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THE

Vermont

Journal

AUGUST 05, 2026 | WWW.VERMONTJOURNAL.COM

VOLUME 26, ISSUE 31

27th annual Duck Race set to splash down in Ludlow

LUDLOW, Vt. – Get ready to cheer on your favorite plastic feathered friends; the Ludlow Rotary Club is thrilled to announce the return of a signature summer favorite, the 27th annual Ralph Hogancamp Memorial Duck Race, taking place on Saturday, Aug. 15, at 12 p.m.

This year’s event holds extra significance as the Ludlow Rotary Club celebrates a historic milestone: 100 years of community service. To mark this centennial anniversary, the club is adding an exciting twist to ticket sales, giving buyers one more way to win cash before the race even starts.

On Saturday, Aug. 15,

hundreds of yellow rubber ducks will be dropped from the Depot Street Bridge into the Black River. Spectators are encouraged to line the Walker Bridge on Route 103 to cheer on their duckies as they float down the river toward the finish line, located near Elm and Main streets.

You can purchase single tickets, or you can maximize your chances with a “Quack Pack” of five ducks at a discounted rate. Tickets can be purchased directly online, or by visiting Ludlow Insurance, M&T Bank, Benson’s Chevrolet, or Fletcher Memorial Library.

Cash will be awarded to the sponsors of the first three ducks to cross the fin-



Local youth at the Ludlow Rotary Club Duck Race. PHOTO PROVIDED

ish line. Best of all, even the very last little ducky to drift

across pays out, so every duck is in the running until the very end.

Also, as a centennial, 100th-ticket bonus in honor of 100 years of service, the Ludlow Rotary Club is giving away a cash bonus to the buyer of a random milestone ticket. If you are dealt ticket No. 100, you automatically win a cash prize of \$100 on the spot, meaning you’re in the money even if your duck decides to take a leisurely swim.

Every year, the Duck Race raises vital funds for local organizations, and this year’s designated beneficiary is the Plymouth Fire & EMS. By purchasing a duck, you are directly supporting the volunteer first

responders who keep our communities safe.

Local businesses and organizations looking to show their support can purchase a corporate duck sponsorship. Corporate ducks are a fantastic, highly visible way to show community spirit and support both the Rotary and Plymouth Fire & EMS.

Don’t wait until they’re all sold out; adopt your ducks today, support a wonderful local cause, and join us on Aug. 15 to see who takes home the glory.

For tickets, corporate sponsorships, and more information, please call Sharon Bixby at 802-228-8823 or visit www.ludlowrotary.org.

Chester mulls changing budget vote to Australian ballot

BY NICK GIBERTI

CHESTER, Vt. – The Chester Selectboard’s Wednesday, July 15, meeting began with the board continuing its review of the services provided by the town’s municipal departments.

First up was the recreation department, represented by Recreation Director Matt McCarthy. McCarthy laid out for the board a list of the duties he performs, including opening and closing the pool; putting up and taking down nets for various sports; pressure washing and maintaining the basketball courts, the pickleball courts, and the track; and mulching the playgrounds. McCarthy also said he sets up the ice rink in the winter and removes it at the end of the winter, maintains the frisbee golf course, and mows the two Little League fields and Cobleigh Field, among other duties.

McCarthy noted that a grant was recently received for the creation of a walking path at the Pinnacle, which he said would measure roughly a half mile around. He also laid out several plans which he said were in the works, including more programming for teenage residents of Chester in collaboration with the Chester Teen Center. “That age group, McCarthy explained, “I think they get skipped a little bit sometimes.”

Plans are also in motion, said McCarthy, for construction of a “natural playground” at Cobleigh using

potential grant funding, and a walking path from Cobleigh to the Chester Green.

When asked by board Chair Lee Gustafson what the next big project would be, Town Manager Julie Hance responded, saying, “The pool house is in desperate need of a lot of work.” McCarthy noted that the building dates from at least the 1960s, and that the roof needs to be replaced, for which he has been quoted \$25,000 to \$35,000. There have also been discussions, McCarthy and Hance said, of integrating the pool house or its replacement into a larger, four-season community center, as the Pinnacle recreation area currently lacks restroom and other facilities in the winter, despite the ice rink seeing daily use.

Next, Zoning Administrator Hugh Quinn presented to the board on the planning and zoning department’s services. Quinn identified the three primary goals of the department as promoting responsible growth, administering fair and consistent zoning, and ensuring accurate and equitable property assessment.

Quinn noted that the department handles 70-80 zoning permits and 10-15 public hearings annually, as well as multiple daily phone calls requesting zoning by-law clarification and lodging complaints. He also explained that the department ensures accurate data for the 2,200 parcels in Chester, and handles approximately 865 homestead declarations and current-use processing for

roughly 195 parcels.

The department is currently working on an update to Chester’s town plan, Quinn said, which must be completed by May 2028. He also said that townwide reappraisals will begin in July 2027 and will continue through June 2029.

Echoing a theme from the previous selectboard meeting, Quinn thanked Hance for ensuring that town employees are cross-trained, as he and Town Planner Preston Bristow are able to fill in and perform each other’s duties as required.

Moving along its agenda, the board discussed the possibility of transitioning the town’s fiscal year to a July 1 – June 30 schedule, and transitioning municipal taxes to quarterly installments due on the first days of September, December, March, and June. Chester’s municipal taxes are currently paid in one lump sum, and the fiscal year runs from Jan. 1 – Dec. 31.

However, in order to make the transition and account for the six-month gap between the end of the traditional fiscal year on Dec. 31 and the beginning of the next fiscal year on July 1, the town would need to collect 18 months’ worth of municipal taxes split over the first four quarterly installments, meaning residents would pay a year and a half’s worth of taxes in a single fiscal year. Over the long term, however, the amount of taxes paid by a given homeowner would not be greater than if the town had not

made the transition.

Finance Director Deborah Epler explained that the transition to quarterly taxes would, in theory, save the town money in the long run, using as an example the fact that Chester borrowed \$2.5 million in 2025 to support the town for nine months, which, at 3.5% interest, amounted to an interest payment of \$84,000. With tax payments coming in quarterly, the town should have its coffers replenished more often, creating less necessity to borrow money to fill the gaps.

The board agreed to continue to discuss the issue, as well as how to educate the public so that residents are aware of the long-term benefits as well as the short-term drawbacks.

The board also discussed the possibility of changing the town’s budget vote to an Australian ballot vote, a discussion initiated by board member Peter Hudkins. Currently, the budget is voted on the floor at Town Meeting in March. Gustafson expressed his support for the change, noting that Town Meeting typically sees around 100 voters attend, while Australian ballot questions see around 500 voters cast ballots, meaning a larger percentage of the town’s voters are likely to vote on the budget if it is voted by ballot instead of on the floor. “Personally, I’m in favor of [the change to Australian ballot],” Gustafson said, though he added, “The downside I see is that you have the uninformed voter

who just sees a number and says ‘I don’t like that number, I’m going to vote against it.’”

Chester resident Wanda Purdy, former assistant town clerk and former chair of the board of listers, pushed back against Gustafson’s concern. “I’m sure there’s a lot of [uninformed voters] out there,” Purdy said, “but I think it’s totally unfair for 100 to 150 people to...determine what the tax rate, or budget, is going to be for the town. I think there should be more access for people out there who have to work three jobs to be able to afford the tax bill.”

Board member Lauren Fierman concurred, saying that, when Town Meetings were first held, most voters had the day off and were able to attend, but this is no longer the case. “I support making the change because of all the barriers for people coming to Town Meeting,” Fierman explained, adding that, while she also has concerns about uninformed voters, she believes that, in general, the voters of Chester support public works and education.

Hance raised another concern, however, telling the board that, in her observation, “Towns who have everything voted by Australian ballot have nobody show up at their Town Meeting.” This point generated some discussion as to how best to generate participation while allowing more voters the opportunity to have their voices heard, though the board did not arrive at any

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

BILLING ADDRESS:
PO Box 116 • Rutland, VT 05702

PHONE NUMBER:
802-228-3600

WEBSITE:
www.VermontJournal.com

CONTACT US

SHAWN TAE WEBB
publisher@vermontjournal.com
ads@vermontjournal.com

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

JOE MCCAFFREY
sales@vermontjournal.com

LISA STICKNEY
messagesales@vermontjournal.com

PAULA BENSON
billing@vermontjournal.com

DEADLINES

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

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calendar@vermontjournal.com

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Stefania Urist unveils two temporary public art installations

MANCHESTER, Vt. – Local artist Stefania Urist has created two new temporary public artworks at the Southern Vermont Arts Center (SVAC) in Manchester, Vt., both made from phragmites, an invasive reed she harvests from local wetlands as part of her ongoing environmental practice.

The first installation, “Water Finds a Way,” is an immersive public artwork located in the Stroup Family Sculpture Park. Constructed entirely from harvested phragmites, the installation maps the confluence of the West River, Utley Brook,



Art installation by Stefania Urist.

PHOTO PROVIDED

and Routes 11 and 100 in Londonderry, an area that has experienced repeated

and devastating flooding. Urist creates sustainable sculpture to address the

fraught but necessary relationship between humans and the environment. She was drawn to this site because it includes the location of the now obsolete Williams Dam, which, together with the impacts of climate change, continues to contribute to the area’s flood risk. By removing invasive phragmites from wetlands and floodplains and repurposing the material into sculpture, Urist transforms ecological restoration into an artistic practice that highlights both environmental vulnerability and resilience.

A second phragmites sculpture, “Confluence,” is installed on the patio outside the new addition to the Yester House, overlooking the surrounding valley. Both installations are expected to remain on view for at least one year.

In October 2025, Urist received the Southern Vermont Arts Center Artist Award in recognition of her contemporary contributions to the region’s arts community. She is also represented by Helmutz Fine Art in Manchester, where new work is currently on view, and will present new work this fall at the Kent Museum in Calais, Vt.

Wilder Memorial Library grand opening

WESTON, Vt. – The Wilder Memorial Library is thrilled to announce the grand opening of its newly expanded and renovated building on Saturday, Aug. 8, from 3-5 p.m.

The free community celebration, held at the library, 24 Lawrence Hill Road in Weston, will feature children's games, live music, ice cream and cookies, and guided tours of the beautifully restored library and its newly landscaped grounds. A ribbon cutting and brief dedication will take place at 3:30 p.m.

The library has been serving as Weston's public library since 1898 and is housed in a 200-year-old building last renovated in 1909. In 2022, the library's board of trustees began an ambitious project to thoughtfully restore the historic structure while doubling its size to meet the needs of today's community. Weston architect Ryan Foster led the design, creating a building that honors the library's rich history while preparing it for its next hundred years.

The newly expanded library offers welcoming community gathering spaces, accessible entrances, an ADA-compliant restroom, a lift, updated technology infrastructure, and inviting spaces for reading, learn-



Renewed Wilder Memorial Library in Weston. PHOTO PROVIDED

ing, and meeting. The surrounding landscaping and riverside park further extend the library's role as a gathering place for residents and visitors alike.

"The grand opening will celebrate more than 130 years of public library service to Weston," said Deborah Granquist, chair of the library board of trustees. "At the same time, it marks an exciting new chapter in our history. Our expanded facility will enable us to offer additional resources, programs, and opportunities for people of all ages."

She added, "Our story actually begins in 1822, when a group of community-minded citizens created a lending library by sharing books from their personal collections. That spirit of generosity and lifelong learning continues to inspire our mission today: to be a welcoming center of exploration, learning, and discovery for everyone."

The building project was made possible through the generous support of

more than 100 individual donors, appropriations from the Town of Weston, and a Vermont Department of Libraries U.S. Department of the Treasury Capital Projects Fund Grant for Public Libraries.

Library Director Faye Mack reflected on the significance of the project, saying, "Our new library is a gift to our community and to future generations. Our grand opening will be an opportunity to thank the many people whose vision, generosity, and hard work made this project possible. We look forward to welcoming old friends and new visitors as we celebrate this exciting milestone. More than a renovated building, the new Wilder Memorial Library represents an investment in the future of Weston and will be a place where everyone can gather to read, learn, connect, and build community for generations to come." Everyone is invited to attend this free community celebration.

Tyson Ladies Aid Summer Bazaar

LUUDLOW, Vt. – The annual Tyson Ladies Aid Summer Bazaar will be held on Saturday, Aug. 8, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., in the lot across from the Green Mountain Sugar House, 820 Route 100 North. The bazaar will include a John Murphy chicken barbecue, a raffle, a bake sale, and a used book sale. Proceeds will be used to provide scholarships to students from local high schools, to support the Tyson Library, and for other community services.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Ludlow Fire Department upcoming events

LUUDLOW, Vt. – The Ludlow Volunteer Fire Department invites the community to participate in two upcoming events.

On Saturday, Sept. 5, the department will host the annual 5 Alarm 5K run and walk. The 5K starts from the Ludlow Community Center, 37 Main Street, at 9 a.m. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. Registration is discounted in advance at www.runsignup.com/Race/VT/Ludlow/Ludlow.

lowVolunteerFirefightersAssociationAlarm5k-RoadRaceWalk. Register prior to Sept. 4 to receive a race T-shirt.

Race-day highlights include trophies for the top three finishers in each age category, a Best Team Costume Award, a post-race cookout, and a DJ spinning music all morning. Additionally, the fire department with the fastest five runners on average will take home the Fire Department Challenge trophy, plus bragging

rights, and will have its name engraved for all to see. A second trophy goes to the department that shows up with the biggest crew – runners, walkers, and supporters all count.

Then, on Friday, Sept. 11, the department will host a 9/11 remembrance march and ceremony, beginning at 5 p.m., from the intersection of Pond Street and West Hill Road. The march will proceed to Veterans Park, where there will be a ceremony followed by food.

CHESTER

From Page 1

concrete solutions.

It was also noted that one of the supposed advantages of a floor vote is the ability for the budget, or any floor-vote ques-

tion, to be amended by voters directly at Town Meeting. Hudkins responded, however, that he has not seen a budget altered from the floor since his father's day.

The board agreed to continue the discussion, noting that final approval for the

change would need to be put before Chester's voters at Town Meeting in 2027, with the change to take effect in 2028 should it meet with approval.

The Chester Selectboard meets on the first and third Wednesdays, at 6:30 p.m., at the Chester Town Hall.

Rutland County Humane Society rebrands

PITTSFORD, Vt. – After more than 60 years of serving the animals and people of Rutland County, the organization long known as Rutland County Humane Society (RCHS) is changing its name and stepping into a new chapter. Effective July 17, RCHS has officially rebranded as Tails of Hope – Rutland County's Humane

Society, a name that more fully reflects the organization's mission, values, and vision for the future.

Tails of Hope is Rutland County's animal shelter, serving 28 towns from its current facility. Each year, the organization cares for hundreds of cats, dogs, kittens, puppies, and small mammals, providing medi-

cal care, behavioral support, foster placement, and loving adoption matches while also offering humane education, community cat clinics, and critical resources for pet owners in need.

"This rebrand isn't just about having a new name – it's a declaration of who we are and where we're going. Every animal that comes through our doors carries a story, and we are here to make sure that story has a hopeful ending. Tails of Hope says exactly that," said Thomasina Magoon, executive director of Tails of Hope.

The new identity brings warmth, peace, and hope to life through deep teal, coral, marigold, and sage, colors inspired by compassion, resilience, and the natural beauty of Vermont.

A completely redesigned website launches alongside the name change, offering community members an improved experience for adoptions, foster sign-ups, volunteering, donations, and more.

The timing of the rebrand is intentional. Tails of Hope is also in the planning stages of a major capital project and campaign, titled "A Home for Hope," to build a new shelter and headquarters facility on a highly visible, centrally located property in Rutland County. The new name and identity will anchor that campaign and help the organization build the community support and donor relationships needed to bring the project to life over the next two years.

"We have deep roots here," said Gretchen Goodman, board co-chair and former executive director from 2004-2018. "Rutland County is our community, and this new identity is our commitment to showing up for it more fully than ever – for the animals, for the families we serve, and for the 28 towns that count on us."

Community members are invited to explore the new website at www.rchsvt.org, to follow along on social media, and to visit the shelter at 765 Stevens Road, Pittsford, Vt., to meet the animals looking for their forever homes.



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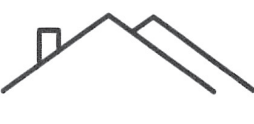
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The Rules

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

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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"

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 [\[bf.org\]\(mailto:bf.org\). Nomination forms are also available from the Rockingham Historic Preservation Commission.](mailto:clg@rock-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

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.

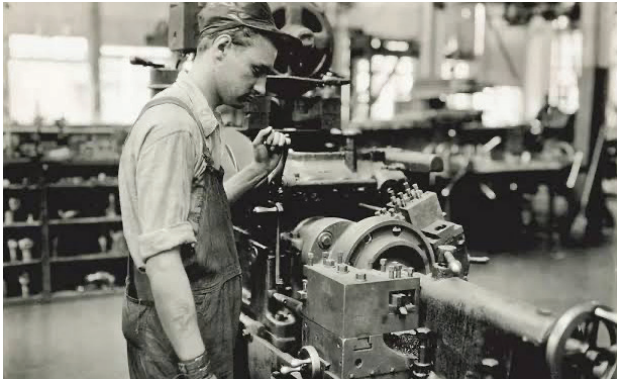
Grand opening of a new collaborative museum —

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 be-



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

tween 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.

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.historicalocietyof-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.

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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.

CHURCH SERVICES:
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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-racking 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.

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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

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opinion/classifieds

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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

PROS TO KNOW

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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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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