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Londonderry Selectboard hears third STR request

SHAWNTAE WEBB

The Vermont Journal

LONDONDERRY, Vt. -At their Nov. 17 meeting, the Londonderry Selectboard heard a third shortterm rental (STR) request, from Tyler Fisher. Town administrator Aileen Tulloch first read a legal opinion from the town's attorney, Robert Fisher.

Attorney Fisher wrote, "I think that the selectboard needs to route any property owners who wish to appeal a denial of a permit, or the decision of the STR administrator, to Superior Court for an appeal under Rule 75." He suggested the board offer this as a solution at the Nov. 17 meeting, and further expressed that, "It would be prudent for the selectboard to amend the STR ordinance to create an STR appeal board...as that would be an expeditious way to resolve these matters rather than resorting to court."

Tulloch finished reading the email, and stated, "So you can hear the concern, you can do about it."

Fisher requested that the board reconsider the deadlines and the grandfathering of his STR application. He explained that he initially bought his home for his family to live in, and as his work and needs changed, he quickly realized they wouldn't be able to reside in Londonderry. Fisher thought that if he already owned the home, the new STR ordinance wouldn't have any impact, and didn't realize he was not properly registered. Now he is limited to the 50-night rental cap. He admitted he should have done better research, but was hoping the board would reconsider the restrictions, after being "extremely responsive" during his application process.

Andy Dahlstrom, STR administrator, clarified that, "The grandfathering term applies to those 100 STRs that were registered during the first year of the program," under the first STR ordinance, which expired on

but there's really nothing June 30, 2025. On July 1, the amended ordinance took effect, and since Fisher was not previously registered, he could not be grandfathered into the previous terms.

Dahlstrom stated that, at the time of purchase in May 2024, Fisher's house was categorized as a primary residence, and, according to Airbnb reviews, rentals started "immediately... in the first four months of ownership." Dahlstrom said that it's one of the busier rentals in town. Rentalscape showed 178 nights rented in the last 12 months. Dahlstrom acknowledged there may be "room for error," but expressed that it "appears to be a very active short-term rental," which was not registered at the time. Dahlstrom said applications "were even available back at the time of your purchase."

Fisher confirmed he ceased operations until complying with the registration application.

Board member Taylor Prouty felt that it was important to mention that others have addressed the board in the same way, and the board has provided the same response. There is not an appeal process, but the board has encouraged the others to come back and be a part of the process for the annual review of the STR ordinance.

Tulloch announced that the bids for the window renovations at the town hall are due Dec. 5. Also, letters went out to residents of South Village for the wastewater project, and responses are due by Dec. 1, and must be notarized.

Tulloch also reported that the state recently approached the town asking if they had discontinued Monet Lane, which is a "little thumb" off Route 11, which then goes into Windham. Upon some research, Tulloch determined the board had previously discussed it, but did not take action. She recommended they go through the process, and the board agreed to pursue the discontinuance.

The board then heard



New owners revive **Belmont community hub**

BELMONT, Vt. - Alissa Tilly, husband Michael Chronert, and their son Lukas, gave away free maple creemees to Green Up Day volunteers before the store opened.

PHOTO PROVIDED

from parks director Liam Elio, who reported on the state of disrepair of the Pingree Park tennis court. He said the foundation is cracked and repairs are becoming difficult, the fence is falling, and the backboard recently fell over, expressing that the court is a hazard at this point. The board approved a loan of \$150,000 from the cemetery commission for the complete overhaul of the court. Elio intends to save further funds and apply for grants as they move through the summer 2026 season, with demolition in the fall, and a rebuild in the spring of 2027.

The Londonderry Selectboard meets the first and third Monday of every month, at 6 p.m., at the Londonderry Town Office.

Upper Pass Lodge Holiday Market —

LONDONDERRY, Vt. -The Upper Pass Lodge, and Land Lake & Us Gift Shop are pleased to present their first holiday market on Friday, Nov. 28, through Sunday, Nov. 30, from 9:30 a.m. - 7 p.m. each day. The three-day craft fair will showcase one-of-a-kind gifts such as paintings by Gerry Wilkins, holiday wreaths by Shari Torrey, and CBD products and unique tie-dyed articles from Taylor Farm Hemp Company. The Upper Pass Lodge is located at 420 Magic Mountain Access Road in Londonderry, Vt., and is the home of the Red Slate Restaurant, a wel-

coming gathering spot for the region. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner will be served all three days.

Lodge owner Vince Presciti is delighted to launch the opening of a new gift shop from Megan Mosher, which includes a wide range of wearable art and tasty treats.

Additional vendors are welcome. The cost to participate includes a table, and complimentary breakfast provided for all vendors.

For additional information, please contact Megan Mosher at megan@ upperpasslodge.com.

Green Mountain Home Repair program

REGION – Windham & Windsor Housing Trust's Green Mountain Home Repair (GMHR) program has launched a special initiative in cooperation with The Collaborative and Neighborhood Connections, to support homeowners in the Mountain Towns of Andover, Jamaica, Weston, Londonderry, and Windham. Eligible homeowners in these communities can now access grants of up to \$25,000, to complete essential health and safety repairs. Funding for this targeted effort is made possible through a generous award from the Fanny Holt Ames and Edna

Louise Holt Fund.

Income-eligible households (up to \$82,950 for a family of four) may use these grants to address critical issues, including roof, plumbing, electrical, and heating repairs; well or septic system replacement; structural concerns; accessibility modifications for older adults or people with disabilities; and energy efficiency improvements.

"A 2023 Londonderry housing needs assessment revealed 40% of homeowners are cost-burdened, spending over 30% of their income on housing," says Patty Eisenhaur, chair of the Londonderry Housing Commission. "This issue affects vulnerable populations most, including a growing senior population with fixed incomes struggling to maintain their homes...We are thrilled that Windham & Windsor Housing Trust is able to offer this special program for our Mountain Town communities."

Residents of other Wind ham County and Windsor County towns remain eligible for assistance through GMHR's regular program, which provides affordable loans, flexible terms, and support from staff who guide homeowners through the entire repair process, from application to project completion.

'Too many Vermonters are living in homes that are unsafe, inefficient, or in need of major repairs," says Bruce Whitney, director of homeownership for WWHT. "This focused opportunity will make a real difference for households in our Mountain Towns who face unique challenges due to distance, weather, and limited contractor availability."

GMHR staff help applicants determine project needs, obtain contractor bids, and oversee the construction process to ensure repairs meet quality and safety standards.

To apply or learn more, www.homemattershere.org, or contact program coordinator Jeremy Paquette at 802-246-2166.

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DEADLINES

The deadline for all content is Wednesday, Nov. 26 for the Dec. 03 publication.

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

EMAIL YOUR DISPLAY ADS AND CLASSIFIED LISTINGS ads@vermontiournal.com

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

ESBR Giving Tuesday—

LUDLOW, Vt. – Please consider supporting the Expeditionary School at Black River (ESBR) this year for our annual Giving Tuesday/ End of Year Campaign 2025. Funds go directly to education, and as the sixth year of operation nears its halfway mark, helps ESBR acquire further resources, programs, and passionate professional instructors to assist students on their expeditionary learning journey.

Expeditionary learning studies topics in depth, and utilizes the community as an extension of learning. In turn, as the forefront of our mission, ESBR educates students to be intellectually curious, resourceful, and confident in themselves for a life of personal fulfillment

and civic engagement, thus being contributing members of their community.

The school continues to grow, and started with 22 students this school year, a significant jump in enrollment after only a few years in operation. Students this year have even started their own local news vlog, which can be viewed on the ESBR website. We are so impressed with their creativity, and hope you will join us in supporting their projects.

Please note that, due to delays, ESBR's 501(c)3 status is currently being updated; donations can still be made and accepted, but taxexempt acknowledgement for any current donations will be delayed. ESBR is working hard to update its

nonprofit status, and understands if supporters wish to wait. We appreciate everyone's support and patience. For those who wish to contribute regardless to this local educational endeavor, donations can be made at www.esblackriver.org, or by mail to P.O. Box 485, Ludlow, VT 05149. As always, thank you to everyone. ESBR is beyond grateful this giving season and all year round. If you would like to learn more about the school or get involved, please contact Patrick Pullinen, chair of the board, at ppullinen@esblackriver. org, or Michael Kell, head of school, at mkell@ esblackriver.org.

Snow Flyers thank landowners, VAST deadlines

MOUNT HOLLY, Vt. – The Mount Holly Snow Flyers are thrilled to announce preparations for the upcoming riding season, and extend sincere gratitude to the community members whose generosity makes the trails possible.

The start of the season is looking promising. We are excited to share that we have been experiencing snow every day, coupled with consistently cold temperatures. We are optimistic that this early wave of fantastic weather will continue to lay down a solid base, and allow our volunteers to groom exceptional trails for our riders.

The Snow Flyers would like to offer a profound and heartfelt thank-you to the many private landowners

who generously allow riders to utilize their property. Without their cooperation and community spirit, our extensive trail system would not exist. We urge all riders to remember that we are guests on these lands, and to always practice respectful and safe riding.

To increase our visibility and exposure, the Mount Holly Snow Flyers sign board has been relocated to Route 103.

We are proud to have the support of approximately 20 businesses who sponsor our club with a trailside sign. We currently have openings for new businesses who wish to advertise and support the Snow Flyers. Please contact the club for more details on how to get involved.

Riders are strongly encouraged to purchase Vermont Association of Snow Travelers (VAST) Trails Maintenance Assessment (TMA) now. Don't miss out on the early-bird pricing. To qualify for the discount, your TMA must be purchased before Dec. 15. To purchase your TMA, visit the VAST website at www.vtvast.org. When selecting your affiliated club, please remember to choose the Mount Holly Snow Flyers.

Lastly, the Mount Holly Snow Flyers wish all of our neighbors, family, friends, and supporters a very warm and happy Thanksgiving. We look forward to seeing you all on the trails soon.

Weston Rod & Gun Club Holiday Bazaar—

WESTON, Vt. – Ready to do some shopping? The Weston Rod & Gun Club's annual holiday bazaar is back, and expanded to two days, both Dec. 6 and Dec. 7. With many local vendors, beautiful

hand crafts, and food products, you're sure to find some treats for yourself and loved ones. Hot food will be available to keep your strength up, so you can finish all your errands.

The bazaar will be held

on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., at the Weston Rod and Gun Club, 982 Route 100, one mile north of Weston. Please stop by to check us out.

Okemo Valley Women's Club meeting recap —

LUDLOW, Vt. - The General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) Okemo Valley Women's Club (OVWC) met Monday, Nov. 10, at the Black River Valley Senior Center. Despite swirling snow, 19 women attended the meeting, and an additional two members attended via Zoom. The meeting began with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, then the club's "Collect," which was written in 1904 by Mary Stewart as a personal prayer. The "Collect" has been reprinted in many forms, in many lands, but the first organization to use the "Collect," or to print it in its yearbook, was the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

Our speaker was Linda Thomson, who presented a discussion about laughter titled "Laughter is the Best Medicine." Gelotology is the study of laughter, and has found that laughter is beneficial to us in many ways. It can speed recovery, improve attitude, ease tension, and reduce depression. Physiologically, laughter may reduce the heart rate, reduce muscle tension and increase respiration, reduce inflammation, and reduce stress hormones. Thomson explained that in 1995, Laughter Yoga was begun in India, and that happy laughter can replace sadness in the spaces of the heart. Thomson concluded by reminding the group to "enjoy life; it has an expira-

Following a brief break for refreshments, the club held a business meeting to review past programs and future projects. The International Day of Service, held in September, was another great success which benefitted New Story Center and The Women's Freedom Center. The club pledged donations to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Operation Smile, and SEVCA.

The clubwomen will also cosponsor the upcoming Dinner to Fight World Hunger, to be held Saturday, Nov. 22, at the United Church of Ludlow. The menu includes meat, vegetarian, or gluten-free stuffed shells; salad; bread; and dessert. Preorders are available from 5-5:30 p.m.; dine-in seating by reservation begins at 5:30 p.m., and open seating is from 6-7:30 p.m. Reservations and takeout orders are available by calling 802-558-9055.

OVWC has committed to providing desserts, and will also provide volunteers to help make the fundraising meal a success.

State President Darlene Remy reviewed the recent October New England Regional GFWC meeting at Lake Winnipesauke, N.H., and the GFWC state fall meeting, also in October, hosted by the Okemo Valley Women's Club.

The annual Tree of Remembrance campaign is set to begin with a treelighting ceremony in Ludlow and Proctorsville on Friday, Dec. 5. This campaign raises funds to support the OVWC's many community projects and programs by honoring and remembering friends and loved ones with lit trees at Veterans Park in Ludlow, and on the Svec Green in Proctorsville. More information will follow closer to the tree lighting.

The next meeting of the GFWC Okemo Valley Women's Club will be held Monday, Dec. 8, at 6 p.m. The meeting will be held at the United Church of Ludlow. Anyone wishing to attend may contact President Sally Scarp at 407-242-0901, or any member.

The General Federation of Women's Clubs is an international women's organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service.







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802-824-3140 Londonderry, VT The Vermont Journal November 26, 2025 | 3

SEVCA launches end-ofyear-appeal —

REGION – SEVCA is launching its annual endof-year appeal, an integral part of funding for the organization that allows them to support individuals and families across Windham and Windsor counties. Executive director Joshua Davis explains, "This fall, we've seen how quickly stability can crack - one unexpected bill, one lost paycheck, and the ground shifts beneath an individual or family's feet. In moments like these, having somewhere steady to turn makes all the difference."

Rising housing costs, higher utility bills, and food insecurity continue to strain Vermonters. SEVCA remains a trusted anchor organization, providing a range of support, from emergency help when the ground shifts, to long-term support that helps people build stability.

SEVCA is calling on the community to help meet the challenge and support this year's appeal. Whether \$50, \$100, or more, every contribution is meaningful, helps our neighbors through their unexpected hardships, and builds lasting stability.

Additionally, SEVCA is grateful to announce a \$25,000 challenge grant from the Thomas Thompson Trust, www.thom-

asthompsontrust.org/index.html. The grant unlocks once SEVCA raises \$50,000 in community support – every gift brings us closer. As Jon Megas-Russell, development and communications director, put it, "It's like your contribution counts twice."

Please consider making your fall gift today, to help fuel the efforts to support a thriving community.

For a safe and secure way to contribute, visit www.sevca.org/donate, or contact Megas-Russell at jmegsrussell@sevca.org or 802-721-0017.

West Townshend Country Store Giving Tuesday Campaign —

TOWNSHEND, Vt. - The West Townshend Country Store recently kicked off our Giving Tuesday campaign. There's an expression in fundraising that says, "Early money is like yeast, because it helps raise the dough." It refers to the notion that donations early in a campaign build momentum and encourage even more people to participate. Will you help us get started and, in so doing, inspire oth-

It's not easy to put a price tag on community. Our cups are full, with a talented team, generous volunteers, wonderful farmers and craftspeople, and folks who take the time to donate to our well-stocked thrift store. We gather, we showcase local music, and we maintain a donationbased cafe. Through it all, we show that community is not only possible, but it can thrive and, we hope, continue to grow. In a time when so many are feeling pressure in their daily lives, the value of being

part of a caring community is immeasurable.

The West Townshend Country store isn't here for profit; we are here for you. But we do need an occasional boost to weather unexpected repairs, slow times of the year, and even support new projects to help us grow and thrive. If you can spare a few minutes and a few dollars, please consider donating www.donorbox.org/ westrivercommunitymarket-2. This campaign will run through Giving Tuesday, Dec. 2.

Vermont 2026 Kid Governor-Elect Weathersfield student a finalist in election

REGION – After tallying up more than 1,000 votes from fifth graders across the state, Vermont Secretary of State Sarah Copeland Hanzas announced the winner of the election for Vermont's first Kid Governor today.

The winner of the election is Roslyn Fortin, a fifth grade student at Highgate Elementary in Highgate Center. Teacher Courtney Kiser brought the Kid Governor program to Highgate.

Fortin ran on a platform addressing homelessness. To achieve her vision, Fortin outlined a three-point plan of action in which kids across Vermont can participate. It includes: Point 1 – starting clothing and food drives through donation bins at schools; Point 2 - promoting Fun Run for Hope events to walk, jog, or run to raise money for shelters; and Point 3 – organizing community potlucks, and inviting people experiencing homelessness.

As Fortin explained in her campaign video, "This plan isn't just about giving things; it's about giving kindness, giving time, and giving hope."

"I would like to congratulate each of our incredible Kid Governor candidates, who identified very important issues facing Vermont, and developed meaningful platforms to tackle these issues, from ways to care for ourselves, to ways to care for the world around us," said Secretary Copeland Hanzas. "I was particularly moved by how the candidates' classmates supported them and cheered them on. And, of course, candidates can only be elected if we all vote, so I thank all the fifth graders across Vermont who participated in this groundbreaking election. I'm so excited to work with Roslyn and her

During Fortin's oneyear term, she will work with the Vermont Secretary of State's office to advance the three points of her platform. Information and resources about her platform will be available on the Vermont Kid Governor website, www. vt.kidgovernor.org.

"I am so excited to congratulate Roslyn for her election as Vermont's Kid Governor," said Missisquoi Valley School District Superintendent Julie Regimbal. "We are incredibly proud of her for running a thoughtful campaign that highlights her deep empathy for those in

need and the vital importance of elevating student voice."

"We are incredibly proud of Roslyn on her selection as Vermont's Kid Governor," said Highgate Elementary Principal Justina Jennett. "The Kid Governor program reminds us that when educators are given the opportunity to bring their lessons beyond the classroom and into the heart of their community, everyone benefits. We extend our appreciation to the Office of the Vermont Secretary of State for providing this outstanding opportunity for civic engagement. We are equally inspired by the Vermont teachers who embraced this program and brought it to their students in such meaningful and impactful ways. Our fifth graders across Vermont are shining a light on the issues we



know we must confront together, and we can't wait to see what their leadership brings. Highgate is here to support Roslyn every step of the way."

The six other finalists in the statewide election are Karin Ashley, Barnet School; Phoebe Bingham, Red Fox Community School; Westyn Danforth, Bradford Elementary; Rumano Hassan, Champlain Elementary; Gaelen McNaughton, Weathersfield School; and Lincoln Ratta, Lincoln Community School.

They will serve as the Kid Governor's cabinet,





avings shown over aggregated single Item base price. 8 free 4 oz. burgers will be sent to each shippi dress that includes 78237. Limit 2. Standard S&H added per address. While supplies last. Items may bubstituted due to inventory limitations. Some products may not be available for sale in your area. Sale are subject to OmahaSteaks.com/terms-of-use. Expires 12/31/25. 24M7165 | Omaha Steaks, LLC helping Fortin implement her three-point platform, and supporting each other to advance their own platforms.

Fortin and her cabinet members will take their oaths of office in January, at the State House in Montpelier.



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SAT 11/29 9am-6pm
SUN 11/30 9am-4pm

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community

What to do during stick season?

BY LISA STICKNEY

REGION - November has arrived. It's "stick season" in New England. The brilliant colors of fall begin to fade. We await the arrival of the first snowfall of the year. The air is crisp with a sudden, peaceful feeling of home.

Grab your family and go for a walk in nature. At first glance, it seems that the landscape color has faded. Yet, if you look closely, nature still has plenty of gifts to offer us. Forage your way

for items that vary in texture, shape, and color.

Explore the fields and woods near you. You will discover that there is a bounty of textures, with sudden pops of color that you can use to bring the outdoors in. Gather them up and have some fun with the items that you collect. Add interest to your home, spread some joy, and embrace the season.

Get creative with your family members, to include all ages. A walk in nature is

through the woods, and look refreshing. Be curious, look for interesting objects, see what you can find. Acorns, pinecones, a variety of evergreens, shrub branches with berries or seed pods (holly, bittersweet, grapevine, cattails, etc.), feathers, and more. Use your imagination. Gather up basic craft items that you should have in your home, including hot glue, toothpicks, permanent markers, glitter, acrylic paint, spray paint, string, and wire.

Use your imagination, and have some fun. Here are a few suggestions.

Acorns

Decor - Draw decorative patterns on them with finetip permanent marker pens.

Beads - Drill a hole through the center of each acorn, paint, then string for bracelets, garlands, and wreaths.

Holiday messages - Handpaint acorns using festive colors, write a festive message, and place them in a decorative bowl; invite guests to take one.

Placeholder - Write a

guest's name on each and use as seat placeholders for the table.

Pinecones

Wreath - Wrap wire around the base of each pinecone, or form clusters, then attach to evergreen wreaths, floral arrangements, or garlands.

Home decor - Brush or spray paint on tips and place in a decorative bowl.

Bird feeder - Attach a string to the pinecone, spread peanut butter on it, then dip it in birdseed and hang it from a tree branch.

Wreath - Wrap grapevine to form the base for a wreath, or use a Styrofoam base, then hot-glue pinecones tightly together to cover the base. Paint the pinecones if you want to add a bit of color.

Evergreens

Wreath/garland - Wrap bundles of greenery cut to 5-inch lengths with wire, then wrap bundles around a wreath wire base, or together to form strands of garland, and attach acorns, pinecones, and berries with wire.

Beware of seasonal scams

REGION - Scammers often take advantage of the holidays to perpetrate their crimes. Here are several holiday scams of which to be-

Medicare scams

Seniors report receiving phone calls from "Medicare Services" asking whether or not they have received the "new" 2026 Medicare card. Given the confusion and uncertainty surrounding federal programs such as Medicare, many beneficiaries

are in danger of either losing money or personal information to skillful criminals. The problem is not exclusive to seniors, but extends to other programs, including Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Electric Benefits Transfer (EBT), and other federal assistance and benefits programs. Here is some reality. There is no new card being issued; these calls are scams. Federal or state agencies will not call, text, or email messages unless they are dealing with a continuing issue you have raised. If you are contacted, do not reply either on the phone or by clicking on links in an email message. Check the validity of the issue by making direct contact with the agency using public, reliable information.

Brushing

You may have heard and understand the terms "phishing," "smishing," or "vishing." What about "brushing?" Brushing happens when you receive a package that you did not expect or did not order. The package displays a QR code, and instructions to use your phone to scan the code, which uploads malware or spyware to your device.

The Better Business Bureau (BBB) notes that reports of this crime have increased by 46% over last year. According to Capital One Shopping, it is part of the \$432 million in direct losses incurred by consumers, with a median loss of \$130 per incident. This is not

to say avoid online shopping; it means exercising care. If the package is unordered or unexpected, proceed with care. Check the label for the name of the shipper or vendor, and call them using a reliable phone number to verify the delivery and identify the sender.

The Better Business Bureau recommends the following: If an unexpected package arrives, with or without a QR code, do not scan or enter information on any suggested site. Check major accounts and credit card statements for fraudulent activity. If you suspect a brushing scam, report it immediately to both the retailer and the BBB's scam tracker, www.bbb.org/scamtracker.

Marketing trends applied to scams

Some of the most popular scam techniques are listed

below.

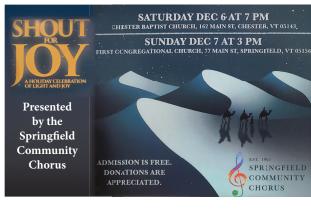
Emotion - Emotion (love, hate, fear, comfort) has been recognized to cause a lapse in logic or common sense.

Authority/credibility - Regardless of how disobedient or rebellious you consider yourself, people usually submit to authority, and the likelihood of submission increases when the message being delivered is credible.

Scarcity - We see this in legitimate retail business, when prices increase on in-demand items. Scammers are aware of what is in demand, and lure consumers by offering those hard-to-find items at attractive prices.

Elliott Greenblott is a retired educator and coordinator of the AARP Vermont Fraud Watch Network. Questions/Comments? Email egreenblott@aarp.org.







LEGAL NOTICES

obituaries

ASCUTNEY, VT.

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

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

Vision of Light Church of Spiritualism and Healing, P.O. Box 133, Windsor

The Sunday service is at 10 a.m. with Lay Pastor Dawn Hancy via Zoom. Sign up for the Vision of Light newsletter and Zoom links on Facebook @VOLChurch.

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 a.m. Livestreaming available at 10:30 a.m., at Living Hope Fellowship Facebook page and the Living Hope Fellowship YouTube channel. Services can also be found at www.sapatv.org and www.fact8tv.

St. Charles Church, 31 Cherry Hill St.

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

CHESTER, VT.

Chester Baptist Church, 162 Main St.

Worship is Sundays at 10:30 a.m. For more information, including online streaming, go to www.chesterbaptist.org.

SPRINGFIELD, VT.

Calvary Baptist Church, 156 Main St.

Sunday services are 9:30 a.m. in person.
Services are still streamed at www.facebook.com/
calvarybaptistchurchspringfieldvt. For more information,
go to www.calvarylovesspringfield.com.

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, 90 Park St.

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

Unitarian Universalist Church, 21 Fairground Rd.

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

WALPOLE, N.H.

St. John's Episcopal Church, corner of Westminster and Elm St.

Sunday services are 10 a.m. in person or via Zoom. For more information, go to www.stjohnswalpole.org, email pastor@stjohnswalpole.org, or leave a message at 603-756-4533.

Raymond J. Kenyon,

1960-2025

WABASHA, Minn. Raymond James Kenyon, 65, of Wabasha, Minn., passed away unexpectedly on Nov. 6, 2025, in Rochester, Minn., surrounded by his loving family. Ray was born on May 7, 1960, in Bellows Falls, Vt., to Leon W. and Barbara (O'Leary) Kenyon. He grew up in Bellows Falls; Alstead, N.H.; and Saxtons River. He moved to Alplaus, N.Y., during high school, graduating from Niskayuna High School in 1978.

Ray joined the U.S. Navy, serving aboard USS William V. Pratt (DDG-44) until his discharge in 1984. He married Brenda W. Wray on May 1, 1987, in Indiana. He worked for Marathon Fuels in Indianapolis until his medical retirement. He moved to Wabasha, Minn., in 2001, where he remained. Ray loved animals, especially his longtime companion Farley. He enjoyed telling stories about his childhood and his time in the military. He loved to read, fish, cruise the Mississippi River on the pontoon boat, and enjoyed meeting people. He was a volunteer at St. Elizabeth's, delivering mail and packages, and doing odd jobs while a resident in the care center. Ray was a Red Sox and New England Patriots fan, spending many hours talking to his dad while both were watching the same game. Family was very important to Ray. He was especially loved by his many nieces, nephews, greatnieces, great-nephews and a great-great-nephew.

Ray was preceded in



Raymond Kenyon, 1960-2025.

PHOTO PROVIDED

death by his mom (1984); dad (2022); wife (2022); uncles Carlton "Pug" Kenyon, Willard Kenyon, Robert Culver, and Donald Rees; and aunt Linda (O'Leary) Barnaby.

He is survived by his siblings Sharon (Gary) Schmalzriedt, of Jacksonville, Ark., Kimberly (Edmund) Mack, of Grafton, Vt., Leon (Michelle) Kenyon, of Cape Coral, Fla., and Beverly (Normand) Gagnon, of Milford, N.H.; his stepmother Patricia (Saunders) Kenyon, of Saxtons River; aunts Alice Culver, Christine De-Camp, and Julia Stetson, of Bellows Falls, and Judy Kenyon, of Grafton; uncle James (Chris) O'Leary, of Wake Forest, N.C.; and many loving nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Donations may be made in his name by check to Pets for Vets Inc., P.O. Box 10860, Wilmington, NC 28404, or online at www. petsforvets.com/donate/online.

A Celebration of Life gathering was held at St. Elizabeth's in Wabasha. A private burial will take place at a later date in Bellows Falls, Vt.

John Adler, 1961-2025

CHESTER, Vt. – John Adler, 64, of Chester, Vt., passed away unexpectedly at Tufts Medical Center in Boston, Mass., on Nov. 15, 2025.

Born in Perth Amboy, N.J., on Jan. 12, 1961, John was raised in Berwick, Maine, and graduated from Noble High School. He went on to receive an associate's degree in forestry from Paul Smith's College. John cut his first trees at age 12, and spent a good share of his life logging and teaching others to log safely as a Game of Logging instructor. His other passions included, first and foremost, spending time with his wife, daughters, sonsin-law, and grandchildren. He played guitar and had a beautiful voice, and used it to serve the Lord and his church, and to bring joy to many. Fishing and longdistance bike rides round out the list.

John was well-known in his field, and will be remembered for his passion for and commitment to instructing others to operate a chainsaw safely and efficiently while he owned and operated his own logging business for 42 years. He and his wife built their cabin on the side of a mountain in Vermont, and all those who love him will remember him as their Papa Bear.



John Adler, 1961-2025.
PHOTO PROVIDED

John is survived by his wife Mary Beth; his daughters Bethany Reinhold (Eric) and Emily Thompson (Stephen); his six grandchildren Josiah, Olivia, Noah, Ezra, Oliver, and Lydia; his brother Richard; and his sister Susan.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to Abundance Acres in Andover, Vt., (www.abundanceacres.org) where John loved to spend time playing his guitar and enjoying his community.

A Celebration of Life service took place at Andover Community Church, 928 Weston-Andover Road, Andover, Vt., on Saturday, Nov. 22, at 10 a.m. An online video of the service will be available at www.youtube.com/@andovercommunitychurch9509/streams. Click on the link that says "live."

OBITUARIES:

STATE OF VERMONT

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

CHURCH SERVICES:

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

SUPERIOR COURT Vindsor Unit Docket No.: 25-1 In re ESTATE of: Marie-Louise Wiese NOTICE TO CREDITORS To the Creditors of: Marie-Louise Wiese	
In re ESTATE of: Marie-Louise Wiese NOTICE TO CREDITORS To the Creditors of: Marie-Louise Wiese	5-PR-06495
NOTICE TO CREDITORS To the Creditors of: Marie-Louise Wiese	
To the Creditors of: Marie-Louise Wiese	
late of Springfield	
Decedent's Town of Residence	
claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period Dated: Signature of Fiduciary	
:	Marine.
11-17-25 Thulleton	
Executor/Administrator Mailing Address	
Executor/Administrator Mailing Address	
Executor/Administrator Mailing Address C/O Parker & Ankuda, PC, PO Box 519 Phone Number Email City, State, Zip	
Executor/Administrator Mailing Address C/O Parker & Ankuda, PC, PO Box 519 Phone Number Email City, State, Zip	

Woodstock VT 05091

SOF ERIOR CC	OURT		PROBATE DIVISION
Windham	Unit		Docket No.: 25-PR-05389
In re ESTATE o	of:	Ва	arton T. Coburn
		NOTICE TO	CREDITORS
To the Credito	rs of: Bart	ton T. Coburn	
late of Londonde	Vermor		Decedent
late of Londonde	rry, vermoi		Town of Residence
The claim must b	oe presented	d to me at the addres	our (4) months of the first publication of this notice. s listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The vithin the four (4) month period.
The claim must b	oe presented red forever	d to me at the addres	s listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The
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The claim must be claim may be bar bar be bar	Executor Email chaffee@ar	d to me at the addres if it is not presented w	Signature of Fiduciary Mailing Address c/o Law Offices of Amanda L. S. George City, State, Zip PO Box 578, Chester, Vermont 05143

calendar

LEGAL NOTICES

PERKINSVILLE, Vt. - The Weathersfield Community Contra Dance & Social will take place on Friday, Nov. 28, from 6-10 p.m., at the Weathersfield Center Church and Meeting House, 2579 Weathersfield Center Road. Called by legendary caller Dudley Laufman, with open band led by Naomi Morse and Rivkah Valley (fiddle), Mary Cay Brass (piano), and Emmet McGowan (drums). No special clothing, footwear, or experience required. You're welcome to dance, listen, sit, or chat, and enjoy that cold beverage you brought along. All are welcome, all dances will be taught.

NOV. 29 -

LUDLOW, Vt. - The Black River Academy Museum Festival of Lights will be open on Saturday, Nov. 29, from 4-7 p.m.

DEC. 6 -

BELMONT, Vt. - The Mount Holly Community Historical Museum's Festival of Lights fundraiser will be held Saturday, Dec. 6, at the Odd Fellows Hall, 37 Lake Street, Belmont. There will be an auction preview

Apple Hill Road.

abutments.

beginning at 5 p.m., with the live auction beginning at 5:30 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be served. The auction will feature new and vintage items, decorated wreaths, and a wine and cheese raffle.

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Black River Academy Museum Festival of Lights will be open on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 4-7 p.m.

CLAREMONT, N.H. - The Claremont Senior Center, 5 Acer Heights, will hold their Winter Wonderland Craft Fair on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. This event is open to the public. We will have all different crafters, a cookie walk, and concessions.

DEC. 9 -

Town of Plymouth

Request for Bid/Proposal

The Town of Plymouth is seeking Bids/Proposal from

qualified contractors for bridge repair in the following

Apple Hill Road Bridge #32: Remove and replace 2

galvanized steel guard rails, install 89.77CY of riprap, and

install (1) 5 FT long x 6 FT wide x 1.5 FT wingwall on the

(NE) and (1) 6 FT long x 5 FT wide x 1.5 FT wingwall on

within their proposal, a plan for providing and maintaining

immediately adjacent to or past the bridge closure point on

Paille Road Bridge #48: Remove and replace 2 galvanized

steel guard rails, install 53.92 CY of riprap, and install (1)1

of extending (4) wingwalls (20ftL x 8ftH) with reinforced

concrete and replacing wooden deck with concrete.

Scout Camp Bridge #46: Channel and scour repair

including stabilization of banks and installation of scour

protection materials. Filling of undermined voids beneath

Abutment 1 and stabilization of timber pile foundations. Structural repairs include crack repairs at wingwalls and

6ftL x 3ftW x 40inD wingwall. Proposed mitigation consists

the (NW) and replace NE abutment to be in level with

the roadside abutment. The Contractor MUST include

temporary vehicular access to the residence located

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Liz from Senior Solutions will be at the Springfield Senior Center on Tuesday, Dec. 9, from 9-11 a.m. For more information, contact executive director Lori Johnson at 802-885-3933 or lorijohnsonssc@gmail.

CLAREMONT, N.H. - The Claremont Senior Center, 5 Acer Heights, will hold its

next membership meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 9, at 1 p.m. This will give you a chance to hear what is happening with the senior center, as well as a chance to win a free lunch. New members are always welcome to come enjoy our facility. You can sign up for a one-month trial membership, so you can enjoy our programs and activities before you join us.

SUNDAYS -

PLYMOUTH, Vt. - The Plymouth Historical Society at the former Plymouth Elementary School will be open the first and third Sunday of each month, from 2-4 p.m., from November 2025 - April 2026. Watch for the "open"

MONDAYS -

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - Free Tobacco Quit class led by Sarah Doyle, Mondays, from 6-7 p.m., at Parks Place, 44 School Street Extension, Bellows Falls. Dinner included. Call or text Sarah at 802-289-0045 or email sdoyle@ springfieldmed.org.

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. - On Mondays at 6:15 p.m., join Mikayla for a yoga class. Email mikayla@ mikaylasmantra.net to register. Visit www. dgbodyworks.com for more information. Private classes are available.

TUESDAYS -

W. TOWNSHEND, Vt. -Burger night is held every Tuesday, from 5-7 p.m.,

at the West Townshend Country Store, 6573 Vermont Route 30, West Townshend, Vt. There will be live music provided by a different local artist each week. For more information, visit www.westtownshend. org, call 802-874-4800, email info@westtownshend. org, or message the store on Facebook.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The Springfield Senior Center, 139 Main Street, will hold drop-in corn hole games every Tuesday, at 1 p.m. For more information, contact executive director Lori Johnson at 802-885-3933 or lorijohnsonssc@ gmail.com.

LUDLOW, Vt. - Strengthen your core, improve posture, and enhance your overall mobility with a Pilates/yoga fusion class at the Black River Valley Senior Center, 10 High Street, every Tuesday, from 8-9 a.m. All levels welcome. Contact Lori Wright to register at 603-401-8123, or email loriwright163@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAYS -

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

THURSDAYS -

CHESTER, Vt. - The Black

Town of Springfield Planning Commission Public Hearings to Amend Land Use Development Ordinance

6:30 pm, Wednesday, December 3, 2025, Springfield Town Library

5:30 pm, Tuesday, December 9, 2025, Springfield Town Office

These hearings are to receive public testimony on the Springfield Land Use Development Ordinance. The full text of the proposed Town Plan is available at the Planning & Zoning office, the Town Library, online at the Planning Commission's page at springfieldvt.gov, or by email request at planning@springfieldvt.gov

Town of Springfield-Selectboard Notice of Public Hearing and **Selectboard Meeting December 8, 2025**

The Town of Springfield will hold a Public Hearing at 6:00PM on Monday, December 8, 2025 for the purpose of receiving public input concerning the proposed amendment to the Chapter 20 Article II ordinance on Naming and Numbering Streets. The proposed amendment would remove the Planning Commission from the process and align with E-911 Board Standards This will be a hybrid meet-ing. The Public Hearing will be held at 96 Main Street, Springfield, Vermont. It will also be possi-ble to attend via Zoom. https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85224442585

Meeting ID: 852 2444 2585 One tap mobile

+16469313860,,85224442585# US

+13017158592,,85224442585# US (Washington DC)

Kristi C. Morris, Chair Springfield Selectboard River Memory Cafe is held on the first Thursday of each month, at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 313 Main Street, from 11 a.m. -1 p.m. The memory cafe is free to attend, snacks included, and offers a safe and comfortable space where careaivers and their loved ones living with dementia or Alzheimer's can socialize, listen to music, play games, and enjoy other appropriate activities. For questions, please call 802-885-2669 or 866-673-8376, or email memorycafe@ seniorsolutionsvt.org.

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.

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-

LUDLOW, Vt. - A gentle flow yoga class for all levels to improve balance and flexibility, relieving tension from your day, will be held Thursdays, from 6-7 p.m., at the Black River Valley Senior Center, 10 High Street. Mats and blocks provided. Contact Lori Wright at 603-401-8123 or loriwright163@gmail. com to register, or with any questions.

FRIDAYS -

W. TOWNSHEND, Vt. -Pizza night is held every Friday, from 5-7 p.m., at the West Townshend

Country Store, 6573 Vermont Route 30, West Townshend, Vt. There will be live music provided by a different local artist each week. For more information, visit www.westtownshend. org, call 802-874-4800, email info@westtownshend. org, or message the store on Facebook.

CLAREMONT, N.H. - If you are interested in playing or learning the game of mahjong, please come to the Claremont Senior Center, 5 Acer Heights, on Fridays, at 1p.m. For more information, call 603-543-5998.

CLAREMONT, N.H. - Come show off your masterpieces at the Claremont Senior Center Knitters Group, on Fridays, from 1-3 p.m., at 5 Acer Heights. For more information, call 603-543-

SATURDAYS -

W. TOWNSHEND, Vt. -Taco night is held every Saturday, from 5-7 p.m., at the West Townshend Country Store, 6573 Vermont Route 30, West Townshend, Vt. For more information, visit www. westtownshend.org, call 802-874-4800, email info@westtownshend.org, or message the store on Facebook.

DAILY -

WINDHAM, Vt. -"Solidarity: Fabric, Thread & Needle," a textile art exhibition exploring cohesion and interconnectedness, will be on display at the Fourth Cotner Foundation, 578 Hitchcock Hill Road, Windham, Vt., through Dec. 5. The gallery is open Monday-Thursday, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday by appointment. For more information, visit www. thefourthcornerfoundation. org, or email info@4cfoundation.org.

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:

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

Building Inspector - PT/On Call

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 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

A site visit may be scheduled upon request. Contractors are encouraged to review site conditions.

Bids should be marked "Bridge Repair" and emailed to clerk@plymouthvt.org or mailed to Town of Plymouth, 68 Town Office Road, Plymouth, Vermont 05056 no later than 10:00 am on Thursday, December 18, 2025. Bids will be opened and/or read immediately after the deadline in Plymouth Town Office Meeting Room. The Select Board may award the bid at their regular meeting on Monday, January 8, 2025.

The Town of Plymouth reserves the right to accept and or reject any or all Bids/Proposals as they deem to be in the best interest of the town. This solicitation in no way obligates the Town of Plymouth to award a contract. A valid Certificate of Insurance showing proof of the contractor's liability and Worker's Compensation coverage, naming the Town of Plymouth as an additional insured is required. For questions, please contact Larry Lynds at 802-672-3535 or email femarepplymouthvt@gmail.com.

LEGALS

classifieds

AUCTION

PERKINSVILLE, Vt. - Contents of storage unit #76, rented by Tevon Gray, at Perkinsville Self Storage will be auctioned off on Dec. 10, 2025, at 10 a.m., at 4215 Route 106, Perkinsville, VT 05151.

BUYING/SELLING

BUYING-SELLING Coins, Paper \$\$, Vintage Sports Postcards, Comics. See our displays at antique centers in Chester and Quechee. Open 7 Days. 802-379-2353. House calls available.

REGION - Coins, paper money, Pokemon, sports cards, postcards, and other collectibles. Saturday, Nov. 29, at the Charlestown, N.H.

Senior Center, and Saturday, Dec. 13, at the Brattleboro Holiday Inn. 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. both dates. Contact 802-379-2353 or pepsijoseph@yahoo.com.

CLEAN OUTS + MORE

EZ-Dump Enterprises has a 15-yard dump trailer available. We're also here for heating equipment, appliance removal, home/storage unit clean outs, stump grinding, and refinishing/ repairing gravel driveways. Serving Springfield, Vt. area. Call/text 802-376-1168 or email ezdump. bl@gmail.com.

FIREWOOD

CAVENDISH, Vt. - Firewood for

Green Mountain Preschool

We are opening enrollment spaces for two more 3 or 4-year-olds to join us for the remainder of the 2025/2026 school year!

Call 802-875-7758 or email hannah.nadeau@trsu.org for more information

573 Main Street, Proctorsville

Invite to Bid

The Ludlow Mount Holly Unified Union School District is now accepting bids for replacing the roof at the Mount Holly School. For bid requirements, please contact Cheryl Hammond, Business Manager at (802) 875-6433 or cheryl. hammond@trsu.org or Todd Parah at (802) 875-4246 or todd.parah@trsu. Bids need to be submitted no later than 3PM on December 10th.

TOWN OF LUDLOW

The Town of Ludlow is accepting applications for a full-time Paramedic. Full-time staff work two (2) 24-hour shifts per week, with overtime after 40 hours.

We are seeking a skilled and motivated Paramedic who demonstrates a strong work ethic, attention to detail, and a passion for community well-being and departmental growth.

Responsibilities include:

- Providing emergency medical services and emergency transport
- Responding to technical rescue incidents
- Covering special events
- Performing additional duties as assigned

Minimum Requirements:

- Current National Registry and/or Vermont Paramedic certification
- Valid ACLS & PALS
- Valid BLS CPR certification
- High school diploma or GED
- Valid driver's license

Preferred Qualifications:

- FP-C or CCP-C certification
- Current Vermont Pro-Board FFI/FFII certification
- AHA CPR/First Aid Instructor certification

Selection Process:

Candidates must successfully complete an oral board interview, practical exam, MMPI, and a full background check (motor vehicle and criminal record review).

Compensation & Benefits:

- Pay commensurate with certification level and experience: Wage Range \$28.12/hr. - \$40.92/hr.
- Comprehensive benefits package, including: o 100% Town-paid dental, health, life, and disability
- o Retirement plan through Vermont Municipal Employees' Retirement System – Plan D (employee/employer contributions)

To Apply:

Please send a cover letter and résumé to: Ludlow Ambulance Service ATTN: Ben Whalen, Fire Chief PO Box 359

Ludlow, VT 05149 Phone: (802) 228-2211 Email: bwhalen@ludlow.vt.us sale, free delivery within 15 mile radius of Cavendish. Starting at \$325 per cord. Contact 802-376-8638

FOR SALE

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. - 1938 Chevy 4-door car and trailer. And 1984 Z-28 Camaro. 802-463-4342.

HELP WANTED

LUDLOW, Vt. - Looking for a seasonal, part-time job through winter? Come join our cleaning team. Flexible days/hours, no weekends or holidays. Call 802-342-3767.

LUDLOW, Vt. - Okemo Valley TV/WLUD is searching for its next Executive Director to lead the organization into its next chapter. We are a small but vibrant community-based multi-media

organization, headquartered in Ludlow. With the recent addition of community radio we are evolving to serve and engage with the community in different ways. To learn more about the position and how to apply, please visit the station's website at okemovalley.tv.

OTHER

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - Need a ride in Springfield and surrounding areas. Food for special occasions. Soup, stews, or dinner delivery. Even some light cleanup. Call Jim Theetge at 802-738-7790.

SNOW PLOWING

LUDLOW, Vt. - Snowplowing and sanding, Ludlow area, residential only. Reasonable rates. Contact SK Logging at 802-384-0313.



Landgrove PC/ZBA Hearing

The Landgrove Planning Commission/ Zoning Board of Adjustment will meet at the Landgrove Town Hall, 88 Landgrove Rd at 5:30 PM on 12/18/25 to hear an application for a waiver for a front porch at 88 Jaquith Rd in the RR District. Those interested in seeing the application, submitting written comments, or attending the hearing remotely should contact Landgrove's Zoning Administrator at: zoning@landgrove.vermont.gov.

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §§ 4464(a)(1)(C) and 4471(a), participation in this local proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

Water/Wastewater Assistant Operator

The Village of Ludlow Water and Sewer Department is seeking a professional, highly motivated and responsible person to join our team.

The successful candidate must be eager to learn, have a professional attitude and have a strong work ethic. He/ She must have the ability to work with tools, replace pumps and motors, perform routine lab work and input data into a computer. Therefore, knowledge of Microsoft Word/ Excel along with strong math skills are a plus. In addition, the successful candidate will follow established procedures to assure that the water and wastewater treatment plants continue to run at high standards while following all Town/ Village safety policies.

Reliable attendance with sound work performance and strong communication skills are required along with the ability to listen, understand and carry out written and oral instructions. The successful candidate will need to provide on-call coverage as assigned including rotating weekends and possible nights and holidays during emergencies.

Water and Wastewater treatment experience is preferred, along Vermont Water and Wastewater Certifications would be ideal. The ability to obtain Vermont Class 3 Water, Class D Water and Grade 3 Wastewater Certifications WITHIN TWO YEARS of employment is required.

Room for advancement is available and is based on work performance and professionalism. Must work with the public concerning water and sewer issues with a strong commitment to customer service.

Benefits include no-cost health insurance, VLCT pension plan, dental insurance and life insurance. Also paid sick time, personal days and holidays. Pay range is \$28.00 -\$34.00/hour, based on Class Level.

Required:

High school diploma or equivalent Driver's license Effective communication skills Basic math and computer skills Reliable transportation Must live within 30 minutes of Ludlow, VT

To Apply:

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and three professional references to:

Brendan McNamara Municipal Manager Town of Ludlow PO Box 359

Ludlow, VT 05149

Or via email to: bmcnamara@ludlow.vt.us

The Village of Ludlow is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Landgrove Selectboard Hearing

The Landgrove Selectboard will meet at the Landgrove Town Hall, 88 Landgrove Rd at 8:00 AM on 12/18/25 to review a draft Town Plan. This draft is designed to address the goals of Vermont's Municipal & Regional Planning & Development Act (24 V.S.A §4384) in the following

- 1 To plan development so as to maintain the historic settlement pattern of village and urban centers separated by rural countryside.
- 2. To provide a strong and diverse economy that provides satisfying and rewarding job opportunities while maintaining high environmental standards.
- 3 To broaden access to educational and vocational training opportunities sufficient to ensure the realization of the abilities of all Vermonters.
- 4 To provide for safe, convenient, economic, and energy efficient transportation systems that respect the integrity of the natural environment, including public transit options and paths for pedestrians, skiers, and cyclists.
- 5 To identify, protect, and preserve important natural and historic features of the Vermont landscape. 6 To maintain and improve the quality of air, water,
- wildlife, and land resources. 7 To encourage the efficient use of energy and the
- development of renewable energy resources. 8 To maintain and enhance recreational opportunities for
- Vermont residents and visitors. 9. To encourage and strengthen agricultural and forest
- 10 To provide for the wise and efficient use of Vermont's natural resources and to facilitate the appropriate extraction of earth resources and the proper restoration and preservation of the aesthetic qualities of the area.
- 11 To ensure the availability of safe and affordable housing for all Vermonters.
- 12 To plan for, finance, and provide an efficient system of public facilities and services to meet future needs.
- 13 To ensure the availability of safe and affordable childcare and to integrate child-care issues into the planning process, including child-care financing, infrastructure, business assistance for child-care providers, and child-care workforce development.
 - 14 To encourage flood resilient communities.

The full text of the town plan can be read at the town offices, on the town webpage, and anyone who wants an electronic copy can email the Zoning Administrator at zoning@landgrove.vermont.gov.

TOWN OF LUDLOW

The Town of Ludlow, VT is accepting applications for Part-Time Paramedics, A-EMTs, and EMTs. Part-time personnel work an average of 24 hours per week, scheduled in 12- or 24-hour shifts.

We are seeking skilled and motivated Paramedics, AEMT's, and EMTs who demonstrate a strong work ethic, attention to detail, and a passion for community well-being and departmental growth.

Responsibilities include:

- Providing emergency medical services and emergency • Responding to technical rescue incidents
- Covering special events
- Performing additional duties as assigned

Minimum Requirements:

- Current National Registry and/or Vermont certification • Valid ACLS & PALS
- Valid BLS CPR certification
- High school diploma or GED
- Valid driver's license
- **Preferred Qualifications:** • FP-C or CCP-C certification
- Current Vermont Pro-Board FFI/FFII certification • AHA CPR/First Aid Instructor certification
- **Selection Process:**

Candidates must successfully complete an oral board interview, practical exam, MMPI, and a full background check (motor vehicle and criminal record review).

Compensation & Benefits:

- Pay commensurate with certification level and experience. Wage Range: \$20.55/hr. - \$28.96/hr.
- Holiday Pay
- Accrued Sick Leave

To Apply:

Please send a cover letter and résumé to: Ludlow Ambulance Service ATTN: Ben Whalen, Fire Chief PO Box 359 Ludlow, VT 05149 Phone: (802) 228-2211

Email: bwhalen@ludlow.vt.us

directory

PROS TO KNOW



DIAMOND POINT WEALTH PARTNERS

Formerly Huntley Financial Services

Derek Karner 802-228-5774

www.diamondpointwealthpartners.com 101 Main Street, Second Floor, Ludlow, VT

urities and investment advisory services offered through Osaic Wealth, Inc., Member FINRA/SIPC. Osaic Wealth is separ owned and other entities and/or marketing names, products or services referenced here are independent of Osaic Wealth.

TAYLOR EXCAVATING LLP

SEPTIC SYSTEMS, LAND CLEARINGS, DRIVEWAYS COMPLETE HOUSE SITES LANDSCAPING, WALL BUILDING

802-869-2905 802-289-1508

Helie's Carpets, LLC

FOR ALL YOUR FLOORING NEEDS

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How a ski area transformed Okemo Valley real estate

LUDLOW, Vt. - As Okemo Mountain marks its 70th anniversary, the milestone offers a moment to reflect on how a modest community ski hill grew into one of Vermont's premier resorts – and how its steady rise has shaped the real estate market and the identity of the entire Okemo Valley.

Founded in 1955 by local citizens seeking winter recreation and economic opportunity, Okemo started with a single Poma lift and an all-volunteer operation. What it lacked in size, it made up for in community spirit. That foundation became the springboard for decades of thoughtful expansion, first under the Mueller family, whose vision and investment brought high-speed lifts, snowmaking, terrain parks, and a full-service resort experience, and later under Vail Resorts, which further integrated Okemo into a national pass system that attracts skiers from across the country.

Over 70 years, Okemo evolved from a small-town ski hill into a four-season destination known for grooming, family-friendly conditions. That transformation has had a profound impact on surrounding towns such as Ludlow, Mount Holly, Cavendish, and Weston.

Real estate in the Okemo Valley has long been tied to the health and growth of the mountain. In the early decades, demand centered around modest ski homes - A-frames, chalets, and village houses within a quick drive to the base lodge. As the resort expanded, so did interest in second homes and slopeside amenities.

The creation of base-area and on-mountain communities, including Okemo Village, Solitude Village, Winterplace, South Face Village, and several luxury slopeside communities, redefined what mountain living could look like. Over time, buyers began seeking not just proximity, but lifestyle: ski-in/ski-out access, private shuttles, clubhouse amenities, and year-round recreation.

The introduction of the Epic Pass in 2018 amplified demand even further. Okemo suddenly appeared on the radar of a national buyer pool - families who

terrain, and consistent could now pair Vermont weekends with trips to Colorado and Utah under the same pass. That surge brought record pricing, historically low inventory, and a wave of investment in both vacation homes and rental properties.

> The real estate market's growth has supported construction jobs, property management companies, local tradespeople, and a wide variety of businesses across the valley. Restaurants, shops, shortterm rental operators, and service providers all benefit from the steady flow of seasonal residents and visitors.

Even with the challenges of rising prices and competition for long-term

housing, the mountain remains a cornerstone of the region's economy. For many families, rental income helps offset ownership costs, while for others, second-home ownership has blossomed into full-time residency as remote work becomes more common.

After 70 years, Okemo continues to anchor property values in the region. High-quality snowmaking, modern lift infrastructure, and ongoing capital improvements help maintain confidence among homeowners and investors. Meanwhile, year-round offerings mountain biking, golf, hiking, and expanding summer activities - continue to stabilize the mar- life here for seven decades. ket beyond the winter months.

As the Okemo Valley looks to its future, one thing is clear: the mountain is more than a resort. It is a cultural and economic engine, a gathering place, and a force that has shaped the rhythm of daily

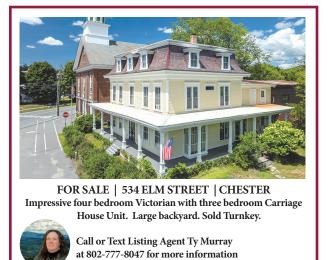
Its influence on the local real estate market is undeniable, and its role in the community only continues to grow.

Written and submitted by Suzanne Garvey, owner/broker at Mary W. Davis Realtor & Associates.





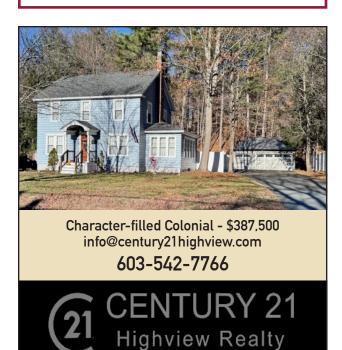




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history & outdoor

OLLI presents "According | DAR High School Essay to the Almanac"———

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. Mark Breen, senior meteorologist at the Fairbanks Museum, will present the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) program "According to the Almanac" on Tuesday, Dec. 2, at 2 p.m., at the Nolin Murray Center, next to St. Mary's Church, on Pleasant Street in Spring-

In his 14th annual presentation to the group, Breen will examine how almanacs predict winter weather months in advance - and how they offer much more. The almanacs have deep roots in astronomy, which once encompassed astrology, a nonscientific belief system based on celestial influence. He'll trace how almanacs became rich sources of not only weather and astronomical data, but also medical advice, horoscopes, satire, and entertainment. He will share his decadeslong fascination with these charming and complex enduring publications.

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Old Farmer's Almanacs.

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versity of Vermont, OLLI is run by local volunteer members, and is geared mainly towards seniors who are 50 years of age and older. Anyone who would be interested in this type of program, regardless of their age, is wel-

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

If there are weatherrelated changes to the schedule, you can check the above website.

This is the final program of the fall series. Spring programs begin on Feb. 24. You may check out the offerings at the above-mentioned website in January.

Contest—

REGION - To all students of grades 9-12 in the Rutland, Vt., area, the Ann Story Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, invites you to participate in the 2025-2026 American history high school essay contest.

The topic for this year's contest is "Patriots of the American Revolution."

All participants will receive an official DAR certificate for their participation. The winner of each grade level will receive an official winner certificate and DAR medal, along with a small monetary cash prize. Winning entries at the chapter level will be sent along to the state level for further judging and possible awards that can go on to the division level, and the national level in Washington, D.C.

The deadline for submissions is Dec. 8. For more information regarding this year's topic and contest rules, please contact Cynthia Cohen, American history chair, ccohen.vtdar@ gmail.com.

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution was founded in 1890 to promote historic preservation, education, and patriotism. Its members are descended from the patriots who won American independence during the Revolutionary War. With more than 190,000 members in approximately 3,000 chapters worldwide, DAR is one of the world's largest and most active service organizations. DAR members are committed to volunteer service, having served more than 12.5 million hours in communities throughout the world during the past three years. To learn more about the work of today's DAR, visit www.dar.org, or connect with DAR on social media at www.facebook.com/ TodaysDAR, www.x.com/ TodaysDAR, and www. youtube.com/TodaysDAR.

American Legion high school Oratorical contest-

REGION - The Department of Vermont American Legion High School Constitutional Speech Contest provides a steppingstone to further

education. The American Legion Oratorical Contest exists to develop deeper knowledge and appreciation for the U.S. Constitution among high school students.

Public and private Vermont high school (grades 9-12) students are eligible to participate. Each contestant prepares an original 8-to-10-minute speech about some phase of the Constitution of the United States, emphasizing the duties and obligations of a citizen to the U. S. government. Four amendments are the subject of the Assigned Topics. The Assigned Topic is 3-5 minutes long, an original effort addressing the duties and obligations of a citizen.

Contests begin at a local American Legion in January and February; the winner progresses to a district contest, and on to the department finals held in March 2026. First place garners \$1,500, and the student advances to national competition held in May at Hillsdale College, Mich.

College scholarships of \$25,000, \$22,500, and \$20,000 will be awarded to the first through third places at the national level. The American Legion will pay the expenses of the state winner and his or her chaperone at the national contest in Michigan.

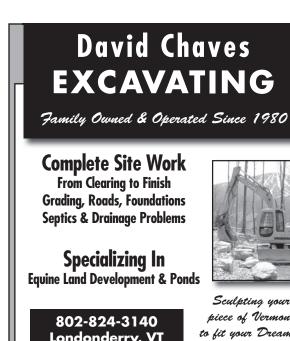
Watch a brief video to learn more at www.youtube.com/watch?v=7YJ-H6uo4IE&t=12s. The application deadline is Dec. 19.

For more information, visit www.legion.org/oratorical, or contact Karlene DeVine at karlene1350@ gmail.com or 802-377-7380.

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health

HCRS staff help create mural at Brattleboro shelter

Over the summer months, a once-ordinary fence at Groundworks shelter in Brattleboro was transformed into a vibrant expression of hope, healing, and community. Thanks to a unique collaboration between local artists, residents of the shelter, and staff from Health Care & Rehabilitation Services (HCRS), the fence now showcases a colorful mural that reflects both creativity and collective spirit.

The mural project, part of the Project Connection-works collaboration including HCRS, Groundworks, Interaction, and Better Life Partners, was spearheaded by HCRS staff member Peter Baldwin. He played a pivotal role in bringing together the right people, and nurturing the collaboration to its full potential.

Local artists Suzanne Ruse and Rebecca Musgrove – both experienced in community art projects, including work in Vermont and New Hampshire prisons – worked closely

works staff and They residents. presented design options and palettes, color which residents and staff selected modified and along the way. The artists outlined the mural, and then, over several weekends between June and August, residents and staff members joined in to bring the mural to life.

Participation went far beyond paintbrushes. "People were incredibly en-

gaged," said Ruse. "Some painted, others offered ideas, and some shared space with us all as it all unfolded. But everyone was involved, including the dogs, with conversations and real connection. It was about dissolving differences through a shared human experience. It was a true gift



The mural at Groundworks in progress.

to create together."

That spirit of inclusion and collaboration was echoed by the shelter's facilities manager, Ira, whose behind-the-scenes efforts were essential – powerwashing and priming the fence, setting up canopies, and supporting the artists and participants throughout the process.

Ruse emphasized that, while the final mural is stunning, the real beauty lies in how it came to be. "Art connects us. It has healing qualities. When we create together, we build trust. And with trust comes respect. This mural is more than paint on a wall – it represents belonging."

Peter, who serves as

tative on Project Connectionworks, credits the success of the mural to the residents' meaningful involvement, and the artists' openness true cocreation. He states, "This project gave people a way to express themselves, to be seen, and to contribute something lasting to their space." Libby Ben-

nett, executive director at Groundworks, adds, "The mural draws you in

from all the way across the shelter. It has truly brightened the outdoor space,

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and is a reminder of shelter residents taking pride in this place that, in and of itself, represents a launch point for growth. We are grateful for all of the coordination and the many hands that have contributed to this project."

As for what's next, Ruse hopes this is just the beginning. "We want to do more of this cocreating. The joy of creating together is powerful, and it stays with people. The beauty and intention that was put into this mural will impact not just those who painted it, but everyone who walks past it."



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Northeast Delta Dental Loan Repayment Awards —

REGION – In another grant awards cycle, Northeast Delta Dental has made five awards totaling \$500,000 to support dental loan repayment in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. This funding, which began in 2022 to attract more dentists to northern New England, brings the total number of awardees from Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont to 46.

Workforce vacancies across all health care specialties have risen sharply in recent years, and there continues to be an acute shortage in northern New England of dentists. The demand for dentists is due to a combination of factors, including retiring dentists, increased population with dental benefits, and rural or underserved areas across the region which have had difficulty with retaining and recruiting dentists.

"The dearth of dental professionals in northern New England creates barriers to access for many," commented Tom Raffio, president and CEO of Northeast Delta Dental. "This program has attracted many dedicated dentists who are committed to providing care to underserved populations. We are proud to support this important program."

Awards in this cycle were made to dentists in the following practice locations: Sanford and Yarmouth, Maine; Claremont, N.H.; and Middlebury and Shoreham, Vt.

By providing an additional avenue to help dentists with student loan debt through loan repayment, the program has attracted and retained 46 dentists to northern New England. Each qualifying dentist is able to receive up to

\$150,000 reimbursed over a multiyear period.

Both Northeast Delta Dental and Bi-State Primary Care Association are also available to assist dentists moving to the tristate area with connections to existing practices. Please call 603-228-2830 to speak with a recruitment specialist





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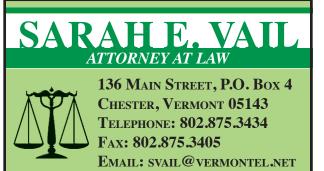


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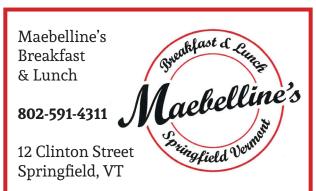
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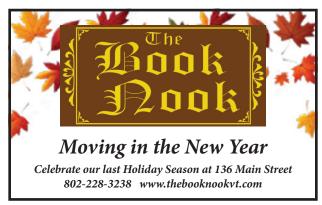
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holiday happeninas

Springfield Community Chorus Holiday Concerts

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – "Shout For Joy," a holiday celebration of light and joy, will be this year's Springfield Community Chorus Holiday Concert. Works performed in this concert include "Do You Hear What I Hear" by Noel Regney and Gloria Shayneure; "Sure On This Shining Night," words by James Agee, music by Morten

Lauriden; "Shout for Joy" by local artist Peter Amidon; "Pat-a-Pan," a traditional Burgundian carol arranged by Greg Gilpin; and "Stars I Shall Find," music by David Dickau set to a poem by Sara Teasdale. The audience will be invited to participate in singing familiar carols. The program will conclude with the "Hallelujah Chorus"

from Handel's "Messiah."

The concerts are Saturday, Dec. 6, at 7 p.m., in the Chester Baptist Church, 162 Main Street, Chester, Vt.; and Sunday, Dec. 7, at 3 p.m., in the First Congregational Church, 77 Main Street, Springfield, Vt.

Admission is free, but donations are appreciated.

Benson's holiday drive supports humane society-

LUDLOW, Vt. - Benson's Chevrolet is again partnering with the Springfield Humane Society to launch a donation drive aimed at collecting essential supplies, and helping the shelter meet the needs of animals in its care this holiday season.

Benson's Chevrolet invites the community to help fill the shelves of the humane society by donating critical items needed for

daily operations and animal comfort. Every donation, large or small, helps the dedicated staff and volunteers provide a safe, clean, and warm environment for homeless pets.

The donation drive is currently underway, and will run through Friday, Dec. 19. Items needed by the humane society include paper towels, cleaning products (wipes, sprays, etc.), laundry detergent,

dish soap, dry dog food, dry cat food, dog cookies (please, no rawhide bones), gently used blankets, and gently used towels.

Donations can be dropped off during regular business hours at Benson's Chevrolet, located at 25 Pond Steet in Ludlow.

"We are thrilled to partner with the Springfield Humane Society, which does such vital work for our community's most vulnerable animals," said George Benson. "This time of year can be especially challenging for shelters, and we hope the generosity of our customers and neighbors can help ease their burden and bring comfort to the animals awaiting their forever homes."

The Springfield Humane Society relies heavily on community support to continue its mission of rescuing, sheltering, and adopting pets. Benson's Chevrolet encourages everyone to stop by the dealership, make a donation, and help make a difference in an animal's life this winter.



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Grafton Public Library Gingerbread House Extravaganza

GRAFTON, Vt. – The Gingerbread House Extravaganza returns to the Grafton Public Library on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., as part of the villagewide Grafton Winter Festival event.

The library is seeking gingerbread makers, expert and beginner alike, for participation in the Gingerbread House Extravaganza. Whether you want to show off your culinary skills, or are looking for a fun family project, the library is delighted to display your creation.

For more information about submitting a gingerbread house, visit www.graftonpubliclibrary.org, email us at librarian@graftonpubliclibrary.org, or stop by the library at 204 Main Street, Grafton, Vt. Sub-



A gingerbread house.

PHOTO PROVIDED

mission forms are available online. Please submit by Nov. 29, so we know how many houses to expect. Your finished house may be dropped off the week of Dec. 1-5, in preparation for the big day.

Gingerbread houses will be on display to the public on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., and admission to the library is free. A silent auction of the ginger-bread creations will be held during the event, culminating at 3 p.m.

Share your light by submitting a house, visit us to revel in the holiday delight, or bid on a house to take home and enjoy. We hope to see you at the library this holiday season.

Weston Christmas Bazaar takes year off

WESTON, Vt. - The Weston Community Association is sad to announce that one of the area's favorite holiday gift buying options, the Weston Christmas Bazaar, will be taking a year off in 2025 due to continued repairs to its traditional venue, Weston's beloved playhouse building. But please note, this hiatus is only for this year. Plans are for the Christmas bazaar, as well as the playhouse, to be back in 2026, and better than ever.

The Weston Playhouse was severely damaged in the summer flood of 2023, taking on more than 10 feet of water. As this was the second

"storm of the century" within 12 years, in order to be approved as a public venue, and also to be fully insured, the building needs to be not just repaired, but made flood resilient. In addition to substantial outdoor excavation and lower-level repair, all indoor systems, including electrical, fire prevention, and plumbing, which were located downstairs, need to be replaced and moved higher. More than half of the work is complete, including the addition of a new zonal HVAC system that will improve the guest experience. Further work is ongoing as money comes in and permitting allows

We know the Weston Christmas Bazaar is a big part of your holiday tradition, and you are a big part of ours too. We appreciate your attendance all these years – 45 of them – and all of us will miss seeing you this time around. If you take a look at the Weston Christmas Bazaar Facebook page, you will see where some of your favorite vendors can be found.

So please mark your calendars for Nov. 27 and 28, 2026, the Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving next year. In the meantime, please visit our website for updates, www.westoncommunityassn.org, and consider a donation to assist with the continued restoration efforts. In spite of our absence, we wish you very happy holidays this year. See you in 2026.



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HOLIDAY EVENTS

DEC. 5 -

LONDONDERRY, Vt. -Neighborhood Connections is hosting a Christmas event on Friday, Dec. 5, at our offices in the Mountain Marketplace, 5700 Route 100, Londonderry, Vt. There will be a tractor parade and tree lighting at 5:30 p.m., followed by Santa's open house at 6 p.m., with hot chocolate and goodies for all. There will be games and craft tables for elves of all ages. Come over, dress warm,

holiday happenings

Mount Holly Museum Festival of Lights

BELMONT, Vt. - Come begin your holiday shopping and sharing in community spirit at the Mount Holly Community Historical Museum's annual Festival of Lights fundraiser, on Saturday, Dec. 6. at the Odd Fellows Hall, 37 Lake Street in Belmont. Doors open at 5 p.m. for a preview, with the auction beginning at 5:30 p.m. The cost of admission includes a chance to win the door prize, always a fun surprise. As in past years, we will also raffle off baskets of goodies. Our wellknown local auctioneer,

Paul Nevin, promises to be in fine fettle as he leads the evening live auction starting at 5:30 p.m. As usual, there will be an amazing collection of local treasures from area merchants, as well as six traditional holiday wreaths artistically crafted by our local talent. Lastly, auction items will include special gifts from generous Mount Holly home donors.

If you have a loved treasure in good condition you no longer need or use, we will gladly receive it. Arrangements for someone to pick up your item(s), or a date and time for you to bring your item(s) to the Perkins House, need to be set by Wednesday, Nov. 19. For assistance, please call Carol Serravezza at 802-259-2785, or Sue Covalla at 802-259-2042.

Come at 5 p.m., review the auction items, and enjoy some tasty hors d'oeuvres, holiday drinks, and sociability with neighbors and friends, and at the same time support this significant Mount Holly Historical Museum fun-

FOLA Christmas program

LUDLOW, Vt. - In anticipation of Christmas, Friends of Ludlow Auditorium (FOLA) has arranged a special program to highlight both the festive and spiritual meaning of Christmas on Saturday, Dec. 13, at 7 p.m., in the Heald Auditorium of Ludlow Town Hall.

The program, entitled "A Christmas Wassail," will involve the band Gypsy Reel, and author Jon Clinch will

HOLIDAY

and be prepared to have

a great time welcoming in

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. - The

Springfield Garden Club

holidays pop-up market at

the First Congregational

Church, 77 Main Street,

on Friday, Dec. 5, from

9 a.m. - 4 p.m. We will

be selling our handmade

wreaths, centerpieces, and

other holiday decorations.

EVENTS

CONT.

the holidays.

be featured in this evening of holiday songs and sto-

Gypsy Reel will feature Camille Parker on mandolin, Claudine Langille on banjo, and Graham Parker on fiddle. According to Parker, the audience will be treated to "modern Christmas favorites, beloved carols, traditional Celtic instrumentals, and a few unexpected surprises."

of good cheer.

FOLA Chairman Jim Alic added, "Everyone should mark this on their calendar to get into the holiday spirit, especially the younger folks."

DEC. 6 -BRIDGEWATER CORNERS, Vt. – The Bridgewater Grange, 129 Route 100A, will hold a holiday potluck on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 6-8 p.m., featuring music by J. Mike Kelley. Bring

LONDONDERRY, Vt. will be hosting a Christmas The annual Christmas bazaar at the Second 11), will once again be held on the first Saturday of December, Dec. 6,

your favorite dish to share. Congregational Church of Londonderry, 2051 North Main Street (Vermont Route

from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., in

2025 HOLIDAY EVENTS



CALL TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT 802-463-3331

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Plaid Friday Friday, Nov. 28 - ALL DAY Come in wearing plaid and receive a free gift! Wine tasting day!

Pressed Flower Class Saturday, Nov. 29 - 11AM Learn how to create pressed flowers and beautiful creations. Tickets \$25

Boxwood Tree Class Sunday, Dec. 7 - 11AM

Make and decorate a boxwood tabletop tree. Tickets \$35-50



Special guest Jon Clinch will share a favorite passage or two from Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," and his own "Marley," just to make sure you leave full

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. For more information, please call the church office at 802-824-6453.

Mary Davis collects donations for BRGNS

LUDLOW, Vt. - This holiday season, the need is even greater for many members of our community. Mary W. Davis Realtor & Associates is collecting financial donations for Black River Good Neighbor Services (BRGNS) from now until Dec. 31. The goal this year is to raise a minimum of \$6,000. Mary W. Davis Realtor & Associates and Inside Edge Rentals will provide

matching contributions, up to a total of \$3,000.

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

All donors will receive a collectible 2025 keepsake ornament as a token of appreciation from Mary W. Davis and Inside Edge Rentals.

Visit the Mary Davis office in the Ludlow Plaza to make your donation, or donate online at www. okemorealestate.com/blog/ fundraiser-for-black-rivergood-neighbors, or via the QR code in our ad below.

The Mary Davis office is open Monday-Saturday, from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; and Sunday, from 10 a.m. - 4

Local Nordic Harmoni Holiday Concerts-

REGION – Nordic Harmoni invites all to join them in bringing in the holiday season, and lighting up the midwinter darkness with some traditional Swedish and American songs on Dec. 6, at 2 p.m., in the Old Parish Church, 144 Main Street (Route 100), Weston, Vt.; and on Dec. 12, at 6:30 p.m., in the United Church of Christ, 143 Church Street, Dorset, Vt. The concerts will include traditional holiday songs and Lucia pageant.

Each year, on Dec. 13, the people of Sweden and Swedish communities all over the world begin the festival of Sankta Lucia before dawn. The Sankta Lucia festival commemodied for her faith. Ac-St. Lucia would secretly

213 Main Street Suite 3 | 802-228-8811

bring food to the Christians hiding in Roman catacombs under the city. She would light her way with candles held in a wreath on her head so she could have both hands free to carry things.

The story of Luciadagen is acted out in Swedish homes, with the oldest daughter playing the Lucia. Early in the morning on Dec. 13, she enters her parents' room and brings them a tray of sweet saffron buns and some coffee. She wears a white gown, and a crown of greens with candles. Her sisters and brothers dress in white, and follow her as they sing the Lucia songs.

FRESH TURKEY

PRODUCE

The girls carry lit candles, and the boys wear tall, pointed caps and are called "star boys."

Nowadays, on Dec. 13, a white-clad Lucia and attendants appear in practically every Swedish home, school, church, office, hotel, and club. This year, our Lucia will be Evelyn Bond.

Nordic Harmoni is proud to be part of the American Union of Swedish Singers, and is under the wonderful direction of Lorri Bond. For more information, visit www.auss.org/nordic, find Nordic Harmoni on Facebook, or email Lorri Bond at larelcyr@gmail.com.



arts & entertainment

Edgar May Frosty Fun & Fit Winter Camp —

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Edgar May Health and Recreation Center's adventure camp is back this December with our Frosty Fun & Fit Winter Camp for ages 6-12. Join us for four days, Monday, Dec. 29, to Friday, Jan. 2 (no camp on Jan. 1), from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. each day.

Our winter camp is designed to keep kids active and engaged over the winter break. Campers will enjoy a full day of swimming

in our indoor pools, workouts on our floating BOGA boards, kid-friendly exercises in our fitness center, and plenty of other games and activities. Campers can attend for the whole fourday session, or sign up for individual days. Secure your spot and register today online at www.edgarmay. org/vacation-camps, by calling 802-885-2568, or by stopping by Edgar May, 140 Clinton Street, Springfield,

Vt.

Edgar May offers financial assistance for membership, programs, and camps through our Access for All program. Learn more at www. edgarmay.org/financialaid. For more information about Frosty Fun & Fit Winter Camp, contact youth and families program coordinator Zoe Lirakis at zlirakis@edgarmay.org.

Michael Tarbox and Wojcicki at Stage 33 Live

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Michael Tarbox writes songs anchored in rock 'n' roll, backwater blues, hillbilly music, and country – rough-hewn, immediate, and hardwon. The Chicago Reader calls his singing "ageless." His gospel-tinged electric guitar playing, tough as Texas barbed wire, brings it all together. Tarbox's songs have been used in the televi-

sion shows "Sons of Anarchy" and "Supernatural."

"My inspirations are musicians from a world that's vanished. I let them guide me, but my goal is to create something new," says Tarbox.

Tarbox began his career with The Tarbox Ramblers, a hard-hitting quartet that released well-received albums on Rounder, and played countless shows throughout the U.S. and Canada. The group featured both Tarbox's own songs, and his unusual arrangements of old blues and string-band music. Robert Plant saw the band play and recruited them, on the spot, to open a string of concert dates. The Washington Post called The Tarbox Ramblers "a

force of nature."

At Tarbox's request,

Wojcicki will open. Wojcicki is the musical vehicle for Matt Sharff, a refugee of the late-'70s/early-'80s punk scene, when he performed at storied venues like CBGB and Max's Kansas City. His music betrays the influences of rock 'n' roll, Americana, punk, and prog. He's shared stages with Emmylou Harris, The Jayhawks, Bill Kirchen, Roky Erikson, NRBQ, Richard Lloyd, The Misfits, and Bernie Sanders, among others, and has recorded and performed with Adam Yauch (Beastie Boys), T-Bone Wolk (Hall & Oates), Buddy Cage (New Riders of the Purple Sage), Jon Carroll (Starlight Vocal Band), and

Vermont Comedy All Stars at Next Stage

PUTNEY, Vt. – Next Stage Arts invites audiences to an uproarious night of laughter with the Vermont Comedy All Stars live stand-up comedy showcase on Friday, Dec. 12, at 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 6:45 p.m. The evening brings together a dynamic lineup of seasoned performers and rising stars from Vermont and beyond for an unforgettable night of stand-up comedy. The show takes place at Next Stage Arts, 15 Kimball Hill, Putney, Vt. Tickets are discounted in advance at www. nextstagearts.org, or available at the door.

Returning to host and produce the evening is Gordon Clark, director of the nonprofit Vermont Comedy All Stars. Since launching the organization in 2020, Clark has produced more than 100 comedy events statewide. His shows have enjoyed multiyear runs at iconic venues such as Nectar's in Burlington, the Bent

"Springfield's best kept secret"

Walk-In Only Salon

Valari Freeborne

Owner/Operator

Nails Bistro in Montpelier, the Zen Barn in Waterbury, and, of course, Next Stage Arts in Putney. Known affectionately as the oldest regularly performing comedian in Vermont – "And sometimes it sure feels that way," he says – Clark lives in Burlington with his wife, cat, and dog.

The showcase features a powerhouse roster of comics with Vermont roots and national credits.

Eric Dreiblatt is a Vercomedian mont-born now based in Brooklyn. He placed second in the 2022 American Crossword Puzzle Tournament palindrome contest, and hosts Project XOXO, a Brooklyn comedy showcase. Dreiblatt has opened for Jenny Zigrino and Joyelle Johnson, produced and hosted shows from Burlington to New Orleans, and performed at the Edinburgh Fringe Fes-

Vicki Ferentinos began

NEW HOURS

Mon & Fri, 9am-5pm

802-885-9595

Springfield, VT

Wednesday, 9am-12pm

Saturday, 7:30am-12pm

Springfield Shopping Plaza



Meredith Gordon, a fixture of Vermont's comedy scene for more than a decade, has performed throughout New England, and hosts "The Wrong Side of the Hedge," a video podcast exploring comedy, art, and mental health. Her grounded, insightful stage presence has made her a local favorite.

Liam Welsh is a Brooklyn-based comic who grew up in Vermont. A multi-time finalist in the Vermont's Funniest Comedian Contest, he placed runner-up in 2019. Welsh has featured for national headliners including Janelle James, Jay Jurden, and Jenny Yang, and has appeared in NYC Sketchfest. He also creates comedy videos for online audiences.

eos for online audiences.

"This lineup reflects exactly what we aim to do in partnering with Vermont Comedy All Stars," says Next Stage communications director Heather Ahrenholz. "We bring together comedians with deep roots in Vermont, and those who've gone on to build national careers, all returning to share the stage back home."

Join Next Stage Arts for a night of sharp wit, big laughs, and top-tier stand-up from some of the most exciting comedic voices connected to Vermont.

Balla Kouyaté and Mamadou Diabaté in Claremont —

CLAREMONT, N.H. – Renowned award-winning percussionists/multi-instrumentalists Balla Kouyaté and Mamadou Diabaté will perform an intimate small ensemble – the first performance of their new works – on Thursday, Dec. 4, from 6:30-8 p.m., at the Claremont Creative Center, 56 Opera House Square in Claremont, N.H.

Representing two powerhouse African balafon family legacies, this is the first time ever

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that the two differently tuned African balafons one from Burkina Faso and one from Mali - are able to perform together in harmony. Kouyaté has built a special instrument so that the scales of the two instruments are no longer in dissonance, allowing the two virtuosos to compose and perform together in tandem. The high-energy and innovative musicianship of the two artists creates an uplifting and energetic audience experience. Admission is by suggested donation.

@VermontJournal



FRIDAY-SATURDAY 4-9, FOR DINNER





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