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THE MESSAGE

OF THE WEEK

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A love story sweeter than ice cream

BY PAULA BENSON

The Message

NEWPORT, N.H. – On a warm summer day last July, a new, small-batch bakery and ice cream shop opened at 29 Main Street in downtown Newport.

Aptly called The Big Spoon, this cozy cafe specializes in super-premium ice cream, specialty coffees, and a wide variety of sweet and savory treats handcrafted in house by chef Corey Lombardo. Lombardo, along with her husband Michael Uhrin, are co-owners of The Big Spoon, the realization of a dream they first shared together nearly seven years ago, although their story dates back further than that.

It was 2014 when Uhrin and Lombardo met at Ragged Mountain Resort in Danbury. Both are New Hampshire natives, and Uhrin spent a lot of his time skiing the mountain while Lombardo was working on staff in the kitchen.

"I would ski almost every day there," Uhrin recalled. "Corey was a cook...but would also serve me drinks, and we would chat and flirt

on the regular."

The following year, the couple moved to Big Sky, Mont., where they found jobs at the posh Yellowstone Club, a private ski and golf resort frequented at the time by celebrities such as Tom Brady and Justin Timberlake.

"The Yellowstone had five restaurants and an unlimited budget," Uhrin stated. "By the time we left, Corey was the pastry chef, and she had really honed her skill set there, making cakes, cupcakes, and laminated doughs like croissants and Danish pastries. She was free to make anything she wanted."

Lombardo and Uhrin stayed in Montana through 2018, when, according to Uhrin, they were ready "to get married and do the family thing."

They returned to New Hampshire to be closer to their families, and were married in the fall of 2018. Their daughter Olivia was born in 2019.

Lombardo wanted to be a professional chef since high school. She graduated from



Corey Lombardo and Michael Uhrin.

PHOTO PROVIDED

the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, N.Y., before holding a variety of jobs working in kitchens "on the line."

"Corey's line cook background gives her a work-horse mentality," Uhrin commented. "For four hours every morning [before the bakery is open]—from 5 a.m. to 9 a.m. — she completely crushes the bake." Serving items baked fresh every day is an important component of what The Big Spoon strives to offer the community.

Lombardo's culinary magic skills produce creative confections such as berry pop-tarts and cookie dough croissants, large, frosted swirls of cinnamon buns, a rotating variety of muffins,

Danishes, and hand pies, and much more.

The Big Spoon has an impressive list of savory items on their menu as well, like jalapeno popper Danishes, spinach artichoke turnovers, and a seasonal soup of the day, to name a few.

There is a "grab and go" section, stocking small meals such as chicken salad wraps and Italian sandwiches on house-made focaccia bread.

Admittedly, Uhrin and Lombardo are serious ice cream lovers. The Big Spoon is named after a preferred method of eating ice cream. "I'm like a little kid," Uhrin laughed, "I take the biggest spoon in the drawer."

Before opening, the couple did their research. Everything for their new venture was carefully curated and thoughtfully chosen. The award-winning Chocolate Shoppe Ice Cream Company supplies homemade, high-quality ice cream to The Big Spoon, and the delicious coffee they serve

Puzzle page winner

Congratulations to Amanda Sabo, of Westminster, for winning our puzzle page contest drawing! Amanda has selected the \$75 gift certificate to Springfield Food Co-op. Look out for our next puzzle page contest in our March 4 paper for your next chance to win.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.

LEG	MAM	BALI
ISU	NOTT	ODES
EPA	KEELS	OVER
VOGAB	KJOT	
SLOP	SNUBS	
HASHOVER	GNAT	
ECO	TUNAS	IRA
RAFT	MAKEOVER	
BITTER	LECH	
TAB	UMAMI	
STARTOVER	LOS	
SIMI	NILE	VOL
TEAS	DTMS	ADA

Claremont City Council reviews 2024 audit

BY ANNE DEMPSEY

The Message

CLAREMONT, N.H. – The Claremont City Council meeting of Feb. 11 opened with Mayor Dale Girard announcing that the Twin State Basketball Tournament will run from Feb. 23 – March 7.

City manager Nancy Bates stated that artist Ernesto Montenegro has created a portrait of former city manager Guy Santa-gate, and would like the council's permission to hang it in city hall. Girard

asked for Bates to let the council know the measurements of the painting and suggestions of where in the building it could be hung.

There is a new vacancy in the city, that of chief building inspector/health officer. During Feb. 7's storm, there was a shortage of available department of public works (DPW) operators. The director and assistant director of the DPW helped the crew by filling in on some plow routes early that morning.

The council approved the appointment of Misty

Hook to the Claremont Energy Advisory Committee for Seat 1, with an expiration date of March 31, 2027.

Tammy Webb, of Vachon and Kukay, gave a presentation on the city's fiscal year 2024 audit. While reviewing many specifics of the audit, according to Webb, there were five major take-aways: (1) the total revenues and other financing sources were higher than the budgeted amount by \$177,000, or 0.95%; (2) the total expenditures and other funding resources were

lower than the appropriated amount by \$2,154,000, or 11.2%; (3) the city effectively managed the city's finances within the appropriated budget; (4) the city's ending fund balance is \$2,331,000 higher than originally budgeted; and (5) the total budgeted fund balance as of June 30, 2024, is \$8.6 million.

The fiscal year 2025 budget hearing will be scheduled for some time in June.

Bates brought to the council's attention her concern over the Claremont Development Authority's

comes from Atomic Coffee Roasters, a second-generation, family-run roasting company just north of Boston.

The couple welcomed a second child, their son Jack, just over three years ago, yet somehow, they are making the sometimes-chaotic schedule work for them.

The Big Spoon is open Wednesday-Saturday, from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Most of the prep work happens on Mondays and Tuesdays, which leaves the family exactly one day off every Sunday, typically spent outdoors.

There was some luck in-

involved with the timing of the cafe space becoming available, and the fact that the couple had a personal connection to one of the building's owners. When everything coalesced into the opportunity for Uhrin and Lombardo to turn their dreams into reality, they did not squander being in the right place at the right time.

If you find yourself in downtown Newport during business hours at The Big Spoon bakery, ice cream, and coffee shop, consider that you are also in the right place at the right time, and stop in to treat yourself.

ings. A meeting between the council and the CDA will be arranged. Girard expressed that a respectful conversation between these two organizations might benefit both entities.

The council members then voted to approve the identity theft prevention program, the fund balance policy, and the investment policy.

The Claremont City Council meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, at 6:30 p.m., in the Claremont City Hall Council Chambers.

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DEADLINES

The deadline for all content is Thursday at 4 p.m. for the following Wednesday publication.

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Springfield Rotary Club welcomes new member Ashley Newton

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Ashley Newton recently joined the Springfield Rotary Club, and was inducted at a ceremony during the weekly club meeting held on Tuesday, Feb. 10, at the SAPCC Workforce Development & Training Center. Newton is the director of Vermont Virtual Learning Cooperative. Rotary International is an international service organization with over one million members in over 200 countries. Founded in 1927, the Rotary Club

of Springfield, Vt., is a vibrant community service organization with 30 members dedicated to both local and international service projects. The club meets the first three Tuesdays of each month, at 12 p.m., at the SAPCC Workforce Development & Training Center. For more in-



Springfield Rotary Club President Sue Phelps (left) and Ashley Newton. PHOTO PROVIDED

Springfield Elks December Student of the Month

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Student of the Month program of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks recognizes young men and women for achievements in school and community life, hobbies, athletics, club, and community service. The Springfield Elks Lodge is pleased to recognize Amelia “Millie” Allen, a junior at Springfield High School, as the Elks Student of the Month for December.

Millie is the daughter of Margie Reurink and Reuben Allen, of Springfield, Vt. In her nomination, her teacher wrote, “Millie is a model student-athlete. In the classroom she is locked in and dedicated to her studies. She completes her work, leads dis-

cussions, and asks insightful questions.”

Outside of the classroom, Allen is a member of varsity soccer, and indoor and outdoor track. She is a member of the Springfield High School math team, and participated in HOBY 2025.

Allen is also an avid dancer, participating in ballet, modern dance, and jazz classes, performing annually in the “Nutcracker” holiday performances.

Allen remains active completing community service hours as well, most recently supporting the Springfield Parks and Recreation Department youth soccer programs, and helping with concessions at River Valley RADS events. In her free time, outside of school, she enjoys reading, and spending time with friends and



Millie Allen. PHOTO PROVIDED

family.

Her current plans after graduating high school are to attend college, but currently, she is undecided about her major. Congratulations on your accomplishments, Millie.

Project ACTION screens Shrek

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Project ACTION Crime & Safety Committee is excited to host a special community event featuring a free screening of the classic movie “Shrek,” on Friday, Feb. 27, at the Springfield Cinemas 3. This is a rescheduled date from December, when the event was postponed due to weather.

The arrival time is 10 a.m., with the movie beginning promptly at 10:30 a.m. Admission is free for all students enrolled in the Springfield School District or the River Valley Technical Center and their families, and includes complimentary popcorn and beverages. Attendees will also have the chance to win free gas cards through our raffle.

The Springfield Project ACTION Crime & Safety Committee remains committed to addressing community concerns through proactive and creative initiatives. We strive to foster pride in Springfield, and encourage students to take an active role in their community. This program is designed to strengthen community connections, offer a safe and fun activity during the school break, and give Springfield residents the opportunity to learn more about the fantastic things Project ACTION and its initiatives are inspiring.

Please come enjoy this great local cinema, watch a classic movie, and learn more about Project ACTION.

Advanced registration is appreciated to ensure we do not exceed capacity. Individuals and families who registered for the December event are asked to register again. Register at forms.gle/qBoQFQqerdZjqwcq8.

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arts & entertainment

Queralt Giralt Soler Trio

PUTNEY, Vt. – Cellist, vocalist, and composer Queralt Giralt Soler presents her deeply expressive trio on Friday, Feb. 20, at 7:30 p.m., at Next Stage Arts, 15 Kimball Hill in Putney, Vt., for an evening of intimate, genre-blending music that bridges classical training, jazz improvisation, and Catalan folk traditions. Doors open at 6:45 p.m. Tickets are available discounted in advance at www.nextstagearts.org.

Based between the U.S. and Catalunya, Giralt Soler has cultivated a distinctive musical voice that fuses cello and vocals into

a singular, lyrical language. Her work draws equally from contemporary composition, Mediterranean roots, and the spontaneity of jazz, resulting in music that feels both adventurous and deeply personal.

An internationally active artist, Giralt Soler has performed at renowned venues including Carnegie Hall and the Detroit Jazz Festival, and has collaborated with celebrated musicians such as Kenny Barron, Joe Lovano, and Latin Grammy-winning group Las Migas.

She is joined by an outstanding ensemble featuring Mahya Hamedi on

piano, percussion, and vocals, and Bahar Badiei on oud and vocals. Together, the trio will present Giralt Soler's original compositions alongside imaginative reinterpretations of works by influential composers such as Hermeto Pascoal and Paco de Lucía.

This performance is funded in part by the New England States Touring Program of the New England Foundation for the Arts, made possible with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts and the six New England state arts agencies.

Raku pottery class

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Gallery at the VAULT is excited to offer a raku pottery workshop with Andrew Berends on two consecutive Saturdays, March 7 and 14, from 12-4 p.m. each day. Register by Saturday, Feb. 28.

Berends will be teaching the Japanese firing technique known as raku, a 16th-century technique developed in Japan for making tea-ceremony ware. The firings take about an hour, and you get a finished piece at the end. Pots are fired to 1,840 degrees, pulled out of the hot kiln, and manipulated with sawdust and water to change the look of the glazes. The glazes can be metallic, and/or have a crackle effect, making each piece unique and one-of-a-kind. We will also fire pots with a technique known as horse hair raku, which creates interesting designs on the clay.

The class will include wheel-throwing, slab-making, and extruding instruction. The first day will include making all types of clay work, and the second day will be glazing and firing all the pots in the raku tradition.

Emphasis will be on being creative, and learning the basics of pottery, including making the work, glazing, as well as firing. The class is geared towards teens through adults, and limited to four students.

Berends has been a master potter for over 30 years, with a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University, as well as a Master of Fine Arts from Montana State University. He worked with a Spanish folk potter for a year, and was also a guest artist-in-residence at Anderson Ranch in Snowmass, Colo.

The cost of the workshop is discounted for gallery members, and includes 25 pounds of clay, glazes, and firing costs in a gas-fired kiln. Wear old clothing, and bring pottery tools if you



The editor and his wife at the raku pottery class with Andrew Berends. PHOTO PROVIDED

have them. Directions to Berends' studio in Springfield will be given at registration.

Gallery at the VAULT is located at 68 Main Street in Springfield, and is open Wednesday-Saturday, from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. For more information, call 802-885-7111, email galleryvault@vermontel.net, or visit Facebook, Instagram, or www.galleryvault.org. Gallery at the VAULT is accessible.

Sunburned Hand of the Man at Stage 33 Live

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Sunburned Hand of the Man are an enigmatic experimental collective with a stunningly large discography and frequent personnel changes. Their improvisations incorporate elements of free jazz, space rock, psych-rock, hypno krautrock, drone, folk, funk, punk, and dirty synth. Their live shows are a surprise every time – even to them, usually – ranging from wild freak-outs to more coherently sculpted material, careening from unsettling, to hypnotic, to mellow.

According to Sean Kitching, writing in The Quietus, "Sunburned at their best are capable of taking the listener on a shamanic, boogie-fueled trip outside of quotidian reality. Live shows blend monstrous tectonics of rhythm, caustic guitar, echoing phased vo-

cal, insect electronics, and kitchen-sink instrumentation that collide in an ecstatic racket."

Throughout the mid-'90s they represented New England's free-rock contingency, and the free-folk – sometimes misnomered as "freak folk" – era described by David Keenan's 2003 article "New Weird America" in British music magazine The Wire.

There will be no opener for this show; it will be 100% Sunburned. It's likely to be loud. Stage 33 Live has no idea what the lineup will be, or how long the show will go. This is in accordance with the strange purity of Sunburned Hand of the Man.

Daisy Frederick will provide old-school psychedelic interactive liquid light projections.

The show is scheduled for

Saturday, Feb. 28, at 7 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at www.stage33live.com, or at the door as available. Advance tickets guarantee entry. Only 40 tickets will be sold. The performances will be recorded and filmed. Stage 33 Live is located at 33 Bridge Street in Bellows Falls, Vt.

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real estate

COMMUNITY

Mary W. Davis mentors the next generation

LUDLOW, Vt. – Mary W. Davis Realtor & Associates Inc., a cornerstone of the Okemo Valley real estate community since 1958, is proud to introduce Conor Bennett and Dan Vigeant, two real estate agents who have completed an extensive hands-on mentorship program led by owner and principal broker Suzanne Garvey.

“Immersing a new licensee into every aspect of the business is key,” Garvey explained. “The ‘how-to’ of real estate is only one piece. Understanding the ‘why’ behind the extensive diligence the profession requires is what fosters confident, ethical, and knowledgeable professionals who truly serve their customers and clients.”

Bennett brings a unique global perspective to the Ludlow real estate market. Born and raised near Atlanta, Ga., he spent much of his childhood visiting Okemo with his family. After attending Centre College in Danville, Ky., on a lacrosse scholarship, and graduating in 2016, Bennett pursued a master’s degree in renewable energy at Reykjavik University in Iceland.

He spent eight years in Iceland, where he owned and operated a successful bar, before returning to the United States. Bennett ultimately returned to Okemo to manage the beloved restaurant The Bull, where he met his wife, a Ludlow native.

Bennett said he was drawn to Mary W. Davis Realtor

& Associates because of its longevity and collaborative culture. “There are lifetimes of knowledge about the Okemo Valley here,” he shared. “The agents have forgotten more about real estate than I’m afraid I’ll ever learn. They’re incredibly generous – not just with their knowledge, but with what they contribute to the community – and being part of that is something I’m proud of.”

“The Ludlow community has been life-changing,” Bennett added. “I came for a winter job, and quickly fell in love with everything Vermont has to offer. I’m excited to give back by supporting local schools, businesses, and the community

as a whole.”

Vigeant grew up in Massachusetts, spent 10 years in Colorado, and was a licensed Colorado Realtor for two of those years.

“When I decided to move back east to be closer to family, Vermont was an easy choice,” Vigeant said. “I already feel my roots growing deep within the community, and I’m genuinely excited about what the future holds.” Since relocating, Vigeant has become involved with the Okemo Ski Patrol and works alongside his finance in their small business, using drones to inspect power lines across the state.

“One of the biggest things I’ve noticed is how steep the learning curve can be,

simply because every transaction is different,” he said. “As a younger agent entering this career, I have the utmost confidence that I’m surrounded by the right people to guide me. I also believe that becoming more involved locally is key to building strong relationships and long-term success in this business.” When asked what attracted him to the Mary Davis agency, Vigeant explained, “Mary Davis has some of the most experienced agents I’ve ever met, and what stands out most is their genuine willingness to help and support one another.”

With deep local roots, a commitment to mentorship, and a passion for ser-

vice, Mary W. Davis Realtor & Associates continues its longstanding tradition of preparing the next generation of real estate professionals. Bennett and Vigeant are poised and supported to be trusted resources for buyers and sellers and are already hard at work.

“I love supporting our agents. I’m especially proud of our firm’s collaborative culture in a highly competitive market/industry,” Garvey said. “Helping the next generation understand that success in real estate happens organically – while living your unique life, being out in the community, meeting people, listening, and building meaningful relationships.”

Ludlow Volunteer Firefighters Association honors local businesses

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Ludlow Volunteer Firefighters Association recognized two local businesses for their outstanding commitment to the Ludlow community during a gathering on Dec. 13, 2025.

Representatives from William Raveis Vermont Properties and Benson’s Chevrolet were in attendance. On behalf of the association, Fire Chief Ben Whalen presented Community Service Awards to both organizations in appreciation of their continued support.

Kathy Burns and Kevin Barnes, of William Raveis Vermont Properties, accepted a plaque recognizing their leadership and fundraising efforts, particularly the 2025 Fire and Ice fundraiser. That event

raised more than \$96,000 to upgrade and enhance the Ludlow Fire Department’s radio communications system, including new portable radios, mobile radios, and a repeater. The project significantly improves operational effectiveness and firefighter safety, and would not have been possible without their efforts and the generous support of event sponsors.

Benson’s Chevrolet, represented by George and Mary Benson, was honored for its longstanding support of the association and the broader Ludlow community. In recent years, Benson’s has been a key sponsor of the association’s annual Five Alarm 5K Run, and has supported numerous community events, including the trunk-or-treat celebration



Left to right: Ludlow Fire Chief Ben Whalen, Mary Benson, George Benson, Kathy Burns, and Kevin Barnes.

PHOTO PROVIDED

held each Halloween.

Established in 1959, the Ludlow Volunteer Firefighters Association is a nonprofit fundraising organization comprised of current and former firefighters. Its mission is to empower and support all firefighters by providing resources, training, and equipment to enhance service to the community, while fostering camaraderie, professionalism, and con-

tinuous learning. Through fundraising efforts, the association invests in modern equipment that helps protect lives, property, and the environment.

The association expressed its gratitude for the continued support of local businesses and community members, noting that initiatives like these would not be possible without their generosity and partnership.

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LEGAL NOTICES

obituaries

Don Fielder, 2025

STOCKBRIDGE, Vt. – Don Fielder, 69, of Stockbridge, Vt., died on Dec. 31, 2025, at Gifford Medical Center, after a brief illness. A gathering celebrating Don will be held later this summer. A full obituary is

available at www.dayfunerals.com. Arrangements are under the direction of Day Funeral Home.



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BELLOWS FALLS

St. Charles Church, 31 Cherry Hill St.
Masses are held on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, at 7 a.m.; Wednesday, at 7 p.m.; Saturday Vigil Mass, at 4 p.m.; and Sunday, at 9 a.m. For more information, call 802-732-8721.

CHESTER

Chester Baptist Church, 162 Main St.
Worship is Sundays at 10:30 a.m. For more information, including online streaming, go to www.chesterbaptist.org.

LUDLOW

Tyson Community Church, Corner of Route 100 and Dublin Rd., opposite Echo Lake Inn
Services are Sundays at 10:30 a.m. No service last Sunday of the month. Email terry.bascom@pm.me or call 802-228-2480.

SPRINGFIELD

Springfield Assembly of God, 269 River St.
Sunday morning service is 10 a.m. Evening service is 6 p.m. Go to www.facebook.com/Springfield-Assembly-of-God-156583214402910 for links and more information.

WESTON

The Old Parish Church, 644 Main St.
A diverse, informal, and welcoming congregation. Sunday service begins at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom. For more information, contact Jon Bliss, minister, at 802-824-4452 or email easthillfarm@vermontel.net.



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Laurence L. LaCross, 1957-2026

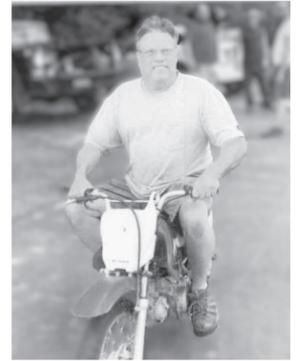
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Laurence L. “Larry” LaCross, 68, died unexpectedly on Feb. 7, 2026, at Springfield Hospital. He was born on March 3, 1957, in Springfield, Vt., the son of Ernest R. and Margaret “Peggy” LaCross. He graduated from Springfield High School, Class of 1975.

Larry was a quiet, kind, and gentle man, who loved his family deeply. He was a lifelong dairy farmer. He enjoyed sharing a cup of coffee with his wife, spending time in his garden, tending to his tree farm, playing his guitar, and working as a welder.

Larry was always there for his family. He faithfully

cooked special dishes specifically selected to share with his kids and extended family. He was a lover of sports, and supported his own children’s ventures as athletes. He was a devoted fan at his grandsons’ football, basketball, and baseball games. He was an avid Patriots fan. He built a ‘41 Willys coupe and restored a ‘56 Corvette.

Larry is survived by his wife Mary; his children Joshua, Jason, Jessica (Chris), Kati (Paul), and Alan (Michelle); siblings Holly Capen (Bud) and Karen Gould (Frank); brother-in-law Jim; and grandchildren Lucas, Thomas, Carson, Ben, Gabe, Jacqueline, Mer-



Laurence LaCross, 1957-2026.
PHOTO PROVIDED

edith, and Collin.

A Celebration of Life and burial will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Springfield Booster Club, P.O. Box 666, Springfield, VT 05156.

WARNING

The legal voters of the Town of Plymouth, County of Windsor, State of Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Plymouth Municipal Building at 68 Town Office Road, Plymouth, Vermont on Monday, March 2, 2026 at seven o’clock PM (7:00 PM) to transact at that time business not involving voting by Australian Ballot or voter required by law by ballot. The Polls will open Tuesday, March 3, 2026, between the hours of ten o’clock AM (10:00 AM) and seven o’clock PM (7:00 PM) for the purpose of voting by Australian Ballot to act on the following articles.

The legal voters of the Town of Plymouth are further notified that voter qualifications, registration and absentee voting relative to said Town Meeting shall be as provided in Title 17, Chapters 43, 51, and 55, Vermont Statutes Annotated. You must be a Town of Plymouth registered voter in order to vote at Town Meeting. Voters may request an Early/Absentee Ballot from the Town Clerks Office by calling 802-500-1815, Ext. 1 or email at clerk@plymouthvt.org.

Tuesday, March 3, 2026: Australian Ballot – 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM

- Article 1.** To elect Town Officers for the ensuing year(s) by Australian Ballot: Moderator, Selectman, Lister, Trustee of Public Funds, Cemetery Commissioner, and Constables.
- Article 2.** To see if the legal voters of the Town of Plymouth will authorize the Select Board to maintain a Fire Truck Equipment Reserve Fund in the amount of \$150,000, annually, for three (3) years in accordance with 24 V.S.A §2804.
- Article 3.** To see if the legal voters of the Town of Plymouth will authorize the Select Board to establish a future Emergency Highway/Natural Disaster Reserve Fund for roads, culverts and bridges in accordance with 24 V.S.A §2804.
- Article 4.** To see if the legal voters of the Town of Plymouth will authorize the Select Board to maintain a future Emergency Highway/Natural Disaster Reserve Fund for roads, culverts and bridges in the amount of \$100,000, annually in accordance with 24 V.S.A §2804.
- Article 5.** To see if the legal voters of the Town of Plymouth will vote to increase the exemption for eligible Veterans, as required by the State of Vermont, from \$10,000 to \$40,000. This exemption only applies to homes that are owned by the veteran or survivor; and is their primary residence.

Monday, March 2, 2026: Public Informational Meeting & Annual Meeting at 7:00 PM

- Article 6.** To see if the legal voters of the Town of Plymouth will vote **\$16,089.50** for Human Services to be allocated as follows:
 - a. American Red Cross - \$250.00
 - b. Black River Area Community Coalition - \$500.00
 - c. Black River Good Neighbors - \$500.00
 - d. Black River Valley Senior Center - \$3,000.00
 - e. Fletcher Memorial Library - \$1,200.00
 - f. Green Mountain Economic Development Corporation - \$321.50
 - g. Green Up Vermont - \$50.00
 - h. HCRS Mental Health Services - \$568.00
 - i. MOOver - \$125.00
 - j. Okemo Valley TV - \$800.00
 - k. Okemo Valley Technical Rescue - \$2,500.00
 - l. Ottauquechee Health Foundation - \$600.00
 - m. Plymouth Historical Society - \$500.00
 - n. Plymouth Memory Tree - \$250.00
 - o. Senior Solutions Council on Aging for SE Vermont - \$300.00
 - p. Southeastern VT Community Action - \$400.00
 - q. Tyson Library - \$500.00
 - r. Visiting Nurses - \$2,150.00
 - s. VT Center for Independent Living - \$175.00
 - t. VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force - \$200.00
 - u. Windsor County Mentors - \$500.00
 - v. Windsor County Youth Services - \$400.00
 - w. Women’s Freedom Center - \$300.00

- Article 7.** To see if the legal voters of the Town of Plymouth will vote to increase Okemo Valley TVs’ annual appropriation to \$1,400.00?
- Article 8.** To see if the legal voters of the Town of Plymouth will vote to raise \$1,508,259.94 in taxes to pay estimated expenses in the amount of \$1,924,659.94?
- Article 9.** To see if the legal voters of the Town of Plymouth will fix the salaries of the Select Board the same as last year in the amount of **\$1,600.00** annually?
- Article 10.** To see if the legal voters of the Town of Plymouth will collect taxes on real property in installments, taxes to be paid to the Treasurer, Town of Plymouth on **September 1, 2026** and **February 1, 2027**, and must be delivered to the Town Treasurer on or before the due date. Postmarked envelopes/payments will not be accepted as timely payments?

Dated at Plymouth, Vermont the 20th day of January 2026.

Town of Plymouth Select Board

- Jay Kullman, Chairman
- Richard Kaminski, Vice-Chair
- Keith Cappellini

calendar

LEGAL NOTICES

FEB. 20 – SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Join online or in person at the Springfield Town Library, 43 Main Street, at 10 a.m.

every third Friday, for a 60-minute chair yoga practice. Learn accessible movements that you can do right from your seat,

leaving you feeling mobile, grounded, and focused. This month's class will take inspiration from the Fire Horse, the Chinese zodiac animal for the Lunar New Year. Walk into the library and join live in person for free – there's no need to preregister. For online access, which includes all recordings, visit studio.jobregnard.com/product/88980 to choose from among a variety of registration options.

FEB. 21 – CLAREMONT, N.H. – The Claremont Senior Center, 5 Acer Heights, will serve a turkey dinner on Saturday, Feb. 21. The menu will be turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, squash, cranberry sauce, dinner rolls, and apple pie. There is a small cost per meal. To order a meal, please call 603-678-0433 any time before 3:30 p.m., and specify whether you will be dining in or taking out. Dine-

in begins at 4:30 p.m., and takeout meals can be picked up at 5 p.m.

FEB. 23 – LUDLOW, Vt. – The Black River Valley Senior Center, 10 High Street, will hold a pizza party on Monday, Feb. 23, at 12 p.m., featuring a surprise dessert. Please make reservations by calling 802-228-7421. Free cash bingo will follow. All are welcome.

MARCH 1 – PERKINSVILLE, Vt. – Pat Daddona will be playing a live concert on Sunday, March 1, from 4-5 p.m., at the Perkinsville Community Church, 35 Church Street. If you would like to be on the email list for these events, please contact us at churchperkinsville@gmail.com.

MARCH 7 – LUDLOW, Vt. – Join The Boot Pro on Saturday, March 7, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., at Solitude on Okemo, for our next free on-snow ski demonstration of the season. Test the latest men's and women's skis from top brands, meet manufacturer representatives, and find your perfect match before models and sizes sell out. The event begins at Village Run Trail, on the skier's right when approaching Solitude Day Lodge. Registration and a credit card deposit are required. Preregister at www.bit.ly/3Ziu1za. Sponsored by The Boot Pro and Mary W. Davis Realtor & Associates.

MARCH 10 – N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Join the Springfield Area Parent Child Center (SAPCC) on Monday, March 16, from 5:30-8:30 p.m., at the SAPCC Workforce Development & Training Center, 51 Jack and Jill Lane for a comprehensive CPR training session designed to empower you with the knowledge and hands-on skills to respond effectively in life-threatening situations. Register before March 9 at www.tinyurl.com/SAPCCPR. An email from Sales Force at American Red Cross will be received by March 10 with the online portion of the class. The online portion must be completed prior to the in-person class. For more information, contact ariel@sapcc-vt.org or 802-886-5242.

MARCH 18 – BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – On March 18, Springfield Area Parent Child Center's (SAPCC) Tienna's Closet, a free community clothing closet, will be serving the Bellows Falls community at Parks Place Community Resource Center, 44 School Street Extension, from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Tienna's Closet will offer a selection of clothing in various sizes, including jackets and shoes, available free of charge. We will also have a small selection of hygiene products, diapers, formula, and children's books, also free. Come see SAPCC in the Bellows Falls community and learn about the concrete support they offer. For more information, contact krista.wilson@sapcc-vt.org or 802-886-5242.

TOWN OF LONDONDERRY

The Town of Londonderry, Vermont is seeking proposals for Tennis Court Replacement at Pingree Park, located at 36 Pingree Park Rd, Londonderry VT. Any questions should be directed to Liam Elio, Mountain Towns Recreation Director, at 802-824-3356 ext.8. Bids are due March 5, 2026 at 2pm. You can view the bid documents here: <https://www.londonderryvt.gov/rfps>

Londonderry Planning Commission Hearing 3/9/26 at 6:00 PM

The Londonderry Planning Commission will meet on March 9, 2026, at the Londonderry Town Offices to solicit comments from the public on a proposed zoning bylaw amendment and a new zoning map. This amendment will change the zoning regulations for the entire town of Londonderry. It is designed to:

- align the town's zoning regulations with the planning goals in the Town Plan,
- addresses inconsistencies resulting from the many changes that have been made to state statutes since the zoning bylaws were last updated,
- fix shortcomings of the current regulations that had resulted in confusion or difficulties for applicants, the Administrative Officer, and the Development Review Board over the years,

The full text of the proposed amendment and the new zoning map are posted on the Planning Commission page of the Londonderry Web site, and paper copies are available for twenty dollars from the town clerk.

The table of contents of this proposed zoning bylaw includes: General Standards, Exemptions and Limitations, Prior Applications, Approvals and Uses, Nonconformities, Zoning Districts, General Zoning Rules, Site Design and Performance Standards For Commercial and Multi-Unit Housing Developments, Specific Use Standards, Subdivision Standards, Planned Unit Development (PUD) Standards, Administration and Enforcement, Fees and Filing Requirements, Zoning Permits, Commercial and Multifamily Home Development, Appeals, Notice Requirements, Hearings and Decisions, Violations and Penalties, and Definitions.

Town of Weston Planning Commission Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Weston Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at the Town Office, 12 Lawrence Hill Road, Weston, VT on Monday, March 9, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. This hearing will be held for public review of and comment on proposed amendments to the Weston Zoning Bylaw, pursuant to Title 23, Chapter 117, Section 4441.

The purpose of the proposed amendment is to make several revisions to the zoning bylaw to address procedural provisions, revise definitions, and update site development requirements related to loading, screening, and landscaping. Specifically, the amendments would add provisions to allow for the approval of unlisted land uses; update off-street loading space requirements; update landscaping and screening requirements; revise minor subdivision application requirements; add provisions to allow amendments to zoning permits or site plans; add provisions to allow the Development Review Board to grant waivers; and update the definition for building height. The proposed amendments would apply to the entire Town of Weston. The proposed amendments do not include any changes to the district boundaries on the Weston Zoning Map

The affected Zoning Bylaw sections are as follows: Section 200 (Prohibited Uses), Section 225 (Village District), Section 540 (Off-Street Parking Space Requirements), Section 541 (Off-Street Loading Space Requirements), Section 570 (Landscaping Requirements), Section 571 (Screened Service Area Requirements), Section 590 (Subdivision of Land), Section 702.3 (Amendments to Zoning Permits or Site Plans), Section 705.1 (Authority of Appropriate Municipal Panels), Section 705.2 (Hearing and Notice Requirements for Appropriate Municipal Panel Proceedings), Section 708 (Waivers), Article VIII (Definitions).

A full copy of the proposed amendments to the Weston Zoning Bylaw and the Report of the Planning Commission are available for public review and can be found at the Weston Town Office, 12 Lawrence Hill Road, Weston, VT, and on the Town's website at: www.westonvt.org.

TOWN OF CHESTER WARNING NOTICE OF TOWN MEETING

The Legal Voters of the TOWN OF CHESTER are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Chester Town Hall, Second Floor in said Town of Chester on Monday, March 2, 2026, at 6:00 pm., to act on the following Articles. Voting on Article 1, 2, and 3 will be by Australian ballot on March 3, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Chester Town Hall Second Floor.

ARTICLE 1: To elect Town Officials for the ensuing year as provided by the Public Laws of Vermont. Voting by Australian Ballot.

ARTICLE 2: Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Four Hundred Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$430,000), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of financing the construction of upgrades to the existing sidewalks at an estimated cost of \$1,800,000. These funds will provide the required 20% match for an awarded Bicycle & Pedestrian Grant. Voting by Australian Ballot.

ARTICLE 3: Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of paving Flamstead Road, River Street, Library parking lot and patching Depot Street at an estimated cost of \$300,000?

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town of Chester will vote to approve borrowing for the purchase of a police cruiser for the Police Department in an amount not to exceed \$70,000. This equipment is replacing existing equipment at the end of useful life and is not an addition to the town inventory.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town of Chester will vote to approve borrowing One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) to fund the town's grant match for Route 35 construction and the town's match on Thompson Road easement purchase and preliminary design.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise \$4,461,054.94 to be paid to the Chester Town Treasurer on September 15, 2026, to pay current expenses and any part of the Town's indebtedness.

ARTICLE 7: Shall the voters establish a 1% Local Options Tax on the sale of Rooms, Meals and Consumed Alcohol for a period of 10 years. Revenue from the Local Options Tax will be used to fund the Housing Reserve Fund which is used to support the production of housing and increase opportunities for families and individuals to access affordable homes in Chester.

ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THIRTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVEN DOLLARS (\$13,807) to help support the home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by the Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of VT and NH, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?

ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND AND FORTY FOUR DOLLARS (\$3,044) to help support outpatient, mental health and substance abuse services by the staff of Health Care and Rehabilitation Services, Inc, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND FORTY DOLLARS (\$3,040) to Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) to assist Chester in responding to the emergency needs of the community and providing all available and applicable services to families and individuals in need, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?

ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of NINE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$900) to the Women's Freedom Center for general budget support to provide services to women and their children who are experiencing emotional, physical and/or sexual abuse and are residents of the Town, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$2,400 to Senior Solutions, the nonprofit Area Agency on Aging serving southeastern Vermont, to serve older Vermonters and younger disabled Vermonters with nutrition and wellness programs, application assistance for state and federal benefit programs, Medicare enrollment guidance, long term care Medicaid program care coordination, Volunteer Visitor programs, and more, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$2,250 (two thousand two hundred fifty dollars) for the support of the MOOver Rockingham to provide transit services to the residents of the Town of Chester, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$800 (eight hundred dollars) to support Windsor County Mentors, for youth mentoring services provided to children in Windsor County, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?

ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$400 (four hundred dollars) to Green Mountain RSVP & Volunteer Center of Windsor County to develop opportunities for people age 55 and older to positively impact the quality of life in the community of Chester through volunteer service, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?

ARTICLE 16: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,800.00) toward the support of the Community Cares Network of Chester and Andover, Inc. a non-profit organization which provides services to senior citizens, helping them to stay in their homes longer safely, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?

ARTICLE 17: Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$4,000 (four thousand dollars) to Meals on Wheels of Greater Springfield, Inc. for continued support and services to the citizens of the Town of Chester in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?

ARTICLE 18: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of FIVE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED SEVENTY DOLLARS (\$5,570) to Neighborhood Connections, Inc. and Mountain Town Connector to cover the cost of providing services in Chester in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?

ARTICLE 19: Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to the Black River Area Community Coalition for continuing to work within the Chester community preventing youth substance/alcohol misuse in accordance with 24 V.S.A. 2691?

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town of Chester will appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000) to assist in the services of the Chester-Andover Family Center for individuals and families in need, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691.

Dated at Chester, Vermont on this 21st day of January 2026.

/s/ Lee Gustafson, Chairman
/s/ Arne Jonynas
/s/ Tim Roper
/s/ Peter Hudkins
/s/ Arianna Knapp

LEGALS

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LMHUUSD School Board Has an Immediate Opening

The Ludlow-Mount Holly Unified Union School District (LMHUUSD) seeks one Ludlow and one Mount Holly Town resident interested in serving as a member of our local school board. The term of this position will be until Town Meeting Election Day held on Tuesday, March 2nd, 2027. The Board meets regularly, the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. and others as necessary. Members may fulfill additional responsibilities such as serving on board committees.

Please submit a letter of interest to: LMHUUSD Board c/o Layne Millington 609 VT Route 103 South Ludlow, Vermont 05149 layne.millington@trsu.org

NOTICE TO SPRINGFIELD VOTERS

Absentee Ballots for the Annual Town and Town School District Meeting being held Tuesday, March 3, 2026, will be available at the Springfield Town Clerk's Office on Wednesday, February 11, 2026. If you wish to vote by absentee ballot, a request for these elections must be made, please contact the Town Clerk's Office in writing, by phone or by email. If you make your absentee request in person, you can choose to vote your ballots and return them before leaving the Town Clerk's Office. If returning your ballots by mail, allow extra time for postal delivery and use two Forever stamps. An Absentee Request Form can be found on the town's website https://springfieldvt.gov or you may request your ballots online at https://mvp.vermont.gov. The deadline for requesting absentee ballots is Monday, March 2, 2026 at 4:30 p.m. You may register to vote on Election Day at the polls and then proceed to vote on that day. You may also register to vote any time at the Town Clerk's office or online at https://mvp.vermont.gov. Prior to March 3, 2026 absentee ballots may be returned in-person, through regular mail and afterhours through mail slots located in town hall entrances. All voted absentee ballots must be received at the polls by the Town Clerk before the close of polls at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 3, 2026. The polls are located at Riverside Middle School in the gymnasium and will open on Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 8:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. Town Clerk's Office will not be open on March 3, 2026. Barbara A. Courchesne, Town Clerk, CVC - 96 Main Street, Springfield, Vermont 05156 (802) 885-2104 townclerk@springfieldvt.gov

WARNING

ANNUAL TOWN AND TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING HYBRID (PHYSICAL and REMOTE)

The legal voters of the Town of Springfield and Town of Springfield School District are hereby notified and warned to meet at Riverside Middle School Gymnasium in said Town on Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 8:00 a.m. (8:00 o'clock in the forenoon) until 7:00 p.m. to vote by Australian ballot for Town and Town School District Officers, for all appropriations to be voted by Australian ballot, and all other items of business to be voted by Australian ballot.

A public informational hearing will be held in-person, and will be accessible remotely by electronic means, at the Springfield High School on Monday, March 2, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. to hear reports of the Town Officers, Town School District Officers and Committees, to discuss all Australian ballot articles on the Annual Town and Town School District Meeting Warning and to do any other business that can legally be done under this Warning.

IN-PERSON PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING WILL BE ACCESSIBLE REMOTELY BY ELECTRONIC MEANS:

- ZOOM MEETING ID: 867 9327 0780
- By computer: Join meeting by clicking here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86793270780
- You may be prompted to enter the Meeting ID. You may need to download software https://zoom.us/
- By smartphone, tablet, or other device: Download and open the https://zoom.us/ app. You may have to create a free account or sign into your existing account. Select the option to join meeting and enter the Meeting ID. One-tap mobile device click here: +1-301-715-8592
- By telephone: Dial +1-301-715-8592 and when prompted enter the Meeting ID. Note that long distance rates may apply. Dial-in participants use *9 to raise/lower hand and *6 to mute/unmute.
- Meeting link can also be accessed on the home page of the Town of Springfield website
- Watch live on SAPA TV or stream it from Sapatv.org

ARTICLE 1: To elect the following Town Officers and Town School District Officers for the ensuing year:

School Director	Town School District Moderator	Cemetery Commissioner
Selectboard	Trustee of Public Funds	Library Trustees
		Town Moderator

ARTICLE 2: Shall the Town vote a salary of FIFTY and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$50.00) per meeting for the Town Moderator for the ensuing year?

ARTICLE 3: Shall the Town vote to pay each Selectperson the sum of FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$500.00) to help defray the costs and expenses incurred in serving the Town in that office?

ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of SIXTEEN MILLION, EIGHT HUNDRED ONE THOUSAND, TWO HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$16,801,225.00) for the budget of the Town for salaries, incidental and necessary Town expenses, including highways, and for the purposes for which the law requires appropriations, and for which a Town may legally vote?

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of ONE MILLION, ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$1,100,000.00) for repaving, road construction, gravel road improvements, and ancillary professional services for the projects specified in the Road Surface Management System Report dated December 2021 or other duly warranted sidewalk improvements?

ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$100,000.00) for sidewalk reconstruction in various locations throughout the Town?

ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of TEN THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) to offset Springfield Area Public Access TV's operating costs to record, broadcast, archive, and promote up to 25 Selectboard meetings, up to 25 School Board meetings, the annual Town Meeting, and the outreach work it does to promote government transparency, media literacy, and community connection in our community?

ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town vote to exempt from taxation the premises at 7 Morgan Street (Parcel 023/1/30) owned by Turning Point Recovery Center of Springfield, Vermont, Inc., the exemption for such period of time as long as said premises are not used for any private use, or any use inconsistent with its present charitable use? Such exemption shall be limited to FIVE (5) years, as is required by Section 3840 of Title 32 of Vermont Statutes Annotated.

ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town vote to exempt from taxation the premises at 5 School Street (Parcel 01B/2/30) owned by North School Preservation Society, Inc., the exemption for such period of time as long as said premises are not used for any private use, or any use inconsistent with its present charitable use? Such exemption shall be limited to FIVE (5) years, as is required by Section 3840 of Title 32 of Vermont Statutes Annotated.

ARTICLE 10: Shall the voters of the Springfield Town School District approve a payment of FIFTY and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$ 50.00) per meeting for the Town School District Moderator for the ensuing year, the funds for which are included in the school budget?

ARTICLE 11: Shall the voters of the Springfield Town School District approve the payment to each School Board member of FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$500.00) to help defray the costs and expenses incurred in serving in that office, the funds for which are included in the school budget?

ARTICLE 12: Shall the voters of the Springfield Town School District authorize the Town Treasurer, subject to the direction and approval of the School Board, to borrow money in anticipation of taxes needed to meet the requirements of the Town School District for the ensuing year?

ARTICLE 13: Shall the voters of the Springfield Town School District approve the School Board to spend FORTY ONE MILLION, FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY-EIGHT THOUSAND, SIX HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$ 41,458,651.00), which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$15,189 per pupil. This projected spending per pupil is 9.26% higher than spending for the current year.

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$2,500.00) to the Springfield Community Band for eight (8) concerts?

ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of NINE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$9,000.00) to Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) to assist Springfield in responding to the emergency needs of the community and to provide all available and applicable services to families and individuals in need?

ARTICLE 16: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of FIFTY THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$50,500.00) to help support the high-quality home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by the Visiting Nurse and Hospice for VT and NH? Care is provided regardless of ability to pay.

ARTICLE 17: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of EIGHT THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$8,500.00) for the support of Senior Solutions (formerly Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont) for help to support seniors and their families who are trying to remain at home and not be placed in a nursing home?

ARTICLE 18: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of FOUR THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$4,000.00) to help support the Valley Health Connections (formerly Precision Valley Free Clinic) to help the uninsured access health care?

ARTICLE 19: Shall the Town of Springfield appropriate the sum of TWELVE THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$12,500.00) for the support of the MOOver f/k/a the Current operated by Southeast Vermont Transit, Inc., to provide transit services to the residents of the Town of Springfield?

ARTICLE 20: Shall the Town of Springfield appropriate the sum of TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$2,500.00) to Green Mountain RSVP & Volunteer Center of Windsor County to develop opportunities for people age 55 and older to positively impact the quality of life in the community of Springfield through volunteer service?

ARTICLE 21: Shall the Town of Springfield appropriate the sum of TEN THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) to assist with the cost of operating the Meals on Wheels Program of Greater Springfield that provides daily hot & cold congregate and home delivered meals and other nutritional needs to the qualified residents of Springfield?

ARTICLE 22: Shall the Town of Springfield appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$3,000.00) to Windsor County Partners d/b/a Windsor County Mentors, for youth mentoring services provided to the children of Windsor County?

ARTICLE 23: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of FIVE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$5,000.00) to the Springfield Supported Housing to assist families and individuals find permanent housing and provide in home case management services for 6 months to two years after placement?

ARTICLE 24: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of SIXTY-FIVE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$65,000.00) to the Springfield Family Center to assist with the cost of providing free meals, a free food shelf, and other services related to hunger as well as make referrals to partner social-service organizations in the community?

ARTICLE 25: Shall the Town of Springfield appropriate the sum of FOUR THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$4,000.00) to the Women's Freedom Center for general budget support to provide services to women and their children who are experiencing emotional, physical and/or sexual abuse and are residents of the Town?

ARTICLE 26: Shall the Town of Springfield appropriate the sum of NINE THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$9,500.00) to the Springfield Art and Historical Society to assist in preserving, maintaining, and displaying, for the public, the history and art of the Town of Springfield, Vermont?

ARTICLE 27: Shall the Town of Springfield appropriate the sum of NINE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$9,000.00) to Turning Point Recovery Center Drop-In Center and Transition House to help with the everyday cost of providing recovery services and housing for men and that are in recovery from alcohol, substance abuse and co-occurring disorders?

ARTICLE 28: Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of TEN THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) to help support outpatient, mental health and substance abuse services by the staff of Health Care and Rehabilitation Services, Inc.?

ARTICLE 29: Shall the Town of Springfield, VT appropriate the sum of FIVE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$5,000.00) to the Springfield Area Parent Child Center to provide wrap-around services for young children and their families, including but not limited to: diaper & formula bank, developmental screenings and early intervention therapy, community workshops & trainings, family case management, activity bags, high quality preschool & childcare center, welcome baby bags, and fun community events like the Family Festival, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?

ARTICLE 30: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of SEVENTY-FIVE HUNDRED and 00/100 DOLLARS (\$7,500.00) for Gallery at the VAULT (Visual Art Using Local Talent) to offer opportunities for learning and participation in the creative process, and to provide a marketplace for artists, while furthering the revitalization of the downtown?

ARTICLE 31: Shall the Town vote to amend the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 12, Section 12-126, Discharge of Firearms Restricted, paragraph (b) by adding the following sentence at the end of paragraph (b)?

"No person shall discharge a firearm in the area designated as Hartness Park."

Dated this 26th day of January, 2026 at Springfield, County of Windsor and State of Vermont.

Kristi C. Morris, Chair
Tara Chase
Heather Frahm
Michael E. Martin

Town of Springfield Selectboard

Dated this 28th day of January, 2026 at Springfield, County of Windsor and State of Vermont.

Troy Palmer, Chair
Jessica Austin
Jessica Cady Burlew
Denise Hunter
Stephen Karaffa

Town of Springfield Board of School Directors

history

LEGAL NOTICES

Author talk on Springfield's role in professional sports

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Join us at the Springfield Town Library on Saturday, Feb. 21, at 11 a.m., for a discussion on Springfield's role in the integration of professional sports with author Chris Boucher.

Harry "Bucky" Lew was basketball's first Black pro-

fessional. In a career that spanned a quarter century, Lew was the first Black player, coach, manager, referee, and franchise owner in integrated professional basketball. One of the highlights of his career was his season with Vermont's Springfield

Athletic Club, with whom he won a state championship in 1907.

Springfield in particular, and Vermont as a whole, were part of a silent majority of sports fans throughout New England who supported everyone's right to play. Their

support wasn't limited to Lew alone; other pioneers who played in the state included Black baseball Hall-of-Famer Bud Fowler, who played in Vermont in the 1880s, and

William Clarence Matthews, who played in Vermont in the early 1900s. The state also hosted baseball's first Indian, Louis Sockalexis, as a college player with Holy Cross in the

1890s, and likely as a professional after his major league career with Cleveland ended.

To sign up for a reminder, visit www.springfieldtownlibrary.org/calendar.

"The Equivalent Lands"

PUTNEY, Vt. – Join the Putney Historical Society to watch a showing of a 2004 filmed performance of the play "The Equivalent Lands" by Joe Greenhoe, at Next Stage, on Sunday, Feb. 22, at 2 p.m.

The play, written for the 1976 Bicentennial celebration, depicts life on the northern frontier as settlers moved into what is now

southern Vermont during the 18th century land disputes between New Hampshire and New York. The story takes place in Putney, Dummerston, and Westminster, where conflicts between supporters of the king of England and those working toward independent governance played out in the years and months prior to the battles of Lexington and

Concord. Those conflicts pitted neighbors against each other. Ancestors of some of the characters in the play still live in the area.

Admission is by suggested donation. Proceeds will go toward the Putney Historical Society. Next Stage is located at 15 Kimball Hill in downtown Putney, Vt. For information, call 802-387-0102 or visit www.nextstagearts.org.

OLLI spring 2026 programs

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Springfield Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) is pleased to announce its spring 2026 programs. Sponsored by the University of Vermont, OLLI is run by local volunteer members, and is geared mainly towards seniors who are 50 years of age

and older, but all are welcome. The programs are held Tuesday afternoons, at 2 p.m., and last about an hour and a half, at the Nolin Murray Center on Pleasant Street, next to St. Mary's Catholic Church, in Springfield, Vt.

Following is the listing of programs for the spring.

Feb. 24, Crown Point Road – Learn about the history of this road with local historians and members of the Crown Point Road Association Barry Griffith and Lonnie Lisai. The road was first marked and cut by the British in 1759, and often is called "Vermont's first interstate highway." It was used as a military road during the French and Indian War, as well as the Revolutionary War.

Thursday, March 12, "Abigail Adams: Liberty & Legacy."

March 24, "Journalism Under Threat"

April 7, "Discovering New England Stone Walls."

April 21, "Historic Log Drives of the Connecticut River."

May 5, "The Chance of Ten Lifetimes: Restoring Notre Dame de Paris."

Thanks go out to our local benefactors Barbara Sanderson and HB Energy Solutions. You can register online at www.learn.uvm.edu/olli/springfield. There is a membership fee. Nonmembers are welcome and encouraged to attend for an individual program fee.

Town and Village of Ludlow Public Hearing #2 Notice

Proposed Plan of Merger of the Town and Village of Ludlow, Vermont
Thursday February 26th, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. (Town of Ludlow)
Tuesday March 3rd, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. (Village of Ludlow)
Hybrid Meetings – Heald Auditorium/Zoom (February 26th, 2026)
Howard Barton Jr. Conference Room (March 3rd, 2026)

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §1484, notice is hereby given of a public hearing by the Town of Ludlow's Board of Selectman and Village Trustees to hear comments regarding a proposed plan of merger of the Town and Village of Ludlow, Vermont. Approval of the plan will result in charter changes in both the Town and Village.

The public hearings will take place on Thursday, February 26th for the Town of Ludlow and Tuesday, March 3rd for the Village of Ludlow. Meetings will begin at 6:00 p.m. You may attend the Public Hearings in-person at the following location/address:

Ludlow Town Hall
37 Depot Street
Ludlow, VT 05149

Or virtually on Zoom using the following links or Meeting IDs/Passcode:

[Select Board Public Hearing #2 - Proposed Merger Plan](#)
Meeting ID# 996 3488 0881 Passcode: 167183

[Village Trustees Public Hearing #2 - Proposed Merger Plan](#)
Meeting ID# 995 7692 3564 Passcode: 538920

Purpose of the Hearings: The purpose of each hearing is to take public comments regarding the proposed Plan of Merger of the Town and Village of Ludlow. Written comments may also be submitted, via email, to Ludlow's Town/Village Manager, Penny K. Wu. Her email address is: pwu@ludlow.vt.us

Summary of the Plan of Merger for the Town and Village of Ludlow and Charter Changes: The Plan of Merger ("Plan") proposes that the Village of Ludlow merge into the Town of Ludlow, with the Town of Ludlow as the sole surviving municipal corporation. It establishes the name of the Town (Ludlow) and declares that all the former Village property, including that associated with the Electric Light Department and Sewer Plant, are transferred to the Town. The Town will assume all the former Village's debts and will perform all the former Village's duties and obligations owed to third parties. The Plan repeals the charters of both the Town and the Village and replaces them with the substance of the Plan as the charter for the Town. The Plan names the officers of the Town and their manner of election or appointment, the form of governance, the powers of the Selectboard, the establishment and organization of the Water and Sewer Board, the governance and operation of the Electric Department and authority of its Board, transitional provisions, and other matters related to the proposed merger and legal operation of the Town thereafter.

Materials Available: The proposed plan of merger and resulting charter changes, and supporting documentation are available on our online website, <https://www.ludlow.vt.us>. An official copy of the plan of merger and charter changes is on file for public inspection in the Town Clerk's office in the Ludlow Town Hall located at 37 Depot Street, Ludlow, VT 05149. Copies thereof will be made available to members of the public upon request.

TOWN & VILLAGE OF LUDLOW DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing before the Ludlow Development Review Board will be held on Monday, March 9th at 6:00 P.M. in the Francis J. Heald Auditorium at the Ludlow Town Hall, 37 Depot Street, and via Zoom, to hear the following applications:

- Toga5 LLC, Application #511-26-CU and #505-26-SITE to remove the existing building at 136 Main Street and construct six (6) new residential units on the existing foundation. This project is located within the Village Residential-Commercial zoning district.
 - The Reserve LLC, Application #SUB-26-003 to subdivide two (2) contiguously owned parcels into a six (6) lot subdivision for future single-family residences. This project is located within the Mountain Recreation zoning district.
- The meeting Agenda will be available on Ludlow's Web page, www.ludlow.vt.us with the Zoom ID and the URL link.

Additional information about this application is available in the Planning and Zoning office at the Town Hall.

Erin Ladd, Director of Planning & Zoning

Art Crafts Gifts

CREATE TOGETHER AT FLETCHER FARM

Community Art Center offering Workshops, Equipped Studios, Camps, and More

611 Rt.103S, Ludlow, VT 802-228-8770
www.CreateTogetherVT.org
(12/9/26 - 52)

GALLERY AT THE VAULT

Art, Crafts, Gifts, Exhibits & Workshops
68 Main St., Springfield VT 802-885-7111 galleryvault.org

OPEN Wed. to Sat. 11-5

Annual Student Art Show through February 28

Bradley Jackson's **Celebrate the Spirit of Nature**
Painting Exhibit, Reception 2/21 Noon-1:30

Workshops galleryvault.org/workshops

Raku Pottery with Andrew Berends 3/7 & 3/14
Beginner Pysanky with Shannon Wallis 3/14 1-4:30
Watercolor Skills with Kim Eng Yeo 3/21 & 28 10-12
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
(04/15/26 - TFN - 13)

Builders/Contractors

PETER JORDAN CONSTRUCTION

Over 25 years of experience in all phases of construction. Framing, finish carpentry, custom showers and tile work, hardwood flooring, decks, and siding. Fully insured and registered with the State of Vermont. Lead Paint Certified. Located in Proctorsville. 802-558-5267.
(05/13/26 - 13)

ROSE'S HOME IMPROVEMENT

Booking for winter 2025 and spring 2026 projects. Offer carpentry, remodeling, interior & exterior painting, window & door replacements, vinyl siding washing, pressure washing, drywall repairs, and odd jobs. Call 802-591-0019 or email billr2808@gmail.com. Caven-dish, Vt.
(05/06/26 - 26)

THE SEMI RETIRED PAINTER

Painting Interior and Exterior
All work done by the person you are paying
Small Honey Do List Projects as well
802-263-9693 rogcaw@msn.com
Roger, Perkinsville, VT
(05/13/26 - 13)

Campground

CATON PLACE CAMPGROUND

2419 EAST ROAD, CAVENDISH VERMONT
SEASONAL SITES AVAILABLE FOR 2026! REASONABLE RATES!
802-226-7767, Catonplacecamp@gmail.com.

Full hook up sites, pull thru, and tent sites. Views of Okemo! Large Private Sites!
(02/25/26 - 13)

Chiropractor

FOUR SEASONS CHIROPRACTIC, PC

Dr. Denise Natale 58 Parker Avenue, Proctorsville, VT 05153, 802-226-7977 Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
(08/12/26 - TFN - 52)

Masonry

DRC STONE DESIGN

Specializing in all Stone Masonry Applications including veneer, walls, patios, walkways. Fully insured. Free estimates. 37 years experience. Contact Dan Field at 802-384-0122 or stoneart49@gmail.com or visit drcstonedesign.com.
(02/18/26 - 13)

MOORE MASONRY

Fireplaces, chimneys and liners, chimney sweeps, patios, walls, steps, restoration and repairs. Fully insured, free estimates. Contact Gary Moore at 802-824-5710 mooremasonry802@gmail.com.
(04/08/26 - 26)

Tools

\$\$ CASH PAID FOR OLD TOOLS \$\$

PLANES, AXES, STANLEY ITEMS, ETC.
802-579-5891
(03/18/26 - 13)