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Ludlow reviews flood development regulations

BY NICK GIBERTI
The Vermont Journal

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Ludlow Selectboard's first regular meeting of 2026, held on Jan. 5, was preceded by a joint hearing with the planning commission, in relation to the proposed Flood Hazard and River Corridor bylaws. These bylaws would replace Article 6 of Ludlow's current Zoning and Flood Hazard Regulations.

Planning Commission Chair Terry Carter said that the commission had enlisted the help of the Mount Ascutney Regional Commission in drafting the document, and reviewed with the board the significant changes from Article 6. Carter noted that the base flood elevation has been set a 2 feet in the proposed document, and that this height is meant to reflect the height of a so-called "100 year flood," meaning a flood height which has a 1% change of being equaled or exceeded in a given year. As a result, the design flood elevation, or the elevation to which structures must be engineered to withstand flooding, was set at 4 feet, or 2 feet above base flood elevation.

Carter also explained that the planning commission had debated whether to keep the river corridor regulations outlined in their draft document, and ultimately elected to do so. The stated reasons for this were that, otherwise, the State of Vermont would step in and regulate river corridors, at a cost to the town, and that doing so would allow Ludlow to be reimbursed by the state at a higher rate than the current 12.5% in the event of future disasters.

As this was a public hearing, the board took no immediate action on the proposed bylaws.

Next, during the public comments portion of the meeting, Ludlow police dispatcher David VanGuilder suggested to the board that the town revive the position of town service officer, which he said had existed at some time in the past. According to VanGuilder, the service officer's main function was to provide residents and others in town in need of emergency assistance with temporary relief, and to connect them with other resources which could enable longer-term solutions. VanGuilder said that his suggestion was spurred by an incident which had occurred that afternoon, in which an apparently homeless person was found sleeping in a sleeping bag behind Shaw's Supermarket in Ludlow, in extreme cold weather. In the past, VanGuilder said, the service officer could be called upon to find temporary accommodations for such people when necessary. "Now you've got to call Vermont 211," VanGuilder said, lamenting the allegedly slow response time of the state program.

Though he understood that budget discussions had been largely finalized for the upcoming year and Town Meeting warning, "I honestly think that's [a town service officer] something the town should consider having in place," VanGuilder told the board.

Moving on, the board then awarded riparian replanting and debris removal at the former site of the Timber Inn Motel to Intervale Center, in the amount of $60,525. Town manager Penny Wu told the board that this bid represented not only the lowest, but also the "most comprehensive" in comparison to the town's request for proposal.

Finally, the board reviewed and the warning for Town Meeting, which will be posted to the town's website, www.ludlow.vt.us. The meeting and voting on the floor will be held on Monday, March 2, at 7 p.m., and voting by Australian ballot will happen the following day, Tuesday, March 3, from 10 a.m. – 7 p.m., in both cases at the Ludlow Town Hall.

The Ludlow Selectboard meets the first Monday of every month, at 6 p.m., at the Ludlow Town Hall.

Emergency preparedness tips for seniors

LUDLOW, Vt. – Technology can play an important role in making sure you're prepared for an emergency. Join us on Friday, Jan. 30, from 1-2 p.m., at Fletcher Memorial Library to find out how.

In this session, we'll explain how technology can help you prepare. We'll discuss and demonstrate useful features of important apps, review built-in smartphone features that can come in handy in the event of an emergency, and explore how to keep phones and essential devices charged during a prolonged power outage. We will also discuss how you can use social media to get emergency and other important information from local and national authorities.

Senior Planet, a program of Older Adults Technology Services from AARP, empowers older adults to use technology so they can learn, work, create, and thrive in the digital age. Its mission is built on the philosophy of "aging with attitude".

This program is brought to you by Black River Good Neighbor Services and Fletcher Memorial Library, with support from the Godnick Adult Center and the Vermont Community Foundation. This program is free and accessible. For additional information about this and other Senior Planet workshops, call the library at 802-228-8921, or Black River Good Neighbor Services at 802-228-3663.

Whiting Library technology help sessions

CHESTER, Vt. – Whiting Library is offering free, one-on-one technology help sessions on Thursdays, at 2 p.m., to assist community members with basic computer and digital device skills.

Library staff will provide individualized help with tasks such as downloading e-books, using library e-resources, setting up an email account, and completing other common computer-related activities. Participants may bring their own device or practice using a library computer.

During sessions, staff can also help patrons learn and troubleshoot productivity software and explore digital library services, including Libby, Biblio+, and Mango. Assistance is provided in the order of arrival. No registration is required, but capacity is limited.

Given time constraints, patrons are encouraged to arrive with specific questions or learning goals. Staff can help narrow a focus, and some goals may require multiple sessions.

Whiting Library strives to make its programs and services accessible to all members of the community, and welcomes people of all abilities. Those who need accommodations to attend a program, or who have questions about accessibility, are encouraged to contact the library in advance.

Whiting Library is located at 117 Main Street in Chester, Vt. For more information, or to request disability accommodations, call 802-875-2277.

LTE: Ludlow postmaster thanks community for holiday support

Dear Editor,

As we turn the page on the holidays, I want to thank our customers in Ludlow for the patience, kindness, and support you showed our local postal service team during the busiest mailing and shipping season of the year.

Our carriers, clerks, and plant teams worked hard to keep mail and packages moving for families, small businesses, and neighbors who rely on us. Behind every delivery is a local employee who lives here, shops here, and cares about getting it right.

Now that the holiday rush is behind us, our focus is simple: steady, dependable service every day, along with continued improvements that help us handle today's mix of letters and packages more efficiently.

If you had a great experience with your local post office this season, I hope you'll share it with our team. And if we missed the mark, please let us know so we can keep improving, at www.usps.com.

Sincerely,
Ryan Grace
Postmaster, Ludlow Post Office

STOCK PHOTO

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OFFICE ADDRESS:
8 High Street • PO Box 228 • Ludlow, VT
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PHONE NUMBER:
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WEBSITE:
www.VermontJournal.com

CONTACT US

SHAWNTAE WEBB
publisher@vermontjournal.com
ads@vermontjournal.com

NICK GIBERTI
editor@vermontjournal.com
calendar@vermontjournal.com

JOE MCCAFFREY
sales@vermontjournal.com

LISA STICKNEY
messagesales@vermontjournal.com

PAULA BENSON
billing@vermontjournal.com

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

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Free tax-preparation assistance

LUDLOW, Vt. – Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) and the Black River Senior Center have partnered to provide free assistance with federal and state tax preparation, Vermont homestead and property tax credit claims, Vermont renter rebate claims, and more, for veterans, active duty military members, seniors, those with disabilities, and individuals or couples who make $69,000 per year or less.

Tax preparation is in person, by appointment, at the senior center, 10 High Street in Ludlow, Vt., on Feb. 5, Feb. 25, and March 19, from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. all days. For more information, or to make an appointment, call the senior center at 802-228-7421.

Trees of Remembrance honor loved ones

REGION – On Dec. 5 the communities of Ludlow and Cavendish enjoyed a festive lighting of the Tree of Remembrance on their respective greens. Cookies, caroling, and camaraderie were in abundance as old friends met up, new friends were found, the chilly Vermont weather reminded us winter had arrived, and the newly lit trees twinkled with light through the new-fallen snow. A special thank-you is extended to Ludlow Electric company for stringing the lights in both locations.

The Okemo Valley Woman's Club (OVWC) sponsors this opportunity to remember loved ones, and to support the club's charitable initiatives through this event. Names of loved ones will continue to be accepted until Jan. 30, for subsequent publication of this list in February. To participate, please mail a list of loved ones to remember and your donation payable to "Okemo Valley Woman's Club" to OVWC-Tree of Remembrance, P.O. Box 100, Ludlow, VT 05149.

While the Trees of Remembrance only remain lit until the end of February, your gift will have a lasting impact on those in need. The two Trees of Remembrance shine brightly in memory of the following loved ones, who are always in our hearts:

Joan Albert, John Bazzano, Nellie Beckman, Oscar Beckman, Ernie Belanger, Charles Bidwill, George Bitters, Dianne Bixby, Mary and Ronnie Bolduc, Earl and Edris Bonneau, Dick Brazil, Evelyn Bryant, Kim Bryant, Margarite Bryant, Roy and Marie Bryant, Stanley and Francis Bryant, Walter Camara, Charlotte Chardoney, Richard Cormier, Kathy Culhane, Lane Danyow, George and Ethelyn Dever, Kathleen Dever, Suzette Durgin, John Ewen, Paul Fehrenbach, Harry Fisher, John Foscolos, Elaine Garland, Leonard Gendron, Chizzie and Frank Geraci, Dan Giordano, Norm and Marilyn Gordon, Larry "Granny" Grandchamp, Jim Grossbard, Stanley Hart, Rita Higgins, Brian Hodgeman, Jerry Jaminet, Alma Jaskey, Andy Jaskey, Armas Jaskey, Sarah Jaskey, Susan Jaskey, Hersh Klein, George and Eileen Laber, Frank Lacava, Bruce LaRoache, Peter Lawless, Charlotte LeClair, Jean Leonard, Gloria Leven, Seymour Leven, George and Rose Macintyre, Dolores Marcoux, MaryAnn Markowski, Anne and, Iggy Matulonis, George and Violet Matulonis, Jim Mays, Frank "Mac" McAuliffe, Anna McKinney, Mr. and Mrs. McLean, Aaron W. McNabb, Betty Merrill, Edward Merrill, Shirley P. Merriment, Glen and Marilyn Miller, Tony Mirabelli, Jim Misuraca, Judd and Virginia Nelson, Emma Null, Ernest Null, Melba Null, Eleanor O'Donnell, Andrew Orie, Eva Orie, Franklin Orie, John Pappalardo, James Parker, Mary Lou and Charles Parker, Lana Parks, Dee Pavone, Marge and Frank Peters, Tony Pickowitz, Anne Price, Helen and Laval Remy, Don and Carole Robert, Carol Rowan, Roger Ryan, Roger and Lucille Ryan, Kelley Sanderson, Ronald Schauster, Helen and Allyn Seward, Caroline Spaulding, David Stearns, Larrry Stevens, Donald and Vera Sulliavn, Carol Sullivan Kuk, Rick Sullivan, Terri Tabshey, Ray "Roger" Taksar, Harold and Doris Tedford, Kenneth Tedford, Rose Tedford, Joe Townsley, Mary Tredenick Gould, Beverly P. Tucker, Bob Twombly, Ted Twombly, Chee-Chee Tyrrell, Kathy Tyrrell, Ken Tyrrell Sr., Genevieve Vincent, William Vincent, Patty Walsh, Stan Wasel, Betsy Welch, Harry Welch, Sally Whitaker, Ed Zawacki, and John Zink.

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Chair yoga continues at Springfield Town Library

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Continuing into 2026, head to the Springfield Town Library, 43 Main Street, on the third Friday of every month, at 10 a.m., for a 60-minute chair yoga practice. Join in person or online to learn accessible movements that you can do right from your seat, leaving you feeling mobile, grounded, and focused. There will be special attention paid to practices that boost brains and soothe nervous systems.

This month's session, on Friday, Jan. 16, will feature guided acupressure and a nourishing self-massage sequence, perfect for some restorative self-care.

Classes are led by Jo Bregnard, a 500-hour certified yoga teacher with additional certifications in tai chi, acupressure, meditation, and more.

Simply walk into the library and join live, in person, for free; there is no need to preregister for this option.

Springfield Town Library cardholders can contact the library at 802-885-3108 or stlib@vermontel.net to receive a coupon code for free online access. Those without a library card can visit studio.jobregnard.com/product/88980 for complete details on additional pricing options, and to sign up for online access. Either way, you'll get access to four chair yoga videos recorded at the Springfield Town Library as soon as you register.

For more information, email Bregnard at jo@jobregnard.com.

Next Stage Arts dance party with DJ Bob Thies

PUTNEY, Vt. – Next Stage Arts is thrilled to announce a high-energy dance party with DJ Bob Thies, spinning your favorite hits from the '80s and '90s.

The party takes place Saturday, Jan. 17, with doors opening at 6:45 p.m., and the show starting at 7:30 p.m., at Next Stage Arts, 15 Kimball Hill, Putney, Vt.

Thies will bring the ultimate throwback experience, featuring classic pop anthems, dance tracks, and all the irresistible grooves that defined a generation. Whether you're reliving the era or discovering it for the first time, this is a night of nonstop nostalgia, great vibes, and pure fun.

Tickets are are discounted in advance at www.nextstagearts.org, or may be purchased at the door.

No dance experience required – just bring your best moves and your enthusiasm.

Beginner tai chi at Westminster Cares

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – Beginner tai chi, on Tuesdays, at 10:30 a.m., starts on Jan. 20, at Westminster Institute, 3534 U.S. Route 5 in Westminster, Vt.

Founders of the Oriental Healing Arts Association (OHAA), Gene Gaudreau and Jim Winner, dreamed the dream, and set OHAA in motion. They brought tai chi classes to Vermont in 2016, at Westminster Institute, under the auspices of Westminster Cares.

Tai chi is slow, mindful movement with a host of health benefits. Sometimes called meditation in motion, it is gentle but powerful, perfect for the older adult.

The beginner class starts up on Jan. 20, taught by senior instructor Leslie Lassetter. Cosponsored by OHAA and Westminster Cares, OHAA tai chi is senior safe, designed for the 50 and older crowd. The window to join this ongoing class is Jan. 20 – Feb. 14. Classes are ongoing, because first moves learned are added to as the course continues, like a string of pearls. Each new move enhances the former and prepares for the next.

For those who cannot stand for an hour, seated tai chi meets Tuesdays, at 12:15 p.m. Enrollment for the seated class is open any time. There is a sliding-scale cost for these classes. The first class is free.

Come. Join in. Wear comfortable, loose clothing and clean, nongripping, indoor shoes. Search "Tai Chi with Leslie" on YouTube for a preview.

For more information, call 802-722-3607 or email WeCares@sover.net.

Documentary "Join or Die"

PUTNEY, Vt. – Next Stage Arts presents a special screening of the acclaimed documentary "Join or Die" on Sunday, Jan. 18, at 2 p.m. (doors open 1:30 p.m.), at Next Stage Arts, 15 Kimball Hill, Putney, Vt.

Directed by Rebecca Davis and Pete Davis, "Join or Die" is a timely and deeply engaging film that explores a simple but powerful idea: joining a club can help save American democracy. The film follows legendary Harvard social scientist Robert D. Putnam as he traces the decades-long decline in civic engagement, social connection, and community life in the United States – and examines what this erosion means for the future of democracy.

Blending rigorous social science with humor, warmth, and striking visuals, "Join or Die" asks three urgent questions: What makes democracy work? Why is American democracy in crisis? And, most importantly, what can we do about it? Along the way, Putnam's story is enriched by voices from across politics, public health, economics, and culture, including Hillary Clinton, Pete Buttigieg, U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy, Eddie S. Glaude Jr., Raj Chetty, Priya Parker, and many others. The film also spotlights inspiring grassroots organizations across the country that are actively rebuilding civic life – from bowling leagues and cycling collectives, to mutual aid groups and labor alliances.

Hillary Clinton calls it "an urgent message," while Slash Film writes, "'Join or Die' made me feel more motivated to do something than perhaps any movie I've ever seen." Milwaukee Magazine notes that viewers may leave "wanting to join a bowling league."

At a moment of deep polarization and widespread social isolation, "Join or Die" offers a compelling, accessible call to action, reminding audiences that democracy doesn't begin at the ballot box, but in neighborhoods, clubs, congregations, and community spaces where people choose to show up together.

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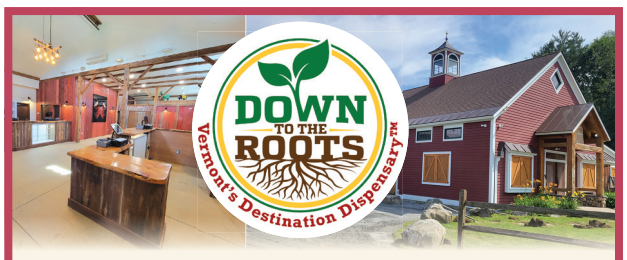
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obituaries

REAL ESTATE

Homebuyer education

REGION – The Windham & Windsor Housing Trust (WWHT) has launched their monthly homebuyer education workshops for 2026. The first course is Jan. 24, hosted at the Bugbee Senior Center, 262 North Main Street in White River Junction, and also via Zoom.

In these courses, families and individuals taking that best, first step towards homeownership will learn about available grants and down payment assistance, which mortgage is right for them, and connect with local professionals to get their questions answered. The workshop plus meeting with a homeownership specialist meets the prepurchase requirement for most lenders.

The cost of the class includes a one-on-one financial counseling session after you've completed the course. WWHT's homeownership specialists will analyze your credit and budget, and guide you through the process of buying a home.

Courses are hosted monthly, on Saturdays, from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Classes held in person alternate between White River Junction and Brattleboro, and always have an online option via Zoom. Visit www.homemattershere.org/how-to-buy-a-home to view the full schedule and register today.

Ruth M. Bushway, 1933-2026

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – Ruth M. Bushway, 92, passed away on Jan. 5, 2026, at Springfield Hospital in Springfield, Vt., after a long and vibrant life filled with family, friends, and music. She was born on July 30, 1933, in Charlestown, N.H., to Gordon H. Bashaw Sr. and Ida L. (Kinney) Bashaw.

Ruth grew up in Charlestown, N.H., and graduated from Charlestown High School in 1951. She married Robert E. "Bob" Bushway that same year, and they were happily married for 65 years, until Bob's passing in 2016.

In addition to raising her two children, Ruth spent most of her adult life doing office work at a variety of local businesses, including Holstein Fresien in Brattleboro, Vt.; Bragg Lumber in Bellows Falls, Vt.; Moore & Thompson Paper in Bellows Falls, Vt.; and finally at the Charlestown Senior Center in Charlestown, N.H. As an entrepreneur, Ruth sold Beeline Fashions, Beauty Counselor Cosmetics, and Merlite Jewelry. She also owned and operated a hot dog stand, and spent 17 years as the owner of The Exotic Adventure Tanning Salon in Keene, N.H.

Ruth enjoyed singing, and playing drums and guitar in many area clubs. She played drums with the Dave Schroeder Band and The Halsonaires. She later played guitar with The Echoes and The Tempos, before forming a band called Country Sunshine with her husband and several other musicians. While working at the Charlestown Senior Center, she formed a group with musicians and singers from the center called Silver Country. The group performed for residents at nursing homes and in senior housing in the area.

Ruth was preceded in death by her parents Gordon and Ida Bashaw, her husband Robert Bushway, her son Bruce Bushway, and her sister Leona Bennett.

Ruth is survived by her daughter Heidi Bushway and husband Greg Lorsbach, of West Chesterfield, N.H.; her daughter-in-law Sherrie Withington and husband Eugene, of Charlestown, N.H.; her brother Gordon H. Bashaw Jr., of Charlestown, N.H.; her grandchildren Kaya Starbuck and husband Silas, Martin Bushway and wife Caitlan Osborn, Jennifer Bushway, and Justin Lorsbach and wife Beth; her great-grandchildren Ivy Rae Warren, Brandon Bushway, Amir and Sabirah Muhammad, and Hannah and Miranda Lorsbach; her sister-in-law Irene Brown; her brothers-in-law Gordon Bushway, and Everett Bushway and wife Amy; and many nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

Ruth Bushway, 1933-2026.
PHOTO PROVIDED

Funeral services were held at the Charlestown Memorial Chapel, 34 Main Street in Charlestown, N.H., on Monday afternoon, Jan. 12, at 2 p.m. Visiting hours were held from 1-2 p.m., prior to the service. Burial will be in the spring at the Pine Crest Cemetery in Charlestown.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her memory to the Charlestown Senior Center, 223 Old Springfield Road, Charlestown, NH 03603; or to the Charlestown Congregational Church, P.O. Box 1498, Charlestown, NH 03603-1498.

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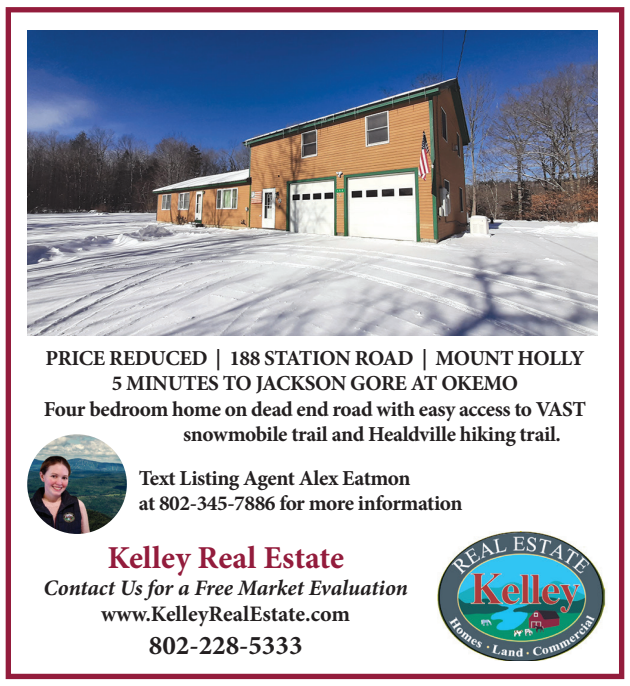

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Dot Mandala Workshop with Antje Ruppert 3/28 2-4 p.m.
Turkish Map Fold Book with Deborah Stuart 4/18 11:30-1:30
(01/14/26 - TFN - 13)

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(02/11/26 - 13)

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(04/08/26 - 26)

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(03/18/26 - 13)

obituaries

Peter W. Frink, 1955-2025

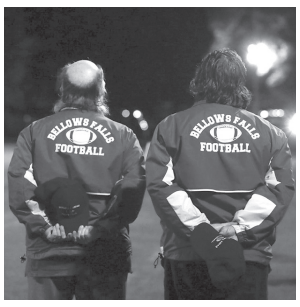
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Peter William Frink, 70, passed away peacefully in the early morning hours of Dec. 30, 2025, at Springfield Hospital.

Peter was born on May 9, 1955, to William and Dorothy Frink (Trombley), in the town of Bellows Falls, Vt. He lived most of his life in Bellows Falls, with his final years spent in Charlestown, N.H.

Peter attended schools in Bellows Falls, and graduated from Bellows Falls Union High School in 1974.

Peter will be best remembered for his unwavering loyalty to anything Bellows Falls Terriers. He worked for many years as the team manager at BFUHS, supporting football, basketball, baseball, and more. Peter was always ready to take care of the finer details that go into running a successful sports team. Whether washing uniforms, filling water bottles, or repairing broken equipment, he was dependable and always willing to help wherever needed.

Through this role, Peter made many friends and lasting connections that he held very near and dear to his heart. To this day, the walls of his bedroom remain covered with certificates and photographs from that time in his life, a testament to how meaningful those years were to him.



Peter Frink, 1955-2025.
PHOTO PROVIDED

Peter is survived by his brothers Mark, of Charlestown, N.H.; and John (Christy), of Hartland, Vt. He is also survived by his two nephews John Jr., of Hartland, and Tyler, of Goshen, N.H.; as well as six grand-nieces and grand-nephews Hunter, Emma, Mia, Tucker, Tilly, and Remi, whom he loved dearly, and never missed an opportunity to brag about.

There will be no calling hours.

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

Carolyn M. Perry, 1929-2025

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Carolyn M. Perry, 96, died peacefully after a brief illness, on Dec. 31, 2025. She was born on Oct. 10, 1929, in Stroudsburg, Pa., the daughter of Wilson H. Alleger and Sarah E. Schock-Alleger. She resided in Chester and Springfield, Vt., for the majority of her life.

Carolyn graduated from Stroudsburg High School in 1948. Her first marriage to William Smith ended in divorce. Years later, she married Donald C. Perry, who died in 1972.

In 1965, Carolyn joined the Ladies Auxiliary of the VFW as a lifetime member, and remained very active. She was auxiliary president and treasurer of the Robert L. Johnson Post 771, as well as district president. Carolyn worked at Youngs and Ames in the Springfield Plaza, and for a brief time as a receptionist at the Springfield Hospital.

Carolyn lived in an apartment at the Whitcomb building in Springfield, Vt., for the last 20 years of her life, right up to the time of her illness. She had many friends there, including a cat that she had for 17 years. She loved the social life there, playing bingo, cards, and pool with her many friends. When she was alone, she enjoyed knitting, crocheting, and watching TV, as well as reading, doing puzzles, and crossword puzzles.

She is survived by her son Eric Smith and his wife Marietta, of Jacksonville, N.C.; grandchildren Matthew (Lorrie) Smith, of McLeansville, N.C., and Andrew (Barbara) Smith, of Woodbine, Md.; five great-grandchildren; her daughter Donlyn Mitchell and her husband Mark, of Chester, Vt.; and sister-in-law Patti Alleger, of Stroudsburg, Pa.

Carolyn Perry, 1929-2025.
PHOTO PROVIDED

Carolyn was predeceased by her parents, her husband Donald C. Perry, her son Charles Smith, her sister Elinor Alleger Borger, and her brother Winfield H. Alleger.

There will be a family burial at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the Springfield Humane Society in her memory.

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Dean F. Goodwin, 1950-2025

WESTON, Vt. – Dean F. Goodwin, of Weston, Vt., passed away peacefully on Dec. 23, 2025, at his home, with his loving and devoted wife by his side.

Dean was born in Springfield, Vt., on Dec. 24, 1950, the son of Charles Goodwin III and Dorothy (Foster) Goodwin. Dean grew up at the Goodwin family farm on Route 100, affectionately known as "Sunny Acres," alongside his three siblings.

He attended elementary school in Weston, and graduated from Burr and Burton Seminary in 1969. Dean later attended Castleton State College, where he studied a variety of subjects. He served in the U.S. Army National Guard from 1971-1976. He later served for several years as a sergeant in the Vermont State Guard.

During his early years, Dean worked for several local contractors and also spent time as a self-employed contractor. For 41 years, Dean was part owner of the Norse House Ski Shop in Bondville, Vt. He truly loved his work and the many friendships he made there over the years. Skiing was a lifelong passion, and he felt most at home on the mountain. After the sale of the Norse House, Dean went on to work at the Bromley Ski Shop beginning in 2008, until his retirement. His connection to Bromley ran deep; he first skied there at the age of 3, alongside his father Charlie, who served as head of the Bromley Ski Patrol during the 1950s and 1960s.

On Jan. 3, 2007, Dean married his longtime companion and sweetheart Janet Crossman, of Londonderry, Vt., in the meadow at their home on Dale Road. They celebrated their marriage by bringing their two families together for a dinner at the Bryant House in Weston, complete with a slice of wedding cake made of white chocolate with raspberry filling. A larger outdoor celebration followed that July, at their home, where family and friends gathered for a potluck picnic – good times that were deeply cherished.

Dean loved his hometown of Weston, and was immensely proud of his community and being of service to it. For many years he enjoyed serving as a porter and technical setup director at the Weston Playhouse for the annual antique and craft shows.

Dean had a passion and love for automobiles that began early in his life, and there are countless stories that could be told. He was a devoted collector of classic cars – each in varying stages of repair – and he took great pride in being their keeper. He was a proud and longtime member of the National Corvette Owners Association.

A homebody at heart, Dean could often be found mowing his lawn with one of his Gravely tractors in the summer, or plowing his driveway with his Kubota tractor in the winter. If you stopped by for a visit, you were likely to find him working beneath a car, or with his head tucked under an open hood. He always greeted everyone with a warm, gracious smile, and always made time for others – whether a stranger, a delivery driver, the mailman, or a friend stopping by. Each visit, no matter how brief, was deeply appreciated and held close in his heart.

Dean Goodwin, 1950-2025.
PHOTO PROVIDED

Dean embraced life fully and with gratitude. He found joy in its simplest and most meaningful moments. He cherished his wife, family, and friends, a good laugh, his home, and the natural world – all creatures great and small. He loved fields and stone walls, hunting and deer camp, fishing at Stratton Pond, four-wheeling into Somerset, bird watching, meaningful conversation, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, and music – especially Neil Young. His dogs held a special place in his heart, particularly his beloved black lab of 14 years Foster.

Despite years of disease progression, Dean lived with courage, dignity, and grace, always holding onto faith and hope for brighter days ahead. He will always be admired for that.

He will always be remembered for his kindness, sense of humor, and passion for living a genuine and happy life. You are so loved, Dean. Thank you for giving us an unforgettable ride.

Dean was predeceased by his parents and brother Charles "Tim" Goodwin IV.

He is survived by his wife Janet Goodwin; brother Kirk Goodwin (Cathy), of Grafton, Vt.; sister Martha Etchison (Dean), of Winston-Salem, N.C.; sister-in-law Sandra Goodwin, of Weston, Vt., and several cherished nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Dean's Life is planned for the spring, and will be announced at a later date.

Memorial contributions can be made to Londonderry Volunteer Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 911, Londonderry, VT 05148; Weston Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 52, Weston, VT 05161; and/or Old Parish Church, P.O. Box 125, Weston, VT 05161.

Davis Memorial Chapel is assisting with the arrangements.

OBITUARIES: A 200-word obituary is $100, and $0.60 per word thereafter. A black and white photo is an additional $20. Email to editor@vermontjournal.com by Monday at 12 p.m.

Francis A. Sadler Jr., 1943-2025

SAN MATEO, Calif. – On Dec. 24, 2025, Francis A. Sadler Jr. ("Bud" to his family and friends) passed away at the Palo Alto VA Medical Center in Palo Alto, Calif., after an extended decline in health due to heart disease and, in the end, a ruptured aorta. Born Sept. 4, 1943, in Bellows Falls, Vt., his family moved to Springfield, Vt., where he grew up. While in high school, he worked at the A&P supermarket, and caddied at the Crown Point Country Club, where a passion for golf emerged.

Upon graduation from Springfield High School in 1961, he joined the Navy, and was stationed at Pearl Harbor on Oahu, Hawaii, for three years, spending part of his enlistment with the Defense Department. He then moved to Lahaina, on Maui, becoming an avid and accomplished surfer.

Following his eight years in Hawaii, he moved to Los Angeles, finally settling in San Mateo for 30 years. While married, he resided in Tahoe, Nev., part time, where skiing became another passion.

A self-proclaimed "loner," he really was a people person. Bud loved working in the hospitality industry for the Hilton chain in San Francisco. He enjoyed meeting and knowing well-known political figures, celebrities, and athletes from across the country.

He returned to Springfield for many years, visiting family and friends. Often his trips centered around alumni gatherings, where he worked on floats and enjoyed all the festivities, once even making a trip from Hawaii. Autumn, too, brought him back. He was truly the happiest in Springfield with family and friends. He loved Vermont, just not its long winters.

After retiring at 80 years old, he became an avid fisherman, along with many locals at Half Moon Bay, a favorite place for him, known for its beaches, surfing, and farms, west of San Francisco. When in Springfield, he stayed for extended periods with his friend Ed Foster, who prepared a special place for him in his home. Later, Bud stayed with Diane Bush and Wayne Rautio, also former friends and classmates, in Burlington, on Lake Champlain. Denny Chadwick was also a dear friend with whom he spent quality time. He is predeceased by former wife Carolyn Brashear, younger sister Linda Lauzen, parents Frank and Mary Sadler, and nephew Marc Tesconi. He is survived by older sister Marie Sadler, of Essex, Vt.; niece Carla St. Gelais, of Floyd, Va.; and nephew Tim Lauzen, of Hutto, Texas; plus several great-nieces and -nephews.

Francis Sadler, 1943-2025.
PHOTO PROVIDED

From the organ donation program referenced by the VA hospital, skin tissue was taken for burn victims in the U.S. or abroad where its most needed.

Bud was cremated in California, with remains sent to his sister Marie. His ashes will be buried at the family cemetery plot in Springfield, Vt., when a later service will be announced. A very, very special thank-you to the San Mateo Agency on Aging, and the doctors, nurses, staff and hospice workers who were so kind and caring throughout both Bud's hospitalizations and at home. Bud ultimately died on Christmas Eve morning, at the VA Hospital.

Please remember the words of the song "Say It Now," from Vermont's celebrated singer-songwriter, Jon Gailmor, who also recently passed.

It's important to act on our intuitions and gut feelings to call, visit, and speak from the heart to those you know and love – now. Later may never come.

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

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obituaries

Sally S. Seyller, 1943-2026

Sally Seyller, 1943-2026.
PHOTO PROVIDED

MOUNT HOLLY, Vt. – Sally Susan Seyller (Puro) passed away peacefully on Jan. 4, 2026, following an eight-year struggle with dementia.

Born on May 28, 1943, in Fitchburg, Mass., Sally made Vermont her lifelong home, and held a deep love for its natural beauty, four seasons, welcoming people, and abundant wildlife – especially birds. She was a fierce advocate for animal rights, and a devoted supporter of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, always championing the underdog and those in need. Sally especially loved dogs, and opened her home to many rescue dogs over the years.

Sally was predeceased by her beloved husband Gary Ivan Seyller Sr., of Mount Holly, Vt.; her parents Irma (Ojala) Zentz and John Puro; her sister Elsie (Puro) Shaw; her brother John Puro; and the matriarch of the family, her maternal grandmother Zella "Aiti" Ojala, of Mount Holly, Vt.

She is survived by her son Gary Ivan Seyller Jr. (Leyla); her daughters Sharon Seyller (Margaret Maccini) and Kristin Veysey (Thomas); six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Sally adored her family, and took great joy in spoiling and spending time with her grandchildren whenever she could.

Proud of her Finnish heritage, Sally embodied the Finnish concept "sisu," which she defined as "tenacity of purpose against all odds." Sally overcame many challenges throughout her life, and in 1985 committed to lifelong sobriety. In 2003, she made a meaningful journey to Finland with her husband Gary and daughter Kristin, where she was able to visit the final resting place of her namesake, as well as immerse herself in the culture and language.

A self-taught chef, Sally had a remarkable ability to transform any recipe into something gourmet, relying on simple, fresh ingredients and an intuitive approach to cooking. She looked forward to annual family gatherings at "The Grange," where, for many years, she welcomed all family members: her children and grandchildren, siblings, nieces, nephews, partners, and cousins and their children, making everyone feel at home.

Sally loved plants and flowers, and the many gardens that she and Gary planted were her pride and joy. In years past, she won several blue ribbons at the Vermont State Fair for the award-winning gladiolas that she treasured. Her love of flowers was rivaled by her love of reading, and she owned thousands of books, many of them first editions.

She grew up spending summers at the Ojala farm in Mount Holly with her grandparents. As a result of these wonderful childhood memories, Sally decided to move back to the special place where she and Gary would raise their family. Sally and Gary eventually purchased the historic one-room schoolhouse from her grandmother, where Sally and her mother Irma both attended school as children. Gary and Sally cherished their home and lived out their lives there. They spent many evenings on their back deck admiring the wildlife, especially the deer and their young. Sally often shared that love and experience with her grandchildren.

Her strength, generosity, and quiet determination will be remembered always by those who loved her.

In accordance with Sally's wishes, all services will be private. She was extremely generous to both St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and the Rutland County Humane Society, and anyone wishing to honor her memory is encouraged to send a contribution to either organization in her name.

Her family is deeply grateful for the exceptional care she received at Crescent Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Bennington, Vt., and for the compassionate support provided by the Bayada Hospice team during her final weeks.

LEGAL NOTICES

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD ANIMAL LICENSE NOTICE

Animal Licenses are available at the Town Clerk's Office. A spayed/neutered dog license is $16.00 before April 1st and an un-spayed/un-neutered dog license fee is $20.00 before April 1st. All dogs and wolf-hybrids six months or over must be licensed by April 1 each year and wear a collar and tag at all times. A dog or wolf-hybrid without a tag is presumed to be unlicensed and is not protected by law. A tag must not be used on any dog or wolf-hybrid other than the dog or wolf-hybrid in the license bearing the corresponding number. If you are unsure if your dog/wolf-hybrid needs a new rabies vaccination before being licensed, please contact this office. Barbara A. Courchesne, Town Clerk CVC, 96 Main Street, Springfield, VT 05156 (802) 885-2104 FAX (802) 885-1617) townclerk@springfieldvt.gov.

NOTICE OF AN UPCOMING WESTON DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD HEARING

Little Pond Partners LLC has submitted an application for final plat review for an eleven-lot subdivision off of Little Pond Rd in Andover. Seven of these lots will be in Weston and four will be in in Andover. The application will be reviewed under the Town of Weston Major Subdivision Regulations. The Weston Development Review Board will hold a hearing on this application at the Weston Town offices and on zoom on February 4th, 2026 starting at 5:00 PM.

Those interested in seeing the applications, submitting written comments, or finding out how to attend the meeting online should contact the Zoning Administrator at: Town of Weston P.O Box 98, Weston Vt. 05161 or Zoning@westonvt.org.

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.

STATE OF VERMONT
WINDHAM COUNTY, SS.

NOTICE OF SALE

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Rockingham and Village of Bellows Falls, in the County of Windham are hereby notified that the taxes and/or water and sewer taxes assessed by such Town and Village for the years indicated are, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described lands in such Town, to wit:

• 14 Riverfront Drive
For the years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Juanita M. Ordinetz to John J. Banholzer and Juanita C. Banholzer by deed dated January 31, 1997 and recorded in Book 238, Page 465 of the Rockingham Town Land Records.

• 35 Front Street
For the years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Bank of New York Mellon, fka The Bank of New York, as Trustee to Scott Kirkpatrick by deed dated October 27, 2017 and recorded in Book 377, Page 283 of the Rockingham Town Land Records.

• 36 Front Street
For the years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Stephen L. Moore to Scott Kirkpatrick by deed dated August 29, 2019 and recorded in Book 393, Page 183 of the Rockingham Town Land Records. Subject to an easement conveyed by Scott Kirkpatrick to Stephen L. Moore by Easement Deed dated August 29, 2019 and recorded in Book 393, Page 190 of the Rockingham Town Land Records.

• 55 Village Square
For the years 2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Phillip Donovan, Jr. and Mary Ann Donovan to Alexander Lawrence by Bill of Sale dated December 5, 2013 and recorded in Book 343, Page 411 of the Rockingham Town Land Records.

• 528 Missing Link Road
For the years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Edmund R. Mack, Jr. and Kimberly Mack to Alexander Lawrence by deed dated February 5, 2021 and recorded in Book 406, Page 260 of the Rockingham Town Land Records.

• 6 Henry Street
For the years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to ¬¬¬Jahangir Mozaffari by Special Warranty Deed dated March 21, 2019 and recorded in Book 389, Page 320 of the Rockingham Town Land Records.

• 57 Atkinson Street
For the years 2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Peter S. Higgins and Shannon R. Higgins to Leah Quinn by deed dated March 19, 2018 and recorded in Book 381, Page 31 of the Rockingham Town Land Records.

• 10 Green Street
For the years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Homeland Properties to Robert Remy-Powers and Donna R. Remy-Powers by deed dated February 1, 1990 and recorded in Book 212, Page 375 of the Rockingham Town Land Records.

• 27 Upper Bartonsville Road
For the years 2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Melvin W. Hakey and Prudence I. Hakey to ¬¬¬Orman M. Richards, Jr. by deed dated June 9, 1978 and recorded in Book ___, Page 498 of the Rockingham Town Land Records. Blanche M. Richards is now deceased. Reference is made to the Contingent Remainder Deed from Orman M. Richards, Jr. to Robert M. Richards dated July 11, 2019 and recorded in Book 392, Page 267 of the Rockingham Town Land Records.

• 9 Lincoln Street
For the years 2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Thomas R. Miller, Robert C. Miller and Marilyn Frost to Donald C. Tretler, Jr. by deed dated June 16, 2015 and recorded in Book 355, Page 18 of the Rockingham Town Land Records.

• 1 Center Street
For the years 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by U.S. Bank, National Association, as Trustee of the Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust Inc. Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-FX1 to Lindsay Van Schoick and Courtney Van Schoick by deed dated April 26, 2017 and recorded in Book 372, Page 17 of the Rockingham Town Land Records.

• 24 Laurel Avenue
For the years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Honorata Waryas to Walter J. Waryas and Marjorie F. Waryas (now deceased) by deed dated June 23, 1972 and recorded in Book 169, Page 347 of the Rockingham Town Land Records.

• 54 Williams Street Ext.
For the years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Seldon H. Newcomb to Agnes R. Zielinski and Edward S. Zielinski (now deceased) by deed dated September 1, 1942 and recorded in Book 100, Page 164 of the Rockingham Town Land Records. Contingent remainder granted to Walda S. Richmond (also known as Sue Richmond) of Hanover, New Hampshire by Limited Warranty Deed dated February 17, 2009 and recorded in Book 317 at Page 401 of the Rockingham Town Land Records.

• 154 Rockingham Street
For the years 2024-2025. Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed by Applegreen of New England, Inc. (f/k/a Petrogas Group New England, Inc.) to Zig Vermont, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company by deed dated May 10, 2024 and recorded in Book 438, Page 21 of the Rockingham Town Land Records.

• 961 Pleasant Valley Road
For the years 2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 being all the same lands and premises conveyed by H.M. Savage & Sons, Inc. to Roy Batchelder and Carol Batchelder by deed dated June 14, 2011, and recorded in Book 330, Page 67 of the Rockingham Town Land Records being Parcel Number 060020961. Also including a Mobile Home, Make: Marlett, Year: 1966, Serial Number 1230029, Size: 12 x 65

and so much of said lands will be sold at public auction at Rockingham Town Office, a public place in such Town, on the 5th day of February, 2026 at Ten O'clock in the forenoon, as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, unless previously paid.

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

If you qualify under 24 V.S.A. § 1535, you may be able to receive an abatement of the property taxes, interest and collection fees you owe to the town. Abatement means that your taxes could be reduced or eliminated. You have the right to appear before the Board of Abatement and explain why you think your taxes should be abated. To apply for an abatement, you must contact Kathleen Neathawk, Town Clerk, by phone at (802) 463-4336, ext. 1102, via email at clerk@rockbe.org, or via mail at 7 Square, 2nd Floor, Bellows Falls, VT 05101.
Warning: There are unpaid property taxes at your property in Rockingham, Vermont which you may own, have a legal interest, or may be contiguous to your property. The property will be sold at public auction on February 5, 2026 unless the overdue taxes, fees and interest is paid. To make payment or receive further information, contact the Rockingham Tax Collector, immediately at the Town of Rockingham, 7 Square, 2nd Floor, Bellows Falls, Vermont 05151, telephone number (802) 463-3964.

If this property is your primary residence, you may be able to get help with delinquent property tax and utility payments through the Vermont Homeowner Assistance Program (VHAP). VHAP can help you avoid tax sale and transfer of your property by paying delinquent property taxes, water and sewer charges, interest and penalties. You can apply for VHAP online at vermonthap.vhfa.org. For advice about the program and help completing the application, call Vermont Legal Aid at 1-800-889-2047. If you apply for VHAP, you must notify your town in writing, and your property will not be sold or transferred wile your application is pending.
Dated at Bellows Falls, Town of Rockingham, County of Windham and State of Vermont, this 30th day of December, 2025.

_/s/ Scott Pickup _____
Scott Pickup, Collector of Town, Village, Town School District Taxes, Water and Sewer Taxes

LEGAL/CLASSIFIED/CALENDAR

obituaries

Eric M. Taylor, 2025

CHESTER, Vt. – Eric M. Taylor passed away peacefully at home in Chester, Vt., with his wife Sali singing his favorite Grateful Dead songs by his side. His 77 years of life were packed with love, adventure, music, and friends, until he finally succumbed to ALS on Dec. 28, 2025.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, his parents Burt and Doris Taylor moved to California shortly thereafter. Though living most of his adult life in Vermont and New York City, he remained a California kid his whole life, always seeking sunshine and the outdoors. One of his favorite places was the Sierra Mountains, and he once hiked the entire length of the John Muir Trail.

Upon graduating the University of Denver in 1970, Eric promptly married Sali in a sunny meadow behind her family home in Chester, Vt. They moved to Weathersfield Center, Vt., to chase a back-to-the-earth lifestyle, raising goats and chickens, cutting hay, and making maple syrup with Willis and Tina Wood.

Eric started filmmaking in 1973, first working as a sound recordist for the PBS Kids' show "Zoom." Enamored with the verité style and true stories of documentary work, he traveled the world recording everything from penguins in Patagonia, to the Kaiyapo people deep in the Amazon, and Madonna for her film "Truth or Dare."

His shift to primetime television came in 1987, when he directed a segment in the pilot episode of "Unsolved Mysteries." He ended up directing more than 100 segments for the show, relishing the opportunity to mix documentary interviews with dramatic recreations. He filmed documentaries for HBO, PBS, National Geographic, and others across 36 different countries and all 50 states, until he retired in 2010.

Students of Buddhism, Eric and Sali both believed in fostering compassion in their community, and founded the Westchester, N.Y., chapter of Beyond War. As part of his spiritual journey, Eric used his documentary skills to make films inspiring social change featuring Ram Dass, Thich Nhat Hanh, and the Dalai Lama.

Eric also had a lifelong passion for live music, seeing performances up until a week before he died. His favorite band was the Grateful Dead, and he attended several hundred shows dating as far back as 1967. After retiring, he played his five-string banjo for 15 years with the Stringfield Springers, an old-time string band based in Vermont.

For the last four years of his life, Eric courageously faced the challenges of ALS without complaint, ultimately letting go when he could no longer communicate. We want to thank our exceptional caregivers Coleman Drew, Katie Barber, Bonnie Hudson, and Vish Shetty, as well as Dr. Elijah Stommel and the Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center, the VNH for Vermont and New Hampshire, and the many ALS support groups and organizations for their extraordinary support. And, we want to acknowledge the tremendous number of friends and family who have been so helpful throughout these years, whose love, music, and guidance kept us in good spirits.

Eric is survived by his wife Sali; his sons Nate (Talya) and Jake (Jean); four grandchildren Caro, Mark, Grayson, and Hawken; his brother Karl (Susan); and his sister Jean (Andy). All of them will fondly remember his heartfelt stories, boundless love, and gracious smile.

Eric Taylor, 2025.
PHOTO PROVIDED

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the VNH at www.dartmouth-health.org/vnh/donate, and/or the Hitchcock Foundation referencing "Lebanon Neurology, ALS Fund" at www.dartmouth-hitchcock.org/als/support-als-center, to help find a cure for this debilitating and ultimately deadly illness.

JAN. 17 –
CLAREMONT, N.H. – The Claremont Senior Center, 5 Acer Heights, will serve a turkey dinner on Saturday, Jan. 17. The menu will be turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, squash, cranberry sauce, a dinner roll, and fruit of the forest pie. There is a small cost per meal. Sit-down meal begins at 4:30 p.m., and takeout can be picked up after 5 p.m. To order a meal, please call 603-678-0433 any time before 3:30 p.m., and specify if you will be dining in or taking out.

JAN. 19 –
LUDLOW, Vt. – The Black River Valley Senior Center, 10 High Street, will serve a midwinter lunch on Monday, Jan. 19, at 12 p.m. The menu will be meat loaf, mashed potatoes, corn, and carrot cake. Please make reservations by calling 802-228-7421. Free cash bingo will follow. All are welcome.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Declaration of Inclusion Implementation Committee invites the community to an MLK Day gathering on Monday, Jan. 19, from 3:30-5 p.m., at the Springfield Town Library. This gathering honors the life, legacy, and enduring words of Martin Luther King Jr. Community members of all ages are welcome to attend.

FOR RENT

CAVENDISH, Vt. – Senior woman sharing beautifully situated home. 2nd floor bedroom. Plenty of outdoor storage available. Guest to share cleaning, firewood, yardwork. No smoking, no drugs, no pets. Separate studio space available. Covid vaccination required. $500/month. 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO.

SNOW PLOWING

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

Town of Plymouth Vt

Warning

Depositing snow by blowing or plowing onto the traveled way, shoulder, or sidewalk of a class 1, 2, or 3 town highway violates the Vermont Statutes Annotated- Title 19, section 1105 and Title 23, Section 1126a. Depositing snow onto any highway results in increased maintenance costs and may result in a highway accident. When snow is blown or plowed across a highway, it may cause slippery conditions or snow berms that in turn could cause an accident.
Thank you for your cooperation.
Plymouth Road Commissioner

Town of Chester
Highway Department Laborer/
Parks and Cemetery

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.

TOWN OF CHESTER
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

The Town of Chester is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Director of Finance. The Director of Finance oversees and manages the financial and accounting functions of the Town of Chester. This role safeguards the Town assets and ensures compliance with GAAP and GASB. The Director provides financial analysis to support the Town Manager and Selectboard goals, manages cash flow reporting, and leads the supervision and performance of a small Finance team. In addition, this position partners with the Town Manager and department managers to ensure accurate and timely reporting and operational support. The Director of Finance should expect to be hands-on in daily operations.

Applicants must possess strong financial acumen and knowledge of governments and governmental accounting. Technical expertise in general ledger, accounts payable, accounts receivable, and payroll is required, as well as knowledge of taxation, Department of Labor regulations, insurance, and employee benefits. Applicant must also possess strong analytical, judgment, and decision-making skills.

This position is a full-time position with modified remote work options available.

Qualification requirements include a Bachelor's Degree in a relevant field (or comparable years of service) with 3-5 years of experience in Government accounting, preferably in Vermont. Salary range is $80,000 to $90,000 per year based on qualifications in addition to a comprehensive benefits package.

Please submit Letter of Interest and Resume to the Chester Town Manager's Office, julie.hance@chestervt.gov or mail to 556 Elm Street, P.O. Box 370, Chester, Vt, 05143.

Town of Plymouth
Request for Bid/Proposal

The Town of Plymouth is seeking Bids/Proposal from qualified contractors for bridge repair in the following locations:

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 the (NW) and replace NE abutment to be in level with the roadside abutment. The Contractor MUST include within their proposal, a plan for providing and maintaining temporary vehicular access to the residence located immediately adjacent to or past the bridge closure point on Apple Hill Road.

Paille Road Bridge #48: Remove and replace 2 galvanized steel guard rails, install 53.92 CY of riprap, and install (1)1 6ftL x 3ftW x 40inD wingwall. Proposed mitigation consists 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 abutments.

A pre-bid 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 **1:00 PM on Thursday, January 22, 2026.**

Bidders may submit a proposal for all three locations or individual locations of their choosing.

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 26, 2026.**

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 and scheduling the site visit, please contact Larry Lynds at 802-672-3535 or email femarepplymouthvt@gmail.com.

TOWN OF GRAFTON, VERMONT
Invitation to Bid
TOWN OFFICE AIR SEALING & INSULATION

The Town of Grafton, Vermont, is seeking proposals for various air sealing and insulation work that meet the Town's bid requirements and specifications. Complete bid requirements and specifications may be obtained from Anand Fedele, Assistant Planner, Windham Regional Commission, by email at afedele@windhamregional.org.

TOWN OF GRAFTON, VERMONT
Invitation to Bid
2026 CEMETERY CARE

The Town of Grafton is requesting proposals for lawn mowing and trimming around each headstone, monument, cemetery trees, small plants, and bushes located on cemetery grounds. This work shall be completed between April 1st and November 1st of 2026. Complete bid requirements may be obtained from Morgan Wilbur, Town Administrator, P.O. Box 180, 117 Main Street, Grafton, VT 05146. (802) 843-2552 or email townadmin@graftonvt.org

TOWN OF GRAFTON, VERMONT
Invitation to Bid
2026 PARK CARE

The Town of Grafton is requesting proposals for lawn mowing and trimming around plants, bushes, trees, stonewalls, fences, flag poles, and structures (gazebos, buildings, etc.), if applicable, in the Grafton Parks. This work shall be completed between April 1st and November 1st of 2026. Complete bid requirements may be obtained from Morgan Wilbur, Town Administrator, P.O. Box 180, 117 Main Street, Grafton, VT 05146. (802) 843-2552 or email townadmin@graftonvt.org.

2026 Rebates for Your Home

Efficiency Vermont

If you're planning on **improving the efficiency of your home** this year, take a look at Efficiency Vermont's offers, including:

Air Sealing and Insulation

- Up to $9,500 off weatherization projects with an Efficiency Excellence Network contractor (depending on household income)
- DIY weatherization: $100 back on a qualifying do-it-yourself project

Financing options available starting at 0% interest

Heating, Cooling, and Water Heating

- Air-to-water heat pumps: up to $6,500 rebate + $500 income bonus
- Ducted / ductless heat pumps: $375-$2,200 discount + $200 income bonus
- Ground source heat pump: up to $2,100/ton rebate + $500 income bonus
- Integrated controls for ductless heat pumps: $600 rebate
- Smart thermostats: $100 rebate for select ENERGY STAR models
- Water heaters: $600 for select heat pump water heaters + $400 income bonus
- Window air conditioners: $150 rebate for select ENERGY STAR models
- Wood pellet furnaces & boilers: $6,000 rebate
- Wood and pellet stoves: $400 discount at select retailers

Electric Vehicles

- $500-$3,200 electric utility incentives

ENERGY STAR® Appliances

- $25-$90 rebate for dehumidifiers
- $200-$400 rebate on heat pump clothes dryers
- $400 rebate for heat pump dryer/washer combination units

Lighting and Electrical

- $500-$3,200 utility incentives
- $100 rebate for qualifying LED fixtures for indoor growing

Income-based Assistance

- Free lighting, appliances, energy consultations, weatherization, and more — visit efficiencyvermont.com/free-products to see if you are eligible

Additional rebates may also be available from your electric or gas utility.

Not sure where to start?
Sign up for a **FREE** Virtual Home Energy Visit!
Call **888-921-5990** to learn more
(Translation services are available)

All rebates are subject to availability and eligibility.
For the most up-to-date information, visit:
www.efficiencyvermont.com/rebates