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THE VERMONT Journal

SHOPPER EDITION

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VOLUME 65, ISSUE 31

Springfield’s The Picking Box delivers fresh food made from scratch

BY PAULA BENSON

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Jessica West opened her mobile charcuterie and catering business, The Picking Box, this past April, because she believes in serving and eating food made from fresh ingredients. West started by offering charcuterie and a small selection of sandwiches, and once word got out, her menu grew from there.

West related that she loves putting together charcuterie plates, saying, “My charcuterie is different. I want all the bang for my buck – all the stuff” which means cured meats, aged cheeses, fruit, vegetables, and nuts, mostly sourced from local farms, are jam-packed into a to-go box and delivered right to your door.

In addition to the specialty boxes, West serves some crave-worthy sandwiches like a BLT on ciabatta, grilled chicken, or pulled pork. But her biggest hit to date, whether she likes it or not, has to be the hot honey fried chicken sandwich.

With a piece of chicken no bun can contain fried to crispy perfection, West’s chicken sandwich has become a summer sensation. “I sold 100 pieces of chicken this week,” West reported last Friday.

“I smell like French fries,” she laughed. “It’s not glamorous, but people want fried chicken.”

West can whip up special orders for individualized food items, like chili cheese dogs or bacon-wrapped, chipotle-cream-cheese-stuffed jalapenos. She loves cooking, experimenting

with recipes, and trying out new combinations of flavors and ingredients.

In order to serve the greater southeastern Vermont area, West created an order and delivery structure that allows her to fill requests from Bellows Falls and North Walpole to Springfield. For instance, Bellows Falls and Walpole residents must place orders by noon on Wednesday for Thursday delivery. For Springfield, orders must be in by noon on Thursday, and delivery is Friday.

West has always enjoyed bringing wholesome food to her community, working for years as a school cook, including at the Springfield Area Parent Child Center (SAPCC), where West introduced a new farm-to-table menu. She baked bread and made pizza with

homemade crust and sauce using high-quality ingredients.

“I feel it is important to introduce [children] to vegetables at a young age,” West said.

It was West’s daughter Tia Horton, an educator at Bright Beginnings Child Care in Springfield, who came up with the name for The Picking Box, and West’s son Brandon and her husband, Nate Deluca, support the operations. West reported that she nearly had to turn orders away last



To-go charcuterie boxes from The Picking Box. PHOTO PROVIDED

28. Visit The Picking Box’s Facebook page to view pictures of West’s amazing creations, menus, and contact information.

USPS CUSTOMER

One year later: Seven Sisters Orchard invites the community back

BY LISA STICKNEY

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – One year after opening to the public, Seven Sisters Orchard welcomes visitors back to this old orchard to wander the fields and pick fresh fruit. Located on Leach Road in Saxtons River, Vt., the orchard is one of the area’s most scenic properties, and in previous decades had been closed to the community.

Last summer, for the first time, the orchard’s new owner invited families, friends, and visitors to enjoy pick-your-own fresh fruit and experience its scenic views. He hoped to share

its beauty and offer the local townspeople the pleasure of walking through its fields, and to harvest the abundance that this orchard holds.

Owner Michael Stack said, “I’ve wanted to own this land for historic reasons [family ties], and as an investment. There aren’t large chunks of land like this around anymore that haven’t been chopped up,” adding, “Where I am in my life, I’ve come back home.” He went on to explain how he loves being able to give access to this property back to the community, because for decades the orchard was only admired from a dis-

tance by passersby.

Born in North Walpole, N.H., Stack recalled that he spent part of his childhood working on a local family farm, and the experience taught him good values and a strong work ethic. He later lived in the Boston area, where he worked in the investment industry for 36 years. Now retired, he has chosen to resettle in the Claremont area.

Stack’s goal for the orchard has been to make the property more welcoming to the public by opening up areas that had previously not been accessible. To this end, Stack has cleared part of a 36-acre parcel that contained an old orchard that overlooks Mount Ascutney. He has added picnic tables where folks can go to sit and relax or have a picnic lunch and take in the amazing view.

Within the total 777-acre parcel of land, the orchard spans approximately 40 acres, containing diverse fruit-bearing plants including blueberries, peaches, pears, and many varieties of apples. With another growing season underway,



Michael Stack, owner of Seven Sisters Orchard, stands next to a blueberry bush.

PHOTO BY LISA STICKNEY

the orchard looks forward to welcoming visitors once again to enjoy fresh air, beautiful scenery, and the timeless experience of wandering through the orchard. Stack officially kicked off the 2026 pick-your-own season, starting with blueberries, on July 22. He looks forward to meeting new visitors this year.

For Stack, the greatest reward has been sharing the orchard’s beauty and abundance with others. The gift

of its many fruit trees, along with the feeling of nature, has been the best part. He recalled a family who came to pick blueberries last year with small children running and laughing up and down the blueberry patch and their mother yelling with excitement, “I’m gonna bake a pie!” Reflecting on the experience, Stack said, “It’s moments like these that remind me exactly why I chose to open the orchard to the community.”



Peaches. PHOTO BY LISA STICKNEY



Apples. PHOTO BY LISA STICKNEY

Historic survey of downtown Bellows Falls begins

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Residents and visitors may notice architectural historians and surveyors walking the streets of downtown Bellows Falls over the next several months. There’s no need for concern; they’re helping document the community’s rich history.

The Rockingham Historic Preservation Commission has hired Hartgen

Archaeology to update the National Register of Historic Places documentation for Downtown Bellows Falls. The project will update historic surveys completed in 1982 and 1990, and prepare a new National Register nomination that combines today’s Downtown and Island historic districts into one updated historic district.

As part of the project,

surveyors will photograph historic buildings from public streets and sidewalks, record architectural features, and conduct historical research using public records and archives. This information will help create brief histories of the buildings included in the study area.

Survey staff will not ask to enter homes or businesses, and they will not

enter private property without the owner’s permission. Most of the work will take place from public rights-of-way and through historical research.

As the project moves forward, property owners within the study area will be contacted and kept informed about the nomination process and opportunities to learn more about the project.

The updated National Register nomination will provide a more complete picture of Bellows Falls’ architectural and cultural history while recognizing the changes that have taken place over the past four decades.

Anyone with questions about the project is encouraged to contact clg@rockbf.org or call 802-463-3964, ext. 1112.

Fall Mountain Alumni Association Sunday Funday

ACWORTH, N.H. – The Fall Mountain Regional High School (FMRHS) Alumni Association invites FMRHS alumni, their families, and current and former teachers, administrators,

and staff to its second annual Sunday Funday on Sunday, Aug. 9, from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., at His & Hers Farm, 561 New Hampshire Route 123A, Acworth, N.H.

This free gathering of-

fers an opportunity to reconnect with classmates, former faculty, and friends while enjoying a relaxing summer afternoon. Food trucks, horse-drawn wagon rides, and lawn games will

be available. Guests are encouraged to bring their own beverages and lawn chairs.

Whether you graduated recently or many years ago, Sunday Funday is a chance to renew old friendships,

share memories, and celebrate the lasting connections of the Fall Mountain Regional High School family.

No registration is required. We hope to see Wildcats from every generation there.

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DEADLINES

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

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ads@vermontjournal.com

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Beyond the Unicorn Craft Fair new leadership

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – After many successful years as chairperson of the Beyond the Unicorn Craft Fair, Sara Moulton is excited to announce that she is passing the torch to Heidi McFadden. Moulton is incredibly grateful to the vendors, volunteers, sponsors, and shoppers who have helped make the fair such a success.

“I’m so proud of everything the alumni association has built and couldn’t be happier to hand the reins to Heidi,” said Moulton. “Her enthusiasm, dedication, and fresh ideas make her the perfect person to lead the fair into its next chapter.”

The Beyond the Uni-



Sara Moulton (left) and Heidi McFadden. PHOTO PROVIDED

corn Craft Fair looks forward to continued growth and success under McFadden’s leadership while re-

maintaining the welcoming, community-focused event everyone has come to love.

BDCC Executive Director named VermontBiz Influencer

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. – Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation (BDCC) is proud to celebrate Executive Director Adam Grinold’s inclusion in the VermontBiz list of 91 Influencers of 2026, which recognizes leaders from across the state who are making a meaningful impact through their unwavering dedication, work, and leadership.

Since becoming executive

director in 2014, Grinold has led BDCC through a period of significant growth and innovation. Under his leadership, the organization has expanded its work building new programs and partnerships that strengthen southern Vermont’s businesses, workforce, and communities.

“Adam’s leadership over the past 12 years has been transformative not just for the BDCC, but for the entire southern Vermont economy,” said Bob Stevens, BDCC board president.

“His entrepreneurial spirit and unique ability to bring business leaders and regional partners together have paved the way for sustainable growth.”

“I am incredibly honored to be recognized by VermontBiz alongside so many leaders I respect,” said Grinold. “This recognition is truly a reflection of the dedicated team at BDCC and the collaborative spirit of our southern Vermont communities. In rural economic development, our greatest strength is our ability to come together to face challenges head on.”

Congratulations to Grinold and all of the individuals recognized this year. To view the complete list, visit www.vermontbiz.com/news/2026/july/08/vermontbiz-recognizes-91-influencers-2026.

Learn more about BDCC and its work throughout southern Vermont at www.brattleborodevelopment.com.

Free backpacks at Allen Brothers Farm Market —

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – Allen Brothers Farm Market and Country 93.5 are giving local school kids a jump start on back-to-school preparations. On Saturday, Aug. 15, stop by Allen Brothers Farms at 6023 U.S. Route 5, Westmin-

ster, Vt., and pick up a free backpack stuffed with 45 back-to-school essentials, no questions asked. If your child, grandchild, niece or nephew, or any school-aged child you know needs a backpack, we hope to see you and them on Aug. 15.

Reserving a bag is not

required, but we recommend doing so at www.country935.com to ensure we have a bag for your child.

Special thanks to supporting sponsors Landmark College, 802 Credit Union, and Vermont Surrogacy Network.

“Friendly Conversations with SEVCA”

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Join us on Tuesday, Aug. 18, at 6 p.m., at the Springfield Town Library, for a community conversation with Jon and Amy from Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA). Come learn about the programs and services SEVCA offers and take part in an open discussion.

For more than 61 years, SEVCA has helped people

and families in Windsor and Windham counties meet basic needs and build a brighter future. As community needs have changed, SEVCA has continued to provide support and connect people with helpful resources. SEVCA offers programs such as Head Start, family services, financial empowerment, and weatherization. These services can help with childcare, housing stability, food assistance through 3SquaresVT,

financial coaching, small business support, and making homes safer and more energy efficient.

SEVCA’s goal is to help people and communities thrive. If you or someone you know needs support, SEVCA is here to help.

To learn more at SEVCA, email hello@sevca.org or call 802-722-4575. To sign up for a reminder, visit www.springfieldtownlibrary.org/calendar.

802 Credit Union awards scholarships to local students

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. – 802 Credit Union is proud to announce the recipients of its 2026 high school scholarship program, awarding 12 \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors from across Vermont and New Hampshire. The annual program recognizes students who have demonstrated academic achievement, leadership, community involvement, and a commitment to their future goals.

As a member-owned financial cooperative, 802 Credit Union believes that investing in education is investing in the future of the communities it serves. The scholarship program is one of the many ways the credit union supports students as they pursue higher education

and prepare for successful careers.

The 2026 scholarship recipients are Colby Bristol, Brattleboro Union High School; Tatum Flanagan, Windsor High School; Courtney Curtis, White River Valley High School; Maeva Bald, Brattleboro Union High School; Julia Bowen, White River Valley High School; Autumn Jefts, Keene High School; Serentee Martel, Hartford High School; Gracie Durrell, Harwood Union High School; Hazel (Hazen) Longe, Lamoille Union High School; Laural Callan, Rice Memorial High School; Ellessia Hall, Compass School; and Garrett Haskell, Greenwood School.

“Each year, we are inspired by the exceptional students who apply for our scholarship program,” said Jaime Richardson, vice president of marketing, communications, and culture at 802 Credit Union and coordinator of the scholarship program. “These students have demonstrated perseverance, leadership, and a genuine commitment to making a difference in their schools and communities. As a member-owned cooperative, we are proud to

invest in their future and celebrate the incredible potential they bring to the next chapter of their lives.”

The scholarship program is made possible through the dedication of 802 Credit Union’s scholarship committee, whose volunteers generously contributed their time and expertise to thoughtfully review applications and select this year’s recipients. 802 Credit Union extends its sincere appreciation to member volunteers Pearl Bugbee, Beth Bicknell, Kim Simmons, Abby Kendall, and Bethany Crowley, along with staff volunteers Tara O’Neill and Kaidence Campbell, for their commitment to supporting local students and expanding access to educational opportunities. Their dedication and thoughtful evaluation process help ensure the scholarship program continues to recognize and invest in deserving students throughout the communities 802 Credit Union serves.

“We are incredibly grateful for the time, care, and thoughtfulness our scholarship committee volunteers bring to this program each year,” Richardson added. “Their dedication ensures every application receives careful consideration, and their passion for supporting students reflects the cooperative spirit that defines 802 Credit Union.”

802 Credit Union congratulates each of the 2026 scholarship recipients and wishes them continued success in all they accomplish.



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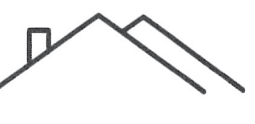


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COUPON CONTEST

The Rules

Participants must complete the Crossword or the Sudoku puzzle and mail this page to The Vermont Journal, PO Box 228, Ludlow, VT 05149. Must be received by Friday, Aug. 14, 2026. Limit one submission per person.

One participant will be selected by random drawing, and can choose one coupon from participating businesses on this puzzle page. Coupons are not valid until one is chosen by drawing winner. Coupon of choice will expire on September 30, 2026, and will be mailed to the winner.

The answers to the puzzles and winner will be published the following week.

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____ TOWN: _____

COUPON OF CHOICE: _____

Weekly SUDOKU

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword

ACROSS

1 URL ending

4 "Now I get it!"

7 Shimmering fabrics

12 Texter's "I think"

13 Young bloke

14 Mover's rental

15 H.S. proficiency test

16 Held in trust

18 Census stat

19 Wonderland visitor

20 Hindu deity

22 Moray, for one

23 Ski lift type

27 TV screen choice

29 Beekkeeper's place

31 Blood line?

34 Sweetie

35 Monastery

37 Play part

38 Romanov ruler

39 College URL ender

41 Appear

45 Chopin piece

47 Roman 56

48 Branch of government

52 Puzzle

53 "— Called Wanda"

54 Actress Ruby

55 Before

56 Give up amateur status

57 Pink Floyd's Barrett

58 Rds.

7 "Time" co-founder

8 Sushi fish

9 Goat's plaint

10 Where Lux. is

11 Devious

17 Bruins' sch.

21 Wedding setting

23 Leans

24 Sheepish "Hello!"

25 Branch

26 Bagel variety

28 One for the road?

30 Cpl.'s subordinate

31 Sternward

32 Hosp. areas

33 Estuary

36 Bigfoot's kin

37 Hollywood's Hepburn

40 Couples

42 Santa's crew

43 Tennis great

44 Chris

44 Blends

45 Repeat

46 Sized up

48 Binge

49 "Avatar" craft

50 Chips go-with

51 Leb. neighbor

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history

Rockingham Old House Awards opened Aug. 1 —

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Do you know a home, business, barn, church, or other historic building that deserves a little recognition? The Rockingham Historic Preservation Commission invites residents to nominate properties for the 2026 Rockingham Old House Awards, with nominations opening Saturday, Aug. 1, during Old Home Days and the Meeting House Pilgrimage weekend.

For nearly three decades, the Old House Awards have celebrated the people who help preserve the character and history of Rockingham through the care, restoration, and improvement of older buildings. Since the program began in 1997, more than 180 historic properties throughout the town have been recognized.

“Every restored porch, fresh coat of paint, repaired

window, or carefully maintained storefront helps keep Rockingham’s history alive,” said John Leppman, chair of the commission. “We hope residents will help us discover the many projects, large and small, that deserve a shout-out this year.”

Anyone may submit a nomination. You do not have to own the property to nominate it. Eligible properties must be at least 50 years old and located anywhere in the Town of Rockingham, including Bellows Falls, Saxtons River, Bartonville, Cambridgeport, Brockways Mills, and the surrounding rural areas.

Awards are presented in several categories, including residential, commercial, and multifamily properties.

To nominate a property, simply send the property address and, if known, the owner’s name, to [\[bf.org\]\(http://bf.org\). Nomination forms are also available from the Rockingham Historic Preservation Commission.

Nominations will remain open through Labor Day, with award recipients announced in the fall.

Help us celebrate the places that make Rockingham special. If you’ve admired a restoration project or know of a building that deserves recognition, send us a nomination.

The Rockingham Old House Awards are sponsored by the Rockingham Historic Preservation Commission with support from the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation and the National Park Service through the Certified Local Government Program.](mailto:clg@rock-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

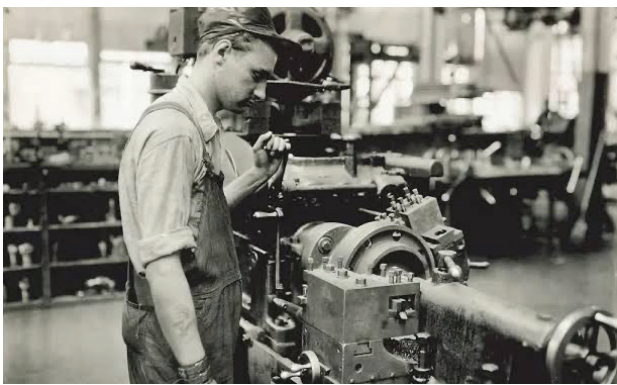
Grand opening of a new collaborative museum —

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Springfield Art and Historical Society (SAHS) and the Springfield Telescope Makers, Inc. (Stellafane) are pleased to announce the grand opening of a new collaborative museum dedicated to preserving and celebrating Springfield’s rich history of innovation, craftsmanship, science, and community heritage.

The new museum will be located in the historic Fellows Gear Shaper building in Springfield, adjacent to the Great Hall, and will serve as a unique destination showcasing the stories, artifacts, and achievements that have shaped Springfield; and Springfield’s contributions to both industry and amateur astronomy.

A grand-opening celebration and ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held on Saturday, Aug. 8, at 2 p.m. Following the ceremony, attendees will be invited to tour the museum and explore its exhibits.

The partnership between



New museum dedicated to preserving Springfield’s history.
PHOTO PROVIDED

SAHS and Stellafane brings together two organizations dedicated to preserving Springfield’s remarkable legacy. Through exhibits highlighting local history, manufacturing innovation, scientific achievement, and community culture, the museum aims to educate, inspire, and connect visitors of all ages.

“This museum represents an exciting new chapter in preserving Springfield’s story,” said Theo Avent, SAHS president. “By bringing together the historical collections and expertise of SAHS with the unique heritage of Stellafane, we are creating a

space where residents and visitors alike can discover the people, ideas, and accomplishments that have made Springfield a special place.”

The museum’s location within the Fellows Gear Shaper building further strengthens its connection to Springfield’s industrial heritage, providing an ideal setting to showcase the community’s history of innovation and craftsmanship.

For additional information, please contact Theo Avent at spfldahspresident@gmail.com, or Cecilia Detrich at president@stellafane.org.

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Last surviving widow of a Revolutionary War soldier —

PLYMOUTH, Vt. – The Plymouth Historical Society will host a talk on the last surviving widow of a Revolutionary War soldier on Sunday, Aug. 9, from 2-4 p.m., at the Plymouth

Town Office, 68 Town Office Road, presented by independent historian and Daughters of the American Revolution member Debby McCracken, of Vermont and Florida. She will speak

about the life of Esther Sumner Damon, widow of Noah Damon, a Revolutionary War patriot, as well as other patriots of Plymouth.

Light refreshments will be served.

Windham County History Fair

NEWFANE, Vt. – Step back in time at the Windham County History Fair and 250th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, Aug. 15, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., on Newfane’s historic common.

Admission, events, and parking are all free.

Throughout the day, reenactors and skilled craftspeople will present live demonstrations of traditional trades and technologies, including

musket firing, spy crafting, blacksmithing, weaving, spinning, woodworking, bookbinding, beekeeping, and telegraph operating.

The fair kicks off at 10 a.m., with a parade led by the 1947 Vermont State Police cruiser. Following will be a reading of the Declaration of Independence on the steps of the Windham County Courthouse and a tour of the courthouse by Judge Michael Kainen.

Tours of the West River Railroad Museum, the Windham County History Museum in the former county jail, and the old Newfane Cemetery will take place during the day.

See the Windham County Historical Society’s website, www.historicalsocietyof-windhamcounty.org, for the schedule of the day’s tours and demonstrations, as well as for the list of all historical societies, museums, artisans, and vendors exhibiting at the fair.

For more information, email info@historicalsocietyofwindhamcounty.org.

Ben Brickner for State Senate

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LEGALS

health/obituaries

Dartmouth Health secures NIH grant to research aging with serious illness

LEBANON, N.H. – Dartmouth Health, among the nation's most rural health-care systems, has received an \$11.8 million federal grant to develop a multidisciplinary research program focused on addressing the needs of people aging with serious illness.

The National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS), part of the National Institutes of Health, awarded the grant through its Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) program, which supports research capacity building in states that have historically received lower levels of NIH funding. The award will fund the creation of the Center for Aging with Serious Illness (CASI) at Dartmouth Health. The COBRE funding also includes a \$2.7 million award to Dartmouth's Geisel School of Medicine to fund its participation in CASI.

"Rural America is the next frontier in healthcare, and nowhere is that clearer than in the care of older adults living with serious illness," said Dr. Joanne M. Conroy, CEO and president of Dartmouth Health. "The Dartmouth Health system sits at the center of one of the oldest, most rural regions in the country, which gives us both the responsibility and the opportunity to lead. CASI lets us turn that responsibility into research that will change how these patients are cared for here and across rural America."

The growing number of older adults living with chronic, serious illness represents one of the most

pressing public health challenges in the United States. However, research addressing the unique needs of this population has not kept pace with its rapid expansion. Building a robust evidence base to improve the quality of life for this group is critical to advancing health-care.

"CASI will concentrate on building a network of experts who will conduct clinical, behavioral, and health-services research to address the challenges faced by older adults with serious illness," said Dr. Angelo E. Volandes, Dartmouth Health's interim chief research officer, Anna Gundlach Huber professor of medicine, and senior associate dean for clinical and translational research at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth.

"Our investigators will focus on solving key issues in aging with serious illness and use their findings to inform healthcare policy and stakeholder decision-making," added Volandes, co-principal investigator of CASI. "This center will foster independent investigators whose work will ultimately improve the care and quality of life for older adults."

CASI's overarching goal is supporting early-career clinician-scientists as they develop experience and expertise as independent researchers dedicated to improving care for older adults with serious illness.



Aerial view of Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. PHOTO PROVIDED

It does so through three specific aims: (1) Establishing a robust framework that integrates research expertise and mentorship to formalize CASI and strengthen Dartmouth Health's research infrastructure, in collaboration with affiliate institutions; (2) developing a structured pathway to support early-career clinician-scientists as research project leaders and to enhance their transition to independent investigators through tailored, milestone-driven research plans; and (3) ensuring the success of research and pilot project leaders by providing comprehensive technical assistance through the biostatistics, ethics, data management, research design, and community engagement (BEDRoC) core, which will serve the broader Dartmouth Health research community focused on improving care for older adults with serious illness.

"Given our location between two of the oldest population states per capita – New Hampshire and Vermont – Dartmouth Health is uniquely qualified to be the home of CASI," said Dr. Nathan E. Gold-

stein, the Herman O. West professor of geriatrics at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth, chair of Dartmouth Health's department of medicine, and co-principal investigator of CASI. "Our academic medical system is also one of the nation's most rural. We know that rural Americans face numerous barriers to accessing healthcare, and these hurdles are especially challenging for older adults living with chronic illness."

"This COBRE funding will allow the CASI team to create the foundational infrastructure required to conduct research leading to improved outcomes for this patient population," Goldstein added. "It also gives us a way to keep our most promising young physician-scientists here, training the next generation of Geisel investigators to spend their careers on the patients our region needs them to serve."

Learn more about CASI at www.reporter.nih.gov/project-details/11265888.

Hans Roth service notice

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – A service for Hans Roth, who passed away on Jun 16, 2026, will be held on Aug. 8, at 12 p.m., at the Rockingham Meeting House in Rockingham, Vt.

Mary Ann McDonald celebration of life

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Please join us on Aug. 7, at 11 a.m., for a celebration of life and Catholic Mass for Mary Ann McDonald (née Mason), who passed away peacefully on July 12, 2026. The services will be held 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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We run Church Services on an alternating schedule. Subject to space. All services are posted online at www.VermontJournal.com.

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DHMC celebrates opening of new mammography imaging center

LEBANON, N.H. – Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center (DHMC) celebrated the opening of its new Mammography Imaging Center with a ribbon-cutting on July 15, marking the completion of a project designed to improve patient experience, increase access to breast imaging services, and enhance clinical efficiency.

The new facility brings screening and diagnostic mammography services together in one location, eliminating the longstanding need for patients to navigate between separate areas of the hospital for imaging, follow-up testing, and biopsies.

The project also expands screening capacity with the addition of a third mammography room and replaces two aging mammography units with the latest imaging technology from Hologic. Later this month, the center will begin offering contrast-enhanced mammography, an advanced imaging option that improves cancer detection in women with dense breast tissue and provides a more affordable, timely alternative to breast MRI for some patients.

The redesigned space also features updated changing areas and a private consultation room where providers can discuss results with patients and their loved ones.

"What we've accom-

plished here is an environment that supports, welcomes, and embraces women who are probably going through one of the most nerve-wracking 15-minute procedures they'll have all year," said Dr. Joanne M. Conroy, CEO and president of Dartmouth Health.

"This is a beautiful facility for screening mammography, diagnostic mammography, and biopsies," said Dr. David M. Naeger, chair of the department of radiology at Dartmouth Health and vice president of the radiology service line. "We wanted to create a kind, welcoming, and warm space for patients undergoing a procedure that can be very anxiety-provoking. This project was made possible through the collaboration of many people, and we're grateful to everyone who helped bring it to life on behalf of our patients."

Chriss Kvinlaug, senior manager of clinical operations in radiology at DHMC, said the project modernizes breast imaging services while helping meet growing demand across the region.

"We're very excited that we were able to elevate the space and make it relevant for women's health in 2026," said Kvinlaug. "Integrating our screening and diagnostic services gives us a greater ability to meet the needs of patients requiring mammography screen-

ing and diagnostic studies throughout the Upper Valley and beyond."

To learn more about breast imaging services

at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center, visit www.dartmouth-hitchcock.org/breast-health.

Attention Springfield High School Class of 2019 Alumni

Per state regulations we are only required to keep student records for 7 years.

We are notifying the class of 2019 that we will be destroying student records on August 14, 2026, unless we hear from you. These must be physically picked up by you or provide written permission for someone else to acquire them.

Please contact Nancy Bovat at 802-885-7914 to coordinate a time to pick up your records if you would like them.

**DESTRUCTION OF EDUCATIONAL RECORDS
SPRINGFIELD VERMONT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**301 South Street
Springfield, Vermont 05156
802-885-5121**

The Springfield School District (Vermont) will be conducting a "Destruction of Records". These are Special Education records and personally identifiable information used within the Individuals with Disability Education Act but are no longer needed to provide educational services to students. The aforementioned records for students with a birth year of 2000 will be available for pick up before August 21, 2026. Any person desiring their records must put the request in writing or in an email to the Student Special Services Department.

Requests must include the student's name (including any possible name changes) and the student's date of birth. Please send your request before August 21, 2026, to:

Director of Student Special Services
Springfield School District
301 South Street
Springfield, Vermont 05156
(802) 885-5121
(email request to: adavis@ssdvt.org)

Other instructions will be provided after making initial contact.

calendar

LEGAL NOTICES

UPCOMING

AUG. 6 –
CHESTER, Vt. – Rustie Bus will play the Chester Summer Music Series on Thursday, Aug. 6, from 6:30-8 p.m., on the Chester Academy lawn, or in the Chester Town Hall auditorium in case of rain. Rustie Bus is heavily influenced by bands of the 1970s, when things were groovy and the sound was big. An average set list could include the Doobie Brothers, ELO, Tom Petty, and the Allman Brothers, as well as Eric King’s originals.

AUG. 7 –
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The First Baptist Church of Bellows Falls, 9 Church Street, will hold its First Friday Fundraiser on Friday, Aug. 7, from 5-6:30 p.m. This will be to benefit Parks Place in Bellows Falls. The menu includes barbecued hamburgers and hot dogs, potato salad, green salad, chips, a beverage, and dessert. There is a small suggested donation.

ALSTEAD, N.H. – Chase’s Mill, 801 Forest Road (Route 123), will host “Wonder Women Bingo” on Friday, Aug. 7. This version of bingo with a twist will celebrate the unsung women of American history

with fun and prizes. 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.

AUG. 8 –
LUDLOW, Vt. – Fletcher Memorial Library, 88 Main Street, will host artist Willow Bascom on Saturday, Aug. 8, from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Explore global cultures and colors while you connect with your neighbors. Pick up a coloring page for home or sit for a bit. Markers and pencils will be provided, or you are welcome to bring your own. Color line drawings of cats, butterflies, birds, and more, drawn in the style of indigenous people, with information on their significance in myths and ceremony. Get out of your Western mindset and explore global cultures. Check out Bascom’s website, www.worldfolkart.me, for more information on the artist. Programs and events at Fletcher Memorial Library are free and open to the public. For more information on the library, please visit www.fmlnews.org, call at 802-228-8921, or stop in.

N. SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The North Springfield Preservation Society will

host a yard sale fundraiser on Saturday, Aug. 8, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., at 5 School Street, rain or shine. The sale will include household goods, cookware, small appliances, tools, books and audiobooks, CDs, DVDs, and a bag sale.

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – Join in for an unforgettable evening filled with the infectious energy of salsa, bachata, and merengue on Saturday, Aug. 8, from 5-9:30 p.m., at Super Roasted Coffee Co., 73 Depot Street in Proctorsville, Vt. Whether you’re a seasoned dancer or you’re taking your first steps, “A MidSummer Night’s Salsa” is the perfect excuse to learn, mingle with your neighbors, and do some dancing in the streets of Proctorsville; that’s right, the street will be closed for dancing and roller skating, with roller-skates provided. Come as you are – no partner or prior experience are needed. The street opens at 5 p.m., intro class starts at 5:30 p.m., and open dancing goes until 9:30 p.m. Authentic arepas and empanadas by Moon and Stars Vermont. Drinks and sweets by Super Roasted Coffee Co.

CLAREMONT, N.H. – Come join The Apiary, 84 Pleasant Street, on Saturday, Aug. 8, from 1-2:30 p.m., for an afternoon of whimsical flowers from the field, arranged just so, by you. Walk away with a beautiful custom arrangement. Register at www.facebook.com/events/1091023370255527.

AUG. 9 –
PLYMOUTH, Vt. – The

Plymouth Historical Society will host a talk on the last surviving widow of a Revolutionary War soldier on Sunday, Aug. 9, from 2-4 p.m., at the Plymouth Town Office, 68 Town Office Road, presented by independent historian and Daughters of the American Revolution member Debby McCracken, of Vermont and Florida. She will speak about the life of Esther Sumner Damon, widow of Noah Damon, a Revolutionary War patriot, as well as other patriots of Plymouth. Light refreshments will be served.

AUG. 13 –
SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – North Star Health will host a community health and fun fair on Thursday, Aug. 13, from 4-7 p.m., at the Great Hall, 100 River Street. This free, fun, family-friendly event is open to all ages and will feature a wide range of health and wellness activities, including free backpacks, free health screenings, community resource tables, massages from Shiatsu School of Vermont, professional face painting by Blossom Winks, a bounce house, an obstacle course, a photo booth from VT NH Photobooth, a bubble station with giant bubbles, and food for purchase from 802 Soul Kitchen. Whether you’re looking for health screenings, family activities, or just a fun way to spend an evening, there’s something for everyone.

AUG. 15 –
PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – Join the Springfield Humane Society on Saturday, Aug. 15, from 11-3 p.m., at Singleton’s General Store,

for a barbecue and car show.

CLAREMONT, N.H. – Cruisin’ will play a free outdoor concert, weather permitting, at the Claremont Senior Center, 5 Acer Heights, on Saturday, Aug. 15, from 6-8:30 p.m. Bring your own lawn chairs. Snacks and drinks will be served, BYOB if you wish. This concert is open to the public.

AUG. 16 –
LUDLOW, Vt. – The Order of Eastern Star Mizpah Chapter 40 will host a picnic on Sunday, Aug. 16, from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., at 22 Buttermilk Falls Road. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided. Bring a salad or side dish. This event is open to all.

BRIDGEWATER CORNERS, Vt. – On Sunday, Aug. 16, at 2 p.m., Kevin Graffagnino, Vermont historian and author, will present “Zadock Thompson and the Story of Vermont.” Historian, naturalist, professor, and minister Zadock Thompson (1796-1856) played a significant role in how 19th-century Vermonters viewed their state’s heritage and appreciated its natural resources. Thompson was born in Bridgewater. This program is co-hosted by the Bridgewater Historical Society and the Woodstock History Center, and it is sponsored by the Vermont Humanities Council. The program will be held at the Bridgewater Grange Hall, 129 Route 100A. It is free, open to the public, and accessible to those with disabilities.

RECURRING

SUNDAYS –
CHESTER, Vt. – Six Loose Ladies hosts Odd Bobbins Spinners the second Sunday of each month from 1-4 p.m. at their location on the Common in Chester.

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The Catamount Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol meets Sundays, from 3:30-5:30 p.m., at Hartness Airport in Springfield.

The Civil Air Patrol is the auxiliary unit of the U.S. Air Force tasked with the mission of supporting America’s communities with emergency response, diverse aviation and ground services, youth development, and promotion of air, space, and cyber power. Cadets as young as 12 and senior members of any age make up this diverse group of volunteers.

MONDAYS –
WESTON, Vt. – Bingo is Monday nights at 7 p.m. at the Weston Rod & Gun Club, 982 Route 100, 1.5 miles north of Weston Village. All are welcome.

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Fletcher Memorial Library, 88 Main Street, hosts the Black River Grief Support Group on the second Monday of every month, from 1-2 p.m. This is A safe space for individuals to share their experiences, find comfort, and learn coping strategies after a loss. Offered by Black River Good Neighbor Services. For more information, call 802-228-3663.

TUESDAYS –
Heights, on Tuesdays, at 1 p.m. For more information, call 603-543-5998.

CLAREMONT, N.H. – Men’s pool games are played every Tuesday and Thursday, from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., at the Claremont Senior Center, 5 Acer Heights. All men are welcome. For more information, call 603-543-5998.

LUDLOW, Vt. – The summer infant and toddler playgroup at the Fletcher Memorial Library, 88 Main Street, is held on Tuesday mornings, from 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m., through Aug. 25. This playgroup is best suited for children ages 5 and younger, and is a great opportunity for kids and families to meet and enjoy interactive time together. Whether it’s playing with cars, cooking up a meal in the play kitchen, or sharing a story, there are plenty of activities available to choose from.

WEDNESDAYS –
BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Knitting Together, every Wednesday, 1-3 p.m., at Village Square Booksellers, knitting hats and mittens for our school kids. We provide yarn, some direction, and an enjoyable visit. Acrylic yarn donations are always welcome. For more information, contact Caroline at 802-463-4653.

THURSDAYS –
LUDLOW, Vt. – The Black River Memory Cafe is held on the second Thursday of each month, at the United Church of Ludlow, 48 Pleasant Street, from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. The memory cafe is free to attend, snacks included, and offers a safe and comfortable space where caregivers and their loved ones living with dementia or Alzheimer’s can socialize, listen to music, play games, and enjoy other appropriate activities. This is a program of Black River Good Neighbor Services. For more information, contact Vicki at 802-376-3388, or Krey at 802-228-3663.

FRIDAYS –
PERKINSVILLE, Vt. – Shoot trap every Friday, at 5:30 p.m., at Precision Valley Fish and Game Outdoor Range, located at 2879 Route 106 in Perkinsville.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Historic Survey of Downtown Bellows Falls

The Rockingham Historic Preservation Commission announces that Hartgen Archaeology has begun an architectural and historical survey of downtown Bellows Falls as part of an update to the community’s National Register of Historic Places Historic District.

Over the next several months, survey staff will be photographing buildings from public streets and sidewalks and conducting historical research using public records.

Survey personnel will not request access to homes or businesses and will not enter private property without the owner’s permission.

This project is made possible with support from the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation and the National Park Service through the Certified Local Government Program.

For more information, contact Walter Wallace, Project Coordinator, at clg@rockbf.org or (802) 463-3964, ext. 1112.

Town of Weston, Vermont – Job Opening
Highway Maintenance & Equipment Operator
Full-Time Position

The Town of Weston is seeking a qualified and motivated individual to join our Road Crew as a Highway Maintenance & Equipment Operator. This is a full-time, year-round position with benefits, offering the opportunity to work outdoors, operate heavy equipment, and support the essential maintenance of the town’s infrastructure.

Key Responsibilities:

- Plow and sand town roads during winter storms
- Operate trucks and heavy equipment for hauling, ditching, excavation, and road repair
- Maintain gravel and paved roads, drainage systems, culverts, and signage
- Perform roadside mowing, brush cutting, and general vegetation control
- Use hand tools and power equipment such as chainsaws, weed whackers, mowers, and chippers
- Conduct minor repairs and routine maintenance on town vehicles and equipment
- Assist with town building and grounds maintenance
- Respond to emergencies and weather events on a 24/7 on-call basis
- Communicate professionally with residents, coworkers, and supervisors

Qualifications:

- Must be in good physical condition, able to lift 35 lbs regularly and up to 100 lbs occasionally
- Ability to bend, walk, and work on uneven terrain and in all weather conditions
- Valid Class B Commercial Driver’s License (CDL) or ability to obtain one
- Experience with highway maintenance or heavy equipment preferred but not required
- Willingness to follow safety practices and town policies
- Positive attitude and ability to work as part of a team

Benefits Include:

- Competitive hourly wage based on experience
- Health insurance
- Retirement benefits, including pension
- Paid holidays and time off

Applications may be:

- Dropped off at the Weston Town Office
- Mailed to: Town of Weston, PO Box 98, Weston, VT 05161
- Emailed to: selectboard@westonvt.org

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

The Town of Weston is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

The Expeditionary School at Black River is Hiring!

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2026-2027 School Year Positions
Grade 7-12 Science Teacher

Preferred Candidates must have appropriate training, experience, or degree for the position (VT state licensure is not required but preferred). For more information, contact Mike Kell, ESRB Head of School, at mkell@esblackriver.org or call 201-640-4778

NOTICE OF TAX SALE
TOWN OF WINDHAM

The resident and non-resident owners, lienholders and mortgagees of property in the Town of Windham, in the County of Windham and State of Vermont are hereby notified that the taxes assessed for such town remain either in whole or in part unpaid on the following described lands in such town, to wit:

1. Being land and premises consisting of 2.00 +/- acres located at 268 White Road (Windham Grand List Parcel Number 040114.1) as conveyed to Gary L. Clay, Jr. by Quitclaim Deed of Cathy L. Prouty, f/k/a Cathy L. Clay, joined by Douglas C. Prouty and Edith Hussey, dated April 14, 1998 and recorded April 20, 1998 in Book 32, Page 493 of the Windham, Vermont Land Records.
2. Being land and premises consisting of 1.40 +/- acres located at 418 Howard Hill Road (Windham Grand List Parcel Number 010028) as conveyed to Lisa Marie Meyer Beshay by Quitclaim Deed of Robert V. Packard and Lisa Marie Meyer Beshay dated April 5, 2021 and recorded April 12, 2021 in Book 58, Page 339 of the Windham Land Records.
3. Being land and premises consisting of 1.60 +/- acres located at 0 Windham Springs Road (Windham Grand List Parcel Number 040330) as John A. Simmons and David B. Runyon, Jr. by Warranty Deed of Norman P. Haller and Joy M. Haller dated October 14, 1981 and recorded October 27, 1981 in Book 21, Page 63 of the Windham Land Records.
4. Being land and premises consisting of 2.66 +/- acres located at 1397 Burbee Pond Road (Windham Grand List Parcel Number 070144) as conveyed to Karen A. Watts by Warranty Deed of Alexander M. Lehmann and Sandra Lehmann dated August 17, 2018 and recorded August 18, 2018 in Book 56, Page 10 of the Windham Land Records.
5. Being land and premises consisting of 1.70 +/- acres located at 0 Windham Hill Road (Windham Grand List Parcel Number 070201) as conveyed to Walter M. Webb III by Warranty Deed of Walter M. Webb II dated June 8, 1989 and recorded June 23, 1989 in Book 26, Page 369 of the Windham Land Records.

And pursuant to 32 V.S.A § 5254, such property will be sold at public auction at the Windham Town Office, a public place located at 5976 Windham Hill Road, Windham, Vermont on the 25th day of August, 2026, at 10:00 A.M., to discharge such taxes with costs unless previously paid. Be advised that the owner or mortgagee, or the owner's or mortgagee's representatives or assigns, of lands sold for taxes shall have a right to redemption for a period of one year from the date of sale pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 5260.

Dated at Windham, Vermont this 21st day of July, 2026.

Paul Wyman
Collector of Delinquent Taxes
Town of Windham

LEGALS

opinion/classifieds

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.

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ELECTRICIAN

LEVI ELECTRIC – 917-417-7880 levelectricvt.com – Trusted residential electrician with 10+ years

experience. Upgrades, lighting, EV chargers, panels, service calls. Proctorsville-based. Quality work, fair pricing, free estimates.

FOR RENT

CHESTER, Vt. – Share home with LGBTQ-friendly couple offering lovely furnished space on rural property with saltwater fish, two dogs, chickens. \$650/month. Compatible dog considered. No smoking. Covid vaccine required. 802-863-5625 or HomeShareV-

ermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO.

PROCTORSVILLE, Vt. – Single-mom offering furnished, 1st floor studio apartment. Seeking responsible adult for overnight presence, childcare, transportation, dog outings. Open to guest with compatible dog. Must be kid- and dog-friendly. \$700/month. 802-863-5625 or HomeShareV-ermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO.

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YARD SALE

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Yard sale Aug. 8 and 9, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., at 4 Park Ridge Road in Springfield. Chest freezer, colored glassware, dishes, decorations, clothes, books, CDs, DVDs, housewares, screwdrivers and various small tools, and much more.

Londonderry Selectboard Hearing
8/17/26 at 6:00 PM

The Londonderry Selectboard will meet on August 17, 2026, at 6:00 PM, at the Londonderry Town Offices to solicit comments from the public on a proposed zoning bylaw amendment and a new zoning map. This amendment will change the zoning regulations for the entire town of Londonderry. It is designed to:

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

This latest draft of the bylaws has been changed so that there is less overlap between Londonderry's and the State of Vermont's regulations. A document containing just the changes between this draft and the last is posted on the Planning Commission web page under the heading "Proposed Unified Zoning Regulations".

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

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

To the editor,

We get one every day. Sometimes two. Sometimes two at once: all terrain vehicles (aka ATVs or utility task vehicles) roaring up our road, then roaring back down. You want to run inside to flee the noise. You worry that your neighbors with vision problems might be out walking their dog (though they would definitely hear the roar coming – but not see which side of the road).

OK – it's illegal to drive off-road vehicles on a public road (except between one part of your property and another), but no one is around to stop the joyriders. How many more of these giant, zooming bugs, flying under cover of a proposed shield, would there be if certain roads were legalized for this use?

The Vermont ATV Sportsman's Association (VASA) is planning to bring an ordinance to Cavendish's selectboard that would ordain that use precisely: The sportsmen want roads that connect to their private trails in Reading to be legalized for ATV/UTV travel. Currently, or at least legally, they have to hitch their vehicles to a trailer to get

them to the trails. Most people who can afford a vehicle like this (ranging from \$4,500 to \$35,000) for recreation can afford a hitch too. But it's inconvenient. It's not as much fun.

For people who live along our roads (which is everyone), that is distinctly unfun. The off-road engines give off that stinky, lingering – and carcinogenic – exhaust, and there's the hearing-damaging noise. For homeowners, the prospect is that, adjacent to legal ATV rights of way, your property value goes down by 15%.

In theory, the Fish and Wildlife Department enforces the law. They do not, however, have the personnel to monitor our roads. Enforcement of the law on off-road vehicles already is only notional; it's not going to be better if joyriders are entitled to use some roads but not others. Why should they make the distinction? VASA members might, but maybe not always, maybe not all of them. Try stopping one of these zooming noise bombs to ask.

Some users of these vehicles have even menaced people who do not want to see our

roads made off-road-conveyance byways. In the most recent meeting at which the selectboard raised this issue, VASA members called names and, afterward, placed themselves challengingly in the way of townspeople as they went to their cars. Revving the loud vehicles, they've circled in front of dwellings where they know opponents live. None of that is a great advertisement for how closely they'll adhere to the terms of their ordinance if it's passed. They ask for our goodwill, but they're not showing a lot of it.

VASA's trails are in Reading.

Why do they need our Cavendish roads as pathways to their trails? That would make the Town of Cavendish part of their private trail system, with none of the maintenance costs. We let rules limit what can damage a larger community, and rules sometimes limit fun. Drunk driving is forbidden, and violations are punished. This isn't about joyriders vs. killjoys; it's about individual entitlement vs. health, safety, and community.

Sincerely,
Anna Shapiro
Cavendish, Vt.

TOWN OF LONDONDERRY VERMONT
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Londonderry Development Review Board will meet at 100 Old School St at 5:30 PM on Wednesday August 19, 2026, to hold a public hearing for an application for a five lot subdivision off of Stoney Brook Rd submitted by the landowner Thomas Walsh.

Those interested in seeing the application, submitting written comments, or attending the hearings remotely should contact the town's Zoning Administrator at zoningadmin@londonderryvt.gov.

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. Sections 4464(a)(1)(c) and 4471(a), participation in the local proceedings is a prerequisite to take any subsequent appeal.

STATE OF VERMONT

SUPERIOR COURT
Windsor Unit

PROBATE DIVISION
Case No.: 26-PR-04367

In re ESTATE of : Mark W. Langton

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the Creditors of: Mark W. Langton, Decedent, late of Cromwell, CT, 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: Jul 27, 2026 Signature of Fiduciary: JOHN LANGTON (JUL 27, 2026 10:28:13 EDT)

Executor/Administrator		Mailing Address
J. Robert Langton, III		c/o Law Offices of Amanda L. S. George, PO Box 578
Phone Number	Email	City, State, Zip
(802) 875-7777	amanda@amandageorgelaw.com	Chester, VT 05143

Name of Publication: The Vermont Journal

Publication Date: August 05, 2026

Name of Probate Court: Vermont Superior Court - Windsor Probate

Address of Probate Court: 12 The Green Woodstock, VT 05091

STATE OF VERMONT

SUPERIOR COURT
Unit

PROBATE DIVISION
Docket No.: 26-PR-02238

In re ESTATE of : Mary H. Smith

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the Creditors of: Mary H. Smith, Decedent, late of Bellows Falls, 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: July 28, 2026 Signature of Fiduciary: [Signature]

Executor/Administrator		Mailing Address
Edward C. Smith		PO Box 154
Phone Number	Email	City, State, Zip
603-826-5854	edjiu1957@gmail.com	Charlestown, NH 03603

Name of Publication: The Vermont Journal

Publication Date: August 5, 2026

Name of Probate Court: Vermont Superior Court - Windham Unit - Probate Division

Address of Probate Court: 30 Putney Road, 2nd Floor Brattleboro, VT 05301

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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.

real estate

Reasons to refinance this summer

REGION – Summer should be spent relaxing, not stressing over finances. Maybe your home needs repairs or you're due for a summer vacation, or maybe you're getting ready to send a kid off to college this fall. Whatever financial situation you could use extra cash to take care of this summer, PrimeLending has refinance options that may help.

Why some people refinance

There's no one reason to refinance; it always depends on someone's circumstances. A few common reasons

people refinance are paying for home repairs or updates, covering school or tuition costs, looking for more room in one's budget, or paying for a dream vacation.

What's a cash-out refinance?

A cash-out refinance lets a homeowner replace his or her current mortgage with a new one. If your home is worth more than what you owe, a cash-out refinance could help you take part of your home equity out as cash. That lump sum payment could be used however you want: for repairs, educa-

tion costs, debt consolidation, or other expenses for which you may (or may not) be planning.

Not sure if a refinance is right for you? That's totally normal. Most people don't know until they've taken a look at their options. If you're curious, reach out and PrimeLending can help you take a look.

All loans are subject to credit approval and meeting eligibility requirements. Restrictions apply. Must meet minimum equity requirements. By refinancing an existing loan, the payments



There are many potential reasons to refinance this summer.

PHOTO PROVIDED

and total finance charges may be higher over the life of the loan.

Submitted by Victoria Blodgett, PrimeLending, Ludlow, Vt.



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PROS TO KNOW

Land in Mount Holly conserved —

MOUNT HOLLY, Vt. – The Mount Holly Conservation Trust (MHCT) recently purchased the 33.5-acre “Maple Crossing” tract, strategically located between the State’s Awasos Wildlife Management Area and Okemo State Forest land abutting Route 100 South in Weston. MHCT was aided in its purchase of this parcel by a generous grant from The Nature Conservancy’s Vermont Biodiversity Protection Fund.

MHCT President Brigid Sullivan said, “We’re especially excited by the acquisition of Maple Crossing because it forms a vital bridge between already conserved public lands, securing public access to open space for disbursed, low-impact, wildlife-based recreation, including birding, hiking, hunting, and angling. This parcel is especially significant because it contains approximately 2,000 feet of headwater confluence of three tributaries to the West River, which will benefit brook trout in the streams on the parcel and beyond.”

“We are pleased to support this important conservation project,” said The Nature Conservancy in Vermont State Director Eve Frankel. “In addition to

protecting critical habitat and facilitating safe wildlife passage, this land provides the local community with more recreation opportunities and improves flood resilience in the area.”

To formally complete the tie between the Awasos Wildlife Management Area and the Okemo State Forest, MHCT plans to convey the Maple Crossing tract to the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) later this year. Maple Crossing includes forested seeps used by wildlife such as bobcats, fishers, turkeys, moose, and red-backed salamanders. “We are thrilled to once again be working with the Mount Holly Conservation Trust to conserve more of this critical wildlife corridor,” says Will Duane, land acquisition coordinator for the Department of Fish and Wildlife. “DFW and the MHCT have partnered on three conservation projects which began with the creation of Awasos WMA in 2022. Partnerships between state and local nonprofit partners are fantastic examples of how collaboration can lead to meaningful success.”

MHCT is a nonprofit, volunteer, tax-exempt charitable organization. For further information, please visit www.mounthollyconservationtrust.org.



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