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# THE VERMONT Journal SHOPPER EDITION

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VOLUME 64, ISSUE 52

## 2025 year in review, part 1

### JAN. 13 – Edgar May re-mediation and expansion project moves ahead

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The removal of PCBs and other chemicals from 140 Clinton Street is Phase 1 of a three-phase project that also includes the construction of a 13,000-square-foot addition that will connect the recreation center to the foundry building. When all phases are complete, the recreation center will be expanded by 31,000 square feet, with an indoor walking track and turf field.

### By Paula Benson FEB. 1 – R4R brings in \$20,000 for cancer and diabetes research

LUDLOW, Vt. – On Saturday, the first day of February, temperatures hit the single digits, but that did not stop more than 50 racers from turning out at Okemo Mountain as part of the annual fundraiser and competition Runs for Research (R4R). Currently in its eighth year, the event raises money for cancer and diabetes research, and was founded by two ski-racing sisters from Ludlow, Cami Blount,

16, and Chloe Blount, 14.

### By Paula Benson FEB. 5 – The Killarney celebrates 20 years

LUDLOW, Vt. – One of Ludlow's longstanding establishments, a favorite of both locals and visitors alike, The Killarney, is still going strong, and preparing to celebrate their 20th anniversary. The Killarney is a convenient après ski stop, but also has the feel of a neighborhood hangout. Mark and Judy Verespy began the work to reopen the fine dining restaurant as an Irish pub in late 2004, and first welcomed customers on Feb. 5, 2005.

### By Paula Benson MARCH 5 – Rockingham fire departments to merge

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Rockingham residents voted 191-102 in favor of consolidating the Bellows Falls, Rockingham, and Saxtons River fire departments. The decision to merge the three fire stations will allow for quicker response times because firefighters will now be a part of the fire department where they also reside, eliminating the need for responders to drive past a fire

station with town-owned equipment they are not authorized to use.

### By Joe Milliken MARCH 18 – Rockingham Selectboard authorizes Bellows Falls Train Station purchase

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – After more than three years of planning, testing, and fundraising, the Rockingham Selectboard approved the purchase of the historic 1923 Bellows Falls Train Station, located on Depot Street, at the Island District in Bellows Falls. Currently owned by the Vermont Rail System, the purchase of the Bellows Falls Train Station has been a long and involved process for the town.

### By Joe Milliken MARCH 26 – Peter Burrows named Springfield School District superintendent

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On Wednesday, March 26, the Springfield School District announced the appointment of Peter Burrows as superintendent, effective July 1, for a term of one year. Burrows brings more than 30 years of experience in public edu-

cation to the role, including 10 years as the superintendent of the Addison Central School District in Vermont, and the past 20 months as school superintendent for Milton Public Schools in Massachusetts.

### By Paula Benson APRIL 7 – Former teacher returns to Union Street as principal

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield School Board met on Monday, April 7, to appoint a list of new and returning staff members at area schools. Lyndsie Perkins was named as the new principal of Union Street Elementary School. Perkins is an alum of the Springfield School District, and was a classroom teacher at the Union Street School for nine years.

### By Paula Benson APRIL 7 – 100 River Street renovation project in Phase 1

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The multiphased project will ultimately include a 162-unit senior living community and assisted care facility planned for 5 Pearl Street. Additional housing for residents of all

ages is also part of the plan, with the goal of addressing at least a small fraction of the town's affordable housing shortage.

### By Paula Benson APRIL 11 – Longtime WNESU educator Kate Kane named Central Elementary principal

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Kate Kane, a local, longtime educator in the Windham Northeast Supervisory Union school district, was recently named the new principal at Central Elementary School. A 1984 Bellows Falls Union High School graduate and valedictorian, Kane grew up in nearby Cambridgeport, and after high school earned a bachelor's degree, majoring in English and Classics, from Tufts University in 1988.

### By Paula Benson MAY 23 – Chester hears school board controversy

CHESTER, Vt. – The Chester Selectboard heard several comments from citizens pertaining to the events of the previous meeting on May 7. At that meeting, the selectboard had been presented with two candidates

to fill a vacancy on the Green Mountain Unified School District Board. One of the candidates, John Keller, had recently pled guilty to domestic assault. The board declined to recommend a candidate at the meeting, and only Vice Chair Arne Jonynas openly expressed disapproval of Keller.

### By Nick Giberti JUNE 5 – Bellows Falls youth softballers win fourth consecutive championship

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Bellows Falls entered the playoffs as the No. 3 seed, and traveled to rival Springfield, where they won 31-17 in a three-and-a-half-hour game.

In the championship game, the following night on the same field, Bellows Falls defeated Chester 13-3 to claim their fourth consecutive VYSU championship, dating back to 2022. During this four-year stretch, Bostwick's teams have posted an almost unbelievable record of 42-2.

By Joe Milliken

See **REVIEW** on Page 2

## Jeff Mobus steps down as Springfield town manager

BY PAULA BENSON

The Vermont Journal

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Selectboard met on Monday, Dec. 22, at 6 p.m., in the Springfield Town Hall.

Jeff Mobus, whose tenure as Springfield town manager is expiring, said, "As my term as town manager comes to an end, I want to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude to the many people who have made this work so meaningful and rewarding." Mobus went on to thank the selectboard, town office staff, and Springfield citizens.

He addressed the residents of Springfield directly, saying, "Thank you for your engagement, your

patience, and your commitment to the town we share. I would also like to recognize my family, whose patience, encouragement, and understanding have allowed me to be Springfield's town manager. The long meetings, late nights, and constant demands of public service are shared by those at home, and I am deeply grateful for their unwavering [support]."

Mobus thanked the staff for their "professionalism, dedication, and teamwork," saying, "The work of local government is demanding and very public, and it is carried out every day by people who take pride in their work and in serving others. I have been fortunate to work alongside so many capable and commit-

ted colleagues."

Mobus also wished his successor, Scott Pickup, former municipal manager for the Town of Rockingham, "all good things as Springfield's next town manager."

The board heard a follow-up report from Fire Chief Paul Stagner, Deputy Chief John Claflin, and structural engineer Todd Hindinger, regarding the inspection they had conducted at 12 Central Street following complaints from neighbors.

The inspection had identified "serious structural and health issues with the property that must be repaired to comply with town ordinances."

Severe problems with the sewer, roof, and structural supports, as well as debris collecting in both the

main building and in the detached garage, were detailed in the report.

Ultimately, the board agreed to 30 days compliance for immediate health and safety fixes to the property, and 180 days to make major structural repairs. The motion to accept the report and adopt the required actions was amended to clarify ordinance references, and to include the detached garage, passed with a unanimous 5-0 vote.

The middle-income housing committee reported to the selectboard that they continue to work to address the shortage of housing for working households. Committee Chair Vin Fusca told the board that the committee's recommendations included

forming an advisory group, exploring the creation of a real estate investment fund, and partnering with existing development agencies. The board discussed models from other communities, the concept of forming an ad hoc committee, and strategies for prioritizing and leveraging local housing inventory.

Resident Laurie Whaley voiced a complaint related to gun range activity near Brockway Mills Road. According to Whaley, the police department uses a section of a rural area near her home as a training ground.

Whaley reported that her quality of life is being significantly impacted in a negative way due to an increase in the frequency and duration of the shooting ex-

ercises. Although no formal action was taken, the board discussed options for mitigation, including restricting hours, improving neighbor notifications, and exploring alternate training locations. It was determined that the police chief and town administration will work with Whaley and other agencies to better manage and limit range use, seek operational changes, and report back on progress.

A public hearing will be held at on Monday, Jan. 12, 2026, at 6 p.m., concerning the July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027, town budget. Citizens can attend in person at the town hall, 96 Main Street, or online via Zoom. The link can be found on the town website, [www.springfieldvt.gov](http://www.springfieldvt.gov).

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# Parade of Lights 2025 winners



The McCormick Family with their Charlie Brown float. PHOTO PROVIDED



Adams Trucking & Excavation, with a lit excavator and tree on their trailer. PHOTO PROVIDED



## BF American Legion Christmas

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – On Saturday, Dec. 20, the Bellows Falls American Legion Post 37 held a free Jolly Ol' Meet and Greet day. The Legion shared in activities with more than 60 families and kids. In attendance and pictured here, left to right, were The Story Lady (Mrs. Westfall), Santa Claus (Walt Smith), Hannah, and Commander Mike Viveivos. The event included gift-giving to all children, craft projects, and snacks.

PHOTO PROVIDED



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BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The magic of the holidays came alive in Bellows Falls at this year's Parade of Lights, and we're thrilled to share the winners with you. Thank you to everyone who joined us, cheered on the floats, and voted for your favorites.

This year's Cheermeister is The McCormick Family, and the title of Lightmeister goes to Adams Trucking & Excavation. More photos and videos of the parade can be viewed at [www.bellowsfallsvt.org/parade-of-lights-gallery](http://www.bellowsfallsvt.org/parade-of-lights-gallery).



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## REVIEW

From Page 1

### JUNE 25 – Springfield welcomes Kinney Drugs to the Plaza

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – On June 25, regional drug-store chain Kinney Drugs

posted the news Springfield residents were waiting for – Kinney Drugs will be taking over the Springfield Plaza location beginning the first full week of August, after acquiring the pharmacy from Rite Aid.

By Paula Benson

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# Mount Ascutney Hospital recognized for American Hospital Association membership—

WINDSOR, Vt. – On Tuesday, Dec. 16, the American Hospital Association (AHA) recognized two Dartmouth Health member hospitals for their longtime AHA memberships. The AHA honored Mount Ascutney Hospital and Health Center (MAHHC) for 75 years of participation, and Valley Regional Hospital (Valley) for 100 years of participation. The award acknowledges the hospitals’ longstanding dedication to improving health in their communities.

“We are grateful to the American Hospital Association for recognizing the enduring dedication to our



Mount Ascutney Hospital and Health Center leadership. PHOTO PROVIDED

patients, employees, and communities we serve,” said Matthew Foster, CEO and president of MAHHC and Valley. “This milestone honors the history and ongoing commitment

of our teams to advancing high-quality, compassionate care close to home.”

# HCRS new hires —

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Health Care and Rehabilitation Services (HCRS), southeastern Vermont’s community mental health agency, is pleased to welcome seven new professionals who joined the agency during the month of November. These new hires will strengthen HCRS’ services across Windham and Windsor counties as the organization continues to evolve and respond to growing community needs.

With more than 550 staff working across more than 20 locations, HCRS brings on new team members each month to ensure continued access to high-quality care across the region. The latest additions reflect the agency’s broad reach across southeastern Vermont, and its commitment to providing essential mental health, substance use, and developmental services to more than 4,000 people each year.

HCRS welcomes the following new employees: Jay Brandon, stabilization specialist, Bellows Falls; Amber Allen, DSP community, Windsor; Sarah Legasse, public safety service coordinator, Springfield; Lacey Dix, assistant area manager, Brattleboro; Amy Wilson, DSP community, Springfield; Allyson Handy, DSP employment, Springfield; and Nikki

Ekenstierna, case manager, Brattleboro.

These professionals bring unique talents and energy to their roles, and HCRS is proud to have them join the team.

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# MOOOver welcomes two new board members —

REGION – Southeast Vermont Transit (SEVT aka the MOOOver) announces the addition of two new members to its board of directors.

Trisha Paradis joins the board as the executive director of the Springfield Family Center. She has 18 years’ experience in the medical and human services fields. The Family Center provides community meals and food distribution throughout the Town of Springfield.

Erin Ladd is the director of planning and zoning for the Town of Ludlow. She was a program manager for the Mount Ascutney Regional Commission and the director of planning and development for Brizaga Inc., of Fort Lauderdale, Fla. She



Erin Ladd. PHOTO PROVIDED



Trisha Paradis. PHOTO PROVIDED

also teaches skiing at Okeemo Mountain Resort.

Erin and Trisha complete the SEVT Board’s nine-member roster. The board meets on the third Tuesday of the month, at 10 a.m., via Zoom.

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**REGION** – In this year’s Zillow Zeitgeist, millions of home searches from 2025 reveal what people were actually looking for in their next home. All those searches tell a story.

The ideal home isn’t one-size-fits-all for shoppers, but a few trending themes rose to the top across the country. A full map of all states and their corresponding top home search features can be viewed at [www.tinyurl.com/2025homefeatures](http://www.tinyurl.com/2025homefeatures).

**Let’s go swimming**

Whether it’s for the view or activities, water-related searches made a splash for nearly every state – even inland markets.

Search terms included “beach,” “dock,” “lake,” “ocean,” “pond,” “pool,” “river,” and “waterfront.” Top states for these searches were Alabama, Delaware, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, North Carolina,

Rhode Island, South Carolina, and Wisconsin.

**Living together**

The multiuse home trend spans coast to coast. It’s about adaptability – homes built for hosting, housing parents, or renting side hustles.

Related search terms were “ADU,” “casita,” “duplex,” “guest house,” “in-law suite,” and “mother-daughter.” Top states for these searches were Connecticut, Idaho, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Utah, and Washington.

**Rural living**

The rural renaissance is real. From “horse property” to “barndominiums,” Americans are searching for land with a purpose.

Search terms related to rural life included “acreage,” “barn,” “barndominium,” “farm,” “fenced yard,” “horse property,” and “ranch.” Top states in this category were Arkansas, Colorado, In-

diana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wyoming.

**Cozy comforts**

From log cabins to fireplaces, this year’s home searches revealed a desire to feel cozy over flashy.

Related searches included “cabin,” “cottage,” “fireplace,” “log cabin,” and “ski,” in the states of Alaska, Colorado, Maryland, New Hampshire, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Vermont, and West Virginia.

**Sunlight and everyday escape**

Americans searched for the joys of indoor-outdoor living, not through resort-like amenities, but through simple pleasures that offer fresh air or connection with nature.

Search terms for such amenities included “balcony,” “golf,” “patio,” “pool,” “solar,” and “view.” Top states included Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, and

Nevada.

**Local charm**

Across the country, people embraced classic styles and historic architecture unique to where they live, such as “adobe,” “brick,” “Cape Cod,” “cottage,” “historic,” and “Victorian.” Top states: Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, New Mexico, and Virginia.

**Homes that hold our whole lives**

In 2025, demand for flexible living surged, as people consider how their homes can evolve to meet changing needs and work harder for them.

Whether it’s creating space for aging parents, a rental unit for extra income, or a studio for passion projects, 2025’s home searches reflect a simple truth: We’re building homes that evolve with us. These are homes that hold our families, our work, and our dreams, all under one roof.

*Written by Ian Shuler.  
Provided by Zillow Group.*



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# COMMUNITY

# opinion

## Write to Sen. Ruth Ward opposing Acuity

Dear Editor,

Last week, our State Sen. Ruth Ward, R-Stoddard, stole Claremont's Christmas. In a letter to the New Hampshire Waste Management Council, Sen. Ward endorsed a deal Acuity Management Inc. has been trying to put over on Claremont since 2017. Acuity, based in Methuen, Mass., wants to bring as much as 500-600 tons of construction and demolition waste into a residential neighborhood in West Claremont, six days a week, 52 weeks a year. This waste would come from a wide region to be dumped on a small patch of land near our thriving Amtrak station at Claremont Junction. The waste may contain lead, asbestos, mercury, PFAS, and many other toxic materials.

A quick look at the post-

age stamp-sized parcel of land reveals that nothing other than plowing waste into piles can happen before this waste is transferred to Ohio. In her letter, Ward claims, "The company has shown a willingness to work with the community and the state." In fact, Acuity is suing Claremont and the Claremont Zoning Board, and appealing the state's decision to deny permits. Sen. Ward goes on to state that the area has little traffic, when actually hundreds of families live in proximity and the Amtrak station close by has a higher number of passengers every year. Claremont Junction needs a hotel, not a toxic waste dump.

Additionally, our senator states the project "will support jobs," when no new

jobs are required, other than a few equipment operators. She says Acuity "will manage materials responsibly." How is that possible, when the lot is just over one acre (60 feet by 660 feet), and the materials are impossible to identify and sort without testing. Lastly, she says Acuity will provide "needed services." Needed services as determined by whom? Certainly not the nearby homeowners, and the staff and students at the schools on Maple Avenue. This is the wrong project in the wrong place.

Acuity needs to walk away. Sen. Ward needs to come to Claremont and meet with residents who would be directly affected by a major toxic waste operation in their neighborhood.

This project will jeopardize property values; threaten the health of our children and residents; destroy our roads; and harm our region by impacting roads, air quality, and our children's health. How is it possible that Sen. Ward is willing to jeopardize our property values, our children, our health, our roads, our city, and our region? Could this be about greed and money? Everyone who cares and who can should take time to write New Hampshire State Sen. Ward to express their displeasure. Remember her when you vote on Nov. 3, 2026.

Sincerely,  
James M. Contois, A  
Better Claremont  
Claremont, N.H.

## BRAM thanks Festival of Lights participants

Dear Editor,

We are grateful for everyone's support of our Festival of Lights fundraiser. We wish to extend a heartfelt thank-you to the community of Ludlow, and the following businesses and individuals for their help in making our fundraiser a success. We could not have done it without all of you.

Thanks to Eugene Dean, Aggie Sheldon, John Lampert, Mary Davis Realty, William Raveis, Ludlow Insurance, M&T Bank, Berkshire Bank, Book Nook, Engel & Volkers, Boot

Pro, Green Mountain Fireside, Ludlow Rotary Club, Magris Talc, Wine & Cheese Depot, Ace Hardware, New England Cider Donuts, Beth Burlamachi, Geri Baitz, Cindy Tuomisto, Master Plumbing and Heating, Okemo Mountain School, Big Pops Sandwich Shop, Diamond Realty, You're Grounded Coffee, LaValley's Building Supply, Nick Baitz Painting & Property Management, Noah Schmidt, and Darn Tough Socks.

Sincerely,  
Black River Academy Museum

## It's a new year; time to clean out your closets

BY LISA STICKNEY  
[www.facebook.com/LGMansfieldArtworks](http://www.facebook.com/LGMansfieldArtworks)

**REGION** – Renewal is the focus for the new year. This time of year, we set new goals and set intentions. We plan for new possibilities. We make a conscious choice to let go of the old, which no longer serves us, and welcome the new and improved into our lives.

A great way to begin the new year is to simplify your life by removing unnecessary items. Clean out the clutter of personal belongings. This helps us mentally by creating a better flow, reducing anxiety, and increasing our daily flow and

productivity.

The result of decluttering is uplifting. It can be challenging to get started, but once you do so, you will find it to be motivating. Lighten your load and free yourself of unwanted items that you either do not want, need, or use.

It's a mindset. An organized space improves your ability to manage your daily activities with more efficiency. The hardest part of organizing your space is to get through all that clutter. First, go through and remove any items that are nonfunctional and in your way. Things that are broken or damaged in any way, items that you never use or

no longer fit, and belongings that you just don't like.

Now is the time to make positive change. Let go of what no longer serves you. Make room for your new and improved space. Set clear goals and intentions for yourself and for your improved home environment.

Start with one drawer at a time. It's much less overwhelming to begin by going through drawers in each room. Inspect expiration dates and toss expired medications, beauty products, and pantry/food items. Will you use these products and medications that remain? Of those items that are left, determine if there are any for which you have no

use. Donate any unopened products, and toss any that were used, or opened products that you don't wish to keep.

Next, go through every piece of clothing you own. For each item, ask yourself, "Have I worn this item within the last six months to a year, or will I want to wear it? Does it fit well? Is the color, fabric, and/or pattern complimentary?" If you answer "no" to any of these questions, place it in a donation box. Inspect your clothing for any stains or damage, and toss them into the trash, or you can save for use as rags. As you clear out your closet, you will free up space. This is so helpful in allowing you to much more easily find the clothes that you actually want to wear.

In other rooms, you may have a collection of books and magazines. Keep what you may need for reference, or if it has personal meaning; donate or recycle the rest. Documents, letters, receipts, and all the miscellaneous paperwork that clutters up your office space should be sorted through. Discard or recycle any paper that you don't need. Kitchen utensils, and odds and ends that you don't plan to use can be donated.

Go through your home and inspect what may be in need of repair. As you work through the process of decluttering your home,

consider listing items on Facebook Marketplace, or set items aside if you plan to have a yard sale in the spring. Toss stained or damaged items, and anything else can be recycled or donated.

Keep all sentimental items that hold meaning. Let go of the rest. Once you have finished decluttering your space, you will likely find that it makes your life easier, improves your mood, allows for better efficiency in completing tasks, and will save time. It also creates a space for new ideas, creativity, and a more relaxed environment.

## Ludlow Rotary supports Chester Teen Center

**LUDLOW, Vt.** – The Ludlow Rotary Club recently presented a check to Andrew Moore, creative arts director for Black River Action Community Coalition (BRACC), in support of the new Chester Teen Center. The center is spearheaded by Lauren Ingersoll, and is located at Green Mountain Church, 469 Main Street in Chester.

The Chester Teen Center provides a safe, welcoming space for youth ages 13 and older, offering a balance of fun and enrichment. The center is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from 3-5:30 p.m., and features homework tutoring,

creative workshops, and opportunities for teens to socialize and build friendships.

Operating year-round, the teen center also offers seasonal activities, including mountain biking in the summer and skiing in the winter, helping teens stay active and engaged throughout the year.

For more information about the Chester Teen Center, visit [www.braccvt.org](http://www.braccvt.org).



Rotarian Brigid Sullivan presenting a donation for BRACC's Chester Teen Center to Andrew Moore. PHOTO PROVIDED

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Vermont Farm Show seeks director

**REGION** – As the Vermont Farm Show works to rebuild the organization, change its tax status, re-define how its board of directors works, and bring its beloved event back in 2027, it has launched a search for the organization’s first-ever director.

The Vermont Farm Show is looking for an individual who cares about the future of agriculture in Vermont. A strong candidate will understand the deep roots Vermont has in land-based enterprises, and that the working landscape is an essential part of the state’s character. Those who work with and on the land, at any scale, with or without animals, are key to Vermont’s agricultural future. The Vermont Farm Show seeks to serve them, while edu-

cating and engaging youth and the public during their event.

The Vermont Farm Show’s director will work with the board to build a strong organization, and to bring the return of a renewed farm show back to Vermont. To start, this is a remote, part-time position.

For more information about the director position, the organization’s new mission, and its history, visit [www.vtfarmshow.com](http://www.vtfarmshow.com).

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For more information Visit [Charlestown-nh.gov](http://Charlestown-nh.gov), click on Volunteer & Employment.

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

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**Town of Chester**  
**Highway Department Laborer/  
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The Town of Chester is seeking an energetic dependable individual to fill the role of Highway Department and Parks and Cemetery Laborer. In the winter, this role includes working with the Highway Department which includes operating heavy equipment for snow removal as assigned. This position performs a variety of unskilled and semi-skilled maintenance work, and operates a variety of equipment in the construction, operation, repair, maintenance and replacement of town roads and storm drain facilities and systems. In the summer, this job includes assisting with burials and grave location, mowing and trimming Town of Chester cemeteries and outdoor public areas.

The ideal candidate will have a high school diploma or GED, and two years of experience in a comparable position is required. The applicant must possess a CDL or be able to obtain a CDL within 6 months of hire. The Town of Chester offers competitive wages along with an excellent benefits package including health insurance, FSA, VMERS retirement, paid time off.

Interested parties should submit a resume to Town of Chester, P.O. Box 370, Chester, VT 05143.

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# arts & entertainment

## Electronic Synthfests at Stage 33 Live

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – There will be two electronic music performance concerts celebrating synthesizers, circuit-bending, and sound manipulation on Jan. 10 and Feb. 7, at Stage 33 Live, 33 Bridge Street in Bellows Falls, Vt.

Each session will open with a meet-and-greet at 6 p.m. Get up close to the gear (look but don't touch), talk with the performers, and settle into the space. Five 20-minute performances will follow, starting at 7 p.m.

Players will be in the center of the room, with the audience in the round and encouraged to roam throughout the show. The performances will range from cinematic and lush, to computeresque and urgent, to tuneful and poppy. It will get loud.

This year's Synthfest was curated by Trevor Robinson, and features performers who have never played the room before.

Session 1 will primarily feature composed songs, often with voice, sometimes with additional instruments. On the schedule for Session 1 are Deep Seize, Dutch Experts, Holly Brew-

er, Snowglobe Almanac, and The Y Lie.

Session 2 will feature more freeform improvisations and compositions across a range of styles and moods. On the schedule for Session 2 are Belltonesuicide, Bob Familiar with Glenn Dickson, Bosey Joe, Dave Seidel, and Denny Kemps.

There is a suggested donation per event in advance or at the door, all proceeds benefit the performers. No one will be turned away for lack of money. Advance donations through [www.stage33live.com](http://www.stage33live.com) guarantee entry if the session sells out. Admission is limited to 40. All performances will be recorded and filmed.

## Recycled Percussion at Claremont Opera House

CLAREMONT, N.H. – After becoming famous on "America's Got Talent" and building one of the most successful acts on the Las Vegas Strip, Recycled Percussion has taken all their favorite on-stage antics and combined them into one epic show for you. From gut-busting comedy to blistering-fast drumming, and everything in between, this show has been called one of the most unique and entertaining shows in the world for good reason.

Maybe you are one of the few who have not had the opportunity to see this fantastic



Recycled Percussion.

PHOTO PROVIDED

show. Whether it is your first time or your tenth, a Recycled Percussion show always rocks. With a blank canvas to create, no two performances are the same – from interactive elements to jaw-dropping visual moments, it's a playground of creativity you won't find anywhere else.

Don't miss this show, packed full of surprises and crowd favorites in an

incredible turbocharged performance. Be part of a one-of-a-kind show that took these guys all the way to the entertainment capital of the world, Las Vegas.

Recycled Percussion will perform two shows on Saturday, Jan. 17, at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. To purchase tickets, visit [www.cohnh.org/event/recycled-percussion-25-26-winter-tour](http://www.cohnh.org/event/recycled-percussion-25-26-winter-tour).

## U.S. Navy Band Northeast at Claremont Opera House —

CLAREMONT, N.H. – The United States Navy Band Northeast Pops Ensemble comes to the Claremont Opera House on Sunday, March 22, 2026, at 2 p.m., for an inspiring afternoon of patriotic favorites, orchestral selections, and popular music. This family-friendly performance highlights the remarkable talent and precision of one of the Navy's premier musical units. The concert is free and open to the public, but seating is limited; online reservations are strongly recommended. Visit [www.cohnh.org](http://www.cohnh.org).

Navy Band Northeast supports official functions, military ceremonies, community outreach, recruiting, and public performances across a 10-state region. Its primary ensembles include the marching and ceremonial bands, the pops ensemble concert band, Rhode Island Sound popular music group, Jack Tar Brass Band, Trident Brass, Crosswinds Woodwind Quintet, and multiple protocol ensembles. Together, these groups perform a wide repertoire, ranging from patriotic and classical works, to big band swing and contemporary hits.

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