

MOUNTAIN GAZETTE

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Cambridge Christmas show big hit



Some impromptu clowning by some of the backstage crew (and others) has become an after-intermission tradition at the Cambridge Christmas Show, held this year on December 5. Here (left to right) stagehand Mike Romp, soundman Troy Rheume, performers Calvin Houle and Chuck Hogan, lighting engineer Butch Getek and performer Joe Tisbert did a little "Jingle Bell Rock."

PHOTO BY KATHY JOHNSON

3% tax increase proposed by Rawson Library

By Ted Tedford

Special to the Mountain Gazette

The Deborah Rawson Memorial Library board will ask voters to approve a 3 percent increase in taxes from Jericho and Underhill for its upcoming budget.

While its proposed operating expenses show a 6.2 percent increase, Treasurer John Panter said a tax increase for Jericho and Underhill which are the major supporters of the library amounts to only 3 percent.

The board's operating expense item totals \$244,250, an increase of \$14,193.47 over the present budget. Jericho's tax portion is \$131,766 while Underhill's is \$87,844.

In addition to tax money from the two towns totaling \$219,610, the library expects \$24,640 from other income, such as fund-raising and fees from lost books or other materials on loan.

The board included \$10,000 for health insurance for Library Director Holly Hall, an amount down slightly from the last two years. Panter said Hall declined health insurance offered by the board for the two years although money had been put aside each year. She is expected to accept the benefit in the new year.

The board also has included \$6,500 in a new contingency account for the first time.

"We are looking at an 11 or 12-year-old building with the possibility of wood rotting or paint peeling like anybody's house," Board President Mary Bassett said. "Heaven forbid the roof might go," she added.

"Getting things fixed is a first priority," Panter said. "We anticipated bad news about the outside of the building, such as defective boards and some other things that need to be taken care of." He said the library has received bids of from \$10,000 to \$13,000 to do outside work.

Panter has included 10 footnotes in the proposed budget explaining technical changes and revised accounting methods, some required by state law.

Voters in the two towns will decide on the budget at the library's annual meeting January 15. Although the library is considered a municipality like all towns and cities in the state, it gets its major funding from the two towns and needs to get its budget approved before the end of the year because the Jericho and Underhill Selectboards need to include their share in their town budgets, voted on in March.

The library has new carpeting tiles and new bookshelves were installed in the main room.

Hall reports the library now has 21,291 books, 76 magazine subscriptions, 504 DVDs, many donated, 693 videos, 629 books on cassettes, 515 books on CDs and 90 juvenile book and tape kits.

She said the library also provides access to several online databases, including downloadable audio books through the library's website www.drml.org. She said the library's card catalog also is on the web page. There are six Internet computers with high-speed access. Wi-Fi is available.

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Cambridge in 2008: The Year in Review

By Katherine Quimby Johnson
Special to the Mountain Gazette

Although 2008 was in many ways a typical year, an extraordinary number of Cambridge community members were recognized for high achievement. Cambridge Fire Department can claim both the senior firefighter of the year and the junior firefighter of the year—Larry and Kristy Wykoff, who happen to be father and daughter. The chief of Cambridge Rescue and the town's emergency manager, David Severance, was honored as Vermont Emergency Manager of the Year. Bruce Macmillan, owner of the Cambridge Village Market, was chosen Vermont Grocers' Association Retailer of the Year. Mary Anderson, principal of Cambridge Elementary School, received Johnson State College's Outstanding Alumni Award.

Cambridge's emergency management team put their skills to the test in July, when a tornado, one of few verified in Vermont, struck the northern section of town and adjoining parts of Waterville. While a number of owners suffered downed trees, the Beaudoin farm on Route 108 North was especially hard hit. The roof was taken off the house and the barn was destroyed. Neighbors pitched in to board the stock and fix the house almost overnight and the newly formed Cambridge Rotary held a benefit at the Boyden Farm.

Cambridge residents spent more time at the polls than usual in 2008, and even before the national economy took a downturn, it was clear that local voters were not in a spending mood. The trend was set in January, with a vote that defeated a bond for a new fire station. While the town and school budgets passed on Town Meeting Day, voters who attended Town Meeting declined to approve creating a reserve fund with the six-figure surplus in the previous year's school budget. However, Town Meeting also saw the one exception to fiscal reluctance, with the approval of a \$1 million bond for the construction of a new town garage on the site of the current garage. In the summer, two special town meetings resulted in the decision not to purchase the Poppe property abutting the Town Garage property.

Because the vote on the Poppe property came so late in the year, the Selectboard decided to postpone construction until spring 2009. Bids have been solicited and Selectboard Chair Bernie Juskiewicz says they will be opened at a Selectboard meeting on December 18 at 6:00 PM, and awarded at another board meeting on December 23, also at 6:00 PM.

Beginning in March, the Cambridge Planning Commission held a series of hearings, both on the proposed zoning districts and on the proposed bylaws, and the bylaws were placed on the ballot for the November election. The resulting vote was 1,006 nay, 796 aye, an even wider margin than the previous vote of 774 against and 714 for in 2000. At this point, according to Planning Commission Chair Martha Brown, the commission has no further plans to work on zoning bylaws. However, Brown said, "We plan basically to work with other town groups—the Cambridge Historical Society, Cambridge Crossroads, the conservation commission—and other local, interested citizens, in developing plans for the future of Cambridge."

Throughout the year, the planning commission was supported by the services of Mike Miller, who was also the administrator of the Development Review Board. Miller has resigned, effective December 31, to become Director of Planning and Zoning for the City of Barre. Juskiewicz says that the Selectboard is advertising the administrator's position.

New people have joined Cambridge's governing bodies this year. David Vaughn was elected to the Selectboard and Heather Sheppard to the Cambridge School Board on town meeting day. Muriel McQuin was appointed lister and Sally Reynolds, auditor to fill positions left vacant by the passing of dedicated public servants.

Indeed, 2008 was marked by the deaths of a number of important community members. Shirley Westman, a lifelong resident, had served the town as auditor for many, many years. Bill Shipley, in addition to his position as lister, was also a dedicated volunteer at the Varnum Memorial Library and kept the sidewalks of Jeffersonville plowed for a number of years. The Cambridge Historical Society lost its president when Ron Little died

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CESU teachers, board remain deadlocked on three issues

By Ted Tedford
Special to the Mountain Gazette

Teachers and school board members representing the five towns in the Chittenden East Supervisory Union remain deadlocked over three major contract issues.

After poring over a fact-finder's report and discussing those and other issues December 8, the two sides still have not resolved issues concerning salary, health care and teachers' work day.

They did agree on 15 other issues that were still pending from previous negotiations, such as the teachers' pension fund and funding for teacher education, according to the board's chief negotiator, Robert Letovsky of the Underhill I. D. School District.

He declined comment on the report issued by mediator Ira Lobell of Albany, N.Y., because the report was still secret. Its contents were to be released to the public December 19, past the deadline for this issue of the *Mountain Gazette*.

Last September, the two sides called for a mediator to conduct a fact-finding study of the still unresolved issues. Teachers at nine schools in the Chittenden East District comprising Bolton, Huntington, Jericho, Richmond and Underhill have been working under terms of a contract that expired July 1. There are about 2900 students in the schools.

Jon Harris, chief negotiator for the teachers' union, Green Mountain Chapter of the Vermont Education Association, said he and the union re-

Teachers continued on page 16

A closer look at George Till

By Phyl Newbeck
Special to the Mountain Gazette

There is a doctor in the House. On November 4, the voters of Bolton, Jericho and Underhill elected Dr. George Till to fill the seat vacated by Gaye Symington in the Vermont House of Representatives. Till was hardly an unknown in the district, having begun his community involvement in the 1990s as the founder of the Mt. Mansfield Youth Lacrosse program and as a twelve year member of the school board at Mount Mansfield Union High School.

Born in Pittsburgh, Till graduated from Haverford College with a B.A. in psychology while captaining both the football and lacrosse teams. After several years as a social worker and assistant lacrosse coach at Haverford, Till moved to Boston to finish his pre-med studies at Boston and Harvard Universities. In 1981 he completed his medical studies at the University of Pennsylvania, followed by a residency in obstetrics and gynecology at the University of California, San Francisco. He then spent three years in St. Louis providing health care to an underserved community as a member of the National Health Service Corps. Till had planned to return to California, the birthplace of his wife, Ann Buchanan-Till, upon completion of his service in Missouri, but was intrigued by the glowing report his best friend from medical school gave regarding his radiology residency in Burlington. After visiting Vermont and meeting the two doctors with whom he continues to partner to this day, the Tills made the decision to move back east. Till joined Champlain Obstetrics and Gynecology in Essex Junction in 1988 and subsequently took an additional position as Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at UVM's School of Medicine.

Although his practice and teaching duties were time consuming, Till soon became involved in his community. His first foray was founding Mt. Mansfield Youth Lacrosse in 1995 where he served as head coach for twelve years. In 1997 he was cajoled into running for the Mt. Mansfield Union School Board, where he currently serves as vice chair. He plans to continue on the school board through the budget process and believes that at the end of that period he will have a better sense of whether he can fulfill his role on the board while serving in the Legislature.

Till's decision to run for the State House, was also the result of cajoling from neighbors and friends. He admits that two years ago he would never have

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Village Cup under new ownership

By Phyl Newbeck

Special to the Mountain Gazette

The transition at the Village Cup has been almost seamless. In mid November, Stephen Burke signed the papers purchasing the Jericho bakery/café from Kim Evans. Burke, a twenty-plus-year resident of Underhill and a native Vermonter, is thrilled to have the opportunity to take over the establishment he has visited regularly over the years.

Burke's path to restaurant ownership was a circuitous one. After graduating from college in Boston, he worked for a medical equipment company, rising to the rank of export manager and traveling the world for business and pleasure. Burke estimates he has been to forty-eight states and almost as many countries. But the traveling life was not compatible with family life so he and his wife, the late Kathy Maguire, moved to Vermont.

Initially, Burke sold insurance and served as the primary caregiver for the couple's children. The family also raised and trained horses. When the children grew older, Burke opened a paintball facility in a former roller skating rink in Williston. He sees some similarities between the paintball business and the bakery. "The people who came to play paintball were coming because they wanted to have fun," he said. "That made it an enjoyable business to own." Similarly, Burke notes that people come to the Village Cup because they want to talk, eat and see friends. People are generally in a good frame of mind when they arrive.

Although Burke does not have restaurant experience, he was "chief cook and bottle washer" for his family for many years, as well as being in charge of the baking. Burke's household had rather unorthodox breakfast habits. The notion of eating leftover pie in the morning morphed into an official "pie for breakfast" motif. Every weekend, there was at least one pie on the breakfast table. Burke hopes to bring "pie for breakfast" to the Village Cup, offering pies by the slice. He sees very little difference between breakfast Danishes and pies, noting that while people visiting his house look surprised when they are offered breakfast pie, "nobody has turned us down." He admits that "pie for breakfast" may be seen as gimmicky, but he thinks it is a good gimmick, giving peach-rhubarb pie as an example of a new flavor he would like to introduce to patrons.

One difference in the ownership of the Village Cup is that Burke will not be moving into the adjacent house which will be soon vacated by Evans. He hasn't decided what to do with the structure, noting that "it lends itself to lots of possibilities." Burke said it will take him six months before he has a good feel for the business and hopes that by then, he will have a better idea of the direction the economy is going. Logical possibilities for the house include a bed and breakfast or a formal dining room. For the latter, Burke would close the main building at 5:00 PM and reopen the dining area at 5:30 PM for dinner. Burke said he is open to all kinds of ideas that would be compatible with the existing business.

Village Cup continued on page 16



Cambridge Crossroads continues

Thursday, December 4, a group of Cambridge community members gathered to discuss how to keep the momentum gained from the two-day Community Forum that was held in November.

The forum, led by Delia Clark of Shelburne Farms and the P.L.A.C.E. program, uncovered many actionable items that the approximately 50 attendees identified as things that they see as vital to maintaining the rural character and the growth of Cambridge. The outcome was three sub-committees: Communications, Community Center, and Economic Development.

During Thursday's meeting the sub-committees determined that each focus group will continue to meet on a monthly basis to discuss and drive toward each group's goals, guided by the Cambridge Crossroads Steering Committee.

The next meeting will be held Thursday, January 8th at 7 PM at the Cambridge Elementary School. All community members are welcome and encouraged to attend. For more information, including the minutes from the Community Forum and other meetings, as well as background information on Cambridge Crossroads, go to www.CambridgeCrossroads.net.

POLICE REPORT

On Tuesday, December 2, 2008 at approximately 5:46 AM, officers of the Williston Police Department stopped a vehicle on Mountain View Rd., traveling 74 m.p.h. in a posted 40 m.p.h. zone. Investigation revealed the operator, **Aaron Lafountain**, 25, of Jericho, was driving on a suspended license. He was arrested and charged with driving on suspended license. Arresting Officer Ptl. Greg Shelley.

Community Center in Jericho exceeds fund-raising goals

This past fall, when we looked at the rising costs of everything and our modest fund balance, we at the Community Center in Jericho were not sure if we could stay open through the winter. So we kicked our usual fundraising activities into high gear. We planned a pot luck supper to bring people together. Then we invited local individuals and businesses to donate goods and services for us to auction off at the pot luck supper, with proceeds to benefit the Community Center. We asked local photographers to donate photographs to assemble into a calendar, which we would sell. We organized and conducted a Rock Tour of local rock formations, natural and man-made, to which we sold tickets and donated refreshments. And we sent out a press release. Our goal was \$10,000.

We were swamped with responses. In addition to generous "yesses" to our specific requests for donations—of artwork, lessons, a brewery tour, tickets to a Boston Bruins game, an evening of music, and too many more to list—there were spontaneous offers of help. Many, many people at the pot luck supper, whether or not they bid on an auction item, made contributions. A 12-year-old girl designed and produced postcards to sell to benefit the Center. And The Tarrant Foundation, after reading of our situation, gave us a generous grant even larger than our initial goal!

From our auction, our Rock Tour, our calendar sale, card sale, and wreath sale, we reached our goal of \$10,000. With the Tarrant Foundation grant, we have raised over \$25,000 this fall! Because of the community's generosity, we are in good shape not only to stay open, but perhaps even to make some important improvements that will make the Community Center an even more welcoming place.

Now that we are in good shape, we are sending out another press release. This time it is to announce our happy news and especially to thank everyone who participated in our fundraising. Your support made our drive a fabulous success. For those who have not yet had the opportunity to buy one, our Vermont Rocks 2009 calendars are still available at the Old Mill and the Jericho Center Store. They make great holiday gifts, especially for friends and family who have moved away and are missing home.

St. Michael's College Chapel to hold Gregorian Chant / Seasonal Music

The fourth annual Festival of Gregorian Chant and Seasonal Music will be presented at the St. Michael's College Chapel on Sunday, December 21 at 3:00 PM.

The concert is free and open to the public. Twenty members of the Vermont Gregorian Chant Schola will perform. The program includes unaccompanied sung melodies of Advent and Christmas as well as Christmas Carols.

UNDERHILL JERICO FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

By Kitty Clark

EMERGENCY CALLS:

December 2, 10:18 AM Responded to 125 Tarbox Road, Jericho for a carbon monoxide alarm

December 2, 4:30 PM EMS call on Meadow Lane, Underhill
December 4, 9:12 AM Responded to South Hill in Jericho, good intent call

December 4, 8:25 PM Responded to 7 Mill Street, Jericho for a fire in the oven

December 6, 10:42 AM Responded Mutual Aid to Cambridge for a structure fire at Smuggs

December 7, 2:45 PM Responded Mutual Aid to Cambridge for traffic control and standby at their station, while they were at an accident

December 7, 3:51 PM Responded to the report of an accident at Maple Leaf Road & Stevensville intersection, Underhill

December 7, 4:41 PM Responded to a two-vehicle accident at the intersection of Browns Trace and Barber Farm Rd., Jericho

December 7, 5:21 PM Responded to the report of a multi-vehicle accident at the intersection of VT RT 14 & Allen Irish Road, canceled due to wrong location; it was on Fairfax end of Allen Irish.

December 7, 8:08 PM Responded to 183 Irish Settlement in Underhill for a chimney fire

December 7, 10:35 PM Responded to Repa Road, Underhill to assist Essex Rescue

December 8, 8:08 AM EMS call with Essex Rescue on Old Pump Rd., Jericho

December 10, 12:23 PM Responded to Browns River School for an activated fire alarm

Tuesday, December 2, regular maintenance drill at both stations.

Wednesday, December 3, five Cub Scouts, their leader and parents visited the fire station to learn about fire safety and to see the apparatus and learn about their purposes.

Tuesday, December 9, nominations of administrative officers were held followed by a talk on cold weather and how it affects your body by Dan Manz.

SAFETY MESSAGE: Just a reminder about holiday safety, if your tree is fresh, make sure to water it regularly and place it away from a direct source of heat. Always make sure you unplug the tree lights when you go to bed. If you use candles, make sure that they are in sturdy holders and keep them away from combustibles. Keep candles away from children and pets and when you leave the room make sure the candles are out.

When baking or cooking, be sure to stay in the kitchen so you do not become distracted.

FROM THE UNDERHILL-JERICO FIRE DEPT, MERRY CHRISTMAS AND TO ALL A FIRE-SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON.

Jericho United Methodist Church to hold Christmas Services

Jericho United Methodists Church will hold the following services: Sunday, December 21 at 9:00 AM - Children's Christmas Pageant; Sunday, December 21 at 7:00 PM - Christmas Carol sing for all ages; Wednesday, December 24 at 5:00 PM - Christmas Eve Family Service; Wednesday, December 24 at 8:00 PM - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

All services will be at Rt. 15, for more information call 899-4288.

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See the Sweet Dish daily menu on our website, updated Monday mornings. Please call ahead to reserve your dish if you want to ensure availability. Otherwise stop by and see the variety we have to offer!

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It is time to order your all-natural, expertly cut local meats for the winter holidays at Sweet Clover Market! The best selection is available when you order early, so call your butcher Cole at 872-8288 to place your order. Buy the best for your guests. Call now!

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The View from the Center

By J. Harrison L. Heidel
Special to the Mountain Gazette

One of the most popular traditions associated with the celebration of Christmas is decorating the Christmas tree. It is said this tradition's origins are pre-Christian, being a custom of the winter solstice observation in ancient pagan Europe. Dated to around the 16th century, "putting up" and decorating a Christmas tree took roots across the Western world in the 18th and 19th centuries. The decorating of a tree, usually a conifer and brought indoors, was adopted by Christianity after the Church set December 25 as the birth of Christ, thereby unseating the pagan celebration of the solstice. I highly recommend a full celebration of the solstice as well.

I recently helped "put up" an artificial Christmas tree, complete with a thousand lights already attached. I didn't count them, but it is indeed bright. It was an experience almost like putting up a beach umbrella on a really hot day; it was put up quickly. The three sections of the tree came easily out of a box that weighed hardly anything. The tree's stand was set on the floor with the first section in place; its branches fell open from their hinges...hinges? The middle and top sections were set in place in the tree's trunk, their branches spreading easily like a willow in a breeze. Then it was lit...Voila! With the last decoration in place the putting up took less than an hour. There was hardly time for an argument over what decoration went where, although some were secretly relocated throughout the rest of the afternoon. No fighting over the size and shape of the tree at the tree lot, no wrestling with it to get it on top of the car, no fidgeting with the trunk to get it to fit in the stand, no forcing of the tree through the door to get it into the house, no discovering it was too tall ("it looked smaller at the lot, dear"), no crawling under the tree to put water in the stand (once), no turning the tree round and round in an attempt to hide the bare spot...bah, humbug!

Every Christmas for a number of years, I dressed as Santa Claus on Christmas Eve and visited the home of some friends. "Santa" was paying a pre-gift delivery visit to their two little boys. The tree tradition at their Virginia home was to go out into the nearby countryside on Christmas Eve day, search for, cut down, and drag home the perfect cedar tree. Red cedar trees were long appreciated by country folk in Virginia and other parts of the South as the tree of choice for Christmas. Growing everywhere almost like weeds, cedar

trees are easily accessible (growing in open pasture land and meadows), quite tall, and most appreciated for their strong fragrance. But I'm convinced that some person who had decorated a cedar tree was the one who proclaimed, "Somebody ought to invent a Christmas tree that comes in a box, sets up like an umbrella, and has the lights already attached!"

One can usually tell that another has carefully decorated a cedar Christmas tree from the condition of their fingers, hands, and arms during the holiday. They look as though they tried to decorate an unreasonable stray cat. The decorator's arms and hands are covered with scratches, and their fingertips are red and swollen having endured hours of pin-like pricks from the tree's tiny, sharp needles. The poor soul who cut down and placed the thing in the stand is usually exempt from the decorating, the story of their sacrifice recounted over and over until the next Christmas. Lights and decorations are hung loosely, fairly tossed at the outer extremities of the tree for the same reason anything wild could hardly live deeper inside: they are impenetrable. Perhaps that is why they grow so plentifully. They stand alone.

During one of Santa's visits to my friend's home, one wild creature who loved to make its home inside a cedar tree appeared just as the boys and others were enjoying their turn sitting on Santa's lap and posing for photos near the tree: hornets. Unnoticed and warmed by the marvelous fire in the fireplace, a hornet's nest woke from its early winter slumber that evening and gave up its angry residents, scattering folks and sending Santa "ho-hoing" out of the house. The youngest of the boys was hard to get to sleep that Christmas Eve, worried about the tree, the hornets, and the way his family had treated Santa. As always, Santa came back later that night.

A few years ago I bought an artificial tree just a few days before Christmas at an Urban Outfitters store. It was the last on display and it needed a home. It's about 3 feet tall, has lime-green aluminum needles on its branches, fits just right anywhere, and needs no lights. It can withstand only about a dozen small ornaments; it is put up in minutes. And to take it down and put it away I need only give it a bit of a hug, straightening its branches upward, then slip it into a large leaf bag, just to keep any unwanted guests from taking up residence in it. Although I consider putting up a "real" Christmas tree each year, I know this tree is enough and perfect for a celebration. Here's hoping the same for your holiday and your tree!

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

The Mountain Gazette

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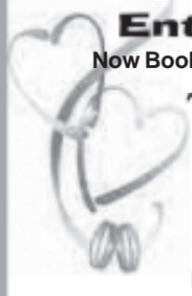
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RICHMOND / HUNTINGTON

OBITUARIES



Shirley A. Calevro of Richmond died peacefully on Tuesday afternoon, November 18, 2008, surrounded by her family. She was a dedicated wife, mother, and friend to all. She was also truly one of the angels on earth and we are all fortunate to have been touched by her life. She is survived by her husband of 53 years, Francis Calevro of Richmond; her daughters, Debra Calevro of Sacramento, California and Becky Calevro and her husband, Art Vezina, of Monkton and their children Sam, Dani and Jamie; her sons, Joe Calevro of Richmond and his children Kristen and her partner Erik Hammond of Hinesburg, and Dustin of Grand Ridge, Florida, and Todd Calevro of Essex Junction; and many beloved nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her sister, June Federico of Barre. A memorial service was held on Saturday, November 22 at Gifford Funeral Service, 22 Depot St., Richmond. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in Shirley's name to the National Foundation for Cancer Research, 4600 East West Highway, Suite 525, Bethesda, MD 20814.

Stephen Warren Wright, 55, of Richmond passed away at home surrounded by his family at his bedside on Thursday, November 27, 2008. He was born in Burlington on April 4, 1953, the son of Merritt J. and Leona (Griffiths) Wright. His work included being a bus driver for CCTA, a supervisor in housekeeping at UHC and a dispatcher for Benway's Taxi. He was a very giving and dedicated husband, father, and grandfather. Steve cherished the Boston Red Sox and was an



ardent Dale Earnhardt racing fan. He enjoyed the radio station WOKO, especially C. K. and Andie and The Cowboy. He leaves his beloved wife of 23 years, Darlene (McSweeney) Wright; his children and spouses/partners, Steven and Marcey Wright, Joseph Wright and Tiffany Cochones, Tabetha Benoit and Chris Edwards, Mary Wright and her fiancé Paul Miller, Dorothy and John Carpentier, and Lori Wright and Gary Manning; nine loving grandchildren; two brothers and their wives, Emerson and Diane Wright, and Greg and Sadie Wright; his brothers and sisters-in-law, Edwin and Kim Robinson, Tina Nichols, Tammy and Ronald

Fleming, Jim and Paula McSweeney, Adam and Dawn McSweeney, Christina and David Racine, and Shannon McSweeney; and several nieces, nephews and cousins. Along with his parents, he was predeceased by his father-in-law James McSweeney, his mother-in-law Margaret McSweeney, and his brother-in-law Kevin McSweeney. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Wednesday in our Lady of the Holy Rosary Church, Richmond. Interment will be in Riverview Cemetery, Richmond. Memorial donations may be sent to the VNA, 1110 Prim Road, Colchester, VT 05446. Arranged by Elmwood- Meunier, Burlington.



Barry V. Washburn, 60, of Richmond. On Nov. 24, 2008, we lost our husband, father, beapa and best friend. Barry Vaughn Washburn was born to Margaret Montgomery and Fay Washburn on November 30, 1948 in Burlington and raised in Richmond where, except for a few years, he remained his entire life. He graduated from Richmond High School in 1966, and in that same year met his future wife Jackie. After attending Champlain College for a year and working part time at McNash Motors in Burlington, Barry

became very interested in Volkswagen and Porsche repair and left college to pursue this career. He stayed at McNash for 15 years while developing his craft and in 1979, he and Jackie purchased the Mobil station at exit 11 in Richmond. He had developed a great Porsche and VW following at that point and was able to continue the work he loved. Through this line of work he developed many personal relationships with customers which have endured throughout the years. In 1987, Barry and Jackie moved the automotive business to Huntington Road and expanded the Mobil station to a convenience store. They continued to run both businesses until selling the station in 1998 and concentrating their energies on auto repair and sales. Their son Brian and his wife Lisa purchased the balance of the business in 2006 and continue to operate it at the same location. Barry had a lifelong passion for automobiles, flying, and skiing, and like most Richmond children he developed his great ski technique at Cochran's ski area, but his greatest joy in life were his wife, children, grandchildren and wonderful daughter-in-law and son-in-law. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Jacqueline Benoit Washburn, formerly of St. Albans; their two children, Melissa Washburn Carrara and her husband Dean Carrara, and Brian Washburn and his wife Lisa (McEnany) and their two children Mary and Grace; and Barry's mother, Margaret Montgomery. His father, Fay Washburn, predeceased him in 1990. He also leaves his brother Christopher and his wife Suzanne of Swanton and another brother, Jeffrey Washburn of Hinesburg; his aunt, Verlie Washburn; and several cousins and a large extended family of sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, nieces and nephews, who will miss him greatly. Barry fought a difficult battle with multiple myeloma for four and a half years and without the kindness and wonderful professional help of many people would not have had the quality of life to continue on. Our family would like to extend our most heartfelt thanks to Dr. Barbara Grant, Joanne Neilson, Paul Larson, and all the wonderful caring staff at the Hematology Department at Fletcher Allen, all his friends in PPR, FAHC, the doctors and nursing staff on Shepardson 4

at Fletcher Allen and the rehab department at Fanny Allen, Vermont Respite House in Williston, and the kindness of the people who continued his care in the last few weeks of his life, Dr. Zale Berry, Clare, Nancy, Jeanette, Tom, Jan, Tonya, Earla Sue and everyone at the Hospice Center of Chittenden County. Our family could not have managed without your help and support, bless you. Thank you also to Dr. Edwin Aleya and his staff at Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston and the staff at Brigham and Women's Hospital. A celebration of Barry's life was held on Friday, December 5 at the Stoweflake Inn and Resort in Stowe. In lieu of flowers the family asks that you please make donations to Hospice of the Champlain Valley, 1110 Prim Road, Suite 1, Colchester, VT 05446, or Vermont Respite House, 99 Allen Brook Lane, Williston, VT 05495. Arrangements are by Gifford Funeral Service, 22 Depot St., Richmond.

COURT REPORT

October 24 - Fredrick J. Whitcomb, 28, Richmond, charged with vehicle operation, license suspended in Richmond on June 16; pleaded guilty; fined \$300.

November 10 - Everett White, 26, Huntington, charged with leaving the scene of crash in Williston on June 29; pleaded guilty; sentenced to two years, consecutive; charged vehicle operation - license suspended in Williston on June 29; pleaded guilty; sentenced to six months consecutive; charged with violation of conditions of release in Williston on June 29; pleaded guilty; sentenced to two months consecutive.

POLICE REPORT

On Wednesday, December 10, 2008 at approximately 10:22 AM a passing motorist noticed a fire at a mobile home at 1610 Huntington Road in Richmond. The motorist called 911 and then rendered assistance to the residents Sandra Chaplin, 66, and Peter Chaplin, 24, prior to the Fire Department's arrival. Richmond Fire Chief Tom Levesque advised upon arrival the central part of the trailer was completely engulfed in flames and the residents were being treated by Rescue personnel for burns.

The Chief advised Fire Departments from Huntington, Hinesburg, Bolton, and Williston responded to assist with fire suppression efforts.

The Vermont State Police were contacted to request assistance with conducting an Origin and Cause investigation. Fire Investigators from the Division of Fire Safety and the Vermont State Police responded to the scene and worked in conjunction with the Richmond Police Department to complete the investigation. The investigation showed the cause of this fire was Accidental.

Sandra Chaplin and her grandson Peter suffered first and second degree burns while escaping the residence. The mobile home was a total loss. Estimated value \$30,000.00.

WELCOME HOME

Huntington

(Chickanosky) Jeanne and Michael Chickanosky had a daughter, Charley Anne Chickanosky, on November 4, 2008 at the Fletcher Allen Health Center in Burlington, Vt.

(Goodrich) Ann-Marie (Lilley) and Timothy Goodrich had a daughter, Arden Lilley Goodrich on November 7 at the Fletcher

Allen Health Center in Burlington, Vt. (Hintze) Erica and Robert Hintze gave birth to a son, Summit Ashby Hintze, on November 7 at the Fletcher Allen Health Center in Burlington, Vt.

Advertisement for Bridge St. Cafe Grill & Pizza. Includes menu and a coupon: 'CLIP THIS AD AND BRING IT IN FOR One Free Appetizers for table of Four or more! Tuesday and Wednesday thru December Give the Gift of a Meal!!!! A Gift Certificate makes a wonderful present.'

Large advertisement for Patterson Fuels. Features a Christmas tree and Santa Claus. Text: 'Happy Holidays! All of us at Patterson Fuels would like to thank our customers for their patronage. We look forward to serving your needs throughout the coming months!' Includes contact information for Shelburne, Burlington, Richmond, and Jericho.

Advertisement for Affectionately Cats. Title: 'Affectionately Cats'. Subtitle: 'Feline Veterinary Hospital and Boarding Suites'. Section: 'Helpful Tips'. Text: 'WHEN YOUR CAT VOMITS SHOULD YOU BRING IT TO THE VET? YES. Vomiting is a sign that something is out of balance with your cat's health. It could be something as simple as a hairball, or more seriously a diet hypersensitivity or Inflammatory Bowel Disease. Catching a serious problem early on, could save your cat's life.' Includes a photo of a kitten and contact info: '860-CATS | 60 Commerce St. Williston VT'.

Advertisement for Village Service & Auto Repair. Title: 'Think Winter Tires!'. Text: 'Foreign & Domestic Auto Repair • Wrecker Service • Brakes • Exhaust • Shocks & Struts • Lifetime Muffler • Maintenance Service • Vermont State Inspection • Windshields Replaced'. Includes a photo of a tire and contact info: 'Ted & Jeff Alexander Rt 15, Underhill 899-2056'.

Merry Christmas from Brenda Boutin at the Mountain Gazette

Advertisement for John Leo & Sons Inc. Features a Christmas ornament with a car inside. Text: 'Our Best Holiday Wishes To You From the Leo Family John Leo & Sons Inc. Essex • 878-4982'.

LIBRARIES / LEGISLATIVE REPORT

DEBORAH RAWSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY, JERICHO

Art for December are the photographs of Bruce Gilbert Smith. In the display case we have pottery by Irene LaCroix of Rendal Pottery.

The library will be closed Wednesday, December 24, Thursday, December 25 and Friday, December 26. The library will be closing at 2:00 PM on Wednesday, December 31.

The next music Sunday will be January 4 at 2:00 PM. The Mount Mansfield High School Jazz band will be performing.

Picture Book Dramatization - Tuesday, December 23 at 10:00 AM.

Eighth grade students from the Camel's Hump Middle School will present a dramatic reading of the picture book *Hansel and Gretel*. Immediately following the reading children are invited to decorate a holiday cookie.

Story Times: Stories, songs, fingerplays, craft and snack for preschool children. Wednesdays at 11:00 AM, Jan 7, 14, 21, and 28; Thursdays at 10:00 AM, Jan 15, 22, and 29.

Family Story Times: Quiet stories for families with children preschool through grade two. Children are invited to wear pajamas and join us for a light bedtime snack, Thur at 6:30 pm: Jan 8, 22, and 29.

Please note there is no Family Time scheduled for Jan 15. Adults are asked to come to the Annual Meeting on that date at 7:00 PM.

Music With Peter: Thursday, January 8 at 9:00 AM. The ever popular Peter Alsen returns for the first of three performances. Families with preschool children will enjoy singing and moving to his songs.

After School Art : January 13 at 4:00 PM. Join Jen King in creating a decorative winter candle holder. For children in grades two and up. Advance registration required. Call: 899-4962. Funded by the Winnie Bell Learned Grant.

The annual meeting of the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library will be Thursday, January 15 at 7:00 PM. Voters are asked to vote on the library budget for the 09-10 budget year. The report has been mailed out to each household but if you need another copy please stop the library to pick one up.

The library is having a Memorable Memoir Writing Workshop. This workshop will show you how memoir writing can be easy and fun. Author Linda Bland will lead the workshop 2 Mondays: January 19 and 26 from 6:30-8:30 PM. The workshop is free and space is limited so call now to register: 899-4962. This workshop is sponsored by The Friends of the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library.

The Board of Trustees will meet Thursday, December 18 at 7:00 PM. There will be an opening for an Underhill Trustee beginning in March. Pick up a petition form at the Town Clerk's office to be put on the ballot for Town Meeting Day.

Please do not leave donations in our drop box or outside our door. We do not have storage space so anything left goes into recycling. We will take current bestsellers in excellent condition, Music CDs, Books on CD or DVDs without any scratches. Please bring them into the library and give to a staff member, otherwise things left outside will go into the trash.

The library will be closed Wednesday, December 24, Thursday, December 25 and Friday, December 26. The library will be closing at 2:00 PM on Wednesday, December 31. Have a happy and safe new year!

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

Thank you to everyone who attended the holiday open house! A special thank you to Tracey Campbell Pearson for reading, Dennis for sharing his delicious punch, Bonnie MacLeod for the beautiful harp music, Barb Adams and Patty Carroll for making crafts with the children, and to all the cookie bakers. Also, thanks to the Jericho Center Preservation

Association for lighting the tree, and of course to Santa.

Saturday, December 20, 9:00-10:30 AM, TAB (Teen Advisory Board-grades 7-12) Meeting. Join and have fun with the fabulous TABbers. Refreshments served. Please support the upcoming TAB Snowflake Chocolates fudge fundraiser!

The library will begin the process of automating the collection at the beginning of 2009. There are several tasks involved such as putting barcodes on books, re-shelving items and imputing records in the computer. Many volunteers are needed to complete this project. Please call the library for more information.

Saturday, January 17 at 7:00-9:00 PM the Jericho Town Library will be holding its third annual Contra Dance at the Jericho Community Center. You can bring a partner, your entire family, or come alone. Everyone is welcome, including absolute beginners. No prior experience is needed. Mark Sustic will do the calling and instruction of all dances. The music will be provided by the Fiddleheads. Other musicians with acoustic instruments are welcome to join in with the band. A donation of \$5 per person and \$10 for families is suggested at the door.

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

Story time including craft and snack is held every Wednesday upstairs at 10:00 AM. Come share the joy of books, finger plays, flannel board, and songs with guitar music led by Derek! Upcoming themes: Wednesday, December 24, 10:00 AM - Holiday Party; Wednesday, December 31, 10:00 AM - New Year's Eve.

The Board of Trustees meets regularly the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM at the library. The public is welcome so join us at our upcoming meetings on January 8th and February 5th. 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

Upcoming Events:
December 17, 6:30-7:00 PM, PJ Storytime. Jump into your pj's and head to the library for stories, crafts and activities led by Lynn Finn. Theme: Light & Candles.

December 18, 11:00 AM: Storytime. Stories and activities for preschoolers. Theme: Helping Others.

December 24 and 25 Library Closed. Happy Holidays!

December 31 & January 1, Library Closed. Happy New Years!

No Knitting Group in January due to the holidays.

January 3, 12:30-1:30 PM: Family Game Day. Enjoy the library's games or bring your own! Co-hosted by Matt Taylor.

January 9, 6:00 PM: Strategy & Board Games for Teens & Adults. Hosted by Matt Taylor.

January 13, 6:45pm - 8:15pm: Vermont Earth Institute Discussion Course: Menu for the Future. A six-week course exploring the connection between food and sustainability. The group will meet on Tuesday January 13, 20, and 27; February 3, 10 and 17. Call Victoria at 878-5639 for additional details or to sign up.

New Additions to the Collection: Adult Fiction: *Cross Country* (Patterson), *Just After Sunset* (King), *A Mercy* (Morrison), *Knit Two* (Jacobs). Adult Nonfiction: *Breakfast at Sally's: One Homeless Man's Inspirational Journey* (LeMieux), *Defining Moment: FDR's Hundred Days and His*

Triumph of Hope (Alter), *Film Club* (Gilmour), *Vermont Curiosities* (Wilson), *1001 Best Slow Cooker Recipes* (Spitler). *Juv: Mother Goose "What's the BIG Idea" Kits: Number Patterns, Part-Part-Whole, Recognizing Same and Different, Hardy Boys Mysteries:* over a dozen titles.

Westford Public Library is open Wednesday 1:00-7:00 PM, Thursday 10:00 AM-6:00 PM, Friday 12 noon-6:00 PM, and Saturday 10:00 AM-2:00 PM. We can be reached at 878-5639, westford_pl@vals.state.vt.us, and www.westford.lib.vt.us.

VARNUM LIBRARY, JEFFERSONVILLE

The Varnum Memorial Library in Jeffersonville is busy this fall! All ages can find something interesting at the library to take part in. There are programs for children and adults, free WiFi access, and of course books and materials to check out, including the ECHO Center pass.

We have programs for children and adults. We continue to host a popular story hour on Tuesdays at 2:30 PM for school-aged children. On December 13 the book will be *Herland* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman. Stop by or call the library to get a copy to read. Come take part!

The Varnum Memorial Library is open Mondays and Tuesdays from 1:00 to 8:00 PM and Thursdays and Saturdays from 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon. The library is a Home Card member, so your card here gains you access to almost all of the libraries in Chittenden County. Call 644-2117 if you have any questions.

Notes before the 2009 Legislative Session

By Rep. Bill Frank

Vermont House Representative

Thank you, voters of Jericho, Underhill and Bolton for your support in re-electing me to the Vermont House of Representatives. I enjoyed meeting and speaking with you at your doors and in your yards. I appreciate the kindness with which you greeted me and the thoughtfulness of your concerns and comments. It's a true honor to serve you in the legislature. I am looking forward to the upcoming session, which begins January 6.

This past summer and fall I was a member of two legislative committees. The Health Access Oversight committee is charged with issues that require legislative approval or action when the legislature is not in session. We regularly hear from the commissioners of the Department of Aging and Independent Living (DAIL) and the Office of Vermont Health Access (OVHA). We reviewed many proposals for 2009 budget rescissions. There are four senators and four representatives on the committee representing the Health and Welfare and Finance committees.

At the end of the last session I helped formulate a committee to study end of life care, palliative care, pain management and the pediatric part of each. This committee was made up of three senators and three representatives and I am a co-chair.

We took testimony from advocates, stakeholders, doctors, hospitals, the Commissioner of Health, the Attorney General, and many others. Our goal was to find out what is working in Vermont and what isn't and to make recommendations for legislative action. For example, a focus is physician training on end of life care. We are now writing our report and I am hopeful to get legislation passed this year; this is definitely a priority for me. The committee will meet in January to finalize the report that is due to the legislature January 15. I will post the report on my web site when it is finished.

Vermont requires that the legislature approve any relicensing of a nuclear power plant. The 40-year license of Vermont Yankee will expire in 2012 and Entergy, the plant owners, are applying for relicensing, so it is time for the legislature to act. To learn as much as I can about Vermont Yankee I attended an afternoon legislative briefing on Vermont Yankee in November. This answered many of my questions but of course raised even more. The Legislative Joint Fiscal Office's web site has much information on Yankee including a video of the November legislative briefing. Entergy is giving legislators a tour of the Yankee facility in December that I plan to take.

Meals on Wheels delivers a hot nutritious meal at the noon hour to elderly or disabled people or anyone who has difficulty preparing a daily meal. You can sign up for a hot meal to be delivered five days a week with a bagged meal for weekends, or as few as one or two meals a week. There is a large group of Underhill and Jericho volunteers who deliver these meals to our community residents. Currently volunteers are delivering as few as eight meals a day in Jericho and Underhill. If you know someone who could benefit from a hot meal delivered to their house, including a visit from a very friendly driver, call the Champlain Valley Agency on Aging at 865-0360 or 1-800-639-2084.

The Jericho-Underhill Ecumenical Ministry runs a food shelf at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on Route 15 (between Clark's Truck Center and JeriHill Hardware.) Food and clothing are distributed the third Saturday of each month. Food shelf attendance has grown significantly in the last year from 325 families to 576 families, a 77% increase in the number of families served over the past year. Over 1,800 people are now served.

Donations can be dropped off at the church on the Friday before distribution. To set up other times to drop off donations call the church at 899-3932. Donations are also collected at all the Jericho and Underhill churches and the Covenant Community Church on Route 15 in Essex. The distribution date before Christmas is Saturday, December 20. Please deliver donations on Friday, December 19. If you prefer, checks may be sent to The Ecumenical Ministry, P.O. Box 65, Jericho 05465. Remember the need is there all year, not just during this holiday season.

I like to hear from you; contact me at Rep.BillFrank@verizon.net, 899-3136 or 19 Poker Hill Road, Underhill 05489.

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ART / MUSIC / THEATER / COMING EVENTS

ART

TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES will be part of the **Artisans Showcase** at the Dianne Shullenberger Gallery on December 20 and 21 from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES, a fair trade program developed 60 years ago, provides marketing opportunities for artists from underdeveloped countries. These stores around the country are staffed by volunteers so the profits return to the artists and their communities. Ten countries will be represented in items for sale at the Showcase.

Sixteen local artists will be participating in the Showcase as well. They include Laura Zambarino—fiber, Joanne de la Bruere—photography, Shannon Greenlease—jewelry, Curtis Comfort—woodcarving, Bob Halstead—wood furniture, Shianna Kuhn—fiber, Linda Amundsen—mixed media, Jenny Hermenze—fiber clothing, Wilma and Franco Gatti—fiber, Betsy Chapek—mixed media, Meta Strick—dolls, Trudy Otis—woven scarves, Kait Armstrong—beads and silk, and Dianne Shullenberger—fiber and colored pencil.

The students of **Chris Gluck's art program** will have their signature animal cards for sale benefiting the Jericho Underhill Land Trust. Tracey Pearson will sell a limited number of out-of-print books: *The Storekeeper*, *The Purple Hat*, and *We Wish You A Merry Christmas*. All book sales will be to benefit the Community Center in Jericho.

On display at the **Flour Shop**, VT Rt. 15, Underhill, artwork by Chris Gluck's students. Photography by Chris White, Lea Cordney, Donna Owens, Tim Durbrow, and Fred Kent.

During the month of December, members of the **Essex Art League** will be exhibiting at several sites. At the Phoenix Book Store and Café at 21 Essex Way, members will show their impressions of still life paintings as well as winter scenes. At Colchester's Burnham Library on Rte. 2A they will exhibit a collection of small pictures. Mary Pacifici, Lorraine Hislop, Lynn Sullivan, and Jennifer Fay will be showing their work at the Given Health Center at 353 Blair Park in Williston. Lynn Powers will be exhibiting paintings at the Essex Town Offices at 81 Main Street, Essex Junction. For more information call 862-3014 or visit the league's web site at www.essexartleague.com.

At **Jacob Walker Art Gallery**, 14 members will be showing a variety of works from watercolors and pastels to acrylics. November 3 – December 12, Copley Hospital, Morrisville.

Burlington City Arts is pleased to announce David Kearns as the new Artist-in-Residence at the **Firehouse Center for the Visual Arts**. He will be at the Firehouse Center through December 31, PM, and every Saturday from 12 noon until 5:00 PM for the duration of the residency.

Adult Watercolor Classes beginning the week of January 5, at the Community Center in Jericho by Kathleen Berry Bergeron. Call for details 899-4628. Makes a great gift!!

During the month December members of the **Essex Art League** will be exhibiting at several sites. At the Phoenix Book Store and Café at 21 Essex Way members will show their impressions of still life paintings as well as winter scenes. Mary Pacifici, Lorraine Hislop, Lynn Sullivan, Jennifer Fay will be show their work at the Given Health Center at 353 Blair Park in Williston. Lynn Powers will be exhibiting paintings at the Essex Town Offices at 81 Main Street, Essex Junction. For more information call 862-3014 or visit the league's web site at www.essexartleague.com.

MUSIC

Tuesdays – Open Mic, 9:00 – 11:00 PM, Smuggler's Notch Inn, Jeffersonville, 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, Overtime Saloon, St. Albans; www.overtimesaloon.com

Open Mic Night, 6:30 PM on the first Wednes-

day of each month, Phoenix Books, Essex Shoppes and Cinema, Essex Center.

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

Saturdays – Acoustic music session, 1:00 – 4:00 PM, Foothills Bakery, Fairfax

Saturday, December 20
The Willoughbys present 'A Winter Solstice III' at the Richmond Library Community Room in Richmond. Contact 434-3036 or www.richmond.lib.vt.us

Damn Yankee String Band at 7:00 PM at the Cider House in Waterbury. Contact ffidler@worldnet.att.net

Contra Dance with **Nils Fredland** (caller) and **Crowfoot** (musicians) at 8:00 PM at the Capitol City Grange in Montpelier. Presented by the Contra Dance Umbrella. Part of regular series of dances on 1st, 3rd and 5th Saturdays. Bring clean, soft-soled shoes. Contact Todd and Cindy 744-6163.

THEATER

Lyric Theatre Company, a non-profit organization which is one of New England's largest volunteer community theatre groups, is pleased to announce events relating to our spring 2009 production of the classic Broadway musical *Hello, Dolly!* Speed-dating and Internet sites can't hold a candle to the irrepressible widow Dolly Gallagher Levi. Join us on a whirlwind race around New York at the turn-of-the-20th Century as we follow the adventures of America's most beloved matchmaker. The show's memorable music includes Put on Your Sunday Clothes (featured in Pixar's recent blockbuster WALL-E) and dazzling production numbers including the title song. *Hello, Dolly!* is one of the most beloved Broadway musicals of all time.

Kick-Off/Information Meeting for Lyric Theatre Company's production of *Hello, Dolly*, Wednesday, January 7, 2009, 7:00 PM, South Burlington High School, Dorset Street, South Burlington.

Meet members of the Artistic and Production Teams for Lyric Theatre Company's spring 2009 show—*Hello, Dolly!* The Artistic Team is looking for enthusiastic, responsible and talented performers—women, men, and children—who enjoy working as a team and expressing themselves through music, dance and layers of grease paint. *Hello, Dolly!* is a great family show. Lyric's sets, lights, costumes, props, special effects, make-up

and hair will transport the audience to turn-of-the-20th Century New York, home of the stage's most famous matchmaker. Visit the Lyric web site for character descriptions, audition details, paired readings, and information about diverse opportunities for involvement in behind-the-scenes roles with the production: www.lyrictheatrevt.org.

Children's Auditions (for ages 8-12) for Lyric Theatre Company's production of *Hello, Dolly*, Sunday, January 11, 2009, 1:00 PM, Kids & Fitness, 25 Joy Drive, South Burlington

The Artistic Team will be casting 3 to 5 children, stage ages 8 to 12 (with minimum actual age of 10) for roles in the chorus of Lyric Theatre Company's spring 2009 production of *Hello, Dolly!* Children must be able to carry a melody and have strong dancing ability. Scripts will be available for perusal in most community libraries in Chittenden County beginning in early December. Visit the Lyric web site for character descriptions, audition details, and information about diverse opportunities for involvement in behind-the-scenes roles with the production: www.lyrictheatrevt.org.

Adult Auditions for Lyric Theatre Company's production of *Hello, Dolly*, Monday-Thursday, January 12-15, 2009, 6:00 PM, South Burlington High School, Dorset Street, South Burlington.

The Artistic Team will be casting 13 to 17 women (6 named roles and 7 to 11 ensemble members) and 12 to 16 men (5 named roles and 7 to 11 ensemble members) for roles in Lyric Theatre Company's spring 2009 production of *Hello, Dolly!* The audition process involves singing, dancing, and reading. Scripts will be available for perusal in most community libraries in Chittenden County beginning in early December. Visit the Lyric web site for character descriptions, audition details, paired readings, and information about diverse opportunities for involvement in behind-the-scenes roles with the production: www.lyrictheatrevt.org.

COMING EVENTS

Wednesday, December 17

Phoenix Books and Café at the Essex Shoppes & Cinema will host **Bill Schubart**, who will read from and autograph his new book *Lamoille Stories: Uncle Benoit's Wake and Other Tales from Vermont* at 7:00 PM. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, please contact Michael DeSanto at 802-872-7111.

Ben and Jerry's night with Santa, 5:00 to 7:00 PM, visit Santa at University Mall. Show your Santa photo purchase at the University Mall Ben & Jerry's scoop shop to receive a free cone. Free coloring book, crayons, and a chocolate gold coin to take home. For more information, call 863-1066 x11.

Friday, December 19

English country dancing, Elley-Long Music Center, 223 Ethan Allen Ave., Colchester. 7:30 to 9:30 PM. All dances taught by Wendy Gilchrist, Martha Kent, and Val Medve. Music by "Improprity" (Lar Duggan on piano, Dominique Gagne on flute, Laura Markowitz on violin, Ana Ruesink on viola.) Info, 802-899-2378 or valandtom@verizon.net. Website: www.peterburrage.net/dance.

Mt. Mansfield Unitarian Universalist Fellowship to hold Family Christmas Eve Services

The Mt. Mansfield Unitarian Universalist Fellowship will sponsor a Family Christmas Eve service at the Underhill Town Hall on December 24, 4:00 to 5:00 PM. The service will include readings, carols, and candlelight. All ages and faiths are welcome.

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ONGOING EVENTS

ADULT ACTIVITIES

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

Westford Knitters Group meets the first Friday of each month, 6:00 – 8:30 PM at the Westford Library. All 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.

The **Vermont French Canadian Genealogy Society library** is open for research Tuesdays 7:00 to 9:30 PM and Saturdays 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The library will be closed December 24 and will reopen Saturday, January 3, 2009. We offer Vermont & Canadian Catholic Parish records, Vermont Vital Records on Microfilm, census records and other resources to assist with family history research.

The library is located at the Dupont Building, Hegeman Ave. across from the VT State Police building in Fort Ethan Allen, Colchester. For more information or appointment call 862-8082, 878-8081, or go online at www.vt-fcgs.org/library or email us at mail@vt-fcgs.org.

HEALTH GROUPS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

KIDS

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

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.

SENIORS

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

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

SPORTS ACTIVITIES

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

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

SUPPORT GROUPS

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

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

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

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

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

TOWN GOVERNMENT AND ORGANIZATIONS

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

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

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

Westford Food Shelf, open on the third Saturday of every month, 8:00 – 10:30 AM, United Church of Westford. All are welcome! Fresh produce, meat, and non-food items available. 2008 Schedule: November 15, December 20.

Jericho-Underhill Water District meets first Monday of each month at the United Church of Underhill,

Underhill Flats, 7:00 PM. For information, call 899-4076 or 899-3810.

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

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

Village of Jericho Board of Water Commissioners will hold their monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 16, 2008 at 7:00 PM at the Old Red Mill on 4B Red Mill Drive in Jericho.

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

Review continued from page 1

unexpectedly in the spring. Frances Westman, who passed away more recently, was a long-time teacher and one of the people interviewed by the Cambridge Elementary third graders when they wrote and published *Cambridge History from the Pens of Children* last spring.

Local history received more attention than usual in 2008, and not only from the elementary school students. The Cambridge Historical Society accepted the Sweet property in Jeffersonville, left to the society by the late Arlan Sweet. The historical society is currently deciding how best to use the house, which was originally built in the 1860s, and two outbuildings for programs and as community space.

In the spring, students from UVM's Place-based Landscape Inventory and Analysis class presented their analysis of Brewster Uplands Conservation Trust (BUCT), known locally as "the Bryan property." Their work considered the various stories told by the land and its inhabitants, flora and fauna, two-legged and four-legged, and looked at the land across geologic as well as historical time.

One outcome of the BUCT report was the development of a PLACE Program (Place-based Landscape Analysis and Community Education), a partnership between UVM and Shelburne Farms, with local support from the Vermont Land Trust, which oversees the BUCT. The local program took on the name Cambridge Crossroads and offered a number of opportunities to experience the town's landscape and its history directly. The culminating event was a forum designed to connect past, present, and future. Held November 7 and 8, the forum identified three projects to improve Cambridge: 1) a community website, 2) a multi-function community center, and 3) business development. Committees were formed for all three projects and decided to hold their meetings on the same day. The next meeting will be January 7, 2009 at 7:00 PM at Cambridge Elementary School. For more information, visit the Cambridge Crossroads website, www.cambridgecrossroads.net.

2008 also saw changes in the field of education. For the first time in several decades, no Summer Enrichment was offered in Lamoille North Supervisory Union. However, Cambridge Elementary was awarded a 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant that will be used for local summer enrichment in the future and is currently being used to offer academic support and enrichment three days a week after school. Cambridge students are among those enjoying the new Green Mountain Technology and Career Center, which celebrated its grand opening in March, shortly before LNSU Superintendent Terry Bailey traveled to China as part of the latest

Sino-American Seminar on Educational Leadership. In the summer Bailey resigned to take a position with the Burlington City School District. Dr. Debra Taylor accepted the position and took office in October.

As 2008 draws to a close, the School Board is preparing a budget for the 2009-10 school year and districtwide contract negotiations are underway. On the municipal side, the Town Office is preparing for the audit necessary for a bond, and for the standard audit prior to the creation of town reports. With no major issues looming on the horizon, 2009 should be off to a quiet start in Cambridge.



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Snowstorm welcomes Santa at Jericho Center tree lighting

Sunday, December 7, the community of Jericho Center gathered together for the Library Open House and Tree Lighting. The Library Trustees provided cookies and punch, Dennis Pearson's secret recipe, and while adults visited and children decorated holiday tree headbands and reindeer antler hats organized by Barb Adams and Patty Carroll. Tracy Campbell-Pearson entertained everyone with a reading of her book, *Where does Joe Go?* and other seasonal stories.

Following these activities, we all went outside to the Green to sing Christmas Carols, led by Annalise Shelmandine. Annalise is a voice instructor with Advance Music Center in Burlington and Evelyn Kwanza Studios in Essex. The tree lights miraculously turned on because of the hard work of Jim Adams, Matt Malmgren, Terry Hook, Jake Loeffler, and Jim Carroll.

As Annalise led us in *Oh, Christmas Tree*, Santa came down Bolger Hill on a Kubota tractor and trailer decorated with festive lights to the delight of the children and adults. Children received candy canes and good wishes from Santa and shared their Christmas wish lists with him. A wonderful time was had by all.

Donations will be accepted through the first of the year to pay for the electricity and lights for the tree. Collection jars are located at area businesses or donations can be mailed to the Jericho Center Preservation Association, Holiday Tree Fund, POB 1018, Jericho, VT. 05465.

Calvary Episcopal Church to hold holiday services

Calvary Episcopal Church invites you to join us for the following holiday services: Sunday, December 21 at 9:30 AM - Holy Eucharist with Advent Lessons and Carols; Wednesday, December 24 at 4:30 PM - Holy Eucharist with Christmas Pageant and the Blessing of the Creche; Wednesday, December 24 at 11:00 PM - Holy Eucharist with Christmas Carols.

Calvary Episcopal Church is located on Route 15, Underhill.

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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 arranged ahead of time by calling 865-0360.

- Thursday, December 18 – Ponderosa, Williston, 11:00 check in, 11:15 lunch. All you can eat buffet.
- Friday, December 19 – United Church of Hinesburg, 12:00 noon. BBQ chicken, rice pilaf, fall vegetables, fruit, bread, pears.
- Monday, December 22 – Covenant Church, Essex Center, 12:00 noon. Chicken and biscuit, mashed potatoes, spinach, peaches.
- Tuesday, December 23 – T-Bones, Hampton Inn, Colchester, 10:30 AM check in, 11:00 lunch. Roast Pork Dinner.
- Wednesday, December 24 – Ponderosa, Williston, 11:00 check in, 11:15 lunch. All you can eat buffet.
- Thursday, December 25 - Closed
- Friday, December 26 – Closed
- Monday, December 29 – Covenant Church, Essex Center, 12:00 noon. Manicotti, Italian vegetables, rolls, fruit-filled cookie.
- Tuesday December 30 – Vidalz, Susie Wilson Road, Essex, 10:30 AM check in, 11:00 AM lunch. Open-faced turkey sandwich meal.
- Wednesday, December 30 – Ponderosa, Williston, 11:00 check in, 11:15 lunch. All you can eat buffet.
- Thursday, January 1 – Closed

Strategies for holiday eating

The holidays are a time of extra activities and rich food. This can cause irregular eating that often means eating more “empty calories.” This leaves us malnourished while gaining weight. The holidays do not have to mean an extra five to ten pounds by January. Strategic planning can help avoid these holiday pitfalls.

Do not set yourself up for failure by setting unrealistic expectations such as “I won’t eat any _____” (fill in the blank with your personal pitfall such as sugar, chips, pastry, bread, etc.) Have enough of what you enjoy to avoid the sense of deprivation. A little of something can often be more satisfying than a lot. Savor what you eat; enjoy it and then stop. If you do overindulge, isolate the event. Start the next meal or day with new resolve. One slip is not going to derail your goals unless you let it be the beginning of a new habit.

If you are at a social gathering, sample what you want and then “move away from the food.” Visit with people. Use your mouth to converse rather than consume. When selecting what to eat be sure to add fresh fruits and vegetables to your choices. They provide nutrients plus their fiber makes you feel full, and fruits and vegetables take longer to eat.

Remember to chew your food thoroughly. Chewing is the first step in the digestive process. Salivary enzymes are mixed with the food and the teeth mechanically break down the food. The more slowly you eat, the fewer calories you consume.

Thirst can be mistaken for hunger. Make sure you are well hydrated. If your holidays include alcohol, replenishing your fluids is especially important because alcohol can cause dehydration. One way to ensure adequate hydration while decreasing alcohol con-

sumption is to begin your festivities with a glass of water, and for every glass of alcohol consumed, drink another glass of water.

When you are hungry the first bite of food tastes exquisite. As you continue to eat, the pleasure subsides and if you continue to consume, discomfort sets in. Be mindful when you eat. Stop when you have had enough. Do not continue to eat because it is on your plate. A good strategy is leaving a little on your plate.

Make sure you are well rested. People who are sleep deprived tend to gain weight. So take care of yourself and get some rest. You will be and have more fun while avoiding weight gain.

The holidays are meant to be a joyous time of gathering with friends and family. Overindulging can wreak havoc with your health and waistline. By being conscious and making healthful choices, you can enjoy the festivities and stay healthy at the same time.

Mary H. Kintner, D.C., R.N., is a chiropractor and nutritional consultant practicing in Jericho.

WELCOME HOME

Jeffersonville

(Roy) Patricia (Winslow) and Philip Roy had a son, Phineus Zephyr Roy, on November 8, 2008 at the Fletcher Allen Health Center in Burlington, Vt.

(Pastor) Rebecca (Morrow) and Francis Pastor has a son, Mason Francis Pastor, on November 7, 2008 at Copley Hospital, Morrisville, Vt.

Underhill

(Moulton) Amagela (Maglaris) and Jeffrey Moulton gave birth to a son, John Theodore Moulton, on September 19, 2008 at the Fletcher Allen Health Center in Burlington, Vt.

Westford

(Carpenter) Maureen (Kinney) and Brent Carpenter gave birth to a son, Nathan Jeffrey Carpenter, on November 6, 2008 at the Fletcher Allen Health Center in Burlington, Vt.

“Give a Pint, Get a Pound”

National Blood Donor Month, Dunkin’ Donuts and the American Red Cross will offer a coupon for a free pound of coffee to all presenting blood donors during the month of January at blood drives in Vermont.

The United Christian Assembly on Raceway Road in Jericho will host an American Red Cross blood drive on Wednesday, January 7 from 1:00 to 6:00 PM and the public is encouraged to attend.

To donate blood and platelets individuals must be at least 17 years of age, weigh at least 110 pounds, and be in general good health. For additional information regarding donor eligibility, please call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or visit www.newenglandblood.org.

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Blood donors recognized

American Red Cross Blood Services, New England Region named donors who have received their gallon pins. Thank you for helping us to acknowledge these caring individuals: Kevin McLaughlin, 1 gallon, Jericho; Dennis Hogan, 38 gallons, Jericho.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Jericho resident receives Norwich University Alumni Award

Jane Donahue-Holt, Norwich University class of 1983, was a recipient of the 2008 Sustained Service Award at the annual Alumni Parade held in September in Northfield, VT. She is recognized for demonstrating a constant interest in and support of Norwich University over time while exemplifying the ideals of a Norwich graduate. Before graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Education in 1983, Jane was active in several NU clubs including Chorus and the Honor Committee. She would go on to serve as a Blue and White Guide, as a Class Reunion volunteer, a nine-year term on the NU Alumni Association Board, and most recently as a member of the Board of Fellows. Her spirit of service led her to a rewarding career in education. Jane is currently employed at Burlington Technical Center as the Career Placement Coordinator, where she works with community employers to place students in work experiences that enhance their technical education. In addition, Jane is an adjunct professor for CCV, where she teaches Cisco Networking, and is the Executive Director of SkillsUSA Vermont, a national student leadership program for students in career and technical education programs. Continuing her own education, Jane earned an M.Ed. from St. Michael’s College in 1992, and Cisco Certified Network Associate and Networking Instructor certifications in 2001. Jane is still actively involved in the community, volunteering for Camp Ta-Kum-Ta and Make-A-Wish Foundation of Vermont.

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OBITUARIES



Leonard "Lenny" Kinsley Locke, 72, of Waterville passed away on Saturday, December 6, 2008 after a brief illness at his home surrounded by his loving family. Lenny was born on March 10, 1936 in Natick, Massachusetts, son of Maybelle (Morrill) Locke and the late Mayland Locke. He married the former Jean Hitchcock on October 8, 1961 in the Second Congregational Church, Jeffersonville. Lenny had been employed for many years as a civil engineer with the Webster-Martin Engineering firm. His first love and greatest joy was from his children and grandchildren. Lenny enjoyed hunting on Laraway Mountain, always enjoying deer season with his sons and grandsons. He looked forward to his family-operated annual sugar making operation. Lenny was a graduate of VT Tech, Class of 1964, and was the recipient of the 1994 VT Tech College Alumni Association Alumnus of the Year Award. He enjoyed woodworking and was proud to have built his own home and helped with his children's homes. He was passionate about his community, serving as a selectboard member for several years for Waterville, a town he respected, appreciated and loved. Lenny will be greatly missed by his many friends and family. He is survived by his loving wife of 47 years, Jean (Hitchcock) Locke of Waterville; his mother, Maybelle Locke of Waterville; his two sons, Aaron Locke and wife Dawn of Waterville and Randall Locke and wife Linda of Waterville; his daughter, Wanda Locke of Waterville; his five grandchildren, Brandi Rougier and husband Joe of Jeffersonville, and Jesse, Hunter, Evan and Lea Locke, all of Waterville; an "adopted" grandson, Skyler Adams of Waterville; his aunt, Marion Locke of Waterville; his uncle, George Giddings of North Hyde Park; several nieces, nephews, and cousins; and two trusted companions, "Pikachu" and "Foxy." He was also predeceased by several special aunts and uncles. Inurnment will be at the convenience of the family. Memorial contributions in Lenny's name may be made to The Waterville Town Hall Restoration Fund c/o Nancy Larose, P.O. Box 31, Waterville, VT 05492, a project Lenny held close to his heart and had hoped to see through to completion. Those who wish may forward their online condolences and tributes to www.awrichfuneralhomes.com. Arrangements are by John D. Workman, A. W. Rich Funeral Home - Fairfax Chapel, 1176 Main St., Fairfax, VT 05454.

Allen C. Reynolds, 84, of Westford passed away peacefully at 11:55 PM on Saturday, November 29, 2008. He was born in Milton on December 4, 1923, the son of Morton and Gladys (Guyette) Reynolds. On January 10, 1952 he was married in Shelburne, Vermont to Doris Irish of South Burlington. Allen was a caring and thoughtful husband to his wife Doris for nearly 57 years, a devoted father to his two sons Allen and James, and an outstanding grandfather to Emily and Rebecca, Dennis, Courtney and Meghan, Amanda and Brian Reynolds. Many will remember Allen as an avid outdoorsman and sportsman which included deer and duck hunting, water skiing, boating, snowmobiling and of course, walleye fishing in the spring. Others will remember him as a farmer or perhaps as the Arctic Cat snowmobile dealer but all will remember him as being fair, sincere, honest and always willing to lend a hand. We the immediate family of Allen Reynolds wish to take this moment to extend our utmost appreciation and thanks to all those who helped and supported us through this trying time. Also a very special thank you to the extremely thoughtful and caring nursing staff on Shepardson 4. Again, thank you. Funeral services will be private. Burial will be at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to the Vermont Respite House, 99 Allen Brook Road, Williston, VT 05495. Arrangements are in the care of the Ready Funeral & Cremation Service, South Chapel, 261 Shelburne Road, Burlington. To send online condolences, please visit www.readyfuneral.com.



Sam Briggs, 33, of Carbondale, Colorado passed away unexpectedly of natural causes on November 19, 2008 at his home in Carbondale. He was born on October 7, 1975, the son of David C. Briggs of White River Junction, Vermont and Sally A. Marcotte of Jericho, Vermont. Sam attended Thetford Academy and graduated from Hartford High School in 1994. He attended Colorado Mountain College and later earned an associate's degree in Network Systems Administration from Denver Technical College. In his work he was recognized by awards of excellence

and dedication. Most recently he worked as an IT manager for Aspen Valley Hospital in Aspen, Colorado. He became a true mountaineer and climbed all 54 of Colorado's "Fourteeners" (14,000+ feet); at the time of his death was working toward the goal of climbing all of the remaining highest 100 peaks in Colorado. He was a competitive extreme skier and had taught skiing at Keystone. He loved the Colorado Rockies but had grown up hiking in both the White Mountains of New Hampshire, including skiing in Tuckerman's Ravine, and the Green Mountains of Vermont. He engaged his family in his interests and his enthusiasm for outdoor adventure. He leaves his father and mother; two brothers, Benjamin Briggs of Victor, New York and Ethan Briggs of San Diego, California; his maternal grandmother, Margaret Bonnie Briggs of White River Junction, Vermont; his godmother, Marion Tyler of Haverhill, N.H.; and many immediate extended family members who were all very close to him. A memorial service will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in White River Junction on Monday, December 1. The family has asked that in lieu of flowers donations be made to the Colorado Mountain Club, the Appalachian Mountain Club or The American Lung Association.



Arthur "Bill" LeBlanc, 49, of Underhill died peacefully in Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington on Tuesday, November 18, 2008, surrounded by his loving family following a long struggle with advanced lung disease. Bill was born in Worcester, Massachusetts, on August 2, 1959, the son of Arthur D. Leaker and Sandra (Sherman) LeBlanc. He was self employed for many years as a master carpenter. Bill enjoyed gardening, woodworking, and wood carving, and he loved covered bridges. He was an amazing partner, father, grandfather, son, brother, and friend who provided for everyone and always put others ahead of himself. Bill is survived by his partner Bernadette Parker and her son Matthew Parker; three children, Melissa Bouchard, Desiree Truett and husband Timothy and their children, and William "Bill" LeBlanc and Jennifer Weston; his mother, Sandra LeBlanc; his father, Arthur Leaker; his brother, David Leaker;

his sisters, Heather and Jeff Baker and Elizabeth and Ken LaPlume; and nieces, nephews and friends. Family and friends were invited to gather on Monday, November 24, 2008 to celebrate Bill's life at the LaVigne Funeral Home and Cremation Service, 132 Main St. in Winooski. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Alpha 1 Foundation, 2937 S.W. 27th Ave., Suite 302, Miami, FL 33133. Online condolences may be sent to bill_guns@yahoo.com.



William J. Ryan, 69, of Jericho passed away peacefully on Sunday, December 7, 2008 after a courageous battle with cancer. Bill was born in the Bronx, N.Y. on July 1, 1939, the son of William F. and Mary (Habjan) Ryan. At the age of 9, after losing his father, he became the man of the house. He graduated from Rahway, N.J. High School in 1957 and joined the Air Force that same summer. After being stationed on Guam for 18 months, he was transferred to Pease Air Force base in Portsmouth, N.H. In 1960, he met his future wife of 47 years, Louise. They were married on October 28, 1961 in their hometown of Thetford Mines, Quebec and moved to New Jersey, where he took his first engineering job at Bell Labs. In 1965 he was hired by IBM and moved his family to Jericho. He built his home on top of

Cilley Hill Road with beautiful views of Mt. Mansfield and the Green Mountains. It was here he raised his family and called home ever since. After retiring from IBM in 1991, he spent the remainder of his life consulting for many engineering firms throughout the country, his last being Angstrom Technologies in Kentucky where he made many friends. Bill's days began among friends at the Racquet's Edge keeping in shape and playing racquetball. Bill was an accomplished pilot and flight instructor. He and Louise loved traveling and hiking. One of their goals was to hike the highest peak in every state, Mt. Hood being their most challenging. They enjoyed spending time in Colorado with their daughter and her family and also Sunday dinners at their son and daughter-in-law's. Bill fought a difficult battle with melanoma for 9 months. Throughout this time, never once did Bill complain about his circumstances. We often found him comforting and consoling those around him. He always said he wanted to be a contributing member of society and proved this by participating in an experimental treatment program in hopes to someday find a cure for malignant melanoma. Our family would like to thank this community. Without your kindness, generosity, and wonderful help this time would have been much more difficult. We would also like to thank all the caring staff at Fletcher Allen Shephardson 4. Bill is survived by his wife Louise; his sons, Michael of Burlington, Bill, Jr. and his wife Beth of El Carbon, Honduras. Tom and his wife Nancy of Williston; daughter Julie and her husband Kevin Graham of Montrose, Colo.; and eight grandchildren. He is also survived by his brother Peter and wife Maria of New Jersey and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his mother and brother Frederick. 2 Timothy 4:7, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Wednesday, December 10 at 11:00 AM in St. Thomas Roman Catholic Church, Underhill Center. Visiting hours were at the Ready Funeral Home, Mountain View Chapel, 68 Pinecrest Dr. in Essex Junction. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to World Gospel Missions c/o William and Beth Ryan, account #07951-ryan05. To send online condolences to his family, please visit www.readyfuneral.com. For more information about Bill's life, go to www.william_johnryan.com.

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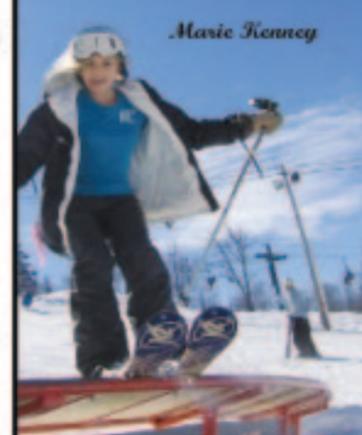
"On Dec. 26th I dislocated my shoulder and soon after decided to see Dr. Farrell and have him treat my injury. It was about two weeks after the accident had occurred that I had gone to my doctor about the condition of my shoulder. She was extremely surprised that I had that much movement back in such a short amount of time. After that appointment she guessed that I'd be out of the sling in about three to five weeks but to check up with her in two. For those two weeks I saw Tim about a half dozen times and followed his instructions right down to the point. When I saw my doctor she was blown away by my recovery and she gave me the OK to take off my sling and start really skiing again (skiing with a sling on isn't much fun). I owe my speedy recovery all to Dr. Farrell. Thanks docta T."
Evan DesLauriers



"After a few bad falls snowboarding I started experiencing chronic headaches. Our family physician recommended medication but it didn't help much. The work Dr. Farrell has done helped tremendously. Now I rarely get headaches and altogether feel better."
Laura Rogoski



"After running cross-country and free-style skiing for many years, I developed constant back pain. Dr. Farrell helps keep my back in line so I can do what I love without any pain. Thanks to Dr. Farrell, I no longer have to take ibuprofen all the time and my life is pain-free!"
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"Dr Farrell has helped me recover from torn ligaments in the lumbar region of my lower back. I injured my back on a snowboard fall in 2006 and had to take it easy on the slopes for over a year. Now I'm nearly back to full strength and able to hit jumps and not worry about lower back pain."
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Estate planning is life planning

It seems like there is always some discussion in Congress about changing the estate tax. With the deficit looming, it will never be eliminated, but the exemptions may go up to 3.5 million dollars. Over 95% of people pay no estate tax at all. There have even been proposals to eliminate the tax permanently. If Congress ever eliminates the tax, does this mean that there will no longer be a need for estate planning? No, it does not.

Estate taxation is just one of many considerations that go into estate planning. According to *Estate Tax: Myths and Realities*, a study by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities revised in 2005, approximately 99 percent of estates pay no estate tax at all. There are other taxes that are far more important for most people, including income taxes and capital gains taxes.

But even lumped together, taxes are not the primary motivation for estate planning. Estate planning is organizing your life to achieve your goals, both now and after you are gone. This includes organizing your assets to minimize the impact of disability, avoiding probate, minimizing income taxation, protecting your assets from creditors, ensuring your children's futures, and instilling your values in your descendants.

It has often been said that he who fails to plan, plans to fail. It is true in estate planning as in any endeavor. Without planning, you will leave those you love with a mess on their hands. For example, without planning, your incapacity could prove a nightmare. Who would pay the bills? How would they get the authority to do so? They would have to go to court and have you declared incompetent and have someone appointed as your guardian/conservator. This tedious process would come just as your family would be dealing with the financial and emotional drain of your disability. Any disagreements in the family would make the process even more problematic.

There is a better way. You can plan ahead and avoid these problems and achieve your goals. The basic documents of an estate plan

can help you plan for your future and that of your loved ones. A Revocable Trust helps you avoid probate and is very flexible. The trust helps you provide for your own incapacity. Later, after you are gone, the trust can help reinforce the values you have taught your children. It can do that by encouraging or discouraging certain behaviors that are predetermined by you.

A General Durable Power of Attorney can appoint someone to make financial decisions for you in the event of your incapacity. An Advance Directive can appoint someone to make health care decisions for you.

Whether or not you may be subject to estate taxes, estate planning is life planning. An estate planning attorney can help you plan for your future and that of your descendants.

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

Stephen Unsworth is the senior partner of the Law firm of Unsworth & Barra PLC, located in Essex Jct., VT. He is a member of the American Academy of Estate Planning Attorneys and the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys. He has been engaged in the practice of law for over 30 years. Please send general Estate Planning and Elder Law questions to: Attention: Patricia, Unsworth & Barra, PLC, 26 Railroad Ave., Essex Jct., VT 05452 or email your questions to: unsworthbarra@unsworthbarralaw.com. Topics may be addressed in future articles.

Till continued from page 1

considered running, but when the first call came in, he did not immediately say no. That led to countless other phone calls including one Democratic stalwart calling him from the airport in Denver. Till admits he "had a burr" about two issues in particular at that point in time. The first was the Governor's veto of a bill that would have forced Entergy to put money into their decommissioning fund. The second was the length of time it took to work with the Act 250 process to create playing fields on land donated to the high school. Till said his reaction was "state government isn't working the way it should for the people of Vermont."

Although the process of running for the House was time consuming and tiring, Till considered it to be "an amazing opportunity." I loved getting the chance to knock on three thousand doors and meet so many people and learn what's on their mind. Till said that from early August until election day, with one short break for parent's weekend to visit his middle daughter at Bowdoin College, he spent virtually every day that he wasn't in the office going out and meeting his constituents.

Till received more votes than any candidate including the incumbent, Bill Frank, but he believes this is only because as a novice, his name wasn't associated with any legislation which might create ill-

Till continued on page 12



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• Old art utensils, appliances, and clothing—There are many options: ReUse Zones at CSWD Drop-Off Centers, ReCycle North, local charities, etc.

Recycle
• NON-metallic paper, boxes, and cards—Unfortunately, bows, ribbons, and metallic and plastic wrappings must be disposed of in your household trash.
• Electronics—bring them to any Drop-Off Center
• Christmas trees—Used as Yule Fuel to generate heat and electricity! Bring them to Drop-Off Centers in Essex, Milton, Richmond, So. Burlington, Williston, and the McNeil Wood & Yard Waste Depot.
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BMRS students top finalists in Geography Bee

Congratulations to our top finalists in the Browns River Middle School Geography Bee: Ryan Morse, Joe Airoldi, Nils Meisterling, Molly Burke, Nick Cameron, Amy Bruce, Acadia Di Narodi, Jeremy Carter, and Jamie Carlson. Outstanding performance goes to our school representative, Robert Malinowski. We wish him the best of success in his qualifying test to compete at the state level.

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Sue Morse to describe secrets of wildlife scent markings

Some would say that deer, moose, bear and bobcat have a nose for news.

They're among the many mammals that leave detailed messages in the form of scent markings – communiqués scratched onto a tree, sprayed onto a stump, stomped into mud or otherwise placed to be seen and understood for the next member of its species that passes by.

This behavior will be the topic of "Making Sense of Scent Marking: The Medium is the Message," a talk by wildlife biologist and photographer Sue Morse at the Richmond Free Library in Richmond on Tuesday, December 16 at 7:00 PM.

Morse will use her award-winning wildlife photography to show how the placement of markings can reveal facts about the animal that left the sign and provide clues to its message.

She will show, for example, how whitetail bucks use their antlers to scrape and gouge trees before rubbing them with their foreheads, which deposits a buck's unique chemical signature on the exposed wood. That scent conveys the buck's identity and status within the herd and helps trigger the mating behavior of does.

Morse, a Jericho resident, is a nationally recognized naturalist and habitat specialist with 35 years of experience tracking wildlife and interpreting their activity. She founded Keeping Track, a nationwide, non-profit group based in Huntington that trains community volunteers to identify and monitor critical wildlife habitats. Her work has been featured on National Public Radio and in magazines such as Smithsonian, Audubon, The Nature Conservancy, Vermont Life and



Morse will describe how antlered bucks turn trees into the whitetail deer version of a personals column.

PHOTO BY SUSAN C. MORSE ©

Adirondack Life. She is also a fourth-generation forester.

Morse's presentation is free. Part of the Richmond Talks & Walks series, it is sponsored by the Richmond Land Trust and the Richmond Conservation Commission.

Till continued from page 10

feelings. In terms of committee assignments, Till feels the logical choice is for him to be placed on the Health Care Committee since the only other practicing physician in the House, Harry Chen, is retiring. Till would love to have a place on the Appropriations Committee, but thinks it is unlikely a freshman legislator would get such an assignment. The Ways and Means Committee is also of interest to him.

Till attended four days of legislator orientation in November. He was most impressed by the spirit

of collegiality in Montpelier and the notion that "people can disagree while still being agreeable." Till said the orientation stressed the need to remain civil because a person who disagrees with you one day, might co-sponsor a bill with you the next day. He noted that although the press focuses on the differences between legislators, 85% of the bills which came out of committees, did so with unanimous votes. "I was really impressed with the other freshman legislators," said Till. "There is a wide array of talents and wide range of backgrounds. The House is filled with very bright people working really hard on behalf of the citizens of Vermont." Till hopes to hold regular meetings with his constituents to keep them updated on the important issues of the day.

It is Till's hope that he can continue his medical practice while serving in Montpelier. He will have office hours on Monday when the Legislature is not in session, and plans to open the office on Saturday and be on-call on Sunday. He recognizes that the viability of this plan depends on whether people will plan their doctor visits over the weekend. The Legislature is not a high paying job and Till notes "this is a horrible time to be doing this economically." He looks forward to

Local girls participate in synchronized skating

The Ice Crystals Synchronized Skating Team will begin their competition schedule in January 2009. Who are the Ice Crystals, and what is synchronized skating?

The Ice Crystals Synchronized Skating Team was formed in 1996. The members range in age from 9 to 18. This year the team includes two local girls, Cassandra Tall and Meghan Decatur from Underhill. The remainder of the team members are from South Burlington, St. Albans, Burlington, Colchester, Waterville, Fairfield, and Essex Junction.

Synchronized skating is a form of team skating involving speed, accuracy, and intricate formations. Teams of eight to twenty perform various moves in unison on the ice, such as kicklines, blocks, moving circles, and pinwheels. Teams are judged by how well they skate in unison, by the accuracy of their formations, and by the synchronization of the team.

The Ice Crystals are coached by Martha Harding, who is in her ninth year with the team. A Master Rated Professional, Martha is also a registered professional in synchronized skating.

Each member is required not only to practice weekly as a team, but also to continue private lessons and be on the ice an additional 1 to 2 times a week. All girls are respectful of each other and



Back row left to right: Lizzie Biscoe, Meghan Decatur, Lillia Nelson, Molly Gosselin, Amanda Merchant, Frankie Sands. Middle Row left to right: Cassandra Tall, Kathleen Kilbourn, Catie Sands, Julia Pelkey, Jenny Eldred. Front: Riley Magoon.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

work very hard to represent Vermont and synchronized skating in a positive way.

The Ice Crystals practice every Sunday at Leddy Park Arena in Burlington from 3:10 to 4:10 PM. All are welcome to come and watch and support this wonderful group of girls. Their first exhibition was at the Lamoille Recreation Center in Morrisville on December 13.

Join the team or to be a corporate sponsor please contact Donna Decatur at 899-2478.

of a kind in the state.

Beyond that, Till said the number one issue he heard people talk about while going door to door was the property tax. He estimated that discussions of property taxes took place ten times as

Till continued on page 16



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Winter sports season starts at MMU - Part I

By Richard Mindell
Special to the Mountain Gazette
BOYS' BASKETBALL

Baby Cougars drop first two games

The 2008-09 MMU boys' basketball team has two difficult challenges this season: One - despite a 2-18 record last year, MMU has a bull's eye on its back because the Cougars have been atop the Vermont high school basketball world for several years, winning state championships in 2003 and 2005. Two - they are young, as in very young, as in very, very young. The MMU roster features only three seniors, Brian Wilcox, Mike Estes and Matt Bristol, with seven juniors, one sophomore and two freshmen, including starting center, Eric Suder. One of MMU's key reserves, Tom Lacey, is also a freshman, another key reserve, Ethan Brown, is a sophomore. "I have players who don't even have learners' permits yet," MMU head coach Jeff Davis lamented recently.

The youth movement was evident as the Cougars opened their 2008-09 Boys' Basketball season, last Saturday night, with a 64-38 home loss against an experienced Rice team that is expected to compete for top honors in the state this season. The 26-point victory margin does not tell the whole story of the game, however, as the boys from MMU held their own against their powerful foe, at least for a half.

Timely defense, a yeomen's effort on the boards against the bigger Rice players and the clutch shooting of Conner Leland (18 points) and Mike Estes (11 points) enabled the Cougars to hang with Rice for the entire first half, causing some consternation among Rice fans but pleasing the MMU faithful. The half ended with powerful Rice up by just two points, 27-25.

Things unraveled in the second-half, however, as Rice began to assert its experience and size advantage over the willing but younger Cougars. The Rice big men put on a passing clinic that caught the Cougars flat-footed. During one stretch, Rice ran off 14 straight points. In all, Rice outscored MMU 37-13 in the second half.

"I worry about our confidence with our tough schedule," Coach Davis said. MMU will play powerful Burlington twice and Rutland once during the next few weeks. "This is the Metro," Davis continued, referring to the tough Metro Conference. "We're playing the best teams in the state. There are no nights off."

The Cougars played better in their second game, a home contest against Spaulding, but their inexperience was as evident against Spaulding as it was in their loss to Rice. Down by 20 points in the first half in their own gym, the Cougars staged a comeback as improbable as it was exciting. Spaulding had dominated the Cougars in almost every aspect of the game until the boys from MMU decided to make a statement by outscoring Spaulding 31-10 in the second-half. A Tyler Lecours layup tied the score at 54-all with 1:59 left in the game. Unfortunately for the brash, but young Cougars, Spaulding regained its composure and, aided by two terrible calls by the officials in the last minute, pulled out the nail-biter 61-59.

"We're growing as a group," Davis said. "It's going to take time."

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Despite Slow Start, Youth Movement Not Expected to Deter Determined Cougars

The MMU boys' basketball team isn't the only team blessed with a crop of young athletes. The girls' team is nearly as young as the boys, and figures to suffer the same ills as any team with a roster full of young, talented, but inexperienced players. The girls' roster features seven sophomores, two juniors and only three seniors, Sara Church, Annie Penfield-Cyr and Katelyn Clark.

"We're young, so we're going to have the ups and downs of youth," Assistant Coach Tom Prim said.

"We're just finding ourselves as a team," senior Sara Church said,



Matt Bristol brings the ball upcourt against Rice.

PHOTO BY JOHN ARNST

but Church was careful to point out that the talent is there. "I look at our sophomores and I wonder how good they're going to be as seniors."

Katelyn Clarke said the team just needs time to mesh. "Since we have such a young team we haven't played together as much as the other teams in our league," she pointed out.

The Cougar's youthfulness has been evident in the early going. MMU dropped its first game in overtime against St. Johnsbury 42-39, although the Cougars came back after being down by ten to tie the score in regulation. The Cougars dropped their second game of the season to Essex, 58-44 to fall to 0-2.

MMU put it together and crushed Randolph 52-17 in the first round of the Spaulding Tournament last week for their first win of the season and earned a spot in the finals against Spaulding. Sophomore Halley Fisher led the Cougars with 15 points, while junior Maria Rademacher added 9 points. Against Spaulding in the finals, the Cougars had a tougher time putting the ball in the basket. Spaulding's stifling defense held the Cougars to 13 field goals in 38 attempts and no three-pointers on its way to a 54-34 win. Sophomores Hanna Nichols and Halley Fisher led the Cougars (1-3) with 7 points each.

Despite the team's slow start Assistant Coach Tom Prim has remained positive. Like the players, he knows it will take time, but he knows the youngsters will respond to the challenge. "We still expect to have a good year," he said. "We'll make the playoffs, without a doubt."

We'll take a look at Wrestling, Winter Track and Ice Hockey in Winter Sports, Part II, in the next issue.

Wilcox Named First Team All-State

MMU's bruising running back Brian Wilcox was named to the Burlington Free Press First-Team Vermont All-State Football squad this week. Despite a mid-season ankle injury and being used as a decoy in several games, the 229-pound Wilcox still amassed 1,484 yards rushing to lead all running backs in Vermont. Offensive tackle Joe Gallo was named second-team all-state. Defensive back Louie Toulis joined Gallo on the second-team. Fellow defensive back Jamie Wright earned All-State honorable mention. Congratulations to Brian, Joe, Louie and Jamie and to the coaches and the rest of the MMU varsity football team for a great season.

The next *Mountain Gazette* will be published on January 15 with a deadline of February 8.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Town of Underhill
Development Review Board (DRB) Meeting
Monday, January 5, 2009 at 6:30 PM
Meeting to be Held at the Underhill Town Hall,
Underhill Center, VT

The DRB will hold a sketch plan meeting on the application of Mike Tatro for a 3-lot subdivision of property he owns at 38 Mullen Road in Underhill, Vermont. This property is located in the Rural Residential zoning district.

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

EMPLOYMENT

Town of Westford
Seeking Part-time Road Crew Member

The Town of Westford is seeking qualified applicants for a part-time position for the summer and winter months. This is a skilled position involving skilled and unskilled labor tasks and the operation of equipment required for the maintenance and repair of town roads. Vermont CDL and knowledge of highway equipment and light repairs required.

For consideration, please submit application by December 31, 2008 to Town of Westford, Attn: Nanette Rogers, 1713 Vermont Route 128, Westford, VT 05494. For more information, or to request a job description or application, contact Nanette Rogers at 878-4587 or townclerk@westfordvt.us.

LEGAL NOTICE

OFFICIAL WARNING

ANNUAL MEETING
JERICHO UNDERHILL PARK DISTRICT

The legal voters of the towns of Jericho and Underhill in the County of Chittenden and the State of Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library (project room) in Jericho, Vermont on Wednesday, January 21, 2009 at 7:00 PM to act on the following articles:

- Article 1. Election of a Moderator
- Article 2. Act on Report of Trustees
- Article 3. Shall the District authorize the Trustees to borrow money for the temporary needs of the District?
- Article 4. Adoption of a budget
- Article 5. Other business thought proper when met.

Dated at Jericho, Vermont, December 11, 2008

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Village Cup continued from page 1

Burke has provided a survey for customers to fill out which was deliberately made open-ended to avoid asking leading questions. Roughly 250 surveys were filled out in November, with results coming in at ten to fifteen each day. Some suggestions, such as installing a fireplace, are not practical, but Burke wants to follow up on the ideas which are within the realm of possibility, and has enjoyed reading the responses. Two common themes were faster service and more food choices. In response to the former, Burke intends to institute a self-service, self-pay counter for muffins, scones and coffee. For the latter, Burke hopes to create more lunch options. He plans to have a notepad at the door so customers can make their sandwich selections: meat, vegetables, cheese, condiments, bread, etc., put their name on the slip, and drop it off at the counter. Other changes might include an expansion of the soup menu. Currently, the Village Cup serves one soup selection each day. Burke would like to expand on that and mentioned curried coconut pumpkin soup, southwestern chicken corn chowder, and shiitake mushroom soup as potential offerings. He may also expand the number of hot dishes being served.

Burke has considered continuing the specialized dinners which Evans used to create, but is not yet ready to do so, and will not expand the Village Cup's hours initially. At this point, he is concentrating on getting staff schedules in order. He recently lost a number of high school students who worked the afternoon shift because their winter sports schedules began. That sort of issue is standard for a small business, Burke noted. His daytime staff is very stable, and the turnover among high school students is predictable, based on seasonal sports. Burke was pleased that several college students who used to work at the Village Cup have expressed interest in helping out during their winter vacations. "People like working here," he said.

Burke admits he doesn't have experience in the food business but believes that if you run a business, you should know how to do everything and be willing to do it. He knows how to cook and bake, but for now he will be concentrating on getting systems in place to ensure the business runs smoothly. Burke said both customers and staff have been enthusiastic about his proposed changes, as well as his promise to keep many things the same. He recalls that on his first visit to the Village Cup as a patron, he made a connection on a source for maple syrup. He hopes it can continue to be the kind of place where that sort of networking takes place.

Burke has already noticed the regular groups who come in on a weekly basis, as well as the customers who come in daily. Over the Thanksgiving Day weekend, he was pleased to see multi-generational groups including those clearly visiting from out of town. He expects to see a similar pattern over Christmas and New Year's. Burke said most people he has spoken to are pleased there will still be local ownership of the Village Cup and that it will remain a bakery/café. He was amused by the local "rumor mill" which knew he was about to make the purchase before he had even closed. While working in a small town can be both an advantage and a disadvantage, Burke believes it is more of the former.

Burke intends to have a gala opening party, but said it is premature to do so until he feels comfortable with the business. Already he has had to deal with some complicated issues such as the failure of the heating system. He has invested in Energy Star freezers and a new high-efficiency dishwasher. He will have to close the Village Cup for a week after Christmas to install the latter. Burke will also install new flooring in the kitchen and paint the walls a brighter color.

In 2001, Burke's wife was diagnosed with an aggressive form of Parkinson's disease. This coincided with plans to tear down the building that housed the paintball facility in Williston. Burke took

advantage of this change in employment to devote three years to caring for his wife. The year after she died, Burke began a personal project, sprucing up the old cemetery on Pleasant Valley Road. He cleared the front of the property, built a stone wall and planted six blocks of lilies, a row of red peonies, and a thousand daffodils. Inspired by his efforts, other members of the community joined the work in what Burke refers to as the law of unintended consequences. Soon the cemetery saw its first burial in over one hundred years and since then, several neighbors have purchased plots. When he finished the project, Burke needed something else to do. He set his criteria for the kind of business he wanted to buy and the Village Cup fit the list.

Burke said he is in the business for the long haul. "I bought the building and I bought the business and in this economy I wouldn't have done that if I didn't intend to stay here. It's a terrible time to buy a business like this but people will still come in to buy coffee, even if they are cutting back on expensive dinners." Burke noted that coffee and pastries are still affordable and people will always enjoy visiting with neighbors. Since the Village Cup is a community center, he believes it is more likely to survive than a chain store. One of his criteria for a new venture was that he wanted to deal directly with people. "Obviously," said Burke, "the personal touch is important here."

Library continued from page 1

able 24-hours a day, seven days a week.

Hall said Jeannie Panner of the Friends of DRML was successful in a grant she wrote to IBM for five new computers.

Jericho and Underhill voters also will choose library trustees by secret ballot at town meeting March 3 in both towns.

Till continued from page 12

often as discussions of other policy issues. He would like to see a revenue neutral plan by which the sales tax is increased by a penny which would allow for a reduction in property taxes. The Governor of South Carolina claims a 60% decrease in property taxes from such a sales tax increase and while Till thinks the Vermont numbers would be one quarter of that, at best, he still thinks it is a good option. He would support letting individual communities vote on whether to raise the sales tax in their jurisdictions. Till recognizes that the sales tax is considered a regressive tax but notes that many items are exempt, while other taxable purchases such as television sets are clearly discretionary items.

Till rues that he probably won't have time to indulge in many of his former hobbies. A former marathoner, he doubts he will be able to spend much time jogging. In his spare time, he hopes he can continue to attend school sporting events and coaching lacrosse. He and Ann have three children. Brian, a graduate of Haverford College, works for the New American Foundation in Washington DC and writes a weekly column for Creators, Inc. His focus is on terrorism and the Middle East. Laura is a first year student at Bowdoin College with an interest in Central American affairs. Sara is a sophomore at Mt. Mansfield High School who plays hockey, lacrosse and field hockey, as well as being a part of the music and drama programs.

Till is very happy to be serving Bolton, Underhill and his home town of Jericho in the Statehouse. "The initial choice to come here was based on where is the best place to raise kids," he said. "This is a wonderful place to raise a family and such a wonderful community to be part of. It an honor to be able to serve the community, as well."

Teachers continued from page 1

main adamantly against a proposal by the board for a new health care plan with a higher deductible. Teachers and family members with large hospital or doctor bills would have to put up from \$1500 to \$3000 to pay their bills and then file for reimbursement with Blue Cross-Blue Shield's new Comp 1000 plan, he said. The board's position is that CESU will save 20 percent or \$400,000 a year, with \$300,000 returned to the teachers.

"It's a financial burden to the teachers because it's a \$3000 copay," Harris said. He said teachers would have to wait up to a month and a half before reimbursement. Harris also questioned the board's proposal of putting Comp 1000 into effect when the new contract begins in July because, he said, Blue Cross-Blue Shield is expected to announce it will either not raise its rate or raise it only up to 2 percent.

The union also objects to the board plan to change the teachers' 18-step salary index schedule to a different method. On an index schedule, teachers move up one step annually and across horizontally, qualifying for more pay depending on advanced degrees or education courses taken. The board proposal offers dollar amounts, claiming that to continue the index schedule, most of the money would go to teachers moving up and horizontally, with little money left to attract beginning teachers. Harris has said teaches with 30 years experience would be at the top of the scale and would lose money under the board's plan.

Harris said the union started negotiations months ago asking for a 7 percent increase, later modified to 6 percent, then to 4.5 percent December 8. He said the board offered 3.7 percent for the first year of a three-year agreement and 3.5 percent for the last two years.

Harris also objected to the board's proposal to change its eight-hour day "flex time" terms. He said the board could require teachers to work longer hours, work more nights and spend time at school on weekends for special events.

"Their 'flex time' plan was issued two contracts ago," Harris said. "They are getting a full day (from the teachers) so it's not a burden on the district. We can't take flex time if we are busy meeting with parents or in meetings."

Despite the logjam on the major issues, Harris said: "We had a very positive meeting, but I was surprised the board held as tight as they did on health care and salaries."

Harris said there are no negotiation meetings scheduled, but both sides agreed to stay in touch.

Salary and health care benefit disagreements led to the teachers striking for six days in 2006.

RECIPE BY MARIAN TOBIN

Spicy Ham Balls

- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 cup soft bread crumbs
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- ? teaspoon ground cloves
- 1 pound ground cooked ham
- 8 canned peach halves, drained



Combine egg, bread crumbs, cloves, milk, sugar and ham, mixing well; shape into eight balls. Place peaches hollow side up in a buttered shallow baking pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 1/2 hour.

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