

# MOUNTAIN GAZETTE

VOLUME 7 • NO. 21 • Serving Bolton, Cambridge, Jericho, Underhill, Westford, and Jeffersonville, Vermont • May 21, 2009

## CESU boards declare “finality,” Setting stage for possible strike

By Ted Tedford

Special to the Mountain Gazette

The eight school boards in the Chittenden East Supervisory Union voted unanimously Monday night to declare “finality” – or an end to contract negotiations with the teachers union.

Robert Letovsky, chief negotiator for the CESU Schoolboard, said the decision means the roughly 300 teachers in the supervisory union will return to school in August under conditions proposed by the schoolboard at its last negotiating session May 6, or go on strike as they did briefly in 2006.

State law requires a majority of the eight school boards agree to impose the latest contract proposals on the teachers.

“Finality” means the Board must resume negotiations with the teachers’ union within a year. Letovsky said the “finality” period ends June 30 and then negotiations could resume in the fall to work out unresolved issues that include salary, a change in the teachers’ health care plan and work issues.

State law allows a schoolboard to declare “finality” provided it has followed required steps during negotiations, including calling an impasse in negotiations, hiring a mediator and continuing to negotiate with the mediator’s help. The teachers have been working without a new contract since last summer. Since impasse earlier this year negotiators for the two sides have met at the CESU office in Richmond. They meet in separate rooms with mediator Ira Lobell of Albany, NY, moving between the rooms with proposals from each side. Representing the Schoolboard is Letovsky of Jericho, chair of the Underhill ID Board and veteran Mount Mansfield Union High School teacher Jon Harris for the union, the Green Mountain Chap-

ter of the Vermont Education Association.

The CESU Board consists of the chairs of the eight schoolboards in Chittenden East. They represent the elementary schools in Bolton, Huntington, Jericho, Richmond, Underhill Town, Underhill ID and the Mount Mansfield Union High School District which includes two middle schools. They educate about 3,000 children.

The issues separating the two sides are salaries, a salary index and working conditions. But Harris insisted the main issues are not economic but tightened Board control over the teachers by changes in flex time, class preparation time and extra weekend work day for such things as graduation.

At the last negotiating session May 6 the Green Mountain Chapter of the Vermont Education Association proposed a 3.9 percent salary increase while the Board countered with a final offer of 3.75 percent increase. Letovsky criticized the union for its pay proposal. “Only a union that is completely insensitive to the challenges that our taxpayers and their families are facing could present a 4 percent per year pay increase over two years when inflation is zero.”

He said he and other board members hear area residents complaining about the union’s pay proposal. “I agree we are not far apart on salary, but going forward, the earth has moved under our feet. We are in an unprecedented economic crisis.” He called the union pay proposal “fiscally irresponsible.”

Harris said the union proposal will not cost the supervisory union more money because the towns have passed their budgets for this school year and for the coming school year.

At the May 6 meeting, the Board agreed to a union proposal

made earlier this year that teachers have the option to accept a new Blue Cross/Blue Shield health care plan, called Comp 1000, or stay with the present one. The Board insists the new health care plan will save the supervisory union and the teacher’s money.

However, the Board now insists that since there is a 20 percent difference in premium costs between the two plans, teachers staying with the old plan should make up the difference. That could cost teachers between \$8 and \$21 per pay period, depending if they are single or have the family plan, the Board said in a press release.

The Board agreed to continue with a percentage system in an index that gives teachers a pay increase every year and also offers more pay as they earn higher degrees or more class study. The Board had wanted to replace percentages with dollar increases.

But the Board lopped off the two highest positions on the index — the 17<sup>th</sup> year and 18<sup>th</sup> year of teaching in the union’s schools. “That penalizes the most experienced teachers,” said Harris.

Letovsky countered that Chittenden East’s salary index is skewed when compared to that of other area schools. He said the Board has wanted to increase the pay for starting teachers, which he said is lower than most other area school districts, to attract the best.

Harris said the Board wants to “control” the teachers by adding a Saturday work day, for such things as graduation, in addition to two night meeting times. He also said the Board will not budge on setting a time for arrival at school and for leaving at the end of the day.

Harris also said the board rejected a proposal from a committee of administrators and teachers that recommended a formula on how to schedule the school day for the teachers and students.

Letovsky said the flex time has not worked as it was touted. “There are some schools where this is an issue,” he said. He did not name the schools.

Letovsky said the Board remains adamant about flex time and the

Negotiations continued on page 11

## Art abounds during Open Studio Weekend



Jewelry by Kendra Lawrence on display and available for purchase during the Open Studio Weekend.

PHOTO BY PHYL NEWBECK

By Phyl Newbeck

Special to the Mountain Gazette

For the last seventeen years, the last weekend in May has been one of the most beautiful times of the year. That’s because the Saturday and Sunday of Memorial Day Weekend is designated as Open Studio Tour weekend; two days when artists and artisans open the doors to their studios and allow visitors to see their creative juices flowing. Open Studio Weekend is billed as “a statewide celebration of the visual arts and the creative process.” In 2009, more than 285 artists and artisans will be participating in at least 260 locations; many are in our area.

In Jeffersonville, the Bryan Gallery will be part of the Open Studio Tour with two new exhibitions. The first is called “Masters of Vermont: The Men” featuring the works of eight renowned male Vermont painters. The second is “Flight, Fur and Felines,” the gallery’s annual juried theme exhibit which will feature works depicting animals in various media. On May 24, the gallery will host an Artists’ Roundtable Discussion at 2:00 PM focusing on the Masters exhibition, followed by a reception at 3:00 PM.

With forty-two artists displaying their work, Chittenden County is a hub for artistic endeavors, and the eastern part of the county is no exception. In Bolton, Jenny Hermenze has opened her studio to the public. Hermenze does traditional Japanese stencil dyeing. Mags Bonham, another Bolton resident who makes jewelry (“wearable art” is her term) out of polymer clay, will be displaying her works in Jericho. In Underhill, art lovers can visit the studio of Mimi Galligan Mathieu and learn how she makes stoneware. Also in Underhill, Chamberlin’s Garden and Farm Market will display a variety of art including paintings, multi-media, oak dolls, sculpture and intaglio etchings. This is the first year Chamberlin’s has offered their site, and six of their artists are new to the tour this year.

Jericho, however, is where the Open Studio Tour really shines. The hub for the tour is the Emile A. Gruppe Gallery on Barber Farm Road which will be hosting an exhibit of the Vermont Watercolor Society. The historic barn will be alive with watercolor demonstrations throughout the weekend. Additionally, the gallery will show the photographs of Bruce Gilbert-Smith and the pencil drawings and watercolors of Joanna Rawson. Shannon Greenlese, a Jericho jewelry maker, will be sharing her studio space on Beechwood Lane with Mags Bonham of Bolton and painter Barb Hubbarb of Jericho. More paintings are available at the studios of Pam Meyers on Ridge

Road and Marcia Rosberg on Orr Road.

Two artists who work with fabric are veterans of Open Studio weekend. Sandy Jefferis on Leary Road makes baskets and fiber sculpture. Just down the road in the gallery that bears her name at the old Wilson “Snowflake” Bentley homestead, Dianne Shullenberger will be displaying her signature layered fabric collages. The photographs of Stu Hall will also be on display at the Shullenberger Gallery. If you are partial to pottery, Irene Lederer LaCroix will show how she makes Raku Pottery in her studio on Sawmill Road. Segmented woodturning bowls and plates will be presented by Russ Fellows at his studio on John Davis Drive just off Skunk Hollow Road. Lastly, Christopher Cleary, the sculptor responsible for the new sign at the entrance to Jericho Elementary School, will be showing his stone etchings and sculpture on Browns Trace just off the green in Jericho Center.

Grace Nelson Lance is the coordinator for Jericho and Underhill. She has experience, having directed the Arts Alive program in Burlington for several years during the 1980’s. Lance noted that there is a core group in the Jericho/Underhill area which recognizes the importance of Open Studio Weekend. This year, however, she was gratified that seven new artists have joined the tour which is a large number of newcomers. Lance sees the tour as a great way to bring new artists to the public eye or to acquaint visitors with those who have taken a break and are ready to get back into the field. Lance said sometimes newcomers to the tour are encouraged to share space with a tour veteran, particularly if their studio is well off the beaten track. However, she has found that after a year or two on the tour, artists build up enough of a following to have visitors come to see them no matter where they are located. This is Lance’s first year as coordinator and she is enjoying it, despite the effort involved. “This makes me feel part of the community,” she said, adding that she particularly enjoyed bringing new people into the group.

This is the first time that artist Kristin Richland has been on the Jericho/Underhill tour. Previously, she showed her work at the Artists Medium in Williston where she works, but she looks forward to being able to share her art with her neighbors, rather than just customers. In a sense, Richland sees this as an opportunity to connect with neighbors since her house in Underhill is not on a well-traveled road. “I’m not that outgoing,” Richland said, “but it’s much easier to open up when I’m doing something I love. The first time I did it I was paralyzed with fear, but I just sat there and painted and people asked questions and I was fine.” Richland will be part of the group exhibiting at the Chamberlin Farm this year but she hopes that if she develops enough of a following, she can use her own studio space in future years. She believes that being in a central location for the first year might increase the foot traffic. “It’s always nice to get responses from people,” she said.

Dianne Shullenberger wouldn’t dream of not being part of the tour. “Open Studio is a wonderful opportunity to show friends, neighbors and the general public the new work I have done during the winter,” she said. “Many people return faithfully every year so it is like a reunion.” Shullenberger also finds that having visitors stimulates the creative process. “I particularly value their feedback when I am experimenting with new forms and subjects,” she said. “I love sharing with people how I work, where I work and showing them the things that excite and motivate me to create. They get to see first-hand how my home environment stimulates my mind.”

Open Studio maps are available at <http://www.vermontcrafts.com/OSW/maps-directions.html>. The Jericho Underhill map is at [http://www.twotownsonline.org/index.php?title=Open\\_Studio](http://www.twotownsonline.org/index.php?title=Open_Studio).

## Alternative energy grants in Bolton and Richmond

By Phyl Newbeck

Special to the Mountain Gazette

Eastern Chittenden County is leading the way in alternative energy. A landowner in Bolton and Camel’s Hump Middle School in Richmond both received grants from the Vermont Department of Public Service’s Clean Energy Development Fund (CEDF). Green Mountain Clean Energy, LLC received a total of \$82,700 for a wind power project atop Ricker Mountain, and Camel’s Hump Middle School received \$250,000 for a solar photovoltaic project. CEDF provided a total of \$2.57 million to fund twenty-two projects across the state in the latest round of grants.

The Bolton project is based on land owned by The Point radio station. According to Ed Flanagan of The Point, Green Mountain Power used to have a meteorological tower on top of the ski area. The information gleaned from the tower was not complete, but it seemed to show that the area had the potential to generate wind energy. Flanagan said The Point had leased land on the mountain for many years. When prior owners of the ski area reorganized, the land was subdivided and sold to four parties: Bolton Valley Ski Area, the Green Mountain Club, Redstone Commercial Management, and The Point.

The Point formed Green Mountain Clean Energy and through that entity they applied for the grant. The monies will be used to construct a new tower, 50 feet higher than the old one, on the 150 acres owned by the radio station. The tower will measure the wind on top of the mountain and determine the location’s feasibility for renewable energy. Some preliminary work has been done, but so far no permits have been requested.

The Camel’s Hump project is the largest solar energy project at a Vermont public school. Senator Bernie Sanders held a press conference at the school shortly after the grant was announced. He was joined by representatives from Green Mountain Power. Jeff Forward, a member of the Mount Mansfield District School Board and a green technology consultant, said the 345 panels will generate roughly 82,500 kilowatt hours per year which equals between 10 and 15% of the school’s energy use. They will be installed this summer and should be fully operational for the start of the 2009-10 school year. Forward expects the panels to have paid for themselves in a maximum of twenty years.

Chittenden East Supervisory Union’s Co-Superintendent Jim Massingham praised the school board for their work in procuring the grant. He and Forward believe the school’s aging transformers are the next issue which must be addressed. Massingham said there are eight transformers in the high school and five in each middle school. They were installed when the buildings were heated with electricity and, as a result, they are oversized for the buildings and not energy efficient. In addition, they are “nearing the end of their serviceable lives.” Massingham hopes to replace them with smaller, more efficient units, but concedes this may not be the sort of project for which grants are available. In addition, Massingham notes that Camel’s Hump is a Red Cross Evacuation Site but at this point the school’s back-up generators can provide only an hour of electricity. The district is hoping to improve that, and to work with local mu-

Energy continued on page 16

**COURT REPORT**

March 31, 2009, **Scott E. Miller**, 44, Westford, VT, charged with DUI, third offense or subsequent, felony, in Essex, VT on July 21, 2008; amended to DUI, second offense, misdemeanor; pleaded guilty; fined \$200, sentenced to one to two years, suspended but eight days, probation; charged with DUI, third offense or subsequent, felony, in Essex, VT on July 21, 2008; amended to vehicle operation - careless or negligent, misdemeanor; pleaded guilty; sentenced to one year, consecutive, suspended, probation; charged with disorderly conduct - fight, etc. in Essex, VT on July 21, 2008; amended to disorderly conduct - obstructs vehicular or pedestrian traffic; pleaded guilty; sentenced to 60 days, concurrent, suspended, probation.

**POLICE REPORT**

Thursday, April, 30, 2009 at approximately 3:08 PM, Vermont State Police were called to Phyllis Lane in Waterville for a family dog that had been shot. Preliminary investigation reveals that off-duty **Essex Police Officer Michael Wootton's** dog, a pug, had left his property and had become involved in a fight with a neighbor's mixed breed dog. During the course of the altercation Officer Wootton went to his residence and retrieved a handgun and fired one shot on Melinda Haskin's property, killing the neighbor's dog. The Lamoille County State's Attorney's Office was made aware of the situation and the investigation is ongoing.

On May 11, 2009 **Michael Wootton** of Waterville, VT was cited to appear in Lamoille County District Court on May 26 at 8:30 AM to answer to the charge of Cruelty to Animals, a violation of Title 13 V.S.A. section 352. This citation is the result of an investigation that occurred on April 30, 2009. There is no mug shot available at this time as it will be part of Wootton's Conditions of Release. No further details or information are available at this time. Investigating Officer: Cpl. Mark Lucas, VSP Lamoille. (CASE #: 09A101849)



Steve Habib and Governor Douglas PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Jericho resident honored for Outstanding Community Service**

Congratulations to Steve Habib of Jericho who recently received a Governor's Award for Outstanding Volunteer Community Service. Sponsored by the Vermont Commission on National and Community Service, the Governor's Service Awards honor individuals who best exemplify the spirit of volunteerism and community service in Vermont. On April 24 Habib traveled to Montpelier to accept his award from Governor Jim Douglas.

Howard Center's Community Friends Mentoring program was pleased to nominate Habib for this award. Community Friends matches area youth with caring adult volunteers for long-term big brother/big sister type relationships, and Habib has been involved as a mentor for more than seven years. He and his buddy have been getting together every Tuesday evening since they were matched and the two of them can often be found playing cards at their local pizza place. His buddy is now 17 years old and describes him as "the best friend I ever had."

For more information about Community Friends, please contact Kristen Hayden-West, Program Coordinator, at 488-6650 or visit [www.howardcenter.org/friends](http://www.howardcenter.org/friends).

**Stop by and see me.**

Brenda Boutin will be at the Village Cup on Wednesday May 27, from 9:30 to 11:00 AM, call 453-6354 or fax 453-2468 to place ads.

Mountain Gazette

6558 VT RT 116, Starksboro, VT 05487

[mtgazette@earthlink.net](mailto:mtgazette@earthlink.net)

**UNDERHILL - JERICHO FIRE DEPARTMENT**

By Kitty Clark

**EMERGENCY CALLS:**

- April 30, 1:50 PM, EMS Assist on Mullen Road, Underhill
- May 1, 2:22 PM, EMS Assist on Irish Settlement Road, Underhill
- May 4, 9:11 AM, EMS Assist on Poker Hill Road, Underhill
- May 5, 11:35 AM, Truck fire near 619 Vermont RT 15, Underhill
- May 6, 5:27 PM, Report of a vehicle smoking at Mills River Park, Jericho
- May 7, 11:07 AM, EMS Assist on Cilley Hill Road, Jericho
- May 8, 10:41 AM, EMS Assist at Maple Leaf Road, Underhill
- May 10, 6:14 AM, One-vehicle accident near 112 Nashville Road, Jericho
- May 10, 12:52 PM, Tree on power lines, near Browns Trace & Fitzsimonds Road, Jericho
- May 11, 6:10 PM, One-vehicle accident near 509 Cilley Hill Road, Underhill
- May 12, 9:18 AM, EMS Assist on Poker Hill Road, Underhill
- May 12, 3:47 PM, EMS Assist on Nathan Lane, Jericho
- May 13, 7:33 AM, Motorcycle and car accident near 23 Jericho Center Circle, Jericho

**DRILLS AND TRAININGS:**

- May 5, Tuesday night maintenance drill was held at both stations
- May 12, Tuesday night drill was held at the Underhill Station on hose handling
- May 13, The UJFD participated in a mock accident drill at Mt. Mansfield High School.

**SAFETY MESSAGE: Fire Safety Outdoors** - Every year in the United States, forest fires destroy thousands of acres of forest and timberland. Careless camping results in burns, fire injuries, and deaths. People must learn and practice fire-safe habits while enjoying the outdoors.

Exercising extreme caution with campfires and brush fires would reduce forest fires by about one-fifth. Careful use of matches and smoking materials would cut the loss by another 20 percent.

**Underhill Reflection**

By Sue Kusserow

Underhill is a quiet town, nestled in the lee of Mt. Mansfield. Thankfully, there are no ski trails on this west side of the mountain, due to 'corn snow' conditions, not good for skiing. A CCC road was once built along the mountain's broad cirque and is still passable by the many hikers who like the do-it-yourself ambience on "our side."

For years, the Town was host to the Underhill Ski Bowl and we, too, had our small Olympic moments, at Saturday morning races our kids piggy-backing on adults who helped to hold up the rope tow as four or five kids rode in back of them...for free." Emmy would appear at the door of the warming hut, spot the group of chatting mothers: "Sue, your daughter is hungry; hamburger OK? And, she lost her mittens, so I loaned her mine."

When my husband, Bert, was in a car accident and unconscious in ICU, the town spontaneously gathered at St. Thomas' Church, joined hands and said The Lord's Prayer. When he died, the Town, more than I ever knew, quietly watched my kids and me as we struggled to accept what the hills and mountains stood for: the natural cycle of acceptance and inevitability.

Lu Farmer called the other day to share her wonderful news:

"Our grandson, Brendan, with a perfect SAT score, has a full scholarship to Duke. Would you ever have thought that these ski-crazy friends-for-life, now fathers and workers, would grow up to do so well?" Of course, Lu: You were the family who invited us to Thanksgiving dinner when Bert was dying and tucked us under protective wings, as well as turkey wings. Cynthia, another neighbor, in her direct and honest manner, told my boys to respect my life and my choices and to show it in their good choices...as she herself proved every day by supporting them.

Now, after almost 50 years of living in Underhill, I sit in the sun of an April day, pretending to be spring, welcoming every small sign of the return of the season: brooks breaking open, crows garrulously chatting with each other, skunks out of hibernation, and roads no sensible Underhillite would drive on now. Down the road, a family finds their life changed, caught by circumstances

**Reflections**

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**SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR KIDS....**

**Sewing Corner**

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Rev. Charlie Yang, Pastor, 899-4288, [cyang@troyconference.org](mailto:cyang@troyconference.org).  
Sunday Worship Service, 9:00 AM;  
Children's Sunday School, 9:00 AM  
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[www.troyconference.org/jumc](http://www.troyconference.org/jumc) or [JerichoUMC@troyconference.org](http://JerichoUMC@troyconference.org)

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P.O. Box 150, Jericho, VT 05465  
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We gather at 9:30 AM at the Jericho Elementary School on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of September-June  
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**Deadline: May 14 • Publication: May 21**

Brenda Boutin, publisher / editor / ad sales • Ted Tedford, Kathy Johnson, Phyl Newback, Richard Mindell - writers  
Ann Exler, & Sara Riley copy editors  
• Harrison Heidel community contributor  
• Charles LaPlant, distribution

**Letters Policy:**

Letters: maximum 400 words; one letter per writer, per calendar month. Must be signed for attribution, with writer's address and phone.

Letters accepted by mail or email.

# From the Country Store

By Jon St. Amour  
Special to the Mountain Gazette

When I awoke this morning I decided I had to pull a Brett Favre and come out of retirement, again, and write something here for my fans, all two of them. They've been nagging me to write something here for weeks and weeks. I've been telling them that nothing is going on here at the store and in Jericho Center, and as they say, good news is no news. There have been no major equipment failures, no spookiness, and no shenanigans here lately. Life, and business, has been rambling on splendidly; people are finally out and about and happy that the long winter is gone and an early summer has arrived. We were generally spared from the wet and dreary April that usually teases us every year, and many of us happily jumped the gun and started their seeds and gardens at the end of April (ahem, I'm raising my hand here), believing that it would stay in the mid-seventies all through May and that frost is just a figment of Sharon Meyer's imagination. Some of us will never learn. But can you blame us? The winter is utter torture on us all, so when the sun has finally come out to stay and there's no frost in the morning for a week's stretch, of course we're going to get as giddy as schoolboys in a candy shop.

The nice weather is a boon to us small businesses, especially. People get thirsty for cold beer and Gatorade and have to feed their itch for maple creamery. They're merrily singing along to Bob Dylan and Kenny Chesney all the way to the hardware store for birdseed and charcoal and to the greenhouse for mulch and perennials and popping in to their favorite haunt for iced lattes and cold Switchbacks (I'm raising my hand here, again...mmmm, Switchback). So all of us small businesses everywhere appreciate the support all of you give to us. Keep your buying local, and if you're a Richmond resident, especially, or just passing through, please bring your business there. The bridge will be open soon, but not soon enough for many of those guys there (BUT if you need to go to a nice, charming country store, COME here!)

But little else has changed around here. Ella, our much beloved coffee lady, still comes in every morning for a cup of coffee and a donut. My kids are psyched to be outside every day. My Red Sox look good so far (Manny who?) and my Celtics are holding on. Our good friend, Bob Smith, is recovering well and is rooting for the Bruins and the Celtics. But when spring comes, change inevitably follows. We've got new neighbors seemingly all around us, further multiplying the child and dog populations in the center. We welcome them all to our quaint little town. Here at the store, we've also changed things a bit. We're never, ever satisfied with what we have to offer, and I firmly believe that if you get too complacent, you'll never be successful. We've added tons of new things here, from a bigger beer assortment to more deli menu items, and more significantly, we switched to Green Mountain Coffee Roasters. People have been asking for it on and off for a few years, but in the past six months we'd been getting requests for it almost every day. The switch was a no-brainer. It's the most popular coffee around and it's a Vermont company, which we always try to support. So everyone, we now have it, so stop in on your way to work for a cup of Green Mountain Coffee.

On a sadder note, our hearts go out to the Clairmont family of Richmond, and to Brett, especially (he works at the VTANG's Mountain School at the Ethan Allen Firing Range), for their loss of Brett's father, Bob. Bob was a great man and will be missed by all who knew him.

My dad is also excited to tell you more about bees, one of the many things he loves in life. His great honey will be back at the store in a few months. Enjoy!

# Mt. Mansfield Moments

By Sara Riley  
Special to the Mountain Gazette

Here's what I say: When the day goes well, I take credit for it myself; when the day goes poorly, I blame it on the stars. This past week it was the stars, all the way.

First there was dental work. No details, except that it involves four teeth, an initial three-week wait, and it's not over yet.

My garden has been a peck of trouble. Soil trouble. First I had a plague of chillions of teeny tiny grasshoppers, like a plague of Egypt. They ate everything yellow, including the marigolds down to nubs. Then two or three years ago, I sent soil samples to UVM to find out why the zucchini failed. Even weeds wouldn't grow. I've been gardening for 30 years! UVM said my 25'x35' raised bed needed 80 pounds of lime, and was almost totally lacking in potash. Well, I said to myself, I can fix that, we heat with wood – and that winter, I applied our clean wood ash liberally to the garden. Too liberally, it turns out. Last summer, the sugar snap peas wouldn't even sprout, new baby kiwi vines languished (one died), beans were desultory and scrawny and prone to mildew, and this spring a wide swath of otherwise-indestructible creeping phlox is dead. Last week, UVM delivered the new bad news: potash levels have skyrocketed on an apparently logarithmic scale, and the pH is 8.0. Yes, here in Vermont, at 1600' facing the acid-rain-bearing weather and in the acid-enhancing woods, my garden is so alkaline it won't grow hardly anything, and I did it to myself.

My dad, who is 86, lives in Massachusetts and wants to move to be closer to me here. He has been on a wait-list for subsidized senior housing in Essex for over a year. In January or February he got a cost-of-living raise on his Social Security and on his Naval pension, and now his income may be too high to qualify for the housing. Sheesh.

Then there was our puppy being gone for two solid days and nights, up here in Pleasant Valley. We have four dogs. That's too many, but this is *not* how I want to get to three!

It started last Monday night just before dark, when Spenser the golden retriever decided that he didn't want to be done playing

## Reflections continued from page 2

of anarchy and starvation and greed, a half a world away. The Brown's River Middle School was evacuated due to a bomb threat. We look at land that was always a source of solace and isolation and wonder if selling it would help pay the taxes this year. Our commutes to Burlington are variable depending on the price of gas, imported from nations where dollars are not equated with a broader moral vision, imported to this citizenry which now, too, sometimes deliberately gyps its own neighbors.

So, Underhill changes and the wider world moves in. Our boundaries of awareness have stretched to cover the world and its joys and sorrows. Underhill, though, in its small way, supported the local healing, tying yellow ribbons to trees and fences around the

# Honey Bees and Spring Bed & Breakfast -

By Doug St. Amour  
Guest Columnist

Despite the long winter, honeybee colonies have by and large survived fairly well and are active this spring. Beekeepers must leave approximately 100 pounds of honey in each hive so bees can



feed all winter, metabolize the honey, shiver, and keep warm. There are several keys to winter survival: healthy bees, a good supply of honey in the hive, and a winter that does not have too many long cold

snaps below zero degrees. Under these conditions honeybees can survive the winter and meet the spring with renewed vigor. The relatively mild winter we had here in Vermont bodes well for the bees and their coming production.

The first step beekeepers take in the springtime is to check the quantity of honey in each hive. If honey stores are low, a mixture of sugar and water can be fed to the bees. They'll eagerly suck the sugary water out of an inverted jar that has tiny holes punched in the lid. They simply suck out the sugar solution with their tiny proboscises. The sugar is fed immediately to the developing brood and consumed by adult bees themselves if honey or nectar is in short supply. Next, a beekeeper can help the bees clean house by removing the dead bees that accumulate over the winter months. Not all the bees survive the long cold winter and dead bees drop to the hive bottom and are easily brushed out of the hive. The bees themselves are excellent housekeepers and their hives are immaculate. Dirt and dust will rarely be found in a bee hive!

Usually bees move slowly upwards in a hive over the winter. In the spring it makes for a more efficient hive if the hive boxes are reversed. That is, the brood box on the top of the hive is rotated to the bottom position in the hive. Most of the new brood of the spring is located in this part of the hive. Now the queen can finish filling the frames with eggs before moving upwards into the next brood chamber to lay additional eggs. Worker bees are now busy collecting pollen and nectar from the earliest flowering trees. Red and swamp maple, willow, and poplar produce early flowers and their crop of pollen and nectar. A small flower that looks like a dandelion (Colt's Foot) is available in early April and its pollen is bright yellow. Shad, an early blossoming shrub, will begin to flower in late April or early May and its white flowers produce the all-essential pollen and nectar for early spring build-up of the bee colony.

Beekeepers will also inspect the eggs and brood in the frames of the brood chambers to get an indication of the health of the queen. Lots of eggs and brood in a good solid pattern covering 60% of each frame indicates a healthy queen. A healthy queen can lay up to an incredible 3000 eggs a day. A strong spring build-up and a good supply of flowers in June, July and August means plenty of honey in a bee hive. My hives look healthy and there is much brood and eggs in the brood chambers. Temperatures are finally getting warm, and the honeybees are out foraging for nectar and pollen - a clear and happy sign of spring.

I am hoping for a good, productive year and soon my honey will be out for sale at Jericho Country Store. Enjoy, and remember all the hard and wonderful work it took for that honey to be produced.

outside and took off. The two shepherds not on leash (Kaja was, thank goodness) exuberantly followed. Now, Bonnie was a kennel dog for seven of her nine years and is Miss Priss in the woods; Apollo is seven months and, though already the biggest dog in the house, is still a gawky pup and doesn't have the endurance of the older dogs. Neither one can keep up with woods-bred Spenser and he apparently ditched them pretty quick. Spenser came home when he was good and ready, about 1.5 hours later.

Three of us were road-driving, woods-walking in the dark, and hollering till we were hoarse. All fruitless. The dogs all have collars with their names and our phone numbers on them, and around 10:30 PM a neighbor from about a mile north, downhill and through the woods, called to say he had Bonnie. Apollo had been there, but had melted away back up the hill and gone.

We spent that night (I watched the half-moon rise at midnight from the skidder track on the mountain) and Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons beating through the woods, calling the puppy's name, calling the town halls, animal control, and vets in Underhill and Jeffersonville, putting up posters, and being morose and depressed at home. Dreadful thoughts go through your mind. Did 'Pollo snag his collar on a tree, twist about and strangle himself? Was he hung up and not be able to move or get to water? Did he tangle with the coyote pack we hear ranging Sunset Ridge, or with a car on Pleasant Valley Road – he has no car/road sense whatever – or did someone unscrupulous pick him up and take him away?

In the end he got lonely enough, and hungry enough, and wandered out of the woods – finally! – about 6:30 PM Wednesday night, at our neighbors' at the Pleasant Valley foot of our road. Insouciant, none the worse for wear, not even muddy, and he even got taller while he was off on his grand adventure.

We didn't know whether to hug him or scold him, but getting him back seemed to turn the stars back toward a more congenial alignment.

Got news, happenings, photos, something to share with our neighbors? Let me know (238-7448, or sara@wulfden.org) or contact the Gazette directly. Happy Spring!

Phillipses' home, namelessly dropping off food, flowers, notes, and shooing away the paparazzi, who, though admittedly mild, still gathered like vultures under the umbrella of reporting the news. The TV trucks were parked on a grassy meadow where, years ago, my friends' children were married on a sunny summer day.

Now Underhill has returned to so-called "normal." And this "normal" keeps us all grounded, watching our neighbors for any sign that a casserole, a cup of tea, a clipping from the paper, would be helpful, along with an outstretched hand, a word spoken, or a smile given. As I have been supported, so this town will continue to reach out in small remembrances, that are both small and big enough to enlarge us all.

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**RICHMOND / HUNTINGTON**

**LIBRARY NEWS**

**RICHMOND FREE LIBRARY**

Upcoming Events: Open Mike Saturday, May 30, 7:00 PM in the Community Room.

The Town Garage Sale sponsored by the Trustees of the Richmond Free Library will be held rain or shine on the Library and Town Center lawn sites. Come and enjoy the fun and pick up a bargain or two. Refreshments will be served for a small charge.

New CD audiobooks: *The Masque of the Black Tulip* by Lauren Willig, *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter* by Carson McCullers, *The Celestine Prophecy* by James Redfield, *Eat, Pray, Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert, *The Deception of the Emerald Ring* by Lauren Willig, *The Blood of Flowers* by Anita Amiriezvani.

New books: *What Doesn't Kill You* by Virginia DeBerry, *Brothers* by Yu Nua, *The Little Stranger* by Sarah Waters, *The Pain Nurse* by Jon Talton, *A Single Thread* by Marie Bostwick, *The Trail of Tears* by Gloria Jagoda

For June 8 the book group is reading and discussing *Blink* by Malcolm Gladwell. The meeting usually gets going by 7:15. Multiple copies are available at the front circulation desk.

**COLLEGE NOTES**

Two students from Richmond, VT were among the graduates of St. Michael's College Class of 2009 on Thursday, May 14, 2009. **Kiesha Marie Desautels** earned a Bachelor of Arts degree; and **Matthew Perron Alexander** earned a Bachelor of Science degree. Congratulations!

**COURT REPORT**

March 26, 2009, **Bryan M. Derway**, 19, Richmond, VT, charged with DUI, first offense, in South Burlington, VT on February 12, 2009; amended to vehicle operation - careless or negligent; pleaded guilty; fined \$300, sentenced to six to 12 months, suspended but five days, probation.

**FARMERS' MARKET**

"Buy Local, Buy Fresh" at the first Richmond Farmers' Market of the 2009 season. There is nothing like fresh seasonal lettuce, turnip greens, rhubarb or radishes. Plus there will be plenty of fresh baked pies, breads, pastries, cookies, bagels, samosas, egg rolls, baby food, and other prepared foods to put a smile on your face while you enjoy the market.

For those of you who find yourselves just on the other side of the bridge during its closure, there is good news. You can ride across the river on a 24-foot barge to get your fresh produce and snacks. Just park your car in the Round Church parking lot, walk over to the river and hop aboard. Local Motion will be providing this service until the bridge is once again in service.

June 5 - The opening day of the Richmond Farmers' Market will feature Ted Sargeant's Tractor Day. Children with parental supervision are welcome to hop aboard a kid-friendly vintage tractor. Ted will bring his collection of pedal and garden tractors for everyone to enjoy. There will be a talented face painter on hand.

On stage from 5:00 to 6:00 PM, "Mountain Girl" Tammy Fletcher featuring her original songs, powerful voice and amazing backup. At the market, Tammy will be backed up by an all-star band of Vermont musicians featuring dobro/steel wiz Jim Pitman, Dakota Foley on mandolin, and Bob Hill on acoustic guitar.

June 12 - It's Dairy Day at the Richmond Farmers' Market. On stage come and visit Parma the newborn calf and Cheddar the goat, sample some milk, and take home a coloring book. Cheddar's and Parma's human parents are from The Family Cow Farm in Hinesburg.

Safe Haven Alpacas also wanted to be part of the festivities. They are a family owned alpaca farm that produces breeding stock, raw fiber and handmade knit and felted goods. While at the Richmond Farmers' Market they will have a fun craft project for the kids, or kids at heart. There will be a selection of fibers for kids to attach to a cardstock silhouette of an alpaca. You can visit with some of their alpacas and learn all about these gentle animals. Look for them near the playground.

On stage and around the market from 4:00 to 5:40 PM, let's welcome hand card magician Christopher McBride. Christopher is a professional entertainer who specializes in sleight-of-hand card magic. He has been studying and performing magic for close to 35 years. And if you are in need of a new summer look, there will be a talented face painter on hand to add a little whimsy to your day.

June 19 - Back by popular demand, don't miss the return of The Highland Weavers on stage at the Richmond Farmers' Market from 5:00 to 6:00 PM. They will perform songs from Scotland and Ireland in close three-part harmony. Band members are Tim Whiteford on vocals and guitar, Marty Morrissey on vocals, guitar, bodhran, and concertina, and Marie Whiteford on vocals and keyboard. The Highland Weavers have been playing around Vermont, and further afield, for more than 20 years. There will be also be a wonderful face painter at the market.

June 26 - The Bridge will be open and the Richmond Farmers' Market wants to celebrate. One of everyone's favorite local groups wants to be part of this event. The Willoughbys will be on stage from 5:00 to 6:00 PM.

Near the stage and around the market from 4:00 to 5:40 PM card magician Christopher McBride will again amaze the crowd. Kids, bring your parents and parents, bring your kids; you will be glad that you did. A favorite face painter will once again be available.

The Market is open from 3:00 to 6:30 PM on Volunteers Green in Richmond. Come and meet your local growers and buy local. For further information, contact Carol Mader at 434-5273 or [cmader@surfglobal.net](mailto:cmader@surfglobal.net).

**BRIDGE INFORMATION**

Although the reopening of the bridge over the Winooski in Richmond Village to automotive traffic remains (probably) at least as far off as midsummer's day, people and bicycles have a way across the river. Local Motion, a (bi)cycling organization based in Burlington, *One Richmond*, a non-profit, and the Richmond Area Business Association have joined to seek and find funds to support a pontoon boat to operate as a ferry.

Local Motion aims to run the ferry from 7:00 - 9:00 AM and 2:30 - 8:00 PM weekdays, and 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM on weekends. If you are at least 16, you can volunteer as a deckhand - contact Bob Schermer, 899-2072 or [vivelo@gmail.com](mailto:vivelo@gmail.com).

Work on the bridge, through the week ending May 23, will continue including into the evening hours. Drivers need to circle south (Cochran Rd. to the bridge in Bolton to US Rt. 2) or north (to Fay's Corners, over Kenyon Rd. to US Rt. 2 near I-89 exit 11).

Night construction on I-89 in both directions between exit 11 in Richmond and exit 16 in Colchester is ongoing Sunday-Thursday between 7:00 PM and 6:00 AM. Some Friday night work may be needed.

**OBITUARY**

With great regret and sorrow, we are sorry to have to say our loved one had to take his last business trip. **Carl S. Parker** of Richmond, VT and Colchester, VT passed away on Tuesday, May 5, 2009 at home with his finance, son, and best friend at his side. His death was with dignity, just as he had lived his life. He owned and operated The Badge Co. from 1961-1985. He was proudest of his development of "Graystone Estates" in Richmond and was in the process of working with the Vermont Land Trust to preserve some of his land for a walking trail that had a pictorial view of Vermont that was named "Look Out" by his family. Carl's love of Vermont and the land was important to him. He felt everyone should be able to experience nature at its best and was trying to give this, his final gift, to Vermont, which he felt gave him so much over the years. Carl's last wish was to be at home in his final days. He was able to have this because of the love and devotion of his fiance, Carol, his fiery redhead who he said was his "greatest challenge." Carl was predeceased by his wife of 51 years, Ester A. Parker, in 2006, and his son, Stephen, in 1971. Carl is survived by his fiance, Carol Croteau of Colchester; sons: Michael Parker and wife Mary of Waterbury, VT; Chris Parker of Cummings, GA; and David Parker of Sherman Oaks, CA; his brother, Robert Parker and wife Shirley of Franklin, TN; his sister Bonnee of Leroy, NY; his uncle, Robert McElwee of Antelope, CA; his aunt, Ruth Andrews of Coatesville, PA; several nieces and nephews: Tracey, David, Cindy, Jon, Andy, and Tina; his longtime friend and legal advisor Joe Beau, who was at Carl's side in his last moments; special friends Jack Rule, Fred Carter, Chuck Thomas, and Ray Lakerent; and family friend Bunny Olson. Carl spent many happy days having lunch at the Rotisserie with his lunchtime friends. Special thanks to Dr. Zail Berry and Nancy Carlson, RN, Brian Hurlburt, Lois Swader, Lorie Bull, LPN, and Pastor Kirk Weed. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made in his name to VNA Hospice, Prim Rd., Colchester, VT, who supported him in his final days. Memorial Services will be held at the convenience of the family.



**COURT REPORT**

**Theft** - Sunday, May 10, 2009 between midnight and 7:00 AM, Vermont State Police/Williston Trooper Paul J. Badger reports that VSP were notified of several vehicles from which items were stolen,

including money, cell phones, digital cameras, and a laptop computer. All the vehicles were in Huntington on East Street, Bridge Street, and Main Road, and were unlocked. Vermont State Police/Williston are looking for any leads regarding these thefts, and are advising that residents of all towns lock their vehicles. Contact Trooper Paul Badger with any information at the Williston Barracks, 878-7111. (Case #09A101965)

**Vehicle fire** - On Sunday, May 17 at approximately 1:30 PM a vehicle fire occurred at Carol Kilpeck's residence in Richmond. Carol Kilpeck was about to move the vehicle when she noticed the fire. Attempts were made to extinguish the fire but were unsuccessful. Kilpeck's family called 911.

The Richmond Fire Department, Huntington Fire Department and Richmond Police Department responded to the scene. The vehicle was fully engulfed when they arrived. The vehicle was a total loss. The value of the vehicle was approx. \$4,000.00. No one was injured in the fire.

The Vermont State Police were contacted to conduct and origin and cause investigation. On 5/18/09 fire investigators from the Vermont State Police responded to the scene. The cause of the fire is undetermined and is still under investigation. (Case #: 09A102065). VSP trooper: Det. Sgt. Jeremy Hill, Williston Barracks.

**Send us your news.**

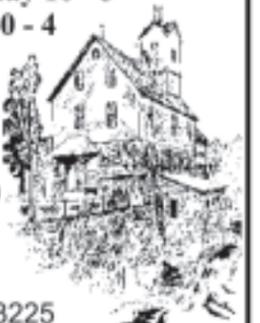
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ART / MUSIC / THEATER

ART



Jericho artist **Kathleen Berry** Bergeron's painting "Lake Champlain/ The Glory" reflects all that is magical about a lake that is so dear to all of us. The beautiful sunset glowing in vivid color that is her trademark, impressive cliffs and of course the sparkling lake can be seen in this large impressionistic watercolor painting. In celebration of the quadricentennial of Lake Champlain's discovery by Samuel de Champlain, Bergeron is one of 38 Vermont artists to be juried into a prestigious exhibition, "Champlain's Lake Rediscovered," that has opened at Shelburne Coach Barn and will travel to the National Arts Club in New York City, Boston Public Library in Copley Square, and back to Vermont in late summer. It will finish up at the Capitol in Montpelier in the fall. All artwork by Vermont artists was created specifically to celebrate the lake and was the brainchild of curator Douglas Lazarus. The show will be at Shelburne Coach Barn through May 24. It is featured in *Yankee Magazine* and *Vermont Life* this spring. To see the venues and dates please visit the website [www.champlainlakerediscovered.org](http://www.champlainlakerediscovered.org). Kathleen's website is [www.kathleenberrybergeron.com](http://www.kathleenberrybergeron.com).

**Essex Art League - 15 in One Stop - Open Studio.** Jericho artists Jane Sandberg and Donna Kunkel, and Caroline Brown of Westford will participate in a 15 artists at one site Open Studio over Memorial Day weekend. The artists will be working on pieces or showing steps in their creative processes. Note cards, reproductions, and originals will be displayed and available for purchase. The Open Studio will be held at the Essex Junction Parks and Recreation Building at 75 Maple Street, Essex Junction on Saturday May 23 and Sunday the 24th from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. For more information call 862-3014 or visit [essexartleague.com](http://essexartleague.com).



Friday, June 5 - **First Friday Art Walk**, 5:00 - 8:00 PM, citywide, Burlington, Vermont. Art is everywhere in Burlington as galleries and art venues stay open late to welcome walkers and share Burlington's incredible art scene. Take a guided tour or make your own. Pick up your copy of Art Map Burlington, First Friday Art Walk's official publication and your guide to art in Burlington, or check out [www.artmapburlington.com](http://www.artmapburlington.com) to see a list of participating venues.

First Friday Art Walk and Art Map Burlington are sponsored by Burlington City Arts, Kasini House, Opportunities Credit Union, Robert Hull Fleming Museum, and the South End Arts and Business Association. Questions, call (802) 264-4839 or send email to [info@artmapburlington.com](mailto:info@artmapburlington.com).

**Call for Fine Artists and Craftspeople** - Rutland, Vermont—The Chaffee Art Center presents the 48th annual Art in the Park Summer and Fall Festivals. These fine art and craft events are Vermont's oldest continuing arts tradition, and the Chaffee Art Center's major fund-raising events. They will be held on August 8 and 9, 2009, and October 10 and 11, 2009 from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM in Main Street Park at the Junction of Routes 4 and 7 in Rutland, Vermont. During the festivals there will be live music, hourly door prize drawings, and free activities for children and demonstrations of works in progress.

We are seeking potential exhibitors in the following categories: fine art, clay, fiber, floral, glass, jewelry, photography, specialty food, and wood. All exhibitors are juried. An application can be printed from the website [www.chaffeeartcenter.org](http://www.chaffeeartcenter.org) or mailed if requested by calling (802)775-8836.

**What Does Lake Champlain Mean to You?** The Fleming Museum invites you to participate in its current exhibition, *A Beckoning Country: Art and Objects from the Lake Champlain Valley*, which examines the Champlain Valley landscape through the objects and art created from and inspired by its features.

The exhibition is organized around four themes - *water, earth, flora and fauna* - and includes a wide variety of material such as stone tools, maps, furniture, textiles, and baskets, as well as paintings and drawings from the Fleming Museum, UVM's Special Collections, and public and private collections.

Beginning in July, selected objects and stories from members of the community will be displayed throughout the exhibition as well. Help us tell the story of the Champlain Valley by sharing items of personal importance (objects, pictures, mementoes, etc.) that relate to your own experience of Lake Champlain. Describe in 100 words or less what your object means to you and how it reflects your experiences with and feelings about the Lake.

Send us a picture of your item, the completed form and your description by June 1, 2009. Use our easy online form or you can download a submission form from our website. You may also pick up a form at the Museum during regular hours. E-mail: [fleming@uvm.edu](mailto:fleming@uvm.edu), or mail: Fleming Museum, 61 Colchester Avenue, Burlington, VT 05405. You can also drop off at the Museum's reception desk during regular business hours.

Selections will be based on the originality of the object and its story, and how well it reflects the themes of the exhibition and relates to other works in the exhibition. Decisions will be made by June 10, and items selected must be delivered to the Museum the week of June 23-30. Objects from the community will be on display from July 7 until the close of the exhibition on September 20, 2009, when they will be returned to their owners. All submitted images and stories will be included on our website. However, the Fleming Museum may refuse items deemed inappropriate for viewers.

**Emile A. Gruppe Gallery** presents the spring juried show of the Vermont Watercolor Society which will hang May 23 through June 28. The Vermont Watercolor Society was founded in 1995 by a small group of artists and has over 155 members from all over the state today. The VWC "aims to extend the appreciation of transparent watercolor in all its diverse forms." Carrying out this mission will be artists demonstrating watercolor technique during Open Studio weekend May 23-24 at the gallery. Hours for Open Studio will be 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM. The gallery is also serving as the headquarters for the Jericho- Underhill Open Studio Tour. Maps for the local area may be picked up and panels of local artists' work will be on display.

The gallery is regularly open Thursday - Sunday 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM, and is located at 22 Barber Farm Road in Jericho, (802) 899-3211, [www.emilegruppegallery.com](http://www.emilegruppegallery.com).

Several members of the **Essex Art League** will be exhibiting during the months of May and June. Marie Cowan will display her work at the Essex Town Offices, 81 Main St., Essex Jct. Showing work at the Williston Given Health Care Center, Blair Park West, Williston will be Kitty DiNicola, Jennifer Fay, Michele Marie Bradley, and Patrick Kennedy. For information call 862-3014 or visit [www.essexartleague.com](http://www.essexartleague.com).

Burlington City Arts is pleased to announce two exhibitions at the **Firehouse Center** on Church Street, running through May 30: *Micro-Macro*, featuring sculpture by Jason Hackenwerth in the Firehouse Gallery, and *Sk8Cre8*, a benefit for BCA's Mentor Arts program in the Lorraine B. Good Room on the second floor of the Firehouse. **BCA's Gallery Education Program** *See.Think.Do!* invites youth and adults to the Firehouse Center for an interactive arts experience. Visits last approximately 1-1.5 hours and begin in the gallery with open-ended questioning, discussion and hands-on activities, concluding in the studio classroom where students will create their own original artwork to take home. To schedule a visit with your group or for more information about future *See.Think.Do!* programs, please contact Katie A. Nelson at [knelson@ci.burlington.vt.us](mailto:knelson@ci.burlington.vt.us) or 802-865-7551.

**Emile A. Gruppe Gallery** in Jericho, Vermont presents Nancy Stone, a Vermont painter, with her new show, *The Power of Nuance* opened in April at the gallery, located at 22 Barber Farm Road. Nancy, a painter, book artist and art teacher, has won numerous awards for her work, most recently at the Bryan Memorial Gallery award for watercolor in the Northern Vermont Artist Show. One of her pieces has been chosen to represent Vermont in the 2009 Lake Champlain Quadricentennial tour with local exhibits at Shelburne Farms and the Statehouse.

Gallery hours are Thursday through Sunday 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM or by appointment, 802-899-3211. "Views of Lake Champlain" is the theme for the **Essex Art League show** at the Phoenix Books Store and Cafe at the Essex Outlet Mall, 21A Essex Way, Essex. The display is part of the 400th anniversary of Champlain's visit to the lake. The exhibit continues through May. For further information call 862-3014 or visit [www.essexartleague.com](http://www.essexartleague.com).

MUSIC

**Rock the Earth** on Saturday May 23 on the Volunteers' Green in Richmond from 4:30-9:30 PM featuring Sweet Potato Sunshine, Laura Heaberlin, Colin McCaffrey, CommUNITY, Gang of Thieves, Open For Suggestions, Phat Toosday and the Astrobus, Skanky Green, and MMU Women's A Capella. All proceeds to benefit the Friends of the Winooski River. There will be brick oven pizza on sale by On the Rise Bakery.

**The Vermont Philharmonic**, under the direction of Music Director Louis Kosma, will present "Masterpieces From The Romantic Era & More" - a program of works by Brahms, Beethoven, and Dvorak, plus Bach and Martin. The concerts will take place on Saturday, May 30, 2009 at 7:30 PM at the Elley-Long Music Center at St. Michaels College in Colchester, and on Sunday, May 31, 2009, at 7:30 PM at the St. Johnsbury School Auditorium in St. Johnsbury.

Tickets are \$15 for general admission, \$12 for seniors, and \$5 for students. Tickets are available online or at the door. For a complete list of ticket outlets and more information, visit [www.vermontphilharmonic.org](http://www.vermontphilharmonic.org).

Sunday, June 14, 2009, **the Bronze Ambassadors**, a teenage handbell group from Newport, Vermont, will play the prelude, anthem, and offertory at the First United Methodist Church in Burlington. The service will start at 9:30 AM. There is free parking on Sundays across the street in the municipal parking garage.

The Bronze Ambassadors will also present a benefit concert at 3:00 PM at Burlington First United Methodist Church to raise funds for their trip to Arizona later in the summer, where they will be the featured event at the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers convention.

Please contact Burlington First United Methodist Church Minister of Music George Matthew, Jr. for more information. The church's telephone number is 862-1151.

THEATER

The Dorset Theatre Festival is pleased to announce a new component of its summer 2009 programming. From August 18-28, DTF will present a new theatrical adaptation of the children's classic *Alice in Wonderland*, based on the novel by Lewis Carroll and adapted and directed by Tracy Bersley. This family-friendly production will run in repertory with the mainstage musical *Marry Me A Little* from August 18 - 28.

For more information, call 802-867-2223 x200 or visit [www.dorsettheaterfestival.org](http://www.dorsettheaterfestival.org). Single tickets for Summer '09 go on sale in June and will be available at [www.dorsettheaterfestival.org](http://www.dorsettheaterfestival.org), by calling 802-867-5777, or by visiting the Playhouse Box Office at 104 Cheney Road, Dorset.



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Sunday 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM

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The FUN Soccer School Co-ed Instruction for Ages 4-15  
Director Grant Allendorf

**DATES AND LOCATION**  
COACHES: Brown's River Middle School Soccer Fields, Jericho, VT  
• Bucky Brandt July 13-17, 2009 • 9 AM to Noon • Fee: \$85 before June 15  
• Danielle Morin Every participant will receive a T-shirt, experienced coaching instruction and a trophy!  
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**Chamberlin's Garden and Farm Market**

Open Mid June-October 31  
Monday - Saturday 8:00 - 6:00  
Sunday 10:00 - 6:00

97 River Road • Underhill • 899-3569

**COMING EVENTS**

**Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday, May 21-24**

**Garage Sale**, 18'x 4' pool, accessories, queen sized bed frame, dishes, fun treasures, low prices, 9:00 AM. 7735 Main Road, Huntington. More sales follow signs. 434-4008.

**Friday & Saturday, May 22 & 23**

**Giant Spring Tag Sale**. Jericho United Methodist Church, Rt. 15 Jericho, Friday 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM, Saturday, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM. This giant tag sale includes a wide variety of items including clothes, furniture, books, appliances, sports equipment and miscellaneous treasures. Bake sale munchies and coffee will be available plus much more!

**Saturday & Sunday, May 23 & 24**

**Yard Sale**, DVD players, TVs, motorcycle helmets, radios, bathroom sinks, ab lounge, weight bench with weights, costume jewelry, dishes, children's clothes, toys, and more. 6558 VT Rt.

116, Starksboro (one mile south of Hinesburg General Store). 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

**Friday, Saturday & Sunday, May 22, 23 & 24**

**Church Tag Sale**. The Waterbury Center Community Church will hold its annual tag sale. A wide variety of bargains will include books, knick-knacks, kitchen finds, interesting collectables, dishes, linens, children's clothes and many other useful and usable items. The funds will benefit the church. The sale will be held inside and on the lawn of the Waterbury Center Community Church on Rt. 100 next to the Cold Hollow Cider Mill. Hours are 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

**Saturday, May 23**

**Harry Bliss**, *New Yorker* cartoonist/children's illustrator presents his first comic book at Phoenix Books and Café, Essex. Bliss will present his newest book, *Luke on the Loose*, at 11:00 AM. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, please contact Michael DeSanto at 802-872-7111.

**Saturday, May 23**

**JULF Land Stewardship Project**: Wolfrun Natural Area, 9:00 AM. Trail re-marking and clearing are on the agenda for this event at WNA. Come and get a look at this amazing piece of habitat and the new piece of land which we are acquiring: the Wolfrun Natural Area Gateway. Please dress for traveling on steep and rugged landscape and bring loppers and bow saws if you have them. Cider and doughnuts provided and we should be done by noon.

**Saturday & Sunday, May 23-24**

**Open Studio Weekend** - Every Memorial Day weekend, artists and craftspeople across Vermont open their studios to the public. For a map of all studio locations, go to the Vermont Crafts Council website at <http://www.vermontcrafts.com/>. Studios are open from 10:00 AM -5:00 PM. Many artists will have items for sale.

**Sunday, May 24**

**The "Let's Go Fishing Clinic," a 5K Fun Run and a Barbeque** at the Mills Riverside Park off Route 15 in Jericho. All are welcome, but children must be accompanied by an adult. Registration for the Fun Run will held at 9:00 AM and the race will begin at 9:30 AM. The fees are adults - \$5, children - \$3, and a family - \$10. There will be 1st and 2nd place winners for both boys and girls in the 5-7 yrs, 8-10 yrs., and 11-13 yrs. age groups. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

The "Let's Go Fishing Clinic" is free and open to the public. Fishing gear will be supplied. The event will begin at 10:30 AM. There is limited space so registration is required. Children must be accompanied by an adult. To register, email the adult's and children's names and phone numbers to [mgraas@yahoo.com](mailto:mgraas@yahoo.com) or call Mark at (802)-318-2231.

A barbeque will be available during and following the first two events. These events are sponsored by the Mills Riverside Park, St. Thomas parish, the St. Thomas Knights of Columbus Council #7810 and the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department.

**Monday, May 25**

**Memorial Day Parade** starts out at 11:00 AM from Clark's Truck Center and goes to the Underhill Cemetery. We would like all veterans to call us. For more information call Richard Becker 899-3963.

**Saturday & Sunday, May 30 & 31**

**Streetwide Yard Sale**, Pinehurst Drive, Jericho, Saturday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Sunday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM.

**Saturday, May 30**

**Silent Auction**, sponsored by youth of United Christian Assembly, Raceway Road, Jericho, 6:00 PM. Please come and bid on many wonderful items and gift certificates. The money raised from this will help pay for the youth mission trip to the Dream Center in Los Angeles. For more information please call 899-2949.

**Garage/Yard Sales**: Cambridge, Saturday, May 30, 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Neighborhood—North Cambridge Road joined by Pumpkin Harbor, Pollander and Rushford Roads. Gas operated water pump, tools, household items, furniture, collectables, kids' stuff, plants.

**Clutter Barn Tag Sale**, The United Church of Underhill. Hours are 9:00 - 3:00. The Clutter Barn is on the green in Underhill Flats—the building to the left of United Church of Underhill. We're inside, so come rain or shine. We sell household items, toys and games, books for children and adults, spring and summer clothing, and "treasures" too numerous to mention. Good prices.

**Sunday, May 31**

**Chicken and Biscuit Dinner**, St. Thomas Church in Underhill Center, buffet style dinner served from 4:00 - 7:00 PM. No reservations are necessary, but calling the rectory with the number of those attending will help with the planning. Take-out dinners will be available. The cost is by donation. The menu will include chicken and gravy, biscuits, mashed potatoes, coleslaw, peas, carrots, and cran-

berry sauce with warm apple crisp and ice cream for dessert. For more information, please call the St. Thomas rectory at 899-4632.

The **Vermont Youth Dancers** proudly present a Dance-a-thon Benefit, 3:00 PM, Jericho Elementary School, to benefit the Jericho Community Center and the Wishing Stars Fund, cost: \$3 per person (\$10 family maximum) plus additional \$2 for each child participating in the Dance-a-thon.

**Friday & Saturday, June 5 & 6**

**Annual Spring Rummage Sale**, Calvary Episcopal Church, Route 15, in Underhill Flats will hold its rummage sale on Friday from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM and on Saturday from 9:00 AM until 12:00 noon. Items for sale include adult and children's clothing, toys, games, books, household items, furniture, jewelry and some great bargains. Questions, call 899-2326

**Friday, June 5**

**Men's Auxiliary Roast Beef Dinner** from 6:00 to 7:00 PM. All events held at Post 6689, 73 Pearl Street, Essex Jct. Any questions call 878-0700.

**Saturday, June 6**

**The annual first-Saturday-in-June Plant Sale**, Underhill Town Hall, Pleasant Valley Road, Underhill Center. 9:00 AM.

This sale is auction style; that is, the auctioneer (usually through the courtesy of Jay Lederman) will start the bidding on the donated plants promptly at 9:00 AM. The first bid is for \$5.00. Succeeding rounds of bidding go down by a dollar, until all the plants are gone. The plant sale has a unique feature: the Trading Board. People who do not have the time to dig plants, but often have plenty of duplicates they would like to share, can list varieties on a card and pin it to the Trading Board at the time of the auction. For further information, please call Mary Pacifici at 899-1081.

**Sunday, June 7**

**Ladies' Auxiliary VFW breakfast**, 9:00 to 11:00 AM. Held at Post 6689, 73 Pearl Street, Essex Jct. Any questions call 878-0700.

**Wednesday, June 10**

**Israel Scouts**, Friendship Caravan Performance and Community Dinner, Temple Sinai, 500 Swift Street, South Burlington, 6:00 PM. <http://www.templestinaivt.org>. Cost \$10 per person/\$25 per family (3 people or more), kids under 5 free. Advance tickets may be purchased with VISA/MC online at <http://www.templestinaivt.org>. Cash only at the door the day of the performance. Group rate available for groups of 10 or more. Contact Judy Alexander for more information, (802) 862-5125.

**Thursday, June 11**

Gloria Steinem, American journalist and feminist leader, is the keynote speaker for *Vermont Woman* Newspaper's 6<sup>th</sup> annual lecture series held at the Burlington Hilton Ballroom, 7:00 PM. Tickets are available online, [www.vermontwoman.com](http://www.vermontwoman.com), or by calling 802-372-3201.

**Sunday, June 21**

**Father's Day breakfast**. Fathers eat free. Held at Post 6689, 73 Pearl Street, Essex Jct. Any questions call 878-0700.

**Friday-Sunday, July 17-19**

**Wilderness Heals pledge hike**. The three-day Wilderness Heals annual pledge hike is one of New England's most challenging all-female fundraising hikes. Join fellow women July 17-19 for a hike through New Hampshire's White Mountains and help raise money for the Elizabeth Stone House in Boston, Mass. Choose from six trail options including a new Front Country option, which offers more manageable trails for those who are new to hiking. Other trail options offer hikers overnight accommodations in AMC huts, and hikers who participate in the Back Country option sleep in tents. Round-trip transportation from Boston provided. The fundraising minimum is \$1,200. Hiker registration fee is \$50 and the registration deadline is June 19. For more information or to register, visit [www.elizabethstone.org](http://www.elizabethstone.org) or call 617-427-9801, ext. 415.

**Free Estate Planning Seminar**  
June 20, 10:00am - 12:00pm  
Jericho Community Center, Browns Trace Road

Learn about Trusts, Wills, Probate, Elder Law, Powers of Attorney, Special Needs Guardianships, Medicaid Asset Protection, and more

CALL 879-7133 to Reserve Your Seat Or Register Online at [www.VermontLegacyPlanning.com](http://www.VermontLegacyPlanning.com)



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# Mentoring program for women offenders invites volunteers

Mercy Connections and Vermont Works for Women have partnered to create a Mentoring Program to support women making the transition from Vermont's correctional facilities to Chittenden County. These women face significant barriers in finding appropriate and affordable housing and employment, key elements of successful reintegration. Mentors can have a profound influence by supporting individual women as they work to rebuild their lives.

If you are a good listener, have an open mind and want to create a relationship with a woman returning to your community to help her make a fresh start, we invite you to contact us to find out more about serving as a volunteer mentor. We also need volunteers for short-term assistance, such as helping with transportation.

A mentor orientation will be held on Wednesday, May 27 from 5:30 – 7:30 PM at Mercy Connections, 346 Shelburne Road, Burlington, VT. For more information please contact Pam Greene, Mentoring Program Coordinator at 846-7164 or [pgreene@mercyconnections.org](mailto:pgreene@mercyconnections.org).

## ONGOING EVENTS

### ADULT ACTIVITIES

The **Essex Art League** holds monthly meetings at the First Congregational Church, 39 Main St., Essex Jct. For information, 862-3014.

**Westford Knitters Group** meets the first Friday of each month, 6:00 – 8:30 PM at the Westford Library. All needlecrafters in Westford and surrounding communities are welcome. Enjoy conversation with neighbors and friends while you work on your current project. Come early or late; bring a brown bag dinner and a drink if you like. For information: Julie Nelson, 343-0165 or [Julie@coolmoonyoga.com](mailto:Julie@coolmoonyoga.com)

**Handbell ringers**, Tuesday evenings, United Church of Underhill. All are welcome at rehearsals. Two ensembles; opportunity for small groups/shorter time periods. We ring a variety of music in a variety of settings and look forward to new faces joining us. Beginners welcome! Call Roger, 899-3106, for information.

The **Vermont French Canadian Genealogy Society library** is open for research Call for summer hours. We offer Vermont & Canadian Catholic Parish records, Vermont Vital Records on Microfilm, census records and other resources to assist with family history research.

Genealogy Workshops will be held in March and April. The library is located at the Dupont Building, Hegeman Ave. across from the VT State Police building in Fort Ethan Allen, Colchester. For more information or an appointment call 862-8082, 878-8081, or go online at [www.vt-fcgs.org/library](http://www.vt-fcgs.org/library) or email us at [mail@vt-fcgs.org](mailto:mail@vt-fcgs.org)

### HEALTH GROUPS

**Alzheimer's Support Group** - Free educational support group series for families coping with a loved one with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. This series gives caregivers the opportunity to better understand and develop strategies for the future. Held monthly at The Arbors at Shelburne. For more information and to register, contact Nicole Houston, Director of Family Services, The Arbors at Shelburne, 985-8600.

**Overeaters Anonymous** meets 6:00 – 7:00 PM Wednesdays at the Jericho United Methodist Church, VT Rt. 15, Jericho.

**TOPS Chapter** 145 Jeffersonville meets 6:15 PM on Thursdays at the Eagles Club, Route 109, Jeffersonville. Weigh-in 5:30 – 6:00 PM.

**Healing Circle Breast Cancer Network**, support group for women with breast cancer, meets first Tuesday of every month at 5:30 PM, Northwestern Medical Center, Conference Room 1. Please RSVP at 524-8479.

**Franklin County Prostate Cancer Support Group**, first Tuesday of each month, 5:15 - 7:00 PM, Northwestern Medical Center Conference Room #2, St. Albans. This support group offers men opportunities to educate themselves and each other; share and learn from each other's experiences; offer support to each other, a spouse or partner; and advocate early detection of prostate cancer. For information, Fern Mercure, 524-0719.

**Fit Kids Support Group**, first Mondays, 4:15 – 5:00 PM. Program for kids 8-13 and their parents. Learn about nutrition, physical activity, ways to increase activity level safely, changing eating behavior, self-esteem, and obstacles that interfere with weight management success. Northwestern Medical Center, Cobblestone Building, Classroom A. Speaker: Kay Tran, Reg. Dietitian, MS, CDE. Free; pre-registration required: 524-1234 or [cfhw@nmcinc.org](http://cfhw@nmcinc.org).

**Statewide Quit Line**, Telephone Smoking Cessation Counseling. Call 1-877-YES-QUIT (1-877-937-7848). Free.

**Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting**, "Keep It Simple" group meets Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 8:00 – 9:00 PM and Saturdays, 6:30 – 7:30 PM at the United Church of Underhill, Underhill Flats.

### KIDS

**Underhill Playgroup**, kids ages 0-5 with their caregivers are always welcome to join us Fridays from 9:30 - 11:00 AM at Underhill Central School for playtime, crafts, stories, songs and fun! For additional information or questions, please contact Heather Lebeis at 899-4415 or [Underhillplaygroup@yahoo.com](mailto:Underhillplaygroup@yahoo.com).

**Bolton Family Play Night**, in the Smilie School gym, usually the first and third Fridays, 6:00 – 7:30 PM. Free. Mostly unstructured play with the school's equipment. Contact Tim

Grover, 434-4180.  
**Kids' Yoga**, 3-5 years & 6 years and up. Toddler tumbling and new moms' groups. The Well, 644-6700.

### SENIORS

**Jeri-Hill XYZ Seniors** meet at the Town Hall in Underhill Center on the first and third Wednesday of each month. All seniors are welcome! Dinners are served at 11:30 AM. For information, please call Lenore Whitten, 878-8996, Bette Workman, 899-4446, or Loreen Teer, 899-1363.

**Westford Senior lunches** – Join Westford Seniors for lunch at the Red Brick Meeting House on the Common the second Monday of each month. Lunch is served at 12:00 noon with a short meeting or presentation following. Call 878-7405 or 879-7382 for information or for a ride.

### SPORTS ACTIVITIES

**Adult coed volleyball** in Westford, 8:00 – 10:00 PM, Mondays, Westford Elementary School gym. Fun, casual volleyball. \$2 at the door. Call coordinators Jon and Tammy Brown, 872-8333, for information.

**Bolton Men's Basketball**, Tuesdays, 7:00 – 9:00 PM, Smilie School Gym. For adults and young adults, age 16 and up. Contact Bill Newton, 434-3348.

### SUPPORT GROUPS

**Alzheimer's support group**, third Wednesday, 9:30 – 11:30 AM, The Arbors, 687 Harbor Rd., Shelburne. Free education for individuals and families in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. For information and to register, contact Nicole Houston, 985-8600.

**Approach Autism With Advocacy, Recovery & Education (AAWARE)** in the Lamoille Valley, third Sunday, 3:00 – 5:00 PM, Second Congregational Church of Jeffersonville Community Room, Jeffersonville. Special topics, guest speakers, resource information; playground for kids, fenced side yard for outdoor play. For information, Terry Holden, 644-2759 (Jeffersonville) or Tina Karl, 888-3430 (Hyde Park).

**Veterans Job Networking**, Wednesdays, 9:30 – 11:00 AM, VFW Post, Essex Jct.; 1:00 – 2:30 PM, American Legion Post, St. Albans.

**Lamoille Valley Kin as Parents**, second and fourth Thursdays, 6:00 – 7:30 PM, Lamoille Family Center, Morrisville. Dinner and child care provided. For more information, Imelda at 888-5229 ext. 152 or Rhonda Barr, 888-1376.

**Eating Disorders Parental Support Group**, third Wednesday, 7:00 – 9:00 PM, Covenant Community Church, VT Rt. 15, Essex Center. For parents of children with or at risk of anorexia or bulimia. We focus on being a resource and providing reference points for old and new ED parents. For information, Peter, 899-2554.

### TOWN GOVERNMENT AND ORGANIZATIONS

**Cambridge Area Rotary** meets on the first Thursday of the month, rotating to local restaurants, 7:00 – 8:00 AM at 158 Restaurant, Main St., Jeffersonville. For information, call Anita Lotto, 793-0856, or Chuck Hogan, 644-8134.

**Tim Nulty, Jericho Selectboard member**, at the Village Cup, first and third Wednesdays, 8:00 – 9:00 AM, and at the Flour Shop, second and fourth Wednesdays, 8:00 – 9:00 AM.

**Westford Fire Department**, Mondays, 7:00 PM, at the fire station next to the Town Garage. Volunteer for firefighting, dispatching, radio communications, computer operations, grant writing, equipment maintenance, fire police, education, and much more. For information, email John Quinn, [jquinnvt@aol.com](mailto:jquinnvt@aol.com).

**Westford Food Shelf**, open on the third Saturday of every month, 8:00 – 10:30 AM, United Church of Westford. All are welcome! Fresh produce, meat, and non-food items available.

**Jericho-Underhill Water District** meets first Monday of each month at the United Church of Underhill, Underhill Flats, 7:00 PM. For information, call 899-4076 or 899-3810.

**Jericho Historical Society**, second Thursday, 7:30 PM, Old Red Mill, Jericho.

**Jericho Underhill Park District Board** meeting, first and third Wednesdays, 7:00 PM, Deborah Rawson Memorial Library project room, Jericho. Residents of Jericho and Underhill always welcome. 899-2693 for information.

**Fairfax Food Shelf** has moved to the United Church on the corner of Fletcher Road and River Road, near the Foothills Bakery. The Food Shelf is open the first two Wednesdays, 9:00 AM – 12:00 noon. Please use the downstairs entrance. Information, 849-6588.



Nicole Santos, Rotary Exchange Student from Brazil, with Chuck Hogan after her presentation about her country to the Cambridge Area Rotary. If you are interested in taking an exchange student or participating as an exchange student, give Chuck a call at 644-8134. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

# 2009 Party in the Park

Mark Your Calendar

## Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup>

### 1:00 - 6:00 PM

Music, Food, Inflatables, and more!

Sponsored by

## the Mountain Gazette and Mills Riverside Park

Fee for inflatables and food.

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Thank you for your encouragement, your gentleness, high standards, and excellent teaching."

— from a letter written by a parent of a new VCS student

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Vermont Commons is an independent day school in South Burlington offering a rigorous, college preparatory curriculum for students in grades 7-12. Our small class size and innovative faculty create a close-knit community where students are encouraged to become scholars, stewards and proactive members of the world community.

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[info@vermontcommons.org](mailto:info@vermontcommons.org)

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### Northwestern Walk-In Clinic opens doors following open house

The Northwestern Walk-In Clinic officially opened its doors for business on Monday, May 11, with the first patient ready for the door to open at 7:00 AM. Conveniently located just off I-89 at exit 18 on Route 7, the Northwestern Walk-In Clinic provides increased access to health care services in Franklin County.

Over 300 people attended a public Open House, held on Saturday, May 9 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Following a brief ribbon cutting ceremony featuring Dr. Joseph Nasca, pediatrician; Judy Ashley-McLaughlin, Vice President of the NMC Board of Directors; and Dr. Charles Miranda, optometrist; visitors had the opportunity to tour the new clinic as well as the adjacent offices in the building.

WOKO broadcast live from the open house event, refreshments were served by the Georgia Lions Club (with help from the Georgia Market), and long-stemmed roses were handed out to moms in honor of Mother's Day.

The Northwestern Walk-In Clinic is a new option for treating minor (non-emergent) health care needs, with no appointments necessary. The clinic treats a wide range of conditions including flu & colds, sore throats, fevers, sprains & strains, minor burns, X-rays and minor injuries, lacerations/stitches, immunizations, physicals for sports, camps & DOT, urinary tract infections, and more.

Convenience is key at the Northwestern Walk-In Clinic, featuring hours in the morning before work, during the day, after school, and into the evening. The Clinic is also open on Saturdays. The Clinic is open Monday - Friday, 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM and Saturday from 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM.

Northwestern Walk-In Clinic provides an affordable alternative to the Emergency Department. An Emergency Department is designed for emergent needs and lifesaving care — making it an expensive choice for less urgent situations. Our Walk-In Clinic provides a more affordable alternative for non-emergent medical conditions.

NMC X-ray & mammography services are available within the Northwestern Walk-In Clinic. Digital mammography and X-ray technologies are more convenient than ever, plus the MammoPad and digital mammography screening process offer the latest in comfort and technology. No appointments are necessary. However, an order form from a provider is required.

NMC also offers Performance Rehab services within the new space. Highly trained therapists with research-based approaches and wonderful new equipment will help athletes get back in action and others to achieve their maximum performance.

For more information about the Northwestern Walk-In Clinic, call 524-8911 or visit [www.northwesternwalkinclinic.org](http://www.northwesternwalkinclinic.org).

### Caring for your spouse even after you're gone

Your spouse has been there with you through thick and thin. Your journey together has enriched your lives. You have helped each other along as friends, lovers, confidants, and partners. Planning for the possible day you won't be around to help is one of the biggest gifts you can give to your spouse.

If your spouse is ailing now, you are there to look after them at home and make sure proper medical care is provided. But what if you die first, without planning for the future? At least one study has shown that caregivers themselves often get sick or die early because of the stresses on them.

If you die first, your assets may pass to your spouse. Then, without your support, your spouse may need nursing care and would need to spend the resources you've built over a lifetime together to pay for that care. Eventually, they would have "spent down" those resources and would qualify for financial assistance. But then they would have little money left for incidentals and simple extras, like cable TV or birthday gifts for the grandchildren.

There is a better way. You could leave your assets to your spouse in a "Testamentary Special Needs Trust," which is a unique kind of Special Needs Trust. The assets in the Special Needs Trust may not be used for items covered by government assistance, such as medical care. However, the assets may be used for whatever costs government assistance does not cover, such as a special medical procedure, extra therapy, a private room in the hospital or nursing home, travel, an art class, birthday gifts for the grandchildren, and in some cases, even everyday living expenses.

A Special Needs Trust is a good strategy for any loved one needing substantial care. However, a Special Needs Trust for your spouse can take effect only upon your death. Further, it must be set up in a precise manner to qualify, so that the assets you leave to your spouse will not be deemed "available resources" when seeking government assistance and won't have to be "spent down" before the government will help with the bills.

You would do anything for your spouse. But you may not always be there. Plan now to protect and provide for your spouse, even after you are gone. A qualified estate planning and elder law attorney, one who focuses his or her practice in that area, can help you set up a plan that meets your concerns and your spouse's needs. Because planning matters, it is important to act now.

*This article is not intended to provide legal advice and does not create an attorney-client relationship. Readers should refrain from acting on information posted here without seeking specific legal advice from individually qualified counselors.*

Attorneys Unsworth and Barra are partners in the law firm of Unsworth & Barra, PLC with over 30 years of experience in legacy wealth planning which is the only firm accepted into the Academy of Estate Planning Attorneys in the state of Vermont.

#### WELCOME HOME



**UNDERHILL/MONTPELIER (Thomas)** Evelyn Mariah Thomas was born Monday, April 14, 2009 at Fletcher Allen Health Care, Burlington, VT. Evelyn weighed in at 5 lbs., 9 oz. and was 19 inches long. Her eyes are blue and she has strawberry blonde hair. She is the daughter of Emily (Toof) and Ben Thomas of Montpelier, VT. Evelyn is the first maternal grandchild of Karen & Tom Whitcomb of Underhill, VT.

She is also the first maternal great-grandchild of Eleanor Bean, St. Albans, VT, and the first maternal great-great-grandchild of Esther Fregeau, St. Albans, VT. Her paternal grandparents are Pam and Gordon Thomas of Lebanon, NH.

#### CAMBRIDGE

**(Rodger)** Erin (Smith) and Christopher Rodger had a son, Connor Christopher Rodger, on Thursday, April 9, 2009 at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, VT.

#### JEFFERSONVILLE

**(Maher)** Amy (Ingalls) and James Maher's daughter, Ava Rose Maher, was born Wednesday, April 8, 2009 at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, VT.

#### COLLEGE NOTES

These local students were awarded Bachelor of Science degrees at Champlain College commencement ceremonies held Saturday, May 9, 2009: **Kimberly Ann Jillson** of Cambridge, VT; **Justin R. Beaulieu** of Huntington, VT; **Robert J. Burroughs** and **David Scott Mullin** of Jericho, VT; **Stephanie L. Walker** of Underhill, VT; **Jamie M. Broe** of Westford, VT.

**Kelley Beth Boyden** of Jericho, VT, **Jeffrey Tyler Mack** of Jericho, VT, and **Erica Stephanie Duda** of Underhill Center, VT were among the students awarded Bachelor of Science degrees in the Class of 2009 St. Michael's College graduation ceremonies on Thursday, May 14, 2009 at the college's Colchester campus. Congratulations!

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### Red Cross blood donors

Michael Gilbar of Jericho received his gallon pin from American Red Cross Blood Services. Gilbar has donated 12 gallons.

### Call Brenda at (802) 453-6354 to place your ad on this page.

Size	Cost	Total Purchase
3.25" x 1.5"	\$18.00 each	Must buy 5 - \$90.00
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ENGAGEMENTS



**SYLVER - MOORE**

Ms. Mary Sylver of Williston, Vermont and Mr. Stephen Sylver of Montgomery, Vermont, are thrilled to announce the engagement of their daughter, Tausha Sylver, to Kevin Moore, Sr., son of the late Mrs. Beverly Moore of Swanton, Vermont and Mr. Thomas Moore of Swanton, Vermont. Tausha and Kevin will be married on Saturday, October 3, 2009 at the Covenant Community Church of Jericho, VT with a reception to follow at the Webster Barn in Hyde Park, VT.

Ms. Sylver is a 1992 graduate of Mt. Mansfield Union High School in Jericho, VT and a 1996 graduate of North Park College in Chicago, IL. She is the Executive Assistant to the President and CEO of Planned Parenthood of Northern New England. Mr. Moore is a 1984 graduate of Missisquoi Valley Union High School in Swanton, VT and a 2004 graduate of Charter Oaks State College in Connecticut. He is employed as the Digital Print Supervisor for the State of Vermont.

Tausha and Kevin met on Match.com and they knew from the moment they laid eyes on each other that this was something different... something they'd each been waiting for for a long time. The couple looks forward to many future adventures including camping trips with Tausha's dog, Emma, and Kevin's son, Jacob, as well as kayaking, biking, traveling around the world, card games with Grandpa, and good times spent with dear friends and family. Life is so very good!

OBITUARIES

**Allen B. Kimball** of Prescott Valley, AZ and formerly of Westford, VT was born on June 22, 1915 to Edwin Brigham Kimball and Alice Mary (Beers) Kimball in Westford, VT. He passed away on April 2, 2009 in Prescott Valley. He worked for IBM, retired in 1978, and moved to Arizona, spending summers in South Hero at a camp. Allen's wife Marion died in 1995, and he married Betty Thompson of Prescott Valley. He is survived by his daughter Mary Guertin of Prescott Valley and his son Robert of Marshall, NC; also a grandson, Robert II, and two great-granddaughters, Katrina and Victoria of Burlington, VT. He also leaves several nieces and nephews. Memorial services were in Essex Center United Methodist Church on May 18, 2009, with officiating Pastor Rev. V. Mitchell Hay. Allen's ashes will be buried in the family plot at Mountain View Cemetery in Essex Center, VT.



**Ellen May Champney**, 81, of Champ Lane, Bolton, VT passed away in the Burlington (VT) Health and Rehabilitation Center on Tuesday, May 5, 2009. Born in Sackets Harbor, NY on February 9, 1928, she was the daughter of the late Ernest and Albertina (Sprague) Anderson. On December 23, 1949, she married Walter I. Champney Sr. in Richmond, VT. Walter predeceased Ellen on November 17, 1999. Ellen attended schools in South Carolina and Georgia, where her father was stationed with the U.S. Army. Moving to Vermont, she was employed at Woolworth's Department Store on Church Street in Burlington and then, following her marriage, she was busy as a homemaker and raising her family. When Ellen returned to work, she was employed at the former Cellucord Textile Mill in Richmond for several years; worked at the Lavelle and Roy Machine Shop in Winooski, VT; and then for General Electric in Burlington. Moving to Bolton, Ellen was employed at the Smilie Elementary School where she ran the hot lunch program and assisted her husband in the operation of Champney's Exxon Station in Bolton for 12 years. In 1988 Ellen was elected Bolton Town Clerk, retiring in 1992. Her memberships included the Bolton Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary, and she served the Town of Bolton as a member of the Board of Civil Authority and as a Lister. Ellen was a former member of the Trinity Baptist Church in Williston. In her leisure time she enjoyed traveling, watching NASCAR racing, was an avid Bingo player, but most of all she enjoyed her large and loving family. Ellen is survived by her children: Tina Atwood and her husband Mark of Bolton; Walter I. Champney Jr. and his wife Sherry of Front Royal, VA; David Champney and his wife Marlene of Lynchburg, VA; Thomas Champney of Bolton; Richard Champney and his wife Betty of Bolton; 12 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren; two sisters, Sally Irwin of Winooski, VT and Helen Kirby of Essex, VT; as well as nieces, nephews, and extended family. Funeral services were held from the Waterbury Congregational Church on Friday, May 8, 2009 with a reception following in the church dining room. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts would be appreciated to the Burlington Health and Rehabilitation Center, for patient recreational therapy, 300 Pearl St., Burlington, VT 05401. Interment will take place in Fort Ethan Allen Cemetery, Colchester. To send online condolences please visit [www.perkinsparker.com](http://www.perkinsparker.com).



**Clesson "Ted" Edward Rounds**, 81, of Jeffersonville, VT passed away on Thursday, May 7, 2009 in Birchwood Nursing Home in

Burlington, VT. Ted was born on April 5, 1928 in Fairfax, VT, son of the late Harold and Mayfred Rounds. Ted had served his country well as a proud member with the U.S. Army. He had been a dedicated employee with Central Vermont Public Service for 45 years. Ted worked as a lineman for CVPS and was well known. Ted was a giving person, always there unconditionally for those that were in need of his heartfelt assistance. He never hesitated to help anyone in need no matter how big or small the task was. He will be greatly missed by those who knew and loved him. Ted is survived by his loving and caring wife of 33 years, Jeannette Rounds of Jeffersonville; his three sons: Clesson Rounds Jr. and wife Diane of Essex, VT; Jeffrey Rounds and his wife Rita of Montpelier, VT; Floyd Rounds and his wife Marsha of Addison, VT; his two daughters: Cheryl Lesperance of Rutland, VT and Elizabeth Hoague of Florida; four stepdaughters: Deborah Billado and husband Alfred Parrella of Essex Junction, VT; Donna Hall of Virginia; Lucinda Stetson and husband Norman of Florida; and Sylvia Quicksill and husband Charles of North Carolina; stepsons: Gary Conger of Burlington, VT; and Robert Conger and wife Sheela of Richford, VT; his brother Bill Rounds of Massachusetts; his sister Rebecca Bushey and husband Leo of Florida; several nieces, nephews, and grandchildren. He was also predeceased by his stepson Dale Conger in March of 2009; his stepdaughter Barbara Quennville of California in February of 2009; and his sister Rosaline Tannis in 1995. Visiting hours were held for Ted and his stepson Dale on Tuesday, May 12, 2009 at A. W. Rich Funeral Home, Essex Junction Chapel. A private family funeral service for both was held and burial was in the family lot in Jeffersonville Village Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association, VT Affiliate, Inc., 77 Hegeman Ave., Colchester, VT 05446. The family invites you to share your online condolences and memories by directly visiting [www.awrichfuneralhomes.com](http://www.awrichfuneralhomes.com).



CAMPUS HONORS

**Casey LaDuke**, son of David and Laurie LaDuke of Jericho, VT, is a senior majoring in psychology in the College of Arts, Sciences, and Engineering at the University of Rochester (NY). LaDuke has been elected to Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest academic honorary society. He is a graduate of Mount Mansfield Union High School.

Captain Phillips travels

The dust from the satellite trucks has settled and TV crews no longer push microphones into the faces of local residents. Captain Richard Phillips and his family brought 15 minutes of fame to Underhill. Now Captain Phillips is garnering accolades from various corners of the country.

The Underhill-Jericho communities gave a Welcome Home Party for Captain Phillips and TV's Matt Laurer of the Today show did an exclusive interview with Richard and Andrea Phillips.

President Barack Obama met with Richard and Andrea Phillips in the Oval Office one Saturday. The White House released a photograph of the three sitting together, but did not announce the meeting ahead of time. Phillips was in Washington to attend the White House Correspondents Association dinner that evening.

Perhaps it is true that you don't have to be a star to get star treatment! Richard Phillips will join Boston Red Sox pitcher Tim Wakefield in a big 'Pitching in for Kids' (PIFK) charity event June 8, set for Ned Devine's Club and the Upper Rotunda of Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston. Captain Phillips will attend with his wife Andrea, family and a few friends. He will play poker at Boston Red Sox hurler Tim Wakefield's table in a VIP celebrity area. Both Wake and Phillips are thrilled; it's a mutual admiration society.

What's next for Richard Phillips? In an offhand remark, a senior U.S. official told ABC News host George Stephanopoulos that the bold rescue of Captain Richard Phillips from a band of Somali pirates was "going to make a great movie."

Andrea Phillips thanks Fletcher Allen co-workers

Nurses at Fletcher Allen Hospital celebrated the accomplishments they have been able to achieve as Union nurses. They also welcomed back Emergency Department nurse Andrea Phillips, whose husband recently returned to Vermont after being kidnapped by pirates off of Somalia.

Phillips opened Nurses' Week and thanked her co-workers. "I can't thank you enough and all of the nurses for all the support shown to me and my family, including donations of paid time off. Truly, united we do stand. Rich is doing well and just the sound of his laughter in our home brings us back to being a normal family. Again thank you for everything and I'm happy to be with you all here at the beginning of Nurses' Week."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

CESU #12 negotiating team meets with teachers union

To the Editor,

To the CESU community,

The Chittenden East Supervisory Union Negotiations Committee (Board) met for the third time with representatives of the Green Mountain NEA and mediator Ira Lobel on Wednesday, May 6, 2009 at the CESU Central Offices in Richmond, VT. The meeting had been requested by the Board's Negotiating Committee in a final effort to reach a settlement with the union.

The meeting began with the Board making a revised proposal. Instead of requiring all teachers to switch over to an alternative health insurance plan, the Board proposed making the new plan an option while allowing teachers to remain on the existing health insurance plan. To account for the 20% difference in premium costs between the two plans, the Board did propose that teachers staying on the current plan increase their contribution by 3% from 12 to 15%. This increase in co-pay will increase teacher premium cost between \$8 and \$21 per pay period, depending on the whether they have single or family coverage. The Board maintained its proposal to have salaries increase by 3.75%, which would provide an average increase of about \$2,000 per teacher.

The Union responded by proposing that salaries increase by 3.9% both this year and next year. Additionally, the Union refused to accept any increase to teacher health insurance contributions on the current plan. The Union also proposed a modified salary schedule index.

In a final effort to get a settlement, the Board withdrew its proposed modification of the salary schedule and offered to accept the salary structure index modification proposed by the Union for this year. However, the Board continues to believe that the 3.75% increase that it has proposed is the maximum taxpayers can support in the current economic climate. The Board also believes that it has given teachers a health insurance option that will save them money while maintaining high quality coverage equal to their existing plan.

The Board requested that the Union present this proposal to its membership for ratification.

CESU Negotiating Committee

LIBRARY NEWS

**DEBORAH RAWSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY, UNDERHILL**  
Art for May is by the Underhill Central School students.

After School Art with Jen at the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library, April 28 at 4:00 PM. Create an original art project. For children in grades two and up. Advance registration required. Call: 899-4962. Funded by the Winnie Belle Learned Grant.

The next Board of Trustees meeting is Thursday, May 21 at 7:00 PM.

On Monday, May 25 from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM the library will be sponsoring a community flea market. Spaces are available for \$25.00 each. Contact Cindy Hamlet to reserve a space. 899-3760.

Library continued on page 10

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**Library** continued from page 9

Also on Monday, May 25 from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, there will be a book sale at the big red barn to benefit the library. There are lots of great books at great prices. Also to benefit the library there will be a raffle of two antique chairs. The lucky winners will be drawn at 3:00 PM at the close of the book sale. A huge thank you to Ron Reynolds who donated the chairs. The chairs will be at the library to see ahead of time. Tickets may also be purchased at the library before May 25.

A reminder to everyone who ordered tomato plants, pick up will be Saturday, May 30 from 4:00 – 6:00 PM and Sunday, May 31, 10:00 AM – 12:00 noon at the Irish Family Farm.

Movie night will be Friday, May 22 at 7:00 PM. Please join us for a classic movie based on a play by Agatha Christie. Call the library for the title. 899-4962.

Library hours: Tuesday 12:00 – 8:00 PM, Wednesday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Thursday 12:00 – 8:00 PM, Friday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Saturday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, closed Sunday and Monday. For information on any of the library's programs, call 899-4962.

**JERICHO TOWN LIBRARY, JERICHO CENTER**

Monday, May 18 from 10:30-11:00 AM the library will provide an outreach story time at the Jericho Community Center for the Chittenden East Early Childhood Connection play group. Parents and children ages birth – 5 years and siblings are welcome. The theme is Space.

Saturday, May 30, come to the library's third annual spring plant fundraiser. Look around your garden for any extra annual or veggie seedlings, perennials that need thinning, herbs, berry vines, bushes, or houseplants. Bring these donations to the Jericho Center Green, across from the Library, Saturday at 8:30 AM. The sale begins promptly at 9:00 AM and ends at 10:00 AM. If you have some plants to donate, but don't want to dig them up, you can offer them up as "digging rights" for a specific plant(s). Next, look over all the donated plants to decide your 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, etc. picks are. In

the 1<sup>st</sup> round, you pay \$5 for your first pick. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> round, you pay \$3 for your second pick. The 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> round go for \$1, and the 5<sup>th</sup> and remaining rounds go for 50 cents. You may purchase plants even if you don't have plants to donate. All proceeds go to the Jericho Town Library for books and programs. Call Linda Campbell at 899-2798 with any questions.

Saturday, May 30, 9:00-10:30 AM, TAB (Teen Advisory Board-grades 7-12) Meeting. All new members welcome to join and have fun with the fabulous TABbers. Refreshments served.

Saturday, May 30 at 6:30 PM, Family Friendly Movie Night. Come watch a recently released movie sequel about animals who escaped from the zoo and like to "move it." Refreshments will be served. For title and more information, call the library, 899-4686.

Feeling shut in? If you are sick or having a hard time getting around call us so we can bring you a good book (large print also available) at 899-4686.

If anyone wants to volunteer to be a part of the catalog automation project underway there is still more work to be done, which includes computer and non-computer tasks. If you have even an extra hour or two please consider helping. For more information call the library at 899-4686.

High school students needing to fulfill community service please volunteer at the library when your schedule permits. Your help is really appreciated. Call or stop by.

Story time including craft and snack is held every Wednesday upstairs at 10:00 AM. Come share the joy of books, finger plays, flannel board, and songs with guitar music led by Derek. Upcoming themes:

Wednesday, May 27, 10:00 AM – Patriotism

Wednesday, June 3, 10:00 AM – Farm

The Board of Trustees meets regularly the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM at the library. The public is welcome so join us at our upcoming meetings on June 4 and July 2. The hours for the Jericho Town Library on the Green are Monday and Friday 1:00-5:00 PM, Wednesday 10:00 AM-12:00 PM and 2:00-6:00 PM, Saturday 10:00 AM-1:00 PM. For more information call 899-4686 or email us at [Jerichtownlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:Jerichtownlibrary@gmail.com).

**WESTFORD TOWN LIBRARY**

Upcoming Events:

Thursday, May 21, 11:00 AM: Storytime. Stories and activities for preschoolers. Theme: Doreen Cronin stories.

Friday, May 22, 6:00 PM: Strategy and Board Games for Teens and Adults. Hosted by Matt Taylor.

Thursday, May 28, 11:00 AM: Storytime. Stories and activities for preschoolers. Theme: Special guest Elise Doner from Busyfeet School of Dance presents *Story Book Adventures for the Young*. Elise has a BA in Elementary Education and Performing Arts with a specialization in Reading. She has been teaching the joy of dance and movement to young children for the past nine years. Her classes include dance, movement, drama and fun.

Thursday, June 4, 11:00 AM: Storytime. Stories and activities for preschoolers. Theme: Water.

Saturday, June 6, 6:30 PM: Women's Game Night. Join this fun and welcoming group for games, food and laughter. Contact Kara Bolton at 879-2513.

Wednesday, June 10: 6:00-7:00 PM: Book Discussion: *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy* by John LeCarre. Stop by the library for a copy.

Note: The Westford Knitters will not meet in June, July or August. Enjoy your summer and see you in September. The Summer Reading Program "Be Creative @ Your Library" begins on June 20. We have lots of fun in store including a creative pet show, float building, candy throwing at the July 4th parade, the annual book sale, learning to paint like elephants, exploring how Mother Nature gets creative, a treasure hunt, scrapbooking for teens and adults, a town-wide art show, and more. Hope you can join us for some summer fun. Look for details in the June Town Newsletter.

Let the library help with your spring cleaning. The library is currently accepting donations for our July 4th book sale. We accept hardcover, paperback, fiction, nonfiction, and children's and adult titles. DVDs and audiobooks on CDS are especially appreciated. No textbooks, magazines, encyclopedias or Reader's Digest condensed books, please.

New Additions to the Collection: Adult: *About Face* (Leon), *Tea Time for the Traditionally Built* (McCall Smith), *Summer World* (Heinrich). Juvenile: The 2010 DCF books are here! *Knucklehead* (Scieszka), *Mogo the Third Warthog* (Napoli), *Into the Dark* (Abrahams), *11 Planets* (Aguilar), *Shift* (Bradbury), *The Hunger Games* (Collins), *Emperors of the Ice* (Farr), *The Gollywopper Games* (Feldman), *Diamond Willow* (Frost), *Sun and Moon, Ice and Snow* (George), *The Other Side of the Island* (Goodman), *Rapunzel's Revenge* (Hale), *The Great Wide Sea* (Herlong), *Savvy* (Law), *The Leanin' Dog* (Nuzum), *Steel Trapp: The Challenge* (Pearson), *Beneath My Mother's Feet* (Qamar), *Keeper of the Grail* (Spradlin), *Stolen* (Vande Velde).

DVDs: Adult: *Doubt*, *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*, *Managing Your Money in a Challenging Economy*. Our hours are Wednesday 1:00 – 7:00 PM, Thursday 10:00 – 6:00 PM, Friday 12:00 – 6:00 PM, and Saturday 10:00 – 2:00 PM. We can be reached at 878-5639, [westford\\_pl@vals.state.vt.us](mailto:westford_pl@vals.state.vt.us), or [www.westford.lib.vt.us](http://www.westford.lib.vt.us).

**VARNUM LIBRARY, JEFFERSONVILLE**

When you think of libraries, you've always thought of books,

right? Many people more recently think about computers. Well, what about periodicals? They are newspapers and magazines that are periodically published to stay current and to give you something to look forward to on a regular basis. Many libraries have a variety of magazines and a nice comfy place in which to read them. The Varnum Memorial Library is no exception to that rule.

There are a variety of magazines that you can find here. For kids there are *Zoobooks* and *Fun for Kidz*. For adults there are *Mother Earth News*, *Vermont Life*, *Yoga Journal*, *U.S. News and World Report*, *Whole Living: Body and Soul*, *Consumer Reports*, *The Smithsonian*, *Birds and Bloom*, *The Atlantic*, *National Geographic Adventure*, and *Health*. We also have copies of local papers and have recently become one of the many distribution sites for the *Mountain Gazette*, which is no longer mailed to homes with Jeffersonville addresses. Consider coming down to leaf through our periodicals, in addition to browsing our shelves for your reading needs.

The Varnum Memorial Library is open Mondays and Tuesdays from 1:00 – 8:00 PM and Thursdays and Saturdays from 9:00 – 12:00 noon. There are programs for children and adults, free Wi-Fi access, and of course books and materials to check out including the ECHO Center pass. The next Crescendo Club meeting is Thursday, May 21 at 7:00 PM. Everyone is welcome to attend. Call us at 644-2117 if you have any questions.

**LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

**From the Statehouse**

By Martha Heath

The legislature adjourned on Saturday, May 9 ending the session two weeks earlier than planned. If the governor does not call us back into special session, we will have saved the state \$480,000 by completing the session in fewer weeks than were budgeted. The session was marked by passage of some major legislation: a tougher sexual violence law that also focuses on prevention, passage of a civil marriage statute creating marriage equality for gays and lesbians, a renewable energy bill that would lead Vermont to a more independent energy future, and passage of the annual capital, transportation and budget bills.

As the chair of the House Appropriations Committee, my time was focused on the creation of a balanced and fair state budget. This was the toughest budget year I have seen in my seventeen years in the legislature. From the time revenues were first downgraded for FY10 though the final \$38M downgrade on April 24, the money available for the General Fund budget was reduced by \$282M. Fortunately Vermont was not alone in being affected by the state of the national economy and President Obama proposed and Congress approved a federal stimulus bill that included significant funding to assist states in stabilizing their budgets. In order to mitigate the "cliff" effect of the federal money, the legislature's budget proposes to spread the dollars over three fiscal years. In FY10 our budget uses \$175M, most of it in the state's Medicaid program. That left us with a \$107M hole to fill.

The legislature chose to close the budget gap in a way that shared the sacrifice required in these difficult times. Our budget cuts almost \$60M from the state's general fund budget. These cuts range from reducing benefits for various populations who depend on state support (the elderly, poor and disabled) to cutting reimbursement rates for Medicaid providers to a reduction in the cost of state employees. We reduced the general fund contribution to the Education Fund by \$18M. This contribution represents about 25% of the state's budget. We have been fortunate to be able to hold K-12 education harmless through many rounds of rescissions but could no longer spare a significant portion of state spending. Fortunately we were able to reduce the transfer while maintaining the base education amount and the base tax rates at the level school boards anticipated when they presented budgets to voters. Increased tax collection efforts will provide about \$5M in new revenue. \$3M from the Human Services Caseload Reserve was used. Finally we passed a revenue package that increases some consumption taxes (liquor and cigarettes) closes tax loopholes (capital gains and income deductibility) and reduces rates, providing \$21M in new revenue while providing lower and middle income taxpayers a tax cut.

The legislature's budget is a step in a multiyear process that will be required to bring spending to a sustainable level when federal assistance is no longer available. The bill also outlines a number of strategies designed to reduce expenditures in future years. All Vermonters are asked to be part of the solution to our budget challenge. Some Vermonters will lose some of their services; some will pay a little more. Our budget represents a fair, balanced to our fiscal challenge. We are all in this together.

As I write this article, the governor is indicating that he may veto the budget. If he chooses that option, I hope he will present a plan of his own. His original budget no longer works for a number of reasons, the largest being that he has not told Vermont how he would address the \$38M downgrade that happened in April. One thing is certain; we will have a budget by July 1<sup>st</sup>. What remains unclear at the moment is the path to reaching a compromise the governor can support and a majority in the legislature can vote for.

It remains a pleasure and an honor to serve my constituents. If you have questions or comments to share about the state budget or other issues, please contact me by calling 893-1291 or by e-mail at [mpheath@aol.com](mailto:mpheath@aol.com).

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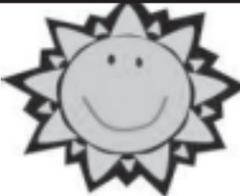
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This is the **Tenth** year that the Mission Committee of the United Church of Underhill has organized donations from area churches, businesses and service clubs to address the problem for low-income families in Jericho and Underhill. The need is high this year, and plans are underway to send 20 kids to the Jericho Recreation Summer Camp. The children will receive scholarships to attend 3 weeks of camp - money raised within our communities to help provide the children with safe, supervised camp experiences their families can not otherwise afford.

Please contact Underhill resident Janet Grant, member of the Mission Committee of the United Church of Underhill, if you, your business, church or service organization would like to contribute (899-5534).

Payable to:  
Town of Jericho – Summer Recreation

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LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Notes from Montpelier

By Rep. Bill Frank

After a very busy week of long days and late nights the legislature adjourned its 2009 session at 10:47 PM Saturday, May 9. We left Montpelier after putting together a budget package for fiscal year 2010 in very challenging economic times; a budget that required many hard choices. The budget was notable because of the number of people who didn't like it because there were too many cuts in programs, and those who opposed it because it didn't have enough cuts. The budget package lowers the marginal income tax rate for middle and lower income Vermonters; those making less than \$200,000.

The deficit that the Vermont Legislature tackled was \$281.5 million. This enormous hole was filled by \$59.3 million in cuts, \$4.8 million in a new effort to collect unpaid taxes, \$21.2 in new revenue, \$18.4 million in reduction of general fund transfer to the education fund, \$3.2 million from caseload reserves and \$174.5 million of federal stimulus funds (ARRA). To put the new revenue package in context, only \$21.2 million in new taxes are raised to solve a \$281.5 million budget problem – that's just 7.5 percent. Some Vermonters will share in the responsibility by seeing fewer services. Some Vermonters will pay higher taxes. But we are all in this together.

Before solving the FY 2010 budget challenge, the state had already made over \$100 million in cuts and adjustments to spending. In August, 2008, \$23.5 million in cuts and adjustments, including \$600,000 from environmental conservation, \$3.4 million from the Global Commitment program, \$260,000 from Fish and Wildlife and \$3 million from the Tobacco Trust Fund. In December, 2008 an additional \$20 million in cuts and adjustments, including \$240,000 from the Department of Agriculture, \$810,000 from protection of persons and property, \$1.1 million from public health and \$4.4 million from mental health.

Perhaps the most difficult choice for me that was made in the budget is agreeing to a portion of the Governor's proposal to reduce support to the Education Fund. The budget does not agree to the scale of the Governor's proposal – \$63 million – or the scope – to permanently move teacher's retirement obligations into the Education Fund and on to property taxpayers. The budget does, however, temporarily reduce the transfer from the General Fund to the Education Fund by \$18.4 million – over 70 percent less than the Governor proposal to reduce the transfer and shift teacher's retirement into the Education Fund.

A \$3 million cut to the Current Use program was also under consideration. Ultimately additional federal stimulus dollars were found to fully fund the program for this year. The budget language tasks the Current Use Advisory Task Force with making a recommendation on how best to save \$3 million from the program next year.

I feel under these difficult economic time this is a good budget for Vermont. It doesn't have everything the legislature or the Governor would like but it is a very good compromise. I think the Governor should sign it but he has said he will not. The Governor has called a special session of the legislature on June 2<sup>nd</sup> to act on his veto. There are many very good accomplishments of this legislative session and I will write about them in this column through out the summer. I have written about many of them in an end of session report that is on my web site at [www.RepBillFrank.com](http://www.RepBillFrank.com). As always I like to hear from you, either by email: [Bill@RepBillFrank.com](mailto:Bill@RepBillFrank.com), phone: 899-3136 or mail: 19 Poker Hill Rd, Underhill, 05489.

**Amy Malinowski receives \$25,000 University Mall scholarship**



University Mall will soon be awarding \$25,000 in scholarships to five area high school seniors. Each student will receive \$5,000 toward their first year of college. University Mall's Scholarship of Excellence is designed to be awarded to students who embody excellence in academics, leadership, and community service. The recipients and their families will attend a luncheon and awards ceremony held at the Mall on Wednesday, May 27, 2009 at 12 Noon. One of this year's 5 recipients is a Jericho, Vermont resident:

Amy Malinowski, daughter of John and Donna Malinowski of Jericho, Vermont, currently attends Mount Mansfield Union High School and is recognized for her recent efforts as the founding President of the SHAPE Club as well as work with the Vermont Teen Leadership Safety Program. Amy plans to attend Babson College in the fall of 2009.



**Thunder road unveils Memorial Park**

The Mekkelsen Memorial Day Classic Twin 100's at Thunder Road for American Canadian Tour (ACT) Late Models and the True Value Modified Racing Series will also honor generations of racing heroes who helped build the venerable quarter mile high-banked short track into one of the most famous in North America.

Flathead drivers of the 60's like Harold Hanaford, Johnny Gammell and the Ingerson Brothers, along with the stars of the 70's — 'Mod Squad' members, Robbie Crouch, Johnny Rosati and Joey Kourafas, and favorite Bay State adopted son, Dave Dion, have all provided race fans in the Northeast with spectacular racing. Generations of Vermont Dragons, Canadians Cabana, Whitlock, and Laperle, and present champions Scott, Michaud and Williams have all helped Thunder Road earn its moniker as the 'Nation's Site of Excitement'. Located in the granite capital of the world, Barre, Vermont, a new Memorial Park has been established to help celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year to pay tribute to the long list of Thunder Road champions.

A number of granite memorials have been commissioned from Goslant Granite to be located throughout the facility providing future generations a racing history which will stand the test of time. "While preparing over the past couple of years for this historic season, the entire Thunder Road staff kept talking about the importance of the history of racing that Thunder Road has provided over 5 decades. It was natural for us to turn to what we might be able to do that would be unique to the character of T-Road, and also respect the local granite industry and its workers who have been such supportive fans for all these years. We think our Memorial Park and King of the Road tribute does just that," said Tom Curley, co-owner and promoter of Thunder Road over the past thirty years.

There are additional improvements that fans will be aware of this Memorial Day weekend when they arrive for the 47<sup>th</sup> annual Memorial Day Classic. A new grandstand addition for pit crew members and families has been added since the opening Merchants Bank event earlier this month. There is a redesigned main concession area for more fan space and viewing access to the pits. A new tech inspection area for the Allen Lumber Street Stock and Power Shift Warrior division has been constructed.

Founder and co-owner Ken Squier said, "Tom and I both wanted to be able to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Thunder Road in a respectful manner. It has been important for us to make sure that we give our fans a very special season along with the testimonials and memorializing of the great teams that have competed over all these years. We think the racing today is as good as it has ever been over the past 50 years, but by bringing in a mix of the old champions like Richard Petty and Bobby Allison, the new star of NASCAR today, Tony Stewart, and the coming stars represented by David Ragan, we will showcase our present ACT and Thunder Road stars in the best way possible, while giving our fans a truly memorable 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary season".

The Mekkelsen Memorial Day Classic Twin 100, featuring the two most popular regional touring seasons together for the only time in 2009, will highlight the racing over the holiday, but there is a whole lot more for race fans to reminisce about after visiting Thunder Road this Sunday. Gates open at 10:00, admission is \$20 for Adults and \$5 for children 6-12. Post time is 1:30 and will feature all the Thunder Road divisions. Over 140 cars are expected to compete.

Sunday, May 24 will also mark the date when discount tickets for the CARQUEST Vermont Governor's Cup featuring Tony Stewart will go on sale. The ticket has been designed to be a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary souvenir ticket and may be purchased for only \$17 Adult for the June 25<sup>th</sup> 150 lap Governor's Cup race.

For additional information contact the ACT office at 802.244.6963 or [media@actour.com](mailto:media@actour.com).

RECIPES BY MARIAN TOBIN

Cloud Nine Salad

- 1 sm. can mandarin oranges
- 1 sm. can crushed pineapple
- 1 container peach yogurt
- 1 pkg. orange jello, dry
- 1 sm. container Cool Whip

Drain oranges and pineapple. Combine, then add the yogurt. Fold in Cool Whip.

Sprinkle over, then fold in the package of dry orange jello. Refrigerate for any desired length of time.



Negotiations continued from page 1

other scheduling issues. "This is a very simple question: Who runs the schools?" asked Letovsky. "It's the administrators, not the union."

Harris said the teachers have no taste for another strike. "We want to go back to tackle these issues and come to a compromise. I would like the Board to come back. We were offered a final contract (May 6). That's not in the best interest of anyone."

He charged this Board is "much more heavy handed" than previous boards during negotiations. "I don't know why the tenor of the Board has changed."

**2009 Party in the Park**



Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup>

1:00 - 6:00 PM

Music, Food, Inflatables, and more!

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Season Opener Concert

Friday, May 29

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# CESU presents 2008-2009 Golden Apple Awards

The 2008-09 CESU Golden Apple Awards were presented at the CESU Annual Meeting, May 4, 2009. The awards are given to volunteers who provide time and expertise beyond the call of duty for the benefit of the students of the Chittenden East Supervisory Union. The recipients were Jamie Beaulieu, Donna Wyatt, Cheryl Thomas, Diane DeRuyck, Gail Premo, Edey Graning, Laura Zambarano, and Grant Allendorf.



Recipients Jamie Beaulieu & Donna Wyatt. Awards were presented by Cindy Mackin, Principal, Underhill ID Elementary School.



Sandy Gilliam, Assistant Principal, Browns River Middle School, presented the award to Cheryl Thomas.



Diane DeRuyck received her award from Nancy Guyette, Principal, Browns River Middle School.



Gail Premo was the recipient of the award presented by Michael Berry, Principal, Underhill Central School.



Edey Graning and Laura Zambarano received their awards from Vicki Graf, Principal, Jericho Elementary School.



Grant Allendorf was given his award by MMUHS Administrators: Michael Weston, Assistant Principal, Brian Cain, Student Activities Director, Jen Botzjorn, Principal, and Adrienne Capone, Assistant Principal.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

# Sign-up for Mt. Mansfield Summer Track Program

The Mt. Mansfield Summer Track Program returns for its thirteenth year and is looking for all interested athletes to participate in its summer track program. The eligible ages include all children who turn 5 years old during 2009 through all children who are 14 and don't turn 15 during 2009. Last year we had about 125 athletes enjoy the program. We stress participation, sportsmanship, and having fun. All athletes will be introduced to basic track and field technique and proper running form. Athletes are encouraged to try all the different events and find out which they like best. All are welcome and we especially need seventh and eighth graders; it's an excellent way to find out about track before you get to the high school. Ask around we are sure you will find friends who have participated before and will speak highly of the program.

Last year we won our second consecutive Vermont State Championship, our ninth out of the last ten years. We had two athletes qualify for the Hershey North American Championships and travel to Hershey, PA to compete against athletes from all over the U.S. and Canada.

This summer will be slightly different from the previous years because we won't have a track! Construction of our new rubberized, all-weather track is scheduled to begin in early June and continue throughout the summer. This means that next summer we will be on a brand new facility, but this summer we will be without a home track. We won't let this stop us from having a great season with lots of fun and competition. This summer's modified schedule will include five Monday practices at Volunteers Green in Richmond and five meets.

Practices will be 5:00-6:30 PM at Volunteers Green, Richmond on 6/22, 6/29, 7/6, 7/13, and 7/20; meets will be July 1 at South Burlington or Essex, July 11 at Essex (Hershey Meet), July 15 at South Burlington or Essex, July 21 at Colchester, and July 25 at St. Johnsbury (Parks and Rec Meet).

The coaching staff will include: Bill Eschholz - Head Track and Head Boys' XC Coach, Mt. Mansfield UHS; Sue Turcotte - Head Girls' XC Coach, Mt. Mansfield UHS; Joe Barch - Asst. Track Coach, Mt. Mansfield UHS; and members of the 2009 MMU Track and Field team.

Registration is \$30 for the first child in a family, \$25 for the second, and \$20 for each additional child. All athletes will receive a team uniform. If you have questions please contact Bill Eschholz at 434-4255 or email [eschholz@gmavt.net](mailto:eschholz@gmavt.net). Information at [www.mmu.k12.vt.us/teachers/eschholz/track/index.html](http://www.mmu.k12.vt.us/teachers/eschholz/track/index.html).

# Green Mountain Bike Club

All GMBC rides are free and open to the public. Helmets are required. All of our official rides have two leaders: one to lead and a co-leader to sweep. Please contact the leaders for specific information on the rides. We encourage riders to try to carpool to starting points which are far from their homes.

Sunday, June 7: Ride: Grand Isles Flats and Picnic - A 26 mile (E/M) ride circles Grand Isle via the west and east shores and includes some dirt. The 50 mile (M) option goes to the Shrine at Isle LaMotte before returning. Afterwards, meet at Helen's camp for a picnic on the shore of the Almost Great Lake. Hot dogs will be provided, but please bring your own beverage and something to share with the group. Meeting Time: 8:45. Meeting Place: Folsom School, South Street in South Hero - Those coming from the Burlington area may consider carpooling from the Colchester Park and Ride, Exit 17 off I-89, UVM or Dorset Park in South Burlington. Leader: Helen Douglas - 862-7722 / [bikehelen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bikehelen@sbcglobal.net); Co-Leader: Matt Kuivinen - 413-427-2177 / [mattkui@earthlink.net](mailto:mattkui@earthlink.net).

## LEGAL NOTICE

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

**Town of Underhill Development Review Board (DRB) Hearings**  
**Monday, June 15, 2009 at 6:00 PM (site visits)**  
**Hearings to be Held at the Underhill Town Hall, Underhill Center, VT**

The DRB will hold a preliminary hearing on the application of Brian and Janice Christie for a 2-lot subdivision of property they own at 50 Mullen Rd. (MU050) in Underhill, Vermont. This property is located in the Rural Residential zoning district. A site visit at this property will begin at 6:00 PM. This is one of two site visits. The hearing will take place immediately following the variance hearing (details below).

The DRB will also hold hearing on the application of Shannon McCaulley for a variance for a fence on property she owns at 424 VT Rte. 15 in Underhill, Vermont. This property is located in the Residential zoning district. A site visit at this property will begin immediately following the site visit scheduled for 6:00 PM (see above). The hearing will take place immediately following the site visit.

A copy of these applications and additional information may be obtained at the Underhill Town Hall. These hearings and site visits are open to the public. Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §§ 4464(a)(1)(C) and 4471(a), participation in these local proceedings is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal. If you can not attend the hearing but would still like to exercise your right to be heard, comments may be made in writing prior to the hearing and mailed to: Zoning Administrator, P.O. Box 32 Underhill Center, VT 05490 or to [underhillzoning@comcast.net](mailto:underhillzoning@comcast.net).

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## CESU Meetings

May 26, Underhill ID School Board meeting, 7:00 PM, Underhill ID Elementary School.

May 28, Mt. Mansfield Union School Board meeting, 7:30 PM, CHMS.

June 1, CESU Policy Committee meeting, 6:30 PM, Central Office, Richmond Town Center.

June 2, Underhill Center School Board meeting, 6:30 PM, UCS.

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## Rice Memorial High School 3rd quarter honor roll

The following area students made the third quarter honor roll at Rice Memorial High School, Burlington, VT.

Jericho: First Honors: Rebecca Anderson, Grade 10; Evelyn Boardman, Grade 12; Clayton Willets, Grade 12; Second Honors: Haley Rossi, Grade 10; Emily Rossi, Grade 12; Honorable Mention: Ariel Culupa, Grade 9; Jacquelin Smolinski, Grade 11.

Richmond: Second Honors: Frederick Torde, Grade 9; Leyna Jackson, Grade 12; Mohammad Rahmati, Grade 12.

Waterville: Second Honors: Sara Cook Grade, 10; Joshua Cook, Grade 12; Thomas Swinchoski, Grade 12.

Cambridge: Second Honors: Joseph Page, Grade 9.

## New 4-H Dog Club starting soon

The University of Vermont Extension 4-H program is offering area youth the opportunity to learn about dogs in a club setting for youth ages 5-18 (as of January 1, 2009). Club meetings will occur twice a month on Saturdays; the time of day is still to be determined.

Highlights of the club: Learn all about dogs: proper care, grooming, first aid, medical issues, nutrition, obedience, anatomy, showmanship and much more. Show what you learn in quiz bowls, exhibits, presentations, demonstrations, dog shows, and more. Make dog treats, crafts, scrapbooks, leashes, and dog houses. Have fun and meet new friends.

An informational meeting for interested youth and their parents will be held on Tuesday, June 2 at 7:00 PM at the UVM Extension Office, 29 Sunset Drive, Morrisville (next to Bond Auto).

Please contact Lauren Traister, 4-H Educator, at 888-4972 x 103 or email [lauren.traister@uvm.edu](mailto:lauren.traister@uvm.edu) for more information.



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*Team heads to Orlando, Fla. to compete in National Tournament*

**With four kids from MMU, Vermont Flyers win state AAU tournament**



**By Richard Mindell**  
*Special to the Mountain Gazette*

Disney World here they come. The Vermont Flyers, an AAU basketball team made up of girls from several area high schools, defeated an AAU team from Barre last week to earn a trip to Orlando, Florida, to compete in the national AAU tournament. Three players from MMU have had a major impact on the Flyers' success, including Halley Fischer, Erin Simmons and Sabrina Youngman. Another MMU player, Mahalia Duncan, is a reserve on the practice team.

The Flyers stormed through the Vermont tournament winning most of their games by double-digit margins. The Flyers beat the Barre Breakers in the finals by 23 points, after leading most of the game by 30 points or more. "The girls were inspired," Flyers head coach Bruce Audette said. That was an understatement considering the Flyers jumped out to an 18-1 lead at the start of the game, largely due to their smothering defense, and expanded that lead to as much as 30 points as the game progressed.

"Sabrina Youngman, Erin Simmons and Halley Fisher played intense defense," Audette said. The MMU trio led a press that forced Barre into numerous turnovers. "Sabrina played Barre's big scorer and did a tremendous job. Halley also played great defense and averaged close to a triple double (points, rebounds and steals) for the tournament. And Erin was instrumental in running our press. She has great vision and quarterbacks our defense."

Coach Audette praised the kids from MMU for the personal sacrifice each has made in order to play with the Flyers. Many of the kids play spring sports in addition to practicing with the Flyers.

Add that to their homework and other responsibilities and it's a wonder they have time to play AAU ball. That's what has really impressed Coach Audette about this group, especially the kids from MMU. "The girls from MMU are extremely dedicated," he said. "They're tremendous. They do their homework on the way to and from practice (in South Burlington). And they're usually there before me. They have goals. They're great young ladies and tremendous role models for the younger kids."

While he was effusive about the Flyer's success, Coach Audette was quick to point out the totality of the experience was far more important than the results. That's why the team de-emphasizes individual statistics. "When one player scores, the whole team scores," he said.

"We don't care about statistics," Halley Fisher said. Fisher has played four years of AAU ball.

"We try to teach the girls that this experience will benefit them throughout their lives," Coach Audette said. "The girls learn life skills, like how to make good decisions. They won't have basketball in their lives forever. We want this experience to help them later on in life after basketball."

Fisher agreed. "It's not just about basketball," she said. "It's about learning how to work with other people and how to deal with other things in life."

Like playing against some of the best competition in the country? "I'm looking forward to playing some really good teams," Fisher said.

And going to Disney World? "I hope so," she added.

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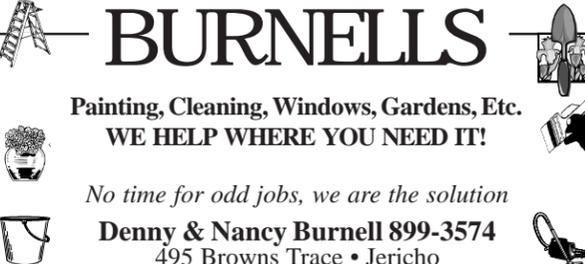
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### Vermont Commons shoots for consecutive titles in Ultimate Frisbee



VCS Flying Turtles Win 2008 State Ultimate Title PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

One year ago Vermont Commons School (VCS) earned its first ever Vermont State title in Ultimate...Frisbee that is. This weekend, the Flying Turtles will defend their title at the Vermont State Ultimate Tournament at South Burlington High School on Saturday, May 23 at 9:00 AM. According to VCS Athletic Director and Ultimate coach Chance Cardamone-Knewstub, "We certainly hope to win States again. We've beaten all the Vermont teams we've played this year, so we feel like we have a pretty good shot at it. But, as in any sport, anything can happen."

Earning consecutive State titles would be a rare accomplishment for any school — especially a small, college preparatory school like Vermont Commons with competition that includes the likes of much larger schools such as CVU, St. Johnsbury Academy, and South Burlington High School, host of this year's State tournament.

This weekend's state tournament will be the fifth tournament for VCS in 2009. The Flying Turtles hit the road regularly this spring, traveling to weekend tournaments in Vermont, Massachusetts and New York in search of more games and a higher level of competition. Although VCS has struggled to win consistently against out of state teams, they're being challenged on the field and are learning to handle defeat gracefully. They even won the coveted Spirit Award twice — an award given at each Ultimate tournament as voted on by all of the participating teams.

Recently, Vermont Commons has been making a name for itself in what one might consider *relatively obscure* high school sports. In addition to winning the State title in Ultimate last spring, the Flying Turtles also won the State title in girls volleyball last fall. "We're really proud of our sports program and our two State championships — especially considering we only have 96 students in our entire school!" notes Cardamone-Knewstub. "Most of our teams are coed and almost all include a few seventh and eighth graders. It can be challenging, but it helps us keep the focus on learning, sportsmanship and having fun." With two state titles, VCS is clearly doing something right.

### Gardening is a labor of love and labor they did in the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library gardens

On Saturday, May 16, Master Gardener's and community members joined forces to replant the lovely perennial flower garden at the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library in Jericho. The garden is located at the rear of the library and will be in bloom thought out the spring, summer and early fall. All plants are labeled. A map of the garden and tips for planting will be available in the near future.

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### Energy continued from page 1

unicipalities to improve their ability to provide emergency services. Massingham believes Camel's Hump will be the first school in the county to have solar panels, although he notes there is a demonstration project at Brewster Pierce Memorial School in Huntington. He said Camel's Hump was a good choice for the grant for two reasons. The first is that it is the only district school which has energy supplied by Green Mountain Power; GMP actually pays customers with solar installations according to the value of the energy they generate, rather than simply having the accrued energy go back into the grid. Additionally, the school is visible from the Interstate so the panels can be admired by a wide variety of people.

In addition to the grant funds, Forward said Senator Sanders procured another \$260,000 for the project. He said the solar project

was ideal for the middle school for many reasons including the fact that the school's roof is only two years old. Forward believes Camel's Hump may be the greenest school in the state. The school has used a wood chip boiler for 15 years. It produces 92% of the school's heat. Forward noted that over 40 Vermont schools, covering 25% of the state's student population, heat with wood. "Vermont may lag in other renewable energy sources," he said, "but we

are national leaders in biomass." Forward does not want the school to rest on its laurels. He will work with Efficiency Vermont on other energy improvements such as replacing the 40-year-old wiring in the school and removing the ancient transformers.

Forward is also proud of the glueless carpet squares used in the school. They are easily replaceable squares made of 97% recycled material. Forward admits the custodians were initially skeptical, but have grown to appreciate the carpet. However, he believes the best part of the school's work is not the technical equipment, but the monitoring. There is an information kiosk in the lobby which tracks a variety of things including energy use, trash data, how much fuel is used in the boilers, etc., to compute the school's carbon footprint. Forward notes that the panels will be on the roof and therefore not that obvious to those inside the building. However, he is thinking of putting a webcam on the kiosk. "The panels don't mean much to the kids," he said, "but the meter going backwards is great."

Principal Mark Carbone is also pleased with the work of the school community. "We are very lucky to have school board members who are willing to push the educational opportunities for our students," he said. Carbone also sees the instructional value of the panels. "Integrating real life science and technology into our students' daily learning environment is a tremendous opportunity," he said. "Students will be able to monitor the power produced by the solar panels and compare production to the demands of the building. Students will also be able to see how their actions/decisions either reduce or increase power demands."

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