

MOUNTAIN GAZETTE

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The HVAC team at GMTCC responsible for designing the "ribbon cutter;" bottom row, from left: Michael Griggs, Kyle Allaire, Bronwyn Mandigo, Jessica Gamble; top row: Warren Sheldrick, Nick Tarrier, Kyle Machia, Kyle Tilton, TJ Shover, Justin Washer, Joseph Scruggs.
PHOTO BY KATHY JOHNSON

Jericho Town Office to relocate during renovations

On Friday, April 11, the staff for the Town of Jericho will pack up and move to its temporary offices at the new Fellowship Hall and office space at the Jericho Congregational Church, 3 Jericho Center Circle. From April 15 through approximately October 1, 2008, all business that was previously conducted at Town Hall will occur at the temporary location.

All contact information for Town departments will remain the same including phone numbers, email addresses, and mailing addresses. For detailed contact information, visit the Town website at www.jerichovt.gov or call 899-9970.

Cambridge Planning Commission public meeting on proposed districts

By Katherine Quimby Johnson
Special to the Mountain Gazette

On March 13, the nine-member Cambridge Planning Commission held a meeting to gather public response to the districts they proposed creating. As Mike Miller, Senior Land Use Planner with the Lamoille County Planning Commission, explained, because areas within the same district would be treated the same way in regard to use, lot size, etc., it was important that the districts be properly drawn.

The proposed "draft district boundaries" divide the town into 11 districts, including Jeffersonville Village, which has declined to participate in this process. The other districts include an agricultural district along the Lamoille Valley flood plain, Cambridge Junction, Cambridge Village (the area surrounding the current village), Inner Cambridge Village (the current village), State Conservation lands, the Industrial Park, residential areas close to town centers, rural residential agricultural, VT Rt. 108 from Jeffersonville to Smugglers' Notch Resort, and Smugglers' Notch Resort and related lands. The bulk of the State Conservation lands are along the Green Mountains, in the southeastern part of the town. A map showing the proposed district boundaries is supposed to be available through the Cambridge link of the Lamoille County Planning Commission website www.lpcvt.org.

As Miller explained, the divisions between districts generally followed property lines, although there were a few exceptions. Planning Commission chair Martha Brown explained, "These are the zones that we thought made sense." Overall, those at the meeting seemed to agree, with most suggestions being to shift the borders of some districts. In one instance, the suggestion was made that the agricultural flood plain district be continued along the river through Cambridge Village, and the Planning Commission agreed. Property owner C.J. Manchester suggested that the commission look at determining the agricultural district by elevation rather than by property line, and the resulting discussion made it clear that the Planning Commission was going to adjust their definition of the land along the Lamoille in some way.

Mark Delaney suggested that it would be useful to know what land had been conserved. "That would indicate what land could be available for development," he said. Commission member Mary Paulman said that she would be willing to take a day and research all the conserved land in town. However, Miller noted that the town does not enforce covenants.

The last suggestion from the public came from Paul Bertocci, who suggested that the Planning Commission hold meetings with the property owners in the individual districts, as was done with residents in Pleasant Valley. "Doc, there's nothing says we can't," said Commission member Larry Wykoff. After some discussion the Planning Commission decided that they would announce what district they would be working on during a given meeting. The Cambridge Planning Commission meets the fourth Monday of the month at the Town Office at 6:30 PM.

Kayak stolen in Jericho

On Thursday, March 27 at approximately 9:30 AM, Vermont State Police/Williston was notified of a theft of a 17-foot Wilderness kayak. The Kayak was stolen from a residence on Barber Farm Road in the town of Jericho. The kayak is red with a rear rudder and a dent in the hull. State Police in Williston are looking for any leads regarding this theft. Contact Trooper Paul Badger with any information at the Williston State Police Barracks, 878-7111. (Case #08A101586)

Green Mountain Technology and Career Center cuts ribbon, tech-style

By Katherine Quimby Johnson
Special to the Mountain Gazette

No need for giant scissors when there is a talented group of HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning) students available. The team of 11 was handed the challenge of designing the official opening of the newly renovated and expanded Green Mountain Technology and Career Center (GMTCC) and they rose to the challenge, using all the skills at their command. After Governor James H. Douglas flipped the switch, a series of fans began to spin, a marble rolled through copper pipe, a series of lights turned red, yellow, and green, and a blower came on, melting the official ribbon. The final touch – confetti scattering over the audience and fireworks against the evening sky.

"Student involvement is the heart of technical education," Joe Teegarden, GMTCC Director, said at the beginning of his opening remarks. He cited the Forestry Program's activities in cutting trees and milling lumber for the building that houses their program at Hazen Union. Budding chefs in the Culinary Arts program prepared and served the refreshments for the evening's celebration.

The indoor portion of the program was held in the new Community Education Center, which Superintendent Terry Bailey described as "something other technical centers don't have." The flexible-use space, which has a capacity of 200, can be used as one large space or three smaller ones, and also contains a warming kitchen. It was designed to be used for trade shows, trainings, and community events.

The historical portion of the program included remarks by Rich-

Jericho UMC to reenact circuit rider tradition

Like many churches, Jericho United Methodist Church's worship service blends new technology and contemporary songs with Bible-centered sermons and time-honored hymns. But on Sunday, April 13, it's taking a giant leap backwards – to the 1800s. Worshipers at a special 6:00 PM service will enjoy a reenactment of an old-fashioned service by a fire and brimstone circuit rider, played by Bill Skiff of the Williston Federated Church.

Who were circuit riders? Circuit riders were traveling ministers who, in sharp contrast to the educated clergy, were truly part of a grassroots effort. Training was done on the job. "Grace" rather than education was considered to be the main qualification for the job, and the measure of grace was the ability to speak to the heart and win souls to Jesus. A circuit was usually between 200-500 miles, and the rider was expected to complete the course in two to six weeks.

Renowned Rev. Lorenzo (Crazy) Dow, a forerunner to the circuit runners, introduced Methodism to Jericho in 1798. He would cross the Winooski River at Jericho, pass on into Underhill, to Fairfax, St. Albans, Swanton, and then up into Canada. Then back he'd go along the shore of Lake Champlain as far south as Orwell. Lorenzo would be called eccentric, crazy, and filthy, but would be remembered for preaching a message of hope for thirsty souls and minds.

Over time Jericho, a rapidly growing town, became a regular preaching point on the Burlington Circuit but it wasn't until 1858 that the Methodist church building was erected by its population. The church, located next to the Jericho Town Hall, looked much as it does today.

Help us celebrate our 150th year – much has changed at JUMC since 1858. Though the church was designed with two staircases into the sanctuary – one for men and the other for women – today parishioners and visitors feel comfortable entering by either side. Women often stand at the pulpit, teens sometimes lead the service, and children no longer need to mind the old adage of being seen not heard. But for one Sunday, April 13, things will go back to the way they used to be. So search the attic for some period clothes (we'll have some three-cornered hats and Sunday bonnets) and join us at for a memorably interactive celebration as we launch our 150th year. The event is open to the public and light refreshments will be served following the service. Questions may be directed to Lois Adams at 899-3912.

Westford to hold Ancient Roads, Wastewater Committee meetings

The Westford Ancient Roads Committee (ACR) will hold a meeting on Thursday, April 17 at 7:00 PM at the Town Office to gather information from the public regarding the location of potential ancient roads (i.e., forgotten town roads). If you are unable to attend but have information, please send a letter to 1713 VT Rt. 128, Westford, VT 05494 or to planner@westfordvt.us. Please contact Melissa Manka, Planning Coordinator, at 878-4587 with questions.

Westford's Wastewater Committee invites residents to the second public meeting of the Study of Community Wastewater Disposal Alternatives for the Town Center, to be held Wednesday, April 30, 7:00 – 8:30 PM at the Brick Meeting House. The committee will present results of the needs analysis and assessment of wastewater disposal alternatives. For more information, contact Seth Jensen, Chair, Westford Wastewater Committee, 879-4167 or seth.m.jensen@gmail.com.

ard W. Cross, former GMTCC director, who noted that when the union school district was created in 1967-68, "small communities were looking ahead to plan for the future." At that time, Cross said, Lamoille Union was unique among union schools for including a vocational component. Although technical education has changed, its goal is still create graduates who will be competitive and in-demand in the workforce of tomorrow, Cross concluded.

In his remarks, Supt. Bailey emphasized that in addition to technical skills, successful graduates also have strong interpersonal and communications skills and he pointed to the student contributions to the evening as examples.

Bailey introduced Douglas not only as the governor, but as the parent of two students who had completed their secondary education at a technical center, namely the Hannaford Center in Middlebury. Like Cross, Douglas noted that technical education has changed over the last 40 years, requiring a different skill level, one as likely to require a laptop as a hammer. "It is important to maximize student skills to maximize their success," he said. With the population in the public schools declining and a smaller percentage of young people in the workforce, Douglas said, "we need to be sure that each and every young person can participate in our society. It's really a question of the economic vitality of Vermont in the long run."

If the students who were present at the opening ceremony are any indication, the GMTCC will certainly be doing its part to keep the economy at least of Lamoille County vital in the coming decades.

Underhill Traffic Committee schedules its first meeting



Eli Goldman, 10, son of Nathan and Anne Goldman, and Kaylie Hale, 15, daughter of Mark and Christine Hale, hold plaques awarded them by the Underhill Selectboard for their help at this year's Town Meeting. For a second year, Goldman was a runner with a portable microphone so residents could be heard. Hale babysat 17 children by herself so their parents could attend the meeting. Behind them, from left, are Selectmen Dan Steinbauer, Chair Steve Walkerman, and Steve Owen.
PHOTO BY TED TEDFORD

By Ted Tedford

Special to the Mountain Gazette

Six residents have volunteered to become part of a committee studying traffic and speeding in Underhill and will hold their first meeting Tuesday, April 8.

A seventh member was expected to be appointed this week.

The volunteer members are: Selectman Dan Steinbauer, Thomas Nugent, Janet Herrero, Derek Bellin, Karen Yacos, and Michael Oman. The name of the seventh member was not known as of publication.

The committee grew out of a discussion at Town Meeting March 3 concerning speeding, mostly along the town's through roads. Attempts to add money to the budget for speed control were defeated, but as discussion on the topic wound down, Steinbauer told the 200 or so attendees the Selectboard had gotten the message. He promised the Board would discuss it at its meeting a few days after Town Meeting and it did, deciding to conduct a study with citizens making up the bulk of the committee's membership.

"This is going to be a committee of action," Steinbauer said Sunday. "I'd like to see some analysis of the trouble spots and have the committee brainstorm on solutions." The Selectboard expects the committee will make its report at next year's Town Meeting.

He said the committee's job will be to make immediate recommendations for some changes and then work toward long-range solutions to speeding. "We aren't going to jump right into anything," he said, adding, "We don't expect any big-ticket items because we want low-cost solutions."

He said the committee might recommend such simple things as planting more trees or shrubs in certain areas.

He said he doesn't expect the State Police to add more speed enforcement time in town, but if a study deems it necessary, the troopers' hours could be adjusted.

Steinbauer said he has traffic reports and citations provided by the State Police for several months. A study of the reports and accident reports from the Underhill-Jericho Fire Department might reveal where the trouble spots are in town. The department is called out on nearly every accident on town roads.

He said the committee may need some money to conduct its study. There is some discretionary funding in the new budget that takes effect July 1. He also said the committee will look into the availability of grants.

Underhill traffic continued on page 16

COURT REPORT

January 23, 2008, **Linda S. Giroux**, 57, Jericho, VT, charged with DUI, third offense or subsequent, felony, in Essex, VT on July 7, 2007; amended to vehicle operation – careless or negligent, misdemeanor; pleaded guilty; fined \$300.

January 30, 2008, **Alex Miller**, 23, Jericho, VT, charged with DUI, second offense, in South Burlington, VT on January 10, 2008; pleaded guilty; fined \$300, sentenced to four to 12 months, suspended but 60 hours, probation.

February 4, 2008, **Douglas Desjardins**, 60, Cambridge, VT, charged with DUI, third offense or subsequent, felony, in Williston, VT on August 29, 2007; pleaded guilty; sentenced to two to five years, consecutive; charged with vehicle operation – careless or negligent in Williston, VT on August 29, 2007; pleaded guilty; sentenced to one year, concurrent; charged with vehicle operation – license suspended in Williston, VT on August 29, 2007; pleaded guilty; sentenced to one year, consecutive.

February 20, 2008, **John McNulty**, 58, Jericho, VT, charged with DUI, first offense, influence/injury, felony, in Williston, VT on December 2, 2007; pleaded no contest; sentenced to two to five years, suspended but 30 days, probation.

February 20, 2008, **Emily M. Bullock**, 19, Bolton Valley, VT, charged with DUI, first offense, in Essex, VT on January 10, 2008; pleaded guilty; sentenced to one to three months, suspended, probation.

February 20, 2008, **Michael F. Lander**, 21, Jericho, VT, charged with DUI, first offense, in Essex, VT on December 16, 2007; pleaded guilty; fined \$300, sentenced to one to three months, suspended, probation.

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(From left) Cambridge FD Firefighter Kristy Wyckoff, 2nd Asst. Chief Dan St. Cyr, and Firefighter Larry Wyckoff discuss fire safety with Cambridge Elementary School students.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

February 20, 2008, **Alexander Wintersteen**, 20, Jericho, VT, charged with DUI, first offense, in Essex, VT on January 11, 2008; amended to vehicle operation – reckless or gross negligence; pleaded guilty; fined \$300, sentenced to two to six months, suspended, probation.

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Newspaper -

The Mountain Gazette

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 website: www.mountaingazetteofvermont.com

Next issue: April 17 • Deadline: April 10

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.

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Alterations & Tailoring

POLICE REPORT

Saturday, March 8, 2008 at 9:45 AM, Trooper Michael Kamerling of the Vermont State Police/Williston – Lamoille County office, observed **Lester R. Burritt**, 25, of Essex Jct., VT and **Dana Blow**, 28, of Cambridge, VT traveling together in a vehicle on South Main St., Cambridge. Burritt was prohibited per court ordered conditions of release in Lamoille and Franklin Counties from being in contact with Blow. Burritt was arrested for the offense and lodged at North East State Corrections, with bail set at \$1000. (Case #08A101309)

Saturday, March 15, 2008 at 10:34 AM, **Timothy A. Ayotte**, 22, of Cambridge, VT was taken into custody at his residence for an outstanding arrest warrant. Sgt. Gregory Campbell, VSP/Lamoille, reports that at that time an odor of burnt marijuana was detected and the subsequent investigation revealed marijuana and assorted paraphernalia inside the residence. Ayotte, who was issued a citation for Possession of Marijuana, was lodged at the correctional center in St. Johnsbury as a result of the arrest warrant, and was cited to appear in Lamoille District Court on May 6, 2008. (Case #08A101440)

Friday, March 14, 2008 at 11:00 PM, **Taryn O'Connor**, 21, of Jeffersonville, VT was arrested by Trooper Shaffer of VSP/Williston for driving on a suspended license after being stopped on Upper Pleasant Valley Road in Jeffersonville for multiple motor vehicle violations. She was cited to appear on April 15, 2008 in Lamoille District Court, and released. (Case #08A101436)

Monday, March 17, 2008 at 7:08 PM, Trooper Shaffer of VSP/Williston reports that **Ralph Merrill**, 23, of Jericho, VT was arrested for excessive speed after troopers observed him traveling at an extremely high rate of speed on VT Rt. 15 in the village of Johnson. He was cited to appear in Lamoille District Court on April 22, 2008, and released. (Case #08A101467)

Friday, March 21, 2008 at 7:51 AM, Trooper Michael Kamerling of VSP/Williston-Lamoille County reports that **Michael Wells**, 19, of Swanton, VT was traveling East on VT Rt. 15, driving a 1999 GMC Sonoma pickup truck. After he crossed the "Wrong Way Bridge" (over the Lamoille River in Cambridge, VT), Wells failed to negotiate the right-hand curve in the roadway near Pumpkin Harbor Rd., and as a result slid into the driver's side of a 1998 Ford Windstar operated by Norman J. Peters, 50, of Waterville, VT. Conditions included snowy weather and a snow-covered, slippery road surface. Peters sustained possible back injuries and was transported to Copley Hospital in Morrisville, VT. The pickup sustained front end damage; the Windstar was damaged on the driver's side from the impact. Wells was ticketed for traveling too fast for road conditions. (Case #08A101523)

Friday, March 21, 2008 at 11:00 AM, Trooper Tallmadge of VSP/St. Johnsbury reports that VSP was advised of a burglary to a camp on Davidson Extension in the town of Walden, VT owned by Heidi Luck, 43, of Bolton, VT. Investigation revealed the perpetrator forced open the front door and took five snowmobile helmets along with accessories. (Case #08B100980)

FIRE DEPARTMENTS

Underhill-Jericho Fire Department

By Kitty Clark

EMERGENCY CALLS
 Wednesday, March 12, 10:40 AM – EMS call to 6 Arcadia Circle, Jericho.
 Tuesday, March 18, 4:42 PM – Responded to an accident, Browns Trace and VT Rt. 15, Jericho.
 Wednesday, March 19, 9:45 AM – Responded to an accident near 49 VT Rt. 15.

Fire departments continued on page 3

AREA WORSHIP SERVICE

CALVARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 "Little white church with the red door"
 VT Rt. 15 Jericho
 Sunday Worship Service 9:30 AM
 Reverend J. Harrison L. Heidel, Rector
 Karen Floyd, Parish Administrator, 899-2326
www.calvarychurchvt.org

COVENANT COMMUNITY CHURCH
 "Come as You Are"
 VT Rt. 15 between Jericho and Essex Center
 Pastor Peter Norland, 879-4313
 Sunday Worship Service: 10:00 AM; Adult Sunday School 8:45 - 9:45 AM
 Children's Worship/Sunday School: K-6, 10:15 AM
 Youth Group, Small Groups for Adults, Family Events,
 Opportunities for Service; Handicapped Accessible
pastor@jerichocovenantchurch.org – www.jerichocovenantchurch.org

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)
 273 VT Rt. 15 - between Jericho and Underhill
 Rev. Dagmar Rosenberg, Pastor - 899-3932
 Sunday Worship 9:00 AM - Nursery provided
 Sunday School for all ages - 10:30 AM
gslcvt@verizon.net www.GoodShepherdJericho.org

JERICO CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
 On the Green in Jericho Center, VT
 Pastor Peter Anderson and Youth Pastor Glenn Carter
 Sunday Services at 8:00 and 11:00 AM – Nursery care provided
 Sunday School for everyone at 9:30 AM
 Fellowship at 10:30 AM - Youth Group at 7:00 PM
 899-4911; officejccc@comcast.net, www.jccvt.org

JERICO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"
 VT Rt. 15, Jericho (next to Town Hall)
 Rev. Charlie Yang, Pastor, 899-4288, cayang@troyconference.org.
 Sunday Worship Service, 10:30 AM;
 Children's Sunday School, age 0 to grade 4, 9:30 AM
 Adult Sunday School, 9:30 AM; Youth Group, Saturday 6:00 PM
 United Methodist Men's breakfast, 3rd Sunday 7:30 AM
www.troyconference.org/jumc or JerichoUMC@troyconference.org

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 Sunday Worship 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
 Nursery and Sunday School available
 Youth Fellowship Sunday nights, 6:00 – 8:00 PM
 Area Home Fellowships, Thursdays, 7:00 PM
uca.secretary1@verizon.net
www.unitedchristianassembly.org

Fire departments continued from page 2 —

Friday, March 21, 12:30 PM – Responded to 641 Irish Settlement Rd., Underhill, for a carbon monoxide investigation.
 Wednesday, March 26, 8:36 PM – Responded to 25 Governor Peck Rd., Jericho, for a car into a power pole.
 Training on Tuesday, March 18 was on Wildland Fires, and on Tuesday, March 25, quarterly training on SCBA.
 On Wednesday, March 26, a class of eight students at Poker Hill School visited the fire station. They were instructed on how to call 911, with each of them making a call on our 911 phone simulator, followed by a tour of the station, and each got to sit in the fire truck.
SAFETY MESSAGE:

This is a reminder for everyone: For the second time in three days a fire in New Hampshire claimed the lives of three people on Tuesday, March 25, two adults and a young girl. The fire in their mobile home started in the middle of the night and the door that they tried to escape from was blocked by snow and ice.
 Everyone should have two ways out of their home and be sure that the doors can be opened easily. Also be sure that all smoke detectors have fresh batteries and check them each month. Smoke detectors should be installed on each level of the home and the area of bedrooms.
 Make sure that your home is fire safe and that you have a plan for escape with your family.

Cambridge Fire Department news
 By Jason Luneau

EMERGENCY CALLS
 Thursday, March 13, 8:10 AM – Responded to 733 Smugglers' Notch View Rd., Jeffersonville, for a chimney fire.
 Sunday, March 16, 5:10 PM – Responded to Smugglers' Notch Resort, Mountain View 32 Condominium, for a reported fire inside a trash closet.
 Monday, March 17, 3:57 PM – Responded to the intersection of VT Rts. 15 and 108, Jeffersonville, for a reported motor vehicle accident.
 Wednesday, March 19, 6:54 PM – Responded to VT Rt. 108N near Wilson Rd., Fletcher, for a reported motor vehicle accident involving a tractor trailer.
 Friday, March 21, 7:52 AM – Responded to VT Rt. 15 near the Wrong Way Bridge for a reported motor vehicle accident.
 Friday, March 21, 11:20 AM – Responded to VT Rt. 15, Jeffersonville, for a reported trash truck on fire.
 Saturday, March 22, 2:01 PM – Responded mutual aid to VT Rt. 100C, Johnson, for a reported structure fire.
 Saturday, March 22, 6:32 PM – Responded to 7199 VT Rt. 15, Jeffersonville, for a reported carbon monoxide alarm.
 Tuesday, March 25, 7:15 PM – Automatic alarm, Smugglers' Notch Resort, Mountain View Condominiums.
 Tuesday, March 25, 8:27 PM – Automatic alarm, Smugglers' Notch Resort, Mountain View Condominiums.
 Thursday, March 27, 4:12 PM – Responded to Cody Wood's Rd., Jeffersonville, for a report of large amount of smoke showing in the area.

WEEKLY TRAINING AND ACTIVITIES
 On Thursday March 13, CFD conducted training on vehicle extrication, with special attention given to extrication techniques.
 On Thursday March 20, CFD conducted training on vehicle extrication, with special attention given to patient handling.
 On Friday, March 28, several CFD members spent the day at Cambridge Elementary School educating students on fire prevention. The following members took a day off from work and volunteered their time for this important educational event: 2nd Asst Chief Dan St. Cyr, 1st Capt Dan Wyckoff, 2nd Capt Jason Luneau, Firefighter Darren Severance, Firefighter Kristy Wyckoff, and Firefighter Larry Wyckoff.
 CFD urges anyone who wants to learn more about the CFD to visit their website at www.cfdvt.org.

A Look Around Town
 By Brenda Boutin and Sara Riley
 Mountain Gazette Staff

Be defiant: think spring! We're doing our damdest, even if it was only 8°F at 7:30 AM last Saturday... Count those robins, listen to those blackbirds, sniff that lovely eau du skunk that wafts through the air... anyone have snowdrops yet?
 Sundry folks coming in to pick up bundles of mail at the P.O. have spoken wistfully about their trips down south...
 Meanwhile at home in Vermont, the MMUHS lacrosse team was observed practicing after school... in the parking lot... the field being invisible beneath a blanket of snow...
 Son and daughter-in-law are coming for a visit. They live in Jersey, where spring has probably already got a grip, but they are coming from the White Mountains where they were attending a winter survival / winter rescue course as part of their preparation and ongoing training for ski and mountain bike patrol. So though they live (for now) in the sunnier flat lands, they know about and enjoy winter – and, with the spring they are relocating to Tahoe, where the

A Look Around Town continued on page 11



**MOUNTAIN
 HIGH
 PIZZA PIE**

**Monday - Saturday
 11:00 AM - 9:00 PM
 Sunday 4:00 PM - 8:00
 PM**

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 Jericho

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A View From the Center

By J. Harrison L. Heidel

I once raised sheep. A lot of sheep. At its peak, Good Shepherd Farms had several hundred producing ewes roaming its pastures. During the 1980s anyone who knew me understood that sooner or later a conversation with me would turn to sheep. I had a stack of books whose titles included the words "sheep" and "successful" in them. A border collie, Beck, who knew how to move sheep with grace and corrected my wrong commands lest she lose control of the flock. I was adept at lambing, understood the statistical analysis of performance tested rams, attended sheep shearing school, kept an account at "Sheepman's Supply," bartered my help to other farmers at hay making season for hay in return, and managed pastures with a portable electric fence imported from New Zealand, where sheep still outnumber people. Finn-Dorset sheep are known for their hardiness, ability to lamb on pastures, and their propensity to produce multiple lambs at each lambing. Triplet births and quadruplets were not uncommon. So Finn-Dorset is was. You do the math. You're right; I was perhaps a bit out of my mind.

What decided me on sheep was knowing a cattleman who for years raised sheep on grass alone, finishing them for market without the usually required large amounts of extra feed. He bred for lambing to occur on pastures in the spring and late summer, keeping the ewes and their lambs away from crowded, unhealthy quarters. I also knew a retired farmer and a landowner who were itching to keep their open land clear. The County Farm Extension Agent helped with the rest. I became a sheep farmer.

All I meant to accomplish was harvesting lambs for market and replacement ewes for other shepherds. Of course I hoped to make some money and I loved referring to myself as a "shepherd." But each season in between lambing added a layer of complexity – re-seeding pastures, raising orphaned lambs, ewes with foot rot, lazy and un-amorous rams, internal parasite infestation, coyotes, birds of prey taking little lambs off the pasture. Self-sufficiency, which was key to my success, became an illusion. Good Shepherd Farms had become too big and actually demanded to be larger to be self-sufficient. Even Beck needed help. Truth be said, the only sufficiency I wanted was a sufficiency of connectedness; the feeling that sheep, dog, pasture, sky, and shepherd were intertwined. I failed to fully consider the terms of profitability.

Richard Jefferies, nineteenth-century English ruralist, wrote: "Every condition of modern life points in the direction of minute cultivation. Look at all the people in great cities (and small cities, for the matter of that) who cannot grow a single vegetable or a single apple (or raise a sheep) for their own use." I don't know whether Jefferies would have argued that if you can grow vegetables and apples (and sheep, for the matter of that), you should. But he did argue that instead of growing a single large crop, it might be better for farmers to grow a wide variety of crops on their land, to cultivate minutely, an idea that has proved true all over the world, still today.

When I turned the very first trailer load of ewes out to pasture, I invited my cattleman friend to come witness the great occasion. As they spread out over the hill he spat out his chew of tobacco and

declared, "God I hate sheep, always have. That's why I switched to cows." I should have consulted Jefferies sooner.

The day the livestock liquidator hauled them all up the road, I passed Beck on to another shepherd who worked her until she grew too old. I didn't know what I would think or feel when that happened, though nearly everyone who heard me go on about sheep tried to tell me how it would be.

Harrison Heidel is an Episcopal priest in Underhill, lives in Underhill Center, and writes about rural life

Rideshare – share and save



Reader comment: "Thanks for making this column available to us in the Jericho-Underhill area. I hope it works for all of us. I watch the traffic going out of Jericho and see most of the cars with just the driver. Let's save some money and help the environment."

Going to FAHC (UHC) Monday-Friday, work hours 9:00 AM – 5:30 PM. Route is flexible, but would start at Joe's Snack Bar area and finish at car parking lots near FAHC (if I drive); if I get picked up just a small change would have to be made. Leave Jericho about 8:00 – 8:15 AM. I work until 5:30 PM, so arriving back in Jericho about 6:15 PM. Contact Cami Thibodeau, vt_amazon@yahoo.com.

The folks at **Green Apple
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 shop on Saturday, April 12



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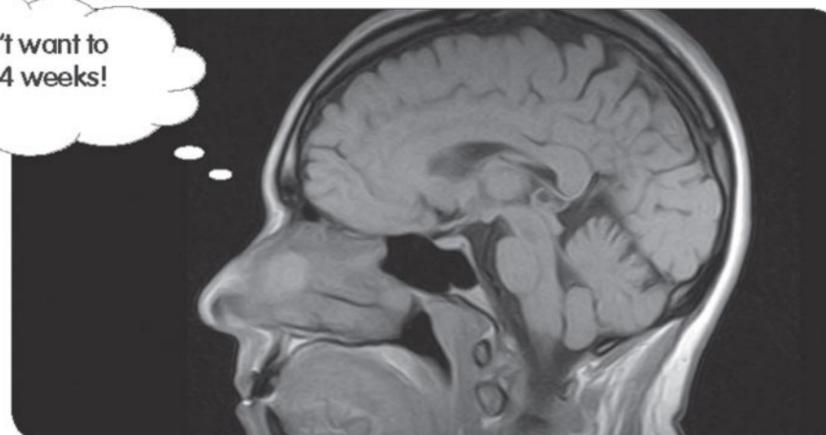
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Join the fun at the Bingo Palace

By Brenda Boutin
Mountain Gazette staff

It's not your grandmother's bingo. That's an understatement when it comes to The Bingo Palace. Tom Kirkpatrick opened the doors on January 1, 2008 and the fun has exploded from there. "I love people," the exuberant owner says, all smiles. "I bought out Green Mountain Bingo, closed it down, and started fresh. I wanted to create a palace where folks could come, have fun, and get away from the politics and drama that seem to be normal in the bingo parlors."

And fun is the name of the game at the Bingo Palace. The Palace is open Thursday through Sunday nights and the games are on. First and foremost is bingo, where the average players have 18-24 cards in front of them. "I could not believe my eyes," Tom explained. "One lady was playing 54 cards." The bingo cards are not a group of separate cards. The player buys a group of sheets that have six cards on each layer. Eighteen cards include 10 regular games. The games vary and on Saturday, April 5, a rousing game of U-PIC-UM will pay the winner \$400.

Then there are the ever-popular rip tickets, which come with crazy names like Butt Crack, Jail Break, and Who's Your Doggie. Kirkpatrick has created several entertaining games modeled after

Bingo Palace continued on page 10



The Bingo Palace has a growing number of players, a tasty snack bar, and the ever-smiling owner Tom Kirkpatrick.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

COMING EVENTS

Thursday, April 3

Farmers' Market Meeting, 6:30 PM, Westford Library, Westford Common. Help plan the 2008 season of the Market. Call Janet, 878-7405 for more information. New and "seasoned" vendors welcome.

Former UN Weapons Inspector Scott Ritter, 7:30 PM, McCarthy Arts Center, St. Michael's College, Colchester. The former Marine intelligence officer was chief weapons inspector for the UN in Iraq from 1991-98. He will speak on *Media Silence on Iraq and Iran in a U.S. Election Year*.

Poetry reading, 7:00 PM, Phoenix Books, Essex Shoppes & Cinema, Essex Jct. Local poet Leland Kinsey reads from his book. Free and open to the public. For information, contact Michael DeSanto, 872-7111.

Saturday, April 5

First Saturday Forest Walk, 1:00 - 4:00 PM, UVM Jericho Research Forest, Tarbox Rd., Jericho. Join members of the Roger's Tract Watershed Collaborative for an afternoon of field walks and discussions about timber harvesting and small streams in Vermont. Jericho flatbread and cider afterward. Free and open to the public. For information, www.greenforestry.com.

Soiree benefits VT Suzuki Violins, Inc., 5:30 - 9:00 PM, Elley-Long Music Center, St. Michael's College, Colchester. Concert: Pine Street Jazz, student performance, and jazz piano. Silent auction: handmade crafts, gift certificates, more. Light supper, dessert served. Tickets: \$10 adults; \$25 family; at the door, or in advance by calling Pam Reit, 482-2163.

Sunday, April 6

Texas Hold'Em Tournament, 10:00 AM, Eagles Club, Jeffersonville. Register at door 8:00 - 9:30 AM; must check in by 9:30 AM. \$60 one-time buy-in; limited seating. BYOB; refreshments available. Benefits Eagles Charity Fund. For information, 644-2490.

Wednesday, April 9

Sprightly Steps: Vermont's Contra and Square Dancing Tradition, 7:00 PM, Second Congregational Church, Jeffersonville. Early settlers may have frowned upon dancing as the work of the Devil, but people of all ages and backgrounds fell under the spell of the fiddle. Changes of musical styles and culture have made old-time dancing nearly extinct, but some keep the old styles alive. Presented by Adam Boyce. A VT Humanities Council event hosted by Cambridge Historical Society. Call Georgeana Little, 644-5675.

Thursday, April 10

Poetry reading, 7:00 PM, Phoenix Books, Essex Shoppes & Cinema, Essex Jct. Local poet Daniel Lusk reads from a selection of his work. Free and open to the public. For information, contact Michael DeSanto, 872-7111.

Friday, April 11

8th Grade Italian Dinner, 6:00 - 8:00 PM, Westford Elementary School,

Westford. Scrumptious Italian food, authentic Italian atmosphere and music. Lasagna, Italian bread, tossed salad, pasta and meatballs, and B&J's ice cream and cookies for dessert, served by the Westford 2008 8th grade class; proceeds benefit the Westford 8th grade fund.

Poet Paul Paparella, 7:00 PM, Westford Library, Westford. To celebrate Poetry Month, the Westford poet will read from his book *On Waking Up All Over the World*. Audience participation is encouraged. For adults. Light refreshments will be served.

Saturday, April 12

3rd annual Polish Dinner, 5:30 PM, Parish Hall, St. Thomas Church, Underhill Center. Sponsored by St. Thomas and Knights of Columbus Council #7810. Menu: homemade smoked kielbasa, pierogi, cabbage, sauerkraut, potatoes, etc. Adults \$10, ages 6-10 \$5, family maximum \$30. Take out available. For information, 899-4632.

VT author Doug Wilhelm, 11:00 AM, Phoenix Books & Café, Essex Jct. Free. For information, 872-7111 or www.phoenixbooks.biz.

Preserving your Genealogical Data and Records, 10:30 AM, VT French Canadian Society Library, Dupont Hall, Fort Ethan Allen, Hegeman Ave., Colchester. Hour-long workshop; free, in English. Bring lunch and stay the day. Library open for research 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM. French Canadian and VT Vital Records on microfilm. For information or to reserve your space, 864-6037 or mail@vt-fcgs.org.

Sunday, April 13

Welcome Baby Tea, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM, Deborah Rawson Memorial Library, Jericho. Sponsored by DRML, Jericho Town Library, and the Chittenden East Welcome Baby Project. Babies of Jericho and Underhill born in 2007 are invited for refreshments and Evergreen Erb's harp music. You may also choose a library book to dedicate to your child and pick up your Welcome Baby Bag (if you have not already received one). Please RSVP to DRML, 899-4962.

Thursday, April 17

Richard Stallman on *Copyright versus Community in the Age of Computer Networks*, 4:30 PM, Chery Science Hall room 101, St. Michael's College, Colchester.

Saturday, April 19

League of VT Writers spring meeting, Holiday Inn, VT Rt. 7, Rutland. Features Chuck Sambuchino, editor of *Writer's Digest-Editor of Guide to Literary Agents*; and Shay Totten, editorial director for Chelsea Green Publishing. For information about registration and fees for meeting and luncheon, visit www.leaguevtwriters.org or call (802) 496-7226.

WORKSHOPS

Parenting Revisited: Promise, Potential, Permanence, the 4th annual Kinship Care Conference, Thursday, April 24, Sheraton Hotel & Conference Center, Burlington. Free to those raising the children of family members. Keynote by LeAnn Thieman, a nurse "accidentally" caught up in the Vietnam era's Operation Babylift. Workshops on: family court and its role in kinship caregiving; kinship caregivers and decisions impacting permanency; proposed changes in the law and its effect on kinship care; family meetings; stress reduction strategies and self care; probate court and its role in kinship care and legal guardianship; substance abuse; communicating with children of incarcerated parents, more. Registration information: contact 656-5665 or conferences@uvm.edu. Conference website: www.uvm.edu/conferences/kinshipcare.

Nonprofit Management Training Seminar, Friday, April 25, 10:30 AM - 3:00 PM. Registration 10:00 - 10:30 AM. Location: Johnson State College, Library and Learning Center Rooms 212/213. Free; space is limited. Lunch provided by Apple Cheek Farm free of charge. To register: 802-635-1339 or renate.callahan@jsc.edu.

ONGOING EVENTS

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.

Women's volleyball, Browns River Middle School, Mondays, 7:00 - 9:00 PM. All age levels and skills welcome. Follows school calendar: no volleyball when there is no school. For information, contact Cathy Leatherstitch, 899-1395 or cleather@us.ibm.com.

Basketball - open gym at Westford Elementary, Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:30 - 7:00 PM, and Saturdays, 10:30 AM - 12:00 noon, until Jr. High practice begins. \$1 donation at door. For information, call Rich Staab, 879-4745.

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.

HEALTH GROUPS

Ovureaters Anonymous meets 6:00 - 7:00 PM, Wednesdays at the Jericho United Methodist Church, VT Rt. 15, Jericho. Questions - please call 899-2355.

Healthy Weight Support Group, Mondays, 12:00 - 12:30 PM and Wednesdays, 3:45 - 4:15 PM. For those working on weight management; combines behavioral and nutritional strategies to increase physical activity and decrease calorie intake. Provides techniques to help you manage your eating behaviors. Come 15 minutes early for a weight check. Northwestern Medical Center, Cobblestone Building, Classroom

Ongoing Events continued on page 6

The BINGO PALACE
presents

April Fools "Pot of Gold"

Extravaganza!

Saturday, April 5th

Doors Open at 12 Noon • Early Birds Start at 1:30
Regular Games Start at 2:00
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Additional 6 Cards for \$5

You're not playing Grandma's Bingo Anymore!

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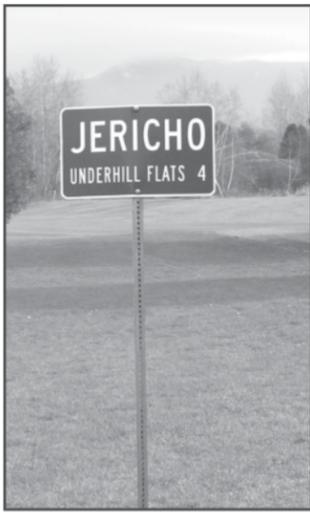
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Proceeds go to Green Mountain Animal Rescue and/or The Frontier Animal Society
**Management reserves the right to change games and payouts any time depending upon number of admissions.*



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Over the past 15 years, the average Vermont homeowner would have saved \$11,000 using natural gas instead of propane (LP gas) for heating and hot water.

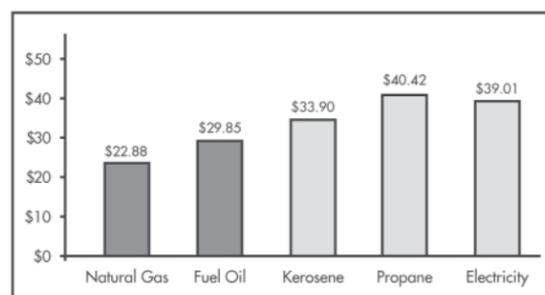
Whether you use oil or propane, natural gas is the smart financial decision.

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Natural gas rates are regulated and closely monitored by the state, unlike the price of fuel oil, propane and kerosene.

Natural gas is less expensive

In January 2008, the cost of natural gas was 20% less than oil and 40% less than propane.



Source: January 2008 DPS Vermont Fuel Price Report <http://publicservice.vermont.gov/pub/vt-fuel-price-report.html>

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Lots of rebates & incentives to convert

If you do need new equipment or wish to upgrade, the energy efficiency programs of Vermont Gas, together with Efficiency Vermont, offer rebates up to \$1,000 (or low-interest loans) for switching to high efficiency home- and water-heating appliances.

Sign up for service by May 2008, and we'll give you six months free rental of a water heater or conversion burner. Plus, a free chimney liner!

Sign up in time for the next heating season! Call 802-863-4511.

We're scheduling our construction right now. To make sure you're ready for next winter, contact us now!

For more information visit our website at www.vermontgas.com.



Service is planned for streets highlighted in white.



Ongoing Events continued from page 5

A. Speakers: Kay Tran, Registered Dietitian, MS, CDE; and Leslie Gardzina, Registered Dietitian, Northwestern Medical Center. Free; pre-registration required, 524-1234 or cfhw@nmcinc.org.

Fit Kids Support Group, first Mondays (April 7), 4:15 – 5:00 PM. Program for kids 8-13 and their parents. Learn about nutrition and physical activity, ways to increase activity level safely, change eating behavior, self-esteem, and obstacles that interfere with weight management success. Northwestern Medical Center, Cobblestone Building, Classroom A. Speaker: Kay Tran, Registered Dietitian, MS, CDE. Free; pre-registration required: 524-1234 or 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.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

The RATC Nest (Richmond Area Teen Center) is open in the basement of the Richmond Town Center, Bridge Street, on Thursdays and Fridays 2:45 – 7:00 PM and Saturdays 1:00 – 9:00 PM at no cost for grades 7-12 in the Chittenden East School District. Adult supervisors are needed. Call 434-RATC for more information. The RATC Nest board meetings are held the first and third Wednesdays (March 19) at 7:00 PM; the public is welcome! Call 434-RATC for more information.

ADULT ACTIVITIES

Westford Knitters Group meets the first Friday of each month (April 4), 6:00 – 8:30 PM at the Westford Library. All needle-crafters 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 drink if you like. For information: Julie Nelson, 343-0165 or 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.

French Canadian Genealogy Research, Tuesday evenings, 7:00 – 9:30 PM, Dupont Building, Fort Ethan Allen, Colchester. For information, 864-6037 or mail@vt-fcgs.org.

SENIORS

Jeri-Hill XYZ Seniors meet at the Town Hall in Underhill Center on the first and third Wednesday of each month (April 16, May 7, 21). 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 are the second Monday of the month (April 14) and held in the Red Brick Meeting House on the Westford Common at 12:00 noon. Mark your calendars for April 14, May 12, and June 9. We are planning several programs of interest this spring, and several of our members in town are writing the history of their roads, early years, schooling, and other memories, which will be shared at the lunches. We sometimes can persuade Roland and friends to entertain us with

sing-along music. We are a lively bunch of not-so-senior seniors and welcome all to join us. Please call 879-7382 with questions or if you need a ride to the lunches.

KIDS

Chittenden East Early Childhood Connection playgroup programs – both follow the school calendar; ages birth-5 years; everyone welcome; contact Abby for information, 899-3727. **Jericho Playgroup,** 9:30 – 11:00 AM at the Jericho Community Center; meets Mondays. **Underhill Playgroup,** 9:30 – 11:00 AM at the Underhill Central School; meets Fridays.

Westford Playgroup, Wednesdays, 10:00 AM – 12:00 noon, children's section, Westford Town Library. Free and open to all children 5 and under and their families – drop in! Open play till 11:20 AM, cleanup and circle time of story and/or songs, followed by a snack of crackers and extras brought from home to share.

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.

TOWN GOVERNMENT AND ORGANIZATIONS

Tim Nulty, Jericho Selectboard member, at the Village Cup, first and third Wednesdays (April 16, May 7, 21), 8:00 – 9:00 AM, and at the Flour Shop, second and fourth Wednesdays (April 9, 23), 8:00 – 9:00 AM. Anyone wishing to discuss any issue is welcome.

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. You are welcome and encouraged to join. For information, email John Quinn, jquinninvt@aol.com.

Board of Water Commissioners of the Village of Jericho, Inc. – monthly (Tuesday, April 15), 7:00 PM at the Old Red Mill on 4B Red Mill Dr., Jericho. For information, 899-2938.

Jericho Historical Society, second Thursday (April 10), 7:30 PM, Old Red Mill, Jericho.

Jericho Underhill Park District Board meeting, first and third Wednesdays (April 16, May 7, 21), 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 (April 9, May 7, 14), 9:00 AM – 12:00 noon. Please use the downstairs entrance. For information, 849-6588.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Alzheimer's support group, third Wednesday (April 16), 9:30 – 11:30 AM, the Arbors, 687 Harbor Rd., Shelburne. 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.

Ongoing events continued on page 7

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Adventure Day Camp at UVM

UVM's Adventure Day Camp is for children aged 5-13 years old. There are seven individual one-week sessions: June 16-20, June 23-27, June 30-July 3, July 7-11, July 14-18, July 21-25, July 28-August 1. The camp is held Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Children may be dropped off no earlier than 7:45 AM and must be picked up by 5:00 PM.

Activities include swimming, team and individual/dual sports, fitness-based activities, nature/outdoor activities, arts and crafts, innovative games, team building, water games, sports, field trips/special events, and archery. Most activities take place in the Patrick Complex or on the outdoor fields of the athletic campus at the University of Vermont. Special activities and field trips are off campus and/or off-site. Please call (see below) for more information on these activities. Field trips and special days are planned throughout the

summer. Previous special events included trips to Vermont Teddy Bear, Shelburne Farms, Oakledge Park, Mount Philo, and the Fleming Museum. Counselors are usually college students or individuals in the education field. Rangers, Trailblazers and Vikings hold 30 campers and have four counselors assigned to their group. The youth camp holds 25 campers and has three counselors assigned to this group. Additional staff includes the kids and fitness leader, lifeguards, arts and crafts leader, archery instructor, and administrative staff members.

Please call for information about registering your child according to the cutoff birth date listed on each of the group home pages. Group pages can be accessed on the left hand side menu. You will receive a 10% discount for registering online! The discount is already factored into the online price listed on the registration site.

The annual Adventure Day Camp Open House is scheduled for Friday, June 13 from 6:00 – 8:00 PM.

We invite all campers and their families to come meet our staff, take a tour, receive the camp t-shirt, and swim in our pool during this two-hour time frame. Counselors will be on hand to answer questions, show you around, and say hello to your camper! Lifeguards will be on duty at the pool, and we have life jackets and swim aides available for the developing swimmer.

For more information, contact Jill Moffitt at 656-4473 or jmoffitt@uvm.edu.

UVM ADC adventure day camp

- Rangers (age 5-6)
- Trailblazers (age 7-8)
- Vikings (age 9-10)

activities include: swimming, arts & crafts, sports & games

YOUTH & FAMILY CAMP
- Youth (age 11-13) gain leadership skills while participating in themed sessions:
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Contact: JILL MOFFITT
Assistant Director - Programs
802.656.4473 or jill.moffitt@uvm.edu

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ADC and Youth Camp are a component of Youth & Family programs at UVM Campus Recreation.

Chittenden County Soccer School
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Director Grant Allendorf

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28th Year

AGES 4-15

DATES AND LOCATION
Brown's River Middle School Soccer Fields, Jericho, VT
July 14-18, 2008 • 9 AM to Noon • Fee: \$85 before June 15
Every participant will receive a T-shirt, experienced coaching instruction and a trophy!
Applications available at www.supersounds.com

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COACHES:
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• Anton Kelsey
• Duane Dakin

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CAMP PROGRAMS FOR

- >mountain biking
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For more information or to register.

COURT REPORT

February 6, 2008, **James Lyon**, 30, Richmond, VT, charged with vehicle operation – license suspended in Burlington, VT on February 25, 2007; amended to disorderly conduct – obstructs vehicular or pedestrian traffic; pleaded guilty; fined \$300.

February 13, 2008, **Jarrette B. Blow**, 37, Burlington, VT, charged with vehicle operation – license suspended in Richmond, VT on September 24, 2007; pleaded guilty; sentenced to two to three days, consecutive.

CAMPUS HONORS

Katherine Wright of Richmond, VT recently graduated from the Savannah College of Art and Design in Savannah, GA. She received a master of fine arts degree in sequential art.

COMING EVENT

Earth Day Sustainability Fair

Celebrate Earth Day in Richmond on Saturday, April 12 from 12:00 – 2:00 PM with local green groups. Family-friendly activities, snacks and music, and ideas offered rain or shine in the Richmond Library Community Space. More information: contact Jeanette Malone 434-4394.

RICHMOND FREE LIBRARY

We are pleased to announce a new service available from your library. It is called *Listen Up! Vermont* and provides downloadable audio books to your home computer and Mp3 players. Many titles are available to burn to CD. All you need is a personal computer, a valid library card, free digital media software available from the digital library website, and access to the Internet. If you would like to use this new library service you may get started either by coming into the library and collecting a brochure, which has step-by-step instructions, or go directly to the website www.listenupvermont.org and download an audio book of your choice anytime, anywhere. And please feel free to ask the library staff for information or assistance.

Book Discussion: *The Ditchdigger's Daughter* will be discussed on Tuesday, April 8 at 7:30 PM at the library. As always, multiple copies of the book are available near the circulation desk.

Wall Displays: The art students of Richmond Elementary School will be displaying their 2D and 3D art with us in April.

Wednesday, April 2 from 6:00 – 8:30 PM, the North Branch Nature Center will be holding a workshop about the annual spring



A group of teenage boys enjoy a game of pool at Richmond's RACT Nest. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

migration of frogs and salamanders. The program will include information about what these species are, where they are likely to be encountered, and the protocol for the monitoring/rescue of them.

Don't forget Earth Day on Sunday, April 13! A celebration of the Earth will be held in our community room that afternoon from 12:00 – 3:00 P.

On Friday, April 25 from 6:30 – 9:00 PM, the Audubon Center will present a program entitled *Wildlife at Home* in the community room. All are welcome to attend.

New books for March include: *The Accidental Werewolf* by Dakota Cassidy, *Birds of a Feather* by Jacqueline Winspear, *Change of Heart* by Jodi Picoult, *A Grave in Gaza* by Matt Beynon Rees, *Guarded Heart* by Jennifer Blake, *His Illegal Self* by Peter Carey, *Mobil Travel Guides for the Coastal Southeast, New England, Southern Great Lakes, & the Southwest, Pardonable Lies: A Maisie Dobbs Novel* by Jacqueline Winspear, *The Purrfect Murder* by Rita Mae Brown, *Stranger in Paradise* by Robert B. Parker, *Taking the Hill: From Philly to Baghdad to the United States Congress* by Patrick J. Murphy, *Train Your Mind, Change Your Brain* by Sharon Begley.

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Ongoing events continued from page 6

Approach Autism With Advocacy, Recovery & Education (AAWARE) in the Lamoille Valley, third Sunday (April 20), 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 (April 10, 24), 6:00 – 7:30 PM, Lamoille Family Center, Morrisville. Dinner and childcare provided. For more information, Imelda at 888-5229 ext. 152 or Rhonda Barr, 888-1376.

Eating Disorders Parental Support Group, third Wednesday (April 16), 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.

Grandparents as Parents – Mondays, Milton Family Community Center. Childcare provided. For information, Charlotte, 893-1457.

Grandparents Raising their Children's Children, third Tuesday (April 15), 6:00 – 8:00 PM, Wesley Methodist Church, Main St., Waterbury. Light refreshments and onsite childcare provided. For information, Evelyn, 433-1513.

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This round-up open to Chittenden County residents only.

CSWD CHITTENDEN (802) 872-8111
Solid Waste District www.cswd.net

FREE Computer & Electronics Round-Up!
April 19, 9 am - 1 pm
At Small Dog Electronics
100 Dorset St., So. Burlington

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Small Dog Electronics
www.smalldog.com

FREE Tire Round-Up!
April 26, 8 am - 3:30 pm
At all CSWD Drop-Off Centers

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Troubled Tires

This round-up open to Chittenden County residents only.

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ART

The 15th Annual Jericho-Underhill **Open Studio Tour** will be Saturday-Sunday, May 24-25 from 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Fourteen local artists will open their studios to visitors for sales and demonstrations. Tour map, directions and 14 artist displays available at “tour headquarters,” the Emilie Gruppe Gallery, Jericho 899-3211, www.emilegruppegallery.com.

Art On The Town, an annual event hosted by the Emile A. Gruppe Gallery and the Dianne Shullenberger Gallery, both in Jericho, will be Sunday, April 6, opening receptions from 2:00 – 5:00 PM. The Gruppe Gallery features pastels and watercolors by Janice Solek-Teft and Kenneth Teft, through May 11. The Shullenberger Gallery features fiber artist Shianna Kuhn. Emile Gruppe Gallery, 22 Barber Farm Road Jericho; gallery hours 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Thursday-Sunday, or by appointment; 899-3211. Dianne Shullenberger Gallery, 228 Nashville Rd., Jericho; gallery hours April weekends 12:00 – 4:00 PM, or by appointment, 899-4993.

Delicious Words at the Shullenberger Gallery in Jericho, Sunday, April 13 at 4:00 PM featuring Adrie Kusserow and Elizabeth Bernstein; Sunday, April 20 at 4:00 PM, Maggie Wolf and Elizabeth Bernstein. Art work by fiber artist Shianna Kuhn, dessert by Sarah Ward. RSVP, 899-4993. Dianne Shullenberger Gallery, 228 Nashville Rd., Jericho; gallery hours April weekends 12:00 – 4:00 PM, or by appointment.

Bryan Memorial Gallery presents *Chardin, Cezanne, and Bonnard*, a three-day still life painting workshop with Vermont artist **Susan Abbott** Monday-Wednesday, April 14-16. The painting and art history workshop will analyze the very different styles, compositions, and techniques of three great still life masters. All visual arts media are welcome; some prior painting experience required. Abbott's work is currently on exhibition at Bryan Memorial Gallery in *Objects of Desire: Still Life Paintings*. For more information and/or to register for the workshop, call 644-5100 or visit www.bryangallery.org. Bryan Memorial Gallery, Jeffersonville, hours through April 12: Friday and Saturday, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM and by appointment. April 17 – May 11: Thursday – Sunday, 10:00

AM – 4:00 PM and by appointment. 644-5100, www.bryangallery.org. Free admission.

On display at the Flour Shop, VT Rt. 15, Underhill, art by **Poker Hill Arts students**, whose card and matted print creations are also being offered for sale – this year, to benefit the Jericho Underhill Park District.

Essex Art League presents “Big... Bold... Colorful,” a new exhibit of original artwork a new exhibit at Phoenix Books in the Essex Shoppes and Cinema plaza, with 100+ works of art by the Essex Art League members. All work is available for purchase and will be on display throughout February. For more information, contact 899-6757 or go online to www.essexartleague.com.

International artists **Christopher Griffin and Danilo Gonzalez** are exhibiting new paintings at the West Branch Gallery & Sculpture Park, Stowe. *The Temperature of Color* combines the colorful cultures of North America and Latin America. Griffin and Gonzalez are interested in the human condition, the experiences that color human history and current events alike. West Branch Gallery & Sculpture Park, art@westbranchgallery.com or 253-8943, open Wednesday-Sunday, 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM and by appointment.

Shelburne Farms is inviting artists to submit applications to be part of their 21st annual Art Exhibition and Sale, to take place in the historic Coach Barn at Shelburne Farms from Friday, September 26 through Sunday, October 19. The Art Exhibition highlights the work of artists who interpret primarily the natural and agricultural world onto canvas and paper, and into fiber, wood, and stone. Artists in all mediums are encouraged to apply. Artwork must have been created within the last two years and cannot have been shown in the Burlington, VT area. Submissions are due by Monday, May 16. Application information and applications are available at the website, www.shelburnefarms.org, or contact Holly Brough, hbrough@shelburnefarms.org or 985-0324.

MUSIC

Folks who attended the **Tammy Fletcher dance/auction** at Browns River a year ago will remember what a great time was had by all. The fabulous food, great auction items, and above all, the singing and dancing made for a gala evening of fun. So, again the Mount. Mansfield Unitarian/Universalist Fellowship will be sponsoring the very same benefit. It will be held at 6:00 PM, Saturday, April 5 at Browns River Middle School. Cost: \$20. Proceeds will help with the renovation of the recently-purchased barn in Jericho.

Community dance at the Waterville Town Hall, 7:00 – 9:00 PM, April 12. Contrasts, squares, circles, play parties, and singing games are featured, and all dances are taught. Bring a partner, your entire family, or come alone. Everyone welcome, including absolute beginners. Mark Sustic, calling and dance instruction. Music by Frank Heyburn and Michele Lajoie with a variety of youth fiddlers, including members of Fiddleheads. Musicians with acoustic instruments are welcome to join in with the band. Donation of \$5 per person and \$10 for families is suggested at the door. Sponsored by the Cambridge Arts Council. For information, 849-696 or mrksustic@together.net.

Hip-hop rap star **Wyclef Jean** in concert Friday, April 4, Ross Sports Center, St. Michael's College, Colchester. Doors open 7:00 PM; concert 8:00 PM. For information including cost and tickets,

<http://smc.frontgatetickets.com/choose.php?pl-56&lid=20612&eid=25344>.

Wind and Jazz Ensemble Dessert Concert, Sunday, April 6, 2:00 PM, Alliot Student Center, St. Michael's College, Colchester. Tickets in advance from the MOVE Office, Alliot Center, benefit Joseph's House Community Outreach Center in the Old North End. Seating is limited.

St. Michael's College Spring Music Festival, Saturday, April 12, 12:00 – 9:00 PM, McCarthy Arts Center, St. Michael's College, Colchester. Concert Winds and Jazz Ensemble, Chamber Music Ensembles, student band *The Rhythm Section*, a capella vocal group *Sleepless Knights*, Akoma Drummers, and *How Does Your Garden Grow*, a concert of poems for children and garden songs by the SMC Choral and Chamber singers.

St. Michael's College hosts **Counterpoint**, the acclaimed vocal ensemble directed by Robert De Cormier (in residency at St. Mike's) on Sunday, April 27 at the McCarthy Arts Center at 4:00 PM. Tickets available at the Flynn Box Office.

VSO has unveiled its 2008/2009 season Masterworks series at the Flynn Center in Burlington, including details about the five-concert subscription series, “Music of Our Time.” For information, contact the VSO office, (800) VSO-9293 ext. 10, or go online to www.vso.org.

Tuesday-Thursday, April 15-17, **Eric Taylor**, 8:00 PM, Good Times Café, Hinesburg; 482-4444.

Thursday, April 17, **Gordon Stone Band**, 7:30 PM, On the Rise Bakery, Richmond; www.gordonstone.com.

Tuesdays: Open Mic, 9:00 PM – 11:00 PM, Smuggler's Notch Inn, Jeffersonville. Contact 644-6765.

Wednesdays: NIPs-West Open Potluck and Songs/Dance Tunes Session, Moshe's house, Essex; first and third Wednesdays; contact Moshe 879-0876 or www.groups.yahoo.com/NIPS-West. Open Mic, 8:00 PM, the Overtime Saloon, St. Albans; contact www.overtimesaloon.com.

Thursdays: Open Mic, 8:00 PM – midnight, Village Tavern, Jeffersonville.

Fridays: **English Country Dance**, 7:00 PM – 9:30 PM, the Elley-Long Music Center, Colchester. First, third, and fifth Fridays through mid-June 2008; live music third Fridays. Contact Val Medve 899-2378 or valandtom@together.net.

Saturdays: Acoustic music session, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM, the Foothills Bakery, Fairfax. Contact mrksustic@together.net.

THEATRE

Lyric Theatre Company presents Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* on the Flynn Center MainStage April 10-13. Based on the Academy Award-winning animated feature, the stage version includes all songs from the film and more. Thursday-Saturday, April 10-12, 7:30 PM; Sunday, April 13, 6:00 PM; matinees Saturday-Sunday, April 12-13, 1:00 PM. The Sunday matinee will be audio-described for blind/visually impaired patrons. For more information and tickets, call 86F-LYNN or go online to www.flynnitix.org; also at Flynn Regional Box Office, Burlington, or Copy Ship Fax Plus, Essex Junction. Additional information at www.lyrictheatrevt.org, office@lyrictheatrevt.org, or 658-1484.

Friday-Saturday, April 11-12, St. Michael's College presents *Over the River and Through the Woods*, a student play by Joe DiPietro, directed by Kyla Waldron, 7:00 PM, McCarthy Arts Center, St. Michael's College, Colchester. A heart-warming comedy about an Italian-American family in New Jersey.

Friday-Saturday, April 18-19, Shakespeare's *As You Like It* will be presented by St. Michael's College Student Drama Club, at 5:00 PM Friday, 7:00 PM Saturday, in the McCarthy Arts Center on the campus in Colchester.

Shelburne Players spring production of *The Glass Menagerie* by Tennessee Williams will take place at Shelburne Town Center, Shelburne, April 18, 19, 23, 25, and 26, 7:30 PM, and April 20, 2:00 PM. To reserve tickets in advance and for information including cost, 985-0780 or www.shelburneplayers.com.

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Alzheimer's disease

Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of dementia. Over 5.2 million people are currently afflicted. Because it increases with age and the population is aging, it is estimated that 10 million baby boomers will be affected. Alzheimer's is ultimately fatal. It is in the top ten causes of death for all ages and in the top five for people 65 and older. Women have a higher incidence but that may be due to the fact that they live longer than men on average and therefore live long enough to contract the disease.

There are three stages of the disease. The early stage may last for years. Early effects cause interference with learning, memory, thinking, and planning. Mild to moderate Alzheimer's lasts two to ten years. This phase is characterized by confusion, anger, mood swings, apathy, inability to handle money, incontinence, difficulty with self expression, organizing thoughts, and/or understanding others. This is the stage diagnosis is usually made. In the severe phase, the person afflicted loses the ability to communicate, recognize loved ones and/or care for themselves. The final stage typically lasts one to five years.

The cause of Alzheimer's is unknown, but deposits called amyloid plaques and tangles of neural tissue are found in the brains of people who have suffered from dementia. The risk of Alzheimer's increases with age. At age 65, 10% of the population will have it, and the percentages double every ten years after that. Genetics plays a role in a small number of cases. People with less education are more likely to be afflicted. It is unclear whether this is due to more intellectual reserve or socioeconomic factors. Traumatic head injury can predispose someone to Alzheimer's. Herpes simplex 1, a viral infection, also may increase Alzheimer's risk. Abdominal fat ("apple shape"), regardless of overall weight, is also considered a risk factor. In fact, there is an 89% increase in risk by the age of 70 if there has been abdominal fat at the age of 40!

Aricept, a pharmaceutical commonly used to treat Alzheimer's, offers modest temporary relief in early to moderate stages. This drug works by keeping a neurotransmitter around longer where the nerve cells meet, thereby aiding neural transmission. Non-steroidal anti-inflammatories have been used to treat inflammation in the brain. It is unclear if inflammation is a cause or an effect of the disease. Estrogen replacement has been tried but without results.

Dietary interventions have also been used. Ginkgo biloba has shown mixed results. It may interfere with medication, so consult pharmacist before using ginkgo. Vitamin E, found in foods such as nuts, vegetable oils, green leafy vegetables, and whole grains, may be beneficial but supplements of Vitamin E did not seem to help. Vitamins B6, B12, and folic acid decrease homocysteine, a metabolic byproduct associated with cardiovascular risk. (Cardiovascular problems may compromise blood flow to the brain.) Curcumin, found in turmeric (the yellow color in curry) may help reduce inflammation and the risk of Alzheimer's. A low fat, anti-oxidant diet such as the Mediterranean diet is thought to be beneficial in reducing the risk of Alzheimer's.

Lifestyle seems to affect Alzheimer's. Exercise increases blood flow to the brain, keeping it healthy. Reducing stress reduces cortisol, a hormone detrimental to the brain. Massage and acupuncture have been shown to be beneficial. Chiropractic care works on the central nervous system, of which the brain is a part. Keeping the nervous system in balance is helpful in maintaining the health of the whole body, including the brain.

Alzheimer's is a complex, progressive, and ultimately fatal disease. At this time there is no cure for it. Therefore, attempting to prevent it is best. A combination of lifestyle interventions including exercise, diet, massage, and chiropractic is recommended.

Mary Kintner is a chiropractor and nutritional consultant practicing in Underhill

CAMPUS HONORS

Michelle Haley, daughter of Paul and Margaret Haley of Jericho, VT, was one of 41 students elected into the St. Michael's College chapter of the national honor society Phi Beta Kappa. Haley will be inducted into the honor society during ceremonies to be held Friday, April 11 on the campus of St. Michael's College in Colchester, VT. She, a graduate of Mount Mansfield Union High School, is a senior education and music double major.

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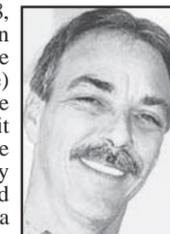
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OBITUARIES

Joanne (Westcott) Polhemus, 78, of Cambridge, VT passed away Saturday, March 15, 2008 in Cambridge, surrounded and supported by her loving children. She was born in Carbondale, PA on July 25, 1929, daughter of the late Cyril and Betty (Butler) Westcott. As a young woman, Joanne received her private pilot's license, and attended Mount Ida and Goldey Colleges. She was an active, independent woman at a time when many women did not pursue careers outside of the home. She went on to join the U.S. Air Force, traveling outside of the country on several missions. It was in the Air Force that she met her husband and went on to be the devoted mother of ten children. Joanne was a devoted mother and wife. She spent many years working with her husband in support of his Aerospace Engineering firm. Joanne also did volunteer work within the community, including Meals on Wheels and the Mary Bryant Art Gallery, where she received an award for outstanding service for her volunteer work. Joanne lived a full life in service to her country, her family, and her community. Joanne is survived by her children Jan, Kyle, Kurt, Bari, Bart, Chuck, Chris, Beth, Pamela, and Peter; 13 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; a sister, Jackie Taylor; and numerous nieces and nephews. Joanne was also predeceased by her husband, William Polhemus, of 45 years; and sister, Dutchy. A memorial service was held at the Second Congregational Church of Jeffersonville on Tuesday, March 18, with the Reverend Peggy Tooker officiating. Burial will be in the spring at the convenience of the family, in the family lot in Mountain View Cemetery next to her husband. Memorials on behalf of the family should be forwarded to Lamoille Home Health and Hospice, 54 Farr Ave., Morrisville, VT 05661, or to your local Meals on Wheels.



Gregory G. Hatin, 49, of Jeffersonville, VT died at his home with his family by his side on Sunday, March 16, 2008, after a courageous battle with cancer. He was born in Burlington, VT on September 22, 1958, the son of Eugene E. Hatin Jr. and Rita (Millette) Hatin. In 1990, he was married in Jeffersonville to Donna Conley. Through his remarkable spirit and strong will, he helped his family through the tough times of his illness. Greg touched many people throughout his life with his kindness and generosity. He also proved to be successful as a businessman and in his personal life, being a wonderful husband, father, brother, and friend. He is survived by his wife, Donna Hatin of Jeffersonville; his three children Christina Hatin of Bangor, ME, and Rebecca Hatin and Jennifer Hatin, both of Jeffersonville; one granddaughter, Madison Hatin-Burt of Bangor; his mother Rita Hatin and her partner Ronald Gardner of St. Albans, VT; his brothers Edward and wife Nancy Hatin of Burlington, VT, Brian and wife Deana Hatin of Georgia, VT, Eugene Hatin III of Colchester, VT, Scott Hatin of Jeffersonville, Mark Hatin of Burlington, Randy Begins and wife Charmaine of Burlington, and Jeffrey Begins and wife Carla of Missouri; also many nieces and nephews and close friends. He was predeceased by his father Eugene E. Hatin Jr. in 1996. A celebration of his life was held Saturday, March 22 in the Burlington Elks Lodge, Burlington. Those who wish may make contributions in his memory to Franklin County Humane Society, 30 Sunset Meadows, St. Albans, VT 05478. To send online condolences, please visit www.readyfuneral.com.



Esther May (Center) Cota, 84, of Westford and Enosburg, VT, passed away at Northwestern Medical Center in St. Albans, VT on Sunday, March 16, 2008. She was born at home in Essex, VT on July 11, 1923, daughter of the late Harry and Bessie (Sheldon) Center. Upon her graduation from Essex High School, she was employed as a secretary with Essex Insurance Agencies. On August



21, 1943, Esther married Lewis Cota when he returned from working for the military police in the U.S. Army. Together they shared 62 married years before his passing on June 9, 2005. She then went on and worked for the Vermont Dept of Employment and Training until her retirement at age 65. Esther as a young girl helped on the family farm. After retirement she helped care for the rabbits at Weston's Rabbit Farm. Her happiest memory was sitting on the porch of their home in Westford. She is survived by her three children: Norma Bessette and husband Bob of Milton, VT; David Cota and wife Jackie of Essex Center, VT; Paul Cota and fiancée Ranae Clifford of Enosburg Falls, VT; two granddaughters: Sandra Cota and Rachel Cota; two grandsons: Steve Bessette and Michael Cota; three step-grandchildren: Neil Clifford, Nathan Clifford, and Holly Johnson; two step-great-grandchildren: Lillian Clifford, and Shaelynn Clifford; two sisters: Beatrice Bishop of Symrna, DE; and Bernice Weston of Westford (Cloverdale); her sister-in-law, Rebecca Center of Foxboro, MA; several nieces, nephews and cousins. She was predeceased by her brother, Walter, and by her husband, Lewis. Visiting hours were held at A. W. Rich Funeral Home - Fairfax Chapel on Thursday, March 20, 2008, followed by funeral services with Reverend Elizabeth Griffin officiating. Burial will be in the spring at the convenience of the family in the family lot in Brookside Cemetery in Westford.

WELCOME HOME

BOLTON: (Carlstrom) Melissa (Manley) and Jeffery Carlstrom had a son, Jason Richard, on Thursday, March 6, 2008 at Gifford Medical Center, Randolph, VT.

(Vespa/Lannigan) Angela Vespa and Samuel Lannigan had a son, Roshan Orion Lannigan, on Saturday, March 1, 2008 at Fletcher Allen Health Care, Burlington, VT.

CAMBRIDGE: (Spence/Dandrow) Heather Spence and Nathan Dandrow had a son, Nathan Richard Dandrow, on Wednesday, February 6, 2008 at Fletcher Allen Health Care, Burlington, VT.

HUNTINGTON: (Hudson/Hagenbuch) Dana Hudson and Steve Hagenbuch's son, Grady Edward Hagenbuch, was born Tuesday, February 5, 2008 at Fletcher Allen Health Care, Burlington, VT.

JEFFERSONVILLE (Adil) Carrie (Crowley) and Charles Louis Adil had a daughter, Koiya May Tresia, on Saturday, March 15, 2008 at Fletcher Allen Health Care, Burlington, VT.

(Bredice) Tara (Carney) and Steven Bredice's daughter, Alexandra Lucia, was born Tuesday, March 18, 2008 at Copley Hospital, Morrisville, VT.

(Carpenter, Bennett) Meaghin Carpenter and Jesse Bennett had a daughter, Adison Leigh Bennett, on Saturday, March 15, 2008 at Northwestern Medical Center in St. Albans, VT.

(Jones) Nicole (Kilburn) and Scott Jones' daughter, Emma Nicole, was born on Wednesday, January 23, 2008 at Fletcher Allen Health Care, Burlington, VT.

JERICO: (Coggeshall, Brown) Melissa Coggeshall and Scott Brown had a son, Jeremy Craig Brown, on Saturday, March 8, 2008 at Fletcher Allen Health Care, Burlington, VT.

Guess who's Over The Hill!



Happy Belated Birthday!
Russell Bushey

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Cinematic Wanderings

By Luke Mindell

Special to the Mountain Gazette

4 Months, 3 Weeks, 2 Days

Bleak. Bleak. Bleak. The is no other way to describe the 1980s Romania depicted in the new film *4 Months, 3 Weeks, 2 Days*. Tiny, rusty European cars drive around the cold grey streets, while people in drab clothing walk in and out of pale buildings of faded bricks and colorless signs. Inside one building, we see the casual rejection of the oppressive system, as a girl walks around her dorm looking for a pack of her favorite American cigarettes and some orange Tic-Tacs. The ease with which she finds these products is in stark contrast to what is to come. The girl is Otilia, and she is about to spend the rest of her day experiencing the horror of Ceausescu's Romania, as she helps her friend Gabita get an illegal abortion.

Let's pause here. Abortion is as controversial as it gets. It's not like the marijuana debate, where some people are against it and some people love it. No one likes abortion, so the debate is more complex than for or against. *4 Months, 3 Weeks, 2 Days* certainly makes an argument. It clearly wants to paint a nasty picture of criminalized abortion. But the film is far from heavy-handed; in fact, the film is quite reserved in its argument, resisting the all-too-common tactic over-presenting its case. The result is more than a compelling argument against the anti-abortion laws, it's also an utterly riveting thriller.

Under Ceausescu's regime, even the mere act of acquiring a hotel room for a day is as stressful as going through airport security wearing a turban. Clerks ask questions and give out curfews and demand the identity of anyone who visits. As Otilia gathers the money, checks in to the hotel, and finds the man who will do the procedure, the tension slowly increases. Even when things are going according to plan, the threat of discovery hangs over the heads

of everyone involved. The true horror of the situation, though, comes from the contrast between the nefarious abortion "doctor," who eats up the suffering of women like a vampire, and the real, decent, competent doctors who would face murder charges if they helped a girl acquire the illegal procedure.

Otilia's boyfriend has a surgeon for a father. After we see just how monstrous a back room abortionist can be, we are faced with a scene of Otilia sitting among well educated doctors laughing and eating and drinking and discussing their skills.

The performances of everyone in the film are perfect. They were so good, in fact, that I didn't even think about them until the film ended. I was to drawn into the lives of the characters. The

camerawork seems fairly standard, but the whole movie contains only 70 shots. The long takes give a real-word urgency to everything that happens.

4 Months, 3 Weeks, 2 Days clearly takes a stand on a controversial issue, but it avoids the missteps of many opinion pieces. As an argument against criminalizing abortion, this film is a compelling and tough-to-contradict cautionary tale that could be appreciated by people on both sides of the issue. As a film, *4 Months, 3 Weeks, 2 Days* is a hauntingly powerful thriller that puts personal tragedy in a societal context, and looks at the flaws of an oppressive society through lens of personal tragedy.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rideshare ideas

To the Editor,

Thank you! I want to second Randy Clark's letter to the editor. Great job! Thanks so much for helping us to keep in touch with our neighbors and our community.

Rideshare – and thank you for planning to publish rideshare information. I have long wanted this! Just a thought... would there be any way within the rideshare format or otherwise in the paper to ask our local neighbors/businesses if anyone would be willing to have their driveway/parking lot available during typical business hours for people to do a Park-and-Ride and leave their cars?

I know that a rideshare will only work for me if I can meet the person somewhere along my route. If I have to drive three miles out of my way down a dirt road and back again to pick someone up then that adds 15 minutes or more on to my already long commute. If we could use part of the post office parking lot or school parking lot (or David Villeneuve's sawmill) or even if some VT Rt. 15 community members would be willing to have a car or two in their driveways, that could make or break the rideshare – for me at least.

Thanks for giving this some thought along with everything else you do.

Penny Miller, Underhill

Comment on income taxes

To the Editor,

After doing our income tax, I would appreciate you printing the

below quote:

"If, from the more wretched part of the old world, we look at those which are in an advanced stage of improvement, we still find the greedy hand of government thrusting itself into every corner and crevice of industry, and grasping the spoil of the multitude. Invention is continually exercised, to furnish new pretense for revenues and taxation. It watches prosperity as its prey and permits none to escape without tribute."

Thomas Paine (*Rights of Man*, 1791)

Bob Rivera, Jericho

Correct figures for sugaring

To the Editor,

Thank you for your story about Vermont maple syrup in your March 20 edition. I wanted to correct a few of the numbers in the article by Ted Tedford. First, there are approximately 2000 sugarmakers in Vermont, rather than a few hundred. Second, Vermont produces more than 500,000 gallons, not 350,000 as the article states. The USDA New England Agricultural Statistics division does an annual survey of sugarmakers in the US and those are the numbers that we use, although the industry believes that average production is more than the survey shows.

I encourage your readers to visit www.vermontmaple.org for information about how syrup is produced, a list of sugarmakers who are open to the public, and recipes for cooking with Vermont maple syrup.

Catherine Stevens, VT Maple Syrup Marketing Director

Bingo Palace continued from page 4

television. One "Deal or No Deal" is just that. He has eighteen cases on a rack on stage; the winner gets to pick a case and the prizes range from \$25-200. Tom smiles, "I ham it up for the crowd, which averages between 70-80 players each night." If the player gets an amount other than the \$200, he tries to get them to trade.

"The weather was so bad one night, I was going to close," Tom said. "But people kept showing up. We had a lot of fun with just seventeen players." Tom knows he did the right thing, as those players keep coming back.

Old time bingo players remember calling the numbers from the winning card back to the announcer, but now each card has a verification number in the center free space. Quick and easy verification allows the players to move

into the next game faster. More games, more payouts.

Tom Kirkpatrick loves every minute of what he is doing. He's enthusiastic about pleasing his customers. "I go to Thailand and bring back elephants for door prizes. They are supposed to bring good luck. Everyone loves them."

Good clean family fun is the real name of the game at the Bingo Palace. "I have players as young as 8 and as old as 90," he says. "They even come with their walkers." The space is large and clean, and many chairs have cushions that regular players have left to mark their palaces.

Kirkpatrick grew up in Shelburne and served on the police force for a time. "I run a legitimate operation," he says. "I want people to know I am honest and we give out a lot of prize money. When we rip a ticket, I put the mike right up where everyone can hear the paper tear."

The Bingo Palace is sponsored by the Green Mountain Animal Defenders and the Frontier Animal Society. He plans to give them money each month even though the business is not making a profit. "I'll take it out of my pocket now," he stated. "I appreciate their sponsorship and it'll pay off in the long run."

A night out can be expensive, but not at the Bingo Palace. The cost is \$6 for 12 cards and \$3 for an additional six cards.

The Bingo Palace is located at Creek Farm Plaza in Colchester. The doors open on Thursday and Friday at 5:00 PM, bingo starts at 6:30 PM; Saturday and Sunday at 11:00 AM and bingo starts at 12:30 PM. There is a snack bar on the premises and Tom is running a contest to name it. "You should see the entries," he says.

Correct date for Passover

The March 6 and 20 *Mountain Gazettes* gave the wrong date for the first night of Passover, which begins this year on the evening of Saturday, April 19. More information can be found at <http://holidayquestions.org/passover/> or www.chabad.org.

SENIOR NEWS

CVAA Meals

The Champlain Valley Agency on Aging offers an ongoing series of special meals for groups of seniors at a variety of restaurants in the area. The schedule is listed below. All seniors are welcome to join the group and enjoy lunch with neighbors and friends. Participating seniors must be at least 60 years old, or the spouse of someone at least 60 years old. Suggested donation for meals is \$3 at Covenant Church and United Church; for meals at other sites, \$5. Transportation may be available if needed. Reservations are required for these meals and may be

Senior meals continued on page 11

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From the Statehouse - By Martha Heath
The House Budget Proposal

This week our committee, Appropriations, passed the proposed House version of the 2009 budget. The bill will be up for a vote on the floor of the House on April 1 and 2.

The Appropriations process got off to an inauspicious beginning in January when the revenue forecast for FY2009 was downgraded by \$14M. The House Appropriations Committee has worked within the confines of that revenue forecast to create a balanced budget for the House's consideration.

There were several goals that the committee kept in mind as it made its budget decisions. It was important to us that the Medicaid cost shift not be made worse. To that end, the Medicaid portion of the budget increases hospital reimbursement rates by \$8M and deletes the proposal to change the way physicians are reimbursed for patients who are covered by both Medicaid and Medicare. While we weren't able to make progress in a difficult fiscal environment on further reducing the cost shift, at least we didn't make the cost shift worse.

A second committee goal was make certain we didn't shift costs onto the property tax. The transportation appropriations in the bill increase funding for town programs over the levels proposed by the governor. Furthermore, PILOT funding is increased by over \$1M, an amount that will substantially reduce property tax pressure in towns that have state owned buildings.

Creating more affordable housing stock is critical to Vermont's future. The budget proposed by the governor reduced funding for the VT Housing and Conservation Board by a total of \$5.2M. This would mean building 150 fewer units of housing. The budget restores this funding, thereby keeping the House's commitment to making progress in building affordable housing.

Making Vermont work economically was also important. We approved the governor's proposed \$1M increase in Next Generation funding, dollars that provide education and training for the workforce. We added to that appropriation a substantial increase in the funding of childcare, an important element in providing the stable employees our businesses need. We also strengthened Reach Up to maximize the opportunity for the most vulnerable to enter the workforce and succeed.

Finally, we did as much as we could to minimize the pain our most vulnerable populations feel in difficult times. We eliminated the governor's proposed copays for the elderly on our pharmacy programs. We made certain many more young adults with special needs would get the services that will allow them to live and work in our communities as they leave our high schools. From programs for pregnant teens to ones working on child abuse prevention and our community justice centers, we added money where we could.

There are important issues facing Vermonters that we were not able to properly address. Our investment in higher education is far behind that of most other states and threatens our children's ability to reach their full potential. Our childcare subsidy system needs a huge infusion of dollars just to bring it to what most would consider minimum standards. We have accepted the position reductions proposed by the governor with trepidation about whether services to Vermonters will be adversely affected. We have grave concerns about the adequacy of the budget for the State Police but have agreed to let the administration come up with a plan to make the department work with the resources the governor allocated to them.

The budget we are proposing makes the best possible use of our limited resources. It doesn't make the Medicaid cost shift worse. It doesn't shift costs onto the property tax. It makes investments in Vermont's economic future. It is the right budget in a challenging fiscal environment.

I am also pleased to hear from my constituents. If you have comments or questions about the budget or other legislative issues please contact me by phone at 893-1291 or by email at mpheath@aol.com. It continues to be a pleasure to serve you.

Legislative update - By Rep. Gaye Symington

In the coming weeks the focus of the House will turn to the budget for fiscal year 2009. The final budget decisions and debate occur after the deadline for this article. But, I can provide a basic guide to how the six money-related bills reflect the priorities of the legislature for addressing the needs of the state today and for years to come within the constraints of taxpayer resources.

We are also keeping in mind the softening economy. We will learn more about what that means for coming two years when our economists revise their projections in late April.

The legislature's main complaints with Governor Douglas' budget proposal are that it would have led to higher property taxes and it would have resulted in more upward pressure on health care insurance premiums because of under-funding of hospitals and more uninsured Vermonters.

Our primary budget priorities are these:

Health Care. Despite our limited resources, Vermont must keep making investments that contain the pace at which health care costs increase. Health care costs are a major driver behind our household budgets, our school and municipal budgets (read, property taxes), and the state's budget. We want to avoid the cost shift to hospitals contained in the governor's budget. We want to avoid the dramatic increases in Medicaid premiums proposed by the Governor. We hope to continue to invest in better information technology that will avoid errors and contain costs. And finally, we want to make minor, but important adjustments to Catamount, even though we know we cannot fulfill this year's goal of offering a product to small businesses.

Roads and Bridges. We intend to restore the Governor's proposed cuts in funds for town highway bridges and we want to provide at least some reasonable increase for state aid to local roads. We also want to put pressure on the need to analyze and move forward with bonding options for more aggressive progress in addressing our transportation infrastructure.

Public Safety and Criminal Justice. We have too few troopers to fully cover our roads, prevention needs, and follow-up in court. The staffing shortage in the criminal justice system, especially in Chittenden County, is so acute that trials are being thrown out because delays exceed what is acceptable to judges. Lack of resources is very much jeopardizing access to our system of justice.

There are other specific issues we are likely to address in the budget. For example, unlike the Governor's budget, we intend to fund the November election and restore his proposed cuts to the VT Housing and Conservation Board.

The budget will not rely on new revenues from an increased tax rate or from the long term lease of the lottery or another state asset. To support the budget, this year's state bonding proposal will include \$5.6 million in transportation projects. The energy bill that Governor Douglas recently signed relied on higher revenues from the existing gross receipts tax on fuels because fuel prices have climbed so dramatically. And we are considering a fix of a technical aspect of how capital gains earnings are calculated and blocking an aspect of federal tax law changes that could have otherwise led to lower state revenues.

I do not expect that our budget decisions will result in a job for which we should claim to have fully done right by Vermonters. It's a job that will have been done as best we can under the circumstances.

If you have concerns or comments, you can reach me at gsym@together.net.

A Look Around Town continued from page 3

mountains and the snowfall put ours to naught. A house they were considering to rent in Tahoe had photos of the interior, but the agent said that it wasn't worth getting pix of the outside, which was not visible behind and beneath the snow piles and drifts. So! Take consolation. There's always somebody snowier than us.

Breakfast at the Flour Shop was fun, listening to five ladies celebrating their birthdays. And the daffodils and tulips are nosing up out of the ground in front of the shop.

Senior meals continued from page 10

arranged ahead of time by calling 865-0360.

Thursday, April 3 – Bridge Street Café, Richmond, 11:00 AM. Chicken 'n biscuits.

Friday, April 4 – Hinesburg mealsite, 11:30 AM.

Monday, April 7 – Jericho mealsite, 12:00 noon. Questions? Please call 865-0360.

Tuesday, April 8 – Pizza Hut, Susie Wilson Rd., Essex Jct., 11:00 AM. All you can eat pizza buffet.

Wednesday, April 9 – Dutch Mill, Shelburne Rd., Shelburne, 11:00 AM. Baked stuffed chicken.

Thursday, April 10 – Ponderosa, Williston, 11:00 AM check-in, 11:15 lunch. All you can eat buffet.

Friday, April 11 – United Church, Hinesburg, 12:00 noon. Turkey a la king, mashed potatoes, green beans, almondine biscuit, fresh fruit.

Monday, April 14 – Covenant Church, Essex Ctr., 12:00 noon. Shepherd's pie, corn and gravy, peas and onions, fruit bread, pineapple.

Tuesday, April 15 – T-Bones, Hampton Inn, Colchester, 11:00 AM check-in, 11:30 lunch. Lasagna.

Wednesday, April 16 – Euro Restaurant, 1 Market Place, Essex, 10:30 AM check-in, 11:30 lunch. Lasagna.

Thursday, April 17 – Ponderosa, Williston, 11:00 AM check-in, 11:15 lunch. All you can eat buffet.

Friday, April 18 – United Church, Hinesburg, 12:00 noon. Roast pork and gravy, applesauce, mashed potatoes, peas and carrots, whole wheat roll, ice cream.

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 Art for April is Polly Connell's fiber art.
 Sunday, April 6, 2:00 PM, share the Music of Poetry – As with music, crafts, and fine arts, our community abounds with talented writers. We have asked several of these very talented writers to share their work. Jean Marie Mellichamp Milliken, best known for her Bird's Nest dance studio, is also the publisher of *The Lyric* magazine which her father, Leslie Mellichamp, edited for over 25 years. Mr. Mellichamp believed with the gifted contributors who kept *The Lyric* alive since 1921 that the roots of a living poetry lie in music and the common life, rather than in the fragmented bizarre, and that rhyme, structure, and lucidity are timeless attributes of enduring poetry. Jean Marie will offer his own lyrics as tributes to life. She will also read a selection of other submissions to the magazine. Mary Jane Dickerson,

retired UVM professor and member of the DRML Board of Trustees, annually hosts a poetry workshop sponsored by the Jericho Town Library and DRML. She will be reading her prize winning poem. Lucy Wilcox, locally known for her lovely photos "Reflections by Lucy," her teaching, and her sharing of her love of books and music with so many, will share her best loved poems. Lyn Burnstine (Laurel Shelmandine's mother) has published several books that include poetry about family and history. Although Lyn won't be able to be with us, a selection of her pieces will be read highlighting family and music.

Knit Night is Tuesday, April 15 at 6:30 PM.
 The DRML Board of Trustees will meet Thursday, April 17 at 7:00 PM.
 Audio books that you can download to your own computer, a CD, or onto some MP3 players. Come to an introductory workshop Friday, April 4 at 11:00 AM or Wednesday, April 9 at 7:00 PM, or check it out on your own from our website www.drml.org.



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Tuesday, April 8, 6:30 PM, join Bill Frank and Gaye Symington for a legislative update in our fireplace room.

Sunday, April 13, 2:00 PM: the library will present a dramatic reading based on the book *Voices from Chernobyl* with a discussion to follow.

A new mystery adult book club is forming. Wednesday, April 30 at 7:00 PM in the meeting room.

Foreign Film night! Friday, April 25 at 7:00 PM, showing *Il Postino* with English subtitles.

Saturday, April 26 at 9:00 AM, the library is seeking volunteers to help us clean up our outside garden spaces. Bring garden gloves and rakes for some outside fun!

Wednesday Story Time, 11:00 AM – Stories, songs, refreshments, snack, and craft. April 16, 30, May 7. A firefighter from the Underhill-Jericho Fire Department will be at our story time to teach about fire safety on Wednesday, April 16.

Thursday Story Time, 10:00 AM – Stories, songs, refreshments, snack, and craft. April 17, May 1, 8.

Family Story Times, 6:30 PM – Children are invited to wear their pajamas and join us for stories and light refreshments. Recommended for families with children preschool-grade 2. April 17, May 1, 8.

Learn about Vermont's Amphibians – educators from The North Branch Nature Center will bring live amphibians and teach participants about the life of these interesting animals. Children attending with families must be first grade or older. To register, call 899-4962. Friday April 18, 7:00 PM.

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, Sunday 1:00 – 4:00 PM; closed Monday. For information on any of the library's programs, call 899-4962.

JERICHO TOWN LIBRARY, JERICHO CENTER

We have a new downloadable audio book service, open 24 hours! You can now download books to your own computer, a CD, or onto some mp3 players – anytime, anywhere. It can be accessed at <http://www.listenupvermont.org>. Choose *Jericho Town Library* from the menu off the sign-in link. To log in,

use 4686 (library phone) immediately followed by the four numbers from your library patron card (no spaces): 4686XXXX. If you need more information, please contact the library.

Come celebrate National Poetry month during April with us! "Caring for Planet Earth" is the theme for our fifth annual poetry workshop with retired UVM Professor Mary Jane Dickerson, sponsored by the Jericho Town Library and the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library. The working sessions are Mondays, April 7 and 14, from 6:30 – 8:00 PM at the Jericho Town Library, and conclude for a final evening of sharing at the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library on Monday, April 28 from 6:30 – 8:00 PM. Poets of all ages are encouraged to participate. Attendance in the past has been a mix of middle and high school students and adults. Registration is required; please call JTL at 899-4686 to sign up. A \$5 donation for materials would be appreciated.

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

High school students needing to fulfill community service, please consider volunteering at the library when your schedule permits. Call or stop by!

Interested in volunteering or offering a program to the community? Please call the library.

Story time, including craft and snack, is every Wednesday, upstairs, at 10:00 AM.

The Board of Trustees meets regularly the first Thursday (April 3) of the month at 7:00 PM at the library.

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 Jerichotownlibrary@gmail.com.

WESTFORD TOWN LIBRARY, WESTFORD

Friday, April 4, 6:00 – 8:30 PM: Westford Knitters Group. All needle and yarn crafters welcome. Enjoy conversation with neighbors and friends while you work on your current project. Come early or late – we will be here! Bring your own brown bag dinner if you like. If you are interested in learning to knit, please contact Julie beforehand to discuss any supplies needed. For more information, contact Julie Nelson, 343-0165 or Julie@coolmoonyoga.com.

Tuesday, April 8, 6:00 PM: Strategy and board games for ages 12 and up. Hosted by Matt Taylor.

Thursday, April 10, 11:00 AM: Storytime. Stories and activities for preschoolers. Theme: Poetry.

Friday, April 11, 5:00 – 5:30 PM: Pokemon Club. For ages 6-9. For more information, contact Thayer Nichols at 879-4093.

Friday, April 11, 7:00 PM: Celebrate Poetry Month with Westford Poet Paul Paparella! The Westford poet will read from his book of poems, *On Waking Up All Over the World*. His poems have been published in many magazines and he has given poetry readings and workshops in colleges, libraries and churches. Paul has been a teacher and administrator in public schools, colleges and universities. He received an Ed.D. from Syracuse University. During the poetry reading, Paul encourages audience participation. This workshop format features poems from Paul's book and is intended to give participants a greater insight into why poetry is uniquely suited to express our life story. This is intended to be a program for adults. Light refreshments will be served.

Wednesday, April 16, 6:30 – 7:00 PM, Pajama Story Time! Climb into your PJs and join us for bedtime stories and a simple craft. Special guest: Sandy Bochanski from Westford School reading books about spring. If you have questions, contact Tracy Zeppi, 878-7189.

Thursday, April 17, 11:00 AM: Storytime. Stories and activities for preschoolers. Theme: Earth Day.

VARNUM LIBRARY, JEFFERSONVILLE

New additions to the large print book shelves: Michael Connelly's *Echo Park*, *Someone to Love* by Jude Deveraux, and Jeffery Archer's *False Impression*. For those who enjoy books on tape, check out David Halberstan's *The Coldest Winter*. And also on the new arrival shelf is Lee Child's *Bad Luck and Trouble*, along with Orson Scott Card's *Magic Street*.

The Varnum Library is open Monday and Tuesdays 1:00 – 8:00 PM, Thursdays and Saturdays 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM. The library is at 194 Main Street, Jeffersonville.



Collin Bombardier is the first child to enjoy Westford Library's Express Book Bags, which contain seven books and several age-appropriate activities including puzzles and CDs.

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Kindergarten registration for JES

Registration information for the 2008-2009 school year has been sent to families in the Jericho Elementary School district. If you have a child who will be 5 years of age by September 1, 2008 and have not received a registration package, please call the school at 899-2272. Kindergarten registration will be held on Thursday, April 10 and Friday, April 11, 2008.

Energy! at Underhill I.D.

On May 2-8, 2008, Underhill I.D. School's yearlong theme of *Energy!* will culminate in a week-long residency with Vermont Arts Council dancer Karen Amirault. Working with the children on a daily basis, Karen and the students will create short dance phrases challenging coordination, movement memory, and the body/mind collection while building self esteem and group dynamics. Families, friends, and the community are all invited to a final presentation on May 8. Karen's residency is made possible in part by a grant received from the VT Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Underhill I.D. PTO. For more information, visit our website www.underhillid.k12.vt.us.

CESU meetings

Monday, April 7: Chittenden East Supervisory Union Transportation Committee meeting, 6:30 PM, Central Office, Richmond Town Center, Richmond.

Wednesday, April 9: Jericho School Board meeting, 6:30 PM, Mount Mansfield Union High School, Jericho.

Wednesday, April 9: Underhill I.D. School Board meeting, 6:30 PM, Mount Mansfield Union High School, Jericho.

Wednesday, April 9: Underhill Center School Board meeting, 6:30 PM, Mount Mansfield Union High School, Jericho.

Thursday, April 10: MMU Facilities Committee meeting, 6:30 PM, Mount Mansfield Union High School, Jericho.

Thursday, April 10: MMU School Board meeting, 7:30 PM, Mount Mansfield Union High School, Jericho.

Monday, April 14: CESU Negotiations Committee meeting, 4 PM & 6 PM, Central Office, Richmond Town Center, Richmond.

Wednesday, April 16: Richmond School Board meeting, 6:30 PM, Richmond Elementary School, Richmond.

Westford School Board news

At our regular meeting in February, the Board enjoyed a presentation from Cindy Capossela demonstrating how the school is preparing students for writing and performance tasks. Cindy, Paula Costella, and David Wells are the Westford representatives to the CCSU curriculum committee on this topic. The district is working on a common local assessment.

Principal David Wells indicated that he would continue his monthly "coffee house," with an attempt on different hours in order to attract parents to meet with him.

On another note, the Board expresses its gratitude for your continued support of your school. This was again demonstrated at the Town Meeting this year.

The Board welcomes Nathan Lavallee to the Board. Nathan ran a successful "write-in" campaign and was elected. Andre Roy will continue to serve. It was also noted that the VT School Boards Association recognized Andre's service of 15 years in serving on the Board. Andre was presented with a certificate recognizing his service at Town Meeting. The Board also wishes to thank Allison Weinhausen for her service.

Various members of the School Board continue to service on various committees throughout the district such as policy sub committee, building blocks, future framing, and leaders at work.

CESU School Board vacancies

Chittenden East Supervisory Union #12 has several school board vacancies. Citizens in the following school districts interested in being appointed to any of the one-year positions are encouraged to send a letter of interest to: James Massingham, Superintendent of Schools, CESU #12, P.O. Box 282, Richmond, VT 05477.

The vacancies are: in the Jericho School district, School Director; in the Underhill I.D. district, School Director and School District Clerk.

*** NOTICE ***

Republican Caucus for Jericho

Tuesday, April 15, 2008, 6:30 PM
Jericho Elementary School – conference room

For the purpose of electing delegates and alternates to the State Republican Convention and Straw Poll

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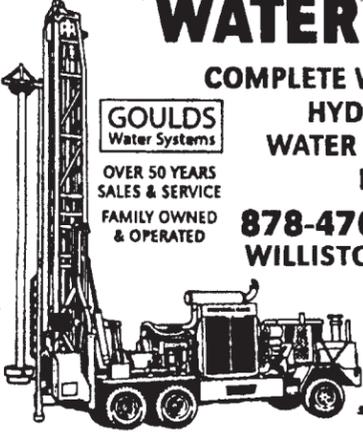
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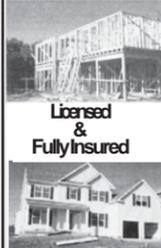
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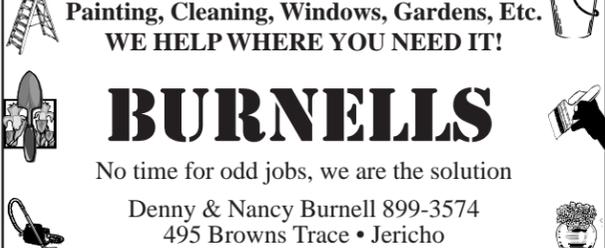
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The BRMS basketball "B" team (record: 11-3): back row from left: Head Coach A.J. Bugbee, Josh Fitzgerald, Derek Villeneuve, Jonathan Griffin, Luke Dolan, Greg Gosselin, Assistant Coach Jeff Springer. Front row: Brandon Aguiar, Jeremy Carter, Michael Bowen, George Haley, Tyler Jonas, Alec Carew, Monte Green.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



The BRMS basketball "A" team finished their 2007-08 season undefeated. Back row from left: Aaron Schwartz, Adam Martin, Eric Suder, Tom Lacy, Coach Keith Fitzpatrick. Middle row: Austin Merrill, Troy Springer, Mike Bouffard, T.J. Wesson. Front: Clay Benson, Grant McKinstrie, Nate

Rohrer, Roshi Brooklyn.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Underhill traffic continued from page 1

"Hopefully, with the good heads on the committee, we will get some resolution of the pressure townspeople see," Steinbauer said. During the Town Meeting discussion, resident John Barbour had urged adding \$1000 to the town budget to be spent for more speed signs or for the town to add more hours to State Police speed enforcement. Of most concern were speeders along Pleasant Valley Road, River Road, and Poker Hill Road. Barbour later proposed amending the budget by adding \$5000 for a portable electronic speed sign, as suggested by former Selectman Marc Maheux. That amendment was defeated. Another amendment that went down was one by Bellin to allow the town to spend up to \$5000 to conduct a traffic study, come up

with a comprehensive plan for speed control, and report to next year's Town Meeting. But that motion set the stage for the committee's creation. A suggestion that the town increase the hours State Police conduct speed enforcement has been met with some reservation by a town official. Town Administrator Chris Murphy said the troopers assigned to Underhill only put in 20 or 21 hours a month, although the town's contract with the State Police is for 28.5 hours a month. She doesn't expect the State Police will increase its coverage hours. Lt. Dee Glynn, commander of the Williston State Police Barracks, said her command is short of troopers and those assigned to do speed enforcement in Underhill do it on overtime. Their cover-

age is in addition to routine town patrols by troopers. Glynn said the speed enforcement troopers are limited to the commuter rush hours, 6:00 - 8:00 AM and 5:00 - 7:00 PM. A suggestion that Town Constable Jennifer Silpe be trained at the State Police Academy so she can curb speeders also was mentioned at Town Meeting. Murphy said the Selectboard will look into that suggestion and another one - hiring the Chittenden County Sheriff's office to curb speeders. Glynn said the town can employ Silpe to do traffic speed control if it wishes, but she cautioned there are other issues, such as the cost of a cruiser and radar for Silpe to use.

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