

The PTG is currently asking our local businesses and community members to help offset the remaining costs of the installation. If you can help, please reach out to the PTG at ludlow-PTG@gmail.com or Courtney McGuire, PTG president, at 603-219-3491.

Raku pottery class —————

Gallery at the Vault is located at 68 Main Street in Springfield. For more information, call 802-885-7111, email galleryvault@vermontel.net, or visit Facebook, Instagram, or www.galleryvault.org. Gallery at the Vault is accessible.

For more information,
call 802-387-5772 or visit
www.nextstagearts.org.

Please bring a chair. Food and drink will be available for purchase. In case of rain, the concert will be held in the pavilion of the Tree Farm Campground, 53 Skitchewaung Trail, Springfield, Vt. Check the band's Facebook page for change-of-venue information.

Thanks to the Caven-
dish Community Fund
for sponsoring this Con-
cert on the Green.

Seating is limited. Community members are encouraged to secure their tickets early to support this crucial cause. To purchase tickets, donate, or for more information about the event, please visit www.unitedway-windham.org/freedom-all-concert.

Tickets are available by calling the Weston Theater Company box office at 802-824-5288 or online at www.westontheater.org.

For more information, contact Sherry Maher at 802-869-2141 or follow Athens Meetinghouse on Facebook.

This performance is sponsored in part by AARP Vermont and the Vermont Blues Society.

The Main Street Arts String Band meets throughout the year, except during July and August, on Wednesdays, from 5-6:30 p.m., at Main Street Arts. New members are always welcome.



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JULY 22 - AUG 16

health & community

Springfield Area Adult Day Services to close —

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Springfield Hospital announced recently the planned closure of its Springfield Area Adult Day Services, effective Sept. 30. The decision follows an extensive evaluation of the program and careful consideration of numerous alternatives to closure. Despite exploring multiple options, no sustainable financial path forward was identified.

“This decision was not made lightly,” said hospital CEO Bob Adcock. “For many years, Springfield Area

Adult Day Services has been honored to serve its clients and their families with compassionate, person-centered care. We are deeply grateful to the participants, families, caregivers, staff, volunteers, and community partners whose trust and support have made this work possible.”

The program is committed to supporting participants and their families throughout the transition. Enrolled individuals will receive information about other adult day programs in the region, and staff will work

closely with each participant and family to answer questions, provide guidance, and help facilitate a smooth transition.

Springfield Hospital is also working closely with the 13 impacted employees to connect them with available employment opportunities throughout the hospital.

As this chapter closes, our commitment to serving our community remains strong. Visit www.springfieldhospital.org/adult-day-service for more information.

Springfield Edward Jones office school supply drive

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Amy Duffy, an Edward Jones financial advisor in Springfield, is supporting the Union Street and Elm Hill School drive by serving as a drop-off location for the school supplies drive.

Drop-off begins Wednesday, July 29, at the branch located at 41 Chester Road, Suite 1, Springfield, VT 05156. Local residents may help others in the community by bringing in items to the Edward Jones branch office during regular business hours from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Please note that monetary donations cannot be accepted.

“We are committed to supporting not only our clients but the entire community,” Duffy said. “This school supply drive is one way we can help make a

difference.”

Edward Jones is a leading financial services firm serving clients across North America, with operations in the United States and Canada. It ranked No. 1 for advised investor satisfaction among 23 wealth management firms in the JD Power 2026 U.S. Investor Satisfaction Study*. More than 20,000 financial advisors serve over 9 million clients, with \$2.4 trillion in client assets under care as of March 27. Edward Jones’ purpose is to partner for positive impact to improve the lives of its clients and colleagues, and together, better our communities and society. Through the dedication of the firm’s approximately 55,000 associates and our branch presence in 68% of U.S. counties and all Canadian provinces, Edward Jones is committed to helping improve the finan-

cial fulfillment of tens of millions of long-term investors across North America by providing comprehensive, personalized planning and professional advice. The Edward Jones website is www.edwardjones.com, and its recruiting website is www.careers.edwardjones.com. Member SIPC.

*2026 JD Power U.S. Full Service Investor Satisfaction Study among Wealth Management Firms for Advised Investor Satisfaction, published March 2026, data as of January 2026. Compensation provided for using, not obtaining, the ranking.

Contributing to a cause, and participating in or volunteering for a charity or charitable event is a personal decision and completely voluntary. Edward Jones and its associates cannot accept monetary donations, including gift cards.

Living better for longer through food discussion —

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – Learn how to use nutritional principles to “eat your way to better health.” At this special lunch, on Friday, July 31, from 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., you will interact with Laua Swoyer and enjoy a recommended meal.

Swoyer is currently completing a master’s degree in applied nutrition and dietetics at the University of New England. She holds an undergraduate degree in marine biology and combined with several years of experience in marine science, sustainability, and environmental education, sparked an interest in the

connections between the environment, food systems, and the resources humans depend on for survival.

After realizing how deeply intertwined food and diet are with health and longevity, Swoyer decided to pursue a new career path with the goal of becoming a registered dietician. She believes that everyone deserves access to knowledge that could help them live healthier for longer. Her primary areas of interest include clinical nutrition, oncology nutrition, and longevity science.

Bring your curiosity and your nutrition questions as

we explore some of the latest research on foods and dietary strategies to optimize health, promote healthy aging, and reduce the risk of age-related diseases.

The session is being held at Neighborhood Connections, 5700 Route 100 in Londonderry. As seating is limited and a lunch count is needed, please reserve your seat by calling 802-824-4343 and refer to the “Longevity Luncheon.”

Many thanks to Senior Solutions of Springfield, Vt., for sponsoring this event.

HCRS expands mental health and substance use services —

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Individuals seeking mental health or substance use services in southeastern Vermont can now access care more quickly through Health Care and Rehabilitation Services’ (HCRS) new Same Day Access program. As part of its transition to becoming a Certified Community Based Integrated Health Center (CCBHC), HCRS has expanded appointment availability, streamlined the process of entering care, and significantly reduced delays that have historically made it difficult for people to access their services.

stance use care, and the success of the new model.

“When someone decides to ask for help, that’s a moment we can’t afford to miss,” said HCRS CEO Anne Bilodeau. “These changes are about meeting people when they’re ready. We want the path into care to be simple, welcoming, and immediate so individuals and families can begin receiving support without unnecessary barriers.”

Together, these improvements have expanded appointment availability, simplified the process of entering care, and significantly reduced delays through walk-in access, same-day assessments, and improved scheduling systems.

For someone experienc-

ing anxiety, depression, substance use concerns, or other mental health challenges, these changes mean they can seek help when they’re ready. HCRS now offers Same Day Access at its regional offices in Hartford, Springfield, and Brattleboro. Walk-in hours are Tuesdays, from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.; Wednesdays, from 1-3 p.m.; and Thursdays, from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Anyone seeking mental health or substance use services can simply walk into one of HCRS’ regional offices during Same Day Access hours or call 802-886-4500 to connect virtually. No referral is needed. More information about Same Day Access and available services can be found at www.hcrs.org.

CVPWFL Jim Tully youth Football & Cheerleader Camp

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – The Connecticut Valley Pee Wee Football League (CVPWFL) will be hosting the 15th annual four-day Jim Tully Football & Cheerleader Camp, Aug. 3-7, from 5:30-7:30 p.m., at the Hadley Field Complex, located at Bellows Falls Union High School (BFUHS) in Westminster, Vt. The program is for children entering grades third through eighth. Cheerleaders 4-14 years of age are encouraged to attend, must be 4 years old by Sept. 1.

Football players attending must wear shorts, T-shirts, and sneakers. Cheerleaders

must wear shorts or sweatpants, T-shirts, and sneakers.

Instruction at the camp will be by coaches that have coached at different levels of football and cheerleading, from Pee Wee to college. All four nights will feature a guest speaker to talk about Pee Wee, high school, and college experiences.

On Thursday, Aug. 6, at 5:30 p.m., there will be sign-ups for the CVPWFL season at BFUHS with no camp that day.

There is a fee per child to participate. All campers will receive a camp T-shirt, and

on Friday night there will be pizza by Athens Pizza.

Camp registration can be done online at www.cvpwfl.com or in person on Monday, Aug. 3, starting at 4:30 p.m. Online registration is encouraged.

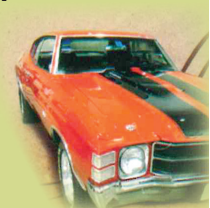
Children from anywhere may attend this camp, and are encouraged to do so as the upcoming football season is close.

For more information, questions, or concerns, contact Seamus Tully at 802-376-8823 or Ed Vancor at 802-376-5902.



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VA signs lease for new Cheshire County outpatient clinic —

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION, Vt. – The Department of Veterans Affairs today announced the signing of a PACT Act lease for the new outpatient clinic (OPC) in Cheshire County, N.H., marking a significant step toward expanding access to high-quality healthcare services for veterans in the region.

To increase clinical capacity and provide veterans with more convenient and timely access to VA care, construction and facility preparation are expected to be completed by fall 2028, and the first patient is planned to be seen by spring 2029.

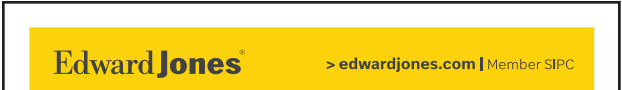
The new lease will expand and modernize primary care space while right-sizing a state-of-the-art, energy-efficient facility that delivers integrated primary care, mental health, specialty care, and ancillary services, improving operational efficiency and the veteran experience in the Keene, N.H. and Brattleboro, Vt.,

area. The project will lease 26,603 net usable square feet (NUSF) of replacement outpatient clinic space in the vicinity of West Chesterfield, N.H., with 150 parking spaces, in support of the White River Junction VA Healthcare System.

“Our mission is to provide world-class healthcare to our nation’s heroes,” said Phillip Christy, chief acquisition officer and principal executive director of the Office of Acquisition, Logistics, and Construction. “This new leased facility will significantly enhance access, expand capacity, and ensure veterans receive the high-quality care and services.”

VA remains committed to long-term, sustainable improvements in access, consistently prioritizing timely care for all veterans. This reflects ongoing, company-wide efforts to further enhance access.

For more information, contact Katherine Tang at vhawrijpao@va.gov.



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SERVICES

obituaries

ALSTEAD, N.H.

Third Congregational Church UCC, River St.
Sunday worship begins at 11 a.m. Communion is the first Sunday of each month. For more information, email alsteadthirdchurch@gmail.com, call 603-835-6358, or go to www.facebook.com/Third-Congregational-UCC-Church-of-Alstead-NH-120645387960916.

BELLOWS FALLS, VT.

Living Hope Assembly of God, 582 Rockingham Rd.
Pastor Brenda Farkas welcomes all to Sunday worship at 10 a.m., the message at 10 a.m. Livestreaming available at 10:30 a.m., at Living Hope Fellowship Facebook page and the Living Hope Fellowship YouTube channel. Services can also be found at www.sapatv.org and www.fact8tv.com.

CHARLESTOWN, N.H.

Charlestown Seventh-day Adventist Church, 242 Main St.
Saturday Services include Bible Study at 9:30 a.m. and Worship Service at 11:15 a.m. and a healthy lunch for all after the service. All are welcome, call 603-276-2383 for more information.

CHESTER, VT.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 313 Main St.
Services are on Wednesdays, from 5:30-6 p.m.; and on Sundays, from 10:11:30 a.m., both in person and by Zoom, followed by coffee hour. All are welcome. Handicapped accessible. For a link to the Zoom service or more information about services and events, please visit www.stlukesepiscopalvt.org.

Andover Community Church, 928 Weston-Andover Rd.

Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. and worship service 10:45 a.m. For more information, go to www.andovercommunitychurch.org.

CLAREMONT, N.H.

Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church, 99 Sullivan St.
Worship is Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday and Saturday at 5 p.m. in person. For more information, go to www.hroc.org.

LONDONDERRY, VT.

Second Congregational Church of Londonderry, 2051 N. Main St.
Worship service is at 9:30 a.m. in person or online. Fill out a form at www.2ndcongregationalchurchvt.org to be sent a link to the live stream.

LUDLOW, VT.

Annunciation Catholic Church, Corner of Depot and High St.
Masses are celebrated on Saturday at 4:30 p.m. and on Sunday at 9 a.m. For further information, see our website at churchoftheannunciation.org, or call us at 802-228-3451.

United Church of Ludlow (UCC and Methodist), 48 Pleasant St.
The United Church of Ludlow is an Open and Affirming Church of the United Church of Christ, and a Reconciling Congregation of the United Methodist Church. Everyone is truly welcome here, without exception. Sunday service is held at 10 a.m., in person and on Zoom, followed by a fellowship hour. Call 802-356-8046 for more information or for the Zoom link.

SPRINGFIELD, VT.

Calvary Baptist Church, 156 Main St.
Sunday services are 9:30 a.m. in person. Services are still streamed at www.facebook.com/

Hugh E. Lund, 1951-2025

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Hugh Erling Lund, 74, passed away peacefully on Dec. 23, 2025, at the Jack Byrne Center in Lebanon, N.H., with his wife at his side.
Hugh was born on Nov. 30, 1951, in Long Beach, Calif. He grew up in the Bronx, before eventually settling in Springfield, Vt.
He is survived by his wife Carla (Tarbox); their sons, Adam (Tabitha), Erik (Rose), and Michael; his grandchildren, Isaiah, Natalie, Olivia, and Cassandra; his cousins Robert (Margaret), Ryan, and Alison (Samuel); many relatives in Norway; longtime friends Jim, Joe, Kevin, Lee, and Bob; and their remarkable neighbor Marjory.
He was predeceased by his parents, CPT Elling and Mary (Morrisey) Lund, and his cousin Frances (Merle).
After graduating from Cathedral Prep High School in Manhattan, he attended Cathedral College in Douglaston, N.Y., and graduated from SUNY in

Albany, N.Y., in 1974.
Hugh worked for the State of Vermont Agricultural Department from 1979 until retiring in 2021. After, he taught himself to cook professionally, he worked part time at the Springfield Royal Diner, then winter weekends at the Okemo Base Lodge Cafe and summers at the Coleman Brook Tavern for many years.
He was a Springfield Parks and Rec volunteer baseball coach for his sons from T-ball until they reached high school, taught them how to cross-country ski, and attended many school games of baseball, basketball, soccer, and cross-country meets. During his retirement, he enjoyed visiting and talking with his sons and grandchildren, a nice glass of wine, a shot of Aquavit, and a well-cooked meal.
There will be a celebration of his life at 236 Old Farm Drive, Pomfret, Vt., on Sunday, July 26, at 2:30 p.m.

calvarybaptistchurchspringfieldvt.org. For more information, go to www.calvarylovesspringfield.com.

Springfield United Methodist Church, 10 Valley St.
Worship begins at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays. Springfield United Methodist Church welcomes everyone! The church can be reached at 802-885-3456.

Unitarian Universalist Church, 21 Fairground Rd.
Sunday Services are at 10 a.m., in person and on Zoom. For more information, go to www.uuspringfieldvt.org.

Holy Family Parish, St. Mary's Church, 10 Pleasant St.
Sunday Mass at 9 a.m. Weekday Mass Monday and Friday, at 9 a.m.; and Tuesday, at 5:30 p.m. Confessions at 6 p.m. For more information, contact stmarys05156@gmail.com, call 802-885-3400, or visit www.holyfamilyvermont.com.

WALPOLE, N.H.

St. John's Episcopal Church, corner of Westminster and Elm St.
Sunday services are 10 a.m. in person or via Zoom. For more information, go to www.stjohnswalpole.org, email pastor@stjohnswalpole.org, or leave a message at 603-756-4533.

Walpole Unitarian Church, corner of Union and Main St.
Sunday Service begins at 10 a.m. Services are also available via Zoom. For links and updates, go to www.walpoleunitarianchurch.org.

WESTON, VT.

Old Parish Community Church, 644 Main St.
A diverse, informal, and welcoming congregation. Sunday service begins at 10:30 a.m. For more information, contact Jon Bliss, minister, at 802-299-6721 or email oldparishchurchweston@gmail.com, or visit www.oldparishcommunitychurch.org.

Mary Ann McDonald, 1946-2026

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Mary Ann McDonald (née Mason), 79, passed away peacefully on July 12, 2026, following a period of declining health.
She was born on July 31, 1946, in Columbus, Ohio, to Elizabeth Frigden Mason and Robert Mason.
Mary Ann was the beloved wife of James McDonald, with whom she shared 56 years of marriage. Their love story began on the Italian Riviera in Viareggio during the summer of 1969. They were married on June 27, 1970, in Mount Gretna, Pa., surrounded by family and friends. Together they built a wonderful life and loving home in Bellows Falls, Vt., where they raised their son, and lived until 2023.
She was the devoted mother of Christopher McDonald and his wife, Melissa, and the proud, loving grandmother of Oliver, Adrian, Henry, Benjamin, Declan, and Harrison. Nothing brought Mary Ann greater joy than being “Grammy.” She adored each of her six grandsons, treasured every moment spent with them, and delighted in hosting “Grammy Camp” during the summers whenever her health allowed.
Mary Ann is also survived by her siblings, David Lawrence Mason (Todd Brown), Michael Mason (Nikki), and Jane Rohrbach (predeceased by her husband, Gary); her beloved niece, Carrie Currier (Thomas Blake); and many cherished nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends whose lives she touched in countless ways.
In 1990, Mary Ann opened both her heart and her home to her niece after the loss of her mother. For more than three decades, she provided unwavering love, guidance, and stability, creating a bond that remained one of the greatest blessings of both their lives.
Mary Ann dedicated more than 40 years to elementary education in Pennsylvania and Vermont, spending the majority of her career at Central Elementary School in Bellows Falls, Vt. An exceptional educator, she was honored as the University of Vermont’s Teacher of the Year for excellence in teaching in 2004. She was a trained reading recovery instructor and also trained in the Success for All program, mentoring many teachers throughout the district. She inspired generations of students with her patience, compassion, and unwavering belief in every child’s potential, fostering a lifelong love of reading and learning.
Those who knew Mary Ann will remember her as a kind, gentle, and nonjudgmental soul. She was a won-



Mary Ann McDonald, 1946-2026.

PHOTO PROVIDED

derful listener, a trusted confidante, and someone who always made others feel heard and valued. Family was at the center of her life, but she also treasured the many friendships she cultivated over the years.
She found joy in life’s simple pleasures. She was an avid reader who made frequent trips to the local library and especially enjoyed novels by Danielle Steel. She loved Hallmark movies – particularly the mystery series – playing cards, quilting, sitting on her porch chatting with family and friends, and browsing fall craft fairs. She looked forward to an evening glass of chardonnay and never turned down lobster, peach pie, fresh corn on the cob, or a comforting bowl of soup.
Mary Ann loved gathering her family together. She faithfully hosted a summer picnic during Bellows Falls Alumni weekend, prepared memorable Thanksgiving feasts, and never missed a family Christmas celebration in Pennsylvania. She cherished summers spent at Lake Wallenpaupack with her siblings, nieces, and nephews, treasured vacations at Wells Beach, Maine, and enjoyed traveling extensively during her summers off, especially to visit relatives in Minnesota.
In 2023, Mary Ann moved to Cornwall Manor to be closer to Christopher and her siblings, where she remained surrounded by the love of family.
Mary Ann leaves behind a legacy of kindness, generosity, quiet strength, and unconditional love. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, teacher, mentor, and friend. The lives she shaped – both in her family and in her classroom – will continue to reflect the love, wisdom, and compassion she shared so freely.
She will be deeply missed and forever remembered. Please join us Aug. 7, at 11 a.m., for a celebration of life and Catholic Mass at St. Charles Church in Bellows Falls, Vt., preceded by a visitation beginning at 10 a.m., with a reception to follow the service. In lieu of flowers, please donate to Parks Place, 44 School Street Extension, Bellows Falls, VT 05101.

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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.

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calendar

LEGAL NOTICES

UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY 23 –
CHESTER, Vt. – Luminous Crush will play the Chester Summer Music Series on Thursday, July 23, from 6:30-8 p.m., on the Chester Academy lawn, or in the Chester Town Hall auditorium in case of rain. Laura Molinelli and Bay Campbell present original bluegrass, alt country, psychedelic fusion, dream pop, indie rock, and whatnot. Founded in 2015, with roots in bedroom pop as well as traditional folk and Americana, they deliver a unique and original sound. They will be joined by bassist Christian Heins. “Luminous Crush live up to their name: They dazzle with brightly appointed music, and they’re easy to love,” says Seven Days writer Jordan Adams.

JULY 24-25 –
LONDONDERRY, Vt. – The Second Congregational Church of Londonderry, 2051 North Main Street, will holds its 2026 Whale of a Sale on Friday, July 24, and Saturday, July 25, from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. The sale will include furniture, lamps, a fine collection of prints/frames, all kinds of sporting equipment and tools, lots of kitchen items, dishes, glassware and mugs galore, home decor, small electronics, gardening items, linens, and toys. There will also be a bake sale. This is the church’s single largest fundraiser of the year. Proceeds benefit the many ministries of the Second Congregational Church. For more

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

JULY 24 –
ALSTEAD, N.H. – Chase’s Mill, 801 Forest Road (Route 123), will host “Mill Hollow in 1919: When Utopia Met Convention,” a lecture on the radical lifestyle of Mill Hollow residents the Chase-Dennet family, presented by archaeologist Gail Golec and Chase family member Nancy Botkin, on Friday, July 24. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and the program begins at 7 p.m. You can reserve your space at www.chasesmill.org; walk-ins are welcome.

CHARLESTOWN, N.H. – The Charlestown Senior Center’s last summer concert will be Gerry Grimo, held on Friday, July 24, at 6:30 p.m., at 223 Old Springfield Road in Charlestown. This event is sponsored by Ameriprise and Bill Sullivan. Bring your friends and family and a lawn chair, and enjoy this free event. We will have refreshments for sale and a 50/50 raffle; you are more than welcome to bring your own refreshments. We hope to see you there.

JULY 25 –
PERKINSVILLE, Vt. – The 14th annual Summer Evening with Friends & Neighbors will be held on Saturday, July 25, from 6-9 p.m., at the Weathersfield Center Meeting House, 2579 Weathersfield Center Road. The evening will feature live music by Prydein, a Scottish rock band. There will also be a silent auction, appetizers, and beverage available.

Proceeds will benefit the Weathersfield Proctor Library’s capital campaign. For more information, call the library at 802-674-2863.

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – Pop Up Art at Custer Sharp is presenting another free Saturday of art making for all ages on July 25, from 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Have fun making your own glow-in-the-dark art to hang in your room, tent, or anywhere your summer nights take you. With safe, glow-in-the-dark paint, participants in this workshop will have fun creating glow-in-the-dark stars, moons, bugs, fish, flowers, and whatever your imagination can dream up. Wear your painting clothes and take home your own glow-in-the-dark art. The Custer Sharp House, located at 2461 Middletown Road, is home to the Londonderry Arts and Historical Society. Stop in to our current exhibit on sugar making and stay to make some art. This program is sponsored by grants from the Thrifty Attic and the Community Fund of Londonderry.

JULY 26 –
LUDLOW, Vt. – The Black River Academy Museum will be at the Ludlow Farmers Market on Sunday, July 26, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Stop by our booth for a fun day out. Enjoy local food, refreshing drinks, and homemade breads.

JULY 30 –
CHESTER, Vt. – Bowmen will play the Chester Summer Music Series on Thursday, July 30, from 6:30-8 p.m., on the Chester Academy lawn, or in the Chester Town Hall auditorium in case of rain. Bowmen is the latest evolution of songwriter Bow Thayer, joined by guitar maverick and musical royalty Krishna Guthrie and anchored by a dynamic rhythm section: honky-tonk heavyweight Eric George on bass and River Thayer, Bow’s son,

on drums and percussion. Rooted in Thayer’s 40-year songwriting legacy, the band breathes new life into old songs while fearlessly charting untraveled ground. Genres blur. Instruments transform. Alternative tunings are standard practice, and Thayer’s signature bojos shape the band’s unmistakable sonic identity. New material introduces the thunderous reso-bojo-baritone, pushing the low end into uncharted depths.

AUG. 1 –
LUDLOW, Vt. – On Saturday, Aug. 1, sample some of Vermont’s favorite local brews and ciders at Taps & Tastes at Okemo’s Jackson Gore Inn while enjoying live music, fantastic food offerings, and over 50 craft beers from the region. Tickets can be purchased online in advance at www.okemo.com/explore-the-resort/activities-and-events/signature-events/okemo-taps-and-tastes.aspx, or on site the day of the event. This event will be held rain or shine, and is sponsored by William Raveis Vermont Properties.

RECURRING EVENTS

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.

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Overeaters Anonymous 12-Step Recovery Program is Mondays, from 6-7 p.m., at Parks Place, 44 School Street Extension in Bellows Falls. The program is free, and is for anyone suffering from obesity, binge eating, anorexia, or bulimia. All are welcome. For more information, call 802-376-3507, or visit www.aa.org.

WALPOLE, N.H. – Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. in St. John’s Parish Hall, Walpole.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Cozy Stitches pop-in sewing class is held on Mondays, from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., at the Springfield Town Library, 43 Main Street. Start your week with a cozy morning of sewing, chatting, and sharing ideas. Bring your own hand-sewing, knitting, crocheting, or mending projects, and enjoy the company of others who love to create.

CLAREMONT, N.H. – Women’s pool games are played every Monday, from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., at the Claremont Senior Center, 5 Acer Heights. Come be a part of this fun activity with likeminded women. For more information, call 603-543-5998.

TUESDAYS –
W. TOWNSHEND, Vt. – Burger night is held every Tuesday, from 5-7 p.m., at the West Townshend Country Store, 6573 Vermont Route 30, West Townshend, Vt. There will be live music provided by a different local artist each week. For more information, visit www.westtownshend.org, call 802-874-4800, email info@westtownshend.org, or message the store on Facebook.

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

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Sew What is held Tuesday afternoons, from 2-4 p.m., at the Springfield Town Library, 43 Main Street. Spend your Tuesday afternoon working on sewing projects in a relaxed and welcoming space. Bring your own supplies and enjoy time to sew, learn, and have fun with others. Sewing machines are provided, or you can bring your own if you prefer. Both groups are free to attend and open to all skill levels. For more information, visit www.springfieldtownlibrary.org,

or call the library at 802-885-3108.

WEDNESDAYS –
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.

CLAREMONT, N.H. – The Claremont Senior Center, 5 Acer Heights, holds bingo every Wednesday afternoon. You must be at least 55 years old, and purchase your cards by 12:45 p.m. Games begin at 1 p.m. Concessions are available until the game begins. We average around 30-40 seniors who love to attend, visit with their friends, and try to win a little extra money.

THURSDAYS –
CHESTER, Vt. – Bone Builders Class in Chester every Thursday, from 10-11 a.m. Classes will be held in the First Universalist Parish of Chester community room. Classes are free and open to all. Drop-in class, no registration needed. For details, contact Barbara at bwquilter1778@gmail.com.

CHESTER, Vt. – Knit Knite at Six Loose Ladies on the Chester Common Thursdays, from 5-8 p.m., and via Zoom, from 7-8 p.m.

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 –
SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – Main Street Arts, 35 Main Street, will hold the “Originals & Traditionals” Open Mic Night on the fourth Friday of every month, from 7-9 p.m., hosted by musician Putnam Smith. Sign-ups begin at 6:30 p.m. All material should be original or “traditional” (i.e., in the public domain). Each performer can perform two songs or up to 10 minutes, whichever comes first. If you have any questions, please contact Smith at putnamsmith@gmail.com.

W. TOWNSHEND, Vt. – Pizza night is held every Friday, from 5-7 p.m., at the West Townshend Country Store, 6573 Vermont Route 30, West Townshend, Vt. There will be live music provided by a different local artist each week. For more information, visit www.westtownshend.org, call 802-874-4800, email info@westtownshend.org, or message the store on Facebook.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Join us on Main Street, from 5-8 p.m., every fourth Friday in May, June, July, August, September, and October. Events feature a vibrant downtown experience filled with local vendors, live music in the park, and plenty of activities for everyone to enjoy. Presented by Springfield on the Move, Copper Fox, and Gallery at the Vault.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RESTAURANT OPPORTUNITY

The **Bellows Falls Country Club (BFCC)** is inviting interested parties to submit a proposal to operate a restaurant at BFCC located in Rockingham, VT.

FOR RFP DETAILS VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.bellowsfallscountryclub.com

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EMAIL: bfcctherock@gmail.com

Pursuant to Title 18, Chapter 107, Subchapter 1, § 5212(b), this is to provide notice that I, Susan Lanphere, am applying to the Town Clerk of Springfield, VT for a disinterment permit of the cremains of Robert G Spicer Sr whose cremains are inurned in Pine Grove Cemetery in North Springfield, VT, specifically Lot 10, Tier 2, Ward 4, Gravesite #4. I am the legal owner of Gravesite #4 and I, nor any member of my family, is related in any manner to Mr Spicer. I want his cremains removed so that I may, in the future, be buried in my gravesite. To the best of my knowledge, Mr Spicer should be relocated to Lot 10, Tier 2, Ward 4, Gravesite #6.

TOWN OF LONDONDERRY

The Town of Londonderry seeks a company or contractor to perform the duties of a Chief Wastewater Treatment Facility Operator (Grade 1) for the South Village Wastewater system currently under construction and to be located at 4215 VT Route 100. The system is expected to be operational late Fall of 2026 or Spring of 2027. Bids are due on August 13, 2026 no later than 2:00pm. To see the full RFP, please visit our Requests For Proposal page.

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STATE OF VERMONT

SUPERIOR COURT

Windsor Unit

PROBATE DIVISION

Docket No.: 26-PR-03713

In re ESTATE of:

Jean Middleton

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the Creditors of:

Jean Middleton

Decedent

late of

Springfield

Decedent's Town of Residence

I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period.

Dated:

7-8-26

Signature of Fiduciary

Executor/Administrator		Mailing Address
Adam Middleton		c/o Parker & Ankuda, PC, PO Box 519
Phone Number	Email	City, State, Zip
802-885-2582	parkerankuda@vermontel.net	Springfield, VT 05156

Name of Publication:

The Vermont Journal

Publication Date:

July 22, 2026

Name of Probate Court:

Vermont Superior Court, Windsor Unit

Address of Probate Court:

12 The Green

Woodstock, VT 05091

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD

SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY

We need your help in the - SUMMER HILL CEMETERY

Sunday, July 26, 2026 - 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

Please come join the Springfield Cemetery Commissioners who will be cleaning stones and monuments in our Summer Hill Cemetery located on Summer Street across from the Commons.

Cleaning kits will be available for use, however, it is helpful to bring a pail, a soft nylon (palm-size) brush and a spray bottle of water.

It is recommended that you wear boots or sturdy shoes, gloves, and weather appropriate clothing. Drinking water and snacks will be available. For more info email: townclerk@springfieldvt.gov or call 802-885-2104.

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Town of Springfield Cemetery Commission will hold a Hybrid Public Hearing at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday August 5, 2026 for the purpose of receiving public input concerning the Cemetery Rules and Regulation Ordinance. The Public Hearing will be held in person in the Selectboard Hall at 96 Main Street, Springfield, Vermont with access to attend via Zoom: Join Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85051481791> - Meeting ID: 850 5148 1791

Copies of the Town of Springfield Cemetery Ordinance and the amendments can be picked up at the Town Clerk's Office 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday and found on the town's website: <https://springfieldvt.gov/>

Scott Page

Cemetery Commission Chair

opinion/classifieds

Suzanne Seymour announces independent campaign for Congress

REGION – Suzanne “Suz” Seymour, a Colchester small-business owner, massage therapist, comedian, and community advocate, today announced her independent candidacy for Vermont’s seat in the United States House of Representatives.

Seymour enters the race with a simple question that has become the foundation of her campaign: “Are you OK, Vermont?”

Seymour is a Vermonter, raised in Franklin County. A resident of Highgate, Vt., she is running as an independent candidate for Congress, offering Vermonters a genuine alternative – pragmatic, battle-tested, and unafraid to speak truth with both heart and humor. She believes it’s time for representation that reflects real life experience

rather than career politics.

Through conversations with Vermonters across the state, Seymour says she has heard growing concerns about affordability, health-care, education, family stability, government accountability, and the feeling that elected officials no longer listen to ordinary citizens.

“This is ‘Politics Unusual,’” Seymour said. “Too many Vermonters feel ignored by a political system that seems more interested in party agendas than the people it serves. Vermonters deserve a representative who understands Vermont, listens to their concerns, and answers to the people – not political parties or special interests.”

As an independent candidate, Seymour says she will bring a practical, solutions-

focused approach to Congress, emphasizing collaboration over partisanship and common sense over political division.

Her campaign priorities include fiscal responsibility and transparent government; strong families and educational reform; supporting small businesses and Vermont’s local economy; protecting constitutional rights and civil liberties; expanding access to affordable health-care and self-care modalities; strengthening Vermont agriculture and rural communities; and promoting healthier, happier, and more resilient communities.

Seymour will launch her campaign with a statewide tour, visiting towns and communities throughout Vermont to hear directly

from residents about the challenges they face and the changes they want to see in Washington.

“Too many Vermonters aren’t OK,” Seymour said. “They feel politicians aren’t who they claim to be. They feel their concerns aren’t heard and that their votes don’t matter. Real representation starts with listening. Before I ask Vermonters for their vote, I’m going to ask them what they need and what they want me to stand up for on their behalf.”

Vermont is represented in the U.S. House by a single statewide congressional district, meaning every Vermont voter participates in the same congressional election.

Supporters, community members, and members



PHOTO PROVIDED

mour

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FOR RENT

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Retired gentleman and his cat sharing home in quiet neighborhood. Large 2nd floor bedroom and private bathroom. Needs help with some cleaning, folding laundry, making the bed, snow shoveling the deck. \$650/month. No smoking or marijuana use. 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO.

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MIDDLESEX, Vt. – Maine Coon cat kittens, quality European bloodline, health check, first shots, and dewormed. One year life guarantee. Various colors and prices. Parents DNA-NN. Reserve yours today at anniebutler43@icloud.com or 802-225-6290.

Dear Editor,

U.S. Congresswoman Becca Balint served in the Vermont State Senate from 2015-2022. During her tenure, the state budget increased from \$5.1 billion to \$7.71 billion.

Balint’s voting record can be found at www.ethanallen.org/bbalint. I searched and did not find one instance where she voted against a tax increase for Vermonters.

Her voting record is almost a mirror image of her former progressive colleagues, many of whom still serve in the legislature and senate. By a number of measurable metrics, including healthcare, crime, homelessness, academic proficiency in public education, drug addiction, and economic opportunity, Vermont has

stagnated since her rise to power. In 2015, she served on the Senate Education Committee, where she was a strong advocate of Act 46. She even voted to lift the spending caps on the act.

Act 46 consolidated and centralized public education governance with promises of equity and cost savings. What we got instead was rural schools closing, higher taxes, and less local control. Equity was delivered in the form of students being nearly equal in their inability to read, write, and understand arithmetic.

Becca Balint’s adherence to high taxation and spending on failed programs with no accountability has been devastating for our young people, the working class, se-

nior citizens, and small businesses. Balint spends a lot of time and energy focusing on selective outrage outside of Vermont. Meanwhile, the forgotten men, women, and families of Vermont struggle to survive the outcomes that she and her progressive colleagues have successfully advocated for years.

Since Becca Balint’s departure from the Vermont State Senate and her election to the U.S. House of Representatives, her ideological allies in the Vermont General Assembly have worked feverishly to continue and expand her legacy. The current state budget is \$9.38 billion. Clearly, the extraction of more tax dollars from Vermonters by Balint Democrats is creating more

problems than it is solving.

The last year Republicans held majorities in both the Vermont House and Senate was 1986 — 40 years ago. I have listened to members of Vermont’s Democratic Party majority cast blame and aspersions my entire adult life, insisting that all the problems in our state are caused by those terrible Republicans. This vilification has won Vermont Democrats decades of elections, but at the expense of economic stability and prosperity in our state. It is long past time for a real course correction — for a future every Vermonter can be hopeful about.

Sincerely,
Stu Lindberg
Cavendish, Vt.

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.



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(12/9/26 - 52)

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(09/16/26 - 26)

home & outdoor

11th annual Works in Progress Garden Tour

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Visit five gardens in the Springfield area, meet your gardening neighbors, and enjoy a delicious lunch on Saturday, July 25. The tour, which ends with lunch, runs from 8 a.m. until about 1 p.m.

Our last garden tour was two years ago, so we're excited to get back out enjoying garden visits. This tour includes vegetable and flower gardens and natural plantings.

We'll start in downtown Springfield and learn about the efforts that keep our downtown festooned with beautiful plantings by Springfield on the Move and the Springfield Garden Club. Bonnie Andrews, who designed Springfield

on the Move's Movie Theater Garden in 2018, will meet us there to give us some background in planning and maintaining this central oasis. A shout out to Judy Martin who you'll often see there weeding and watering.

Abundance describes Mary Eldredge's extensive gardens – large fenced-in vegetable gardens, all maintained by hand, as well as flowers surrounding the house and yard. Eldredge advises the gardener to just think of the part of the garden one is working on and not everything at once. She starts her plants indoors, makes a map of her garden, and rotates crops. Eldredge creates slightly raised beds by allowing grass instead of



Garden beds outside the movie theater in Springfield. PHOTO PROVIDED

boards to hold the sides up. See how Jo Bregnard's exploration of no-dig veggie gardening is going this year.

Her cucurbits have gone vertical, and she's hoping to have some fall starts in the greenhouse. Visit the ber-

ries and perennials, and say hello to LouLou and Posey the cows, who are testing out a new brand of biological fly control from the same place that Bregnard buys her beneficial insects.

Betsy Owen's flower gardens contain sturdy, hardy varieties that do well with little care. Each spring she likes to see what plants have self-sown, or appeared unexpectedly from somewhere else. Some get to stay and become favorites. Owen is always happy to share ones she'll divide in the fall. Her main project this year, especially in the vegetable garden, has been to find an effective, inexpensive mulch which keeps weeds down and improves the soil as well.

Getting hungry? Our last stop will be at Diane Kemble's where we'll keep the conversation going over lunch. There's a small vegetable garden, peaches, elderberries, blueberries, and lots of flowers, including annuals, perennials, and wildflowers surrounded by fields.

The Works in Progress Garden Tour is sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Church in Springfield, Vt. There is a suggested donation to attend, which includes lunch and possibly plants.

To reserve a spot and receive full details of the day, including carpooling, email Kemble at dkemble@vermontel.net, or text or call 802-324-9465.

WWHT honors Laura Chapman, elects board members

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. – The Windham & Windsor Housing Trust (WWHT) held its Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 25, at the Brattleboro Museum and Art Center, to report to its membership, elect new board members, and honor the dedication and impact of Putney community member Laura Chapman.

Roughly 100 staff, supporters, residents, funders, and friends were in attendance at the annual gathering. New members were elected to the board with an equal number of seats in three categories: WWHT residents, public service, and community at large. Newly elected are Adrian Segar, community at large;

resident member Suzanne Warsaw; Ellen Hender, interim executive director at Vital Communities; Caroline Trearrow, a vocational counselor with Hire-Ability; and Kaci Viado, the director of restorative justice programs at Interaction – all public service members.

The agenda featured a new homeowner sharing their journey through WWHT's Shared Equity Program and support, a presentation of WWHT's placemaking work being integrated into their housing communities, as well as the bestowal of the Community Partnership award to Interaction, in recognition of its restorative prac-

tices and the impact of its work within WWHT's housing community.

A highlight of the event was the presentation of the distinguished Tom Yahn Housing Leadership award to community organizer Laura Chapman. The award is given out annually to a community member who demonstrates a long-term commitment to the preservation and development of affordable housing and/or to the lives of those who live in affordable housing.

WWHT Executive Director Elizabeth Bridgewater praised Chapman as a longtime champion of affordable housing, and a key proponent in WWHT's newest housing development in Putney.

"Throughout each phase of Alice Holway Drive, Laura showed up again and again in support of affordable housing and residents of our properties. And now, new residents are moving in. In community engagement and outreach we look for trusted messengers and local champions. Laura is a shining example of both of these."

The award itself was introduced by Vermont State Rep. Mike Mrowicki.

"The Tom Yahn Community award celebrates the spirit of Tom Yahn. Anyone who knew Tom saw his dedication to our community, especially our youth, and the cause of affordable housing. Tom epitomized that community spirit. That Laura Chapman is this year's recipient is so appropriate, as Laura also epitomized that community support of giving to and serving others."

"From her time serving those Vermonters without housing at Groundworks to serving the food insecure at Putney Food Shelf, then to Families First serving and celebrating Vermont's disabled community, to now working for Southeast Vermont Community Action, Laura's spirit of giving for all of us who live here."

"At a time where we have not just a state and local

housing crisis but a national crisis, the new development in Putney – which Laura supported from the beginning – will bring housing to 25 new families. As Vermont's population is shrinking, and our workforce is lacking for new workers, Laura had the foresight and courage of her convictions to support and maintain support that helps address one of the more pressing problems of this time."

The 2025 Annual Report can be accessed online at www.homemattershere.org. The housing trust would like to thank Brattleboro Museum Art Center for hosting the evening, and event sponsors Neagley & Chase Construction Company, Brattleboro Savings & Loan, Savings Bank of Walpole, Servpro, and Stevens & Associates P.C.



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