

THE

VERMONT

Journal

SHOPPER EDITION

MARCH 11, 2026 | WWW.VERMONTJOURNAL.COM

VOLUME 65, ISSUE 10

Town Meeting 2026 results

Grafton Selectboard, two-year terms – Anna Keegan and Peter Richardson Rockingham Rockingham Town School District budget, \$11,483,243 – Passed Article 5, town budget, \$7,382,160, with \$5,961,282 to be raised by taxes – Passed Springfield Selectboard, two-year terms – Doug Johnston and Kristi Morris School director – Brenda Boynton Article 4, town budget, \$16,801,225 – Passed	Article 5, highway and road funds, \$1,100,000 – Passed Article 6, sidewalk reconstruction funds, \$100,000 – Passed Article 7, SAPA TV funding, \$10,000 – Passed Article 8, Turning Point Recovery Center tax exemption, five years – Passed Article 9, North School Preservation Society tax exemption, five years – Passed Article 13, Springfield School District budget, \$41,4568,651 – Did not		Hartness Park – Passed Weathersfield Article 5, general fund budget, \$2,054,621, with \$1,659,016 to be raised by taxes – Did not pass School district budget, \$9.95 million – Did not pass Westminster Selectboard, three-year term – Stephen Major Selectboard, two-year term – Real Bazin Sr. Article 2, nonbinding	resolution demanding the removal of President Donald Trump and Vice President JD Vance for crimes against the U.S. Constitution – Passed Article 6, Westminster School District budget, \$5,145,255 – Passed Article 14, general fund budget, \$1,420,499, with \$787,212.63 to be raised by taxes – Passed Article 15, highway fund budget, \$1,769,600, with \$1,497,600 to be raised by taxes – Passed Article 26, to rescind the town manager form of governance – Did not pass	Athens Grafton School District School district budget, \$1,676,464 – Passed Bellows Falls Union High School District School district budget, \$9,192,421 – Passed
--	---	---	---	---	--

GFRCC welcomes board members

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The month of March marks an exciting new chapter for the Great Falls Regional Chamber of Commerce (GFRCC) as they welcome a dynamic group of new and returning board members. Their collective experience, leadership, and commitment will help the chamber deepen our impact and continue strengthening the region we all care about. The GFRCC board now reflects the diversity and energy of the Great Falls region.

We're pleased to welcome Casey Griffin, executive director of the Bellows Falls Downtown Alliance, whose leadership in downtown revitalization strengthens regional collaboration. Kelly Hopkins, a classically trained musician, adds deep knowledge in finance, technology, labor and health care advocacy, and operational systems optimization. Charlie Jarras, owner of Rockingham Hill Farm, brings the perspective of a local business owner and land steward who has long invested in place-based community building. Brianna Stone, owner of Bumbles Birria and Clean Slate Cleaning, represents the entrepreneurial momentum of our region's growing small business community. Heather Waryas, career development coordinator with Windham Northeast Supervisory Union, connects youth, education, and workforce development in meaningful ways. Alan Fowler contributes strong experience in financial oversight and nonprofit systems. Dudley Blossom, social entrepreneur and consultant, brings expertise in governance, strategic planning, and communications. Gary Fox, director of development for the Town of Rockingham, strengthens alignment between municipal priorities and regional economic development. Joanne Erenhouse, volunteer coordinator for Senior Solutions and former executive director of the Bennington Chamber of Commerce, brings decades of chamber leadership experience.

We are grateful for the continued service of Stanley Talstra, who provides continuity and a strong voice for regional connectivity.

Together, this board includes business owners, nonprofit leaders, educators, municipal partners, and systems thinkers – all committed to advancing opportunity and vitality across the Great Falls region.

As we look ahead, we invite you to be part of shaping what comes next. Your ideas, participation, and feedback are essential. Whether through events, committees, volunteer opportunities, or direct outreach, the future of the chamber is something we are building together.



Kelly Hopkins.

PHOTO PROVIDED

8 HIGH ST
LUDLOW, VT 05149-1008
Postal Patron

PRESORTED STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SPRINGFIELD, MA
PERMIT NO. 82

Rockingham elects first majority woman selectboard at Town Meeting

BY PAULA BENSON
The Vermont Journal

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The Town of Rockingham made history last week, when voters elected the first majority woman selectboard in the town's 273-year history. Amy Howlett and Dalila Hall will join Bonnie North, Rick Cowan, and John Dunbar at the table.

Five-hundred eight voters from the Town of Rockingham and the Village of Bellows Falls cast their votes on Tuesday, March 3, three days following their Town Meeting on Feb. 28, where 14 articles for expenditure of public funds were authorized by floor vote.

A budget appropriation of \$7,382,160, with \$5,961,282 to be raised by taxes, was approved to fund highway repair and general town expenses. \$436,780, with \$387,250 to be raised by taxes, will cover operating expenses for the Rockingham Free Public Library.

Article 8 asked voters to authorize the appropriation of \$4,500 for the support of Springfield Area Parent Child Center (SAPCC) to provide services to Rockingham residents. SAPCC executive director Danna Bare attended the Rockingham Town Meeting, and read a list of the services they provide free to local families, including child care financial assistance, weekly play groups, parent education, and a diaper and formula bank. Bare said SAPCC is supported by state contracts, foundation grants, individual donors, and town appropriations.

Bare reported, "In Rockingham, over the past year, we served 397 individuals across 120 unique families.

Seventy percent of those families accessed three or more of our services, demonstrating both the level of need and the trust families place in us." Bare told the meeting that \$4,500 represents just \$37.50 per family per year for members in the Rockingham community.

Additionally, voters authorized \$130,564, with \$67,314 to be raised by taxes, to maintain town cemeteries. \$4,500 was approved to go toward Senior Solutions, the nonprofit that serves older Vermonters, with nutrition and wellness programs, and more.

The selectboard held its reorganizational meeting at 7 p.m. on voting day, in the lower theater, where Cowan was appointed selectboard chair, and Howlett vice chair. The board agreed to continue meeting on the first and third Tuesday of each month, at 6 p.m., in the lower theater, apart from July and August, when they will meet once per month only. Interim town manager Alex Torpey's tenure was extended one month, and The Vermont Journal: Shopper Edition was reauthorized as newspaper of record.

The Little Art Supply Store was granted permission to move into the storefront located at 7 The Square, recently vacated by Works on Paper. Development director Gary Fox reported that Works on Paper had been an excellent tenant for 17 years, and they wanted the new occupant to come with a strong business plan and strong credit reports, and The Little Art Supply checked all boxes.

The board moved into executive session at 8:38 p.m., for the purpose of discussing the appointment of a public officer prior to hearing from citizens regarding any such appointment. The next selectboard meeting will be Tuesday, March 17, at 6 p.m.



Valley Street drug bust

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – After a month-long investigation, the Springfield Police Department was able to obtain a search warrant for 78 Valley Street in Springfield. The subject of the warrant was drugs. In the early morning hours of March 6, the search warrant was executed with the assistance of the Vermont State Police. Multiple individuals were detained. The search resulted in locating drugs, money, and firearms. The individuals charged as a result of the warrant include Randi Sargent, 37, of Springfield, for possession of cocaine, possession of narcotics, and carrying a deadly weapon while committing a felony; Darren Loomis Jr., 43, of Springfield, for possession of cocaine, possession of narcotics, and carrying a deadly weapon while committing a felony; Johnavin Febus, 18, of Springfield, Mass., for possession of cocaine, possession of narcotics, and carrying a deadly weapon while committing a felony; Paul Lachapelle Sr., 65, of Springfield, for conspiracy and knowingly permitting sale of regulated drugs in a dwelling; and Benjamin Runnells, 38, of Springfield, arrested on a warrant, original charges of fraud, cruelty to animals, and petty larceny.



Items seized in the raid.

PHOTO PROVIDED

EMAIL CALENDAR EVENTS
calendar@vermontjournal.com

EMAIL ADS AND CLASSIFIEDS
ads@vermontjournal.com

EMAIL PRESS RELEASES
editor@vermontjournal.com

INDEX

Arts & Entertainment	3
History & Outdoor.....	4
Obituaries & Opinion.....	5
Calendar.....	6
Legal Notices	6-7
Classifieds & Real Estate	7

OUR OFFICE

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

BILLING ADDRESS:
PO Box 116 • Rutland, VT 05702

PHONE NUMBER:
802-228-3600

WEBSITE:
www.VermontJournal.com

CONTACT US

SHAWN TAE 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

DEADLINES

The deadline for all content is Thursday at 4 p.m. for the following week's publication.

Trisha Paradis addresses Rotary Club on community needs

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Trisha Paradis, executive director of the Springfield Family Center, delivered a presentation to members of the Springfield Rotary Club on Tuesday, March 3, highlighting the center's ongoing efforts to support local families and address rising community needs.

Paradis provided an overview of the Springfield Family Center's mission and programs, including emergency food assistance, financial support for housing and utilities, and referral services. She emphasized the growing demand for services amid increasing costs of living and housing challenges across the region.

"Our goal is to meet people where they are and help stabilize families during times of crisis," said Paradis. "Whether it's providing food for the week or connecting someone with longer-term resources, we are focused on helping families move forward."

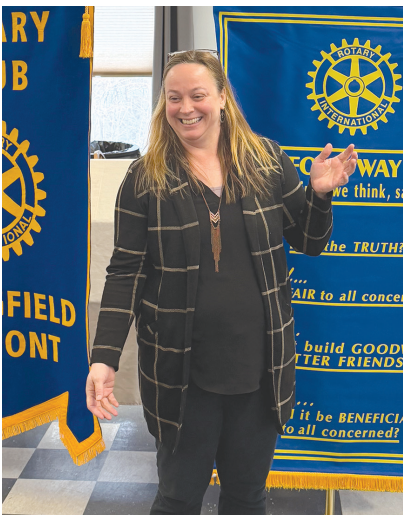
Paradis shared data on the number of households served in the past year, and described how community partnerships and volunteer support play a critical role in the center's

operations. She also outlined current priorities, including expanding food access and strengthening collaborative efforts with other local service organizations.

Members of the Springfield Rotary Club engaged in discussion following the presentation, asking questions about volunteer opportunities, funding needs, and ways the broader community can support the center's mission.

Paradis concluded her remarks by announcing the garden party fundraiser that will take place on Saturday, May 9, from 5-9 p.m., at the Springfield Elks Lodge. The proceeds will benefit the Springfield Supported Housing Program and the Springfield Family Center.

The Springfield Family Center has served area residents for six decades, working to reduce hunger and hardship, while promoting



Trisha Paradis addresses Springfield Rotary Club.

PHOTO PROVIDED

dignity and self-sufficiency. Paradis encouraged those interested in learning more, volunteering, or donating to contact the organization directly.

For more information about the Springfield Family Center, visit www.springfieldfamilycenter.com.

The Springfield Rotary Club meets every Tuesday, at 12 p.m., at the SAPCC Workforce Development & Training Center. For more information, visit www.springfieldvtr Rotary.org.

Podcast episode celebrating Vermont's first woman lieutenant governor

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The history podcast "That's One for History Books" has released its newest episode, dedicated to the inspiring life and legacy of Consuelo Northrop Bailey, the groundbreaking Vermonter who became the first woman elected lieutenant governor in the state of Vermont – and the first woman in the United States to attain that office by election.

In this installment, hosts Marty Cohn and Hugh Ryan explore Bailey's remarkable ascent from a small-town Vermont farm to the heights of statewide political leadership. With a career marked by historic firsts – including Vermont's first female speaker of the house – Bailey's election in 1954 shattered political glass ceilings at a time when few women held major public office.

Listeners will be immersed in the story of how Bailey's legal and legislative expertise propelled her into his-



Vermont Lt. Gov. Consuelo N. Bailey.

PHOTO PROVIDED

tory, including her early years as a lawyer and Vermont's first woman admitted to practice before the state Supreme Court; her election as speaker of the Vermont House of Representatives, becoming the first woman to hold that position; and her groundbreaking victory as the first woman elected lieutenant governor in Vermont and in the nation – a milestone that resonated far beyond the Green Mountain State. "Consuelo Bailey's journey reflects courage, resilience, and a pioneering spirit," said Cohn. "Her leadership paved the way for women in statewide elected office long before it was common, and her story deserves to be remembered and celebrated."

This episode blends bi-

ography, historical context, and inspiring narrative for history lovers, students, and anyone who appreciates stories of women who broke barriers and reshaped American political life.

The latest episode of "That's One for History Books" is available on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Google Podcasts, and all major podcast platforms.

For the past three years, "That's One for History Books" has brought to light the stories of influential figures whose contributions have been overlooked or underappreciated. Through engaging storytelling and in-depth research, each episode uncovers the people behind pivotal moments in history.

HCRS welcomes new staff in January

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Health Care and Reha-

bilitation Services (HCRS), southeastern Vermont's community mental health agency, is pleased to welcome eight new professionals who joined the agency during the month of January. These new hires will strengthen HCRS' services across Windham and Windsor counties as the organization continues to evolve and respond to growing community needs.

With more than 550 staff working across more than 20 locations, HCRS brings on new team members each month to ensure contin-



New HCRS staff hired in January.

PHOTO PROVIDED

ued access to high-quality care across the region. The latest additions reflect the agency's broad reach across southeastern Vermont, and its commitment to providing essential mental health, substance use, and developmental services to more than 4,000 people each year.

HCRS welcomes the following new employees:

Federica Brito, children's clinician, Brattleboro; Zachary Cote, children's behavioral interventionist, Hartford; Martin Gawron, residential specialist, Bellows Falls; Alexander Baker, children's behavioral interventionist, Hartford; Robert Myrland, behavioral support staff, Kindle Farm School; Natasha Lawson, respite provider, Brattleboro; Alivia Emerson, respite provider, Springfield; and Melissa Dickerson, office generalist, Hartford.

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

FOOD SHELF

BLACK RIVER GOOD NEIGHBOR SERVICES

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

"We are here to help"

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

DIAMOND POINT WEALTH PARTNERS

Formerly Huntley Financial Services

Derek Karner
802-228-5774

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

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

Aqua-Aid Systems

WATER CONDITIONING & FILTRATION

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

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

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

Hellenbrand
What's In Your Water?

ON SITE, NO CHARGE, TESTING AND ESTIMATES

800-252-8484

MORNINGSIDE
Service Station

- Custom Exhaust with Warranty
- Full Service Repair Facility

Veteran Owned & Operated

(603) 543-3166
16 Morningside Lane, Charlestown, NH

PICTURE PERFECT, NOW WAIT UNTIL YOU TASTE IT

Butcher's Classic Pack **SAVE 60%**

- 4 Butcher's Cut Filet Mignons (5 oz.)
- 4 Air-Chilled Boneless Chicken Breasts (5 oz.)
- 4 PureGround® Filet Mignon Burgers (6 oz.)
- 4 Gourmet Jumbo Franks (3 oz.)
- 4 Individual Scalloped Potatoes (3.8 oz.)
- 4 Caramel Apple Tartlets (4 oz.)
- 1 Omaha Steaks Seasoning (3 oz.)

8 FREE Omaha Steaks Burgers (4 oz.)

81081XEL separately \$929.99
SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY PRICE \$429.99

OmahaSteaks.com/ClassicPack7399 | 1.833.897.4133
Ask for your FREE burgers with offer 81081XEL

Savings shown over aggregated single item base price. Photos exemplary of product advertised. \$ free 4 oz. burgers will be sent to each shipping address that includes 81081. Limit 2. Standard S&H added per address. While supplies last. Items may be substituted due to inventory limitations. Some products may not be available for sale in your area. Sales are subject to OmahaSteaks.com/terms-of-use. Expires 12/31/26. 25M8931 | Omaha Steaks, LLC

Bald Hill Trail snowshoe walk

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – On Saturday, March 14, from 12-1 p.m., please join the Rockingham Free Public Library (RFPL) for a snowshoe walk on the Bald Hill Trail. Walkers will join Windham Pinnacle volunteer and educator Vanessa Stern for a walk in the woods, and enjoy donuts afterwards. This walk is free and open to the public.

Walkers should meet at the Cemetery Road entrance to Bald Hill Trail, on Route 5 by Bellows Falls Union High School, at 11:45 a.m. We will leave for the walk at 12 p.m. Please remember to dress for the weather. Bring your own snowshoes/poles, or borrow them from the library; please borrow in advance, because they will not be available at the

trail. This snowshoe walk is part of Rockingham Free Public Library's Rockingham Gathers program, made possible by a 2025 AARP Vermont Winter Placemaking Grant. Rockingham Gathers is a series of programs and activities the Rockingham Library is organizing during winter 2025-2026, to support "creative, inclusive programming that fosters community connection, and combats social isolation among older adults during the coldest months of the year." RFPL is one of eight organizations from across Vermont to receive this grant.

For more information about this and other programs, call 802-463-4270, visit www.rockinghamlibrary.org, or stop by the library at 65 Westminster Street, Bellows Falls, Vt.

Rick Strobl

Income Tax Preparation

Affordable • Experienced • Accurate • Direct Deposit

Now Purchasing Pre-1964 Silver Coins

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

Call for Appointment: 802-299-5121
Springfield, VT Claremont, NH

CHAVES EXCAVATING

ALL MATERIALS FOR COMPLETE SITE WORK

Sand • Gravel • Stone
Shurpac • Topsoil • Fill

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

Portable On-Site Crushing & Screening Equipment

802-824-3140
Londonderry, VT

arts & entertainment

Hiroya Tsukamoto at Stage 33 Live

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Internationally acclaimed fingerstyle guitarist Hiroya Tsukamoto will perform on Sunday, March 15, at 2 p.m., at Stage 33 Live, 33 Bridge Street in Bellows Falls, Vt.

Tsukamoto is a one-of-a-kind musician and composer – an eclectic, immersive, and mesmerizing guitarist, who takes audiences on an innovative, impressionistic journey filled with earthy, organic soundscapes rich in subtle detail. A dizzyingly agile fingerpicker, who always chooses beauty over

bombast, his transcendent performances combine instrumental guitar work with lyrical performance and spoken stories.

Born and raised in Kyoto, Japan, he received a scholarship to Berklee College of Music and came to the U.S. Since then, he has been performing internationally, including at the United Nations, the Blue Note in New York, and on Japanese national television. Tsukamoto will be pleased to meet and greet with the audience after the performance.

Tickets can be purchased in advance at www.stage33live.com, or at the door as available. Only 40 tickets will be sold.

Tsukamoto will also provide an opportunity of special interest to fingerstyle players of all levels of ability and accomplishment – an informal masterclass beginning at 11 a.m., preceding his concert. There is a discounted class-plus-concert bundle. See www.stage33live.com for more information and registration.

SHS Theater presents “Treasure Island”

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Springfield High School Theater Department presents “Treasure Island” by Ken Ludwig, adapted from the novel by Robert Louis Stevenson. Performances will be at the Springfield High School auditorium on Friday, March 20, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, March 21, at 7 p.m.; and Sunday, March 22, at 2 p.m. Admission is by donation.

Based on the masterful adventure novel by Robert Louis Stevenson, “Treasure Island” is a stunning yarn of piracy on the tropical seas. It begins at an inn on the Devon coast of England in 1775, and quickly becomes an unforgettable tale of treachery and mayhem featuring a host of legendary swashbucklers, including the dangerous Billy Bones (played unforgettably in



Props and set of “Treasure Island.” PHOTO PROVIDED

who longs for adventure, and the infamous Long John Silver, who is a complex study of good and evil, perhaps the most famous hero-villain of all time. Silver is an unscrupulous buccaneer; a rogue whose greedy quest for gold, coupled with his affection for Jim, cannot help but win the heart of every soul who has ever longed for romance, treasure, and adventure. This production is appropriate for all ages. For more information, call 802-885-7954, or email Rebecca Skrypeck at rskrypeck@ssdv.org.

the movies by Lionel Barrymore), the sinister two-timing Israel Hands, the brassy woman pirate Anne Bonney, and the hideous form of evil incarnate Blind Pew. At the center of it all are Jim Hawkins, a 14-year-old boy

“A Musical Conversation”

PUTNEY, Vt. – Next Stage proudly presents “Race & Song: A Musical Conversation,” a powerful and engaging performance by veteran musicians and storytellers Pamela Means and Alastair Mook, on Saturday, March 14, at Next Stage Arts.

“Race & Song” is an exploration of history and current events through the lens of race, using music as both catalyst and connective tissue. Drawing on their long-standing friendship, Means and Mook invite audiences into thoughtful, generous conversations about race, class, gender, and history, grounded in lived experience and brought vividly to life through song, storytelling, and images.

In musical dialogue, Means and Mook share personal narratives alongside historical and family photos, weaving together songs such as “Wade in the

Water,” “Freight Train,” “It’s a Mighty Long Way,” “This Little Light of Mine,” and Mook’s original “Be a Pain.” These songs and the stories behind them offer historical context, while amplifying the artists’ individual perspectives, reminding audiences that music has always been a powerful vehicle for truth-telling and connection.

This performance is part

of the Voices Rising series by the Opening Doors Project. “Race & Song” is funded in part by the New England Foundation for the Arts through the New England States Touring program, made possible with support from the National Endowment for the Arts and the six New England state arts agencies.

Tickets are available at www.nextstagearts.org.

Gypsy Reel to perform for St. Patrick’s Day

LUDLOW, Vt. – Celtic powerhouse Gypsy Reel will be warming up for St. Patrick’s Day with a special show at the Black Line Tavern, at Magic Mountain in Londonderry, on Friday, March 13, from 4-7 p.m. Superb choice of beer and food make for a great atmosphere to hear the best Irish music this side of Galway.

On Tuesday, March 17, Gypsy Reel will be re-

turning for their 21st annual St. Patrick’s Day show on March 17, at 6 p.m., at The Killarney in Ludlow. Incorporating fiddle, banjo, mandolins, guitars, upright bass, bodhran, and four-part harmonies, Gypsy Reel will perform traditional sing-alongs as well as toe-tapping dance tunes from the Irish tradition. As always, traditional food and drinks will be served, along with great music. This year promises

to also feature the premiere of Maxwell’s musical saw.

If you want a quieter venue to hear Gypsy Reel strut their Celtic stuff, the Fletcher Library in Ludlow will host an acoustic show at on St. Patrick’s Day, March 17, at 3 p.m., and then they will be wrapping up the festivities at the Ransom Tavern, at the Kedron Valley Inn in South Woodstock, on Wednesday, March 18, from 6-8 p.m.

Artists Town Meeting

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The next Artists Town Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 14, from 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m., at the Rockingham Free Public Library, 65 Westminster Street, Bellows Falls. Artists, artisans, local food growers, and the general public are encouraged to participate.

The focus of these meetings is to bring creatives together in order to share ideas, challenges, and opportunities.

“The more we know each other and can identify ourselves as a constituency, the more strength and credibility we gain,” Robert McBride, director of Rockingham Arts and Museum Project (RAMP), explains. “There is an ever-growing community of working artists and local growers in our midst, all of whom are contributing to the cultural and economic vitality of our communities. One of RAMP’s many roles is to be an advocate for these artists. In

order to be effective in that role, RAMP creates and participates in opportunities to hear from local artists, and assist them in making community connections that benefit us all.”

“The Fourth Corner Foundation is looking forward to cohosting this Artists Town Meeting. We are interested in hearing from local artists and supporting the upcoming Vermont State Craft Open Studio Tour, on May 23 and 24,” said Jeanette Staley, administrator.

“We are delighted to be hosting the meeting. This gathering aligns with our new mission statement to strengthen personal and

community wellbeing through diverse arts experiences and social connection,” said Ashley Storrow, director of programs at Main Street Arts in Saxtons River.

For accessibility questions, please call the Rockingham Free Public Library at 802-463-4270.

RAMP and the library thank The Vermont Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, The Windham Foundation, and Chroma for helping to make these meetings possible.

Interested participants are asked to RSVP by emailing ramp@sover.net with “Artists Town Meeting RSVP” in the subject line.

Mitch’s Maples

Pure Vermont Maple Products

Sugar House Open Daily

802-952-9570

In Chester, take Route 11 East for 1/2 Mile. Take Right onto Green Mtn. Turnpike. We’re the first house on the left!

Our Own
Maple Syrup
Member VMSMA

banking made easy.

Free & Clear Checking Account

- NO minimum balance
- NO maintenance fees
- Overdraft Protection*
- Access to hundreds of CO-OP Network ATMs nationwide

*Share account is required. No monthly fee refers to 802 Credit Union’s “free” accounts only. Overdraft Protection after 30 days with conditions. See 802cu.com for details. NCUA.

802cu.com

BAKED HADDOCK DINNER

Bellows Falls American Legion, Post #37

Friday Night
March 20, 2026
5:00 - 6:30 pm

Haddock - Veggies
Rice Pilaf - Roll
Butter & Dessert

\$15.00 / Person

All proceeds go to ‘Legion Baseball’

Reservations until 6:00 pm, 802-463-0762

Commander: Mike Viveivos
Chairman: Doug Roberts
Pub. Relations: Smokey Aumand

Mark your Calendar!

St Patrick’s Day Savings, TUE 3/17
For every \$100 spent, Get \$15 Off

Celebrate 4/20 with Us!
A day of deals, discounts, give-a-ways, and a live performance by Sammy B!
More details to come

Everyday Savings: 10-20% Discounts
Veterans • Seniors • Medical Card Holders
VT & NH Residents • OKEMO Employees
OKEMO Valley Region Chamber of Commerce Members & their Employees

Check our website for details

7 Pineview Drive, Chester • 802-875-WEED
DownToTheRootsVT.com • ORDER AHEAD ONLINE
Our cannabis is stored for freshness in vapor pressure-controlled Cannatrol® systems.

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

3RD ANNUAL ❄️ ❄️ ❄️ ❄️ ❄️ ❄️ ❄️ ❄️ ❄️ ❄️

LET IT GLOW

WINTER ICE FESTIVAL

MARCH 14 + 5 - 8 PM
JACKSON GORE COURTYARD

CIRQUE DE FUEGO
FIRE PERFORMANCE-6PM

- ✦ DJ ✦ FOOD TRUCKS ✦
- ✦ ICE SCULPTURE GALLERY ✦
- ✦ GLOW PHOTOBOOTH ✦
- ✦ GLOW TUBING ✦
- ✦ SNOWCAT PARADE ✦
- ✦ FIRE ENTERTAINMENT ✦
- BY CIRQUE DE FUEGO WEATHER DEPENDENT
- ✦ AND MORE! ✦

ICE BAR WRISTBANDS ARE NOW ON SALE AT OKEMO.COM

OKEMO

SPONSORED BY:
WILLIAM RAVEIS REAL ESTATE
VERMONT PROPERTIES TEAM

outdoor/history

“Wild Hope: Building for Birds & Puffling Patrol”—

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – The Cavendish Fletcher Community Library (CFCL) and the Cavendish Community Conservation Association (CCCA) will host “Wild Hope: Building for Birds & Puffling Patrol: Two Short Films About Supporting Birds,” an all-ages, free film screening event, on Friday, March 13, at 6 p.m., at the Cavendish Fletcher Community Library, 573 Main Street, Proctorsville, Vt.

Birds play vital ecological roles in our world; they’re seed dispersers, flower pollinators, pest predators, and so much more. But many of them need our help; habitat loss and urban expansion have put significant strains on wild populations, and have contributed to the deaths of more than 1 billion birds from window collisions each year in the U.S. alone. Luckily, these collisions are incredibly preventable. In “Wild Hope: Building for Birds,” attendees will get to know their local and migratory birds, and learn about simple, easy solutions to protect the birds in our community.

The Smithsonian’s National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute in Washington, D.C., is located in the middle of a major migration route that birds have flown for thousands of years. To stop collisions from happening on their campus, the zoo’s team uses patterned decals to make glass visible

to our feathered friends. In New York City, migrating birds face a gauntlet of concentrated glass, and many do not survive. The Jacob K. Javits Convention Center was once one of the city’s worst offenders, but creative renovations have transformed the building into a wildlife oasis.

A critical obstacle remains: Our residences account for nearly 50% of bird strikes. However, simple solutions like window paint, decals, or even a bar of soap with patterns spaced 2 inches apart, could save the lives of millions of birds.

Light pollution confuses and disorients seabirds around the globe, luring them towards land, and potentially dangerous situations. In the Westman Islands off the southwest coast of Iceland, however, one community has banded together to save lost young puffins. In “Wild Hope: Puffling Patrol,” we will learn more about this community and the steps they have taken.

Program attendees will receive “feather friendly” tape or a window paint marker, and have an opportunity to enter a raffle for a Flight Path book bag and water bottle.

We are pleased to offer this event as part of the nationwide Flight Path, which brings science-backed solutions to communities to build a safer world for

birds. Flight Path is the first campaign under Spark of Science @ My Library, a joint initiative between HHMI Tangled Bank Studios and the Star Library Education Network. Spark of Science @ My Library delivers high-quality, fun, and engaging resources through targeted outreach campaigns to public libraries. Campaign themes will showcase the process of science, and focus on life science topics including health, biology, and ecology. Themed resources will be available to libraries for free, and give them the flexibility to customize programs and activities for their communities and patrons.

CFCL and CCCA will continue to support our local and migratory birds and other animals between now and the coming summer with fun activities for the whole family, including other HHMI Tangled Bank Studios films, an outdoor bioblitz, and bird-watching events. To find out more about the additional upcoming bird-focused events, please visit www.cavendishlibrary.org, or call the library at 802-226-7503.

Women in the American Revolution

CAVENDISH, Vt. – Without women, the Revolutionary War would not have been won. Often overlooked in history books, which tend to focus on battles and men, women were responsible for running the boycotts, serving the quartermaster function in camps, nursing, manning cannons, spying, and much more. Not only did women influence the outcome of the war, but the war set the stage for women to begin liberating themselves

over the coming centuries, legally and economically, from patriarchal control.

On Saturday, March 14, at 1 p.m., at the Cavendish Library in Proctorsville, the Cavendish Historical Society will hold a talk on Hannah Lovell and the role of women in the Revolutionary War. Lovell, who carried messages during the war, is the only woman in the Cavendish cemeteries with acknowledgment as a “patriot” on her gravestone and a Revolutionary War flag holder. However, she was far from the only fe-

male patriot. This event will include showing excerpts from Ken Burns’ “The American Revolution” series, as well as a “Liberty Tea” party featuring the drinks of the era: special tea, coffee, and hot chocolate.

This event is free, open to the public, and recommended for those 12 years old and older. In the event of inclement weather, changes will be posted to www.facebook.com/cavendishvt by 10 a.m. For more information, call 802-226-7807 or email margocaulfield@icloud.com.

Bluebirds in Londonderry

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – On Thursday, March 19, the Londonderry Conservation Commission will feature veterinarian Dr. Ron Svec presenting a family-friendly program entitled “It’s All About the Bluebird!” He will talk about the history, life, and nesting of the eastern bluebird. It is a story of success due in most part to citizen conservationists’ efforts to provide nest boxes to ensure their survival. We will learn about their preferred habitats as a way to understand

how to attract them to our homes, to provide safe and successful nesting boxes, and to enjoy the company of these beautiful birds.

Svec is a veterinarian, Dummerston conservation commissioner, and member of the North American Bluebird Society.

“It’s All About the Bluebird!” is a presentation of the Londonderry Conservation Commission, and will take place on Thursday, March 19, from 5-6:15 p.m., at the Flood Brook School, located at 91 Vermont Route 11 in Londonderry.

The conservation commission has also been collaborating with the seventh grade teachers at Flood Brook School and Mountain Towns recreation director Liam Elio to organize a bluebird box-building workshop there on April 2. Students will work in closely supervised, small groups to assemble their own bluebird boxes with precut materials supplied by the conservation commission, who will also advise and help with setting up the boxes around the school and in other suitable places on town lands.

24 Hours of Stratton and Shred4Nate race

STRATTON MOUNTAIN, Vt. – The Stratton Community Foundation presents the return of the 24 Hours of Stratton, set for March 14 and 15, at Stratton Mountain Resort. This one-of-a-kind winter celebration invites participants of all ages and abilities to ski or snowboard under lighted trails, enjoy live music and fireworks, and take part in family-friendly activities, all while supporting children and families across southern Vermont.

The 24 Hours of Stratton is more than just a ski event; it’s an entire weekend featuring friendly competitions, team trivia, glow

parties, on- and off-mountain games, overnight base lodge activities, and more. Participants receive two-day lift access, can track their progress via a mobile app, and earn badges and points for their teams.

Since its inception in 2012, the event has raised more than \$3.5 million to fund critical programs that help low-income children overcome the challenges of poverty and thrive. Funds raised support the foundation’s mission to provide access to basic necessities, educational opportunities, mental health resources,

and innovative community programs.

Registration is free to sign up; participants aged 12 and older agree to a minimum fundraising goal. Children 11 and younger can take part for free. Students from local schools may sign up with a reduced fundraising minimum.

The weekend also includes the annual Shred4Nate race on March 14, a memorial alpine event that highlights mental health awareness and suicide prevention, bringing community and competitors together for an important

cause.

For more information, to register, or to donate, visit www.strattonfoundation.org, or www.stratton24.com. To sign up for the Shred4Nate alpine race, visit www.shred4nate.org.

The mission of the Stratton Community Foundation is to address the challenges that stand between a child in need and the opportunity to be healthy, safe, and prepared to learn. As a community-based nonprofit, our role is to care for the wellbeing of families across southern Vermont.

Mount Holly Snow Flyers announce Ultimate Build Battle

MOUNT HOLLY, Vt. – The Mount Holly Snow Flyers (MHSF) are calling on all citizens, families, riders, and winter enthusiasts to brainstorm and help make our area festive with the Snow Flyers Ultimate Build Battle.

Through March 29, the club is turning Mount Holly and their local Vermont Association of Snow Travelers (VAST) trail junctions into an open-air art gallery.

This interactive event encourages community members to get into the snow to create the most imaginative snow creatures, snowmen,

or snow sculptures Mount Holly has ever seen.

The contest is designed to be easy to enter while exploring the beautiful Mount Holly area and trail system. The process is as follows.

Construct your masterpiece within the Mount Holly town limits and/or at any VAST junction within the Mount Holly Snow Flyers network. Then, take a high-quality photo of your creation. Crucially, the photo must clearly show the VAST junction number and/or the 911 location so the judges can verify the lo-

cation. Finally, upload your photo to the Mount Holly Snow Flyers Facebook page to officially enter, or email the Snow Flyers at mounthollysnowflyers@gmail.com.

Creativity is the name of the game. The builder of the most impressive or unique snow sculpture will be crowned the Ultimate Build Battle Champion, and will receive a \$100 gift card to DJ’s Restaurant.

“We wanted to give people a fun reason to stop, take in the scenery, and leave a little bit of magic on the trails and in town,” said Snow Flyers President Dale Sutherland. “Whether it’s a giant Printho groomer, a trailside yeti, or a classic frosty, we want to see Mount Holly’s creativity on full display. You do not have to be a snowmobiler – build it in Mount Holly, or just find one of our junctions and start building.”

All entries must be posted by March 29, at 11:59 p.m. Please ensure sculptures are built safely off the groomed path or roadway to keep trails clear for passing cars and riders. Use only natural snow and ice; please refrain from using nonbiodegradable decorations, or take down the items on March 30.

COME JOIN US AT THE GREEN MOUNTAIN SUGAR HOUSE

MAPLE OPEN HOUSE WEEKEND IS COMING

Saturday - March 21st
Sunday - March 22nd
10-5PM

SUGAR HOUSE TOURS
YUMMY SAMPLES

WE WILL BE BOILING
WEATHER PERMITTING

820 Route 100 North Ludlow, Vermont

FIBER INSULATION • ELECTRIC SUPPLIES

PLUMBING & HEATING

MASONRY PRODUCTS

LAMBERT SUPPLY CO. INC.

YOUR ONE STOP BUILDING & MODERNIZING CENTER

INSIDE SPECIALS happening now!

Stop in the store today!

409 Main Street • 603-542-5111
CLAREMONT, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03743

LOU@LAMBERTSUPPLY.COM

OVER 2000 BROKEN-IN TIRES

MANY SETS OF 4

GOODYEAR CANON TIRE INC.

CANON TIRE

I-91, Exit 8, Ascutney, VT
802-674-5600

NEW TIRES TOO!!

70 YEARS

IT'S OKEMO'S 70TH SEASON! SEE HOW WE'RE CELEBRATING!

Upcoming Events

3/13 | 8 AM | JACKSON GORE
FIRST TRACKS FOR EPIC PASSHOLDERS

3/14 | 5-8PM | JACKSON GORE
LET IT GLOW WINTER ICE FESTIVAL

4/4 | 12-2PM | CLOCK TOWER
OKEMO SLUSH CUP

4/4 | 2-5PM | CLOCK TOWER
SNOW MELT PARTY

MORE 70TH SEASON EVENTS HERE!

OKEMO

David Chaves EXCAVATING

Family Owned & Operated Since 1980

Complete Site Work
From Clearing to Finish
Grading, Roads, Foundations
Septics & Drainage Problems

Specializing In
Equine Land Development & Ponds

802-824-3140
Londonderry, VT

Sculpting your piece of Vermont to fit your Dreams!

OPINION

obituaries

Audrey J. Harrigan, 1929-2026

N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our beloved Audrey Jane Harrigan on Feb. 25, at the age of 96.

Born on Nov. 7, 1929, in the Bronx, N.Y., Audrey attended Walton High School and Hunter Business School, where she studied business, and earned certificates in stenography and bookkeeping. Following her education, she began her career with the New York Telephone Company as an operator, steadily advancing to supervisor and, later, group manager. She retired after 30 dedicated years of service.

In 1947, she married the love of her life, William “Bill” Harrigan. They shared 67 devoted years together, building a life centered on family and companionship.

Audrey and Bill settled in City Island, where they welcomed their two children, before later moving to Long Island. Upon retirement, they relocated to Vermont, to be closer to their daughter and grandchildren, while spending their winters in Florida. Family was always at the center of Audrey’s world, and her home was a place of warmth and welcome, filled with laughter and love.

She was preceded in death by her husband William, her son Billy, her brother Robert Ohlsen and sister-in-law Shirley, and her parents Edith and Howard Ohlsen. She is survived by her daughter Katherine Harrigan; her five grandchildren Christina Carmody, Tracy Carmody Davis (John), Julie Carmody (Joe), Laura Carmody, and Michael Carmo-



Audrey Harrigan, 1929-2026. PHOTO PROVIDED

dy (Haley); and her seven great-grandchildren.

Audrey will forever be remembered as sassy, hard-working, fiercely independent, and deeply loving – a woman with limited cooking skills, an unforgettable wit, and a spectacular sense of humor.

A celebration of Audrey’s life will be held this spring, and announced to family and friends.

Diana Toomey, 2026

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Diana Vogel Toomey passed away peacefully at home on Feb. 26, 2026, surrounded by her family. Diana was a woman of boundless curiosity, a scientific mind, and a generous heart. She was 79 years old.

Her life was lived with intention and joy: full of learning, playfulness, and appreciation of the small things. She cared deeply for her friends and family, never forgetting a birthday or an anniversary. A beloved wife, mother, and grandmother, she delighted in her three children and five grandchildren, following their interests and accomplishments with pride and enthusiasm.

Diana was born in Portland, Maine, the daughter of Frederick W. Vogel and Maude Horner Vogel. Her father was her childhood hero, and some of her happiest memories were of summers spent exploring the coast of Maine on his boat and playing on the beach in Falmouth with her cousin Carol. Her father passed away in 1978, but she and her mother were blessed to have many more years of close friendship before Maude’s death in 2004. Diana devotedly cared for her mother in her final years.

The memories and friendships from her childhood and high school years in Bellows Falls were a sustaining force throughout her life. Diana knew her future husband Bill Toomey from infancy; their parents, who played bridge together, would place them in the same crib. Years later, she found she was captivated by his quick wit, poet’s heart, and ability to spin a yarn. They shared interests not only in literature, but also in music; she was a talented flautist.

They fell in love, and Diana favored Bill with her hand in marriage in 1969, a union that would last 56 years. Early in their marriage, Bill and Diana traveled to the Netherlands and Switzerland, where their first two children, Sebastian and Anneke, were born. Af-

ter their return to the States, their third child, Theron, was born in the hospital just across the street from her parents’ house. Diana took on the challenges of motherhood with zeal. She and Bill often took direct responsibility for their children’s education, tutoring them in math, science, history, English, and foreign languages. Her gardening was another point of pride, and she cultivated beautiful flower beds and vegetable gardens where her children played, dreamed, and grazed on the fruits of her labor.

Diana earned her bachelor’s degree cum laude in English literature from Wheaton in 1968, and she placed great value on academic achievement and the pursuit of knowledge throughout her life. For many years, she worked at Misty Valley Books in Chester, Vt., a role that suited her perfectly. She loved bookselling, and delighted in helping customers find just the right book. An avid book collector herself, she built a remarkable personal library spanning science, education, economics, architecture, and leadership. Her extensive vocabulary and competitive streak made her a formidable opponent at Bananagrams or any other word game.

She also gave generously of her time and talents to the community. A champion for literacy and education, she served on the elementary school and public library boards in Grafton. She had a fantastic head for numbers; she could do everything from chairing a meeting to writing a grant, and was a tiger at wrestling financial records into submission. In recent years, she served on the board of the nonprofit Julia’s Way, where she played an indispensable role in bringing its pioneering book “Breast-feeding & Down Syndrome” to publication.

Diana fought and beat breast cancer twice over the course of her life. She faced



Diana Toomey, 2026. PHOTO PROVIDED

her final illness, Stage 4 lung cancer, with bravery and grace. Diana never smoked, and was surprised to learn how common lung cancer is among nonsmokers, particularly women. She would want others to be aware and seek screening. The family wishes to thank the compassionate hospice team and caregivers who supported Diana in her final days.

Diana is survived by her husband Bill Toomey; her three children Sebastian (Janna Cordeiro), Anneke (Edward Perry), and Theron; five grandchildren Oscar, Diana, Ivan, and Isadora Perry, and Ava Toomey-Cordeiro; two step-grandchildren Max Perry and Jacqueline Perry; sister-in-law Deborah Toomey (David Whittall); nephew Julian Rutledge and niece Anna Rutledge; cousins Carol Galloway, Monica Horner, and Glenn Horner (Diane); as well as dear friends who are considered family, Janet and David Curran, Gudrun Taubenberger, Desiree Herzfeld, Alysoun Johansson, Ailyn Hoey, Valerie Rooney, Ella Cullen, and the Brelsford family. Diana will always live in our hearts.

At the convenience of the family, a memorial gathering will be held later in the year. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Grace Cottage Foundation in Townshend, Vt, www.gracecottage.org.

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

First Baptist Church of Bellows Falls interfaith service

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The First Baptist Church of Bellows Falls will host a special interfaith service for peace on Saturday, March 21, at 6 p.m., inviting community members of all faith traditions to gather for an evening

centered on peace, unity, hope, and compassion.

All are welcome to attend; we invite you to come as you are and bring friends and neighbors to share in an evening of reflection, connection, and shared commitment to

peace.

For more information, contact the church at 802-463-3220, email fbcbellowsfalls@gmail.com or fbbfpastor@gmail.com, or visit the church at 9 Church Street, Bellows Falls, Vt.

Letters to the Editor

To the Voters of Springfield,

On Town Meeting Day, you showed your support of the North School Pres-

ervation Society by passing Article 9. To everyone who voted “yes,” we send you a big thank-you.

Sincerely,
Virginia Ricker
Treasurer, North School Preservation Society

Dear Editor,

Our warmongering president has now unleashed an immoral attack along with his genocidal companion, Netanyahu.

This deplorable decision is inhuman, immoral, and worthy of impeachment.

Obama had a nuclear deal that kept Iran from making nuclear weapons.

Without any evidence of substantive Iranian violations, Trump tore that up. Now, he is using the lack of a new agreement as a front to establish a new regime in Iran, to deflect from the Epstein files, and to lay the groundwork for canceling the midterms.

We have never had a

president as despicable and corrupt as Trump, and we’ll not recover from the theft of our democracy and loss of standing in the world for decades, if ever.

Sincerely,
Tony Petrillo
Springfield, Vt.

Sen. Alison Clarkson legislative update, week of Feb. 22

The Vermont Legislature is two weeks away from crossover, and the pressure is on to get the priority bills out of their committees of jurisdiction and on their paths to the other body. All bills have to be passed by both bodies – the House and the Senate – and crossover is that time period (roughly halfway through the session) where, in my case, our work gets passed out of the Senate and over to the House for further consideration.

In the committee I chair, Senate Economic Development, Housing, and General Affairs, my expectation is that we will pass out: (1) a housing bill, S.328, which aims to increase housing through many measures, from creating an off-site construction accelerator pilot, including housing targets in our town plans, creating more service-supported housing for people with special needs, to increasing housing loan and down payment opportunities, enabling more housing and EV charging in common interest communities; (2) an economic development bill, S.327, which further supports resources essential to the success of our small businesses and other provisions designed to encourage economic

development; (3) a miscellaneous labor bill, S.230; (4) a consumer protection bill, S.198, putting in place measures to reduce teenage vaping, which is increasing at an alarming rate and proving addictive and unhealthy; and (5) a cannabis bill, S.278, which aims to make our craft cannabis businesses more competitive regionally and prepare for federal decertification.

Last week we passed out another labor bill, S.173, which streamlines the vocational rehabilitation system in workers compensation, and charges the Department of Labor to convene a task force to improve this system. Our objective in this bill is to get people who have been seriously injured in the workplace back to work or retrained for another type of work, as soon as possible. Each of these bills are available to review on the legislative website. Needless to say, they will change as they make their way through the legislative process.

In my afternoon Senate Government Operations Committee (SGO), we have passed out two bills – one which lingered from last year, S.23. It aims to reduce deceptive AI-generated political advertising leading up to an elec-

tion. People felt this issue needed to be addressed in the wake of the very concerning fake Joe Biden AI-generated robocalls in New Hampshire, in 2024. That bill has now been sent to the governor to be signed into law. In addition, SGO passed out S.255, a bill which creates a regional policing pilot in Windham County. For a number of years, SGO has considered efforts to regionalize public safety to improve equity and access. We have a dearth of volunteers in EMS and firefighting, and law enforcement is a patchwork of towns which either have their own police departments, or which rely on the state police responding from distant barracks, or on the sheriff’s contracted coverage. This bill sets up a five-year pilot, which enables towns in Windham County to join voluntarily, and efficiently and transparently share law enforcement costs. It offers professional law enforcement services at an affordable cost through an innovative county funding mechanism, and would be overseen and accountable to the Windham County Law Enforcement Governance

Council.

The Senate floor activity is ramping up. Last week we passed a bill several Senate committees have been working on for a year, S. 218, which is designed to reduce road salt runoff and contamination of our public waters and drinking wells. Increasingly, road salt is damaging our waters, harming both flora and fauna (trees and fish in particular), and our public transportation infrastructure, corroding bridges, roads, and culverts, at a high cost to taxpayers. Vermont is behind our neighboring states, which have addressed this issue for a number of years.

I appreciate hearing from you. I can be reached by email at a Clarkson@leg.state.vt.us; by phone at the statehouse, Tuesday-Friday, at 802-828-2228; or at home, Saturday-Monday, at 802-457-4627. To get more information on the Vermont Legislature, and the bills which have been proposed and passed, visit the legislative website, legislature.vermont.gov.

Sen. Alison Clarkson
Windsor District

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Subject to space. May be edited for clarity, grammatical errors, and libelous statements. Must be kept under 400 words. Must include name and town for publication. Viewpoints do not necessarily reflect the views of The Vermont Journal & The Shopper.

POLITICAL LETTERS: Due to the volume of political letters we receive during elections, and the increased cost of adding pages to the paper to print them all, political letters are charged at the rate of \$75 for 200 words, and \$0.50 per word thereafter. Political letters include endorsing, electioneering, or campaigning for, or against, a specific candidate or party.

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

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

ONE STOP FOR ALL YOUR BUILDING NEEDS

DEPOT HOME CENTER

HELP WANTED
Part-Time & Full-Time, Inside and Out

ROOF RAKES, KEROSENE, HEAT TAPES, SLEDS, ICE MELTS, PROPANE & ELECTRIC HEATER, PLUMBING SUPPLIES, WOOD PELLETS

Reg & Jan Bailey, Owners
Box 390, 56 Depot St. • Charlestown, NH 03603
Tel: 603-826-3251 • Fax: 603-826-5336
Open 7 Days a Week

GENERAL

AUTO SALVAGE Co., INC.

New Hampshire and Vermont's Largest Auto Recycler!!!

WE BUY USED CARS & TRUCKS!
Complete – Delivered. Will pay \$300 and up for 2014 or newer

800-562-3845 – 603-542-9595 – sales@generalautosalvage.com
239 Old Newport Road, Claremont, NH 03743

R.E. HINKLEY CO., INC.

8 Lane Ridge Rd. • P.O. Box 832
Claremont, NH 03743

Heating Oil • Kerosene • Diesel Fuel
Propane • Air Conditioning • Plumbing
Systems Design • Installation & Service
~ Fully Insured ~

24/7 Emergency Service

www.rehinkey.com
(603) 543-3571

45 TAYLOR HILL
ATHENS, VT 05143

FULLY INSURED
FREE ESTIMATES

TAYLOR EXCAVATING LLP

TRUCKING & EXCAVATING
SEPTIC SYSTEMS, LAND CLEARINGS, DRIVEWAYS
COMPLETE HOUSE SITES
LANDSCAPING, WALL BUILDING
LAWN MOWING, SNOWPLOWING AND SANDING
802-869-2905 802-289-1508
DAN

calendar

LEGAL NOTICES

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 13 –
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Tai Chi Vermont-certified teachers Jo Bregnard and Zhen Wolffe will lead Moving From the Inside Out, a series of workshops on the fall-prevention tai chi form, online and in person, from the Springfield Unitarian Universalist Meetinghouse, 21 Fairground Road. The first of the fundamental qigong warmups is March 13, from 1:30-3 p.m. All are welcome. Visit www.taichivermont.org/register/p/enrichment-fundamentals to sign up.

MARCH 15 –
JAMAICA, Vt. – There will be a community singalong at the Jamaica Town Hall, on March 15, at 3 p.m. It will feature songs of peace, protest, and resilience. Join friends and neighbors to learn new songs and sing some familiar ones. The event is organized by Jamaica for Democracy.

MARCH 16 –
LUDLOW, Vt. – The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive at the Ludlow Community Center, 37 Main Street, on Monday, March 16, from 12-5 p.m. To make an appointment, visit www.redcrossblood.org or call 800-RED-CROSS. Sponsor code: Ludlow.

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Black River Valley Senior Center, 10 High Street, will serve a community lunch on Monday, March 16, at 12 p.m. The menu will be hearty beef stew, homemade rolls, and chocolate mint dessert. Please make reservations by calling 802-228-7421. Free cash bingo will follow. All ages are welcome.

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.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Songsters will perform a concert at the Springfield Senior Center, 139 Main Street, at 1 p.m. For more information, please contact executive director Lori Johnson at 802-885-3933 or lorijohnsonssc@gmail.com.

MARCH 20 –
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Join us online or in person at the Springfield Town Library, 43 Main Street, every third Friday, at 10 a.m., 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 balancing postures will take inspiration from the vernal equinox. Walk into the library and join in person for free; there’s no need to preregister. For online access, which

includes all recordings, visit studio.jobregnard.com/product/88980.

RECURRING EVENTS

SUNDAYS –
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Bellows Falls Loyal Order of Moose will be hosting a community breakfast on the first and third Sunday of every month, downstairs at the Bellows Falls Moose Lodge, 59 Westminster Street in Bellows Falls, from 8-10 a.m. All you can eat for a minimal cost.

PLYMOUTH, Vt. – The Plymouth Historical Society, at the former Plymouth Elementary School, 35 School Drive, will be open the first and third Sunday of each month, from 2-4 p.m., from November 2025 – April 2026. Watch for the “open” flag.

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

TUESDAYS –
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Come check out TOPS – Take Off Pounds Sensibly. We are a nonjudgmental, affordable, and supportive weight loss group. The first visit is free. All are welcome; youth must be at least 9 to attend and have parental permission. Meetings are every Tuesday at 25 Cherry Hill in Bellows Falls. Weigh-ins start at 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS –
CHESTER, Vt. – Knitting with Friends at Six Loose Ladies on the Chester Common, Wednesdays, from 10 a.m. to noon.

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

THURSDAYS –
LUDLOW, Vt. – Certified instructor Helena Wu will teach tai chi classes every Thursday, from 9-10 a.m., at the Black River Valley Senior Center, 10 High Street in Ludlow. Classes are free, and are limited to 10 participants. Registration is required. For more information, contact the Senior Center at 802-228-7421, or Helena Wu at 802-289-7369.

CLAREMONT, N.H. – A fly-tying class will be held at the Claremont Senior Center, 5 Acer Heights, on Thursday evenings, from 6-8 p.m. Tools and instruction are available for free, with a small charge to cover materials. The class is limited to five students. If interested, contact Lloyd Mann at lrman126@gmail.com.

FRIDAYS –
CHESTER, Vt. – Alcoholics Anonymous meetings held every Friday at 6:30 p.m. at St. Joseph’s Church, located at 96 South Main Street in Chester. If you have a problem with alcohol, this is an understanding place to come to.

DAILY –
REGION – If you want to drink that’s your business, but if you want to stop, that’s ours. Contact Alcoholics Anonymous at www.aavt.org or call your local hotline at 802-802-2288 and join a meeting. You are not alone.

NOTICE OF TAX SALE

The resident and non-resident owners, lien holders, and mortgagees of property in the Town of Andover, in the County of Windsor and State of Vermont, are hereby notified that the taxes assessed by such Town for the 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-2024, and 2024-2025 tax years remain, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described property in such Town, to wit:

It being all and the same lands and premises conveyed to Christopher T. Meyer and Kathleen R. Meyer by Quit Claim Deed of Bruce P. Meyer and Sylvia A. Meyer dated January 30, 2006 and recorded on February 3, 2006 in Book 48 at Page 451 of the Andover Land Records. Reference is made to the stipulation between Bruce Meyer and Sylvia Meyer and The Town of Andover, et al. dated January 24, 2006 and recorded on May 10, 2006 in Book 49 at Page 257 of the Andover Land Records. [E-911: 108 Gates Rd., Parcel #011000058.400]

And pursuant to 32 V.S.A. §5254, so much of such property will be sold at public auction at the Town of Andover Office, a public place located at 953 Weston-Andover Road, in Andover, Vermont, on the 10th day of April, 2026, at 11:00 a.m., as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, unless previously paid. Dated at Andover, Vermont this 4th day of March, 2026.

Jeanette Hazeltine, Collector of Delinquent Taxes

TOWN OF LONDONDERRY

The Town of Londonderry seeks a self-motivated, detail-oriented person for the position of Parks Maintenance employee for seasonal maintenance of Londonderry’s various parks between the months of April and October, weather permitting.

Work involves significant physical labor, use and maintenance of tools, and maintaining a valid driver’s license.

Maintenance tasks include but are not limited to: Lawn mowing, weed whacking, landscaping, trash pick-up and removal, picnic table upkeep, dog park facility maintenance, water testing at Memorial Park, checking on porta potty conditions, park trail maintenance, playground repair, woodchip raking, sports facility repairs, maintenance of park signage, tree trimming, picnic pavilion clean up, spring clean-up, fall clean-up, garden maintenance and assisting the MT Rec director as requested.

Salary: \$20-\$30/hour depending on experience.

To apply, please visit the Employment page on the Town of Londonderry’s website: <https://www.londonderryvt.gov/employment> and fill out an employment application. The application can be email to Aileen.Tulloch@townadmin@londonderryvt.org or mailed to

Aileen Tulloch
Town Administrator
100 Old School Street
South Londonderry, VT 05155

Town of Chester Opportunities to Serve

Looking for an opportunity to serve your community? The Town of Chester has open volunteer positions for appointments to the Local Cannabis Commission, Connecticut River Authority Board, and Senior Solutions. Interested parties should submit a letter of interest to julie.hance@chestervt.gov or Town of Chester, P.O. Box 370, Chester, VT 05143.

TOWN OF LONDONDERRY

The Town of Londonderry is seeking Architectural Services in recognition of the need to preserve the historic Londonderry Town Hall, located at 139 Middletown Road in South Londonderry, Vermont, while also modernizing for energy efficiency, ADA access, and comfortable year-round use. Bids are due by March 26, 2026 at 2pm To see the bid documents, please visit our Request for Proposals page at www.londonderryvt.gov/rfps



Town of Westminster
P.O. BOX 147 WESTMINSTER, VT 05158
Tel. 802-722- 4524 Fax 802-722-9816

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD (DRB)
WESTMINSTER TOWN HALL
Westminster, Vermont

Legal Notice

The Westminster Development Review Board will meet at 6:00 pm on **Monday, April 6, 2026** to consider the following:

Application # 26-21

Application #26-21 Ladd Cooper-Ellis Family Trust (Owners) property located at 663 Bemis Hill. The Applicant is requesting a Minor Sub-Division in the Resource Conservation District. This Application will be reviewed under **Section 311 Site Plan Review, Section 448 Resource Conservation District, Article XIV Ridgeline Protection Overlay District (Partial) and Article VIII Subdivision of Land (Minor)** of the adopted 2017 Zoning Bylaws.

Participation in the proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to make any subsequent appeals.

The application is available for review in the Westminster Town Hall, 3651 US Route 5 Westminster, Vermont 05158, Monday – Friday from 8:30 am - 4:00 pm.

WARNING

TOWN OF LUDLOW, VERMONT
Town and Village Plan of Merger Vote
March 24th, 2026

The legal voters of the Town of Ludlow, County of Windsor, State of Vermont, are hereby notified and warned of a special meeting to vote by Australian ballot on the following article, to be held at the Heald Auditorium in the Ludlow Town Hall at 37 Depot Street, Ludlow, Vermont on Tuesday, the 24th Day of March, 2026, between the hours of Ten o'clock AM, (10:00 AM) in the forenoon and seven o'clock, PM, (7:00 PM) in the afternoon.

Shall the Town of Ludlow approve the proposed “PLAN OF MERGER” of the Village of Ludlow into the Town of Ludlow, as approved by both the Town of Ludlow Selectboard and Village of Ludlow Trustees?

An official copy of the proposed Plan of Merger is on file and available for public inspection at the Town Clerk’s Office at 37 Depot Street, Ludlow, VT 05149. Copies will be made available upon request. The Clerk’s Office is open Monday – Friday from 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

A copy of the proposed Plan of Merger can be found online here: <https://www.ludlow.vt.us>

The legal voters of the Town of Ludlow are further notified that voter qualifications, registration and absentee voting relative to said Town Meeting shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated. You must be registered to vote in the Town of Ludlow in order to vote at the aforementioned special meeting. Voters are encouraged to request an Early/Absentee Ballot from the Town Clerk’s Office by calling (802) 228-2828 or (802) 228-3232 or email to ucook@ludlow.vt.us or ptodt@ludlow.vt.us

Dated at Ludlow, Vermont this 9th day of February, 2026.

TOWN OF LUDLOW SELECTBOARD:

But Soudy
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]

ATTEST: *[Signature]*
Ulla Cook, Town Clerk

WARNING

VILLAGE OF LUDLOW, VERMONT
Town and Village Plan of Merger Vote
March 24th, 2026

The legal voters of the Village of Ludlow, County of Windsor, State of Vermont, are hereby notified and warned of a special meeting to vote by Australian ballot on the following article, to be held at the Heald Auditorium in the Ludlow Town Hall at 37 Depot Street, Ludlow, Vermont on Tuesday, the 24th Day of March, 2026, between the hours of Ten o'clock AM, (10:00 AM) in the forenoon and seven o'clock, PM, (7:00 PM) in the afternoon.

Shall the Village of Ludlow approve the proposed “PLAN OF MERGER” of the Village of Ludlow into the Town of Ludlow, as approved by both the Town of Ludlow Selectboard and Village of Ludlow Trustees?

An official copy of the proposed Plan of Merger is on file and available for public inspection at the Town Clerk’s Office at 37 Depot Street, Ludlow, VT 05149 Copies will be made available upon request. The Clerk’s Office is open Monday – Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

A copy of the proposed Plan of Merger can be found online here: <https://www.ludlow.vt.us>

The legal voters of the Village of Ludlow are further notified that voter qualifications, registration and absentee voting relative to said Town Meeting shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated. You must be registered to vote in the Village of Ludlow to vote at the aforementioned special meeting. Voters are encouraged to request an Early/Absentee Ballot from the Town Clerk’s Office by calling (802) 228-2828 or (802) 228-3232 or you may email to ucook@ludlow.vt.us or ptodt@ludlow.vt.us.

Dated at Ludlow, Vermont this 10th day of February, 2026.

VILLAGE OF LUDLOW TRUSTEES:

[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]

ATTEST: *[Signature]*
Ulla Cook, Town/Village Clerk

REAL ESTATE/LEGALS

classifieds

Local contractors attend summit on advanced heat pump technology—

REGION – More than 130 Vermont heating contractors and installers gathered Wednesday, March 4, at the Vermont Construction Academy in Winooski, Vt., for a training on the next generation of air to water heat pump (AWHP) technology, an ultra-efficient and money-saving heating solution designed for buildings in Vermont's cold climate.

The summit featured hands-on demonstrations from leading AWHP manufacturers like Mitsubishi, Arctic Heat Pumps, and NTI. AWHPs are an ideal fit for Vermont homes and buildings that rely on conventional boilers for heating. Boilers deliver heat via hot water, piped through the building, called hydronic (water-based) heating systems. AWHPs provide hydronic heating and cooling, providing year-round comfort.

The AWHP summit was led by John Siegenthaler, a licensed professional engineer with more than 36 years of experience designing hydronic heating systems. Author of multiple textbooks and featured in numerous professional publications, Siegenthaler's expertise will help Vermont installers integrate AWHPs into existing designs and retrofits, as well as design efficient new heating systems.

Experts and installers attending the summit included Andrew Boutin of Pellerger LLC, offering renewable heating and cooling solutions across New England, based in Montpelier, Vt.; Jeffrey Grenier of Master Plumbing & Heating, based in Ludlow, Vt.; Tim Jeffers of Al Jeffers & Sons Plumbing & Heating, based in Townshend, Vt.; Dave Korn of Ridgeline Energy Analytics, an energy analytics and consulting firm based in Stow, Mass.; Associated Builders & Contractors Vermont/New Hampshire chapter leaders Joshua Reap, president and CEO, Matt Musgrave, Vermont Regional Director, and Ross Lavoie of Vermont Construction Academy, manager and instructor, based in Winooski, Vt.

A total of 14 sponsors of the AWHP summit had equipment on site, including live demos of working AWHP equipment from Mitsubishi, Arctic Heat Pumps, and NTI. Equipment from companies like LG, Samsung, and SpacePak were also onsite.

Efficiency Vermont offers up to \$6,500 in rebates for AWHP

systems. Currently, there are more than 50 installers in the statewide Efficiency Excellence Network trained in AWHP technology.

In addition to advancing the latest in heat pump technology, Efficiency Vermont also promotes multiple ways for Vermont households and businesses to more effectively heat their homes with heat pumps. This includes weatherization rebates and financing support, which help lower energy costs and increase energy efficiency. Additional support includes technology like smart controls for heat pump systems, customer and contractor outreach, and other complementary actions that can help Vermonters get the most out of heat pump technology.

BUYING/SELLING

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

CLEAN OUTS + MORE

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

802-376-1168 or email ezdump.bl@gmail.com.

ELECTRICIAN

LEVI ELECTRIC – 917-417-7880 levielectricvt.com – Trusted residential electrician with 10+ years experience. Upgrades, lighting, EV chargers, panels, service calls. Proctorsville-based. Quality work, fair pricing, free estimates.



Purchase | Refinance | Renovation

VICTORIA BLODGETT

PRODUCTION MANAGER | NMLS: 179656

vbprimelending.com vbloodgett@primelending.com

802-683-8697

126 Main St #1C | Ludlow, VT 05149

Home Loans Made Simple

©2025 PrimeLending, a PlainsCapital Company (PrimeLending). (NMLS 13649) Equal Housing Lender. PrimeLending, a PlainsCapital Company, PrimeLending VT lender lic no. 6127 and broker lic no. 0964 MB, V062323



BARRETT & VALLEY

REAL ESTATE SERVICES



HOUSE OF THE WEEK

CAVENDISH, VT - \$795,000

LOG HOME ON 19 ACRES WITH WORKSHOP!

www.barrettandvalley.com 802-875-2323



FOR SALE | 188 STATION ROAD | MOUNT HOLLY
5 MINUTES TO JACKSON GORE AT OKEMO
Four bedroom home on dead end road with easy access to VAST snowmobile trail and Healdville hiking trail.



Scan QR Code or text Listing Agent Alex Eatmon at 802-345-7886 for more information

Kelley Real Estate

Contact Us for a Free Market Evaluation

www.KelleyRealEstate.com

802-228-5333





Claremont - \$350,000 - MLS 5077684
info@century21highview.com
603-542-7766 or 603-477-6131

CENTURY 21

Highview Realty

42 Summer Street

Claremont, NH 03743

GREEN MOUNTAIN PRESCHOOL

Enrolling for the '26-'27 school year

If your child will be 3 or 4 years old by August, 31, 2026, we would love to have you join us!

Please call 802-875-7758 for more information and to register.

Cavendish Town Elementary School

573 Main Street, Proctorsville, VT

TOWN OF CAVENDISH

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE PLANNING COMMISSION

A public hearing before the Planning Commission for the town of Cavendish will be held at the Cavendish Town Hall on April 1st 2026 at 6:00 PM. to consider a conditional use application regarding the proposed improvements at 67 Mill St, Cavendish.

Appellant: Adam Sebastian
Property Location: 67 Mill St
Cavendish, VT

Reason For Hearing: Proposed improvements are within the Floodway Fringe as defined in the Cavendish Flood Hazard Regulations which require a Conditional Use Hearing with the Cavendish Planning Commission.

The above application is available for inspection at the Cavendish Municipal Offices. Persons wishing to participate may do so in person, be represented by an agent or an attorney, by Zoom, or by writing to the Planning Commission. Written communications about the application should be filed with the Cavendish Planning Commission PO Box 126 Cavendish VT 05412 either prior to, or during, the hearing. Hybrid meeting information will be available on the agenda.

Tim Calabrese
Chair, Cavendish Planning Commission
3/5/26

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF GREENVILLE

IN THE FAMILY COURT

Matthew N. Saunders, Plaintiff,
-vs-
Alyssa Rivera, Defendant.

AMENDED SUMMONS
C.A. No.: 2024-DR-23-3992

TO THE DEFENDANT ABOVE NAMED: Alyssa Rivera
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Amended Complaint in this action, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your Answer to said Amended Complaint on the subscribers at their office, 310 Mills Avenue, Post Office Box 9754, Greenville, South Carolina 29604, within thirty days after the service hereof; exclusive the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the Amended Complaint within the time aforesaid, the Plaintiff(s) will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said Amended Complaint.

Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 63-9-730(e), Notice given pursuant to this section must include notice of the following:

(1) within thirty days of receiving notice the person or agency shall respond in writing by filing with the court in which the adoption is pending notice and reasons to contest, intervene, or otherwise respond;

(2) the court must be informed of the person's or agency's current address and of any changes in address during the adoption proceedings; and

(3) failure to file a response within thirty days of receiving notice constitutes consent to adoption of the child and forfeiture of all rights and obligations of the person or agency with respect to the child.

IN THE EVENT THAT YOU ARE AN INFANT OVER FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE OR AN IMPRISONED PERSON, you are further summoned and notified to apply for the appointment of a Guardian ad Litem to represent you in this action within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons and Notice upon you. If you fail to do so, application for such appointment will be made by the Plaintiff(s) herein.

IN THE EVENT THAT YOU ARE AN INFANT UNDER THE AGE OF FOURTEEN YEARS OR ARE INCOMPETENT OR INSANE, you are further summoned and notified to apply for the appointment of a Guardian ad Litem to represent said infant(s) under the age of fourteen years of age, or said incompetent or insane person, within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons and Notice upon you. If you fail to do so, application for such appointment will be made by the Plaintiff(s) herein.

HOWARD LAW FIRM, P.A.
MILFORD O. HOWARD, III
Attorney for Plaintiff
P.O. Box 9754, Greenville, South Carolina 29604
Phone: (864) 233.5672 Fax: (864) 642-6822

Dated: August 28, 2025

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

Bradley Jackson's *Celebrate the Spirit of Nature*
Painting Exhibit until March 25

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.
Spectacular Flowers in Watercolor w/Rob O'Brien 4/11 9:30-4
Turkish Map Fold Book with Deborah Stuart 4/18 11:30-1:30
Realistic Animal Features in Watercolor w/J Joanna Alix 4/25 11-2 (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. Cavendish, 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!
(05/27/26 - 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.
(05/20/26 - 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)

health & wellness

The healing of acupuncture

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Acupuncture was developed over 2,500 years ago to treat illness, pain, and prevent disease. The practitioner inserts thin, sterile, disposable needles in designated points in the body to stimulate the body's natural healing processes. By needling the acupuncture points, the nervous system is stimulated into releasing chemicals in the muscles, spinal cord, and brain. These chemicals, called endorphins, can reduce pain and influence your body's immune system to restore balance. Acupuncture also increases the blood flow to the problem area to help with healing.

While most U.S. acupuncturists treat patients on tables in individual treatment rooms, here at Black River Acupuncture, patients are treated while relaxing in recliners in a large comfortable room. We practice a style of acupuncture which mostly uses points in the hands, feet, and head to treat problems anywhere in the body – meaning we will probably treat pain in your back by placing tiny needles in your hand.

Acupuncture is not like getting a shot. Unlike the hypodermic needle used in a medical office, which is large and hollow, acupuncture needles are solid and hair thin. They are inserted to much more shallow levels than hypodermic needles, usually no more than a half inch. Many patients describe the sensation as unfamiliar, but not painful or uncomfortable.

Each patient reacts to acupuncture in their own way. Some patients respond to acupuncture more quickly than others. Some patients experience a significant reduction in their symptoms after two to three treatments, and some conditions that have been around for years may take longer.

Kerri Casey, the practitioner, is licensed by the Vermont Board of Medical Practice. In addition, she has completed a three-year master's program, passed the national board exam for certification in acupuncture, and has been practicing for 19 years.

Our goal is to provide high-quality acupuncture treatments at an affordable rate, and remove money as an obstacle to feeling better. We do this by have a sliding-fee scale where the patients decide how much to pay. Please check our website for the rates and more details, www.blackriverac.com. We are located at 368 River Street, Suite 140, in Springfield, Vt.

Article submitted by Black River Acupuncture.

Benefits of Springfield Food Co-op membership

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Food Co-op is a consistent source of reasonably priced, natural, local, and organic foods and products. When you shop at the co-op, you're not only doing something great for your personal health, you're doing good for the local community, and for the planet.

Buying from local farmers and suppliers helps to build a strong and sustainable economy by keeping dollars in our community. Local food tastes better, and has more nutritional value than food shipped hundreds or thousands of miles. Organic production has far fewer negative environmental impacts on soil, water, and air than conventional farming; and eating organic whole foods has countless human health benefits.

When you shop at the co-op, you get to know your neighbors, and the people who grow and make your food.

The co-op is owned by its members. As a member, you have the option of attending the Annual Meeting, and voting on co-op issues and for the board of directors. Members may also serve as a member of the board, or participate in other volunteer activities.

Membership is a low, one-time fee per household. There are no annual membership dues. To join, simply stop by the store and fill out the new-member form. Your membership benefits start immediately.

The co-op also offers a Food for All discount program for those who qualify, allowing a full co-op membership with an extended payment plan, and discounts throughout the store. This program was originally implemented in 2017 as part of the Community Roots Outreach Projects (CROPs) and the co-op's desire to do more for the local community.

If you already receive one of the following benefits, you are automatically eligible for our program: 3SquaresVT, SNAP, WIC, or SSI. Or, if you are working with one of our community partners – Springfield Area Parent Child Center, Springfield Family Center, and SEVCA – you can ask them for a letter that verifies your eligibility.

Please stop in and pick up one of our brochures for more information, and for an application, or email info@springfieldfood.coop.

Article submitted by Springfield Food Co-op.

Claremont Animal Hospital has grown

CLAREMONT, N.H. – Claremont Animal Hospital is back, bigger, and better. Exciting news for our community, Claremont Animal Hospital now has four veterinarians on staff and expanded appointment availability.

Last year brought unexpected staffing changes, which made it harder for some families to get in when they needed services. We heard you, and we made big changes.

Today, the hospital is proud to offer appointments as soon as tomorrow, significantly reduced wait times, expanded sick-visit availability, a stronger medical team, and continued compassionate, personalized care.

That's not all. Along with adding more veterinarians, we've been working behind the scenes to enhance and improve our hospital experience. From updated protocols to improved efficiency and client communication, we are committed to raising the bar.

If you haven't visited us recently, now is the perfect time to come see what's new. If you moved your pet's services elsewhere, we would love to have you back. To thank you for returning to us, bring this newspaper to your appointment, and receive \$25 off your pet's exam. One per household. Valid for new and returning clients.

Whether your pet needs a wellness exam, dental care, surgery, diagnostics, or you simply have a concern you've been meaning to address, we're here and ready.

At Claremont Animal Hospital, pets aren't just patients, they're family. We're honored to care for yours.

Call Claremont Animal Hospital today to schedule an appointment, at 603-543-0117. Compassionate care. Local commitment. Trusted medicine.

Article submitted by Claremont Animal Hospital.



Julie's Icare

Julie Richardson, Optician

11 Dunning St. Ph: 603.543.3216
Suite 4 Cell: 603.558.3048
Claremont, NH by Appointment Only



springfield

— FOOD CO-OP —

Community owned since 1992

6 Main Street, Springfield, VT 05156
Monday – Friday: 7AM-7PM, Saturday: 8AM-7PM, Sunday: 9AM-6PM

The Springfield Food Co-op has been a community staple for almost 30 years. We are open to all, and work to provide healthy, natural affordable grocery, wellness, fresh produce, meats, and deli items to everyone in our community. We are member-owned by over 3,000 individuals, and we serve anyone who walks through the doors. We strive to support our local economy with excellent jobs, fair prices to local farmers and vendors, accessible food options, and community giving.

Strength & Balance Training Class

Monday's & Wednesday's
1:00-2:00 PM

Ludlow Community Center
37 Main St, Ludlow

Classes held twice/weekly.
Pre-registration required.

To register call :
Black River Good Neighbor Services
802-228-3663

A program of:
Black River Good Neighbor Services



BLACK RIVER ACUPUNCTURE

Affordable acupuncture in a group setting
(802) 886-1153

368 River St., Suite 140, Springfield, VT 05156
www.blackriverac.com

Claremont Savings Bank

Community Center

CLAREMONT

CLAREMONT SAVINGS BANK COMMUNITY CENTER
Where Community & Wellness Come Together
Stay active. Stay connected. Stay well.

- ✓ Fitness Center
- ✓ Indoor Walking Track
- ✓ Group Exercise Classes
- ✓ Gymnasium & Indoor Pools
- ✓ Programs for All Ages

Your community. Your health. Your center.

152 South St Claremont, NH
www.claremontparks.com
603.542.7019



COMMUNITY MEALS

LUDLOW COMMUNITY CENTER
37 MAIN ST, LUDLOW

Come, meet your neighbors and make new friends!

**MEALS OFFERED:
THE FIRST AND THIRD THURSDAY
OF EACH MONTH**

Serving at NOON
All are welcome, free of charge

**A PROGRAM OF:
BLACK RIVER GOOD NEIGHBOR SERVICES**



Fall Mountain Pharmacy

We care. Faster service. Best cash Pricing.
Call us to transfer today!

Pill packaging ♦ Compounding ♦ Delivery

78 AtkinsonSt, (802)428-4023 Mon-Fri 8:30am-6pm
BellowsFalls,VT www.fmprx.com Sat 9am-2pm

FIT BODY BOOT CAMP

**SCAN TO CLAIM
YOUR FREE
7-DAY JUMPSTART.**



802.722.3460
SARAH@FITBODYWESTMINSTER.COM
SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 2009.



LAREMONT ANIMAL HOSPITAL

We're Back , Bigger, Better, and Ready for You!
*Significantly reduced wait times
Expanded sick-visit availability
More veterinarians*

**Pet Wellness Exams - Pet Pharmacy
Pet Dental Care - Pet MLS Laser Therapy
Pet Soft Tissue Surgery - Pet Radiology
Pet Vaccinations - And More**

603-543-0117
contact@claremontanimalhospitalnh.com

health & wellness

Springfield Area Adult Day Services open house and community health fair

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Springfield Area Adult Day Services warmly invites community members to attend a special People First Health Fair on Saturday, March 28, from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., at its facility located at 266 River Street in Springfield.

This free event will offer attendees the opportunity to receive complimentary wellness services, including balance screenings, checking of blood pressure and other vitals, and sharing of various health education tips designed to promote safety, mobility,

and overall wellbeing. Guests will also enjoy light refreshments, and have the chance to enter a raffle drawing for a hand-made quilt and free membership at the Edgar May Health and Wellness Center.

In addition to well-

ness services, visitors will be able to tour the Adult Day campus, meet staff members, and learn more about the programs and support services available to older adults and those who might have physical or cognitive impairments. The center provides engag-

ing activities such as bingo and arts, health monitoring, nutritious meals, social opportunities, and caregiver support in a safe and welcoming environment.

“This open house is a wonderful opportunity for families and community members to see firsthand how our center supports independence, wellness, and connection,” said director Shelly Holley. “We’re

excited to welcome everyone for an afternoon of health, learning, and fun.”

The event is free and open to the public. No appointment is necessary. For more information, please contact Holley at 802-885-9881 or sholley@springfieldhospital.org, or visit www.springfieldhospital.org/adult-day-service.

Article submitted by
Springfield Hospital.

How outdated beneficiary choices can derail your plans

CLAREMONT, N.H. – When you open a retirement account or buy a life insurance policy, you’re asked to name a beneficiary. It might seem like just another form to fill out, but this simple step can affect your family’s future.

Many people don’t give beneficiary designations much thought after signing the initial paperwork. It may have been years ago, and life has moved on. But this might surprise you; these designations can override what’s in your will or living trust. That means your retirement accounts and insurance proceeds could end up going to someone you didn’t intend, creating what professionals call an accidental inheritance.

Life changes quickly. You might get married, divorced, or remarried. You might have children or stepchildren. A loved one might pass away. You may decide to give to your favorite charity. Any of these events could mean it’s time to update your beneficiaries.

The rules can get complicated. For example, after a divorce, some, but not all states have laws that automatically revoke your beneficiary designations for IRAs, bank accounts, and insurance policies. But no matter where you live in the U.S., the designations for 401(k) plans and pensions stay in place until you change them. In community property states, couples must split 50-50 the assets they acquired during marriage, adding another layer of complexity.

There are other considerations, too. It’s a good idea to name a primary and a contingent beneficiary. If your primary beneficiary dies before you do, the contingent beneficiary receives your assets. Without this backup plan, your carefully considered wishes could go awry.

Naming minor children as direct beneficiaries isn’t usually a good idea. Children can’t legally receive and control assets until they become adults, so a court would have to get involved and appoint a guardian for managing the money. Instead, you might set up a trust or name a custodian to oversee the funds until your children are mature enough to handle them responsibly.

For family members with special needs, you’ll want to be especially careful about choosing your beneficiary. Some choices may jeopardize their eligibility to receive government benefits such as government disability payments or Medicaid. An estate attorney can help you make important beneficiary decisions.

One major benefit of proper beneficiary designations is that they can help your loved ones avoid probate, a time-consuming and potentially expensive legal process.

For these reasons and others, it’s important to review your beneficiary designations regularly, especially after major life events. Contact your retirement account administrator or insurance company

to update any outdated information.

A financial advisor can help you understand how your beneficiary choices fit into your financial strategy and ensure your assets go where you want them to go.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC. Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult your attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation. Submitted by Roland Swasey’s office, Claremont, N.H.

Quality Care —
Personalized and Close to Home

802-885-2151

Make us your first call.





Springfield Hospital

Where People Come First

AudioNova

Your Hearing Experts

Better Hearing
Starts with the
Right Expert.

Scan to book



your appt.

EXPERT HEARING
EVALUATIONS

PERSONALIZED
SOLUTIONS

RISK-FREE
TRIALS

LATEST HEARING
TECHNOLOGY

Call (802) 213-5398 or scan to book your
FREE HEARING SCREENING
with your local hearing expert.

AudioNova Springfield, VT | 100 Springfield Plaza Rd, (802) 213-5398

ADVERTISE
WITH US IN
OUR HEALTH
& WELLNESS
SECTION!

There’s still
two weeks left
of wellness
weeks!

ADS@VERMONTJOURNAL.COM

Edward Jones

> edwardjones.com | Member SIPC



Your goals are as unique as you.

At Edward Jones, we want to know what you want out of life on a personal level. Then, we want to help you achieve it by creating a financial strategy that’s unique to your specific needs.

Contact us today to start creating a financial strategy tailored to your specific needs.



Roland C Swasey, CFP®

Financial Advisor

54 Opera House Sq

Claremont, NH 03743

603-542-7667

EJB-8652F-A-E-AD AECSPAD 28037243



prodesign : denmark



SPRINGFIELD
FAMILY EYECARE

(802) 885-4190

2 Summer St Springfield, VT

www.springfieldfamilyeyecare.com

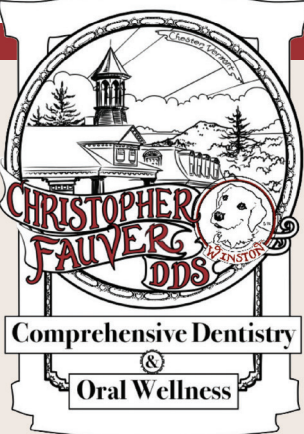
Implant Supported Dentures

Implant supported dentures can sit on 4 or 6 implants, which is the next level up in **full mouth restoration**.

Many of our traditional denture patients are not satisfied with the fit. The investment in the latest implant supported dentures can result in much **improved functionality and overall satisfaction**.

Make an
appointment
to see if implant
supported
dentures are
right for you!





CHRISTOPHER
FAUVER
DDS

Comprehensive Dentistry
&
Oral Wellness

802-885-3191

48 Main Street

Chester, VT

Like us on Facebook

www.drchristopherfauver.com

Strength, Stretch, & Balance yoga

LUDLOW, Vt. – A new wellness class designed to improve strength, flexibility, and balance will be offered at 10 High Street in Ludlow. Instructor Lori Wright is introducing a five-week session of Strength, Stretch & Balance, a full-body class that blends flowing yoga poses and held stretches with Pilates-inspired core work and gentle resistance training using body weight, light dumbbells, and bands. Through mindful movement and steady breathing, participants will build strength, improve flexibility, and enhance balance in

a supportive environment to support long-term mobility and independence as they age. Students can expect to leave class feeling stronger, more centered, and energized for the day ahead. Classes are Wednesdays, at 9 a.m., March 18 – April 15. Space is limited, and several students have already expressed enthusiasm for this new combined class. To reserve a spot or request additional information, contact Wright at 603-401-8123 or loriwright163@gmail.com.

Moving From the Inside Out

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Find tai chi at the intersection of structure and energy with Moving From the Inside Out, a series of in-person and on-line workshops offered quarterly throughout 2026. Tai Chi Vermont instructors Jo Bregnard and Zhen Wolffe will host the workshops at the Springfield Unitarian Universalist Meetinghouse, 21 Fairground Road, from 1:30-3 p.m., four Fridays this year. Play with what animates the movements of the fall-prevention tai chi form, and discover how enhancing your

awareness can enrich practice time. During the first session, on March 13, the focus will be on the qigong fundamental exercises performed as warmups before each tai chi class. Expect juicy conversation on meridians, anatomy, and more during these workshops. Come to one, two, or more. Recordings will be available for each session for those who can't attend live, as well as those who want to review the material covered. All are welcome, no prior tai chi experience is necessary. Register at www.taichivermont.org/register/p/enrichment-fundamentals.

Please wear comfortable clothing and flat, closed-heel and -toe shoes, and bring a full water bottle. Contact Bregnard at jo@jobregnard.com if you have additional questions. Tai Chi Vermont is a non-profit corporation dedicated to providing safe and effective tai chi instructor training throughout the state. Learn more about Tai Chi Vermont by visiting www.taichivermont.org.

Heat Pump Presentation on Saturday April 4th, at 10am VFW Post #771, 191 River Street, Springfield, VT

Sponsored by Coleman Plumbing and Heating Inc. Presented by Brent Coleman

HEAT PUMPS AKA MINISPLITS
Coleman Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
802-875-3644



Call for a free estimate today!

Efficiency Excellence Network
Efficiency Vermont

FUJITSU AIRSTAGE

Military and Veteran Discounts Available.

Get up to
\$9,500 off
weatherization projects

Efficiency
Vermont
efficiencyvermont.com/wx
(888) 921-5990

Stay warmer all winter and stop wasting the heat you've paid for!

Efficiency Vermont has incentives for comprehensive home air sealing and insulation projects:

- 75% off weatherization project costs, **up to \$4,000.**
- Moderate-income Vermonters can get 75% off, **up to \$9,500.**
- Low-income Vermonters can get 90% off, **up to \$9,500.**
- Financing starting at **0% interest**, or add the monthly payment to your utility bill.

It's possible to make your home more comfortable and energy efficient for around \$50 a month. Income-eligible Vermonters may qualify for free weatherization services.



Learn More

*Subject to availability and eligibility