

Meet Bolton's Wendy Hoffman and Janet Metz

By Phyl Newbeck
Special to the Mountain Gazette

The Bolton Select Board has a completely new look for 2019. Last year at Town Meeting, Mica Cassara and Tony Barbagallo were elected to two- and three-year terms, respectively, taking the place of Select Board members who had chosen not to run for reelection. Shortly thereafter, Gene Armstrong resigned and John Choate was appointed to finish his term. Last fall, Josh Arneson resigned and Wendy Hoffman was appointed in his stead. Hoffman decided to put her name on the ballot and on Town Meeting Day, she won a two-year seat. Janet Metz fills out the board after winning a three-year term, creating a governing body comprised entirely of first-time members.

For Hoffman, the timing was right for joining the Select Board. "For many years I watched other people do this job," she said, "and I recognized that it involves time commitment and dedication. I didn't think I had the knowledge base or the time but now that my husband and I are empty nesters, it seemed right to step up to the plate and help out."

Hoffman recently took a Continuing Legal Education class where she learned there was a paucity of women in Vermont municipal government. Bolton used to be emblematic of that dearth. Until 2014, the town had never had a woman Select Board member. "That was one of the motivating factors," Hoffman said. "Not so much for me, but to be a female presence and set that goal for future members."

When she was a teenager, Hoffman dreamt of careers in music and the law. Singing with the Essex Children's Choir propelled her towards music first, and she worked as a professional singer and voice instructor. After she and her husband had kids, they moved back to Vermont and Hoffman curtailed the traveling which had been part of her musical career. When her children were in high school, she followed her second dream by attending law school and she now works for the Mental Health Project at Vermont Legal Aid. The mezzo-soprano still finds time for one or two classical or neo-classical gigs a year and last winter she sang the *Messiah* with the Vermont Philharmonic Orchestra. A native Vermonter, Hoffman and her husband moved to Bolton in 2001.

Hoffman thinks her legal knowledge may be of assistance to the board, particularly regarding procedural matters. She also believes her legal training may guide her to thinking more thoroughly about the issues. "I notice it takes me longer to come to conclusions," she said, "because I have to run through different threads." Hoffman has no previous municipal experience but thinks that might be an asset because she is looking at issues through the eyes of a citizen.

Among the areas that interest Hoffman is the Payment in Lieu of Taxes issue with the Ethan Allen Firing Range. She hopes to meet with representatives from Jericho and Underhill to find out what they have researched on the topic. Other than that, she wants to learn as much as possible about areas of municipal government like roads and vehicles. "I'm still learning so much," she said.

Janet Metz spent almost 40 years working for the New York State Assembly in Albany and her 50-, 60-, sometimes 100-hour weeks left her little time to think about municipal issues. Metz worked as a legislative aide, policy analyst, deputy director of a legislative research group, and Assistant Secretary for Program and Policy where she was charged with developing and negotiating legislation and budget initiatives. "It was a very demanding job," she said, "and I didn't have time for much else." Metz believes local politics in New York is a lot more "rough and tumble" than in Vermont. Moving to Bolton allowed her to focus on the municipal level. "I love this community," she said.

These days, Metz works full-time in marketing for EnSave, her husband's energy efficiency consulting firm. The company provides agricultural businesses with energy audits and helps them find funding for energy efficiency and renewable energy technology. Metz joined the Bolton Energy Committee last December. Another area of community involvement is the Bolton Uptown Downtown Club. "I've been helping Doris Wheelock, who has been doing this for a long time," Metz said. "Doris does the cooking and I do the decorating. It's become a family to me and I look forward to it every month."

Consistent with her work on the Energy Committee, Metz would like to bring experts to Bolton to talk about the importance of weatherization. "We have a lot of homes that are older," she said, "and I'm particularly concerned about seniors." Metz is also interested in infrastructure issues, noting that there isn't a lot of money to fix Bolton's dirt roads. "We have a lot of equipment needs," she said, "and one of our plows had two major repair jobs that blew out our budget." Metz would also like to see improvements to the tunnel at the end of Notch Road, which she considers dangerous for children who are dropped off on U.S. Rt. 2.

Metz has a grown daughter and grandchild in the Albany area. She believes her experience with the New York Assembly helps her understand how government works. "I've become cautious," she said, "and I know things are not necessarily achievable even if they sound good. I treat people with respect and care about the community. I'm a doer and I think I can be an active member listening to concerns and trying to get things done."

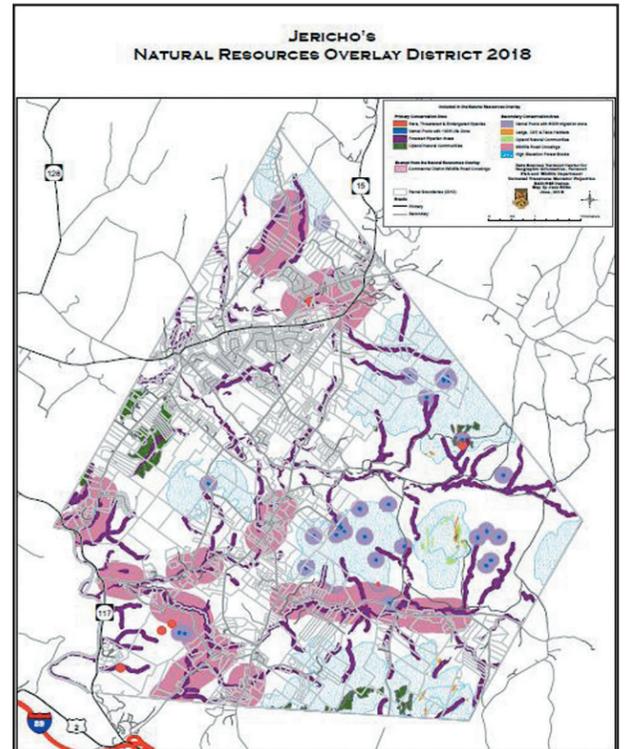
Jericho's Citizen Board of the Year

A Jericho town board has been recognized by the Vermont Planners Association (VPA) as a recipient of a 2019 planning award. For 27 years, VPA awards have recognized outstanding achievements in community planning in Vermont. Nominees represent the best in local, regional, and state planning by citizen and professional planners over the last year. The awards were presented on Thursday, April 11.

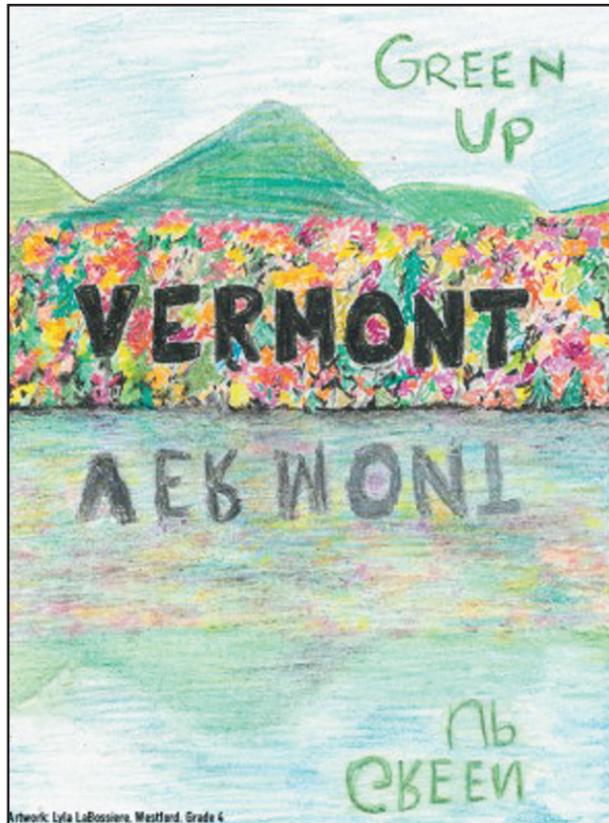
Recent efforts by the Jericho Planning and Conservation Commissions display an example of great citizen planning in action. The Jericho Natural Resource Overlay was adopted in 2018 through the collaborative efforts of the Jericho Planning and Conservation Commissions. Beginning with inventorying efforts dating back to 2013, the Commissions worked together in creating the 2016 Town Plan Natural Resources Chapter. Building off this effort, the Commissions moved the plan into action in the Land Use Regulations in 2018. The Natural Resources Overlay (NRO) would be incorporated into the Land Use Regulations, but not without a lot of work and public outreach. Updated maps were developed from the 2013 inventory and with Commissioners walking several properties to ground truth and offer practical preservation measures to property owners. When it became apparent that there was confusion on the draft NRO, the Commissioners held an open house where members of the public could sign up or just drop in and have the NRO explained to them, and an assessment was conducted showing how the NRO could impact their properties and any future land development. The resulting amendment to the Land Use Regulation includes the most effective tools that towns and developers can use, allowing for growth while protecting natural resources.

Right Jericho's Natural Resources Overlay District 2018

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



Lyla LaBossiere wins first place in Green Up Day poster contest



This Green Up Day poster by fourth grader Lyla LaBossiere of Westford won first place, K-4, in this year's contest. Saturday, May 4 is Green Up Day. Get a green bag and pick up some roadside trash! Did you know: for the first Green Up Day in 1970 under Governor Deane Davis, the interstate highways were closed from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM for litter pickup by volunteers. For more information: <https://greenupvermont.org/the-green-up-story>.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Forest Service temporarily closes cliffs for peregrine nesting

Forest Service officials in Vermont will continue with seasonal closures at two prominent cliff sites on the Green Mountain National Forest's (GMNF) Rochester and Middlebury Ranger Districts. These areas will be temporarily closed in order to prevent disturbance to critical nesting habitat.

Peregrine continued on page 3

St. Thomas Church accessibility community appeal

Each year, St. Thomas Church in Underhill Center hosts multiple events at the church in our basement Parish Hall. We are thrilled that many families come from near and far to attend the events. Unfortunately, everyone who wants to have a seat at the table, cannot.

The Parish Hall is, sadly, not accessible. In the 125 history of the church, St. Thomas has never had an accessible Parish Hall, kitchen, or restroom. Even access to the church sanctuary and pews to attend services is extremely limited by current means. Over the years, untold functions have been held to celebrate weddings, funeral luncheons, suppers, and breakfasts.

Sixteen months ago, a group of church members formed a capital campaign committee called *Vision 2020*. Through *Vision 2020*, the capital campaign is making structural improvements at St. Thomas. Plans have been developed to install a full-sized lift to the main level of the church, sanctuary, and Parish Hall. A construction professional has volunteered to coordinate the project, while others are working to provide their own talents and raise the funds needed.

Of the \$120,000 necessary to install and build the vestibule for the Lift, as well as make the restrooms handicap accessible, \$94,000 has been raised. As of March 25, \$25,000 is needed now to break ground in mid-May.

The *Vision 2020* Capital Campaign Committee is appealing to the greater community. Please join the effort with a donation so that every individual forced to be shut out from services, celebrations, or breakfasts can sit at the table.

Please visit our GoFundMe page: <https://www.gofundme.com/making-st-thomas-accessible-for-all>.

The Clutter Barn: looking ahead

Saturday, May 4 is the Clutter Barn opening day for the 2019 season to begin receiving donations of gently used, clean, and still serviceable, household, personal, decorative, entertaining, and creative items to stock our shelves, racks, tables, and walls in preparation for our offering of unique shopping experiences on the last Saturday of each month, May-August. The Clutter Barn is a Mission of the United Church of Underhill, located opposite the Green at VT Rt. 15 and Park St. in Underhill. Each summer, a group of volunteers of church members, families and friends staffs this "second-hand store" and gathers generous donations from church families, local community citizens, and many folks from the extended areas of Underhill and Jericho, sorts and prices the items, and then distributes them to the various appropriate display areas throughout the building adjacent to the church. Donations are accepted each Saturday from 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM, except for the last Saturday. On the last Saturday of each month, the Clutter Barn hosts a Tag Sale from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM, during which the public is invited in to take advantage of the sale of these fine, remarkably low-priced articles.

All proceeds from the Clutter Barn Tag Sales are used in support of the many in-house and outreach programs offered by the church. However, that is not the only purpose of this Mission. During the summer season, the Clutter Barn opens its doors to victims of natural disasters and/or to those experiencing a difficult period in their lives who are made known to us in order to assure that they have the basic needs for day-to-day living. School supply items are set aside for PINS (Partners In Need) and delivered to that organization prior to the beginning of the school year to be shared

Clutter continued on page 3

4-H NEWS



The top 10 highest scorers in the 10 and 11-year-old age group at the State 4-H Horse Hippology Contest, held Saturday, April 6 in West Halifax and Whitingham, were: (front, from left): Keenan Evans, Danville; Jillian Murdough, Essex Junction; Allyssa Blodgett, Colchester; Sienna Erickson, Florence; Chloe Irish, Westford. Back: Allie Hoffman, Milton; Emma Sibley, Georgia; Addie Ploof, Westford; Rose Duimet, Castleton; Addi Greenwood, Waterford. PHOTO BY AMANDA TURGEON

COMING EVENTS

Thursday, April 18

Movie: Paris to Pittsburgh, 7:00 PM, Deborah Rawson Memorial Library, Jericho. The Jericho Energy Task Force will show this National Geographic movie detailing how citizens, businesses and municipalities across America are developing plans to help them cope with climate change. The movie features interviews with members of both political parties and for-profit as well as non-profit leaders. Q&A after the movie. Light refreshments will be served but please bring your own plates and mugs to this waste-free event. For more information, contact enerjericho@gmail.com.

Mansfield Scale Modelers, 6:30 – 8:30 PM, Brownell Library Kolvoord Community Room, Essex Junction. Model builders encompassing all areas of interest and all skill levels are welcome.

Friday or Saturday, April 19 or 20

Horse Logging Workshop, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Stevensville Rd., Underhill. Date dependent on weather and snow conditions! Come and learn about logging with horses, watch Paul Ruta and his Percherons in action, and help harvest some logs to be used in the restoration of the cabin at the end of Stevensville Rd. A contribution of \$50 is requested to help cover Paul's costs and those of the horses; any extra will go toward the overall cost of the restoration project. For more information and to RSVP (space is limited) please contact Sara Lourie, sara.lourie@mail.mcgill.ca or 802-585-0223.

Saturday, April 20

Poetry Society of Vermont Reading, 2:00 PM, Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St., Burlington. Join members of the Poetry Society

of Vermont for a celebration of National Poetry Month! Founded in 1947, PSOV is an association of poets and supporters who join in promoting an interest in poetry through meetings, workshops, readings, contests, and contributions to the society's chapbook. This will be the sixth annual PSOV reading at Phoenix Books Burlington. Free. Information: www.phoenixbooks.biz or 448-3350.

Monday, April 22

Edible Landscaping for People and Pollinators, 5:30 – 7:00 PM, Jericho Community Center, Browns Trace, Jericho Center. John and Nancy Hayden, who own and operate The Farm Between, Jeffersonville (<https://www.thefarmbetween.com>), will give a presentation about reclaiming their food sovereignty by growing their own food. As part of Earth Day celebration, the Jericho Seed Library will be on display – see how this great community resource works, and seeds from High Mowing will be available to all. This is a free will giving event, and free refreshments will be provided. For more information, transitiontownjericho.net.

Legislative Breakfast, 7:30 – 9:00 AM, Northern Vermont University, Johnson. Presenting sponsor: Jack F. Corse Inc.

Thursday, April 25

Book talk: The World Pushes Back: Poems, 7:00 PM, Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St., Burlington. Join Garret Keizer for a reading from his new book, his first book of poetry and the winner of the 2018 X. J. Kennedy Poetry Prize. The poems are mostly lyrical, often personal, and always accessible. Proceeds from ticket sales go to the VT Foodbank. Tickets, \$3, include a coupon for \$5 off a copy of the featured book. Coupons expire

Pipe Dream Farm hosts state 4-H Hippology contest

Pipe Dream Farm in West Halifax hosted the State 4-H Horse Hippology Contest on Saturday, April 6, an event that attracted 61 participants, members of 4-H clubs in nine counties.

The 4-H'ers judged two classes of horses at the farm, sport horse geldings and English pleasure, before moving to the Twin Valley Middle High School in Whitingham for the general knowledge written test, slides, and identification stations. Combined scores from each phase were used to determine the winners, with up to 10 rosette ribbons awarded in each division.

The competition, organized by University of Vermont Extension 4-H and Windham and Windsor County 4-H, was arranged by age with different questions and skills tests for each age group. Topics included breeds, colors and markings, feeds and forages, tack and equipment, animal nutrition, veterinary procedures, anatomy, horse care, and other horse-related topics.

In the senior division (ages 14 and older) Madison Zimmermann, Northfield, had the highest score, earning her a spot on the state hippology team that will compete regionally and nationally. Other 4-H'ers making the team, in order of placement, were Emma Cushman, Barre; Grace Parks, Essex; and Chloe Barewicz, Jericho.

Rounding out the Top 10 in this division were Lily Tuckerman, South Woodstock; McKenna White, Whiting; Emma Zimmermann, Northfield; Catara Doner, Cornwall; Lilia Kocsis, Vernon; and Addie Boutin, Essex Junction.

Tianna Rivait, Addison, won the Novice Senior

Division. This division is for any 4-H'er, 14-18, who is new to 4-H or a first-time participant in the state hippology contest.

Winners of the other divisions, in order of placement, were:

Junior 12 and 13: Emeillia Gomo, Chester; Anna-Lise Cooledge, Westford; Grace Trahnstrom, Mendon; Haileigh Demers, Milton; Ella Dubin, Northfield, Massachusetts; Summer Le, Colchester; Jenna Dolloph, Grafton; Shyanne Wedge, Shoreham; Abigail Geno, Barre; Britney Zager, Gill, Massachusetts

Junior 10 and 11: Allie Hoffman, Milton; Emma Sibley, Georgia; Addie Ploof, Westford; Rose Duimet, Castleton; Addi Greenwood, Waterford; Allyssa Blodgett, Colchester; Keenan Evans, Danville; Jillian Murdough, Essex Junction; Sienna Erickson, Florence; Chloe Irish, Westford

Junior 8 and 9: Annabelle Carson, Windham; Jakob Marinoff, Highgate; Olivia Quinn, Brandon; Brody Werner, Stannard; Livia Fox, Cabot; Natalie Chevalier, Highgate; Elyse Thurber, Vernon

4-H teen helpers were Faith Ploof, Westford, and Allison Tourville, Georgia. Both 4-H'ers previously competed on the state 4-H hippology team.

To learn more about the Vermont 4-H horse program, contact Wendy Sorrell, UVM Extension 4-H livestock educator, at wendy.sorrell@uvm.edu.

COMING EVENTS

at closing the evening of the event. Information: www.phoenixbooks.biz or 448-3350.

Saturday, April 27

Meet Hedgie, 11:00 AM, Phoenix Books Essex, 2 Carmichael St., Essex. Join us for a story time and activities, and meet the beloved Jan Brett character, Hedgie. Free; all ages welcome. For more information: www.phoenixbooks.biz.

Independent Bookstore Day, all day, Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St., Burlington; Phoenix Books Essex, 2 Carmichael St., Essex; Phoenix Books Rutland, 2 Center St., Rutland; Phoenix Books Misty Valley, 58 Common St., Chester. Join us for merriment and giveaways (while supplies last) as we celebrate with independent bookstores nationwide in this celebration of books, readers, and indie bookselling that started in California in 2014 and was first celebrated nationally in 2015. IBF has become a nationwide party as big and varied as the country itself. Information: www.phoenixbooks.biz.

Vermont Wild book signing and Kilham Bear Center fundraiser, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM at Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St., Burlington; 2:00 – 5:00 PM at Phoenix Books Essex, 2 Carmichael St., Essex. Meet Megan Price, author of the Vermont Wild series, and help Megan and Phoenix raise money for Kilham Bear

Center (KBC). On this day, a portion of Wild sales will benefit orphaned black bear cubs. The money will go to KBC in Lyme, NH. Vermont Wild details humorous, true retired game warden encounters with moose, beaver, bear, and wily poachers. Free. Information: www.phoenixbooks.biz.

Wednesday, May 1

Children's Book Week panel event, 6:00 PM, Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St., Burlington. Join us for an all-star Children's Book Week panel featuring middle grade authors William Alexander, Ann Braden, Kekla Magoon, and Lindsey Stoddard. Moderated by Beth Shelley. All ages welcome. Free. Information: www.phoenixbooks.biz or 448-3350.

Thursday, May 2

Free Community Soup and Bread Supper, 4:30 – 6:30 PM, Covenant Community Church, 1 Whitcomb Meadows Lane, Essex. Serving a variety of hearty soups and breads plus a sweet dessert. Stay at the church to enjoy your meal with friends and family, or pick up to take home. Donations welcome but not expected. (Off VT Rt. 15, across from John Leo's, near Jericho-Essex town line.) For more information call Pastor Jeannette Conner, 879-4313.

SENATOR GINNY LYONS - IN HER OPINION

Vermont values – personal reproductive liberty

Senator Ginny Lyons

Every day I walk past the giant plaque in the state house hallway with a famous quote from U.S. President and native Vermonter Calvin Coolidge. *"If the spirit of liberty should vanish in other parts of the Union and support of our institutions should languish, it could all be replenished from the generous store held by the people of the brave little state of Vermont."*

It's all too easy to forget that for centuries Vermont has been counted on to lead the nation in protecting and ensuring equal rights for all – from the radical notion in the 18th century of banning slavery in its constitution to being the first state in the nation to allow gay and lesbian neighbors to declare their lifelong commitment through a civil union.

Now Vermont is once again poised to lead our nation by becoming the first state in America to amend its constitution to protect a person's right to

reproductive liberty.

Deciding whether and when to become a parent is one of the most personal and important decisions a person can make.

Vermont women should be able to make their own choices about sexual and reproductive health care free from political and government influence, in private with their doctors.

This is why I am a champion for the passage of a constitutional amendment that will guarantee the long held value of reproductive liberty. The Vermont Senate has begun the process to bring the proposal to the voters.

In the United States, a woman's ability to define her own life's course is continually threatened by the intrusion of court decisions and legislative actions. Today, threats at the federal level are ominous.

Access to contraception, reproductive health care, and family planning – the basics of reproductive liberty – are facing an unprecedented wave of attack nationally. Women at the pharmacy counter and at doctors' offices feel negative consequences of these attacks. Women seeking emergency contraception get turned away if they can't show proof of age. Women are unable to pay for birth control if employers refuse to provide insurance coverage. Women are forced into waiting periods and medically unnecessary ultrasounds.

Things are different in Vermont. Our state policy for nearly 50 years is to trust women and health care providers to make appropriate and very personal reproductive decisions free from compulsion by the state. This includes when a woman makes the very difficult decision about abortion.

Personal reproductive liberty, including family planning, benefits the health of mothers, families, and communities. The ability to delay and space childbearing is crucial to women's social and economic progress. Women's ability to access reproductive health care has positive implications for their education, economic security, family stability, mental health, happiness, and their children's well being.

The Vermont Constitution's equal protection clause (Ch. 1 Art. 7) guarantees the state's authority to provide for the welfare of its citizens. Proposition 5 is a proposed constitutional amendment consistent with this authority. It creates a fundamental right to personal reproductive liberty. Enshrining this right in the constitution is critical to ensuring equal protection and treatment under the law and upholding the right of all people to health, dignity, independence, and freedom.

Clearly reproductive health care, including abortion, is a state's rights issue. We Vermonters have the power to choose, to be clear, to reassure, and to remove doubt. We, not the federal government, establish state's rights.

In Vermont, abortion is a health care decision. A woman should never have to feel ashamed for believing that she has the power to make her own choices.

The Vermont Constitution is the highest declaration of the rights and liberties of our citizens. It states the overarching values of our society. In Proposition 5 people will have a chance to cast a ballot that moves personal reproductive liberty from a well-established Vermont value to a fundamental right.

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COMMUNITY COLUMNS

Wild Bill

By Doug Boardman

Special to the Mountain Gazette

I have known Bill Bugbee for over 65 years and we are still best friends. I was from the "hills" and he was from the city. I had to earn my way into the school because I came from a one room, one teacher schoolhouse and in high school most of the students came from the Montpelier schools with different teachers. My first day, I was told by a senior that I had put my coat on his coat hook and I said, "sorry," and I asked what coat hook I should use. He said, "None of them," and threw my coat on the floor, so I hung him on the coat hook. After that, I had no trouble with anybody, but everyone had their little groups.

When I first met Bill, I knew I had found another brother, and 65-plus years later, here we are, still "Brothers at Large." We started a new group of two, and later added partners so we had a foursome. Bill was always game for anything and we always did everything at high speed. I don't believe there is an inch of ground we didn't cover in Montpelier Center. We were good kids, but ultra-active.

We worked hard but we played harder and faster. We didn't usually have much time to play so we made the most of the time we had. We also didn't have any bought toys. Our toys were dried cow flops, trees, sticks, stones, string, an old used baseball - taped up - and only one baseball glove, a tin can for use with "kick the can," which wore out our shoes in the summer. Our last names helped us sit together in classes, but we always opted for the back seats instead of the front row. We did, however, sit in the front row (not because we wanted to, but were forced to) because we were disrupting the class or the teacher. I remember the teacher in typing class said his goal was to teach us to type 30 words per minute, and within two weeks, we were typing 40-50 words per minute, so we fooled around throwing spitballs, etc. I think Wild Bill and I gave the teacher grey hair and loss of hair, but we figured we had passed the requirement, so why keep trying to get better. We knew we were never going to be the best typists

and there was no reward for being the best.

We both learned early on that you never want to be the best or the worst at anything. If you are the best, the "powers that be" will want you to lead everybody and that makes you responsible for a group of people. And the other side is, you don't want to be the worst or you will be peeling potatoes, guarding the garbage dump, cleaning the latrines with a toothbrush regularly!

Wild Bill has always had a "need for speed" and likes to have the pedal to the metal. One night we were at a party in the center, at our Community House, and Bill was there with me. Bobby Mitchell stopped by with a new red sports car. He was a big drinker and speed demon, so he came in and asked Bill if he wanted to take a ride. Of course, Bill said, "Sure." I finally talked him out of it and physically restrained him, and thank god I did. About five minutes after Bobby left, he ran off the road at the top of Badgers Hill and sideswiped a huge boulder right at the point where Bill would have been sitting on the passenger side.

Bill, in a roundabout way, introduced me to the love of my life, Sandy and we were together for 61 and a half years. Bill enlisted in the Air Force and I enlisted in the Navy. We both signed up for the service so we could get the G.I. Bill and go to college. Bill, his wife Pearl, Sandy, and I went on many excursions over the years. Basketball games, NASCAR races, vacations, expositions, county fairs, and sometimes we would just get in the car and drive somewhere to see the sights. It didn't matter where we went - as long as we were together, it was a happy time.

Bill and I have had thousands of experiences together and it would take me a couple years just to write them all down. Naturally, there are some experiences that we don't talk about, things we will take to the grave. My life was turned upside down when my wife died and I didn't want to go on. But my family saved me and Wild Bill was a big part of that. Thank you, Bill, for all the memories.

"Brother Doug" and Sandy



Horse Logging Workshop, Friday or Saturday, April 19 or 20, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Stevensville Rd., Underhill. Date dependent on weather and snow conditions! Come and learn about logging with horses, watch Paul Ruta and his Percherons in action, and help harvest some logs to be used in the restoration of the cabin at the end of Stevensville Rd. A contribution of \$50 is requested to help cover Paul's costs and those of the horses; any extra will go toward the overall cost of the restoration project. For more information and to RSVP (space is limited) please contact Sara Lourie, sara.lourie@mail.mcgill.ca or 802-585-0223.

COMMUNITY COLUMNS

Signs of spring

By Bernie Paquette

Good-bye winter
Hello spring
crocuses breaking through the snow and ice
short pants released from their winter hideaways
creemees and slushes - a kind of cold we can now enjoy
a little more sunshine
a lot more time outdoors
seventy degrees yesterday
forty degrees today
come on spring
burst open,
light our fires
warm our souls and toes



Businesses, organizations, individuals can apply for Environmental Excellence award

The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is now accepting applications for the Vermont Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence. The annual award recognizes leaders from across the state, celebrating the actions they have taken to advance environmental sustainability. DEC encourages Vermonters to nominate a business, school, community, or entrepreneur for a sustainability project they took on during 2018.

The Vermont Governor's Awards were established in 1993 to recognize projects that conserve and protect natural resources, prevent pollution, and promote sustainability. To date, more than 200 individuals, organizations, institutions, public agencies, and businesses have been recognized.

DEC encourages a variety of entities to apply for the award, including individuals, business, industry, and trade or professional organizations, non-profit and community organizations,

educational institutions, local, state, and federal government, Vermont Green Business members, DEC dairy, specialty food, or brewery cohort members.

The deadline to apply is Thursday, June 13. To learn more about the Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence or submit a nomination for the award, visit dec.vermont.gov/environmental-assistance/governors-awards.

Peregrine continued from page 1

Peregrine falcon populations suffered declines due to the use of DDT in the 1940s but have rebounded since their reintroduction in the 1980s. Even though peregrines are now considered a recovered species in Vermont, it is critical to minimize human disturbance to nest sites so that the species' recovery continues. Falcons can already be seen at many nesting sites throughout Vermont. 2018 was another good year for the species; 55 pairs were observed, of which 35 were successful, producing 68 fledglings.

Each spring the Forest Service closes the Rattlesnake Cliff Area (Salisbury) and the Mount Horrid / Great Cliff Area (Rochester) from March 15-August 1. Information regarding the specific locations for the closure areas is available at Forest Service offices. Forest Service employees

post signs to alert the public to let them know trails to the cliff overlooks are closed. Disturbance of peregrine falcons and/or these nesting grounds is a violation of federal law and may result in a fine up to \$5000 and six months in jail. Please report any harassment of nesting peregrine falcons to 1-800-75ALERT.

The Forest Service works with Audubon Vermont, the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife, and other non-profit organizations to protect peregrine falcons.

Clutter continued from page 1

with students. Some articles that cannot be sold at our facility are passed on to Goodwill and/or Salvation Army. Humane societies benefit from items such as towels and blankets that may have a small tear or stain. Outreach is a major part of what we do!

The Clutter Barn season culminates with the United Church of Underhill Old Fashioned Harvest Market, this year to be held on September 28 and 29 on the church grounds. Our doors will be open throughout the weekend with bargains you won't want to miss! Following that celebration, articles that have not sold are distributed to various charitable groups, such as VT Refugee Resettlement Program (kitchen items, sewing accessories), Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity (miscellaneous articles), Pine Ridge Indian Reservation (books), JUMP (books), Orphanages in Ukraine (small toys, hats, mittens, jackets, etc.) and many other organizations.

As your spring cleaning gets underway, please consider donating outgrown/no longer needed items to help further the good work of the Clutter Barn. For a complete list of acceptable and unacceptable goods and additional information, visit unitedchurchofunderhill.com/serve/clutter-barn/ or contact a member of our team: Sharon Damkot, Kathy and Dave Williamson, Betty and Lou Wilson, Bev Golish, Gail Canedy, Mary Jane Neale, Bridget Pecor, or Gary Irish.



Mountain High Pizza Pie

Monday 4:00 - 8:30 PM
Tuesday - Thursday 11:00 AM - 8:30 PM
Friday - 11:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Saturday 11:00 AM - 8:30 PM
Sunday 4:00 - 8:30 PM

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

Send your news to
mtgazette@earthlink.net
www.mtngazettevt.com

Area Worship Services

COVENANT COMMUNITY CHURCH

"Come As You Are"
1 Whitcomb Meadows Lane, Essex, VT 05452
(across from John Leos on Route 15)
Pastor: Rev. Jeannette Conner
email: cccpastorjeannette@gmail.com
Phone: (802) 879-4313

facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Covenant-Community-Church-125345080830320>

Adult Bible Class: Sunday 9:00 AM
Worship Service: Sunday 10:00 AM
Fellowship: immediately after service

Child care (infant through pre-K) is provided during the worship service

JERICO CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

"An Historic Church Proclaiming an Eternal Message"
On the Green in Jericho Center, VT
Senior Pastor David Coons and Youth Pastor Glenn Carter
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Sunday School at 9:30 AM for all ages
Fellowship at 10:30 AM Youth group 6:15 PM
Sundays in our Sunday school building
Signing for the deaf upon request
899-4911; officejcc@comcast.net; www.jccvt.org

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Deacon: Peter Brooks Religious Ed. Coordinator: Laura Lynch Wells,
899-4770 Parish Secretary: Theresa Gingras Phone: 802-899-4632,
email: office@stthomasvt.com, Website: www.stthomasvt.com

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HEALTH PROGRAMS AND CLASSES AT NORTHWESTERN MEDICAL CENTER

APRIL 2019

Therapeutic Yoga, Tuesdays through April 30, 5:15 PM – 6:15 PM, NMC Exercise Room. Fee: \$40 monthly; pay in full online at <https://www.northwesternmedicalcenter.org/event/9101/2019-01-09/> or at first class to reserve your spot. Class limited to 12 people. Certified yoga instructor and physical therapist Katherine Lowe will lead you through a monthly series of yoga postures, poses, and breathing techniques designed to ease the stress, anxiety and discomfort associated with pain. Yoga can assist in enhancing our mind-body connection. No previous yoga experience is necessary.

Diabetes and You, Tuesdays, April 16-May 14, 1:00 – 3:00 PM, NMC Grand Isle Room. Join this self-management educational series for people with diabetes and their families, proven to help people improve control of this disease. Learn how to keep diabetes under control by controlling your life and improve your blood sugar control to feel better and delay or prevent complications. NMC will bill your insurance for the course fee. Scholarships available. No one will be turned away for lack of ability to pay. Pre-registration required; contact Deborah Robertson, 524-1031.

Movement for Parkinson's, Friday, April 19, 10:00 – 11:00 AM, Homestead at Pillsbury Manor. For people with Parkinson's (wheelchair bound as well as able to stand), their care partners, and/or others interested in participating. This dance class is designed to engage participants' minds and bodies through many styles of dance, while exploring stretching, muscle strengthening, postural stability, and rhythm through instruction and energizing music. The class is offered in a relaxed social environment that emphasizes enjoyment, fun and creativity, with an eye towards connecting with the community. No dance experience required. No fees charged but a donation is always appreciated to cover transportation costs for the instructor. Registration/information: 802-0881-9673 or saramcm28@gmail.com (Sarah) or patrica_rugg18@comcast.net (Patty Rugg). Free.

AARP Smart Driver Course, Friday, April 26, 1:00 – 5:00 PM, Green Mountain Room, Northwestern Medical Center. This four-hour refresher course is open to all drivers 50 years and older. The curriculum addresses the normal physical changes brought on by the aging process, how these changes can affect driving ability, and then offers ways to compensate for those changes. The course addresses changes in vehicles, regulations, and roads. Participants will also learn how to interact with other road users, including truckers, bikers, pedestrians, and

distracted drivers. Pre-registration required: call Doug, 802-644-8310; \$15 for AARP members, \$20 for non-members.

ONGOING

Brain Injury Support Group – third Thursday of each month, 5:30 – 6:30 PM, NMC Conference Center, Grand Isle Room. Meet other people in similar situations, share the hardships and accomplishments, gain valuable emotional support, obtain information, and discuss a variety of brain injury topics. Anyone touched by brain injury (traumatic or acquired) can attend: survivors, caregivers, friends, and family. All are welcome at our support group. Free; no registration required. For information contact Jess Leal, 877-856-1772.

Cancer Exercise Sessions – Tuesdays and Thursdays, flexible times, NMC Rehab gym, Cobblestone Health Commons. Featuring Wendy Lawrence, Physical Therapist. Pre-registration required; call 524-1064. Free for the first 8 weeks, then \$40. Designed for cancer survivors; helps improve strength and balance while fighting fatigue to bring back optimal function. You'll get started with an individualized physical therapy evaluation and customized treatment if needed – both services are billable to insurance. After these first two or three visits, participants move on to a free, 8-week open gym program that is supervised by one of NMC's Athletic Trainers to continue work on strength and conditioning. Exercise with others can be fun and supportive, especially in the comfortable atmosphere of the rehab gym. After the eight week free open gym program, participants can choose to continue their workouts at the gym for a monthly fee of \$40. Start the program at any time, and use the gym when it is convenient for you. Simply call our Physical Therapy team to get started and find out what hours the gym is open.

Program now enrolling First Time Mothers: Franklin County Home Health Agency's Nurse Family Partnership Program (NFP) helps first time mothers in Franklin, Lamoille, and Grand Isle counties. NFP is an evidenced based program that enrolls mothers during pregnancy and provides them with regular nurse visits until their child's second birthday. Nurses provide support, education and counseling on health, behavioral, and self-sufficiency issues. Interested women and their healthcare providers can call 802-527-7531 for more information.

Vermont Quit Partners Fresh Start Tobacco Cessation Class, Wednesdays, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM, NMC Cobblestone Building, Suite 202. Pre-registration required; to sign up for a session call Chari, 524-8480. Free. Enter this class at any time and join others for this series to help you successfully quit smoking. Sessions include: understanding why you have an addiction and how to quit; mastering the first few days, mastering obstacles; and staying quit and enjoying it forever. When you are ready to quit, the tools and support can make all the difference. We can provide you with what you need

to be successful! As a Vermont resident, you can get free patches, gum and lozenges.

Healing Circle Women's Cancer Support Group: first Tuesday of every month, 4:30 PM socialize, 5:00 – 6:30 PM meeting, Northwestern Medical Center Conference Franklin Room. Pre-registration not required; free. A self-help cancer support group for women of all ages and lifestyles who have cancer. At our monthly meetings, we share information, offer each other support and comfort, and learn new things from speakers. We extend an invitation to any woman who has cancer, whether you are newly diagnosed or a long term survivor. Please call 802-524-8479 with any questions or to RSVP (not required).

Have You Lost a Loved One to Suicide? Second Thursday of every month, 6:00 – 7:30 PM, Northwestern Medical Center's Grand Isle Room. Pre-registration not required; free. If the answer to the question is "yes," please consider attending a free, confidential group that meets monthly in St. Albans. Everyone in the group, including its facilitators, has had someone close to them take their life and knows how devastating that experience can be. You can just come and listen to others share what they are going through and how they are coping or you can share your own story. The choice is always yours to do what feels best to you. For more information on dates, times, and location or to answer any questions you may have call Tony, 802-393-6503.

Chronic Disease Support Group Workshops: Various times and locations. Pre-registration required; contact Deana Chase, LICSW, 802-370-5626. Free. Are you or someone you know living with a chronic health condition? Then the Healthier Living Workshop is for you! Learn to feel better by learning how to deal with frustration, fatigue, and pain, manage symptoms and medications, and improve strength and flexibility. Each session is 2½ hours once a week, for six weeks.

Shadows of the Moon Autism Support Group: for one-on-one phone support, please call Cheryl at 802-868-7745 or Laura at 802-849-2817.

Alzheimer's Support Group: last Tuesday of each month, 6:00 – 7:00 PM, Northwestern Medical Center Franklin Room. Pre-registration not required. Free. This group is for those with Alzheimer's and caregivers, family members, and friends and is facilitated by Amanda Wilson. Please call the 24/7 Helpline at 800-272-3900 or visit alz.org/Vermont to confirm details.

Parkinson's Support Group: second Tuesday of each month, 10:00 – 11:30 AM, Pillsbury Senior Community, conference room next to the library on the first floor, 3 Harborview Dr., St. Albans. Pre-registration not required. Contact Pat, 802-524-5520, or Judy 815-895-2312. Free. This group is open to those with Parkinson's and their caregivers including family and loved ones. The monthly meetings can provide an open forum to share experience with others who are coping with Parkinson's disease, gaining education and support. Wheelchair accessible.

Breastfeeding Moms Group: first Wednesday of each month, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM. Please

call 527-5586 to find location of next group. Pre-registration required; call 527-5586. Free. This group meets once a month for snacks, crafting activities, making baby blankets, and information from the experts.

Breastfeeding and Infant Massage Group: second Wednesday of each month, 9:30 – 11:15 AM, Alburgh Library. No pre-registration required. Free. Join other moms and babies to learn how to massage your baby and discover more about breastfeeding and parenting.

Latch On! Discussion Group: third Saturday of each month, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Northwestern Medical Center Family Birth Center. No pre-registration required. Free. Learn about breastfeeding and share your stories. Enjoy light refreshments and connect with other moms.

Baby Bumps Support Group for Mothers and Pregnant Women, second and fourth Monday of the month, 4:00 – 5:00 PM, Northwestern Medical Center Family Birthing Center. Pre-registration required; contact Rhonda Desrochers, 802-527-7531. Free. Pregnancy can be a wonderful time of your life. But it can also be a time of stress that is often compounded by hormonal swings. If you are a pregnant woman, or have recently given birth and feel you need some help with managing the emotional bumps in the road that can come with motherhood, please come to this free support group led by an experienced pediatric Registered Nurse. This group is for both pregnant women and mothers. Presented jointly by Franklin County Home Health Agency, Northwest Counseling and Support Services, Northwestern Medical Center, and the Vermont Department of Health.

Foot Clinics: various times and locations. Pre-registration required. Call Franklin County Home Health Agency, 802-527-7531 to schedule. Fee: \$20. Regular care of your feet can prevent problems. If you are an elderly and/or disabled person who is unable to do your own foot care, please consider attending a Foot Clinic. Franklin County Home Health Agency offers monthly Foot Clinics throughout the year in St. Albans, Swanton, Franklin, East Fairfield, and Enosburg.

Who's Your Person, What's Your Plan? (End of Life Planning): We plan for all life's milestones – marriage, birth, retirement. But few of us have plans in place for our end of life. And none of us can plan for the unexpected. Do you know who you want to speak for you and make medical decisions for you when you can't do this for yourself? Everyone 18 years and older should have a Health Care Agent – your person to speak on your behalf. By completing an advance directive you can provide this information to your family and physician. Start this conversation with your family before you are in a health crisis. Information and materials to help facilitate your conversation are available at <http://www.fchha.org/healthcareagent/> as well as www.starttheconversationvt.org. You can also call Franklin County Home Health Agency to learn more about completing an advance directive. We are also available to speak to community groups. Start the Conversation today. It's a gift.

Jericho resident, colleagues accept award for Howard Center

Jericho resident Dan Hall and seven other Howard Center colleagues in Nashville, TN last month to receive the National Council for Behavioral Health's 2019 Excellence in Addictions Treatment Award. The award was presented during the Awards of Excellence Celebration in conjunction with the National Council Conference – NatCon19. Hall is Director of Outpatient Services at Howard Center.

The Excellence in Addictions Treatment award recognizes an organization that has provided effective addictions education and prevention programs in the community or improved treatment outcomes for people with addictions disorders through innovative, science-based programs and services.

Howard Center was selected from 230 nominations from across the country. The National Council for Behavioral Health's Awards of Excellence recognize and honor individuals and organizations in behavioral health care for their ingenuity, hard work, and dedication to improving the lives of Americans living with mental illnesses and addictions.

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Dr. Mary H. Kintner



Howard Center staff were at NatCon 2019 to accept an award for the Howard Center. From left, Christine Hayner, Dan Hall of Jericho, Dana Poverman, Catherine Simonson, Sandy Steingard, John Brooklyn, Beth Goss, Kim Hatgen.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Home & Garden
Information
coming May 2.

Email
mtgazette@earthlink.net
for more
information.

OBITUARY



Richard H. Tabor, Jr., 78, of Jericho, VT passed away on Thursday, March 28, 2019 in Granville, NY. He was born on August 29, 1940 in Burlington, VT, the son of Robert H. Sr. and Beulah (Forent) Tabor. Memorial Services were held Tuesday, April 16, 2019 in Elmwood-Meunier Funeral Chapel, Burlington, VT.

What You Need to Know to Keep Your Feet Happy

Bryan Monier, MD has created a free helpful fact sheet. Learn:
Tips for Everyday
When to See a Doctor

Download your free checklist at copleyvt.org

Bryan Monier, MD is a fellowship trained attending orthopaedic surgeon specializing in care of the foot and ankle and lower extremity trauma at Mansfield Orthopaedics at Copley Hospital. He is skilled in working with athletes, trauma, and geriatric patients. Dr. Monier is an expert in total ankle replacements.



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LIBRARY NEWS

DEBORAH RAWSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Unless otherwise noted, programs do not require registration and are free and open to all.

Friday Night *Magic: the Gathering*, Friday, April 19, 6:30 – 8:30 PM. Start your weekend off right: grab your best deck and your best friend to walk the planes of the Multiverse! We'll be casting spells in casual rounds of *Magic: the Gathering*. For ages 10 and up.

Chess Club, Saturday, April 20, 12:00 PM. Enjoy the ancient game of feudal conquest with fellow tacticians. Whether you're a grandmaster or a total novice, you'll enjoy putting your skills to the test at our monthly chess club. Participants are encouraged to bring their own boards and chess sets.

Trivia Quest: Vermont edition, Saturday, April 20, 6:30 PM. Do you pine for pub quizzes, trounce at *Trivial Pursuit*, and jump to answer *Jeopardy!*? If so, join us for *Trivia Quest*, our monthly contest of not-so-general knowledge. This month is all about Vermont. Come learn all about our weird and wonderful state! Thanks to the VT Historical Society for providing the trivia questions for this program.

Legislative Update, Tuesday, April 23, 6:30 – 8:00 PM. George Till and Trevor Squirrel will be here to provide legislative information and answers to your questions. Please feel free to drop in and meet up with your representatives.

Knitting with Neighbors, Thursday, April 25, 6:00 PM. New to knitting and looking for support to get past the first row or remember how to cast on? This is the group for you. Experienced knitter just looking for inspiration to try something new or share your knitting wisdom? This is the group for you. Not new to knitting, but new to Jericho or Underhill? You will find some friendly faces here. If you would like help picking a first time project, please feel free to contact Julie Hehir at juliehehir@comcast.net.

Movie Night, Friday, April 26, 7:00 PM. Steve Coogan and John C. Reilly star as the comedy duo Laurel and Hardy in this film of their attempt to reinvigorate their failing film careers by going on a tour of post-war Britain. Please visit www.drml.org for more details. (PG; 1 hour 38 minutes)

Cook the Book: *Maple*, Monday, April 29, 12:15 PM. For the month of April our selected cookbook is *Maple*. The book will remain at the front desk where you may use it at the library to photocopy a recipe of your choice: appetizer, main dish, side dish or dessert. On Monday, April 29 at 12:15 PM, bring your prepared dish and a serving utensil to the program room where you and other participants will have the opportunity to sample each other's creations. The library staff will assist you in signing up for the event and provide you with a form to avoid two people preparing the same food. Please register in advance, 899-4962.

Jericho Town Library Poetry Reading — Monday, April 29, 6:00 – 9:00 PM. Come enjoy a lovely evening of poetry reading by local residents. Jericho Town Library holds an annual poetry writing workshop led by Mary Jane Dickerson and this is the ending event, with participants sharing their work. This event is cosponsored with the Jericho Town Library.

Mystery Book Club: *Black Cherry Blues* by James Lee Burke, Tuesday, April 30, 7:00 PM. Framed for murder, the Cajun ex-cop Dave Robicheaux is traveling far from his Louisiana home to clear his name, to help a friend, to save what remains of his family – seeking justice and revenge in the Big Sky Country of Montana.

Library hours: Tuesday 12:00 – 8:00 PM, Wednesday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Thursday 12:00 – 8:00 PM, Friday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Saturday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, Sunday 1:00 – 4:00 PM; closed Monday.

For information on any of the library's programs, call 899-4962. DRML is located at 8 River Rd., Jericho; www.drml.org.

JERICHO TOWN LIBRARY

Story Time – Wednesdays, 10:30 – 11:30 AM. Recommended ages: 0-5 years. Pop in for a casual hour of story time, smiles, songs, and laughter with Lisa!

JTL Board meetings are held the second Monday of every month (May 13) at 5:30 PM. All are welcome to attend.

Jericho Town Library has new, expanded 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 at www.jerichotownlibraryvt.org or call 899-4686.

VARNUM MEMORIAL LIBRARY, JEFFERSONVILLE

Got Books – a new story time for the littlest library visitors. Join Amber for nursery rhymes, movement activities, songs, stories, and finger plays proven to promote early literacy, language, and communication skills. For ages birth-18 months with an adult, Wednesday, 9:30 – 10:30 AM.

Children's Story Time and Crafts with LN, Thursdays, 10:00 – 11:00 AM. The library is a warm, cheery place for children to meet other children! Join us for stories read by people who enjoy sharing good books and a craft. Free and the public is invited! For more information, call the library at 644-2117.

Young Adult Book Club: *Percy Jackson* – Tuesdays, April 23, 30, 5:00 PM. This is the new Youth Book Club, Camp Half-Blood! Responding to the library's *Survey Monkey* survey, the club has chosen *Percy Jackson and the Olympians* by Rick Riordan for its 2019 series, beginning with the first in the five-book series, *The Lightning Thief*. Join in to explore Greek mythology, history, and culture while discussing the books and movies with friends new and old. For readers in elementary and middle schools. Contact the library for more information or to place a copy on hold.

Crafting Circle – Thursdays, April 18 and 25, 5:30 – 7:00 PM. Bring your current W.I.P. or come to get ideas and learn something new. All crafts welcome.

Trivia Night to benefit the Varnum – Monday, May 6 at the Village Tavern Upstairs Dining Room, 55 Church St., Jeffersonville. Hosted by Top Cat Trivia and the Village Tavern to benefit the Varnum Memorial Library, the evening features a 50/50 raffle, and prizes for the winning team (of 4 or 6; come with your team or form one on the spot). Doors open at 5:00 PM; Trivia from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. Suggested donation at the door. The Tavern's full food and drink menu available to order; a portion of the proceeds goes to the library.

Crescendo Club Library Association – Do you have two hours a month to spare for a great opportunity? The Crescendo Club Library Association is seeking community members interested in helping the library anticipate and meet the needs of all we serve and to promote lifelong learning for everyone. Please let us know if you would like to be an active supporter and member of this organization that has worked to help the community for almost 120 years. Meets on the third Thursday of the month (April 18), 7:00 –

8:00 PM.

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

Early Literacy Storytime, for ages birth to preschool, Thursdays, 11:00 AM. Several stories around a theme, and a theme-based craft. All ages and levels of attention are encouraged to come. Don't worry if they fidget – they are still getting a lot out of it!

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; website www.westfordpubliclibrary.wordpress.com; email westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com. Like us on Facebook. 878-5639, Bree Drapa, Librarian.

RICHMOND LIBRARY

Weekly children's programs at the Library run from September through May and follow the CESU school district schedule for vacation days and weather closure days.

May Foyer Display: We will be showing Richmond resident, Jane Vossler's collection of Little Golden Books from the late 1940s and early 1950s, all gifts from relatives or purchased by her mother who read them to her as a little girl, many times each. Little Golden Books were first published in 1942 and are still being published today.

May Art Show: During the month of May we will be showing the paintings of Richmond resident Bruce Lee. His work draws on nature for inspiration and the work of Impressionists from all over the world, as well as American artists such as Edward Hopper and Richard Schmid.

Storywalk: The library in collaboration with RiseVT and the Richmond Trails Committee will once again be setting up a Storywalk along the river trail at the Volunteers Green this coming June. Watch for details.

2019 *Vermont Reads!* The 2019 *Vermont Reads* book is the graphic novel *March Book One*, the first in a trilogy by civil rights icon John Lewis in collaboration with co-writer Andrew Ayden and graphic artist Nate Powell. It tells the story of Lewis' coming of age in rural Alabama and early life of civic activism. Lewis, who was greatly inspired and influenced by Martin Luther King Jr., is considered one of the big six leaders of the civil rights movement and an early adopter of the nonviolent protest tactics that were instrumental in the desegregation of the South. Lewis has served in the U.S. Congress since 1987. Free Copies of *March* – Thanks to a grant from the Vermont Humanities Council, we have many copies of the graphic novel *March: Book One* on hand available to the community. Stop by and check out a copy.

Soup to Nuts: An Eccentric History of Food. The history of what and how we eat encompasses everything from the prehistoric mammoth luau to the medieval banquet to the modern three squares a day. Presented by writer Rebecca Rupp, this talk lets attendees find out about the rocky evolution of table manners, the not-so-welcome invention of the fork, the awful advent of portable soup, and the surprising benefits of family dinners – plus some catchy info on seasonal foods. What's the story of chocolate? Why do the Irish eat corned beef and cabbage on St. Patrick's Day? Who invented lemonade? Why are turkeys called turkeys? And what are sugarplums anyway? Tuesday, April 30, 6:30 PM. A Vermont Humanities presentation. Free.

Learning Nonviolence: Activism 101. Participants in this workshop offered by staff from the Peace and Justice Center will learn aspects of Kingian Nonviolence, build knowledge of successful nonviolent campaigns, explore how their own identities impact this work, and engage in role play. This workshop is appropriate for age fourteen through adult. Join us on Tuesday, May 7, 7:00 – 9:00 PM in the community room.

Apprenticeships in Vermont: Allison Richards of the Vermont Department of Libraries will offer an informational program describing the many different apprentice programs available via the Department of Labor and employer sponsors. This is an excellent way to learn about beginning a career or changing direction. The Apprenticeship Department currently has over 800 Vermonters registered in more than 30 trades. All are employed in the crafts of their choice and, when they complete the program, enjoy continued employment at a higher, skilled rate of pay. These programs include electrical, plumbing, surveying, sheet metal, HVAC, and others. Wednesday, May 22, 6:30 PM.

The Weapons of Fraud: In conjunction with AARP Vermont's Fraud Watch Network, we will host a timely presentation on scams, fraud, and con artists. The program will identify the current scams and tactics being used today and provide helpful tips on staying out of the grip of con artists. The program is free and appropriate for all ages. Join us on Thursday, May 23 at 7:00 PM.

Woof! What's the dog saying? Is a yawn always just a yawn? Why does a dog shake off even when it's not wet? Why is a growl a good thing? This popular, long-running dog communication and safety lecture by staff at Gold Star Dog Training is a multimedia extravaganza of fun where the audience also gets to test their "dog reading" skills. We'll demystify dog communication, reveal some common dog-human misunderstandings, and explore how we can all live safely and happily together. Join us on Thursday, May 30 at 6:30 PM.

Weekly Children's Programs

No one ever regrets taking their child to storytime. We offer three weekly programs for young children. Choose the one that's right for your child and schedule. While the programs are planned with the ages listed in mind, older and younger children are always welcome. No registration is required. Programs run from September-May and follow the CESU school district schedule for vacation days and weather closure days.

Baby Laptime: This 30-minute program is for our youngest visitors. Adults interact with their little person through simple stories, songs, rhymes, bounces, and wiggles that are sure to bring out the smiles and giggles. Baby Laptime is designed for infants through age 2. Join us on Mondays at 10:30 AM.

Playgroup with Stories and Music: The morning begins at 10:00 AM with songs, stories, and a simple snack (bring your own) on the alphabet rug. Around 10:30 AM we'll get out the toys for free play with friends in the library's sunny and spacious community room. We have gross motor and fine motor toys, puzzles, and activities for infants through preschool age children. Join us on Wednesdays for storytime and playgroup.

Movers and Shakers Storytime: Frequent exposure to picture books not only entertains and delights children but also strengthens their vocabulary and their ability to make sense of the world. We'll



Varnum Memorial Library is raffling off American Girl Doll 2019 Girl of the Year, Blaire Wilson, with proceeds benefiting the library. The drawing for Blaire will be on Thursday, July 4 at 3:00 PM. The \$5 tickets are available at the library in Jeffersonville and online via PayPal, <http://www.varnumlibrary.org/donate/>. Please type a comment in the notes for online raffle ticket purchase that it is for the American Girl Doll. If dolls are not your thing, the library is raffling off a chance to win a four-week CSA share at Knee Deep Farm in Jeffersonville, gardening supplies, Mrs. Meyers' cleaning supplies, and more. Tickets (\$5 each or three for \$10) are available at the library and the winner will be chosen on Memorial Day, May 27.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

share fantastic new and classic picture books and work some early literacy magic into a child's day. We'll couple stories with simple songs and activities for some interactive moving and shaking. Toddlers and preschoolers and their caregivers are welcome on Fridays at 10:30 AM.

Book Discussions

Home for Unwanted Girls by Joanna Goodman. Philomena meets Orphan Train in this suspenseful, provocative novel filled with love, secrets, and deceit – the story of a young unwed mother who is forcibly separated from her daughter at birth, and the lengths to which they go to find each other. Tuesday, May 14, 6:00 PM.

In the Woods by Tana French (Dublin Murder Squad #1). As dusk approaches a small Dublin suburb in the summer of 1984, mothers begin to call their children home. But on this warm evening, three children do not return from the dark and silent woods. When the police arrive, they find only one of the children gripping a tree trunk in terror, wearing blood-filled sneakers, and unable to recall a single detail of the previous hours. Thursday, May 16, 7:00 PM.

Other Events

New passes: biking, hiking, history, more!

In addition to the popular passes offering discounts or free entry to ECHO, Shelburne Museum, and more, we now have some new passes available to Richmond patrons! Just stop by the library to check out a pass for a two-day loan period.

Sleepy Hollow Inn Ski & Bike Center: Passholder receives a \$3 discount for each family member (up to two adults and two children) on any day or half-day pass. May be used for a skiing or snowshoeing pass or for a biking/hiking pass in season. Visit Sleepy Hollow's website <http://www.skisleepyhollow.com/> for information about rates and current conditions.

Catamount Outdoor Family Center: Passholder receives a \$3 discount for each family member (up to two adults and two children) on any day or half-day pass. May be used for a skiing or snowshoeing pass or for a biking/hiking pass in season. Visit the Catamount Center's website <http://catamountoutdoorfamilycenter.org/> for information about rates and current conditions.

Vermont History Museum and Vermont History Center: Pass admits one person or family to either the Vermont History Museum in downtown Montpelier or the Vermont Heritage Galleries in Barre. Visit the Vermont Historical Society's website <https://vermonthistory.org/> for more information.

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.

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

DOROTHY ALLING MEMORIAL LIBRARY, WILLISTON

All events free. Children 8 and younger must be accompanied by an adult while at the library.

Preschool Music: Mondays, 11:00 AM and Thursdays, 10:30 AM. Up to age 5 with a caregiver. No pre-registration. Limit: one session per week per family.

Preschool Story Time: Tuesdays, 10:30 AM. Includes a simple craft activity. April 16: Colors; April 30: Dinosaurs. All ages.

Thursday Playtime: Thursdays, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Preschoolers and their caregivers are invited for an informal play time following our Preschool Music program. For children birth to age 5.

Teen Movie Night: Thursday, April 18, 5:00 – 7:30 PM. Marvel comics fans! Join us for a superhero movie set in the mythical African nation of Wakanda. Costumes encouraged. Come dressed as your favorite superhero or book character. Grades 7-12. Snacks and activities provided. Presented by Food for Thought Teen Group.

Preschool Yoga with Danielle: Friday, April 19, 10:30 AM. Simple yoga poses, stories and songs for children birth to age 5 and their caregivers.

Wildlife of Vermont: Live Animal Program: Saturday, April 20, 11:00 AM. Meet creatures that fly, crawl and slither! Southern Vermont Natural History Museum will bring a variety of animals including an owl, hawk, turtle, and snake, as well as furs, skulls, and other artifacts. All ages. Sponsored by Friends of the Library.

Fairies and Gnomes! Tuesday, April 23, 11:00 AM. All ages. 11:00 AM: Fairy Stories and Dance Party; 12:00 – 2:00 PM: Fairy

Libraries continued on page 7

ART / MUSIC / THEATER



Vermont Dance Alliance's 2018 Traces event, above, gives the flavor of this year's third annual Traces, a day of free outdoor dance in downtown Burlington on Saturday, June 15. To participate as a dancer, submit a proposal by Wednesday, May 1 to jessie@vermontdancer.org; for more information, go online to <https://vermontdance.org>. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

ART/PHOTOGRAPHY

At the Emile A Gruppe Gallery in Jericho the prelude to Spring in Vermont, known as Mud Season, is welcomed as a harbinger of warming days and cool nights and the setting up of the maple economy. It is also a tease as to what is coming – flowering plants, lots of color, bird songs, and warmth. The current show at the Gallery, titled *Beyond Mud Season*, offers a jump start on your enjoyment of the upcoming seasons and also offers the opportunity to enjoy these works in your own space. Watercolors by Monique Dewyea, Textile Marbling by Linda and Dean Moran, photography by Luci Wilcox, watercolors by Jericho's Adrienne Fisher and Montpelier artist Susan Bull Riley, "painterly" digital photographic images by Roarke Sharlow. The show will hang through Open Studio weekend, Saturday-Sunday, May 25-26. Emile A Gruppe Gallery, 22 Barber Farm Rd., Jericho; emilegruppegallery.com, 802-899-3211.

Dianne Shullenberger Gallery in Jericho presents *Delicious Words 2019* on Sunday, April 28 at 4:00 PM, featuring Marilyn Gillis: artist "An Artist's Journey," Scudder H. Parker: poet "The Poem of the World" – Poetry as Engagement with the World, Margaret Grant: writer *From Here* – a collection of short stories about contemporary rural life, and Susan Adams: dessert chef. Tickets to the event, which benefits C.O.T.S. (the Committee on Temporary Shelter), begin at a minimum donation of \$25 (checks made out to Dianne Shullenberger may be sent to the studio at 228 Nashville Rd., Jericho, VT 05465). Please RSVP: 899-4993 or vidianne@hotmail.com.

Helen Day Art Center in Stowe will celebrate the extraordinary artistic talents of students in the greater Stowe area with an art show opening Wednesday, May 1 and running through Saturday, June 1. Students from Stowe Elementary, Middle, and High Schools and Mountain River School exhibit their work along with students from this year's guest school, Rumney Memorial School in Middlesex. The opening reception takes place at Helen Day on Wednesday, May 1, 3:00 – 6:00 PM, with complimentary ice cream thanks to Ben and Jerry's. All are welcome to enjoy the exhibit and refreshments and to take part in an art activity. Gallery hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM and by appointment. Helen Day Art Center, 90 Pond St., Stowe; 802-253-8359, www.helenday.com.

The Fleming Museum of Art, UVM, Burlington presents Matt Miller in the Painted Word Poetry Series on Wednesday, April 24 at 6:00 PM. Miller is the author of the collections *The Wounded for the Water* (Salomon Poetry), *Club Icarus*, selected as the winner of the 2012 Vassar Miller Poetry Prize, and *Cameo Diner: Poems*, and was winner of the River Styx Microbrew/Microfiction Prize, and more. He teaches English at Phillips Exeter Academy and lives with his family in coastal New Hampshire. Event co-sponsored with the UVM Department of English.

Through Sunday, June 9 at the Burlington City Arts Center, Rebecca Weisman examines unconscious and psychological spaces of identity and the body. The artist combines video, installation, sound, and sculpture to create a large-scale, immersive installation in the first floor gallery. Incorporating film, performance, and sound within her surreal environment, the artist expresses the interaction between the interior of our unconscious and the exterior of our

own skin. Also through June 9, Barbara Zucker debuts her new work, *Adorned: Hairstyles of an Ancient Dynasty*, featuring several black-and-white paintings and an installation of acrylic abstractions inspired by the stylized hairstyles of Tang dynasty tomb figures. Zucker is fascinated by the complex ways in which hair has been used by cultures throughout the world. She transforms seemingly abstract forms into ironic, often humorous, observations on gender and culture. These concerts include performances by BeatonOPlasse, Allison de Groot and Tatiana Hargreaves, Genticorum, and Martin Hayes. Also through June 9, Imperfect Societies probes themes of history, trauma, and nationhood set within the tropes of science fiction in film and photography. For more information, burlingtoncityarts.org. Free admission. Burlington City Arts Center, 135 Church St., Burlington.

At the Shelburne Museum and running through Sunday, June 2 is the exhibition *Johnny Swing: Design Sense*, which gives a fascinating glimpse into the various phases of the internationally renowned furniture and lighting designer's philosophy and practice. From the early conceptual stages of sketching and model making, to fabricating molds and engineering the structural elements, to the realization of sophisticated works that blur the lines between art and design, Swing's work is dramatic and inviting. Running through Sunday, August 25 at the Shelburne Museum's Colgate Gallery, Pizzagalli Center for Art and Education, *Harold Weston: Freedom in the Wilds* presents American 20th century painter Harold Weston's early Adirondack views and selections from the *Stone Series*, alongside diaries, letters, photographs, and related ephemera that make a case for the connections between spirit, nature, and Weston's art. Weston (1894-1972), an American modernist painter and social activist, was called "the Thoreau of the Adirondacks." This is the first exhibition to pointedly illuminate the links between the artist's written words – much in his distinctive, lyrical handwriting – with Weston's prodigious body of work. Beginning Wednesday, May 1 and running through October 31 is *In Their Element: Jonathan D. Ebinger, Rodrigo Nava, Dan Snow* – an outdoor installation featuring sculptures that complement and amplify one another through their shared engagement with fire, wind, and earth, pushing the boundaries of their respective materials and processes. From June 22 through October 20 at the Pizzagalli Center for Arts and Education's Murphy Gallery, the Museum presents *William Wegman: Outside In*, a comprehensive exhibition exploring over four decades of the renowned artist's ongoing fascination with the natural world showcasing over 60 works of art from his collection in a variety of media. For information, 802-985-3346 or www.shelburnemuseum.org.

Shelburne Vineyard hosts a variety of regular arts events. Art exhibits: artists and exhibits change quarterly, on the first of October, January, April, and July. Music: the *First Thursday* concert series features local singer-songwriters on the first Thursday of the month, 6:00 – 8:30 PM, with wine and Fiddlehead for sale by the glass (a portion of proceeds benefits a different local non-profit each month), open to the public with free admission. Wine and Story: open mic on the third Tuesday of each month, February-November, with Recille Hamrell; doors open 6:30 PM, storytelling begins 7:30 PM; admission \$5. Shelburne Vineyard, 6308 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne; www.shelburnevineyard.com or 802-985-8222.

At River Arts, Morrisville: Kinder Arts Winter Series, Tuesday mornings, 9:00 – 10:00 AM, April 9 and 23. This free exploratory arts program is for ages 3-5. For adults and teens, on third Thursdays, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, the River Arts Photo Co-op drop-in; \$5 suggested donation. Open Studio Figure Drawing, first and third Tuesdays from 3:00 – 5:30 PM, \$10/session, punch cards available. Youth Drop-In: Big & Messy Art Space, every first and third Sunday of the month, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, \$5 suggested donation. Music & Movement, first Friday of the month, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM, free. Poetry Clinic, every first and third Tuesday, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, \$5 suggested donation. River Arts is offering classes on arts ranging from pottery to paints to bookbinding to writing, and more. See the website for details. River Arts of Morrisville Inc., 74 Pleasant St., Morrisville; 802-888-1261, <http://www.riverartsvt.org>.

Visions of Vermont Art Galleries in Jeffersonville is open Tuesday-Sunday, 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Hosts Jane and Terry Shaw, 644-8183; Visions of Vermont, 100 Main St., Jeffersonville. For more information, visit www.VisionsofVermont.com. Bryan Memorial Gallery, 180 Main St., Jeffersonville; 802-644-5100; www.bryangallery.org. Gallery hours: Thursday-Sunday, 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM, and by appointment.

Burlington City Art Center – BCA Center, 135 Church St., Burlington; 802-865-7166 or www.burlingtoncityarts.org. For upcoming events and workshops at the Milton Artists' Guild, please visit <https://www.miltonartistsguild.org/workshops>. Milton Artists' Guild Art Center & Gallery, 199 U.S. Rt. 7 South, Milton.

MUSIC

The next Westford Music Series performance will feature the fun and delightful *Oleo Romeos* on Sunday, April 28, 4:00 – 5:00 PM at the White Church on the Common, VT Rt. 128, Westford. Purveyors of quirky and often hilarious material, the group is known for teasing the most dubious aspects of the human psyche. Challenging the borders of good taste, they have been delighting audiences for 20 years, bringing their whack-doodle sensibilities to modern Americana roots music. The *Oleos* slither through the genres of folk, blues, country, rock, and swing music with amiable

assurance. *Oleo* anchors Tyrone Shaw and Jerry Bowers will be joined by raconteur and Telecaster master George Lewis. Free will donations; refreshments.

Young Tradition Vermont brings together young singers, players and dancers for a week-long festival in Burlington, Monday, April 29-Sunday, May 5. This year's festival includes an evening concert series at the Burlington City Arts Center, 135 Church St., Burlington. These concerts include performances by BeatonOPlasse, Allison de Groot and Tatiana Hargreaves, Genticorum, and Martin Hayes. For more information, burlingtoncityarts.org.

Chandler Center for the Arts, 71-73 Main St., Randolph, has announced the 11th annual *Next Generation* performance on Friday, May 17 at 7:30 PM at Chandler Music Hall in Randolph. Inspired by 2007 performance at Chandler of National Public Radio's youth showcase *From the Top*, presenters at Chandler created a look-alike program called *The Next Generation*. Please contact board member Janet Watton for more information about this performance: janet@chandler-arts.org or 802-728-9402.

At the Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center Wednesday, May 8, 1:00 PM, The Met Opera: Live in HD *Aida* (Verdi), AARP 20% discount; Friday, May 17, 1:00 PM: ArtSmart – Investigation and insight into works by master composers – Bach, Beethoven, Brahms, Bartok, and Bridge; Saturday, May 18, 7:00 PM: Spruce Peak Chamber Music Society presents Family, Fun, Five "B's;" Thursday, June 13, 1:00 PM: The Bolshoi Ballet in HD, *Carmen Suite / Petrushka*, AARP 20% discount; Wednesday, June 26, 1:00 PM: The Met Opera: Live in HD *Dialogues Des Carmélites* (Poulenc), AARP 20% discount. Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center, 122 Hourglass Dr., Stowe. For more information: 802-760-4634 or www.SprucePeakArts.org.

The Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Burlington presents a series of free (donations appreciated) *Tuesday noon series* concerts. Bring a bag lunch; coffee and tea are provided. The Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 2 Cherry St., Burlington is at the corner of Battery and Cheery Streets, with entry on Cherry St. Parking, \$4 per hour in the Cathedral lot (free with handicap plates or tags), or two hours free in the Lakeview City Garage across Cherry St. (enter next to Hotel Vermont). Tickets are sold at the door. April 30: *Gotta Play Schubert – Again!* Last spring we hosted a performance of Schubert's *Octet* for a mixed ensemble of woodwinds and strings made up of players from the Craftsbury Chamber Players, Scrag Mountain Music, TurnMusic, and the Vermont Symphony. Because we all had such a good time, they're gleefully going to do it again. May 28: Mount Mansfield Union High School Chorus, Caleb Pillsbury, director. This fine chorus of young singers shares highlights of their spring program. June 11: *Syrinx*, Glenn Sproul, Director. Since 2001, *Syrinx* has offered quality choral music from various traditions to the community, especially to those in senior living communities. From Bach to Broadway, by way of spirituals and other genres, they embody the pleasure that the gift of music can offer.

THEATER/FILM

Burlington City Arts is excited to announce the incredible talent headlining the 12th annual Festival of Fools, presented in Burlington Friday-Sunday, August 2-4 by Community Bank, N.A. This year's free, all-ages, street performance festival will feature *Cimarrón*, Dan Deacon, *FLiP*, *Flyin Hawaiian*, Giri and Uma Peters, Kilted Colin, *Lakou Mizik*, *NANDA*, *Red Trousers*, Sara Twister, Tic & Tac, and the *Waterbombs*. The full festival schedule, events, and other performers will be announced later this spring. More than 100 performances will entertain an estimated 100,000 visitors and residents throughout the weekend. Festival of Fools celebrates the inclusive art of busking and street performance. Coined in Great Britain during the 1860s, busking has been a popular art form in every dominant culture since antiquity. Devoted to community engagement and making the arts accessible, Burlington City Arts curates the Festival to offer free events, open to the public and appropriate for all age groups. The Festival is pleased to be working in association with Signal Kitchen as a creative development and music programming partner. Full information about performers, festival events, and future announcements can be found at www.vtfools.org.

Vermont Dance Alliance's 2019 Traces, an annual event, will be a day of free outdoor dance in downtown Burlington on Saturday, June 15. Dancers are invited to submit proposals for dance of any and all styles and genres by Wednesday, May 1 to jessie@vermontdancer.org. In performances of 10 minutes or less, dancers can showcase new work or the style of dance they practice or teach. All performances will take place outdoors and will be free to the public, 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM, all over downtown Burlington: the Waterfront, Church Street, Battery Park, the green in front of the Fletcher Free Library, City Hall Park, and more. Proposals should include choreographer or group name and short bio; website / social media account if any; title, genre, and description; statement of meaning/purpose; names of performers and personnel (must be one non-performer who can speak to the audience/public); length, preferred time, and preferred site of performance. Application fee of \$10-15 for non-VDA members (donate on website). For more information, go online to <https://vermontdance.org>.

Dorset Theatre Festival has announced its 2019 Main Stage Summer Season: June 20-July 6 – Noël Coward's *Private Lives*, directed by Evan Yionoulis; July 11-27 – *Dig*, a world premiere written and directed by Theresa Rebeck; August 1-17 – *Mrs. Christie*,

a world premiere by Heidi Armbruster and directed by Giovanna Sardelli; and August 22-31 – *Slow Food* by Wendy MacLeod and directed by Jackson Gay; and the *Pipeline Series: Three New Works in Process* on July 2, July 23, and August 13. All performances will take place at the Dorset Playhouse, 104 Cheney Rd., Dorset. Subscriptions for the 2019 Summer Season and single tickets are on sale now; through June, the box office may be reached by calling 802-867-2223 ext. 101, Tuesday-Friday, 12:00 – 4:00 PM. For more information or to purchase subscriptions and tickets online: www.dorsettheatrefestival.org.

Williston Welcome Centers are looking for full and part time ambassadors. Customer service, cleaning, snow removal, and must be able to work nights, weekends and holidays. Benefits for full time.

Please fill out application at either Williston site or our main office at: 60 Main Street Suite 100, Burlington. Please apply in person.



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The Art in Birding

Honoring Earth Day, the return of spring, and our imminent open-daily season, the Birds of Vermont Museum is hosting P. Brian Machanic, a Charlotte-based author /photographer /lecturer, and his excellent *The Art In Birding* presentation. Thursday, April 25 at 1:30 PM at the Birds of Vermont Museum in Huntington, discover birds, tales of birding, and more with Brian's many lovely wild bird photographs and a narrative that is both informative and jocular. Bird sightings are guaranteed, and no binoculars or insect repellents are needed!

Machanic has recently authored *This Book Is For The Birds*, which is a tribute to the beauty and grace of the avian world that surrounds us. Tom Slayton, Editor Emeritus of *Vermont Life* magazine, offered the following: "Brian's remarkable photographs reflect his lifelong love of nature and his special affinity for wild birds." Brian's lecture draws in part from his book, copies of which will be on sale at the time of his presentation.

A native Vermonter, Brian developed a passion for nature and its wildlife during his youth while roaming the fields, wetlands, and forests of Vermont's Northeast Kingdom. Brian's ongoing keen interest in nature fueled the inception of Nature's Eye Studio in 1990. This studio has served as a compendium for Brian's wildlife and scenic images, which are sold in retail and online outlets. Brian's photography has received regional and national awards, and has been featured in a number of publications including *Vermont Life*, *Birders' World*, *Vermont Woodland*, and more. Brian has also been an exhibiting artist/photographer at the Birds of Vermont Museum, most recently in our 2017 show, *Birding by the Numb3rs*.

Extend your experience: The Museum's trails are open (although sometimes muddy) and attendees are encouraged to explore outdoors before or after Brian's talk.

Suggested donation \$5. The Birds of Vermont Museum is at 900 Sherman Hollow Rd., Huntington.



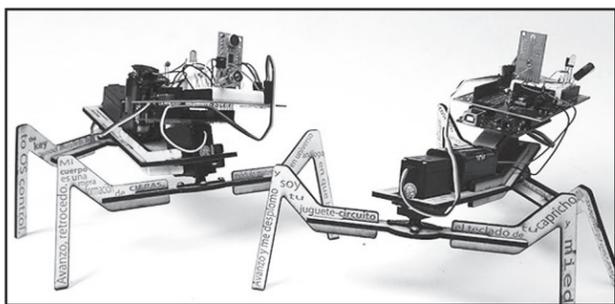
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www.bryanpfeiffer.com

Red-winged blackbirds signal spring's arrival

There are many signs of spring here in northern New England. But perhaps the best sign from the bird world is the return of the Red-winged blackbird. Males always arrive first, vying with each other to defend the best territories in order to attract the best females. Spring arrival dates spanning many years can be a great way to track and understand potential climatic effects on bird migration and populations. Phenology studies like these can alert us to slowly changing trends that we might not otherwise notice. Learn more about the life history of this harbinger of spring, as well as a fascinating tale of how historical records kept by amateur naturalists (dating back to 1902) are helping to paint the picture of the effects of climate change on migration and nesting periods of these very common blackbirds. PHOTO BY BRYAN PFEIFFER

Robots at Burlington City Arts

Left are Alm@ Pérez (Tina Escaja) robots. From the creation of a cyborg identity to projects that merge art and technology, the artist explores new ways of understanding and experiencing poetry in a new technological age. Supported in part by the UVM Humanities Center. Thursday, April 17, 6:00 – 7:00 PM, Burlington City Arts Center, 135 Church St., Burlington. Admission is free. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



SPORTS NEWS

Green Mountain Bicycle Club introductory rides in May, June

Are you tired of riding alone on the same old bike paths and roads but worried that you don't have the skills for a group ride? The Green Mountain Bicycle Club (GMBC) will be offering Introductory Group Rides on select Saturdays in May and June. Experienced riders will explain the rules of the road and teach novice cyclists how to ride safely in a group.

The rides will start at 10:00 AM at the Wheeler lot at Veterans Memorial Park, S. Burlington, and will travel between 12-20 miles. Nobody will be left behind. There will be at least two ride leaders who will teach group dynamics including signaling and passing, as well as learning to respect (and be respected by) cars. The pace will be determined by the ability of new riders. Cyclists must wear helmets and have bikes in good working condition. Those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

The GMBC's Introductory Group Rides will take place on May 11 and 25 and June 8 and 22. Please contact the ride leaders listed below for more information.

- May 11: Holly Creeks – 233-9013 / creeksh@yahoo.com
- May 25: Brian Howard – 505-1148 / bjhowd@gmail.com
- June 8: Amy Otten – 878-4070 / amyotten@netscape.com
- June 22: Dorothy Pumo – 829-8729 / dpumo5@gmail.com

Snowmobile season ends, mud season opens

Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF) officials want to remind the public that snowmobile season ended on the GMNF on Monday, April 15.

The GMNF and Vermont Association of Snow Travelers (VAST) work together to maintain 472 miles of national forest system trails that are part of the statewide snowmobile trail system. VAST is one of the only snowmobile associations in the United States that has a cooperative partnership agreement with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). All of these GMNF trails allow for mixed uses – people are able to snowshoe, hike, cross-country ski, as well as snowmobile.

With snowmobile season over, access to forest roads for wheeled highway vehicle traffic typically opens up on May 1, depending on weather and road conditions. Given the significant amount of snow in the higher elevations this year, it is very likely that spring mud season will extend later into May and possibly even in to June, delaying the opening of some forest roads. Thus, forest users should plan accordingly and check with their local ranger station for up-to-date road information.

- Manchester Ranger Station: 802-362-2307
- Rochester / Middlebury Ranger Station: 802-767-4261

Libraries continued from page 5

Houses and Gnome Homes. Use natural materials to create your own home for a fairy or gnome.

Gamers Group: Monday, April 29, 3:30 – 5:30 PM. Play a variety games including board games and Dungeons & Dragons. Grades 5-8.

Ukulele Jam! Join us for some strummin' fun with Karla Kennedy, WCS Music Teacher. Ukuleles provided or bring your own. Ages 8-adult. Join us for one or both sessions. Part 1: Beginners Session, Monday, April 29, 6:30 – 7:30 PM. Part 2: Beyond the Basics, Monday, May 13, 6:30 – 7:30 PM. For those with a little more experience!

Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, 21 Library Lane, Williston. 802-878-4918, www.williston.lib.vt.us.

FAIRFAX COMMUNITY LIBRARY

All events are free unless noted. Pre-registration encouraged. www.fairfaxlibrary.org, 802-849-2420. Call or email libraryprograms@fwsu.org.

Youth Events

Tuesdays, April 16, 23, 30, 9:30 – 10:30 AM: Preschool Story Hour: Join us for themed stories, songs, and activities for ages 0-6. No registration necessary. April 9: Libraries. (It's National Library Week!) April 16: Bunnies. April 23: Hats. April 30: Rainy Days.

Tuesday, April 16, 6:30 – 7:30 PM: Family STEAM Night-Birds' Nests. Join us for this great family program, where each month parents and children visit hands-on stations with Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and/or Math (STEAM) activities. This month we will learn all about Vermont's birds and how they make their nests in the spring. Please register. Note that this month's event is on a Tuesday.

Wednesday, April 17, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: STEM Club. Kids age 6+ will prepare for our second annual Science Fair (Wednesday, May 29) with local inventor Ralph Lemnah. Must register.

Thursday, April 18, 3:15 – 4:15 PM: READ to a DOG. Kids ages 5-10 can read a book of their choice to a fuzzy, friendly dog. Call to reserve a 15-minute slot.

Thursday, April 25, 1:00 – 3:00 PM: Life-Sized Candyland. Sign up for a 10-minute time slot as a family and walk through a life sized version of everyone's favorite game and get treats along the way. A great activity during school break.

Saturday, April 27, 10:00 – 11:00 AM: Exordium: Science

with Mr. K. At this special science class for kids, we will explore symmetry. We will look at some examples from nature (skulls, insects, etc.), do several paintings to achieve symmetry, a drawing to create and color, and a simple helicopter demonstrating the need for symmetry. Please register.

Monday, April 29: 3:00 – 4:30 PM: NEW! Maker Mondays. In this new after school offering, kids ages 10+ will have access to a variety of materials and tools to create self-guided projects (under adult supervision). Youth can plan and create projects using materials such as fabric, LEDs, wood, jewelry supplies, craft materials, and much more! Sewing machines will be also available. This is a weekly offering and is a drop in program. No registration necessary.

Adult Events

Saturday, April 20, 9:00 – 11:00 AM: Tech Help. Get help with individual tech questions. You can ask any technological question and/or bring in a device with which you need help. You will be ably assisted by our techie, Josiah. Call to reserve a half-hour time slot, or drop in.

Tuesday, April 30, 5:30 – 6:30 PM: Reception for Community Art Project for Peace and Justice. As part of our involvement in the Vermont Reads program, community members decorated 6"x6" canvases in the theme of Peace and Justice. These smaller canvases will be combined into one larger piece and mounted in the library. Please join us for a reception to celebrate this great community undertaking.

For up-to-date info about programs, visit our website: www.fairfaxlibrary.org, where you can also find a link to the interactive Google calendar. Monday, Wednesday 8:30 AM – 5:30 PM; Tuesday, Thursday 8:30 AM – 8:00 PM; Friday 8:30 AM – 3:15 PM; Saturday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

BROWNELL LIBRARY, ESSEX JUNCTION

Brownell Library, 6 Lincoln St., Essex Junction. Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM; Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday (July until after Labor Day, closed Saturdays): 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Call Main Desk 878-6955, Youth Desk 878-6956, Reference Desk 878-6957, or email frontdesk@brownelllibrary.org.

UNITED WAY OF NORTHWEST VERMONT – VOLUNTEER CONNECTION LISTINGS

By Sue Alenick, United Way Volunteer Columnist

CONNECT TO VOLUNTEERING! United Way of Northwest Vermont's mobile-friendly Volunteer Connection connects you to hundreds of local volunteer needs. Search by age, date, county, interests or causes that are important to you. Go to www.unitedwaynwvt.galaxydigital.com or contact us, volctr@unitedwaynwvt.org or 860-1677.

SHARING TIME – Cathedral Square is looking for volunteers to share some spare time with some wonderful Vermont seniors. Spend a few hours a month in Shelburne, Charlotte, or Williston and help to brighten someone's day! Contact Beth Alpert, 859-8819 or alpert@cathedralsquare.org.

COTS WALK 2019 – Committee on Temporary Shelter is holding its annual three-mile trek around downtown Burlington on Sunday, May 5 so people can visit their shelters to see our their pledges are put to use. Volunteers are needed for crossing guards, data entry, counters, face painters and more.

A DRIVING NEED – Vermont Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired needs volunteer drivers to transport blind and visually impaired people to where they need to go. Drivers serve on an "as needed" basis based on their own schedules and receive mileage reimbursement for the use of their cars. Background, license, and insurance check required. Contact Vicki Vest, 639-5861, Ext. 243 or vvest@vabvi.org.

FURRY FRIENDS – Franklin County Animal Rescue is looking for adoption assistants to help visitors to the shelter find new feline family members. Assistants ask questions and introduce adopting families to cats that might be right for them. They also make follow-up calls to see if everything is going well with the new family members. Orientation provided. Contact Hadley Shannon, 524-9650 or volunteer@fcarspets.org.

SPEND THE NIGHT – Samaritan House is in need of volunteers to spend the night from 11:00 PM – 8:00 AM. Volunteers should be comfortable with a diverse population that may be under the influence or have violence in their background. There will be staff present, and there is a panic button. CPR and Narcan training is provided free of charge. Contact Alicia Gay, 527-0487, Ext. 201 or alicia.gay@samaritan-house.com.

RELAYING THE NEED – The American Cancer Society is seeking volunteers for their Relay for Life at the Collins Perley Complex in St. Albans. Volunteers can help with setup on Friday, June 21 from 6:00 – 8:00 PM and on Relay Day, Saturday, June 22, for a variety of roles between 9:00 AM – 12:00 AM (midnight). Call Heather Winther, 872-6325 or heather.winther@cancer.org.

SPRING CLEAN-UP – Common Ground Center and Camp Common Ground are in need of volunteers to help with spring clean-up. Spend a day outside on their beautiful site and help pick up sticks, rake paths, get gardens ready for planting, and more. Friday, April 26-Friday, May 10, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Contact Emily Gibbs, 453-2592 or emily@cgv.org.

HELPING TO PRESERVE – Shelburne Museum invites volunteers interested to help with woodworking, painting, restoration/preservation of the *Ticonderoga*, furniture restoration and caning, grounds maintenance, and more. Flexible, year-round, Monday-Friday scheduling between 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Contact Katharine Noiva, 985-0865 or volunteer@shelburnemuseum.org.

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Sweet opportunity: volunteer for VTBees!



You may be asking, "Wait a minute... that beautiful emerald insect featured above is a bee? It's green!" That's right, it's a native bee a Silky Striped Sweat Bee. (PHOTO BY K.P. MCFARLAND) Did you know that there are about 250 species of wild bees in Vermont? However, there has never been a comprehensive bee survey undertaken in this state, so there are likely many more bee species living here. Without even a checklist of species, an estimate of their relative abundance, or a map of their ranges, it is very difficult to know whether populations of Vermont's wild bees are healthy or declining.

Enter the Vermont Wild Bee Survey (VTBees)! This new project represents the first step in assessing bee populations across the state. The success of VTBees depends on committed volunteers. With the help of volunteer citizen scientists over the next five years (2019-2023), we'll survey bees from the shorelines of Lake Champlain to Green Mountain summits, boldly going where no *melittologist* has gone before! These new specimen records will be added to digitized historic records from museums throughout the region to build the first comprehensive survey of the bee fauna of Vermont. This year, we'll start our effort by concentrating on surveying Chittenden County. We're hoping people like you will join VTBees, learn how to conduct surveys, and adopt a survey block. After our first successful season, we'll expand the survey to the rest of Vermont in 2020 and beyond. Interested in bee-ing part of this historic survey? Sign up for a workshop to learn more: <http://val.vtecostudies.org/projects/vtbees/join/>.

**By Mark Carbone
CHMS principal**

Camel's Hump Middle School (CHMS) Engineering Club members recently competed in the Vermont State Bridge Building competition at Vermont Technical College in Randolph. Using nothing more than popsicle sticks and Elmer's glue, teams were tasked with creating bridges that cleared a one-meter span. Bridges were assessed on a number of attributes, but the most noteworthy was the ability to hold up under stress – i.e., how much weight can they hold? Going into the competition, our school record was a respectable 180 pounds. Since last year's competition, CHMS young engineers researched their new designs, incorporating a new style of glue-laminated beam construction and several other (top secret) processes. And then the moment came... the bridge was ready to be tested: 100 pounds, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, are you

Westford students benefit from ExxonMobile Educational Alliance Program



All of us at the Westford Elementary School are very grateful for the \$500 grant we received from the ExxonMobil Educational Alliance Program to support the school's math and science programs. We would like to thank Jolley Associates and the Midtown Jolley in Milton for securing the grant for Westford School. In the past, the grant has been used to purchase STEM equipment for grades 5-8, which you can see pictured being used to build a music synthesizer and a meteorological measurement device. The students and staff of Westford School greatly appreciate the continued support of Jolley Associates and ExxonMobil.
PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Academic WorldQuest debuts in Vermont



On Saturday, March 23, a team from Essex High School won the state competition for Academic WorldQuest 2019. From left: faculty advisor Charlie Burnett, Sam Evans (Essex), David Wrenner (Essex), Calvin Burnett (Essex), Peregrine Ibarra (Westford).
PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

On Saturday, March 23, a team from Essex High School won the state competition for Academic WorldQuest 2019, edging out the team from South Burlington High School who finished in second place, followed by teams from Colchester High School, CVU, and Vermont Commons. Academic WorldQuest is the World Affairs Councils of America's flagship youth education program for high school students. Students compete on their knowledge of current international politics, geography, global economics, history, and world cultures.

Hosted in Chittenden County for the first time by the Vermont Council of World Affairs (VCWA), this year's inaugural event gathered over 30 students in a competition that was judged by Edward R. McMahon, Ed.D, Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Vermont and Chair of the VCWA Board of Directors.

The winning team from Essex was led by Captain, Sam Evans of Essex, and included team members Calvin Burnett of Essex, Peregrine Ibarra of Westford, and David Wrenner of Essex. "Through a collective effort and the specialization of our team members we managed to come out on top. We all had a blast thanks to the great competition, positive atmosphere, and the work put in by the Vermont Council on World Affairs and other volunteers," said Sam Evans.

As the winning team, the group from Essex High School will travel on an expense-paid trip to Washington D.C. to compete against teams from across the U.S. in the national competition on April 27. The winners of the national competition will be awarded a learning trip to Qatar.

"Academic WorldQuest was a fantastic experience that greatly benefited our students. They learned a tremendous amount about international affairs and gained new perspectives on a variety of issues as they studied the ten topic areas of the competition," said Charlie Burnett, faculty adviser to the Essex team. "It will be a great honor to get to represent the state of Vermont at the national competition."

VCWA organizes professional exchanges with a wide range of focuses and presents speakers and events on a variety of international topics. For more information about events and hosting international visitors at your business or home, please visit www.vcwa.org.

Lots going on at CHMS - hard to know where to start!

kidding? 700 pounds, 750, 775, and then the inevitable structural failure finally came at a whopping 798.9 pounds. This year's results were indicative of these young engineers' hard work and ongoing commitment to bettering their work through iteration. Any guesses on what they'll do next year?

Weekly on Wednesday afternoons at CHMS, students break into Camel's Hump Collective (CHC) groups. CHC's are small (eight to nine students), multi-age groups consisting of students from different teams. Through the CHC activities, students and staff are working toward the goal of building a community where everyone has value and responsibility. Recently our school welcomed community residents of different generations to their CHC groups. Students had been discussing intergenerational friendships and were interested in hearing about their guests' former schooling, upbringing, lives, and hobbies. Students were amazed at the adventures that their guests had had, and how different some of their lives had been compared to the students. It was an event enjoyed by all! Thanks to the many residents who joined us!

A Journey Through Middle School, the CHMS spring production, was just that. This year's show was a little different than previous productions. Instead of being a

straight play or musical, the drama team took on a series of one-acts, musical numbers, and skits to tell the story of the rumors and the gossip, the friendship and the school spirit, the academics and the athletics, the crushes and the letdowns, the painfully awkward moments and the graceful surprises, the best and worst of the Internet, and the magic of Duct Tape – all encompassing the hilarious and the heartwarming. The three one-act plays were *The Rocky Junction Rumor*, *Gray Area*, and *The 10 Best/Worst Things About Middle School*. Each play took on an issue faced by middle school students: rumors, social media, and the horrors of gym class. Thank you to our cast and crew for all of their hard work in putting this together. Students worked under the direction of Alex Bacheller, with assistance from Nora Sylvester, Hunter Wasser, and Peggy Bonesteel. Jill Danilich managed backstage sets, costumes, and scene changes as the technical director. Heather Schoppmann joined the crew with musical direction. Thanks to the parents, friends, and community members who support the CHMS drama program in so many ways!

The next meeting of the Mount Mansfield Modified Union School Board is at 6:30 PM on Monday, May 6 at Brewster Pierce Elementary School. The public is invited and encouraged to attend.

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