

## Stevensville Cabin update and workshops

**Dear Friends of Stevensville Cabin** 

I am sorry, it has been an embarrassingly long time since I have been in touch, but I finally have some news to share.

As you may recall, we had a very successful workshop last June, during which Paul Ruta demonstrated techniques of logging with his two beautiful Percheron horses. We partially cleared a trail towards the back of the property, and felled and brought several trees down to the cabin that we are hoping to use in the restoration. Subsequent to that, Ernest Krusch transported the six logs kindly gifted to the project by a neighbor. Plus we were lucky enough to obtain some beautiful spruce logs from the Hinesburg

Some of these logs will form the basis of a second workshop on Hewing Logs in preparation for building (or in our case rebuilding) a pioneer-era log cabin. The workshop will be led by Miles Jenness of Vermont Heavy Timber. It will take place at the cabin (264 Stevensville Rd., Underhill) on Sunday, 19 July, 1:00 – 5:00 PM (please see the poster for more information).

The following week Miles and his crew will start the process of lismantling the cabin. Given the poor condition of the structure. and the potential dangers involved, they cannot have other people helping out with this part of the project; however, they would be happy for people to come and watch (from a distance). If you are interested in doing so, please get in touch with me before showing up (sara.lourie@mail.mcgill.ca or 802-585 0223).

Prior to the hewing workshop and the dismantle, there was a Treasure Hunt on Sunday, July 12 for anyone interested in learning to use metal detectors to find lost / buried items. This workshop was led by The Ring Finder (Mike Baker) (www.theringfinders.com/Mike.Baker/).

Lastly, I want to let you know that the project now has a website: www.stevensville-cabin.org. This is very much a work in progress, but I will do my best to keep it updated. Feel free to share it with others who might be interested

This is going to be (already has been!) a very costly project. If you are interested in helping financially with the restoration, there is a way to contribute via PayPal on the bottom of the front page. I will get a full budget up on the website soon, in addition to what I already have it is currently looking like it still needs ~\$120,000... that could be covered by approximately 50-100 people, each contributing \$100-250 (or 5-10 people contributing \$1000-2500). There may be a way to get a grant; however, I think that I need to set up a 501(c)(3) organization in order to apply for one. Have set up/run a 501(c)(3) before, I know that it is a lot of work! Still, I am trusting that there will be a way to make this happen somehow. If you are able to contribute financially please do so via the website, and/or let me know, I appreciate it hugely:-)

Whether or not you can help financially, I am delighted that you are interested in the project, and I thank you for being part of this exciting restoration.

## Two Sons Bakehouse in Jeffersonville

By Phyl Newbeck Special to the Mountain Gazette

For the last 15 years, Bill Hoag has been a fixture at Mansfield Breadworks in Stowe, but this summer he is embarking on a solo journey, opening Two Sons Bakehouse on VT Rt. 108 just down the road from Smugglers' Notch. The business, named for Hoag's sons Jackson (12) and Cashel (5), will continue to serve wholesale clients, as well as providing retail sales to locals and visitors to the

"I've been working with food since I was 15 or 16," Hoag said. "I did kitchen work and was a line cook and then I started baking bread at the restaurant. I was working nights and needed a second job. There was an opening for mornings at the Harvest Market in Stowe and I just fell in love with baking.

Hoag had a number of wholesale clients for Mansfield Breadworks and most of them are following him to his new location. He sells to outlets in Morrisville, Stowe, and Hardwick as well Citizen Cider in Burlington, and has just added Farm Store Jeffersonville. He is hoping to

find some additional establishments between his new location and Burlington. "We have a pretty strong following," he said.

Regarding retail, Hoag expects that his storefront will attract both locals and tourists. A resident of Johnson, he is banking on friends and neighbors coming to his new location but recognizes that the tourist trade should be a large part of his business. "Times are a little weird right now," he said, "so initially I will rely on wholesale.'

Hoag is known for his sourdough bread, but Two Sons Bakehouse will have much more than that. In addition to yeast dough burger buns, which will be sold to restaurants, there will be scones, muffins, cinnamon rolls, and cookies. Two Sons Bakehouse will be open from  $7:00~\mathrm{AM}-3:00~\mathrm{PM}$  and will serve both breakfast and lunch sandwiches. Hoag is also contemplating the occasional pizza night. Whenever possible, he will use local products, including rye from Craftsbury, wheat from St. Johnsbury, Boneyard Farm eggs, and MacKenzie lunch meats. "I want to keep it as local-oriented as possible," he said.

Hoag admits that opening his own business can seem over-

### **Chittenden County** Democratic VT Senate candidates' forum

The Jericho Democratic Committee is sponsoring a series of conversations with Chittenden County candidates for the Vermont Senate. The 45-minute sessions will be held on the evenings of Wednesday, July 22 and Tuesday, July 28, at 6:15 and 7:15 PM, with three (or four) candidates participating in each session. Each candidate will have two minutes to introduce him/herself, then the moderator will pose a few questions to the candidates. The session will conclude with a short Q&A from forum attendees. Sessions will be separated by a 15-minute break.

This series will provide an excellent opportunity for you to get to know the new Vermont Senate candidates and to hear again from incumbents seeking reelection. We hope you can attend all four conversations. The meetings will be held remotely, via Zoom. Please contact Gaye Symington (gsym@together.net) to receive the meeting link, by 5:00 PM on Wednesday, July 22 for the first session, or on July 28, for the second session.

Here is a complete schedule for the sessions:

Wednesday, July 22:

- 6:15 Bill Drislane, moderator. Candidates: Philip Baruth, Steve May, Kesha Ram;
- 7:15 Mike Sweeney, moderator. Candidates: Tom Chittenden, Louis Meyers, Chris Pearson, David Scherr. Tuesday, July 28:
- 6:15 Mike Sweeney, moderator. Candidates: Dylan Giambatista, June Heston, Michael Sirotkin;

• 7:15 Bill Drislane, moderator. Candidates: Ginny Lyons, Erhard Mahnke, Adam Roof.



Bill Hoag and his sons Cashel, 5 (left, with Bill) and Jackson, 12, stand before the newly opened Two Sons Bakehouse on VT Rt. 108, Jeffersonville, just down the road from Smugglers' Notch. The business has wholesale clients, and has just added the Farm Store in Jeffersonville. Hoag is known for his sourdough bread but Two Sons Bakehouse will also offer yeast dough burger buns, scones, muffins, cinnamon rolls, and cookies. Two Sons Bakehouse will be open from 7:00 AM-3:00 PM and will serve both breakfast and lunch sandwiches at tables outside the shop.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

whelming at times. "I'm not used to doing computer work," he said. "I'm probably the worst typist in the world but I'm learning new skills and doing things I've never done before, like office chores. It's overwhelming but it's also exciting.

Hoag does have some help with the business. He has three employees who came with him from Mansfield Breadworks. "They believe in what we're trying to do," he said, "and that's pretty exciting." As far as the namesake two sons are concerned, Cashel is too young to help out but Jackson may occasionally be enlisted to stack wood and wash dishes

The wholesale part of the business may be more lucrative initially but Hoag enjoys the opportunity to watch people savor his food at the retail end. He will have tables outside the shop but is not quite ready to commit to indoor dining until he sees how the pandemic plays out. "I want to keep my employees safe," he said. Hoag recognizes that he'll be working long hours, which can be rough on his family, but the good news is that he's home every night. "I chose this path," he said, "and I love baking."

#### **NEWS BRIEFS**

#### Free phone or online Town Hall on new rental assistance

Please join Vermont Legal Aid for a free 30-minute Town Hall about the new financial help renters can get to pay overdue rent. This Town Hall is on Thursday, July 16 at 10:00 AM. Attorney Jean Murray will talk about who can get this new financial help, how it works, and how to apply. Jean will also answer your questions live.

There are three ways to join the town hall:

- Attend and ask questions online at https://bit.ly/ VLA30MinuteTownHall
- Listen by phone at 1-888-788-0099 (toll-free) or 301-715-8592 (long-distance). Use meeting ID: 923-1186-6366.
- Attend and ask questions on Facebook Live at https:// www.facebook.com/VermontLegalAid/

Learn more online at https://vtlawhelp.org/coronavirusupdates#town-halls.

#### August primary election in Bolton

By Amy Grover, Bolton Town Clerk and Treasurer

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there are several important changes with respect to the upcoming Primary Election on Tuesday, August 11.

The State and the Town are both STRONGLY encouraging all voters to vote absentee/early ballot to help protect the health and safety of our poll workers and voters. Here are the options for requesting a ballot and information on returning your voted bal-

• Return the pre-paid postcard (simply TEAR OFF the return

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#### News briefs continued from page 1 -

portion and either drop it in the mail, or the drop box at the Town Office) that has been/will be sent to every voter by the Vermont Secretary of State. You probably have already received your postcard, and if you have already requested your ballot, just ignore it!

• Log into your My Voter Page, www.mvp.vermont.gov, and request your ballot online. This requires your driver's license number or the last four digits of your Social Security number.

• Call the Town Office and request that a ballot be mailed to

Please submit your request as soon as possible to ensure there is enough time for your ballot to be delivered to you, and for you to submit your voted ballot prior to the close of the polls on Election Day. Mail delivery sometimes takes three to five days!

Voted ballot return: Drop your voted ballot in the Town Office drop box or mail it in; the postage to return your voted ballot is prepaid by the State. Again, be sure to leave sufficient time for us to receive your ballot by mail!

Our official polling place at Smilie School will be open 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM on Election Day, with health officials' guidance measures in place. This is to accommodate same day voter registration, voters dropping off voted absentee ballots, and voters who have not voted early.

If you come to the polls on Election Day, PLEASE:

- DO NOT ENTER the building if you are feeling unwell or experiencing ANY symptoms.
- Wear a face covering for everyone's safety.
- · Respect and maintain the recommended spacing of six feet between people
- Understand that bathrooms will NOT be available.
- · Make plans for childcare. We are highly discouraging any children from entering the building with a voting adult.
  - Observe the one-way traffic pattern.
- Follow directions for disposing of your pen/pencil do not leave the pen/pencil you have used in the voting booth.
- Be patient! Thank you.

#### **Update on Notch Tunnel Project in Bolton**

By Amy Grover, Bolton Town Clerk and Treasurer PROJECT TYPE: Rehabilitation of the existing concrete box

culvert to include new lighting LOCATION: The Notch Road in Bolton under Interstate 89

TRAFFIC IMPACT DURING CONSTRUCTION: Speed limit will be temporarily reduced to 25 MPH within the construction zone for the safety of the workers and pedestrians. Daytime: Traffic control will be present, allowing for one-way alternating traffic through the tunnel. Pedestrians: All work will cease, and the traffic will be held on both sides of the culvert, allowing you to walk through. After you have safely reached the other side, all

Anticipated work for the week of Monday, July 13: Monday-Friday, 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM: Concrete slab repairs continue.

NOTE: The curing time for the newly poured concrete slab continues to go better than anticipated. However, if things change and there is a need for a nighttime closure, detour signs will be posted between 6:00 - 7:00 PM the evening of the closure. Motorists will then follow the signed detour signs from 7:00 PM -6:00 AM.

As part of Governor Scott's "Work Smart, Stay Safe" order, all construction crews are currently subject to safety restrictions and

Projected completion date: Friday, August 14, 2020

#### **Cambridge Hazard Mitigation** Plan update, public comment

By Marguerite Ladd, Cambridge Town Administrator

The Town and the Village of Cambridge are seeking public comments on the draft Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. The public comment period will run from through Monday, July 20, 2020.

To review the draft plan, visit the Town of Cambridge home http://cms7.revize.com/revize/cambridgevt/ news\_and\_information/index.php. Please submit written comments to LCPC Regional Planner, Lea Kilvadyova, at lea@lcncvt.org

In addition to the written comments, the Cambridge Plan Update Steering Committee will also be taking comment via a remote meeting held on July 16, 6:00 PM. For details to participate in the meeting, please use the following link: https://tinyurl.com/

The purpose of the Hazard Mitigation Plan is to identify local hazards that are a threat to the community, and outline mitigation actions to reduce vulnerability to threats including natural and man-made disasters. Maintaining an updated Hazard Mitigation Plan is one of the four requirements for ERAF (Emergency Relief Assistance Fund) status and is an eligibility requirement to apply for Hazard Mitigation Grants.

#### College honors

**Kyle G. Apgar** of Underhill, VT has been named to the Spring 2020 Dean's List at Western New England University, Springfield, MA. Apgar is graduating with a BSBA in Business Analytics & Information Management.

#### Primary Election great response to voting by mail

By Mark Schilling, Cambridge Town Clerk

Thank you for your support and participation! Nearly 200 Cambridge voters have already registered to Vote By Mail for the upcoming Primary. You can Vote By Mail also. For more information go to www.cambridgevt.org/votebymail.

Our goal is to protect the health of our voters and our election volunteers. Your return mail is prepaid, so there is no cost to you. We will even send your "I Voted" sticker with the ballot package.

Our regular polling location at the Cambridge Elementary School will be open, as usual, for both the Statewide Primary and November General Elections. Polling Hours are 7:00 AM – 7:00

Of course, if you have any questions please contact the Cambridge Town Clerk's Office, clerk@cambridgevt.org or 802-644-

#### Two Jericho vacancies on Park District Board of Trustees

The Park District has two vacancies on our board of trustees from the Town of Jericho. If you live in Jericho, visit and enjoy Mills Riverside Park, and would be interested in learning more about joining our board, please contact us jupdistrict@gmail.com or 899-2693. Thank you

#### Underhill housing online survey

town with information about the survey.

#### Westford notes

By Nanette Rogers, Westford Town Clerk

Find out what is going on in town in the July Edition of the Westford Newsletter! Read it online at https://westfordvt.us/wpcontent/uploads/2020/06/2020-July-Newsletter.pdf. To receive the newsletter in your email inbox, send your address to townclerk@westfordvt.us and we will add you to the mailing list! (Please note this list sometimes receives emails regarding natural disasters/emergency situations).

2020 Property Tax Bills: Based on a recommendation from the State, the Town has decided to delay setting the property tax rate until the beginning of August (the rate is usually set the beginning of July). The State made the recommendation due to the extension of filing Homestead Declarations until July 15. The first installment, which is usually due August 15, will be pushed out until September and will be due at least 30 days from the date of mailing. A definitive date will be announce as soon as it's avail-

Senior Luncheon — We are taking a break. There will be no senior luncheons for July and August. Hope to see everyone in September. Have a wonderful and healthy summer. Carol Howrigan, President

Dog Licenses — If you have not licensed your dog(s) please do so as soon as possible (licenses were due April 1). Late fees were waived through June 30. After July 1, late fees will be assessed. A current rabies certificate is required. If you are unsure if the current certificate is on file, please call or email the Town Office (878-4587 or townclerk@westfordvt.us). For your convenience, you may mail or drop off the fee and rabies certificate along with a self-addressed stamped envelope and we will mail the license to you. The fee after July 1 is \$17 unless your dog is spayed or neutered, in which case the fee is \$14.

There's a lot going on in town! Find out what the Selectboard is discussing in the minutes from their Thursday, June 25 meeting: https://westfordvt.us/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2020-06-25-Draft-Minutes.pdf.

The Underhill Planning Commission needs your help. An online survey at www.placesense.com/underhill is available for you to share your opinions and thoughts on housing options in Underhill. Please take the time to complete the survey. The more responses the better. A red card has also been mailed to each household in

#### VT Emergency Economic **Recovery Grants**

By Lucy Rogers, State Representative, Lamoille-3

Applications are open for the VT Emergency Economic Recovery Grants. You can check if your business meets the eligibility requirements, and file an application, at https:// accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/economic-recovery-grants.

For agricultural producers and processors, forestry businesses, healthcare providers, childcare providers / summer camps / after school programs, and cities / towns / villages / other government entities, the above link directs to the correct agency to be in touch with regarding access to COVID funds.

A series of webinars about the Economic Recovery Grants is available online at https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLr3M-6ZRamNuVSODxb0FRlM7292glzdxX. If you have experienced difficulty filing your application, please contact me (lrogers@leg.state.vt.us) so that I can ensure that the Agency of Commerce and Community Development is aware of the problems you've experienced.

#### **COLLEGE NEWS**

#### College graduates

Heather Cleary of Jeffersonville, VT has graduated from Vermont Technical College, Randolph Center, VT after the Practical Nursing program in the Spring 2020 semester.

Emily Fisher of Jeffersonville, VT has graduated from Vermont Technical College, Randolph Center, VT after the Practical Nursing program in the Spring 2020 semester.

Heather Hamlin of Underhill, VT has graduated from Vermont Technical College, Randolph Center, VT after the Practical

Nursing program in the Spring 2020 semester. Margaret Hayes of Waterbury, VT has graduated from Ver-

Mountain High

Pizza Pie

Curbside pickup only

Menu available at

mthighpizzapievermont.com

Monday 4:00 - 8:30 PM

Tuesday - Thursday

11:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Friday 11:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Saturday 11:00 AM - 8:30 PM

Sunday 4:00 - 8:30 PM

899-3718 Route 15,

Jeri-Hill Plaza, Jericho

mont Technical College, Randolph Center, VT after the Practical Nursing program in the Spring 2020 se-

> Timothy McCants of Waterbury, VT has graduated from Vermont Technical College, Randolph Center, VT after the Practical Nursing program in the Spring 2020 semester.

> Emily Menichelli of Underhill, VT graduated in May 2020, Summa Cum Laude, Bachelor of Science, from the University of New England, Biddeford, ME.

> Brittany Rudacille of Jericho, VT has graduated from Vermont Technical College, Randolph Center, VT after the Practical Nursing program in the Spring 2020 semester.

> Marcus Wadlington of Jeffersonville, VT has graduated from Vermont Technical College, Randolph Center, VT after the Practical Nursing program in the Spring 2020 semester.



#### tee/early voting in an effort to reduce the number of people at the polls. Please note: if you want TO VOTE ABSENTEE/EARLY, YOU MUST REQUEST A BALLOT to vote in the primary, ballots are NOT being mailed automatically. Ways to request an absentee/early ballot: • call the Town Office, 878-4587, and leave your name, phone number, address, and mailing address (if different); or • email townclerk@westfordvt.us with the same information requested above; or • request online through My Voter Page at https://mvp.vermont.gov/. Please contact the Town Office if you have problems accessing this system. This is usually because your date

of birth and driver's license are missing, which we will need to

Westford voting information

will be open 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM.

enter to resolve the issue.

The State Primary Election is Tuesday, August 11. The polls

Due to COVID-19 we are encouraging voters to vote by absen-

#### You will receive three ballots: Democratic, Progressive, and Republican. You MUST return ALL ballots or your vote will NOT count. Please follow the instructions on the envelopes carefully. Seal

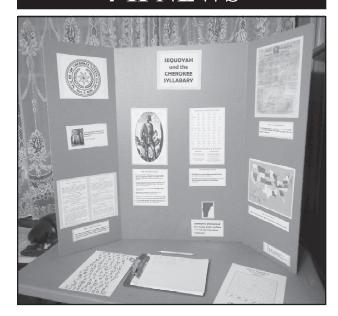
your voted ballot in the certificate envelope (the one you need to sign) and seal the remaining two ballots in the enveloped marked "unvoted ballots." Then seal both of these envelopes in the red and white return envelope. Failure to follow the instructions will result in your vote being deemed "defective" and not being counted (this is per State law).

Ballots MUST be received by 7:00 PM on Tuesday, August 11. Please allow sufficient time for mailing and returning the ballot. In addition to returning the ballots by mail, you may deliver them to the Town Office through Monday, August 10 (including utilizing the mail slot located to the left of the Town Office front door), or to the polls on voting day. Again, due to COVID-19 we are encouraging voters to return their ballots by mail.

The November General Election is Tuesday, November 3. It is likely that the State will mail ballots to all active voters; however, this has not been confirmed as of vet. There were several ballots from the EWSD vote that were returned to the Town Office due to incorrect addresses. To ensure your General Election ballot will be mailed to the correct address, please go to the My Voter Page (https://mvp.vermont.gov/) and review your information, making changes if needed. You may also request absentee ballots for all elections through the end of the calendar year on this page. As noted above, if you are unable to access the My Voter Page, please contact the Town Office.

If you have any questions about voting and absentee/early voting, please contact the Town Office, 878-4587 or townclerk@westfordvt.us.

#### 4-H NEWS



Sadie Haupt from Jericho and the Green Mountain 4-H Club entered a tabletop exhibit, Sequoyah and Cherokee Syllabary, in this year's virtual 4-H State Day.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UVM EXTENSION 4-H

## Area 4-H'ers join virtual 4-H State Day

Several local 4-H'ers participated in this year's 4-H State Day, which adopted a virtual format to allow members to showcase their talents and project work while observing social distancing.

The Flying Hooves 4-H Club in Colchester did a group stage presentation by stitching together individual videos, showing how they are staying connected while apart. Among the club members who participated were Lily Merchant, Essex; Patrick Jordan, and Jillian and Tucker Murdough, all from Essex Junction; and Adaline and Faith Ploof, Westford.

Adaline also prepared an illustrated talk on reducing plastics, an individual demonstration on chickens and a poster she titled *Horses for Hope*. Her sister Faith took part in a team demonstration about circus horses with Sophie Zemianek, St. Albans, called *Under the Big Top*.

Jericho 4-H'er Sadie Haupt, a member of the Green Mountain 4-H Club, created a tabletop exhibit, *Sequoyah and Cherokee Syllabary*. Rowan Beeman and Kate LaMantia, both from Richmond and members of the Midnight Riders 4-H Club, submitted posters. Rowan's featured the parts of an English saddle, while Kate's described the parts of an English bridle.

"Just a few months ago none of us could have imagined that we would be social distancing and that major events in the 4-H year, like State Day, would be canceled," says Allison Smith, University of Vermont (UVM) Extension Youth Learning Experiences coordinator. "Taking this event online was a new endeavor for all of us — staff, volunteers and youth — but it was exciting to see how quickly 4-H'ers from throughout the state adapted to change and found creative ways to share what they learned in 4-H this past year."

UVM Extension 4-H coordinates the annual 4-H State Day, a capstone event for Vermont 4-H members. This year 82 participants submitted 109 entries in 16 different categories via video and email to be evaluated on a number of criteria including presentation, workmanship, and creativity.

To learn more about 4-H in Chittenden County, contact Rose Garritano, *rosemarie.garritano@uvm.edu* or 802-651-8343, ext. 505.



The History Channel show American Pickers show is planning a return to New England (MA, CT, RI, ME, VT, and NH) in September, and is looking for leads throughout the region interesting characters with lots of interesting items (private collections only; no stores, malls, flea markets, museums, auctions, businesses, or anything open to the public). Due to COVID-19, these are very uncertain times and everything is changing daily. American Pickers takes the pandemic very seriously and will adjust the schedule accordingly for the safety of those who appear on the show and for the crew. We won't pick unless everybody is safe, so if we cannot make those dates, nobody's time is wasted as we will re-schedule to a date when conditions allow filming. American Pickers looks for different, unusual, and unique items, something never seen before and with an interesting story! Those interested may contact 1-855-OLD-RUST (653-7878) or American Pickers@cineflix.com.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

#### **COMING EVENTS**

 $\label{lem:in-person} \emph{IN-PERSON}, \emph{and VIRTUAL AND SOCIALLY DISTANCED} \\ \textbf{Sundays}$ 

Weekly peaceful protest for Black Lives Matter, 1:00 – 2:00 PM, VT Rts. 15/108N Rotary, Jeffersonville. Although this Roundabout Rally for Justice is held outdoors, masks are recommended; if you don't have one, we will have free masks available courtesy of the VT State Police. Bring a sign or use one of the extras that will be on site. Parking is available at the silo field and along Main Street. Please do not park on private property.

Tuesday, July 14

Underhill Historical Society meeting, 6:30 – 8:00 PM, Moore Park – outdoors – across from the Town Hall, Underhill Center. Due to the pandemic, masks will be mandatory, as will social distancing of six feet. Bring a lawn chair and your own beverage. Meeting will be cancelled if poor weather is forecast. For more information contact Scott Tower, *scotthtower@hotmail.com* or 802-318-5434.

MMCTV Board Meeting and News, 5:00 – 6:00 PM, online (details on joining at *MtMansfieldCTV.org*). Please join Mount Mansfield Community TV's virtual quarterly board meeting to hear what's happening at MMCTV. Though our small studio remains closed to the public, we are streaming and archiving more local meetings than ever live, providing cable and online viewers with content 24/7, and producing our *Virtually Yours* videos about local innovation during the pandemic. Note that DVDs for MMU Graduation 2020 are now available.

Woodland Legacy Planning, 7:00 - 8:00 PM, Zoom. Most private woodland owners wish to keep their land in the family and intact into the future. Unfortunately, many of these woodlands will not remain in the family. The biggest risk to a successful transfer from one generation to the next, is a lack of communication coupled with challenging family dynamics. Family lands can fail to make it to the next generation because the family cannot resolve differences or failed to address them during the lifetime of the owner(s). By starting the conversation now, holding family meetings, and establishing a system of governance, you can leave a long-term woodland legacy for the use and enjoyment of your family. Dr. Mary Sisock and Audrey Winograd, JD, MSW, experts on land legacy planning, will discuss the principles and processes of effective family meetings and governance. This presentation is for all woodland owners at any stage of the succession planning process. There will be time for Q&A. Register in advance at https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/ tZYpdOCpqT0oHNbScFo1UFAMIK5LzlINZ1a6. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Sponsored by Kings Point Capital Management; hosted by VWA.

Friday, July 17

Coffee with a Consulting Forester, 9:00 – 10:00 AM, on Zoom. Join Vermont Coverts and Vermont Woodlands Association for an informal discussion over coffee with Consulting Forester Alan Calfee. Alan, a licensed forester, is the principal forester at Calfee Woodland Management. He is also a woodland owner and conservationist. He loves working with landowners and helping them to achieve their woodland goals. Join us to learn about what a consulting forester does and ask Alan your forestry questions. We are excited to have him as part of our Friday morning Q&A. Join the Zoom Meeting online at <a href="https://useps.com/bases/b

Saturday, July 18

**Drive By Concert**, 7:00 – 8:30 PM, Waterville. Spruce Peak Arts presents Chad Hollister and Primo in a drive by concert. Enjoy the Music in Motion Series on Spruce Peak Arts' FB Live as regional favorites Chad Hollister and *Primo* (a.k.a. Jeff Poremski) perform from the back of a flatbed truck in Waterbury. The route will be announced in advance so people can be ready on their front steps to watch as the concert passes. The organizers hope to provide an end point on the route where people may enjoy music in their cars in a tailgate-style distanced format. An additional concert is planned in Waterbury Center on Saturday, June 27; Hyde Park/Johnson area, stay tuned! <a href="https://www.sprucepeakarts.org/drive-by-concert-series/">https://www.sprucepeakarts.org/drive-by-concert-series/</a>. Spruce Peak Arts is actively seeking additional support for artist fees, marketing, and overhead costs. Please contact Hope Sullivan, <a href="https://wsw.sprucepeakarts.org">hsullivan@sprucepeakarts.org</a> if interested in becoming a sponsor or in bringing the Drive By Concert Series to your town.

Drive-In to Stay Safe movie: Back to the Future, 8:29 PM (sunset), NVU-Johnson, College Hill, Johnson. Parking opens 30 minutes before sunset; film starts c.15 minutes after sunset. Catamount Arts and Northern Vermont University are partnering to bring this movie and concert series ant NVU-Johnson and NVU-Lyndon, through August 30. Tickets: \$20 per car. See http://www.catamountarts.org/film/drive-in-movie-and-music-series to view the complete schedule, purchase tickets, and view the code of conduct for attending.

One Life, One Home Planet, One Human Family Gathering, 2:00 – 3:00 PM, VT Rt. 15 at Mills Riverside Park, Jericho. This gathering is dedicated to Bubba Wallace and his courageous team who stood with him and continue to do so with their statement, "Let's go shut these haters up... We are one family." We are ONE human family in different colors dependent on ONE Home Planet. We need to look deeper than skin color to heal our Earth. Bring messages of human solidarity that include concern for the

Coming events continued on page 5

#### Our Retail Stores are Open!

Stop in and see us, we have missed you!



Blue Mall, So. Burlington • 802-863-8306 Factory Location, Route 15, Jericho • 802-899-3373 SnowflakeChocolate.com

#### **WORSHIP SERVICES**

## Weekly Peace Vigil welcomes Black Lives Matter too

The Peace Vigil is back from 5:30-6:00 PM on Thursdays at Richmond Congregational Church, 20 Church St., Richmond.

Our church would like to extend a hearty welcome to the community to share signs and waves of positivity, peace, diversity, justice, and inclusion such as "Black Lives Matter" and "Love Your Neighbor."

Please bring a sign, wear a mask, and stand physically distanced on our front lawn as we share the message of the type of community and world we all hope to live in. I hope to see you there!

Peace, Rev. Katelyn Macrae

## Online church services in Jeffersonville, Waterville

By Rev. Devon Thomas

Hey all, the folks at the Second Congo Church in Jeff and the Waterville Union Church would like to invite all who feel called to join us for our online church services Sunday at 10:30 AM. We are now having weekly Zoom services and any who would like to watch can do so via our Facebook pages. You can find those linked below.

So, as we like to say at the church: know that no matter who you are or where you are in life's journey, you are welcome at our church; or in this case, our web-space!

Peace

https://www.facebook.com/watervilleunionchurch https://www.facebook.com/SecondCongregationalUCC

## Introducing Pastor Mark Fay at Cambridge Christian Fellowship

Cambridge Christian Fellowship would like to announce the appointment of Mark Fay as Pastor and introduce him to the community. Mark was raised on a dairy farm on Cheesefactory Road in Shelburne. Mark and his wife Deborah now live in South Burlington, soon to be moving to Essex Junction. They have two children, Brandon and Austin, as well as a granddaughter, Charlotte.

They have been members of Vibrant Church in South Burlington for over 30 years. Mark was called to ministry in the late 90s and has served with his mom and dad in the VT Chittenden County Regional Corrections Facility for over 20 years. Both he and Deborah have been called to be Pastor here in Cambridge at CCF. They would like to welcome anyone and everyone to come, pray, worship and fellowship with them and the rest of the congregation. They have a strong belief that God has given us all purpose and they would be honored to help be a part of that with you.

## Jericho Congregational Church is here to help

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected our lives in numerous ways that we never could have imagined. Many of us are now working from home, home schooling, and in some cases, separated from those we care deeply about. We at Jericho Congregational Church want you to know that we are here for you during this unsettling time. If you need a listening ear or someone to pray with about any of the impacts of this crisis, please contact us at 858-5452 or <code>jcchelps@gmail.com</code>. You are not alone, and we are here to help.

## Online worship service at Good Shepherd

Please consider joining us for online worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church starting 9:00 AM every Sunday morning. You can connect with each podcast/video service from Sunday morning through Wednesday of every week.

Centering Prayer Meditation Practice is now available on Fridays. Thanks to Alan's leadership and Zoom-genius, you can now take part in Centering Prayer Practice from your own home every Friday at 8:30 AM. Everything you need to know is at *Goodshepherdjericho.org*. Click on *Menu* and then *Weekly Centering Prayer Meditation*. It is easy to join in. The Practice is geared for beginners through established meditaters.

We are an open-minded Christian community where people from different faith traditions, along with those who aren't sure where they belong or what they believe, seek the support of a non-judgmental, all-embracing spiritual home. Join us at *goodshepherdjericho.org*. No matter who you are, how you are physically or spiritually, or where you are on life's journey, we welcome you in the name and love of Christ.

Please contact Rev. Dr. Arnold Isidore Thomas, Pastor, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for more information or with any questions, at 802-503-9666 or pastorthomas@goodshepherdjericho.org.

#### **The Mountain Gazette**

6558 VT Route 116, Starksboro, VT 05487 (802) 453-6354 • mtngazette@gmavt.net

#### Deadline July 30, Published August 6, 2020

Brenda Boutin - publisher/ad design/delivery News writer - Phyl Newbeck, Editing -Sara Riley

Letter Policy: Maximun 450 words

One letter per writer, per calendar month.

Must be signed for attribution with writer's address and phone number.

Send your news to mtngazette@gmavt.net

#### **HEALTH NEWS**

#### Free Gardening for Health Program at UVMMC

Learn the basics of gardening combined with information on healthy eating, mindfulness, and physical activity for all ability levels in this free program of on-site workshops, a garden note-book, and regular emails. Participants must be UVMMC patients (or employees) who are beginner gardeners and have at least one of the following conditions: pre-diabetes, diabetes, high blood pressure, or overweight.

Workshops are eight weeks, meeting every other week on Tuesdays, 5:00 – 7:00 PM or Thursdays, 9:00 – 11:00 AM, at the UVM Medical Center's rooftop garden, with at home activities in between. All materials will be supplied. Accommodations have been made to ensure safety of participants in the setting of COVID-19, including a modified group size, mask requirements, and appropriate space for physical distancing.

Online registration can be found at www.uvmhealth.org/ medcentergardening. The first offering of this course began on June 2, but another will begin on August 4. For more information, contact HealthcareGarden@UVMHealth.org or 802-847-3833.

#### VT Department of Health: don't forget your mask!

There's nothing quite like summer in Vermont. The VT Department of Health knows folks want to be outside now more than ever. When you do leave the house, don't forget your face mask!

Masking up is a simple yet effective way to stop the spread of COVID-19. Wear a face mask over your nose and mouth whenever you can't keep at least six feet of distance from people you don't live with — indoors and outside.

For more tips, visit https://www.HealthVermont.gov/

- · Gentle Head to Toe Care
- · Unhurried Appointments
- · Flexible Scheduling
- Emergency Care
- Practicing Since 1989
- Former Registered Nurse
- · Nutritional Counseling
- · High Quality Supplements

· Orthotic/Foot Beds

**Kintner Chiropractic Center** 



397 VT Route 15, Jericho P.O. Box 63 Underhill, VT 05489



Dr. Mary H. Kintner

Phone (802) 899-5400 Fax (802) 899-5497

Email:

DrMaryDC@comcast.net www.JerichoChiro.com

#### Problems with health care access or insurance?

By Michael Sirotkin, State Senator, Chittenden

Vermont's Office of Health Care Advocate asked that I share with you info about their FREE services for all Vermonters in need of help accessing health care or having questions regarding health insurance. They also asked me to share the link concerning how to question the appropriateness Blue Cross' and MVP's most recent rate increase requests, of 6.3% and 7.3 % respectively, in these challenging times.

Health care access: The Office of the Health Care Advocate is here to help. This FREE resource is here for all Vermonters, regardless of income. The advocates help you solve problems related to health care. Contact 1-800-917-7787 or HCA@vtlegalaid.org to speak with a Health Care Advocate. More information is available online at https://vtlawhelp.org/health,

Health insurance proposed rate increases: Blue Cross Blue Shield of VT is asking for a 6.3% price increase and MVP Health Care is asking for a 7.3% price increase for small employers and individuals on Vermont Health Connect next year. The Green Mountain Care Board must approve the premium price increases before they can take effect. How would these increases affect Vermonters' access to care? Tell the Green Mountain Care Board what you think! www.bit.ly/SubmitAPublicComment.

Some additional information is also available on the web page at https://vtlawhelp.org/health-insurance-premium-increases-

#### What to expect at your next health care appointment

Do you need health care? Here's what you can expect at your

Whether you're a patient with a scheduled appointment, test, or procedure, or need to accompany a patient to one of our facilities, UVM Health Network wants to make your time with us more comfortable while ensuring your safety and the protection of our patients and staff.

To learn more about our safety measures for your in-person appointment, visit https://www.uvmhealth.org/Pages/Coronavirus/ What-Expect-Appointment-Procedure.aspx.

#### **Nightmares and Night Terrors**

Recently, I have found myself losing sleep because parents are always asking me questions about their children having nightmares and night terrors. They wonder if both are due to the coronavirus or something else. Fear not, for this week I shall tell you a bit about both of these sleep issues.

What is the difference?

Nightmares are simply scary dreams occurring in about 25% of children at least once a week. They usually occur during the second half of the night when dreaming is more intense. Night terrors, rarer but still seen in up to 3% of children, happen earlier in the evening before your child enters dream sleep, usually about an hour or two after they go to bed.

A nightmare may result in a child waking up and seeking comfort from parents because they are scared or frightened about something they dreamt about, such as the coronavirus affecting them or someone they love, and children will usually want to tell you about their bad dream.

A night terror results in a child sitting up in bed, often screaming or crying out, thrashing around often with eyes wide open, even sleepwalking, but with no response to parents being there to calm the child down, and no recall of the event the following morning. Night terrors tend to run in families and occur more in children who are overtired, stressed or fatigued. This could be from worrying too much about the coronavirus, but being overtired or stressed can also result in more nightmares as well.

Is a night terror dangerous?

Although scary to watch, a night terror is dangerous only if your child gets out of bed and begins to sleepwalk during one, so please be sure that you have a gate across the steps. If necessary, hold your child close to you while having the night terror so they do not get out of bed and hurt themselves.

How do you prevent nightmares and night terrors?

My best advice is to make sure your child gets a good night's sleep by having a regular bedtime and sleep routine. Avoid their being exposed to things that would make your child more anxious or stressed, such as too much watching or hearing news about the pandemic and COVID-19.

Hopefully, tips like these will result in pleasant dreams for you and your child once you've learned not to worry when it comes to your child's coronavirus stress-related or perhaps unrelated nightmares and night terrors.

Lewis First, MD, is Chief of Pediatrics at UVM Children's Hospital of Vermont Children's Hospital and Chair of the Department of Pediatrics at UVM Larner College of Medicine

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Where are you going so fast on those dirt roads?

To the Editor,

Our road crew and contractors (like the roadside mowing company) have been doing a great job ditching, grading, mowing, chipping, and keeping our roadways safe (and getting us grant money from the state to do so). Please be thoughtful and safe when driving near any work being done. Seems common sense, but it bears repeating.

When approaching work crews on our roads, please slow down (well below the posted speed limit) and wait to pass or go around the work site until it is safe to do so. When you go by at, near, or above the posted speed limit or don't wait until it's safe to pass, you're putting everyone in danger. That 30 seconds really isn't going to get you anywhere faster, so please show our road crew (and everyone else on the road) that you care about their safety. If they need to adjust (like lifting the blade of a grader or moving their vehicle to avoid you), it's likely that they'll need to add time to that particular project to, in this example, take another pass on grading that section.

Thank you for slowing down, waiting until it's safe to pass, and giving lots of space to road crew in and around their vehicles!

**Allison Hope** 

Westford Selectboard

#### Birds Nest recital videos of yore

The paring and sorting continues as we get ready to leave our house here (sadly). So, there are recital DVDs and VHS videos, from the Stone Age, to 2018 on the porch. If you would like to scoop one up to blackmail your children at their weddings and birthdays, please pick one up — free! I think it's years 2000-2018. Heeheeeheee... perfect payback!

Jean-Marie Milliken Jericho

Cristian Burgio, RPSGT

# "Our goal is to help you get a good night's sleep."

[ SLEEP MEDICINE AT COPLEY ]

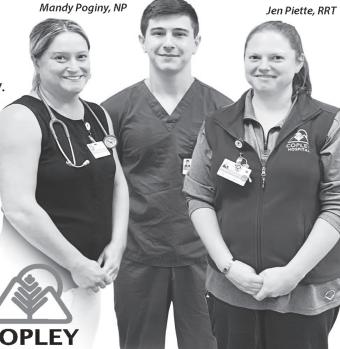
A good night's sleep is key to your health and well-being.

Not getting enough sleep affects your health, your job, and your family. Over time, lack of sleep can increase your risk of high blood pressure, heart attack or stroke.

#### Common sleep disorder symptoms include:

- fatigue poor concentration
- memory loss daytime sleepiness

If you think you may have a sleep disorder, talk to your doctor about a referral to the Sleep Clinic at Copley Hospital. Everyone deserves a good night's sleep.



528 Washington Highway, Morrisville 802-888-8888 www.copleyvt.org

#### Wood for Good updates

We hope everyone is enjoying the summer heat and staying

Despite the summer heat the Wood for Good team continues our efforts and have many cords ready to give away for the winter heating season.

I know its 100 degrees out, but if there is a family who could use the help please let us know.

We need help finding more families in need; surprisingly this has been the hardest challenge for us.

We have purchased a dump truck to help us deliver wood more efficiently in that we can bring larger loads and just dump the wood out, which is good news. This was partially made possible by generous donations; thanks to all who donated!

Barrett's tree service brought us a free load of wood; as I previously indicated, if you need a tree service please consider using them and mention Wood for Good as the referral so they will bring

We could use additional help running the splitter, and an experienced chainsaw operator.

\*\*\*Please ask around at community groups and religious groups about who needs wood and spread the word as much as pos-

Thanks for the help!

The Axelrods — Devin, Logan, and Eric

Advertise in the Business Directory

2 columns x 1.5 inches, \$18.00 each must purchase 5 - \$90.00

2 columns x 3 inches, \$23.00 each must purchase 5 - \$115.00

2 columns x 4 inches, \$35.00 each must purchase 5 - \$175.00

All ads must be prepaid. Contract prices available. Email Brenda at mtngazette.net

### **COMMUNITY COLUMNS**

#### Memories, Sunday work, seasick/ surprise birthday

By Douglas Boardman Special to the Mountain Gazette

People ask me how I can remember so much about my life. There is a lot I don't remember, but working on a farm and having strict parents form lifelong impressions on your psyche and your body! I was taught at an early age to not lie, cheat, steal, smoke, drink, or harm someone else or their property. I found out early on that I would get smacked for harming myself.

You have to realize the era I was brought up in. We didn't have toys! We had trees, stones, sticks, cow plops, ropes, electrical tape, and water. My favorite thing to do was climb trees. The smaller green ones were good for climbing up far enough to bend the tree, let go, and have it snap back up without breaking. Of course, sometimes it broke, and deposited me on the ground with an injury. Sometimes I bled and couldn't hide my injury. I always thought that I had punished myself enough without getting

It was dangerous but exciting, so I played in the trees a lot and hurt myself a lot. That is the reason I remember a lot of the past. When you get stung by a bee in the eye, when you break something, when you bleed, you remember. Even when I didn't hurt myself, I would get "whacked" for going where I wasn't supposed to go. That shaped my whole life and I still don't ask for help when I should and don't cry in public. I was able to keep going with bad partners in business with help from my life partner for 60 years and our five children, but it did still eat at my insides.

Our new neighborhood started filling up and the different builders put in one of the cheapest steel boilers (Repco) they could find. That turned out well for me because after about 20 years, the steel boilers started to leak. I started installing C.I. boilers in place of the leaking steel boilers on Sundays. I was working seven days a week, but I was home every night.

I might have mentioned it earlier, but my birthday was the same day as my wife Sandy's. The same day and the same year. She was born in Heaton Hospital in Montpelier, and I was born in my grandmother's farmhouse in Tunbridge. Sandy gave me two surprise birth presents and only two, because I got severely sick on both. We always celebrated our birthday together except for a couple, and always went to our favorite restaurant unless the kids threw a party for us.

Sandy liked to celebrate our birthday, but I didn't. She celebrated living another year, but I didn't want to get older, so when we were 69, I said I didn't want to celebrate my birthday anymore. Sandy still wanted to celebrate her birthday, and it worked out great. I had a piece of her cake and SHE blew out the candles. I haven't celebrated my birthday for 14 years and haven't blown out any candles.

One year Sandy thought I would like to have a more exciting birthday, so she got together with her best friend and got me and her friend's husband (Bob) tickets to a fishing trip off Montauk Point at midnight with 49 other guys. I had been in the Navy, but after you are off the ship for a while you lose your "sea-legs." I never liked the ocean, but I never got sick on lakes. We took a five-hour bus ride to get to Montauk Point from Poughkeepsie, NY, and got out to the fishing spot off a reef after dark. There were a couple of other fishing charters nearby and everyone had their lights on and were anchored around the reef.

Bob brought his big cooler with sandwiches, snacks, and drinks. I brought my own snacks and drinks. Bob had eaten most of his sandwiches before we got to the fishing grounds. I learned in the Navy you don't eat a lot on choppy waters. The more that goes in, the more that comes out. We got our poles set up, or I should say I got my pole set up. Bob got his out of the holder but quickly put it back and disappeared into the cabin. I put my bait in the water.

Since we were anchored, the boat was rocking back and forth

and end to end. All of a sudden, I caught the smell of vomit coming down the side of the boat from the bow and then I got a bite on my line. At that point the last thing that I wanted was a bluefish, but I hooked him and was reeling him in while vomiting with 40 other guys. I reeled the bluefish in and one of the fishing crew took the fish off my pole and said that he would clean it for me. I said I didn't want to see that fish again, so he threw the fish in back of me and I put the pole back in the holder.

Meanwhile, there was water, vomit, and my fish washing up and down bow to stern while I hung on to the railing of the boat. There were nine guys who were not sick, and five of them were crew members. They were cleaning fish and smoking cigars on the stern. We all tried to get the captain to go back to land, but he said he had to honor his contract, as long as there was someone who wanted to stay. We all, except for 10 people, said we would pay him extra to take us to shore, and a rich IBM guy offered to buy the guy's boat, but he wouldn't budge.

I staggered into the cabin and waded through liquid containing overflow from toilets and vomit. I found my friend holding onto a metal column. I went up to hold onto the metal pipe and he threw up on my shoe. It didn't matter much by that point because of the other crap on my shoes already. I asked him why he didn't go outside and throw up overboard and he said that he was afraid he'd lose his dentures in the ocean. I said, "Give me your damn teeth," and I put them in my pocket so he could go back to the deck. Meanwhile they took my bluefish, cleaned it, and put it in Bob's cooler.

We finally got home around 5:00 AM, and the following day we split the fish in half. I froze mine and later threw it away. Bob cooked his half, but not long enough. His whole family ended up getting sick and throwing up. That birthday didn't start well, didn't go well, and didn't end well.

Next column is another surprise birthday with a different sick-

#### Friendship

By Sue Kusserow Special to the Mountain Gazette

I am home after a brief, but painful, stay in the hospital. I have no wish to reiterate or bore you with my diagnosis and symptoms. Instead, the value of friends as a major and constant social support has been so apparent and enveloping. It urges me to write about this item of consequence in my life.

My first friend was Janet. She lived in a small town in Connecticut (yes, there were such things) and as preschool thespians, we played in the loft of the family barn. There were princes, trolls, and evil ones that required major lengthy plots to vanquish them... and there was, of course, a princess whose monarchy needed to triumphantly (as a page, I blew on a bent toy trumpet) be re-established against all odds. Of course, the page also led her to her throne (a hay bale draped with a flowery tablecloth). I was always the male lead: handsome but usually malevolent. She was always the princess. Of course, the fact that she was tiny with long blond hair, like a modern Rapunzel, and I was scraggly and covered with scratches from summer runs, rather type-cast us.

I took a school bus 18 miles to high school; there was no activities bus, so it was hard to cultivate and maintain friends. So, books became my quasi-friends. But in college/nursing curriculum, my class was bonded irrevocably by the startling and fearful awe of facing illness and death at 17-18 years old. After clinical classes, we huddled in a small dorm room, playing Canasta, to ease the loss of someone we had cared for and tried, with the innocence of neophytes, to help. Friendships from that time of growth and teenage despair will never be forgotten.

Years later, my husband and I moved to another small town... this time in Vermont... and the list of friends enlarged in number, scope, and depth. The weather was close and omnipotent; in a small town that will range from a topic for small talk, to the bonding that got us through the winters. Now, I can look back over the many unexpected swings and vagaries of dark nights and flooded creeks and rivers, and also the sharing of the rejoicing moments

So, how does one qualify as a friend? First, someone who listens, who neither judges nor overly sympathizes, but who knows how and when to quiet into a therapeutic distance. She may make a phone call to share a smile, or make an impulsive visit "just to catch up," or an errand and job completed, "because you have enough on your plate." Or it might be a tiny remembrance: "Hey, when you go to the grocery, I've picked some flowers. Stop by my porch and pick them up." Small things seem to grow exponentially when offered with unexpected friendship.

A friend is someone you can call in the middle of the night, who will pull you back into reality and tell you it's not a good time to talk... and appear the next morning with a pot of coffee and a "What is it?" as she grabs two mugs from the cupboard and milk from the refrig. You do not have to agree with your friend. You know that even in the raucous fun of a good debate, she will never be deliberately unkind. She will join in your laughter and, in your sadness, your tears will come from her eyes. But she will not accept whimpering about someone else. As a matter of fact, when I deliberately bellowed about someone, one friend said: "Do you really think you know that person well enough to be their judge? Where did you get such omnipotence?" Yet, a friend never asks you to be anything more than what you are.

A friend is brave in herself; she doesn't lie and expects you to reciprocate with equal honesty. But don't think I am describing some elevated being whose maturity is stifling. Above all, a friend shares her foibles, and chuckles at how alike we are!

Small innocuous things have a wonder all their own. Friends reach out with such gifts. And strangers mischievously creep into our lives with an awkward beauty uniquely blessed with their own personae. Some will move on as acquaintances; some will make an effort to connect; still others will grow with you and become a friend... not many, but enough to rejoice in happenstance and fate... and also, of course, in the work and responsibility it takes in any successful relationship.

My friends who have died still come back in the form of memories, spilling over my thoughts with balm and beauty. Due to my own aging process, I can still be a sympathetic conduit for gentle recall. It is a backwards journey, but a worthwhile one. There is a joy in sharing with others what I remember of such friends, still vital for me and for their families.

So, to friendship: raise a glass or a coffee cup. And don't forget a long hug... past and present, coming and going.

#### **Coming events** continued from page 3

Earth. Our health in body, spirit and mind are linked to a healthy planet. Every participant is encouraged to continue to show up on Saturdays from 2:00 – 3:00 PM, but to also start thinking of organizing into a local group to press for real, positive change.

Sunday-Wednesday, July 19-22

Spruce Peak Chamber Music Society Conversation: Molly Carr, from 12:00 PM Sunday until 12:00 PM Wednesday, on Spruce Peak Arts' YouTube Channel, https://t.e2ma.net/click/ wyi59f/8zv5n7m/kxxmsx. Reservations must be made in advance at https://www.sprucepeakarts.org. Molly Carr is a violist, chamber musician, co-founder of Project Music Heals Us, and faculty at the Juilliard School and Bard Conservatory of Music. Carr spoke with Jia Kim from her New York City home in June 2020. Her performance as the Carr-Petrova duo is Gershwin's Three Preludes for Viola and Piano. Molly was scheduled to play in Voices due to the coronavirus pandemic. Tickets are free; donations in lieu of a ticket purchase support the Spruce Peak Chamber music Society and participating musicians.

Tuesday, July 21

**Understanding Vermont Conservation Design**, 7:00 – 8:00 PM, on Zoom. Have you heard about Vermont Conservation Design? Would you like to learn a little more about it? Do you own property or love a particular piece of land, and want to know how it fits into this long-term vision? If so, this presentation may be for vou! Join UVM M.S. Field Naturalist alumna Carolyn Loeb as she gives a brief introduction to Vermont Conservation Design and then demonstrates how to use BioFinder, Vermont's online mapping tool for the design — step by step! Finally, test your knowledge on a sample property during an online group discussion. This presentation should give you the basic skills to begin looking at your own property on BioFinder to answer the questions: what makes my land special, and how is it connected to everything else? Register in advance for this meeting online at https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEtdygqTgpHdYa5KDT-1gCdWy0FPdv9Pvm. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Drive-In to Stay Safe concert: Beg, Steal, Borrow, 7:00 PM, NVU-Johnson, College Hill, Johnson. Catamount Arts and Northern Vermont University are partnering to bring this movie and concert series ant NVU-Johnson and NVU-Lyndon, through August 30. Tickets: \$20 per car. See http://www.catamountarts.org/ film/drive-in-movie-and-music-series to view the complete schedule, purchase tickets, and view the code of conduct for attending.

Saturday, July 25

United Church of Underhill Clutter Barn Tag Sale, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM, United Church, Park St., Underhill. The long-awaited Tag Sale will be open and ready to serve the people of our community. Grateful thanks to our many supporters who have helped us fill our shelves, tables and racks with gently used household donations over the past three months of our abbreviated season, restricted because of the COVID-19 crisis. Face masks or other face coverings are requited; contact tracing information (name, phone number, time of visit) will be recorded. Social distancing must be maintained as much as possible; inside shoppers must enter at the front and exit at the rear, and one-way foot traffic will be indicated inside the building. There will be tents set up behind the building, and there will be sanitizing stations available. Cashout stations will be outside the building. Please check the UCU website (*unitedchurchofunderhill.com/serve/clutter-barn*) for up to-date information

Sunday, July 26

Concert on the Common, Westford Common. The Larkspurs! Please note that all audience members should practice proper social distancing. Households that shelter together may share blanket space or closely seated chairs within their group zone, but please keep at least 6' away from other individuals or groups. Please wear masks whenever possible, when in closer proximity to others. If the crowd seems large then it would be strongly advised to wear masks ASAP.

Sunday-Wednesday, July 26-29

Spruce Peak Chamber Music Society Conversation: Michelle Ross, from 12:00 PM Sunday until 12:00 PM Wednesday, on Spruce Peak Arts' YouTube Channel, https://t.e2ma.net/click/ wvi59f/8zv5n7m/kxxmsx Reservations must be made in advance at https://www.sprucepeakarts.org. Michelle Ross is a violinist, chamber musician, collaborator, and Guest Concert Master and Artist in Residence at College of the Holy Cross. She spoke with Jia Kim from her home in New York City. Her performance recorded live at Le Poisson Rouge features her own composition, Nadja, improvisation, then Bach's Chaconne from Partita in D minor. Michelle performed in Stowe for Rhapsody in Stowe in January 2019. Tickets are free; donations in lieu of a ticket purchase support the Spruce Peak Chamber music Society and participating musicians.

Saturday, August 1

Drive-In to Stay Safe movie: E.T. The Extraterrestrial, 8:15 PM (sunset), NVU-Johnson, College Hill, Johnson. Parking opens

30 minutes before sunset; film starts c.15 minutes after sunset. Catamount Arts and Northern Vermont University are partnering to bring this movie and concert series ant NVU-Johnson and NVU-Lyndon, through August 30. Tickets: \$20 per car. See http:/ www.catamountarts.org/film/drive-in-movie-and-music-series to view the complete schedule, purchase tickets, and view the code of conduct for attending

Saturday, August 8

Drive-In to Stay Safe concert: Zach Nugent Band, 7:00 PM, NVU-Johnson, College Hill, Johnson. Catamount Arts and Northern Vermont University are partnering to bring this movie and concert series ant NVU-Johnson and NVU-Lyndon, through August 30. Tickets: \$20 per car. See http://www.catamountarts.org/ film/drive-in-movie-and-music-series to view the complete schedule, purchase tickets, and view the code of conduct for attending.

Saturday, August 15

Drive-In to Stay Safe movie: The Great Outdoors, 7:55 PM (sunset), NVU-Johnson, College Hill, Johnson. Parking opens 30 minutes before sunset; film starts c.15 minutes after sunset. Catamount Arts and Northern Vermont University are partnering to bring this movie and concert series ant NVU-Johnson and NVU-Lyndon, through August 30. Tickets: \$20 per car. See http:/ www.catamountarts.org/film/drive-in-movie-and-music-series to view the complete schedule, purchase tickets, and view the code

of conduct for attending.

Saturday, August 22

Drive-In to Stay Safe concert: Root Shock, 7:00 PM, NVU-Johnson, College Hill, Johnson. Catamount Arts and Northern Vermont University are partnering to bring this movie and concert series ant NVU-Johnson and NVU-Lyndon, through August 30. Tickets: \$20 per car. See http://www.catamountarts.org/film/ drive-in-movie-and-music-series to view the complete schedule, purchase tickets, and view the code of conduct for attending.

Saturday, August 29

Drive-In to Stay Safe movie: Harry and the Hendersons, 7:31 PM (sunset), NVU-Johnson, College Hill, Johnson. Parking opens 30 minutes before sunset; film starts c.15 minutes after sunset. Catamount Arts and Northern Vermont University are partnering to bring this movie and concert series ant NVU-Johnson and NVU-Lyndon, through August 30. Tickets: \$20 per car. See http:/ www.catamountarts.org/film/drive-in-movie-and-music-series to view the complete schedule, purchase tickets, and view the code of conduct for attending.

#### LEGISLATIVE REPORTS



#### Wild fruits of summer

Of all the wild fruits of summer, wild black raspberries are the PHOTO BY SARA RILEY

#### Legislature adjourned until Aug. 25

By Lucy Rogers, State Representative, Lamoille-3

The Vermont House of Representatives met via Zoom from 10:00 AM – 9:00 PM on Friday, June 26. We have now finished our work for the spring/early summer, and have adjourned until Tuesday, August 25. In August, we will reconvene to pass the state budget for the final three quarters of Fiscal Year 2021 (October 1, 2020-June 30, 2021), along with a few remaining bills.

Our work during the last two days before adjourning included: • Finalizing the state budget for the first quarter of the next fiscal year (July 1-September 30), which will maintain the operations of the state until we have more information on projected revenues and needs for the remainder of the fiscal year.

· Finalizing allocations for approximately \$1 billion of Coronavirus Relief Fund money, which came into Vermont through the federal CARES act to support our short-term response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The legislature chose to prioritize stabilization for our healthcare system, economic relief for businesses, housing initiatives, broadband expansion, and support for local towns/municipalities. I will be reaching out over the summer to ensure that those in our district who could benefit from these funds are aware of how to access and use them.

• Passing S.219, An Act Relating to Addressing Racial Bias and Excessive Use of Force by Law Enforcement. This bill passed unanimously through the House on a roll call vote and is a small step toward the much larger changes that will be required to address systemic racism in Vermont. S.219 includes provisions dealing with race data reporting by law enforcement, use of body worn cameras by law enforcement, and a new crime within law enforcement for using a prohibited restraints that causes serious bodily injury or death. In our work on S.219, we heard clearly from communities of color and racial justice organizations on the need to listen deeply and receive critical expertise prior to pushing forward with legislation. At the same time, we also heard clearly the importance that we not delay in responding to this moment of heightened awareness of racial inequity. The result of these conversations was S.219, a bill which takes a few immediate steps forward that received wide consensus from impacted stakeholders, and also includes a commitment to return to this work when the legislature reconvenes in August. The bill can be read on page 4758 here: https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2020/Docs/ CALENDAR/hc200626.pdf.

• Creating a process by which we may continue to legislate remotely in the future if the conditions of COVID-19 make it unsafe to meet in person when we reconvene on August 25.

Please be in touch if you would like more information or have questions regarding the above information. Although the legislative session is adjourned for the next two months, I will still be available by phone or email to listen to your thoughts and to assist with any needs as they arise (*LRogers@leg.state.vt.us*; 730-0604). Thank you for placing your trust in me to represent our community during this unprecedented time.

## SEND US YOUR NEWS.

Email it to: mtngazette@gmavt.net

#### Chittenden 8-3 Legislative Report

Robert Bancroft, State Representative, Chittenden-8-3

It was a long and busy week in the House. At 8:40 PM on Friday, the House temporarily adjourned until Tuesday, August 25. If you were outside, you could have heard the collective sigh from Representatives around the state. While seven new bills were passed during the week, there were another 14 previously passed bills that came up for consideration. (I voted for all new bills and the final versions of the amended ones.) A majority of the week was spent reconciling the differences between House and Senate positions on bills which would have normally been handled through Committees of Conference (COC). Without a COC, due to the COVID crisis, bills were shuttled back and forth between the two bodies until a final resolution was found.

So far, the House has passed 102 bills in 2020, but only 63 were passed by both the House and Senate. A complete listing of passed bills in 2020 and 2019 can be found at the legislature's

The House has recessed until August 25. At that time, we should have a better understanding of the State's financial situation. By then, we will have updated estimates of tax revenues and a better understanding of federal assistance. The most important task will be to pass a budget for the remaining nine months of FY21.

Four of the seven bills passed by the House were also passed by the Senate. They are:

- S.219, which prohibits law enforcement officers from using chokeholds, mandates the wearing of video cameras by state police officers, and requires the Legislature to continue to work on criminal and racial justice legislation;
- S.232 deals with the expansion of juvenile jurisdiction in Ver-
- S.342 appropriates \$5.2 million from the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) to provide grants to units of local government for the reimbursement of eligible COVID expenses incurred on or before December 30, 2020. An additional \$5.0 million is appropriated for municipal records digitization grants; and

• S.351 appropriated \$29.8 million from the CRF to assist dairy farmers, other agricultural producers, dairy processors, commercial slaughterhouses, and farmers' markets.

The only significant controversy last week came about when H.961 (three-month budget) came back to the House with Senate amendments. The controversy revolved around two related issues. The first was an amendment to postpone funding the Pay Act (pay increases to state workers) until the legislature returned in August, when we will have a better understanding of the State's financial situation. The amendment was defeated. (I voted for it.)

The second issue dealt with a provision that establishes a new statutory process for setting the pay for legislators. Under the current method, legislators receive CPI-based COLA increases. The new method calls for legislators to receive the same pay increase legislators set for constitutional (elected) officers. This will undoubtedly lead to significantly larger pay increases. For the fiveyear period from 2016-2020, legislators received an average annual increase of 1.89%, while elected officials receive an average 3.27% increase. The attempt to eliminate this provision failed. I voted to eliminate the provision as I do not believe this is the time to establish a new procedure for setting pay increases when the State is facing a financial crisis and thousands are unemployed. In the end, I did vote for the final version of H.961.

#### Legislative update: Coronavirus Relief Funds

By Thomas Stevens

#### State Representative, Washington-Chittenden

Over the past several weeks the Vermont Assembly has finalized \$1B in Corona Relief Funds (CRF) to help Vermonters, including over \$235 million for businesses, farms, and non-profits who have suffered significant losses due to COVID-19. In order to get these dollars out quickly to help stabilize various sectors of our community, a variety of agencies and organizations are handling different sectors, and are doing their best to get programs up quickly and get these much needed economic relief dollars out the door. Due to the ever-changing Treasury guidelines, and the reality that most if not all businesses that were adversely affected by the onset of the COVID-19 crisis could not handle more loans, we responded within those guidelines in a way that we expect to be helpful. Please follow the links below to the agencies that will be handling requests for these funds.

Below is a partial guide that I hope will help local businesses and non-profits in accessing these vital economic relief grants. Please reach out to Rep. Theresa Wood or me via email if you need additional help in connecting with these resources: tstevens@leg.state.vt.us or twood@leg.state.vt.us.

We will be posting further updates in the days to come that will explain much of our other work on getting the CRF out to Ver-

- \$50 million for businesses that file sales, meals, or rooms tax; available now; www.tax.vermont.gov/coronavirus#relief • \$102 million for businesses and non-profits; guidelines posted
- at www.accd.vermont.gov
- \$30.5 million for dairy farms and producers, agricultural busifood markets, and agricultural fairs; www.agriculture.vermont.gov/grants; send questions to agr.covidresponse@vermont.gov
- \$5 million for arts and cultural organizations and creative businesses; being developed; guidelines to be posted soon at www.vermontartscouncil.org/covid-19
- \$5 million for women and minority-owned businesses; being developed by the VT Commission on Women; guidelines to be posted soon at www.accd.vermont.gov
- \$5.5 million for forest economy stabilization and outdoor recreation businesses; being developed; guidelines to be posted soon at https://anr.vermont.gov/grants
- \$2.5 million for working lands program, plus \$1.0 million in the FY2021 Quarter 1 budget; https://workinglands.vermont.gov/

#### Finally, hazard pay on the way

Michael Sirotkin, State Senator, Chittenden District

The legislature, which usually adjourns in early May, finally paused late Friday night, at 9:00 PM, on June 26!

We will break for two months, only to return at the end of August for probably another month. All this extended work is due to COVID-19 pressures, the constantly changing numbers in state revenues, and trying to enact a budget commensurate with these seriously declining numbers.

One important piece of good news from late Friday night is that the House and Senate agreed to distribute \$28 million in hazard pay to front line workers who worked through the peak of the virus in Vermont. First responders, health care, and some other critical direct care workers with modest pay will get a two-month bonus of \$1000/momth if they worked full time (over 216 hours). and \$700/month. if they worked part time (over 68 hours) from mid-March to mid-May. We estimate close to 20,000 Vermonters

Moreover, one addition I added to the bill at the last minute was investigating the feasibility of choosing to receive these benefits with a pre-paid gift card, where the frontline worker could either cash it out (fully or partially) at an ATM, and/or use part or all of their bonus at participating restaurants, which would add to the bonus with further discounts — probably 25% or higher off the cost of a meal. Restaurants have been among the hardest-hit sectors we have seen, and their recovery is essential to our Ver-

If implemented, participation by individual restaurants and individual hazard pay recipients would be totally voluntary on their parts. Participating restaurants would get signage privileges demonstrating their support for our hazard pay workers, in addition to increasing their customer base. Individual workers would get additional credit off their meals, expanding the value of their bonus checks. Each would be supporting the other in an easy convenient fashion.

It may be several few weeks before these hazard bonuses get mailed. In the interim, if you have any questions, please feel free to connect with me at sirotkin.senate@gmail.com.

Thanks to all, and thanks to our front line workers.

## Help for small business By Michael Sirotkin, Chittenden State Senator

Late last Friday the Vermont Senate and the full legislature passed a small business relief package that will provide up to \$50,000 in grants to individual small businesses who have suffered greatly since March.

The program went live on Monday, July 6 on a first-come, firstserved basis, so the time to act is now.

As with all programs of this magnitude there will be specific rules on guidelines for applying and gaining eligibility. An excellent place to learn more is on the ACCD website under FAQ: https:/ /accd.vermont.gov/covid-19.

If you have specific questions you should pose them to ACCD and/or the Tax Department (if your business submits either rooms or meals or sales taxes). There are also webinars available at https:/ /accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/economic-recovery-grants/ webinars#overview. If for some reason you can't get through, or find the answers unsatisfactory, please feel free to contact me at *sirotkin.senate@gmail.com*. Again, act quickly, as depending upon demand, funds for these grants could run out quickly.

Here's the full Economic Recovery Package as signed by the

- Retail, Dining & Hospitality Businesses \$76,000,000
- General Business Support \$76,000,000 Women & Minority-Owned Small Businesses \$5,000,000
- Arts Organizations \$5,000,000
- Outdoor Recreation Businesses \$1,500,000
- Restart Vermont Tourism & Marketing Program \$2,500,000
- Restart Vermont Business Assistance Program \$2,500,000 • VT Business Portal - Secretary of State \$2,000,000
- UVM Business Resource Center \$2,000,000
- Economic Micro-Business Recovery Assistance \$1,400,000

• Working Lands Initiative \$2,500,000 Total \$176,400,000.

In addition, there were substantial monies provided for Health Care, Agriculture, Broadband, Municipalities, Food Security, Housing, Judiciary and more. Approximately 80% of the \$1.25B federal relief package has now been approved for spending by the Legislature and the Governor, with the balance likely to be appropriated in late August, when we go back in session.

All our thanks and thoughts go out to all our small businesses during these incredibly challenging times.

#### **Economic Recovery Grant programs**

By George Till and Trevor Squirrell **State Representatives, Chittenden-3** 

This week the Legislature passed a number of bills relating to the federal COVID-19 Relief Funds. Since a number of Jericho/ Underhill residents and businesses may be eligible for these grants, below is a list of the Economic Recovery Grants and where you can find out more about each category.

- \$50 million for businesses that file sales, meals, or rooms tax; available now; www.tax.vermont.gov/coronavirus#relief
- \$102 million for businesses and non-profits; guidelines posted at www.accd.vermont.gov
- \$30.5 million for dairy farms and producers, agricultural businesses, food markets, and agricultural fairs; www.agriculture.vermont.gov/grants; send questions to agr.covidresponse@vermont.gov
- \$5 million for arts and cultural organizations and creative businesses; being developed; guidelines to be posted soon at www.vermontartscouncil.org/covid-19
- \$5 million for women and minority-owned businesses; being developed by the VT Commission on Women; guidelines to be posted soon at www.accd.vermont.gov \$5.5 million for forest economy stabilization and outdoor recre-
- ation businesses; being developed; guidelines to be posted soon at https://anr.vermont.gov/grants
- \$2.5 million for working lands program, plus \$1.0 million in the FY2021 Quarter 1 budget; https://workinglands.vermont.gov/

#### **LIBRARY NEWS**

## **ECHO Library Pass** changes for this summer

By Bree Drapa, Librarian, Westford Public Library

ECHO has reopened to the public! Summer hours are Friday-Monday, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM. More information is available at https://www.echovermont.org/plan-your-visit/reopening-information/.

Timed tickets are required and available for two slots, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM or 1:00 – 3:00 PM, for fast and contactless entry. Want to go there with a library pass? Well, things have changed a bit. Due to COVID-19, ECHO is not using the physical card, to

remain as touchless as possible

If your would like to "check out" the library pass:

1. You can email ECHO at *guestservices@echovermont.org*, or call 802-864-1848, to register your family. Tell them you are using a library "pass."

2. You could register yourselves online, visit the ticketing website, and use the code *VTLib2020* to receive the discount.

In terms of pricing, the structure has changed for the summer hours: ages 0-17 are free and adults 18+ are \$12. With the library discount, adults 18+ are \$6 per person. We want to make sure that people know they need to register for timed ticketing ahead of time, as ECHO has a limit on the number of people who can be in the building at one time.

Additionally, the card can be ""checked out" as many times as people want. ECHO is happy to accommodate and welcome more than one family from the library on the same day.

#### DEBORAH RAWSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

DRML offers curbside pick-up Tuesday-Friday, 1:00 – 5:30 PM, and Saturdays, 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Please contact us, 802-899-4962 or rawsonlibrary@drml.org, to arrange a pick-up. Our catalog is available at https://drml.bywatersolutions.com/—check here for items that the library owns. For the full guidelines on how curbside pickup works, please go online to https://mailchi.mp/a2b65877d439/curbside-returns-to-drml?e=[UNIQID].

Anyone who has a DRML library card can once again place their own holds from home. When your hold is ready, staff will contact you to confirm a pick-up date. The website link to the catalog is <a href="https://drml.bywatersolutions.com/">https://drml.bywatersolutions.com/</a>. Sign in and start browsing! Be sure to click the "confirm hold" button at the bottom of your screen once you have selected an item to place on hold. Any questions, please call 899-4962.

Programs

We are asking that you register for all adult programs you are interested in. You will then be sent all of the information you need to participate. In addition, we will be using a variety of new applications to facilitate programs that we offer, including Zoom, Kahoot, Facebook Live, and YouTube. For more information on the platforms we will be using, please visit <a href="https://docs.ng.org/nleas-visit.https:

Have you visited our gardens lately? The library has been designated as an Extension Master Garden site, and twice a week an enthusiastic group of volunteers gather to plant and maintain a variety of gardens. They include winterberries near the front of the library, yellow daylilies that extend along the side of the building, and Miss Kim lilacs and a butterfly garden at the back of the building, which feature a lush variety of native plants. We also have a vegetable garden that is harvested and delivered to local community members — to the Food Shelf on the third Saturday of the month, and to Jerihill Senior housing on the alternating weeks. Finally, a beautiful Theme Garden is being created to honor author Thorton W. Burgess, so please do step outside and enjoy!

The Third Annual Poetry Walk is now up at Mills Riverside Park! A collaboration between DRML and Mills Riverside Park, the Poetry Walk promote literacy, learning, and a deeper connection and appreciation of the natural world. This year's featured poet is William Wordsworth (1770-1850), a central figure of English Romanticism. He was chiefly concerned with humanity's relationship with nature, as well as using a more vernacular vocabulary to connect with the common reader. The eight poems featured exhibit Wordsworth's characteristic fascination with nature, and his compositions are simple yet effusive with wonder. No registration required; just stop by Mills Riverside Park, which is open dawn to dusk, and keep an eye out for the eight poems located on the Lower Trails. For more information about Mills Riverside Park, please visit https://www.millsriversidepark.org/.

Youth Programs

Story Time — Check out the weekly online story time with Ms. Abbey. A new one releases each Wednesday at 10:30 AM on our Facebook Page.

Curbside Crafts — available on Wednesdays during curbside pick up from 1:00 – 5:30 PM. All crafts include an assortment of supplies, instructions, and inspiration. They are first come, first served as there are only a limited number, and they will be put out each day after Wednesday until all supplies are gone. Check out our YouTube channel for tutorials related to the craft: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/DRMLvideo">https://tinyurl.com/DRMLvideo</a>.

StoryWalks© are a great way for you and your children to enjoy reading and being outdoors at the same time, and the Story Walk at DRML is up and ready to go! It starts at the end of the sidewalk to the right side of the library. The first story is Holly Bloom's Garden by Sarah Ashman and Nancy Parent, illustrated by Lori Mitchell. At the end of the Story Walk please sign in with the date, the amount of people in your party, and any comments or suggestions that you have for the project. Please email <code>youth\_librarian@drml.org</code> with questions or concerns. Remember to bring water and sun protection. Please give other users safe distance

Summer Reading Program — Even though it's going to look different this year, we will still have an awesome summer reading program complete with (virtual) events, reading logs, crafts, prizes and more! Watch Lisa and Abbey explain the whole thing, while traveling through far off lands, here: https://youtu.be/W5rKuk4ixBc

All our online services are up and running on our webpage, www.drml.org. As we find new and exciting things we will post them on the webpage and on our FaceBook page.

Our WiFi will remain active and is accessible from the parking lot or other areas adjacent to the building. WiFi is available 24/7.

A password is not needed to connect. Please be aware that our WiFi does not offer a secure connection.

For a full list of online resources, including digital e-book and audio book services, classes including language courses, and compilations of filmed programs, please visit <a href="https://www.drml.org/how-to-use-a-closed-library/">https://www.drml.org/how-to-use-a-closed-library/</a>.

Contact information: email rawsonlibrary@drml.org; website www.drml.org; phone 802-899-4962.

#### JERICHO TOWN LIBRARY

This summer we are asking patrons NOT to use the Drop Box to return books. We have scheduled Bulk Return Days to manage returned books. Please check the website for details, or call the library, 802-899-4686.

Curbside Pickup details are always available at <a href="https://www.jerichotownlibraryvt.org/">https://www.jerichotownlibraryvt.org/</a>. Each individual in a household may check out up to five items at a time, including DVDs—either request five specific titles, or select a bundle that our library staff will choose for you: Librarian's Choice! If you do not currently have a library card, fill out the form at <a href="https://forms.gle/JeNZNULxfFomnzJ4A">https://forms.gle/JeNZNULxfFomnzJ4A</a>. You can also browse our online library catalog!

Curbside Pickup days and hours are Tuesdays, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, and Thursdays, 3:00 – 5:00 PM. If you cannot pick up items during either of these times, or do not have access to pick up your request on your own, please email curbside@jerichotownlibraryvt.org or call 802-899-4686 to set up individual options.

You will arrive to find your bundled bags on JTL's front stoop. If the weather is inclement, pick up your requests in the library foyer. No one may enter the main library at this time. Please do your best to touch only the bags with your name on them.

If you have more Curbside Pickup questions, please email *curbside@jerichotownlibraryvt.org* or call 802-899-4686.

To submit a Curbside Pickup request, please use this Google Form: https://forms.gle/PHo1GRPLdsrK6URi6; the library website also has the Curbside Pickup Request Form. If you are unable to place your request digitally, you may also call us at 802-899-4686. Please do not email your requests. If a specific title isn't available, you can indicate on the form if you'd like us to replace the unavailable title(s) with another choice. You can also choose a Book Bundle:

- Picture Book Bundle: Five picture books selected just for your little one!
- Early Reader Bundle: Five early readers to keep your little one learning and reading!
- Grade 3-5 Book Bundle: Five titles combining fiction (and possibly nonfiction) for your school-age reader!
- Grade 6-8 Book Bundle: Five titles that span middle grade
- and YA tastes!

   YA Bundle: Trust me, if Lisa puts this together, you'll like it.
- p.s.: You don't need to be a young adult to read YA!
  Custom Bundle: If you're thirsting for a particular genre or subject, we'll do our best to meet your needs!

As a small, rural library that often has a staff of one, we will fill your requests as readily as possible. We will call or email you when your titles are ready for pick up. Titles will then be pack-

aged in paper bags and labeled just for you.

Jericho Town Library hours: Mondays 2:00 – 5:00 PM, Tuesdays 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM and 2:00 – 5:00 PM, Wednesdays 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM and 2:00 – 7:00 PM, Thursdays 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM and 2:00 – 5:00 PM, Fridays 2:00 – 5:00 PM, Saturdays 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

For more information on programs and library services, please visit our website www.jerichotownlibraryvt.org or call 899-4686. VARNUM MEMORIAL LIBRARY JEFFERSONVILLE

We will not be having a physical book sale this year, but we started a Google document that will be regularly updated with books we are selling (https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Qro451V8U8vq8p51vFcVz9Tc8PoVA2RvKPJr70v19w8/edit#gid=0). Prices: hardbacks \$4, and soft covers \$2. If you want the same book that someone else has asked for, it will be available first come. first served.

Please let us know if you have any questions; we are still figuring out new ways to assist the community, so we appreciate your

The library offers curbside pickup of books, audios, and movies; please, no requests for guest passes at this time. Pickups are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:00 - 5:00 PM, and on Saturdays, 1:00 - 3:00 PM. You can select specific titles or ask us to put together a selection of books and titles that you might like based on your past choices. You can begin searching for books in our catalog: <a href="https://varnum.kohavt.org">https://varnum.kohavt.org</a>. We are currently not processing interlibrary loans. When you find what books you're interested in, you can email us a request at <code>varnumrequests@gmail.com</code> and we will answer them in the order that they are received. Once your book is pulled, we will respond to your email and let you know the next day you can pick it

Before you request any materials from us, please read the next

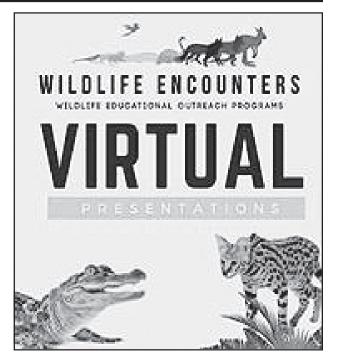
- If you or anyone in your household has been ill, please hold off on returning or picking up materials.
- We are practicing social distancing, so materials will be on the table outside on the deck. Please wear a mask in case there are other patrons nearby during pickup.
- We are requesting that one person per family be on the deck at a time. Due to the current health situation, we can only provide this service if people practice social distancing.

Please return all borrowed materials in plastic or paper bags and put in the "returns" tote to limit library staff exposure. When we receive materials back from our patrons, we will be quarantining them for two weeks before they can be checked out again. Please have patience with us, as we are learning a new way to run our library.

If you are wondering what your Overdrive/Libby information is, your login is your library card number and your pin is your last name all lowercase. If you do not know your library card number, we can look it up for you, but it may take us a while. Please be patient; we are overwhelmed with emails and messages.

We miss all of you so much! Not being able to see your faces and interact with our community is very sad for our staff. We hope you are all safe and look forward to seeing you in the near future.

The Varnum Library, P.O. Box 198,194 Main St., Jeffersonville,



Wildlife Encounters sponsored by the Friends of DAML, Saturday, July 25, 10:00 AM via Zoom. Meet seven different animals at this spectacular animal program! Learn about the animals with an expert and then ask questions. Registration required; register online at https://williston.lib.vt.us/index.php/view-all-events/941-wildlife-encounters-sponsored-by-the-friends-of-daml/registration. Only one registration per house-hold needed even if multiple people are viewing from one computer.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

802-644-2117; thevarnum@gmail.com; www.varnumlibrary.org. Hours: Mondays and Tuesdays 12:00-7:00 PM, Wednesdays 3:00-7:00 PM, Thursdays 9:00 AM -7:00 PM, Fridays 2:00-5:00 PM, and Saturdays 10:00 AM -3:00 PM. Closed Sundays.

#### WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

The library will remain closed indefinitely; see the website for details: http://westfordpubliclibrary.org.

The book drop to return library items is open and ready to accept your Westford Library books and other items.

NOT WANTED IN THE BOOK DROP: books from the school, items from other libraries, book donations. The book drop was never really closed, but now that the governor has "loosened the spigot," we are asking for materials back. With the library providing a great deal of curbside service, our shelves are getting a bit bare. If you still are using your items, by all means keep reading or watching!

Please note that email reminders will resume for overdue books. Summer Reading Program: Planning the Summer Reading Program (SRP), through August 7 this year, has been a challenge and a bit of a heartbreak. This is one of my favorite times of year; this year will, of course, be different. It is my goal to provide this

**Library news** continued on page 8

## Log Hewing Workshop with

## Miles Jennes (Vermont Heavy Timber) Sunday 19 July, 1-5pm

Bring out your broad axes! Come and learn how to debark and prepare a log straight from the forest so it is ready for building (rebuilding) a frontier-era log cabin.

What to Bring: All material, tools and protective gear will be provided, however if you have them, and want to use your own, please bring a sharpened broad axe (or any axe), gloves and shin guards

**Cost**: \$50-\$75 (as you can)

Note re COVID-19: We will be outside, and able to maintain social distancing. Water will be available, as well as hand sanitizer. Please wear a mask, gloves and be mindful of others.



**Where**: Stevensville Cabin, 264 Stevensville Road (by Nebraska Notch Trailhead). See: www.stevensville-cabin.org

To Register: <a href="mailto:sara.lourie@mail.mcgill.ca">sara.lourie@mail.mcgill.ca</a> or phone (802) 585 0223





#### Library news continued from page 7-

community with a fun and engaging program, all the while being mindful of safety and governmental regulations. Some beloved SRP traditions are simply not possible, but others we can "imagine" in a new way. I wish all of you a summer full of fun, wonderment, and adventures beyond compare!

Online registration began Monday, June 15; the link is on the website (http://westfordpubliclibrary.org). If you are unable to register online, please call 878-5639 and we will get you registered. Baby Bears, ages 0-2 (babies and toddlers): fun activities for families to do together; Kids, ages 3-8: 10 books per raffle ticket; Tweens, ages 9-12: 3 books per raffle ticket; Teens, ages 13-18: 1 book per raffle ticket; Adults, 18+ (adults do not need to register): 1 book per raffle ticket. Prizes are TBD as many of our traditional prizes are unavailable. We will do our best to provide safe and local prizes. Prizes will be awarded at the end of the program.

All Zoom links will be on FPF and FaceBook, or contact Bree to email them to you.

Curbside Crafts and Storytime: Storytimes will be on Thursdays, either digitally or outside on the Common (weather permitting, and if gatherings of 25 or more are permitted). If on the Common, they will be at 11:00 AM and social distancing rules will be each family's responsibility.

Each week will have a craft/theme. The craft can be picked up as part of your curbside order (Wednesday/Saturday, request in your order form) or on Thursdays after storytime. These crafts are kits that you will do at home, suitable for all ages, but may contain small parts. Pick up one craft per child. July 15-18: Little Red Riding Hood – baskets. July 22-25: The Gingerbread Man – giant gingerbread figures. July 29-August 1: Prince/cess Stories –

VINS: Animals in Myth and Legend, Friday, July 31 on the Common,  $4:30-5:30\ PM$ .

MONDAYS: Magic Mondays with a new magic trick from magician Ed Popielarczyk, on the library's FaceBook page.

WEDNESDAYS: Curbside pickup, 3:00 – 5:00 PM; get you orders in by 7:00 PM the night before. Form on our website and FaceBook page.

Teen Book Group, via Zoom, every Wednesday in July, 4:00 – 5:00 PM. The book will be the Green Mountain Book Award book The Devouring Gray. Best for those entering grade 7 and up. Participants get a free copy of the book; signup required (see the website or call the library).

Adult Book Group, meets the third Wednesday of the month (via Zoom), 7:00 – 8:00 PM. July 15: Circe. August 19: The Buried Giant. For information, contact Bree (westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com or 878-5639). Zoom link information: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858036230?pwd=R2g5NII0Rm13SUhpZDQ3Q3pLYm82QT09; meeting ID: 878 5803 6230; password: library.

FRIDAYS in July: The library will host two days of digital games using Breakout EDU, a fun, problem-solving platform. Using Zoom and playing together, we will try to solve fairy tale-

inspired puzzles. Good for grade 3 and up. SATURDAYS: Curbside pickup 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM; get you orders in by 7:00 PM the night before. Form on our website and FaceBook page.

THURSDAYS: Storytime! We now have in-person, outside, and socially distant storytime at 11:30 AM at the Westford School. Feel free to watch a "re-run" at https://westfordpubliclibrary.wordpress.com/story-time/.

The library's WiFi will remain on 24 hours a day. It can be accessed via the parking lot, around the building, or across the street on the Common. Please use social distancing.

Library cards can be renewed or created via email or the phone. Free Downloadable Ebooks and Audiobooks: Libby/Overdrive, free with your library card. Don't know your number, card expired, don't have a card? No problem! Can all be done over email. Here are two helpful links:

• https://help.libbyapp.com/6144.htm

• https://help.overdrive.com/en-us/categories/gettingstarted.htm

Library Hours: Wednesday, 1:00 – 7:00 PM, Thursday 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM, Friday 1:00 – 7:00 PM, Saturday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM; http://westfordpubliclibrary.org; westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com. Like us on Facebook. 878-5639; Bree Drapa, Librarian.

#### RICHMOND LIBRARY

The Youth Summer Reading Club will run through Friday, July 31. Things are going to be a little bit different this year as much of the library building remains closed, but there will still be reading records, stickers, guessing jars, crafts, prizes and more. Instructions and self-serve activities await you in the library foyer and yard. For detailed information, go online to <a href="https://richmondfreelibraryvt.org/youth-services/">https://richmondfreelibraryvt.org/youth-services/</a> and please visit as often as you can this summer.

Youth Summer Activities at the library will also run through Friday, July 31. The library building will not be opening to the public during this time period, but visitors will be welcomed into the foyer space to participate in the Youth Summer Reading Club, to pick up books, and for instruction regarding the activities below. Please follow the current safety guidelines, which include wearing a mask while inside public spaces, and distancing from others. If there are others in the foyer when you arrive, please wait until they exit to go in yourself.

StoryWalk® — A StoryWalk is an outdoor reading experience that reveals a story page by page as the reader follows the StoryWalk route. There will be a new StoryWalk set up around the library grounds each week. So come take a walk, read a book!

Take & Make Crafts — Six weeks of DIY crafts! Stop by the Library foyer to pick up a Take & Make Craft bag. Inside each bag you will find all or most of the parts, and the instructions you'll need to create something new each week.

Outdoor Activities — Each week we'll put out directions and supplies for a new adventure around the library, park and/or town. We might send you on a scavenger hunt or perhaps invite you to add to some outdoor art.

Guessing Jars — While you're picking up your books, craft bag and getting your reading club charm in the foyer, don't forget to make a guess. A new jar will appear on the foyer table each week along with a poster of winners from the week before. Winners go home with a book from the prize box.

Storytime Bags — We've made storytime at your house easier than ever. We have put together eight themed Storytime Bags. Each Storytime Bag contains books, songs, rhymes and a craft/

activity. Themes include: Pets; Gardens; Counting; Things that Go; Friends; Seasons: Silly Books and Camping. Request one of the bags today by calling or emailing.

Online Resources — Visit the Richmond Free Library Youth Services page to connect with TumbleBooks for a fun, gently animated picture book storytime and Storyline Online to hear great children's authors and other celebrities reading aloud from fabulous picture books. Here you will find links to other great youth sites as well including resources for elementary-aged and older youth.

Remember to browse our catalog at *rfl.kohavt.org*! We have more than books to lend — request audiobooks on CD, Playaways, Magazines, and Movies! Log in to your account with your library card barcode and your last name as the password to reserve items, or call or email the Library. Not sure what to read next? Let us help!

help!
What were your favorite books ever? We think it would be a lot of fun to hear about what people have enjoyed over the year and to share with others. Please send up to five author/titles to rfl@gmavt.net with the subject line "Favorites" and we'll come up with a top 100 list! Thanks.

A few recent acquisitions: Black Ascot by Charles Todd, Daughter of Moloka'i (sequel to Moloka'i) by Alan Brennert, Raven Tower by Ann Leckie, The Splendid and the Vile: A Saga of Churchill, Family, and Defiance During the Blitz by Erik Larson, On Desperate Ground: The Epic Story of Chosin Reservoir—the Greatest Battle of the Korean War by Hampton Sides, The Strange Bird (A Borne Story) by Jeff Vandermeer, The Border by Don Winslow (last in the trilogy, *The Cartel*), Early Riser by Jasper Fforde, and Someone Like Me by M.R. Carey.

While Vermont libraries were permitted to begin phased openings on June 1 per the Governor's orders, any opening must be able to comply with recommended safety guidelines. Because of the difficulty of meeting those guidelines, until further notice, the Richmond Free Library will limit its operations to curbside pick-up and summer program activities via the foyer, as well as digital services accessed via our webpage: richmondfreelibraryvt.org.

Please note, there is lots of new information on our website, https://richmondfreelibraryvt.org.

We are again able to offer library patrons access to the physical collection. This includes books, audiobooks, magazines, and DVDs. We cannot allow visitors beyond the outer foyer but you will find that this space has been adapted to serve as a safe and convenient place to pick up your item requests. Book bins in the foyer have been labeled alphabetically. Requested items will be bagged, labeled and placed in the bins according to patron's last name. The door will be left open so visitors need not touch anything except their own bag. Please be mindful of others and wait your turn to enter the space if there is already someone there.

There are three ways to request materials:

- Place a hold on whatever you like through your library account at *rfl.kohavt.org*. You will need your library barcode number to log in to your account. Your password is your own last name (capital first letter). Please note that the maximum number of holds allowed per account is five.
  - Call us at 434-3036. Leave a message if it is after hours.

• Email us at rfl@gmavt.net.

Pick up times are: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM; Tuesday and Thursday, 12:00 – 4:00 PM; Saturday, 12:00 – 2:00 PM. All items can be returned to the outdoor book return hin anytime

Open Monday and Wednesday 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM, Tuesday and Thursday 1:00 – 6:00 PM, Friday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Saturday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM; closed Sunday.

Richmond Free Library, 201 Bridge St., P.O. Box 997, Richmond, VT 05477; 434-3036; fax 434-3223; www.richmondfreelibraryvt.org.

#### DOROTHY ALLING MEMORIAL LIBRARY WILLISTON

We don't want technology to be a barrier for anyone. If you would like to join us but need some assistance connecting via Zoom, we are here to help. Please email us at programs@damlvt.org or call us at 878-4918, and we will be happy to help walk you through it.

Dottie the Bookmobile will be making the rounds this summer, with materials for kids and adults! We are introducing themed book bags for easy pickup, and staff will be on hand to help you make selections. We will also have weekly "to go" craft kits, Watershed Explorers activity booklets, and information about our Summer Reading Challenges and other library programs and services

Patrons may arrange to pick up reserved library materials at any of our stops by calling 878-4918 or emailing daml@damlvt.org. Here is the schedule through Thursday, August 27:

• Tuesdays: 5:00 PM, Williston Community Park; 5:40 PM, Wildflower Circle; 6:05 PM, Pleasant Acres; 6:40 PM, St. George Villa

• Wednesdays: 5:00 PM, South Ridge Pool; 5:30 PM, Brennan Woods Pool; 5:55 PM, Indian Ridge Pool; 6:20 PM, Finney Crossing Pool; 6:40 PM, Maple Tree Place.

• Thursdays: 5:00 PM, Stirrup Circle; 5:35 PM, Golf Links; 5:55 PM, Lefebvre Lane; 6:25 PM, Porterwood Lane.

Comic Workshop Series for Teens and Adults, Thursdays, July 16 and 23, 12:30 – 1:30 PM. Join cartoonist Stephanie Zuppo on Zoom for a workshop series on comics and cartooning, where you'll learn about world building, character design, and the process of making a comic. Bring your stories to life in this fun and engaging series! Zuppo is a cartoonist, graphic designer, and educator originally from Philadelphia but currently living in Burlington. They received their BFA in Illustration and Design at Moore College of Art and Design in Philadelphia and an MFA in Comics at The Center for Cartoon Studies in Vermont. Registration required; register online at <a href="https://williston.lib.vt.us/~willist1/index.php/view-all-events/945-comic-workshop-series-for-teens-adults/registration">https://williston.lib.vt.us/~willist1/index.php/view-all-events/945-comic-workshop-series-for-teens-adults/registration</a> to receive a Zoom link. Only one registration per household needed even if multiple people are viewing from one computer.

Imagine your story... as an author! Join local author Taylor Antonioli on Thursdays, July 16 and 23, 3:00 PM via Zoom for an online workshop series as she guides children ages 8-12 through the writing process in a fun and engaging way. Participants will learn to create characters and build a world to bring to life. It's time to tap into your imagination and write your story! Taylor has been a Williston resident her whole life, though she's in Burlington

now as she heads into her second year at Champlain College, where she studies as a Professional Writing major. She's published two books as part of a series about a teenager dealing with discovering she's a werewolf. You can find her books in the YA section at the library. Registration required; register online at <a href="https://williston.lib.vt.us/~willist1/index.php/view-all-events/944-imag-ine-your-story-as-an-author/registration">https://williston.lib.vt.us/~willist1/index.php/view-all-events/944-imag-ine-your-story-as-an-author/registration</a> to receive a Zoom link. Only one registration per household needed even if multiple people are viewing from one computer.

Author visit with Josh Funk, Saturday, July 18, 10:00 – 10:30 AM via Zoom. Join children's book author Josh Funk for a book reading and Q&A via Zoom! Registered participants will be put in the drawing to win one of Josh's picture books! Registration required; register online at <a href="https://williston.lib.vt.us/index.php/view-all-events/940-author-visit-with-josh-funk/registration">https://williston.lib.vt.us/index.php/view-all-events/940-author-visit-with-josh-funk/registration</a> to receive a Zoom link. Only one registration per household needed even if multiple people are viewing from one computer.

Sing-Along and Üke Jam with Clare Innes via Zoom, Friday, July 24, 10:00 – 11:00 AM. All ages welcome. Join Ukulele Clare for a fun sing-along / play-along! All instruments and voices and ages and abilities are welcome, so get ready to play and sing along, and there will be something for everyone. Clare Innes is a ukulele and harmonica teacher and sing- and play-along instigator. She has taught hundreds of students. She believes that if you have a song in your heart and the dedication to learn, then you have what it takes to sing and play an instrument. Participants will receive a song packet with lyrics and chords when they register. Registration required; register online at <a href="https://williston.lib.vt.us/~willist1/index.php/view-all-events/947-sing-along-uke-jam-with-clare-innes-via-zoom/registration">https://williston.lib.vt.us/~willist1/index.php/view-all-events/947-sing-along-uke-jam-with-clare-innes-via-zoom/registration</a> to receive a Zoom link. Only one registration per household needed even if multiple people are viewing from one computer.

#### FAIRFAX COMMUNITY LIBRARY

In light of COVID-19, all of our programs will be virtual. Keep an eye on our Facebook page and website for any updates. All events are free unless noted. Pre-registration required; contact <code>libraryprograms@fwsu.org</code> or 802-849-2420.

The summer reading program has officially begun! If you missed the kickoff performance, don't worry! You can still watch the video on our Facebook page.

We are also happy to announce that the library is adding another curbside pickup day: Thursdays, 3:00 – 7:00 PM.

Youth Events

Wednesdays are Activity Days! Pick up a new summer reading activity every Wednesday, 1:00 – 5:00 PM; contact the library to reserve a kit! (*libraryfairfax@gmail.com* or 849-2420) Then on Thursday, watch the livestream at 10:00 AM. The video will remain available afterwards, so don't worry if you miss it! Ages 6+ Please register! July 15-16: Big Bad Wolf Construction Challenge! Build a house for the Piggy family that the Big Bad Wolf can't blow down! July 23-24: Fairy Dust Necklace! Learn how to make a simple, yet magical, fairy dust necklace! July 30-31: DIY Dragon Eyes! Learn how to make mini dragon eyes to use for decoration or for jewelry!

Adult Events

Saturday, July 18: Cook with Me: Lembas Bread. Learn how to make Lembas Bread from J.R.R. Tolkein's *Lord of the Rings* series! Pick up your materials at the library on Thursday, 3:00 – 7:00 PM, and watch the livestream on Saturday at 11:00 AM. The video will remain available afterwards, so don't worry if you miss it! Please Register!

For up-to-date info about programs, visit our website: www.fairfaxvtlibrary.org, where you can also find a link to the interactive Google calendar.

Hours: Monday and Wednesday 8:30 AM – 5:30 PM; Tuesday and Thursday 8:30 AM – 8:00 PM; Friday 8:30 AM – 3:15 PM; Saturday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM. www.fairfaxvtlibrary.org, 802-849-2420. Call or email libraryprograms@fwsu.org. For up-to-date info about programs, visit our website www.fairfaxvtlibrary.org, where you can also find a link to the interactive Google calendar.

#### BROWNELL LIBRARY, ESSEX JUNCTION

We are not be hosting in-person gatherings for now; this could change. We will keep you informed of any additional program offerings or program changes on Facebook and our program calendar at <a href="https://brownelllibrary.org/events/calendar">https://brownelllibrary.org/events/calendar</a>.

Summer doesn't feel complete without good books to read and programs that bring our children and teens into the library to learn and play together. The challenge this year is finding ways to do this safely. As we continue to navigate the pandemic, Brownell Library is committed to providing opportunities for youth through virtual gatherings. Links will be available on Facebook and our program calendar; weekly grab-and-go activities in our rear vestibule, you can check out books and pick up an activity; community experiences that get the family outside without a gathering.

Registration and reading logs

When you register for our summer reading program at https://brownelllibrary.org/kids-teens/summer-reading-plan or call us at 878-6956, we will mail you a sign up package including a reading log. You can report books read by sending a picture of your child's reading log or a list of books read to erna@brownelllibrary.org. New reading logs will be available in the rear vestibule of the library and as a PDF on our website, but any list of books read will work.

End of summer raffle

We will celebrate the end of our summer reading program with raffles for kids on Friday, August 14 and teens on Tuesday, August 18. Participants can earn entries into the raffle by sharing their reading log or their list of books read with us (5 picture books = 1 ticket, 5 easy readers = 1 ticket, and 1 chapter book = 1 ticket) or by participating in the programs and activities listed below (see the program or activity listing for ticket details). Most raffle prizes will be purchased from local businesses to support our local economy in this difficult time; our top prize will be a \$50 Amazon gift card. Gift cards will be mailed on Wednesday, August 19 and we will contact winners to arrange pickup of larger itemse.

#### PROGRAMS FOR KIDS

Bingo! All Summer Long! through Friday, August 14. Fill out the bingo card that you received in your summer registration packet, or pick one up in the rear vestibule. Email a photo of your completed bingo card to <code>erna@brownelllibrary.org</code>.

*Me... Jane* Story Walk: through Friday, August 14. Take a walk with your family and read about Jane Goodall on the library lawn.

#### PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

#### **OBITUARIES**





Beatrice Amelia (Hill) Ducharme, 74, of Jericho, VT passed away at her home, surrounded by her family on Saturday, June 27, 2020. She was born on April, 24, 1946 in Lebanon, NH, the daughter of Leslie and Amelia (Wheeler) Hill. Beatrice was a devoted wife, loving mother and special grandmother. Everyone who knew Bea came to love her right off and called her one of their own. She spent her whole life caring for people, both through work and family. Caring for others was her true calling. She is survived by her four daughters: Julie Ducharme and partner Brian, Kristen Ducharme, Stephanie Ducharme, and Carrie Morway and husband Cameron; her son Larry Ducharme and wife Tina; her grandchildren Troy, Amber, Tyler, and Hannah Ducharme, Braedyn Kelly, Anthony Fletcher, and Jaxson Morway; great grandchildren Ryan, Josh, Jennavecia, and Zachary; her siblings: Leroy Hill and wife Peggy, Edith Martin, and Andy Hill; and her best friends Louise Garceau and Carol

Guillemette of 62 years. Along with her parents, she was predeceased by her loving husband of 54 years, Lawrence; her sister Elizabeth Hill, and dear friend Phyllis McKenzie. A special thanks is extended to Hospice Caregivers Kacey, Sandra, and Katie. A Celebration of Life will be held at a time and place to be announced. Those wishing may send a Memorial Donation to the charity of one's choice. Arrangements by Elmwood-Meunier, Burlington.

Norman James Rooney of Jeffersonville, VT died in his home at Mann's Meadow surrounded by family, on Sunday, July 5, 2020 after a valiant battle with COPD. Dutch, as he was known to his family and friends, was the youngest of five children, born at home in Cambridge, VT to the late Raymond Wilfred and Mabelle Helen (Barry) Rooney, on March 4, 1934. He graduated from Cambridge High School in 1952, by which time he had already lost both of his parents. Upon graduation, he

joined the U.S. Navy, serving from 1952-1956 during the Korean War aboard the Mindoro (CVE120) and Leyte (CVS32) aircraft carriers. Upon honorable discharge, he worked at Pratt & Whitney

in North Haven, CT, before joining General Electric Co. in Burlington, VT, where he worked for 28 years as a sheet metal manufacturing planner and NCM programmer. On June 27, 1959, he married the love of his life, Geraldene (Machia) Rooney, at St. Mary's Church in Cambridge, VT, with whom he raised five children. Dutch loved being outdoors, fishing and hunting, playing softball, golf and horseshoes. His family was his biggest pride and joy. He enjoyed teaching the kids to swim, cheering from the sidelines at his children and grandchildren's sporting events, attending dance recitals and celebrating graduations. He was sometimes pulled from the stands to umpire baseball and softball games behind the plate. For many years, he enjoyed traveling the contiguous 48 states with Gerry by RV, visiting family and making friends, wintering at their home in Lake Placid, FL. He was a member of the 6:30 AM Coffee Club at Hanley's store in Jeffersonville, where he will be missed for his sense of humor and the sparkle in his eye. He was an enthusiastic card player, enjoying the company of neighbors and friends at Mann's Meadow. In his retirement, he enjoyed carpentry (and friendship) with Terry McCuin. Norman was a faith-filled Catholic, a parishioner of St. Mary's in Cambridge where he volunteered for the annual church suppers and helped with the parish rectory building project. His faith sustained him through the childhood loss of his parents, and he credited his daily devotions for allowing him to achieve 37 years of sobriety, of which his family was very proud. He was predeceased by his step-mother Harriet Humphrey Rooney, his brother Donald Rooney, and sisters Teresa Kittell, CharAnn Rooney, and Beverly Pollander. Dutch leaves his adored wife Gerry, their children Michael Rooney and partner Amy Delorme of Burlington, VT, Robert Rooney and wife Kathy of Greenfield, NH, Matthew Rooney and wife Bobbi of Hyde Park, VT, Kathy Snell and husband Peter of Shelburne, VT, Donna Rooney-Stalker and husband Harold of New Marlborough, MA, beloved cultural exchange son Eduardo Alvarez of David, Panama, grandchildren Kaitlin Rooney of Freedom, NH, Zachary Rooney of Hillsborough, NH, Carolyn and Andrew Snell of Shelburne, VT, and Alicia Delorme of Burlington, VT. He is survived by his sisters- and brothers-in-law Carol Rooney of Joppa, MD, John Sotingco of Anaheim, CA, Richard and Peg Machia of Cambridge, Jane and Terry Shaw of Jeffersonville, Lynda Cootware of Essex, VT. and several dear nieces and nephews. A Mass of Christian burial will be held for the immediate family, with internment at St. George's Cemetery in Bakersfield with military honors. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in memory of Norman Rooney to St. Mary's Parish in Cambridge, and Lamoille County Home Health and Hospice in Morrisville. Special thanks to Father Christopher Micale, Dr. Laura Norris, Dr. Garth Garrison, Lamoille County Home Health staff, and Lincare. Arrangements are by A.W. Rich Funeral Home.

With sadness we have to announce that **Anthony A. Socinski** of Cambridge, Vermont passed from this life on Wednesday, June 17, 2020. Anthony was predeceased by his parents, Adam and

Eva (Maciag) Socinski of West Rutland, VT; his sisters Monica (Socinski) Gregory of Pennsylvania and Sister Monica Socinski, O.P. of New Jersey. He is survived by his wife Renate and by his brothers Henry, Leonard, and John and their spouses. He also leaves behind his children: Eve, Adam, Anita, Francis, and Tonia; and many other relatives and friends. He was a teacher, businessman, and loving husband, father, and grandfather, and will be remembered for his love of Poland and the Polish people. He had an abiding faith in God that he shared with his family and friends. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Cathedral of Saint Joseph or to Joseph's House, 113 Elmwood Ave., Burlington, VT 05401 for the Youth Warming Shelter.

CREATE
MEMORIES
THAT WILL LAST
A LIFETIME
BY SENDING YOUR
ENGAGEMENTS,
WEDDINGS,
BIRTHS,
GRADUATIONS
to

mtngazette@gmavt.net
We print them
for free.

#### Library news continued from page 8-

Take a picture as you participate and send it to <code>erna@brownelllibrary.org</code> to earn 1 ticket.

Music with Raph! Fridays, July 17, 24, 31, August 7, 14. Sing, dance, and learn with Raph. Videos posted on Facebook and our website calendar. 1 ticket for liking the link on Facebook. (For the younger ones.)

Summer Story Times: Thursdays, July 16, 23, 30, and August 6. Listen to picture book stories, songs, puppets, and rhymes. Videos posted on Facebook and our website calendar. 1 ticket for liking the link on Facebook or send a picture to *erna@brownelllibrary.org* of your child watching. (For the younger ones.)

Walk the Labyrinth: July 20-24. Take a moment to be mindful OR imagine you are walking a medieval labyrinth... The labyrinth will be on the library lawn. Go in one at a time please. Take a picture as you participate and send it to erna@brownelllibrary.org to earn 1 ticket.

Mystery Word Week: July 27-31. Find the Mystery Word in a book to win a free small ice cream from Rocky's in Essex Junction. Word announced on Facebook on Monday. Take a picture of the word in a book and send it to <code>erna@brownelllibrary.org</code> to earn your ice cream coupon. (1 ice cream coupon per child. For independent readers only.)

Teddy Bear Story Time: Thursday, July 30. Pick up a (cleaned and quarantined) Teddy Bear, created by teens for this special story time. Available Monday, July 27 and while supplies last. Videos posted on Facebook and our website calendar. Earn 1 ticket for liking the link on Facebook.

Kindergarten Story Time: Monday, August 10, 6:30 – 7:30 PM. A story time for students entering Kindergarten this fall. Join us via GoToMeeting, meet new friends, and listen to stories about going to school. See calendar or Facebook for GoToMeeting link. 1 ticket for attending. (For rising Kindergarteners.)

Virtual Stories with Storyteller Linda Costello: Wednesday, August 5. Gather round and let Storyteller Linda Costello take you to far-off places with these folk stories and fairytales. Video posted on Facebook and our website calendar. 1 ticket for liking the link on Facebook. (Recommended for ages 6+.)

Virtual Harry Potter Birthday Party: July 31, 3:00 – 4:00 PM. It's Harry Potter's Birthday Party! Dress up and join us for virtual trivia! See calendar or Facebook for GoToMeeting link. 1 ticket for participating and 1 ticket for dressing up. (For all ages!)

Kid's Raffle: August 14. Our end of summer raffle drawing for kids ages 0-4 and 5-11 with prizes from the community. Earn tickets by reading, participating in programs, and completing activities. Winners will be notified by Wednesday, August 19.

Terrific Tuesday Kits! Released for pick up on Tuesdays in the rear vestibule and available while supplies last. Participants will receive one ticket for finishing a terrific activity and sending us a picture; contact information will be included on the instructions in each kit. (Recommended ages 6-12.)

? July 21: Kites. Build and design a kite to fly!

? July 28: Fairy Houses and Gnome Homes. Create a fairy house or gnome home from mostly natural materials. Use materials provided or use your own natural materials.

? August 4: Magic Fishing Game. Make your own "magic fish fishing game" to play all year round

fishing game" to play all year round.

? August 11: Weaving. Explore weaving with a loom created by teens.

Imagine It Kits: Each Monday, you can pick up a different activity to take home in a paper bag in the rear vestibule (while supplies last). Instructions will be included in the kits. Details on

completing this task and earning a ticket are below:
? Playdough Kit: July 13-17. Make your own playdough! Send a picture of your completed project to sarah@brownelllibrary.org

to earn 1 ticket.
? Tall Tale Kit: July 20-24. Imagine and tell a tall tale. Turn in your completed tale in the rear vestibule to earn 2 tickets.

? Origami Bookmark Kit: July 27-31. Create your own origami bookmark. Send a picture of your completed project to megan@brownelllibrary.org to earn 1 ticket.

? Quarantine Story Challenge: August 3-7. Share a true story of your time in quarantine. Stories will be uploaded to our archive. Turn in your story in the rear vestibule to earn 2 tickets.

? Friendship Bracelet Kit: August 10-14. Make a bracelet for a friend. Send a picture of your completed project to megan@brownelllibrary.org to earn 1 ticket.

PROGRAMS FOR TEENS:

Virtual Teen Writers Club: Wednesday, August 12 from 3:00 – 4:00 PM. Teens will play collaborative and independent writing games to stretch the imagination and encourage creativity. See calendar or Facebook for GoToMeeting link. 1 ticket for attending meeting. (Grades 9-12.)

Virtual Teen Maker: Join your fellow teens for an hour of hanging out and making, Wednesday, July 29, 3:00 – 4:00 PM. Make Your Own Bowtruckle! See calendar or Facebook for GoToMeeting link. 1 ticket for participating or 1 ticket for emailing a picture of your completed project to *sarah@brownelllibrary.org*. (Grades 6-12.)

Mystery Word Week: July 27-31. Find the Mystery Word in a book to win a free small ice cream from Rocky's in Essex Junction. Word announced on Facebook on Monday. One ice cream coupon per teen. Send a picture of the word you find to <code>erna@brownelllibrary.org</code>.

Virtual Harry Potter Birthday Party: Friday, July 31, 3:00 – 4:00 PM. It's Harry Potter's Birthday Party! Dress up and join us for virtual trivia! See calendar or Facebook for GoToMeeting link. 1 ticket for participating and 1 ticket for dressing up. (All ages!)

Teen Raffle: Tuesday, August 18. Our end-of-summer raffle drawing for teens (ages 12-18) with prizes from the community. Earn tickets by volunteering, participating in summer activities, and/or reading throughout the summer. Winners will be notified by phone or email by Wednesday, August 19.

Teen Imagine It Kits: Pick up these kits/challenges all week long in the rear vestibule to take home in a paper bag. Details on completing this task and earning tickets are below. Submit photos to sarah@brownelllibrary.org.

? Quarantine Bingo! Through Friday, August 14. Fill out the Quarantine Bingo card that you received in your summer registration packet or come pick one up in the rear vestibule. 2 tickets for emailing a photo of your completed card.

? Teen Tall Tale Kit: July 20-24. Write your own tale and make a simple book to write it in; fun prompts will be included. 2 tick-

ets for turning in completed tale to the rear vestibule.
? Quarantine Story Challenge: August 3-7. Share a true story about your time in quarantine. Pick up the challenge in the rear vestibule. Stories will be uploaded to our archive. 2 tickets for returning story to rear vestibule.

? DIY Checkerboard Kit: August 10-14. Create and decorate your own checkerboard to play with friends and family. 1 ticket for submitting a photo.

Teen volunteer opportunities: Sign up to volunteer at <a href="https://forms.gle/5Gdbw9pgJmrvxuap9">https://forms.gle/5Gdbw9pgJmrvxuap9</a>. You will be contacted by Megan, Sarah, or Erna with details on completing this volunteer opportunity. Teen volunteers will receive 1 ticket for participation.

? Hogwarts Acceptance Letters: through Friday, July 24. Write Hogwarts acceptance letters to younger children who participate in the Harry Potter Birthday Party!

? World Weaving: July 27-31. Help us construct cardboard loom and weaving kits for our Terrific Tuesday program.

The library offers curbside service, Monday-Friday, 10:00 AM

Place books, DVDs, etc. on hold at https://brownell.kohavt.org/by calling us at 802-878-6955, or emailing frontdesk@brownelllibrary.org. Holds and email requests received by 5:00 PM will be available for same-day pick-up. Phone-in requests received by 5:30 PM will also be available for same-day pick-up. We will call you when your request is ready.

Our book drop is open for returns. Because we are still encouraged to stay safe and stay home, all materials will be checked out to you for three weeks

Downloadable audio books and ebooks are available through Libby or Overdrive: <a href="https://gmlc.overdrive.com/">https://gmlc.overdrive.com/</a>. For Village residents, we can even offer a temporary virtual card that will provide access to these online services. For a virtual card, contact the library by phone or email.

You can catch our digital programming on our website program calendar: just select the event for details and the meeting link to log on: https://brownelllibrary.org/events/calendar.

If you need help using any of these services, email us at frontdesk@brownelllibrary.org. We will also be checking voicemail periodically, and you can leave us a message at 878-6955.

Brownell Library, 6 Lincoln St., Essex Junction. Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM; Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Contact Main Desk 878-6955, Youth Desk 878-6956, Reference Desk 878-6957, or frontdesk@brownelllibrary.org.

#### ESSEX FREE LIBRARY

The Essex Free Library is currently closed to the public, but offers curbside pickup, Monday-Friday, 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM. For more curbside details, please visit <a href="https://www.essexvt.org/753/Curbside-Services">https://www.essexvt.org/753/Curbside-Services</a>.

We are accepting book returns in the book drop only. Please do not return books inside the vestibule.

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Essex Free Library, 1 Browns River Rd., Essex. Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM; Tuesday, Thursday: 9:00 AM – 8:00 PM; Saturday, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM. 802-879-0313; essexfreelibrary.com.





Spruce Peak Chamber Music Society presents its series Conversations, in which Spruce Peak's Jia Kim interviews musicians and presents performances by them on Spruce Peak Arts' YouTube Channel, https://t.e2ma.net/click/wyi59f/8zv5n7m/ kxxmsx. Sunday-Wednesday, July 19-22 features Molly Carr (top), a violist, chamber musician, co-founder of Project Music Heals Us, and faculty at the Juilliard School and Bard Conservatory of Music. Sunday-Wednesday, July 26-29 features Michelle Ross (bottom), a violinist, chamber musician, collaborator, and Guest Concert Master and Artist in Residence at College of the Holy Cross. Reservations must be made in advance at https://www.sprucepeakarts.org. Tickets are free; donations in lieu of a ticket purchase support the Spruce Peak Chamber music Society and participating musicians.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

#### **LUHS** summer school

By Brian Schaffer, Principal, Lamoille Union High School

Lamoille Union High School will be offering a remote learning, summer school program that began on Monday, July 6 and runs through Saturday, August 1. This is a great opportunity for Lamoille Union students interested in improving proficiency, completing a course, or taking an online course.

Please contact Summer School Coordinator Tim Messier, 802-851-1333 or tmessier@luhs18.org for more information. Be well, Lancers!

#### **SPORTS NEWS**

#### Announcing the virtual Suffrage 5K Scramble

The Suffrage 5K Scramble scheduled for Saturday, August 15 in Waterbury will now happen all over the state during Vermont's Primary Week: Saturday, August 8-Saturday, August 15.

Individuals, friends, organizations, clubs, and corporations are invited to form groups to commemorate the Women's Suffrage Centennial 1920-2020! Participants will run or walk the 5K (3.11 mile) route of their choice, at any interval and at any pace, during Primary Week in a "Votes for Women/Votes for All" sash, and submit photos to celebrate their accomplishment.

The Suffrage Scramble 5K, presented by Central Vermont Runners, is produced in partnership with the Vermont Suffrage Centennial Alliance (VSCA, https://vtsuffrage2020.org/), and is committed to informing Vermonters of the history and outcomes of women's suffrage and engaging them in the ongoing quest for equal rights and citizenship. The motto of VSCA is *Hard Won*—

In acknowledgement of this fact, event proceeds and extra donations will be sent to the Rutland NAACP (https:// naacprutland.org/) to help fund efforts to expand voter registration, education, and access for people of color in Vermont.

The Scramble also celebrates one-half century of women being allowed to participate in road racing! It took 50 years after women gained the right to vote for women to gain the right to run in both the Boston and New York City Marathons or pass Title IX, allowing access to running teams in schools and universities. One century with the Right to Vote, one half century with the Right to Run!

Suffrage Scramble entry fee is \$20. More information about Suffrage 5K Scramble can be found at http://cvrunners.org/cvrraces/suffrage-scramble/. Register at https://www.letsdothis.com/ us/e/suffrage-scramble-5k-virtual-event-187864.

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#### A new (and easier) way to treat Japanese knotweed

**By Andrea Shortsleeve** Private Lands Habitat Biologist, VT F&W

There's a patch of Japanese knotweed growing on the edge of a

town park near my house that I see every morning when I walk my dog. It hasn't started sending up green shoots yet this spring, but there can't be too many more days before it does. For the past few years, this patch has been there, steadily growing and spreading each season, slowly creeping more interior into the forest each

Both Japanese and Giant knotweed (Fallopia japonica and sachalinensis), the two species found here in Vermont, are natives to East Asia. While these plants can grow and exploit a range of site conditions, they seem most comfortable along riverbanks and roadsides here in Vermont, causing severe damage to our ecosystems. As it grows, knotweed forms extensive, dense mats of roots and stems, eliminating native vegetation. The loss of native shrubs, trees, and flowers impacts the insect, bird, and mammal populations that depend on those plants for food and nectar. Additionally, as the insect populations declines, the fish, birds, and mammals that feed on those insects suffer as well. And as native plants are eliminated from along the riverbanks, their root systems are, too. The ground beneath the thick patches of knotweed leave bare soil, increasing the risk of soil erosion into the waterways. And finally, the impenetrable vegetative wall created along the riverbanks all but eliminates the ability of wildlife to travel along the river corridor, a space which many species rely upon to safely move across the landscape.

These detrimental impacts of this invasive plant are well-known, and even so, I've worked with landowners who are reluctant to treat knotweed on their property. Some landowners like the way it grows because it provides a vegetative privacy fence between their houses and a road or a neighboring property. Some people believe knotweed flowers make exceptional honey, and some espouse how delicious the fresh shoots are to eat. Frankly, I feel that looking at knotweed in these ways can trivialize an incredibly damaging invasive plant and are often short-sighted. There is a variety of native and non-invasive plants available to provide those same benefits without creating ecological damage. However, I do recognize that hyping these aspects of knotweed is a way for landowners find a silver lining in having an infestation on their properties, an often-overwhelming situation.

Knotweed is notoriously difficult to control and often seems indifferent to many treatment methods. https://vtinvasives.org/invasive/knotweed-japanese is a great resource to look at different methods to treat knotweed, but each suggested method offers varying levels of success calling for a variety of resources and time.

This year, I've decided to do something about the little patch of knotweed on my morning walk, and I'm planning to try a new method to treat it. The method has been offered commercially for a few years in Great Britain, a country where Japanese knotweed has significant economic and environmental impacts. Knotweed in Britain routinely cracks the pavement in roads, causes damage to retaining walls and building foundations, and lowers property values. Mortgage companies have begun to refuse to lend on properties that are affected by Japanese knotweed due to the high threat of damage to residential homes the country has seen. Luckily, we are not in as grave a situation here across the pond, but my point is that if Great Britain has been seeing success with a treatment method, it's probably worth looking at.

Full disclosure: I've never actually tried this method, nor do I personally know anyone who has. However, it strikes me as a low-cost, low-energy, low-risk method to try and tackle an invasive that has brought many weed warriors to their knees. So, what's the harm? This method, called MeshTech, was developed by Dr. Eric Donnelly and Japanese Knotweed Control Ltd. (This is not a promotion, but I want to give credit when it's due.) A simple Google search reveals much more in-depth information about this technique and its development than I can provide here, but I'll run through a short explanation.

This new (new-to-me) method involves selecting a patch of knotweed and clearing out the surface growth from previous growing seasons. The cleared-out section is then covered with a wire fence mesh with ½ inch x ½ inch openings. The fencing material will have to be fastened down in some method so it will stay put throughout the growing season. And that's all you do. Simple.

The theory is that the knotweed stems will emerge from buds on the underground rhizome in early spring and will grow through the steel mesh. As the stems continue to grow, they will expand in diameter. At a certain point, the stems will push against the steel mesh and girdle themselves. The surface growth (stems and leaves) of the plant wilts and will eventually die, but the rhizome will continue to push new stems up through the ground (and wire mesh). This will continually kill the stems and will lead to the depletion of rhizome carbohydrate stores, which are required by the stems for growth. This cycle will repeat until the end of the growing season, when the plant enters a period of dormancy. Normally, the knotweed will have a plentiful store of carbohydrates stored in its rhizome to begin growing again in the spring. However, after a season of trying to outsmart the steel mesh on top of it, the knotweed will not have any energy stored up to continue growing in the next season.

The company Japanese Knotweed Control, Ltd indicates that there will be a noticeable difference in the vigor and growth of the plant after the first year of trying the MeshTech method, but total control of the plant will still take over five years. Other control methods have similar timelines to see semi-permanent results, but this method could have potential to make a difference in knotweed infestations where other methods such as chemical or mechanical treatments are not appropriate.

A few important points:

Proper disposal: If you don't get the fencing down early enough in the spring before the knotweed starts to grow, you'll have to cut down and clear out the grown stalks in order to create a space for the wire fence to lay flat. And this means that you'll have to have a proper method to dispose of the cut stalks. Of course knotweed, being the stubborn invasive that it is, will re-sprout from the tiniest fragment, so proper disposal methods are tricky but very important. The best way to dispose of knotweed is burning the material, but you can read more about different disposal methods at https://vtinvasives.org/news-events/news/new-recommendations-for-disposal-of-invasive-plant-material.

Overwintering considerations: We also know we won't kill the rhizome in one year, and that this method (as with most invasive species treatments) is going to be a multi-year process. This means



An organic, low cost, low effort method for killing Japanese

PHOTO BY JAPANESE KNOTWEED SOLUTIONS LTD

that the decision will have to be made whether to leave the wire down over the winter or if it will be pulled up and re-installed next spring. Many of the areas where knotweed thrives are also areas that are susceptible to spring flooding or washouts, meaning that removal and re-installation will be necessary. Even though this will increase the amount of work involved, it should be easier over the long run as compared to other treatment methods.

Holding the wire down: I've been asked by a fair number of people about how they should fasten the wire fencing down to the ground, and honestly, I don't have a perfect answer. Often the knotweed patches are growing in soil that is loose, already disturbed, and difficult to stake something down in. I was able to use a few extra tent stakes that I had at home combined with landscaping staples. I've heard from some landowners that they simply used rocks or heavy branches and other pieces of wood to keep the mesh down. I'm curious about other materials and fasteners that readers have experimented with and had success (or a lack of success) with!

Elevating the mesh above the ground: In the research that Lindsey Wight, Coordinator for the Missisquoi River Basin Association, and her crew had done, they came across descriptions of this method indicating that keeping the mesh off the ground a few inches was more successful than laying the fencing right on top of the knotweed rhizome. The idea behind this is that the knotweed can potentially send out new roots if the rhizome begins to get crushed by the wire fencing. By keeping the wire a short distance above the ground, the rhizome can send up shoots that will thin out a bit and grow through the holes in the mesh. Again, I'm interested in learning about how landowners have experimented with their own set-ups and what they've found success with.

I know that there are a few challenges with this method — the wire is a little expensive for a roll, it can only cover small areas, and steep banks and hills are going to be difficult to get the mesh to lay flat on — but these challenges aren't anything new to working with invasive species.

I know that I'll be able to handle this method while I juggle all of life's other responsibilities, and I encourage readers to try this out and let me know how (Andrea.Shortsleeve@vermont.gov) it works for them. It seems to be a low-cost and low-effort method to obtain promising results on troublesome knotweed patches.

And that sounds, as the British would say, brilliant.

#### **SCHOOL NEWS**



New Westford preschool teacher Dawn Hiscock lives in Essex Junction with her husband, Rick. Their adult son Jean lives in S. Burlington. A member of NAEYC, Dawn holds a Bachelor of Education in Early Childhood Education from McGill University and an educator's license (birth-age 8) with endorsements in Early Childhood Education and Early Childhood Special Education from the State of Vermont; she completed the 21-credit Director Credential in 2017. She is currently working on a Master's degree in Early Childhood Special Education. Dawn is inspired by the work of many learning theorists: Vygotsky, Piaget, Gardener, and Bronfenbrenner, to

name a few. Social-emotional learning, science explorations, music movement, art, and play form cornerstones in her classroom, upon which a developmentally appropriate curriculum is built. Dawn borrows from many educational models, including the Reggio Emilia Approach. In her classroom, children's questions often form the basis of new learning; curriculum "emerges" from children's interests and queries about the world around them. Dawn has taught in the Québec public school system. She was Executive Director of the Plattsburgh Literacy Volunteers affiliate, director/head teacher at Discovery Preschool, and has worked as a Red Cross instructor. In her free time, Dawn enjoys socializing with friends, painting, sewing, scrapbooking, hiking, gardening, swimming, kayaking, traveling, and coming up with remodeling plans for Rick and her to work on. She loves cooking and sharing meals with family and friends. Dawn says, "Working with young children is a unique experience - I learn something new every day. Each child's journey of self-discovery stretches my teaching practice. I feel lucky to be a part of this wondrous experience.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



## Westford School awards; Class of 2020

This year's socially distant 8th grade graduation on Thursday, June 11 is a shining example of the strong school / family partnership that helps define Westford School. A special thank you to all who made this experience personal and safe for our students. Two traditional and wonderful elements of Westford graduation are the individual student recognition statements and the student slide show. Both these elements were captured on the big screen on a night that could not have been more beautiful. Thank you to everyone who made this possible.

The graduating class: Shea Noelle Andrews; Isabella Joy Armata; Kain Michael Bacon; Luka Fuad Breen; Virginia Ann Cobb; Abagail Gwendalyn Cook; Mae Leta Dewey; Xandra Jean Ford; Nicholas Anderson Hopkins; Jeri Lynn Kornn; Emma Rose Murray; Collin Christopher Oalican; Mae Cristelli Parker; Eli Wilder Pierce; Porter Thurston Pitcher; Chasity April Pretty; Sonja Christine Helena Reilly; Mason Robare Roberts; Cora Inez Spiller; Wyatt Jon Stark; Owen Matthew Wamsganz.

7<sup>TH</sup> and 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE AWARDS The Hazen Wood Award — Awarded to the students who have shown the most effort and perseverance in school work during the 7th and 8th grade. Awarded to: Luka Breen, Mae Dewey, Wyatt

The Citizenship Award — Awarded to the students who exhibit the truest qualities of citizenship. The display of these qualities enhance the entire school climate. The individual's respect, contribution, and stewardship over school and personal issues en-

Dear Westford Families, My name is Colleen Legris and I am excited to be the 5-8 math teacher at Westford. I live just around the corner in Fairfax with my husband. Our two sons have recently graduated college and we are thrilled they have decided to return to Vermont to live. In my free time, I enjoy skiing, hiking, playing Cribbage, and spending time with family and friends. Math is my passion and I work hard throughout the year to pass that love on to students. I do this by taking students where they are at and scaffolding instruction to meet individual needs. Additionally, I provide hands-

on math activities and authentic problems so they are more motivated to make connections to life outside of school. I started my teaching career at Cambridge Elementary School, spent summers teaching middle school in Falmouth, MA, and last year taught at Founders Memorial School. I am delighted to continue working in the Essex Westford School District, more specifically joining the 5-8 grade Westford middle-level team. I look forward to working together this coming school year to make learning engaging and productive.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

New Westford preschool teacher Dawn Hiscock lives in Essex Junction with her husband, Rick. Their adult son Jean lives in S. Burlington. A member of NAEYC, Dawn holds a Bachelor of Education in Early Childhood Education from McGill University and an educator's license (birth-age 8) with endorsements in Early Childhood Education and Early Childhood Special Education from the State of Vermont; she completed the 21credit Director Credential in 2017. She is currently working on a Master's degree in Early Childhood Special Education. Dawn is inspired by the work of many learning theorists: Vygotsky, Piaget, Gardener, and Bronfenbrenner, to name a few. Socialemotional learning, science explorations, music movement, art, and play form cornerstones in her classroom, upon which a developmentally appropriate curriculum is built. Dawn borrows from many educational models, including the Reggio Emilia Approach. In her classroom, children's questions often form the basis of new learning; curriculum "emerges" from children's interests and queries about the world around them. Dawn has taught in the Québec public school system. She was Executive Director of the Plattsburgh Literacy Volunteers affiliate, director/head teacher at Discovery Preschool, and has worked as a Red Cross instructor. In her free time, Dawn enjoys socializing with friends, painting, sewing, scrapbooking, hiking, gardening, swimming, kayaking, traveling, and coming up with remodeling plans for Rick and her to work on. She loves cooking and sharing meals with family and friends. Dawn says, "Working with young children is a unique experience - I learn something new every day. Each child's journey of self-discovery stretches my teaching practice. I feel lucky to be a part of this PHOTO CONTRIBUTED wondrous experience.

ables positive feelings to carry on, one day to the next. Awarded to: Virginia Cobb, Abagail Cook, Nicholas Hopkins, Collin Oalican, Sonja Reilly.

The Academic Excellence Award — Awarded to the students who embody scholarship during their 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade years. Awarded to: Virginia Cobb, Abagail Cook, Xandra Ford, Collin Oalican, Sonja Reilly, Cora Spiller, Owen Wamsganz.

The Katherine and Wilson Howrigan Award — Awarded to the students who have worked the most for the 8th grade class during their final year here at Westford. Awarded to: Shea Andrews, Isabella Armata, Xandra Ford, Mae Parker.

The Betty Fay Award/Helping Hands Award — Given to the students in the 8th grade who exhibit the most genuine desire to help others. Awarded to: Sonja Reilly.

The Sportsmanship Award — Awarded to the students who evidence good sportsmanship when involved in team sports. Awarded to: Porter Pitcher, Sonja Reilly, Mason Roberts.

The Joayn Larson Award — Awarded to students who exhibit the following outstanding qualities: patience, unselfishness, and compassion for others. This award is donated by the Westford Home Dem. group in memory of Joayn Larson. Awarded to: Virginia Cobb, Nicholas Hopkins, Jeri Kornn.

The Judith DeNova Personal Conviction Award — Awarded to the students who have learned to dig deep to find the necessary courage and self-determination to persevere when things get tough. Awarded to: Kain Bacon, Emma Murray, Eli Pierce, Chasity Pretty.



3/4 Literacy Teacher MaKayla Foster: "I am beyond excited to welcome students into the 3/4 team and to learn alongside students and families this year. I just completed a 3/4 literacy long-term substitute teaching role at Westford, Prior to that, I student taught with Mrs. Goss as I completed my undergraduate studies in Elementary Education and English at Saint Michael's College. I am passionate about helping others and of course, literacy-related activities. My favorites are cracking open a great book outside on a warm day, and listening to my students talk about their interests. If you are curious about what 3/4 literacy students are doing right now, check out our Twitter page https:/ /twitter.com/mfoster 5.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

#### Westford School news

We begin summer planning for a safe return to school. Thank you so much for providing weekly feedback. We are asking that families also respond to this end of the year Westford Parent Survey (https://forms.gle/1MbF1LRvGeWu6eJn7) as we collect information to inform operational plans for a safe return to Westford

As we close out the 2019/20 and look ahead to a safe return, we extend a huge thank you to the Westford PTO for their teacher appreciation video https://www.tribute.co/westford-teachers/. It is greatly appreciated.

Kindergarten Orientation is planned for Friday, July 24. Please contact the main office if you have a child who will enter kindergarten at Westford School for the 2020/21 year. Our kindergarten teacher, Ms. Cassidy Shumway, will continue to update families on the details of Kindergarten Orientation and invite families to attend one of three session options on July 24.

Summer Meals — EWSD is providing a free meal service this summer. Meals are free to all children ages 18 and under, no application or prior approval is needed. Meals will be available at Westford School, Monday-Friday, from 10:10 – 10:30 AM. Please check the EWSD Child Nutrition site for updated menus and more information on the summer meal program.

Planning for a safe return to school 2020/21: Communication. For the latest updates from the Essex Westford School District specific to COVID-19, please visit www.ewsd.org/covid. This includes a wide range of information as well as updates as they unfold this summer.

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#### Fall Rec Soccer

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The K-League program will run from Sunday, September 6 through Sunday, October 18.

PLEASE NOTE – Our club is moving forward with rec play as long as we can safely remain in line with the State's guidelines for Play Smart / Play Safe implemented due to the impact of COVID-19. All requirements set in place by VT Department of Health will be adhered to, and will be expected to be followed by players and spectators as a requirement for participa-

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