride at one of these slopes. In Part 2 of the exhibit, an additional 113 documented areas, not featured in Part 1, are introduced through photographs, interviews, newspaper clippings, and memorabilia from the museum's collection. For those who missed last season's popular Part 1, it is incorporated within the new exhibit.

A few of the lost areas highlighted in the exhibit include four in Waterbury, five in Stowe, and one right off Interstate 89's eastbound Route 2 exit in South Burlington. Towns like Newport, Middlebury, and Lyndonville had a strong ski-jumping tradition, which evolved into adding lifts for alpine skiing.

The Vermont Ski and Snowboard Museum, located at 1 South Main Street in Stowe, invites you to attend the exhibit opening on Friday, Dec. 6, from 5-8 p.m. Admission to the exhibit opening is free. Thereafter, the museum is open Thursday-Sunday, from 12-5 p.m., through the winter.

Searching for Vermont's lost ski areas is made possible by the work of many volunteers, Union Bank, Darn Tough, Winthrop H. Smith Jr. Charitable Foundation, and Jeremy Davis of New England Lost Ski Areas Project.

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| <p><b>2017 Hyundai Tuscan</b><br/>ULTIMATE AWD<br/>Fully Loaded</p> | <p><b>2017 Ford F150 Sport</b><br/>Fully Loaded</p> |
| <p><b>2015 Ford Edge SEL</b><br/>Fully Loaded</p>                   | <p><b>2017 Chevy Traverse LT</b><br/>AWD</p>        |

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# holiday happenings

## FCC Westminster Christmas Bazaar

**WESTMINSTER, Vt.** – The First Congregational Church of Westminster Women's Fellowship will hold their annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., at 3470 Route 5 in Westminster, Vt. There will be locally made gifts, holiday crafts, homemade treats, and

useful attic treasures. The Christmas Cafe will be open for lunch, and the treat table will sell a variety of baked goods. Pick up something for your holiday celebrations, many items can be frozen. From 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., Santa will be on hand for pictures.

Also, for the kids there will be a kids' craft table. Bring your kids and grandkids, and we will keep them busy while you shop or get your lunch ordered. Buy a raffle ticket for the chance raffle, with many beautiful items to choose from.

## Holiday party at Rockingham Library

**BELLOWS FALLS, Vt.** – The Friends of the Rockingham Free Public Library extend an invitation to our community to our annual holiday party at Rockingham Library, 65 Westminster Street, on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. There will be snacks, holiday drinks, and raffle prizes. Music will be provided by



The Stringfield Springers play at a previous Friends of the Rockingham Library holiday party.

PHOTO PROVIDED

## River Artisans Cooperative extended holiday hours

**BELLOWS FALLS, Vt.** – River Artisans Cooperative shop, at 28 The Square in Bellows Falls, will be open extended hours for holi-

day shopping. What could be better than the gift of something unique made by a local artist or craftsper-

son? There are many new holiday things to choose from, so stop in and enjoy the wide choice of special items. Come and browse between 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

every day, with extended hours until 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Our phone number is 802-591 2085.

holiday party favorites the Stringfield Springers to keep our toes tapping. Come

join the fun. Celebrate the season of light at our local library.

**NOV. 28 – SPRINGFIELD, Vt.** – The Toonerville Trail Turkey Trot 5K Run and Walk will take place at the Toonerville Trail, at 9 a.m. This is a fundraiser for Meals on Wheels of Greater Springfield, and Springfield High School cross country. The registration fee is discounted in advance at [www.runlikearady.com/races/toonerville-trail-turkey-trot](http://www.runlikearady.com/races/toonerville-trail-turkey-trot).

**DEC. 5 – LUDLOW, Vt.** – Fletcher Memorial Library, located at 88 Main Street in Ludlow, will be hosting a Community Appreciation Open House on Thursday, Dec. 5, from 4-6 p.m. Children can pick out a free book and Santa, our special guest, will arrive at 4:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served and there will be a drawing for our patrons and volunteers.

the First Congregational Church, 77 Main Street, on Friday, Dec. 6, from 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. We will be selling our handmade wreaths, centerpieces, and other holiday decorations.

3161 to secure your spot and showcase your wares.

**DEC. 1 – WESTMINSTER, Vt.** – The Westmoreland Town Band will hold a Christmas concert on Sunday, Dec. 1, at 4 p.m., at The First Congregational Church of Westminster, 3470 Route 5 in Westminster, Vt. This fabulous Christmas concert is a great way to kick off your holiday season. Tell a friend, bring the kids and grandkids. After the concert, join us for refreshments, and visit with the musicians.

**DEC. 6 – CHESTER, Vt.** – Matilda and Three Bears will be having a holiday open house on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 10:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Please come and enjoy the season. We are located at 26 The Common, Chester, Vt. For more information, call 802-875-6041.

**DEC. 7 – WESTON, Vt.** – The second annual Weston Rod & Gun Club Holiday Bazaar is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Tables are available for a small fee, and space is limited, so reserve early. Call or text Anna at 802-379-

**DEC. 14-15 SPRINGFIELD, Vt.** – The Springfield Community Chorus presents "Gloria!" featuring Vivaldi's "Gloria" and other beloved songs of the Christmas season. Performances will take place on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m., at the Chester Baptist Church; and Sunday, Dec. 15, at 3 p.m., at the Springfield Congregational Church. Donations welcome.

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- 12/30: Weston, Windham
- 1/6: New Hampshire

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### Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ♦♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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### King Crossword

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |    |
| 11 |    |    | 12 |    | 13 |    |    | 14 |    |    |
| 15 |    |    |    |    | 16 |    |    | 17 |    |    |
| 18 |    |    |    | 19 |    | 20 |    | 21 |    |    |
| 22 |    |    | 23 |    | 24 |    |    | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    | 31 |    | 32 |    |    |    |
| 33 |    |    |    | 34 |    | 35 |    | 36 |    |    |
| 37 |    |    |    | 38 |    | 39 |    | 40 |    |    |
| 41 |    |    |    | 42 |    | 43 |    |    |    |    |
| 44 |    |    |    | 45 |    | 46 |    | 47 | 48 | 49 |
| 50 | 51 | 52 |    | 53 |    | 54 |    | 55 |    |    |
| 56 |    |    |    | 57 |    |    |    | 58 |    |    |
| 59 |    |    |    | 60 |    |    |    |    | 61 |    |

**ACROSS**

- 1 Newt
- 4 Former Delta rival
- 7 Very dry
- 11 Bjorn of tennis fame
- 13 Documentarian Burns
- 14 Portrayal
- 15 Afrikaner
- 16 Fire sign?
- 17 Pinnacle
- 18 Lieu
- 20 Trumpet
- 22 Actress Vardalos
- 24 Trite
- 28 Basking venue
- 32 Skiing spot
- 33 Twistable treat
- 34 TV's Danson
- 36 Autobahn auto
- 37 Open-mouthed
- 39 Swiss cheese
- 41 Wards off
- 43 Resort
- 44 Pleasing
- 46 Batter's dry spell
- 50 Spiced tea
- 53 Vitamin stat
- 55 Bangkok cuisine
- 56 Hayloft site
- 57 Whatever

**DOWN**

- 1 Recedes
- 2 Shoe insert
- 3 Shade provider
- 4 — -la-la
- 5 Desire
- 6 Sneeze sound
- 7 Basis for repeat purchases
- 8 Sinbad's bird
- 9 City on the Danube
- 10 Golf peg
- 12 Banner at a new store
- 19 Conk out
- 21 "Kidnapped" monogram
- 23 Play part
- 25 Aspiration
- 26 Mimic
- 27 Prefix with conference
- 28 Fly high
- 29 Incite
- 30 Tide type
- 31 Small barrel
- 35 Hosp. workers
- 38 Football's Manning
- 40 Boom times
- 42 Discard
- 45 — St. Vincent Millay
- 47 "Nopel"
- 48 Algeria's neighbor
- 49 Artist Mondrian
- 50 "CSI" ailer
- 51 Solo in space
- 52 Altar constellation
- 54 Novelist Rand

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# holiday happenings

## Customer Appreciation Weekend in Chester

CHESTER, Vt. – The fourth annual Customer Appreciation Weekend will be in full swing in Chester the first weekend in December, Dec. 7 and 8. We are giving thanks for another year of your support. Our vibrant businesses continue to thrive and carry abundant, unusual inventories year round. You will not be disappointed.

Bring the family to explore all of the venues and discounts available on our historic Green. Watch the annual tree lighting on the Green on Saturday afternoon, after 4 p.m. Children can visit Santa in the information booth that will be decked out for the season, until 6 p.m. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served in the gazebo to the littles during Santa's visit.

Kit Kats Embroidery & More, located at 78 Common Street on the Green,

has an amazing array of wonderful gifts, including children's books, puzzles, ornaments, stickers, and of course her specialty, embroidered clothing pieces. She will be offering a discount storewide all weekend.

Fischer Arts, located on the corner of Common Street and School Street, has a beautiful, welcoming shop, with twinkling white lights in the windows. Stepping inside the shop reveals art inspired by nature. It is a colorful, enticing showroom, offering many one-of-a-kind selections.

Sage Jewelry and Gifts, located down Artisans Alley, is offering discounts on selected gift items. She is known regionally for her creative jewelry pieces that are made on site. Don't miss seeing her expanded inventory of regionally made items, featuring

cards, candles, glassware, and much more.

Home to Sharon's on the Common, Chester Candy, and the Maple Room is the red building at the bottom of Artisans Alley. Sharon's offers specialty clothing items from around the world, and also many one-of-a-kind creations made in the boutique.

Chester Candy and The Maple Room specialize in made-in-Vermont food items, including truffles, cheese, jams, pickles, and syrup. Discounts storewide will be offered all weekend.

Your continued, year-round support is the backbone of the small business community in Chester.

Thank you for shopping local during this wonderful time of the year. Enjoy the holidays.

## Festival of Lights

BELMONT, Vt. – The date is fast approaching for the Mount Holly Community Historical Museum's holiday fundraising event, the Festival of Lights celebration on Saturday evening, Dec. 7, at the Odd Fellows Hall in Belmont.

We welcome the Mount Holly community and neighboring communi-

ties to an evening of enjoyment, refreshment, and a live auction. At 5 p.m., the door opens for the auction preview; at 5:30 p.m., our local auctioneer Paul Nevin will commence the evening. We can report that many choice new and vintage items have been gathered, plus our traditional, treasured wreaths and sought-after wine and cheese raffles

will be offered.

You might just find the best holiday present for a loved one or a dear friend. A small admission charge will include three tickets for a special door prize. Come start the holiday season enjoying a festive night with neighbors old and new, local and beyond, all while supporting our museum, a significant community asset.

## Londonderry Christmas Bazaar

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – The annual Christmas Bazaar at Second Congregational Church of Londonderry will once again be held on the first Saturday of December, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.,

in the Church Friendship Room. There will be handmade wreaths to purchase, a delicious lunch served, a cookie walk, crafts and gift items to purchase, and much, much fun to be had. Come join us for a wonderful day

to get into the Christmas spirit. Second Congregational Church is located at 2051 North Main Street (Vermont Route 11) in Londonderry, Vt. For more information, please call the church office at 802-824-6453.

## Springfield Holiday Concert

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Community Band is pleased to announce its second annual holiday concert, which will take place on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 6 p.m., in the Riverside Middle School auditorium, 13 Fairground Road in Springfield.

Last year's holiday concert was very well received, and this one, too, will not disappoint. The program will consist of both traditional and modern holiday and winter-related selections, with the familiar being refashioned and tweaked in unexpected ways. This is not your parents' holiday concert.

The featured vocalists for the evening are the Riverside Middle School chorus, and teachers Meredith Pelton of Springfield High School and Kelly DeAngelis of Riverside Middle School.

The band hopes you will join it in an exuberant evening of celebration, good spirit, and fun.



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# holiday happenings

## Share in a weekend of INNdulgence

BY PAULA BENSON

The Vermont Journal

REGION, Vt. – The idea for the INNdulgence Tour originated in 2016, when innkeeper Julie Wood thought a promotional fundraising event would help encourage local tourism during the off or “stick” season in November.

A quintessential Vermont experience, with several inns offering a special, indulgent treat between the hours of 12–5 p.m., the INNdulgence Tour will take place this year on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 7 and 8.

The tour invites visitors to come for the weekend, or just the day, to experience the historic and unique inns of the southern Vermont region. With the exception of 2020 and 2021, the tradition has continued, and attendance has grown steadily. Approximately 200 people participated over the week-

end last year, and this year’s ticket sales will be limited to 250 guests.

A cohort of the Golden Honey Festival and long-time proprietor of the Golden Stage Inn along with her husband Michael, Wood is a doer; hardworking, industrious, a creative thinker, and problem solver.

Contacting other innkeepers and coordinating the details can be a challenge, and Wood is grateful for her volunteer partner, Jane McGarry. Three years ago was the first year McGarry attended the tour, and two years ago she volunteered her assistance.

“Julie is great,” McGarry said. “She is really fun to work with, and has her stuff together. We get together for dinner and think of new things that will keep the event fresh and fun.”

This year that means opening the participation up to local businesses, in

addition to the inns. Pop’s Biscotti in Ludlow, for instance, is giving away goodie bags to people who stop in while taking the tour. Sugarbobs in Chester will offer discounts at their gift shop on purchases, plus a snack. There will also be a kind of scramble/scavenger hunt this year, with a chance to win two tickets to the INNdulgence Tour in 2025.

There are nine inns participating this year. A listing of inns, map of the tour, general information, and tickets are available on the 2024 INNdulgence Facebook page.

One of the original INNdulgence Tour stops is the historic Echo Lake Inn in Ludlow. Owner Tom Gianola isn’t sure yet what he plans to serve, but traditionally, they’ve always offered hearty soups. “We are the inn furthest north, so usually people start with us,” Gianola explained. He

anticipates maybe a turkey gumbo and a butternut squash bisque, or something similar. This year, Gianola is happy to welcome his neighbors just across the street at the Inn at Water’s Edge, participating in the tour for the first time.

Ali and Lane Knaack, who took ownership of the newly rebranded CoHo Inn & Motor Lodge in Weston just six months ago, are hosting the tour for their first time. They’ll be participating on Sunday only, and are planning to serve a classic comfort food snack of mini tomato soups and grilled cheese sandwich bites.

The Golden Stage Inn is famous for Michael’s “Saturday Night Chocolate Cake,” which they offer each year, the name referring to the fact that the dessert is served every Saturday night at the inn.

Vicky Mustoe of the Stone House Inn & Eatery is still debating what she will serve

that weekend, but if her chocolate crinkle cookies are any indication of what might be offered, this is an inn not to be passed by.

One unique feature can be found at the Hartness House in Springfield. Explore the

famous underground tunnels that snake beneath the cozy mansion as part of the tour.

Travel from inn to inn, enjoy holiday warmth and hospitality, and savor some INNdulgent treats.



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## WVFD Christmas celebration

WESTON, Vt. – As the Weston Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD) wraps up its 75th anniversary, we’d like to invite all our neighbors to join us for the official start to the season, Christmas in Weston, scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 7, from 11 a.m. to dusk. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be in town, along with cookie decorating, kids’ crafts, face painting, horse-drawn wagon rides, a

goat petting farm, and a presentation of “A Christmas Carol,” along with Christmas caroling, and more.

A special addition this year includes a visit by R.W. Ally, illustrator of the Paddington Bear books, with an original, live drawing, plus art class and reading of “Firefighters to the Rescue.” Don’t miss this event.

Raffle tickets, and cookie and swag sales benefit

the WVFD and The Little School. Raffle tickets are available on the Weston Green that day or before the event from any WVFD member, or call 802-824-3539 and leave a message. Santa will light the town Christmas tree, and fireworks will complete our day of festivities. For more information on events and times, please visit [www.westonvt.net](http://www.westonvt.net).



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The Mount Holly Community Historical Museum

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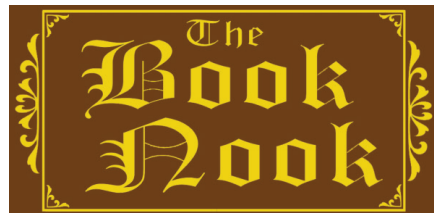


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# real estate

## Changes to the Vermont property transfer taxes —

**REGION** – All property sales, other than the named exemptions later in this article, are subject to a Vermont transfer tax paid at closing by the purchaser. The tax is now an adjusted rate, based on the property ownership status of principal (primary homes) or nonprincipal (vacation or residential investment property). There is also an underlying break for nonprincipal property that is available for long-term rental properties. A nonprimary homebuyer will pay a total transfer tax increase from 1.45% to 3.62% of the purchase price. For example, a \$500,000 property sale under the new tax is equal to \$18,100 due at closing by the purchaser, versus the previ-

ous transfer tax of \$7,350. This significant change is important information for both buyers and sellers. Below is the transfer tax breakdown. For more explanation, feel free to call your trusted Realtor professional.

Effective Aug. 1, the property transfer tax rates are as follows.

The general tax rate remains the same, at 1.25%.

The Clean Water Surcharge rate increases from 0.2% to 0.22%, and increases exemption amounts.

The principal residence tax rate special tax rate of 0.5% remains the same, but value subject to the 0.5% rate (and exempt from the Clean Water Surcharge) increases from the first

\$100,000 of value paid to the first \$200,000 of value paid. The general tax rate of 1.25%, plus the Clean Water Surcharge of 0.22% (total 1.47%) applies to the value paid above \$200,000.

The nonprincipal residence tax rate (for a non-long-term rental residence fit for year-round habitation) increases from 1.25% to 3.40% (3.62% including the Clean Water Surcharge).

Exemption 99, for a principal residence, funded in part with a homeland grant through the Vermont Housing & Conservation Board (VHCB), or which the Vermont Housing Finance Agency (VHFA) or USDA Rural Development has committed to make or

purchase, increases the exempt amount from the first \$110,000 of value paid to the first \$250,000 of value paid. The general tax rate of 1.25%, plus the Clean Water Surcharge of 0.22% (total 1.47%) will apply to the value paid above \$250,000.

New exemptions from the property transfer tax and Clean Water Surcharge are as follows.

Abandoned dwellings – blighted real estate owned and acquired by a municipality through condemnation or tax sale. The buyer must certify at the time of purchase that the dwelling will be rehabilitated and occupied as a principal residence, and not as a short-term rental, and prove within

three years of purchase that rehabilitation of the dwelling has been completed and the dwelling is occupied as a principal residence.


New ENERGY STAR mobile homes – new mobile homes, as defined in 10 V.S.A. § 6201(1), that have an ENERGY STAR energy efficiency label and that are


certified as a Zero Energy Ready Home by the U.S. Department of Energy.

Information sourced from [www.tax.vermont.gov/property/property-transfer-tax](http://www.tax.vermont.gov/property/property-transfer-tax).

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

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