

There is not a Crossword or Sudoku this week due to space. Check back next week!

Thank you for your understanding.

**ECRWSS** PRESORTED STANDARD U.S. POSTAGE PAID JOURNAL, LLC

8 HIGH ST LUDLOW. VT 05149-1008 Postal Patron

# THE VERMONT JOURNAL SHOPPER EDITION OF THE VERMONT SHOPPER EDI

JANUARY 29, 2025 | WWW.VERMONTJOURNAL.COM

**VOLUME 64, ISSUE 05** 

# Local series showcases Vermont's covered bridges

**BY JOE MILLIKEN** 

The Vermont Journal

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. -Southern Vermont resident Phill Gatenby, who is originally from Great Britain, and recently moved to Brattleboro from Tampa, Fla., is creating a YouTube series revolving around one of Vermont's most recognizable symbols, the covered bridge. There are currently more than 100 covered bridges littered throughout the Green Mountain State, and Gatenby plans to feature every such bridge in the state.

After living in Florida for several years, Gatenby had never seen a covered bridge in his life, before first see-

ing the Creamery Covered Bridge, at 500 Western Ave in Brattleboro. Then he started noticing other covered bridges throughout the region, such as the Hall/ Osgood Bridge in Rockingham, the Worralls Bridge and Bartonsville Bridge in Bartonsville, and the Dummerston Bridge and the Scott Bridge in Townshend.

"It's true...I had never seen a covered bridge before, not even the movie 'Bridges of Madison,' and when I first drove past one in Brattleboro I thought, 'that's interesting'... and a few days later I passed by the bridge in Dummerston and thought, 'different style, different color and length...and on the way



The Hall Covered Bridge, situated on the Saxtons River. PHOTO PROVIDED BY PHIL GATENBY

back home, I made sure we drove through it!"

Out of curiosity, Gatenby started looking online and on YouTube, and was quite surprised to discover that there are more than 100 covered bridges scattered throughout Vermont. He wanted to know more about them and their place in Vermont history.

"The idea to do a YouTube series started as I began watching YouTube clips of each bridge and was enjoying them, but also realizing that some of them offered no information or history about the bridge at all. So, I thought I could do a video for each bridge, providing a theme and some more consistent information about each bridge."

First, Gatenby started learning as much as he could about the history of covered bridges, joined the Vermont Covered Bridge Society, and connected with Okemo Valley TV to learn how to properly edit and post his videos.

"I could never have gotten the project off the ground without the support of the Vermont Covered Bridge Society, and I am a proud member," Gatenby said. "At one time, there was over 600 covered bridges in Vermont, so it is vital to highlight and preserve the bridges we have left, to ensure the number doesn't fall below 100.

"Additionally, I had no videography experience before this project, and Okemo Valley TV tutored and helped me put these videos together. I am quite proud that my videos are available on their platforms."

To view Gatenby's You-Tube series about Vermont covered bridges, please visit www.youtube.com/ watch?v=S-9rLhTYIb8.

# Trustees hear from town manager, review budget -

**BY PAULA BENSON** 

The Vermont Journal

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. -Rockingham municipal manager Scott Pickup announced at the Tuesday, Jan. 14, meeting of the Bellows Falls Trustees that the town hall is now open five days per week: Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; and Friday, 7:30-11:30 a.m.

A public meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 22, at 10 a.m., at the Rockingham Public Library, to discuss the fire department consolidation proposal. "Hopefully we'll get lots of folks to attend," Pickup commented, "so they can get some information, and get updated," prior to the March 1 Town Meeting, where one of the articles to be voted on applies "directly to fire-related

Pickup updated the board on equipment issues in both the water and sewer departments. He said he had met with Travis Kemp, chief operator for the Bellows Falls water department, who informed him that raw water pump #1 failed, and is not currently functioning. Installed in 1988, the pump is at least 13 years beyond its lifespan, according to Pickup, who said the cost to replace it will run about \$35,000. Although not included in this year's budget, the money will be deducted from the existing water department surplus. Pickup mentioned that pump #2, also installed in 1988, is still operational, and is scheduled for replacement within the fiscal year 2026 budget.

The board passed a motion adding an item to the Bellows Falls Village Annual Meeting asking voters to allow the village to borrow a sum of up to \$730,000 from the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF). Pickup explained that this request pertained to the Kissell Hill/Colony Road projects that are going through an environmental review currently, and need the authorization to continue the bonding process.

Additionally, Pickup told

the board he and Kemp were working on an engineering submission for the fiscal year 2027 budget that addresses the cost of replacing the intake piping at the water plant, and once he has more information, he will present the board with a plan.

Chief operator for the sewer department Rob Wheeler discovered internal leaking in the dryer unit, requiring they swap it out with the second, back-up unit while the main dryer is repaired. Pickup told the board to expect to see some costs associated with hauling away the sludge in the interim until the dryer is up and running. Pickup also mentioned that they would be taking steps to apply for a Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan to purchase locally sourced dryers, as the current units are manufactured in China, making obtaining

See **TRUSTEES** on Page 2

# New committee to look at middle income housing-

**BY PAULA BENSON** 

The Vermont Journal

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. -At the Monday, Jan. 20, Springfield Selectboard meeting, the board signed the warning for the annual Town Meeting, to be held on Tuesday, March 4, at Riverside Middle School. Polls will be open from 8 a.m. – 7 p.m. The informational meeting is scheduled for Monday evening, March 3, at the Springfield High School, starting at 7 p.m. A list of the 13 articles to be presented and voted on by Australian ballot is accessible on the town website within the Jan. 20 meeting

packet. The board unanimously approved two permit applications for March events: a drive-up rabies clinic at Riverside Middle School, on March 1, from 1-3 p.m., sponsored by Vermont Volunteer Services for Animals Humane Society (VVSA); and a 5K triathlon at Edgar May Recreation

Center and along the Toonerville Trail, scheduled for March 22, from 9-11 a.m. Participants will swim 400 yards in the lap pool, bike 12 miles on spin bikes, and run 3.1 miles on the trail. Those interested in registering for the event can visit www. edgarmay.org/upcomingevents/2025-indoor-triatha-

Springfield town manager Jeff Mobus asked the board to confirm three appointments to the ad hoc committee on middle income housing created by the board at their last regular meeting. Mobus explained that, "By charter, ad hoc committees last three years, then are either terminated or renewed by board action."

Appointees Chuck Gregory, Pierre Sarrazin, and Vincent Fusca III were approved by the board. The Mount Ascutney Regional Commission (MARC) was named as an ex officio member of the committee, in accordance with Robert's Rules.

Mobus presented the board with a request from Springfield Regional Development Corporation (SRDC) for \$100,000. The money would come from funds received from the state as an economic development grant, to be used on the former J&L site. Mobus stated that the current balance in this fund is \$760,000.

Board member Michael Schmitt inquired what the exact use of the funds would be, and Mobus replied that "expenses exceeded the allowable amount for their grant funding," and this would cover the overage.

Schmitt asked if the money was going toward repair of the adjacent building, to which Mobus responded, "No."

Mobus reminded Schmitt that the board had discussed the usage for the funds in an executive session, and he could not talk about it at the regular meeting. Finally, the board approved the SRDC request in a vote of 4-1, with Schmitt opposing.

Mobus updated the board on the water lines replacement project, explaining that

See **HOUSING** on Page 2

#### **INDEX**

Arts & Entertainment	. 3
Opinion	. 4
Obituaries/Services	. 5
Calendar	. 6
Legal Notices6	-7
Classifieds/Directory	. 7

#### CONTACT US

**OFFICE ADDRESS:** 8 High Street • PO Box 228 • Ludlow, VT

**BILLING ADDRESS:** PO Box 116 • Rutland, VT 05702 **PHONE NUMBER:** 

**WEBSITE:** www.VermontJournal.com

802-228-3600

ADS:

ads@VermontJournal.com sales@VermontJournal.com

editor@VermontJournal.com **CALENDAR:** 

calendar@VermontJournal.com **BILLING:** billing@VermontJournal.com

# **DEADLINES**

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

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

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

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

The Shopper Edition 2 | January 29, 2025

# Meals on Wheels of Springfield needs help—

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - If you can spare two hours a week on a Monday, Wednesday, or Friday, we could use your help. Meals on Wheels of Greater Springfield, in partnership with Senior Solutions, needs drivers to deliver nutritional meals to the

homes of eligible seniors and disabled adults in Springfield and the surrounding communities. Meal pickup is at St. Mark's Church, on Fairground Road, at 9:30 a.m., on your day of choice. If interested, please contact Steve Matush at 802-885-4520 for

Donations are also needed to keep the program running. You can mail a tax-deductible donation made out to MAWGS to c/o Springfield Senior Center, 139 Main Street, Springfield, VT 05156.

# Cybersecurity at Springfield Library

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. -Join the Springfield Town Library on Thursday, Feb. 27, at 6 p.m., for a cybersecurity presentation. This event will cover essential topics, including the basics of cybersecurity, its importance, effective approaches to safeguarding online data, and tips for staying safe on the internet. The presentation aims to educate the audience on protecting digital systems and data from cyber threats while raising awareness about cybersecurity and best practices to reduce vulnerability.

Mary Kohn works for Better Business Bureau (BBB) in Eastern Massachusetts, Maine, Rhode Island, and Vermont as a community relations and marketing specialist. She loves to help

people make smarter decisions in the marketplace, and educate both consumers and businesses on how BBB can help make an impact in a meaningful way.

This event is free and open to the public. To sign up for a reminder, www.springfieldtownlibrary.org/calen-

# Jeff Mobus speaks to Springfield Rotary Club —

Springfield town manager Jeff Mobus talked about the proposed 2025-2026 town budget at the recent Springfield Rotary Club meeting, held at the Springfield Area Parent Child Center Workforce Development & Training Center. The budget proposes an increase of 5.34%. This is due in part to rising employee compensation costs, fire department needs, and public works demands.

If a proposed 1% local option sales tax on rooms and meals is passed, then the increase could be 4.57%. The town is also looking at ways to reduce the tax rate by increasing the Grand List. To learn more, visit www.springfieldvt.gov/index.asp. Mobus is also a board

Claremont, NH

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - member of the Springfield Rotary Club.



Springfield town manager Jeff Mobus speaks to the Springfield Rotary Club.

PHOTO PROVIDED

## **HOUSING**

From Page 1

the town had reduced the scope of work based on the costly bids received for the initial proposal. All new bids were to be submitted by Jan. 23, and Mobus said there had been several contractors present at the prebid meeting, therefore he was hopeful that the town would retain a successful bid.

The details for Project I and Project J can be found within the meeting packet on the town website, including priority list applications for both. The application for Project I, originally authorized by voters at the 2023 Town Meeting, is necessary due to recent alterations. Project J, which will go to a bond vote in the fall, would replace the water lines along Main and River Streets beginning in 2026. Mobus said the project will occur in conjunction with the replacement of sewer mains, so that the road "isn't ripped up twice in back-to-back years."

The board spent a few minutes reviewing budget reports, and Mobus remarked that the town is in good shape, "running pretty close on budget items...so we're pretty excited." However, Mobus mentioned that they were "expecting a hit" in the form of increased health insurance rates.

Board member Tara Chase announced that the Declaration of Equity and Inclusion Implementation Committee held a special meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 14, to address reports that an incident had occurred where a "hateful word" was written in snow on a car parked directly across from Union Street. Chase read a statement strongly condemning the act, and commented that the committee plans to host some "educational opportunities and spaces for people to come and be a part of making a change and making sure people feel safe within our community."



# financial future may:

- Lower your investment fees
- Improve your performance
- Help you understand your investments and risk
- Make sure you don't outlive your money

Call us today to set up a no risk private consultation. Isn't your peace of mind worth the time?

802-228-5774

101 Main Street, Suite 2, Ludlow, VT



**Rick Strobl** 

**Income Tax Preparation** 

Affordable • Experienced • Accurate • Direct Deposit

**Now Accepting All Major Credit Cards** 

Specializing in: "Personal 1040" "Self Employed" "Rental Properties" "Small Businesses"

Call for Appointment: 802-299-5121

Springfield, VT

**Celebrate Dry January with Us!** Purchase 3 THC Drinks, 50% off the 4th Enjoy an alcohol-free month with THC-infused seltzers, sodas, "wine" & water, OR create your own mocktail experience with our THC drink infusers.

Friday Nights Mexican Meal Deals, 5:30-8pm Purchase \$50 of products and receive a \$10 meal ticket for Maria's Mexican - good for that weekend of purchase.

\$10 Deals Every Monday & Tuesday, Starting JAN 27 We'll have an array of high-quality products for \$10/each. Stop by or check our website for details!

**Super Discount on Superbowl Sunday, FEB 9** Wear your favorite NFL team's logo in our store and receive 20% off your purchases.

Gift Bags for Valentine's Day, Friday, FEB 14 Treat your special someone to one 5-pack of 1906's hemp-infused LOVE tablets, a THC-infused chocolate bar, one bottle of hemp-infused "wine" (subject to availability) or 5 X 10mg THC-infused drinks, & one lighter. Check our website for details!

7 Pineview Drive, Chester • 802-875-WEED • DownToTheRootsVT.com

Cannabis has not been analyzed or approved by the Food and Drugs Administration (FDA). For use by individuals 21 years of age and older or registered qualifying patient only. KEEP THIS PRODUCT AWAY FROM CHILDREN AND PETS. DO NOT USE IF PREGNANT OR BREASTFEEDING. Possession or use of cannabis may carry significant legal penalties in some jurisdictions and under federal law. It may not be transported outside of the state of Vermont. The effects of edible cannabis may be delayed by two hours or more. Cannabis may be habit forming and can impair concentration, coordination, and judgment. Persons 25 years and younger may be more likely to experience harm to the developing brain. It is against the law to drive or operate machinery when under the influence of this product. National Poison Control Center (800) 222-1222.



37B Main St, Ludlow, VT 05149 Hours: Monday-Friday, 10 AM-3 PM Phone: 802-228-3663 www.brgn.org "We are here to help"

Serving Ludlow, Mt. Holly, Belmont, Cavendish, Proctorsville & Plymouth

## **TRUSTEES**

From Page 1

replacement parts difficult. After the board spent some time reviewing budget items, they agreed to put the budget status report and manager evaluation on the agenda for the next trustees meeting, to be held on Tuesday, Feb. 11.

## **CHAVES EXCAVATING**

ALL MATERIALS FOR COMPLETE SITE WORK

Sand · Gravel · Stone Shurpac · Topsoil · Fill



5,000 lb. Hydraulic Hammer for Ledge & Rock Splitting

Portable On-Site Crushing & Screening Equipment

802-824-3140 Londonderry, VT



Solving hard water, iron, blue staining, radon, and arsenic problems in the Windham and **Windsor Counties since 1984** 

- Water Conditioning
- Free On-Site Water Analysis & Estimate
- Iron and Manganese Removal
  - Radon & Arsenic Removal Systems Maintenance
  - Home Supplies Delivery

We Service All Makes And **Models Locally Owned &** Operated Since 1984



ON SITE, NO CHARGE, TESTING AND ESTIMATES

800-252-8484

The Vermont Journal January 29, 2025 | 3

# Walking on water

**BY RON PATCH** 

802-374-0119 ronpatch27@gmail.com

Twice a year, Vermont Fish & Wildlife hosts a free fishing day. This past Jan. 25 was the annual winter free fishing day. This is a program to introduce people to ice fishing. I went and took Ryan with me. We didn't fish. This was a chance to introduce Ryan to a new activity to see if it was for him.

We went down to the setback by the toll bridge in Springfield. It was just above zero as we stepped onto the ice. Ryan grew up in a warmer climate where ice fishing doesn't exist, so this was something new.

Ryan had safety concerns as we walked out on the ice. I assured him all was safe. It didn't take Ryan long to become comfortable. His first comment was, "This is surreal!" Jack

We walked toward two men my age with their dog. They had jacks set up and while waiting for a flag, they jigged some. They were local boys. Jacks are my preferred method of ice fishing. There are topwater jacks and underwater jacks. I use both. First you have to drill or cut a hole in the ice.

Next vou use a sounder to determine water depth. A sounder is a 2-ounce weight that attaches to your hook that you drop down the hole in the ice. Pull it up till taught, then pull the line up another 6-12 inches. I always tie a simple knot in the line at reel level. This way you don't have to sound the hole again. Some fishermen use a small button instead of a knot. You bait the hook with a shiner. You want the shiner swimming just off the bottom. If the shiner is lying on the bottom fish won't see it. So pull it up some and let him swim. He'll be noticed. **Jigging** 

Lots of people jig. They use a modern, very lightweight rod and reel, maybe 30 inches long. You can stand over the hole and jig, but most have a 5-gallon pail they sit on. Most use a small spinner as an attractor for the fish. Below the spinner is a hook with bait. We talked to one man from Castleton who was using maggots for bait. These are sold commercially at bait shops. He was having some luck, as was evidenced by fish in his pail. Ice fishermen jig for crappie, bluegill, and perch. Jigging for smelt is popular on the Ludlow lakes.

We walked toward three men. They had both topwater and underwater jacks. They had caught a beautiful 18-inch bass. These three men were really enjoying themselves. As we approached them, Ryan asked me, "These fishermen don't mind us talking with them?" Ice fishermen are very friendly and happy to share knowledge.

#### Cutting a hole

Today most fishermen have gas powered augers, or the latest augers powered by a cordless drill. It's getting easier. I still use a long-handled chisel. It's more laborious with a chisel, so I cheat. I look for holes drilled by other fishermen the day before that have frozen over. There might only be 2 inches of fresh ice in the hole. I can chisel through two inches in no time. Once the hole is opened, you need a skimmer. You dip the skimmer in the hole to clean out floating ice chips. The skimmer has holes in it for water to drain through.

The sun was bright and warm. We saw a family on the ice with their young

Notice the tent shelter in center. To the right the auger is grounded. Two men at left jig for panfish.

PHOTO BY RON PATCH

children. Start them early. Ryan repeated several times, "It's surreal." His other comment was he couldn't believe how "calm" it was on the ice. It really was a beautiful day, and we didn't get cold. I was dressed in layers.

Ryan wants to go ice fishing with me someday soon. I fish all around. For walleyes, I like to fish Roundy's south of Springfield on Route 5. Here the water is deeper, maybe 18 feet in front of the ledges. The Springfield

setback is 4-9 feet deep. I have caught walleyes there as well. We also saw a bald eagle.

I hope you try it. If you do, I suggest you go the first time and just walk around and talk to the fishermen. It's a very inexpensive sport, and you'll know where your food comes from.

This week's old saying is from Bob Fraser: "A bad day of fishing beats a good day of work."

# Rani Arbo & daisy mayhem-

PUTNEY, Vt. – Next Stage Arts and Twilight Music present New England's acclaimed folk/roots quartet Rani Arbo & daisy mayhem, at Next Stage on Saturday, Feb. 1, at 7:30 p.m.

Rani Arbo & daisy mayhem feature four-part vocal harmonies, indelible songs, fiddle, acoustic and electric guitars, bass, and a homemade percussion kit of cardboard boxes, tin cans, caulk tubes, packing-tape tambourines, bottle-cap rattles, Mongolian jaw harps, and a vinyl suitcase. Over the past 20 years, the quartet has toured its uplifting, healing performances to concert halls, festivals, and residency engagements across North America, and has released seven CDs on Signature Sounds. This band's steadfast brew of wit, camaraderie, and musicality leaves audiences everywhere humming and hopeful, spirits renewed.

In the lineage of string bands who blur the boundaries of American roots music, Arbo, Andrew Kinsey, Anand Nayak, and Scott Kessel have always been standard-bearers, with a particular knack for pairing words and music. From bluegrass barnstormers to sultry swing, old-time gospel to bluesy folk-rock, they consistently turn in lush arrangements of original songs alongside artful reworkings of a melange of music.

Next Stage is located at 15 Kimball Hill in Putney, Vt. Advance tickets are available at www.next-stagearts.org. For information, call 802-387-0102, or visit the website above.

# suitcase. Over the past 20 Kessel have always been stan-visit the website

Ricky McEachern exhibition

**NEWFANE, Vt.** – Artist Ricky McEachern explores moments in time in an exhibition of his paintings opening Tuesday, Feb. 4, at Newfane's Moore Free Library Crowell Gallery.

Titled "Everything is Now," the show features landscapes and people in varied and colorful settings that McEachern has observed in his years exploring New England.

The artist will be on hand to share his perspective at an

opening reception Saturday, Feb. 8, from 4-6 p.m. The show runs through March 28.

McEachern hosts a podcast called "Eager to Know," in which he engages with creative people of all types, and he recently put his DJ skills to use with an early morning weekly broadcast on WOOL-FM radio in Bellows Falls called "Bellows Hellos," and a tea dance that he organized at Ciao Popolo restaurant. McEachern came to painting after working as an engineer, and then exploring art in Chicago, before moving to Saxtons River a few years ago. More details and examples of his art can be found at his website, www.rickyartist.com.

The library is located at 23 West Street in Newfane. Further information is available at the library website, www.moore-freelibrary.org.

# Jim Keller at Walker Farm-

WESTON, Vt. – Get ready for an unforget-table evening with iconic guitarist Jim Keller, best known as chief songwriter for Tommy Tutone, and the unforgettable 1981 hit "867-5309/Jenny."

Keller has spent the last 30 years crafting a distinctive blend of heartfelt rock, soul, and poetic lyricism. Whether performing at New York's Rockwood Music Hall with some of the finest musicians in the business, or in front of new audiences like yourselves, Keller brings a personal touch to every song.

The event is a benefit concert, with all proceeds going to West River Sports, a volunteer-run community organization committed to fostering a love of the outdoors and

healthy activity with and for our area's younger populations.

The concert will be held at Walker Farm, on Feb. 8, at 7 p.m. Walker Farm Music is a pick-your-price event, letting you choose the ticket value that makes the most sense for you. Tickets are on sale now, and can be purchased at www.westontheater.org, or by calling the box office at 802-824-5288.





Wednesday, Feb. 5, from 6-9 pm Green Mountain Boys - Prizes!



802-228-7797
Kitchen Hours Monday – Friday 4–9pm
Saturday 12–9pm, Sunday 12-8pm

Monday Open Mic Night at 8:30pm
Tuesday Trivia at 6pm with Rick Davis
Thursday Irish Session with Gypsy Reel at 6:30pm

THERE'S NO STRANGER AT KILLARNEY, ONLY FRIENDS YOU HAVEN'T MET







## The Quintessential Vermont Country Inn



CELEBRATE VALENTINE'S DAY AT THE ECHO LAKE INN

Join us at our 4.5 Star Restaurant Chef Inspired Cuisine • Renovated Dining Area

Saint Valentine's
Four Course Gourmet Dinner
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2025
\$89 PER PERSON

Includes your choice of a Starter, Small Plate, Large Plate, and a selection from our Dessert Cart

Featuring Butternut Squash and Coconut Cream Bisque, Bacon Wrapped Scallops, Roasted Duck Breast, and Maine Lobster Ravioli

Serving Dinner Tue – Sat, 5:30-9 p.m. Reservations Suggested at 802-228-8602 Holiday Menus at www.EchoLakeInn.com

Check out our Cozy Renovated Guest Rooms

4 | January 29, 2025 The Vermont Journal

# opinion

Dear Editor,

following thoughts from my legislative mentor, Jim Harrison.

On Wednesday, Jan. 22, members of the administration will share their proposal to reform Vermont's education system and the way to fund it. One leading legislator said the reform plan may be the biggest overhaul the legislature has seen in 50 years.

It's no secret that last year's increase in property taxes played a large role in changing the political makeup of the legislature in November. Understanding the new political dynamic and the message from voters, legislative leaders appear more open to hearing the governor's reform suggestions this session.

Changing the status quo is never easy. Whether it is a change to a "foundation formula" like most states, where each district receives

Hudsen W Hagland, CFP®

Investment Advisor

Allow me to share the a flat amount per student from the state, or a change Vermont's lowest-inthe-nation staff-to-student ratio, there will be critics. The NEA and some other groups, for example, have argued that Vermont does not have a spending problem, but rather needs more income from higher earn-

> The governor is also taking a lead on improving public safety. In his weekly press conference, he outlined a plan to help us move towards safer communities. A few of the administration's proposals included repealing the "Raise the Age law" for 19-year-old young adult offenders, and reforming our youthful offender procedures to ensure accountability; revising bail laws to make it a tool courts and prosecutors can use to hold violators accountable, as the governor indicated many view our status as a

"catch and release" system which does not deter repeat offenders; simplifying extradition laws; building a system that can deliver a swift and sustained connection to addiction treatment and recovery by retooling and reinvigorating existing programs; and elevating the Department of Public Safety to the Agency of Public Safety, making its director a cabinet level position in line with its importance.

Other items of note: the highly anticipated Clean Heat Standard report from the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) was released this past week to the legislature. While the report estimated lower heating fuel increases than previously anticipated, the PUC concluded that the "Clean Heat Standard is not well suited to Vermont." The report went on to say, "[A]chieving thermal sector greenhouse gas reductions consistent with the Global Warming Solutions Act would be best achieved by building upon existing programs, rather than overlaying a new and complex regulatory structure such as the proposed Clean Heat Standard."

Rep. Noyes, D-Wolcott, and I will be leading a bipartisan effort to phase out the Vermont income tax on social security benefits. Vermont is currently one of only nine states that tax this important benefit to seniors.

A new pro-housing advocacy group, Let's Build Homes, made of a wide range of people and organizations, says Vermont needs to build, build, and build again to address the state's housing crisis. The former mayor of Burlington, Miro Weinberger, is the executive chair of the new group's steering committee.

Jim Harrison is the state representative for Chittenden, Killington, Mendon, and Pittsfield.

Submitted by Rep. Kevin Winter, Lud-Hollylow-Mount Shrewsbury district.

Home • Auto • Farm • Business • Motorcycle • Recreational Vehicles

7190 US Route 5 • Westminster, Vermont 05158

802-463-1900 • www.greaterfallsinsurance.com

Dear Editor,

I am the parent of two Rockingham students, as well as a public educator myself in a different district. I am writing today to voice my concern regarding the changes proposed to the physical education position at Central Elementary. My experience as an educator is that these consolidation choices are a one-way street. Once this is done, it will never go back to the way it

You are taking a position that is already difficult to fill, and making it less desirable. In doing so, we risk driving out a fine educator, and at the same time creating an undesirable position, which in turn opens Bellows Falls to the bottom of the barrel when it comes to job applicants. The most qualified educators will never take this position once it becomes split between two schools, and teachers are forced to have ever-larger classes. Bellows Falls will be stuck with mediocre PE teachers and high turnover rates for years to come. This is bad for students, this is bad for staffing, and this is bad for Bellows Falls.

Sincerely, Michael Schlenoff Bellows Falls, Vt.

Dear Editor,

We were glad to see the article in The Vermont Journal called "Chester adopts rural development bylaws," in which there was much reporting on the issue of extraction in the newly named RUR-3, which is approximately 60% of Chester. From speaking with friends and neighbors, we have found that few are aware that the town has the ability to issue a lifetime conditional use permit to allow a quarry to locate 100 feet from your property line. This means there can be drilling, blasting, noise, and trucking. This noise is disturbing, repetitive, and ignored by town officials when reported.

This means a family could spend their whole lives developing a home and property, only to have their quality of life ruined by a conditional use permit granted by the town. If the conditional use permit is not followed, the Town of Chester states they are unable to enforce the violations of their own conditions in their own issued permit.

This issue needed to be addressed and changed in the Chester Unified Development Bylaws, and there was much discussion about extraction in the planning commission minutes. Ultimately, the only change in extraction policy was the removal of its conditional use from RES-2. Interestingly enough, the town owns a gravel pit in RES-2, and can extract gravel if needed due to previous use.

If the town is truly interested in attracting new homeowners to the Town of Chester, we feel the planning commission, development review board, selectboard, and the town manager need to establish updated conditional use enforceable restrictions for extraction and quarrying. Who would move to Chester knowing that there could be a quarry 100 feet from your property line?

Sincerely, Scott Kilgus and Leslie Thorsen Chester, Vt.



www.afswm.com 802-875-8100



AFS | WEALTH MANAGEMENT

PO Box 993 Chester, VT Office: 802 875 2819

Owner/Operator Palmer cell: 802 291 3417 Ryan cell: 802 291 3363

**RON PATCH Buying Antiques** 802-374-0119



- 4 Butcher's Cut Filet Mignons (5 oz.)
- 4 Air-Chilled Boneless Chicken Breasts (5 oz.)
- 4 **Pure**Ground® Filet Mignon Burgers (6 oz.) 4 Gourmet Jumbo Franks (3 oz.)
- 4 Caramel Apple Tartlets (4 oz.)
- 1 Omaha Steaks Seasoning (3 oz.) 8 FREE Omaha Steaks Burgers (4 oz.)

4 Individual Scalloped Potatoes (3.8 oz.)

SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY PRICE \$12999

OmahaSteaks.com/ClassicPack7199 | 1.833.897.4133

Scan Now To Order

NOW! Ask for your FREE burgers with offer 78237XDS

Savings shown over aggregated single item base price. 8 free 4 oz. burgers will be sent to each shipping address that includes 78237. Limit 2. Standard S&H added per address. While supplies last. Items may be substituted due to inventory limitations. Some products may not be available for sale in your area. Sales are subject to OmahaSteaks.com/terms-of-use. Expires 12/31/25. 24M7165 | Omaha Steaks, LLC



DESIGN \* BUILD \* REMODEL

**CUSTOM HOMES, ADDITIONS, & RENOVATIONS** 

**SERVING LUDLOW AND SURROUNDING TOWNS** 

**CONTACT US FOR YOUR NEXT PROJECT!** 

802-461-3573 dci@dciconcepts.com

Innovative Treatment for Uterine Fibroids

Uterine fibroids are muscle growths in and/or on the womb. Symptoms may include heavy bleeding, pelvic pressure, bloating, pelvic and/or back pain, and urinary or bowel problems. If you have known or suspected fibroids, call for a consultation to see if Acessa™ may be right for you.

— Prompt Appointments Available —



Thusitha Cotter, MD

Kira Balkcom, MD

25 Ridgewood Road, Springfield, VT 802-885-7561 www.springfieldgynecology.org

# obituaries

#### Ethel Anderson, 1936-2025

MILTON, Vt. - Ethel "Liz" Anderson, 88, of Milton, Vt., was born to Donald and Margaret Lockhart in Lake George, N.Y. She passed away Jan. 20, 2025.

Liz was a long-time member, past president, and chaplain of Post #374 American Legion Auxiliary of Lake George. She attended Lake George High School, and later became owner/administrator of the Lakeview Home for Adults, providing residential care for the elderly. She moved to Vermont in 1989, to become a nanny to her granddaughter Caroline.

Liz was predeceased by brothers Wallace, Donald, and George Lockhart; and sister Joyce Wood; also by her first husband Robert

She is survived by her patrick, of Williston, Robert (Jane) Kirkpatrick, of West-(Steven) Kirkpatrick, of St. Albans, and Larry Anderson, of Colchester; as well as great-grandchildren.

A memorial is planned at the Eagle's Club in Milton, Vt., on Friday, Jan. 31, at 3 p.m. The family wishes to extend heartfelt gratitude to the staff at McClure Respite Home, and to many friends and family for their care and compassion.

## Bernard Haley Sr., 1926-2025

**GRAFTON, Vt.** – It is with great sadness that the family of Bernard "Pete" Haley Sr. announce his passing at the age of 98, on his 80th wedding anniversary.

As the family patriarch and the strongest man we know, he will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him, with his quick wit and incredible sense of humor.

Pete was born in Grafton, Vt., July 8, 1926, to Pearl and Raymond Haley. He spent most of his life in Grafton, just a few houses away from the house he was born in.

Pete enlisted in the Navy in 1944 during World War II, and was a sea cook on the USS Latona out of Galveston, Texas. He was well known on the ship for making the most delicious pies, cherry pies being his specialty. This was a treat that the sailors looked forward to, because it felt like a little piece of home.

Pete married the love of his life Isabelle Buell in Westminster, Vt., on Jan. 18, 1945. They raised four chil-

Pete cared for Isabelle at their home for the last year of her life, always letting her know how loved she was. He said it was the toughest job he had ever done, not physically, but emotionally. He loved her so much. On the day of Pete's passing, Isabelle painted him a glorious sunrise to welcome him home to be with her.

Pete had several jobs after coming home from the war. Most notably, he worked for Cota and Cota from 1973 until he retired. He was a fleet mechanic, and could always be found with a tool in his hand.

His favorite phrase to his granddaughters, when they would come to him with. "Something's wrong with my car, it's making noise," he would say, "Turn the radio up, you won't hear it," with a chuckle.

Pete is survived by his daughter Corinne Miles, of Grafton, Vt., Reginald Hal-

Kirkpatrick, and second husband Lawrence Ander-

children Bill (Linda) Kirkminster, Jean (Ernie) Blake, of Milton, Tom (Sui) Kirkpatrick, of Burlington, Jim 15 grandchildren; and seven



Bernard Haley Sr., 1926-2025 PHOTO PROVIDED

ey/Sharon, of Winchester, N.H., and daughter- in-law Noreen Agoes Haley, of Greensboro, N.C.; granddaughters Michelle, Regina, Lori, Amy, Heather, Melissa, and Samantha; and grandsons John and Michael.

Pete also leaves behind great-grandchildren Ryan, Brent, Wesley, Troy, Bryana, Alyssa, Tianna, Erin, Sidney, Rafer, John Michael, Tyler, Victoria, Kyle, Tyler, Josh, Hunter, Remington, Tiffany, Shaina, and several greatgreat-grandchildren, who he was so proud of.

Pete was preceded in death by his wife Isabelle on Dec. 26, 2014, sons Bernard Jr. (Peter) and Raymond, and grandchildren Raymond Jr. and Denine. Also preceding him in death were his siblings Ruby, Doris, Cecil, Merton, Lawrence, Lewis, Charlotte, and Gertrude

Calling hours will take place on Saturday, Feb. 1, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., with a service at 1 p.m., at the Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home, 55 Westminster Street, Bellows Falls, Vt. Burial will take place in the spring, at the Houghtonville Cemetery in Grafton, Vt. Date and time will be announced.

The family would like to thank Bayada Hospice for the exceptional care, Grafton Cares, and a special thankyou to Diane, Melissa, and Amanda – his favorite girls.

Pete was a great soul, who will be greatly missed by

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

## Gregory L. Columb, 1953-2025

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. -Gregory L. Columb, born May 20, 1953, went to be with his Lord and Savior on Jan. 14, 2025, leaving behind a legacy of devotion to God, family, and the great outdoors. For complete obituary, please go to www. davismemorialchapel.net.

## Reine J. Laplante, 2025

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Reine J. Laplante, 93, of Springfield, Vt., passed away Jan. 22, 2025. A graveside service will be held in the spring of

2025. Full obituary will be posted at a later date. Arrangements are entrusted to the care of the Davis Memorial Chapel.

### Ronald L. Smith, 1949-2025

N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. -Ronald "Ron" Smith, 75, passed peacefully at home on Jan. 20, 2025, surrounded by family. He was born Dec. 3, 1949, the son of Wilfred "Bill" and Doris Smith.

He grew up on a farm in Chester, Vt., until they moved to Springfield, Vt., when he was a teenager.

He attended schools in Chester and Springfield, Vt. He went on to become a butcher and entrepreneur, operating a custom meat cutting business, R L Smith Custom Meat Cutting, processing deer and bear for the local hunters for many years. He also owned and operated a wood cutting and logging business. He worked for Adams Market in Londonderry, and Grand Union in Springfield. He also worked for Gurney Bros. for years.

Ron married Linda (Kehoe) Smith in 1970, and they shared two children, Jayson and Jodie.

In 1976, he married Kathleen (Alexander) Smith in Chester, Vt., and they raised their six children there.

In 1995, they moved to their home in North Springfield, where they would spend the next 30 years hosting Sunday dinners and enjoying watching their grandchildren grow. He spent countless hours

in the woods, hunting with his family. He also enjoyed spending time on the coast of Maine, in Wells and Ken-

He is survived by his wife of 49 years Kathy; and his children Jayson, of Grafton, Vt., Jodie (Ron) Underwood, of Chester, Vt., Abrum (Roberta) Crossman, of Londonderry, Vt., Randee (Jason) Berube, of Linwood, N.C., Lyndsey (Roy) Farrar, of Chester, Vt., Juston (Amanda) Smith, of North Springfield, Vt., and Dodie Crossman, of Londonderry, Vt.; as well as 12 grandchildren Cole, Holly, Zackary, Jakob, Kaleb, Haddie, Gabriella, Evan, Katelynn, Jordyn, Hannah, and Grace; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was predeceased by his parents; his siblings Robert (Bob) Smith, Debbie Speckman, and Sandra (Susie) Goodwin; and one grandchild Kody Smith.

A funeral service was held on Saturday, Jan. 25, at 11 a.m., at the Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield Vt.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Ron's memory to the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund at Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department, 1 National Life Drive, Dewey Building, Montpelier, VT 05620-3208.

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

# WRENCE & LOBER

Residential-Commercial-Generator-Fire Alarm-Security UL Listed 24 Hour Monitoring

www.llelectricservices.com · info@llelectricservices.com

15 Barker St. Bellows Falls, VT 05101

Tel: 802-460-3479 Fax: 802-460-3480

45 TAYLOR HILL ATHENS, VT 05143

FULLY INSURED FREE ESTIMATES

# TAYLOR EXCAVATING LLP

TRUCKING & EXCAVATING SEPTIC SYSTEMS, LAND CLEARINGS, DRIVEWAYS COMPLETE HOUSE SITES LANDSCAPING, WALL BUILDING LAWN MOWING, SNOWPLOWING AND SANDING

802-869-2905 802-289-1508 DAN

## Catherine A. Griffin, 1951-2025

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. Catherine A. Griffin, 73, died on Sunday, Jan. 19, 2025, surrounded by her family. She was born April 23, 1951, in Barton, Vt., the daughter of Edward D. and Angie L. (Mason) Durkin.

Catherine was a loving mother, a homemaker raising her three daughters, worked at Grobet File, and was a caregiver for several years. She grew up on Perron Hill in Glover, Vt., with her dad, and always reflected on the wonderful memories of living with Roger and Blanche Perron and all her cousins.

She enjoyed fishing, walks in the woods, crocheting, playing Hay Day, and spending time with her family. Catherine enjoyed crocheting many hats and blankets over the years, and donated to the Mitten Tree at WCAX.

She is survived by her three daughters Samantha Grailich (Dale Holmes), West Parker (Randy), and Billie Jo Critchfield, and their father Francis Griffin; four siblings Ricky Durkin (Gloria), Sherry Durkin, Steven Durkin, and Beverly Rowles; grandchildren Paige Streeter (Aaron), Levi Parker (Kathryn), Wyatt Critchfield, Derrick Grailich great-grand-(Madisyn), daughter Claire Grailich, Tyler Holmes (Isaiah), Brittney Critchfield (Chris), and Logan Critchfield; and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, and bonus children and great-grandchildren.

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



Catherine Griffin, 1951-2025.

She was predeceased by her parents, and two brothers Edwin "Sookie" Durkin and Donald Durkin.

A graveside service will be held on Saturday, April 26, at 1 p.m., at the Pine Grove Cemetery in North Springfield, Vt. The Rev. Gerry Piper will officiate. A Celebration of Life will be held at the VFW Post 771 in Springfield, Vt., following the graveside service.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to RRMC Marrow Donor Program, c/o Kerry Ellis, Marrow Program Coordinator, RRMC Foley Cancer Center, 160 Allen Street, Rutland, VT 05743 (memo: "In Memory of Catherine Griffin").

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



Harvey Replacement Windows, Raynor Garage Door Sales & Installation, Garage Door Repair & Vinyl Siding

## **BILL STANKEVICH Building & Remodeling**

Full Service Care Taking

173 Baltimore Road Perkinsville, VT 05151

Fax 802-263-5129

# **David Chaves EXCAVATING**

Family Owned & Operated Since 1980

#### **Complete Site Work** From Clearing to Finish **Grading, Roads, Foundations**

**Septics & Drainage Problems** 

**Specializing In Equine Land Development & Ponds** 

> 802-824-3140 Londonderry, VT



Sculpting your piece of Vermont to fit your Dreams! 6 | January 29, 2025 The Vermont Journal

# calendar

## **LEGAL NOTICES**

#### **TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD Annual Report Notice of Availability**

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Report containing the Town Auditor's Report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 will be available February 22, 2025 and may be picked up at the Springfield Town Clerk's Office at 96 Main Street, M-F 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or at the Springfield Town Library at 43 Main Street, M-F 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Annual Report containing the Town Auditor's Report will be available on the Town's website https://springfieldvt.gov. Upon request, the Auditor's Report shall be mailed. After March 31, 2025, the Town School District Report will be available on the School District website https://www.ssdvt.org. Barbara A. Courchesne Town Clerk, CVC (802) 885-2104 tosclerk@vermontel.net

#### **HELP WANTED** TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD Fulfilling Career as a Water Technician

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

#### **TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD HELP WANTED** MAINTENANCE WORKER II TRUCK DRIVER

The Town of Springfield, VT is seeking a highly motivated individual to fill a full-time Maintenance Worker II position within the Public Works Department, with a minimum of two to three years' experience. Requires the ability to perform semi-skilled work related to the operation of trucks, light-duty motor equipment and manual labor. Must be able to make accurate reports of materials hauled and maintenance scheduled. Reports to the Highway Superintendent and/or Working Foreman. A Maintenance Worker II is often required to work independently and will occasionally supervise. Requires an understanding of job safety, a valid motor vehicle operator's license, and a CDL B license. Grade 14, Pay Scale of \$18.98 to \$23.02 per hour. This is a non-exempt union position with an EXCELLENT benefits package. Apply at the Human Resources Office, 96 Main Street, (802) 885-2104 (toshr@vermontel.net). Applications may also be downloaded from the Town's website springfieldvt.gov/jobs. The Town of Springfield is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

#### **HELP WANTED TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD** MAINTENANCE WORKER I

The Town of Springfield, VT is seeking a highly motivated individual to fill a full-time position within the Public Works Department. Desired candidate must have the ability to perform heavy manual labor and tasks requiring physical strength, coordination and dexterity. Strenuous physical effort is demanded in walking, bending, standing and lifting of heavy tools and materials. Often involves repetitive activities requiring limited skill and training. Requires use of equipment used on streets, water & sewer utilities when necessary, cemeteries and other Town properties. The MWI may be required to work independently on occasion. Requires an understanding of job safety and a valid motor vehicle operator's license. Pay Grade 11 (\$17.31 - \$19.35 per hour). This is a non-exempt union position with benefits consisting of Healthcare, (1) Personal Day, (13) Paid Time-Off Days, Short-Term Disability, Long-Term Disability & Life Insurance and an excellent Retirement Program. Apply at the Human Resources Office, 96 Main Street, (802) 885-2104 (toshr@vermontel.net). Applications may also be downloaded from the Town's website https://springfieldvt.govoffice2.com/ jobs. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The Town of Springfield is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## FEB. 8 -

LUDLOW, Vt. - A basket raffle will be held on Saturday, Feb. 8, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., at the Ludlow American Legion, to benefit the Gill Odd Fellows Home activities department.

S. LONDONDERRY, Vt. -The South Londonderry Free Library invites children of all ages to a special Valentine's Day art program with Casey Junker Bailey, on Saturday, Feb. 8, at 10:30 a.m. Hand-dyed and decorated papers, ribbons,

and lace will be used to create beautiful gallerystyle valentines. Each family will also receive a copy of the delightful book "A Pinch of Love." As always, the program is appropriate for all ages and free of charge, thanks to a grant from The Stratton Foundation. For more information, go to www.slflibrary.org/eventcalendar.html, or call the library at 802-824-3371.

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. -The Charlestown Senior Center encourages all funloving adults to join us for a Valentine's Day Dance and Dinner event, scheduled for Feb. 8, from 3-6 p.m., at 223 Old Springfield Road, Charlestown, N.H. Dancing and appetizers from 3-5 p.m., catered dinner by The Sumner House from 5-6 p.m. Music provided by The Silvertones. Advanced tickets required. Ticket sales end Sunday, Feb 2. Tickets are available at the Charlestown Senior Center office, weekdays from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., or online at www.eventbrite.com/e/ charlestown-valentinedance-and-dinner-

#### **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.

PERKINSVILLE, Vt. - The Perkinsville Community Church, 35 Church Street in Perkinsville, Vt., will be hosting live music every first Sunday, from 4-5:30 p.m. This is a free event, but donations will be accepted each month to go towards local charities. Please keep an eye out for upcoming shows, they will be posted each month on our Facebook page at www.facebook. com/PerkinsvilleChurch. Any questions, please send an email to churchperkinsville@gmail.

PLYMOUTH, Vt. - The Plymouth Historical Society will be open for winter hours on the first and third Sundays for the months of January-April. Hours will be 2 to 4 p.m., in the

former Plymouth Elementary School, on Route 100 in Plymouth, Vt. Watch for the "Open" flag.

#### **MONDAYS** -

WESTON, Vt. - Bingo is Monday nights at 7 p.m. at the Weston Rod & Gun Club, 982 Route 100, 1.5 miles north of Weston Village. All are welcome.

tickets-1217035498939.

### TUESDAYS -

LUDLOW, Vt. - Fletcher Memorial Library will hold an infant and toddler playground every Tuesday, from 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m., every Tuesday, from December-March. Playgroup is the perfect place for infants and toddlers to explore, learn, and grow together. Give your child the opportunity to make new friends and develop important social skills in a group while you connect with other parents and caregivers, share experiences, and build a supportive community.

#### WEDNESDAY -

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Every Wednesday morning, from 8-11 a.m., at the Springfield VFW Post 771, 191 River Street, we get together with fellow veterans for coffee and donuts, and socialize for a few hours. All veterans of all ages are welcome. You do not have to be a VFW or American Legion member to come. Call 802-885-6008 for more information.

#### THURSDAYS -

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

#### TOWN OF WINDHAM

The Windham Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing at the Meeting House (26 Harrington Rd) at 6:30PM on Tuesday, February 25, to hear a request from the organizers of the Friendly Gathering for a conditional use permit to hold a music festival in July on the grounds of the former Timber Ridge ski resort.

Members of the public are invited to attend the hearing in person or remotely via Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85281717478?pwd=ZALEqV8 GhDcADmHNI6NYW5gPHz79bw.1

Meeting ID: 852 8171 7478 Passcode: 761975

#### **Planning Commission 2025** Tuesday - February 18, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. **Public Hearing Notice Hybrid Meeting - Heald Auditorium/Zoom**

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §4441 and §4444, notice is hereby given of a public hearing by Ludlow's Planning Commission to hear comments regarding amendments are proposed which modify the following sections of the Town and Village of Ludlow Zoning & Flood Hazard Regulations: In Article 2, Sections 220, 221, 224, 227, including changes to the Town and Village Subdivision Regulations, for the Neighborhood Development Area. The public hearing will take place on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, beginning at 5:30 pm.

You may attend the Public Hearing in-person at the following address:

Ludlow Town Hall 37 Depot Street Ludlow, Vermont 05149

Or via Zoom Link: https://zoom.us/j/99996776407?pwd=SVdjanF DUTFrS3FEZkV4VTŽiaVZuQT09 Meeting ID - 999 9677 6407

Passcode - 428636

Comments regarding the proposed amendments to the Town of Ludlow Zoning & Flood Hazard Regulations may be submitted verbally at the Public Hearing. Written comments may also be submitted via email to Brendan McNamara, Ludlow's Town Manager at tmanager@tds.net or Terry Carter, Ludlow's Planning Commission Chair at tmgcarter@gmail.com.

Statement of purpose:

The purpose of the proposed amendments to the Town of Ludlow Zoning & Flood Hazard Regulations:

- implement both the 2019 Municipal Plan and Act 47 (the HOME Act);
- comply with the provisions of 24 VSA §4412, 4413 and 4414. • update Town and Village of Ludlow Subdivision Regulations necessary to apply with the Neighborhood Development Areas Application Requirements

Please see the Planning Commission's report on the amendments for more detailed information on the town website. Geographic areas affected:

Portions of these amendments apply to all areas of the Village and Town.

List of section headings affected:

In addition, amendments are proposed which modify the following sections of the Town of Ludlow Zoning & Flood Hazard Regulations:

In Article 2, Sections 220, 221, 224, 227 In addition, amendments are proposed which modify the following sections of the Town and Village of Ludlow, Vermont Subdivision Regulations:

In Article 4, Sections 4-6, no.4-c and 11 and 4.8, no. 2a and Section 6.2

The full text of the amendments to the Village of Ludlow Zoning and Flood Hazard Regulations, including the revised zoning map, Town and Village of Ludlow Subdivision and the Planning Commission's report, are available online at https://www.ludlow. vt.us The proposed amendments and report can also be reviewed in hard copy format in the Town Clerk's Office in the Ludlow Town Hall located at 37 Depot Street, Ludlow, VT 05149.

#### TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN NH We're Hiring! Join Our Team Today! Looking for a career with great Pay & Benefits?

Look no further! Come work for the Town of Charlestown!

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

**Positions Available:** Water/Waste Water Licensed Superintendent **Experienced Finance Clerk** FT & PT Police Officers **Transfer Station Attendant Cemetery Sexton PT Building Inspector PT Deputy Building Inspector** 

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

For more information Visit www.charlestown-nh.gov, click on Volunteer & Employment. Application available on the website or come in to the Town Office at 233 Main St. Charlestown NH

## **LEGAL NOTICES**

# classifieds

# HCRS welcomes new

# staff———

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. -Health Care and Rehabilitation Services (HCRS), southeastern Vermont's community mental health agency, is pleased to announce the appointment of 11 new professionals during the month of December, whose talents will augment HCRS' services across Windham and Windsor counties.

HCRS welcomes the following new employees: Ashlee Kelley, office generalist, in Hartford; Anne-Marie Toussaint, DSP employment float, in Brattleboro and Bellows Falls; Abigail Mudano, residential specialist, in Bellows Falls; Samantha Derosia, YSP program coordinator, in Brattleboro; Monika Costello, schoolbased behavioral interventionist, in Brattleboro; Elysabeth Ray, clinical intern, in Hartford; Heather Mason, vocational educator at Kindle Farm; Alaina Millard, peer support

**Green Mountain Union** High School has openings for the following positions

Girls Varsity Softball Coach (March 2025) Girls Varsity Soccer Coach (August 2025)

> Email todd.parah@trsu.org to apply

Courtney (Stebbins) Emerson, CYF respite provider, in Hartford; Jesse Baughman, billing specialist, in Springfield; and Tamara Kinsman, CYF respite provider, in Hart-

These new hires will

advocate, in Brattleboro; support the nonprofit agency's team of more than 550 staff providing comprehensive mental health, substance use, and developmental disability programs, which serve more than 4,000 people annually across southeastern Vermont.

## **CLEAN OUTS**

EZ-Dump Enterprises has firewood for sale and is available for home/apartment/storage clean outs and disposal, and trash and junk removal. Serving Springfield and all surrounding areas in VT & NH. Call 802-376-1168 or email ezdump.bl@gmail.com.

## **FOR RENT**

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Room for rent. Nice, established neighborhood in the Elm Hill area. \$750 per month. Call 281-750-1747.

### **OTHER**

KILLINGTON, Vt. - Mountain Breeze Property Management, LLC specializes in caretaking, housekeeping and grocery services. mountainbreezepropertymanagement.com 802-770-



#### TOWN OF LONDONDERRY VERMONT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Londonderry Development Review Board will meet at 139 Middletown Rd at 5:00 PM on Wednesday February 19, 2025 to hold a public hearing for an application from Rachel Febbie for a two-lot subdivision on Edgehill Rd, and an application from Tysea and Anthony Kurjiaka to expand a Daycare Center at 1289 Little Pond Rd.

Please note the earlier than usual start time.

Those interested in seeing the applications, submitting written comments, or attending the hearings remotely should contact the town's Zoning Administrator at zoningadmin@ londonderryvt.org.

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. Sections 4464(a)(1)(c) and 4471(a), participation in the local proceedings is a prerequisite to take any subsequent appeal.

#### **Town of Mount Holly Seeks Select Board Clerk**

The Town of Mount Holly seeks an experienced, part-time clerk/administrative assistant, to start immediately. Pay starts at \$19/hour and is commensurate with experience. Exact hours range weekly but are typically 6-10 hours/week.

Responsibilities include managing weekly correspondence for the Select Board; managing the Select Board's digital and paper archive; onboarding new Town employees, vendors and contractors; managing the Select Board's weekly invoices and orders; serving as the Town's human resources point of contact; warning public meetings; taking and posting minutes at Select Board meetings; corresponding with the Town's attorneys and other legal counsel; and supporting administration of various grants, applications, certifications and permits. Candidates must have demonstrated proficiency in G Suite productivity tools, such as Gmail, Drive, Docs, and Sheets, and must have superior organizational and written communication skills. References required.

Interested candidates should submit questions and letters of interest to the Mount Holly Select Board at mounthollyselectboard@gmail.com or can mail letters to Mount Holly Select Board at PO Box 248, Mount Holly, VT 05758. All letters of interest should be accompanied by a resume and a list of two references who can attest to the candidates' prior work experience.

#### STATE OF VERMONT **SUPERIOR COURT** PROBATE DIVISION Unit Docket No.: 25-PR-00063 Windsor In re ESTATE of: Michael James Zito NOTICE TO CREDITORS To the Creditors of: Michael James Zito late of Windsor Decedent's Town of Residence I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period. 01/17/2025 Allison Zito c/o Parker & Ankuda, PC, PO Box 519 802-885-2582 parkerankudajp@vermontel.net Vermont Journal Name of Publication: **Publication Date:** January 29, 2025 Vermont Superior Court, Windsor Unit Probate Division Name of Probate Court: Address of Probate Court: Woodstock, VT 05091

### Art Crafts Gifts

#### GALLERY AT THE VAULT

Chocolate Tasting Feb. 1, 12-4 & Student Art Show Art, Crafts, Gifts, Exhibits & Workshops

68 Main St., Springfield 802-885-7111

OPEN Wed. to Sat. 11-5 & Fri. til 7

Visions of a Veterinarian Paintings by Robin Truelove Stronk Register for Workshops & Shop Online at www.galleryvault.org

Calliaraphy with Love with Jorika Stockwell 2/8 \$40

Raku Pottery with Andrew Berends Two days: 3/1 & 3/8 \$275, Includes materials.

Make Fabric Bowls with Beth Fzold 3/15 \$68

Beginner Pysanky with Shannon Wallis 4/5 \$65

Easy Accordion Books with Deborah Stuart 4/26 \$35

#### **Builders/Contractors**

#### DCI CONCEPTS

DESIGN - BUILD - REMODEL

A family business first. Our projects are held to a higher standard starting from the very first phone call to the final walkthrough. Our team will impress you with professionalism, quality, and integrity.

6 Andover St. Lúdlow, VT 802-461-3573 dci@dciconcepts.com (11/05/25 - 52)

#### HAMMER FOR HIRE LLC

"Not just for bangin' nails."

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

Follow us on Instagram @nedthehammer (11/19/25 - 52)

#### PETER JORDAN CONSTRUCTION

Over 25 years of experience in all phases of construction. Framing, finish carpentry, custom showers and tile work, hardwood flooring, decks, and siding. Fully insured and registered with the State of Vermont. Lead Paint Certified. Located in Proctorsville. 802-558-5267. (02/12/25 - 13)

#### **ROSE'S HOME IMPROVEMENT**

Booking for winter & spring 2025 projects. Also offer carpentry, kitchen & bathroom remodels, interior & exterior painting, window & door replacements, window cleaning, vinyl siding washing, pressure washing, drywall repairs, and odd jobs. Call 802-591-0019 or email billr2808@gmail.com. Cavendish, Vt. (07/09/25 - 26)

#### THE SEMI RETIRED PAINTER

Painting Interior and Exterior All work done by the person you are paying Small Honey Do List Projects as well 802-263-9693 rogcaw@msn.com Roger, Perkinsville, VT

## Chiropractor

#### FOUR SEASONS CHIROPRACTIC, PC

Dr. Denise Natale 58 Parker Avenue, Proctorsville, VT 05153, 802-226-7977 Hours: Tuesday 1pm-6pm, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

#### Electrician

#### KJ ELECTRIC LLC

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

#### **Masonry**

#### **DRC STONE DESIGN**

Specializing in all Stone Masonry Applications including veneer, walls, patios, walkways. Fully insured. Free estimates. 37 years experience. Contact Dan Field at 802-384-0122 or stoneart49@gmail.com or visit drcstonedesign.com. (02/19/25 - 13)

#### **MOORE MASONRY**

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

### **Tools**

#### SS CASH PAID FOR OLD TOOLS SS

PLANES, AXES, STANLEY ITEMS, ETC. 802-579-5891 (03/19/25 - 13)

#### **CLASSIFIEDS**

Start at \$20 per week for 4 lines of text. Buy 3 get 1 Free!

#### **DIRECTORY LISTING**

Start at \$150 for 13 weeks, for approximately a 20-word listing. **Starting at \$250 for 26 weeks or \$400 for 52** weeks.

Email ads@vermontjournal.com with your listing today

8 | January 29, 2025 The Vermont Journal

# rea estate



### Roscoe seeks a home

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – This sweet 5-year-old is hoping to be yours. Roscoe is a fun guy that loves car rides, walks, food, playing fetch, and soft squishy toys. He adores people, but due to a dog attacking him needs to be the only dog. Stop by Wednesday-Saturday, from 12-4 p.m., to meet and adopt Roscoe. Willow Farm has donated \$100 of his adoption fee. Call 802-885-3997 for more information.

Springfield Humane Society 401 Skitchewaug Trail, Springfield, Vt. 802-885-3997 | www.spfldhumane.org

# Five benefits of winter homebuying

REGION - In the market for a new home? House hunting in the winter might actually give you a leg up on other buyers. Why? Colder temps often leave some homebuyers waiting for a spring thaw. If you're willing to don your winter coat and brave the chill, you just might find your competition is at a minimum, while real estate agents and sellers are eager to close a deal.

Five benefits of shopping for a new home in the winter include:

Motivated sellers -There may seem to be fewer homes on the market in the winter, but the ones that are there are serious about selling. Use that to your advantage when negotiating your home price, as some sellers may be more agreeable to your purchase conditions.

Less competition - Fewer people looking for homes means fewer buyers to com-



Winter homebuying has its advantages.

PHOTO PROVIDED

pete against for the home you love. Fewer buyers means you can take your time searching for the perfect home without feeling rushed to make an offer.

Available agents - Win-

tate agent. With a smaller client pool, agents can dedicate more time and effort to your search.

Winter-ready homes – One of my favorite things about touring homes in the winter

allowing crews to focus

on insulation and interior

finishes during the winter

months. The building re-

mains on schedule, with a

late spring/early summer

Street, the Central & Main development transforms a

vacant downtown lot into

vibrant, efficient, mixed-

income housing, featuring

25 residential apartments

affordable to a range of

moderate and low Wind-

sor incomes. Accessible

via Central Street for ve-

hicles and Main Street for

pedestrians, the building

integrates seamlessly with

Windsor's historic charac-

ter, while making the exist-

ing landscape inviting and

The building will be man-

aged by Stewart Property

Management. There is no

waitlist for this property, and

applications for these apart-

accessible.

Located at 133 Main

opening anticipated.

heating unit is, and check for any drafty windows or doors. Most importantly, a winter home inspection can give you a deeper look at the home's winter durability.

Moving discounts - To make a winter move as low-stress as possible, hire professional movers. Some moving companies may offer discounts during the winter. Some even reduce their staff during this "off season," keeping only their most experienced movers on the team. That means you could hire the best of the best to move your things at a more affordable price.

If you're ready to make your dream home happen this winter, give me a call at 802-975-0350, and I can make sure your mortgage process is as simple as pos-

Article provided by Victoria Blodgett, Prime Lending.

ments will be opening once

the building is near comple-

tion. The property manager

is taking contact informa-

tion for anyone interested in

updates on leasing. Interest-

ed residents are encouraged

to visit WWHT's Central &

Main information page at

www.homemattershere.org/

central-and-main-windsor

for detailed leasing infor-

mation, eligibility require-

ments, and updates on

Housing Trust and Evernor-

th are collaborating closely

with the Town of Windsor

and the Windsor Improve-

ment Corporation to bring

this long-envisioned project

to life. The Central & Main

development represents a

significant step forward in

addressing local housing

challenges, and supporting

economic growth in Wind-

sor's historic downtown dis-

Windham & Windsor

apartment availability.

# HOUSE OF THE WEEK REAL ESTATE SERVICES LONDONDERRY - \$439,000

CHARMING FARMHOUSE & STUNNING VIEWS!

www.barrettandvalley.com 802-875-2323

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY, FEB. 1, 4-6pm 773 Hale Hollow Road | Plymouth



NEW LISTING: Stop by apres ski for S'mores and Hot Cocoa and tour this charming 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath home on 5+/- acres in Plymouth. Great location 8+/- miles from Killington and Woodstock and 16+/miles from Okemo. Call or Text Listing Agent Lorien Kelly at 732-670-8001 for details.

**Kelley Real Estate** Contact Us for a Free Market Evaluation www.KelleyRealEstate.com







**ADAIR HEIGHTS APARTMENTS BRATTLEBORO, VERMONT** 

**AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY ONE & TWO-BEDROOM UNITS** 

**Utilities, Snow & Trash Removal Included Laundry Facility on Premises for Tenants Only USDA Guidelines Do Apply** 

> Call or Write to: **THM Property Management** 129 Lincoln Ave. Manchester Center, VT 05255 802-367-5252 802-367-5251

Hearing Impaired 1-800-545-1833 ext. 326

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

THM is an equal opportunity provider and employer



#### is getting an inside look at ter can be a slower season for the real estate industry, how that home holds up to which could make it a great winter weather. You can get time for you to find a real esan idea of how effective the Central & Main development milestone

WINDSOR, Vt. - Windham & Windsor Housing Trust's (WWHT) highly anticipated Central & Main housing development in Windsor has reached a significant milestone in its construction – the building is now "dried in." With the completion of exterior walls, windows, and roofing, the structure is weather-tight,

REALTOR & ASSOCIATES HELPING YOU MAKE MEMORIES SINCE 1958 802.228.8811 info@davisandcompany.com www.okemorealestate.com



Karen Wilson

**Broker** ksw@tpw.com 203.550.7430

**Gohn Napier** 

**Licensed Sales Associate** jmn@tpw.com 860.559.9334

TPWrealestate.com | 207 Main Street, Ludlow, VT 05149



**BROOKVIEW APARTMENTS** WHITE RIVER JUNCTION, VT

2 BEDROOM APARTMENT AVAILABLE

UTILITIES, SNOW, TRASH REMOVAL INCLUDED LAUNDRY FACILITY ON PREMISES FOR TENANT USE ONLY

USDA GUIDELINES DO APPLY

CALL OR WRITE TO: THM PROPERTY MANAGEMENT 129 LINCOLN AVENUE MANCHESTER CENTER, VT. 05255

1-802-362-4663 OR 1-802-367-5251 1-800-545-1833, EXT. 326 (HEARING IMPAIRED)



LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE Purchase • Refinance • Renovation Victoria Blodgett NMLS# 179656 | Senior Loan Officer 802-975-0350 vblodget@primelending.com www.vbprimelending.com Your Home Loan Lender of Choice PrimeLending ">

trict.



Tyleen Murray, Broker REALTOR ® 802.777.8047 Ty@KelleyRealEstate.com

Kellev Real Estate In the Heart of the Okemo Valley 72-B Pond Street, Ludlow, VT 05149 www.KelleyRealEstate.com

