

**Plan ahead  
Valentine's Day is just  
around the corner!**

# MOUNTAIN GAZETTE

Vol. 19 No. 14 Serving Bolton, Cambridge, Jeffersonville, Jericho, Underhill, and Westford, VT January 23, 2019

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Public meetings planned about Underhill's Tomasi Meadow

The Jericho Underhill Land Trust (JULT) and the Vermont Land Trust (VLT) will co-host two public meetings about the conservation purchase of the Tomasi Meadow for the Town of Underhill. We are eager to share any updates, answer any questions, and receive your feedback. Please plan on attending the evening of Tuesday, January 21 or Wednesday, February 19. Both meetings will be held at the Underhill Town Hall at 7:00 PM.

Please contact JULT with any questions at [julandtrust@gmail.com](mailto:julandtrust@gmail.com). Please also visit the JULT website at [www.jult.org](http://www.jult.org) for information about the Tomasi Meadow.

### Free expungement clinic in Hyde Park January 24

Have crimes you committed many years ago kept you from achieving your goals?

Lamoille Restorative Center (LRC) is hosting a free Expungement Clinic on Friday, January 24 from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM at LRC's offices on Main Street in Hyde Park.

Past charges and criminal records can prevent many Vermonters from getting the job they want, or getting help with housing or education. Some charges (like some DUIs) can be sealed, which means only government officials and law enforcement can see them. It also helps those who are parents engage more with their children's education. For example, all field trips require parents to complete paperwork about prior charges.

While not all crimes qualify for expungement, most misdemeanors and four types of felony offenses are among those that do.

Walk-ins are welcome. If you have questions, contact Becky Penberthy at Lamoille Restorative Center, 802-730-2406 or [bpenberthy@lrcvt.org](mailto:bpenberthy@lrcvt.org).

### Local hazard mitigation plans – Cambridge

Marguerite Ladd

Town Administrator, Cambridge

The Town of Cambridge and the Village of Jeffersonville are updating their Local Hazard Mitigation Plans. On Thursday, January 23 at 6:00 PM at the Cambridge Town Offices, there will be a public meeting to introduce hazard mitigation planning and obtain input on natural hazards facing the community.

A FEMA-approved Local Hazard Mitigation Plan is required for local governments that wish to receive federal funds from certain FEMA grant programs.

Lamoille County Planning Commission has been guiding Cambridge and Jeffersonville through the Plan update process and will host this public meeting. To discuss the natural hazards of most significance to the community, we will be using a framework of natural disasters listed in the 2018 State Hazard Mitigation Plan and available at this two-page link document: <http://bit.ly/VT-Natural-Disasters-List>.

Please contact Lea Kilyadyova, [lea@lpcvt.org](mailto:lea@lpcvt.org) or 851-6348, if you have questions, and RSVP if you would like to attend the meeting.

### MMCTV Board Meeting January 28

The date has changed for MMCTV's first quarterly meeting of the year. It will be held on Tuesday, January 28 at 6:30 PM (instead of previously announced January 14) at our studio at 35 W. Main St., Richmond. There will be pizza! For more information and to take our 2020 Viewers Poll (and enter the drawing for four cool MMCTV/Stone Corral glasses), see: <http://MtMansfieldCtv.org>.

### New Year, New You... same W-2 tax scam

Mark Schilling, Cambridge Town Clerk

Warning signs of an online tax scam:

- An email or link requesting personal and/or financial information, such as your name, social security number, bank or credit card account numbers, or any additional security-related information.
- Emails containing various forms of threats or consequences if no response is received, such as additional taxes or blocking access to your funds.
- Emails from the IRS or federal agencies. *The IRS will not contact you via email.*
- Emails containing exciting offers, tax refunds, incorrect spelling and/or grammar, or odd phrasing throughout.

• Emails discussing "changes to tax laws." These email scams typically include a downloadable document (usually in PDF format) that purports to explain the new tax laws. However, unbeknownst to many, these downloads are almost always populated with malware that, once downloaded, will infect your computer.

Want to know how to protect yourself? Read the article at <https://www.cisecurity.org/newsletter/new-year-new-yousame-w-2-tax-scam/>.

News briefs continued on page 3

## Cambridge Recreation Board receives grant

By Phyl Newbeck

*Special to the Mountain Gazette*

A project that benefits young Cambridge athletes had its genesis at a lunch for seniors. Several years ago, Cambridge took part in a rural grant process designed to determine the best direction for the town's future. The group decided they needed to do more for their seniors who were somewhat isolated from Lamoille County services, which are based in Morrisville, so a task force was born. As a member of that task force, Nancy Lepsic helped arrange monthly senior luncheons and community outings.

Someone told Lepsic that what she was doing fell under the rubric of recreation, so she went to see the Recreation Board. She was promptly appointed to that body and placed in charge of senior activities. Lepsic learned that for about a decade, the town had been trying to replace a shack which housed the soccer and baseball teams' equipment. The shack doubled as a concession stand, but only after it had been emptied and cleaned, and then had to be emptied and cleaned again so the equipment of whatever sport was in season could be returned. The two sets of equipment could not fit in the space at the same time. A permanent building was out of the question since the land was in a flood plain and a building would require studies, large expenses, permits, and possibly variances. Lepsic was intrigued and began to expand her portfolio from seniors to young athletes.

Rec Board member Jeff Straight suggested the board look into the kind of pre-fab buildings used by the disc golf course at Smugglers' Notch, but the board only had \$4500 which wouldn't cover the cost. Another Cambridge resident, Emily Boeck, told Lepsic about a \$5000 matching Building Communities Grant, which was available from the Agency of Administration to help non-profits and municipalities with shovel-ready capital projects. Lepsic did some research and reached out for letters of support. She called Tom Livingston of Livingston Farms in Bristol, which had designed the disc golf buildings at Smuggs, and asked him to describe the largest out-building that would cost less than \$10,000 and fit on a flatbed truck. She checked with other town boards and committees to make sure she wasn't stepping on anyone's toes, and put the sealed envelope in her husband's hands with instructions to go immediately to the post office as she was heading off on a trip to Europe.

Judy Bruneau of the Agency of Administration described the grant process as one that is relatively simple and does not require someone specialized in grant writing. The grants are funded in a variety of areas and there were 30 applicants who applied for a recreation grant, 23 of whom received awards. Bruneau said the committee likes to award grants across the state and one of the factors aiding the Cambridge group was that there was only one other applicant from Lamoille County.

The Rec Board was awarded the grant, and the building that Livingston and Lepsic designed arrived on December 18. The structure has three sections that resemble barn stalls. The two which are for soccer and baseball equipment have doors, while the third has half the depth for storage and a small front porch with a sliding window where concessionaires can take orders. The structure has been placed next to a utility pole and in the spring, they will wire it for light.

Another member of the Rec Board, Kevin White, noted that since the teams in question are club, rather than school teams, the addition of the concession window will provide a revenue stream to

### Be the difference in a child's life!

Right now, there are children in our community who need your help. They don't need your money — just your time and attention. Become a Guardian ad Litem, a trained, court-appointed community volunteer who looks out for the best interests of a child who is abused and neglected. You can make a significant difference in their lives.

To be a Guardian ad Litem (GAL), you needn't have any specialized experience, just a willingness to volunteer your free time, strong interpersonal and communication skills, a passion for helping vulnerable children, and a flexible schedule. Training is provided, and, as a GAL in Chittenden County, I can tell you that the personal reward is immeasurable. We do not have enough GALs in Lamoille or Chittenden Counties. We need more people to join us. Can you help? The next required training will be on Wednesdays, January 29, February 5, and February 12 from 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM in Burlington.

For more information or to obtain an application, please visit [vermontjudiciary.org/GAL](http://vermontjudiciary.org/GAL) or email Judy Sherry, Regional Coordinator, at [Judy.Sherry@vermont.gov](mailto:Judy.Sherry@vermont.gov).

### ReSOURCE Construction 101 training program

The next session of ReSOURCE's hands-on Construction 101 training program starts Monday, February 3. This full-time program runs Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM at ReSOURCE's Burlington construction training facility, 339 Pine St. This intensive program is designed to equip work-ready individuals, age 18 and older, for an entry-level job in the growing construction field. Students will learn the basics of carpentry, and job site and tool safety. Students will earn certifications in OSHA10, NCCER Certificate in Introductory Craft Skills.

Work Experience – Successful and work-ready completers of



Christopher Cole, Commissioner of Building and General Services; Kevin White, Cambridge Recreation Board; and Vermont Governor Phil Scott.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

help them become financially independent. White believes the true purpose of the grants is to give people enough help that they can help themselves. That philosophy was brought home to him at the grant ceremony. A young man whose organization had also received a grant began talking to him. It turned out that the man had been in White's science class and played on his Little League team. His group had just secured a grant to help renovate a building in Barre to become a school for special needs kids, providing mentorship to others just as mentorship had been provided to him.

For White, securing the grant also has family implications. His 17-year-old son has his own bedroom and his 14-year-old has wanted one, as well. White has a home office where he has been storing records since his garage is filled in the off-season with baseball equipment. On the evenings when his son gave him a hard time about constantly going to meetings he had to remind him that as soon as Cambridge baseball moved out of the garage, he would have his own room. As soon as the light fixtures and shelves are installed, the young man will get his wish.

### Chittenden County I-89 2050 Study

Share your thoughts and ideas for the Interstate 89 corridor through Chittenden County in a first round of public outreach for the Chittenden County I-89 2050 Study.

The Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) and the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) are conducting a comprehensive study of Interstate 89 within Chittenden County to create a vision and identify improvements for 2020-2050.

Join us in person or watch a live stream video of any of the upcoming meetings directly through the website. Dinner will be provided and all meetings are 6:00 – 8:00 PM:

- South Burlington City Hall, Thursday, January 30;
- Williston Town Hall, Thursday, February 13;
- Winooski City Hall, Wednesday, March 11.

Transportation and childcare are available with sufficient notice. All meetings are accessible. Requests for free interpretive or translation services, assistive devices, or other accommodations should be made to Diane Meyerhoff, [diane@thirdsectorassociates.com](mailto:diane@thirdsectorassociates.com) or 802-865-1794.

To learn more, go online to the project website, [www.envision89.com](http://www.envision89.com), or contact Diane Meyerhoff, [diane@thirdsectorassociates.com](mailto:diane@thirdsectorassociates.com) or 802-865-1794.

### program

the four-week training program will be matched with local, hiring employers for one- to two-week work experience opportunities.

Job Placement – Successful and work-ready graduates will be supported in the job placement process to connect with an employer and trade of their interest.

Cost – The training is free to qualifying applicants.

Best of all, trainees receive a training stipend of \$330 per week to qualified applicants. Get paid to learn!

For more information, contact Pam Laser, [plaser@resourcevt.org](mailto:plaser@resourcevt.org), 802-324-2091.

## COMING EVENTS

**Schedule for Winterfest 2020 in Cambridge January 25**

Cambridge Area Rotary presents Winterfest 2020, celebrating Winter all day on Saturday, January 25, with events from 8:00 AM – 7:30 PM! Please note, the fireworks are at 7:00 PM (new time). Sponsors include G.W. Tatro, Jack F. Corse Inc, Smugglers' Notch Resort, and Union Bank, with support also from Aubuchon Hardware and Lamoille Chamber of Commerce.

Events are subject to change, but unless noted, events will be at Cambridge Elementary School, 186 School Rd., Jeffersonville.

- All day! Ice Skating at the Cambridge Community Center!
- 8:00 – 11:00 AM: Pie for Breakfast – \$5 All You Can Eat – by Rotary
- 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM: Mini-Snowmobiles by Green Mountain Snowmobile Adventures
- 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM: Guided Snowshoe Hike on proposed Peter A. Krusch Nature Preserve & Cambridge Pines State Forest

(contact Sara Lourie, 802-585-0223)

- 1:30 – 2:30 PM: Hot Cider Stories by LN/Cambridge Arts Council at the Varnum Memorial Library
- 2:00 – 3:00 PM: Vintage Nordic Ski and Snowshoe Ramble – Smuggs Nordic Center
- 4:30 – 6:30 PM: Lasagna dinner by Cambridge Rescue
- 4:30 – 7:30 PM: Bonfire, music, Scout games and Flag Retirement, JJ's Maple Cotton Candy, Lamoille Chamber of Commerce Hot Chocolate (proceeds to Jenna's Promise)
- 6:30 – 7:00 PM: Hot Air Balloon Glow by Odyssey Balloons
- 7:00 – 7:20 PM: FIREWORKS / National Anthem by Annie Rheaume

For more information, contact Rockin' Ron, 802-793-7095 or [rccarter@smuggs.com](mailto:rccarter@smuggs.com).

served. A waste-free event; please bring your own mugs and plates. For more information, contact Phyl Newbeck, [phyl@together.net](mailto:phyl@together.net), or Dan Quinlan, [dan@solavida.org](mailto:dan@solavida.org).

**Saturday, January 25**

**Pie for Breakfast**, 8:00 – 11:00 AM, Cambridge Elementary School Cafeteria, Cambridge. The Cambridge Area Rotary (CAR) is once again sponsoring Pie for breakfast as part of Winterfest! All the money raised supports the many activities of the Rotary Club. There is always a good variety of pies to choose from so why not come out and eat and share some good times with friends and neighbors. \$5 (or donation) for all you can eat pie and bottomless coffee! CAR also will be pre-selling tickets for the 7th annual Bunco Event on Saturday, March 28 at the Cambridge Community Center, and also tickets for the Smuggler's Notch re-opening contest. This is a 50/50 split with the proceeds benefiting Jenna's Promise.

**Wild Game Dinner**, 4:00 – 7:00 PM, Smilie School, Bolton. Hosted by the Lake Champlain Longbeards of the National Wild Turkey Federation. Come enjoy some great tasting recipes using wild game by our members. Adults \$12; seniors \$10; youth under 15 years \$5. Proceeds to benefit our annual Youth Turkey Day in April. For reservations, call Ron Lafreniere, 434-4274.

**Cambridge Rescue Squad annual Lasagna Dinner**, 4:30 – 6:30 PM, Cambridge Elementary School Cafeteria, Cambridge. This annual fundraiser features live music from local artists, and fireworks following at 7:00 PM! Menu: homemade meat of veggie lasagna, salad, homemade rolls, pies, and desserts, coffee, lemonade, iced tea, and milk. Adults \$8, senior citizens \$6, kids 12 and under \$5, kids 3 and under free! Take out available.

**Monday, January 27**

**Effects of Climate Change on Vermont Forests**, 5:30 – 7:00 PM, Jericho Community Center, Browns Trace, Jericho Center. Nancy Patch, County Forester of Franklin and Grand Isle Counties,

**Coming events continued on page 3**



This marketing poster for the 1919 film Way Down East, directed by D. W. Griffith and starring Lillian Gish and Richard Barthelmess, depicts a dramatic water rescue scene filmed in Vermont. Join Amanda Kay Gustin of the Vermont Historical Society as she presents Hollywood in Vermont, an engaging look into Vermont's nearly 100 years as a featured location for Hollywood films — at the Richmond Free Library, Richmond, on Thursday, January 30, 1:30 PM. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Monday, January 20**

**MMUUSD School Board meeting**, 6:30 PM, Browns River Middle School, Jericho. Reports from the middle school principal and student board members, and public comment. The board will form small groups to review policy governance monitoring reports; a PG work planning discussion; hear from committees, and discuss community engagement.

**Tuesday, January 21**

Public meeting on Tomasi Meadow, 7:00 PM, Underhill Town

Hall, Underhill Center. The Jericho Underhill Land Trust (JULT) and the Vermont Land Trust (VLT) co-host informational meetings on the conservation purchase of the Tomasi Meadow for the Town of Underhill. They will share any updates, answer questions, and receive public feedback. Please contact JULT with any questions at [julandtrust@gmail.com](mailto:julandtrust@gmail.com). Please also visit the JULT website at [www.jult.org](http://www.jult.org) for information about the Tomasi Meadow.

**Racism in America Forum: Systemic Racism**, 6:30 PM, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 273 VT Rt. 15, Jericho. Rev. Mark Hughes, founder of the VT Racial Justice Alliance, will be the keynote speaker. His topic will be *The Difficult and Complex Conversation about Systemic Racism*. This is a community-wide potluck gathering, so bring a dish to share along with your thoughts. Parking on site; handicapped accessible.

**Wednesday, January 22**

**Let's Do Lunch – Community Lunch**, 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM, Second Congregational Church, Jeffersonville. Lunch is always free (and donations are always appreciated) – Hearty soups, sandwiches, and desserts. Sponsored by the Cambridge Recreation Board and supported by community volunteers. Have questions, or need a ride? Call Betsy, 644-5691.

**Craft Circle**, 5:30 – 8:00 PM, Underhill Town Hall, upstairs, Underhill Center. Open to anyone who wants to socialize over any type of craft. Meets the second and fourth Wednesday each month. Questions? Contact Amy Tower, 802-355-9671 or [atowerinv@gmail.com](mailto:atowerinv@gmail.com).

**Thursday, January 23**

**Last Tracks**, 7:00 – 9:00 PM, Deborah Rawson Memorial Library, 8 River Rd., Jericho. This film, made in Vermont and in the Rockies, explores the impact of climate change on skiing. Vermont's greenhouse gas emissions have risen by 16% since 1990. Skiers hold the power to change that trajectory. A panel discussion (Senator Ginny Lyons, Dan Quinlan (VTCHA), Tom Hughes (VPIRG), and Amy Kelsey (UVM)) on proposed Vermont legislation related to climate change will follow the film. Light refreshments will be

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## U.S.S. Norfolk DL-1: walk like a duck and pray

By Doug Boardman  
*Special to the Mountain Gazette*

I always fancied myself to be a water person but when I first reported to the OOD on the deck of the U.S.S. Norfolk, I was thinking about how many types of water there were and none of them were oceans. I like brooks, ponds, creeks, rivers, but not oceans. Even after I got my sea legs, I still don't like the oceans. I admit that I like to be on the beach looking out at the ships but I don't like to go onto the ship unless it is permanent dry docked.

I learned early on some lessons to live by and I think the biggest one is walking (do not even think about running) like a duck with big feet, and always be aware of where you are and what you can grab onto when you are falling — or where you can land without breaking something or something breaks you or one of your prized possessions. I was aboard about a month before I had gotten totally over my seasickness and we ran into some bad weather with huge waves. The lookouts had to tie themselves to their on deck stations. In the olden days, ships moved much slower and needed human lookouts but didn't have the electronics that we had later on. Of course like anything else, if you thought you would be able to save anyone else beside yourself when a 30 to 40 foot wave washes over the deck.

My wife gave me a nice I.D. bracelet and an expensive watch, which I wore for a few weeks. Ships' rooms are called "compartments" and have doors which we called "hatches" that sealed like a bank vault, except they were able to seal off various compartments with levers and sometimes certain ones below deck were sealed with a big wheel instead of a lever. The bottom of the hatchway of course didn't go all the way to the deck so you had to step over at least a foot to get into the next compartment, so I have always been in the wrong place at the right time or the opposite. Consequently I hit my right wrist on the side of the hatchway and

dented my I.D. bracelet, and two hatchways later I hit my left wrist against the left side of the hatchway and broke my watch, so I never wore a watch or an I.D. again. Walking like a duck doesn't help you in that instance because you are on one leg when you go through the hatchway. That was not only a painful lesson but also an expensive lesson.

People ask me why I picked the Navy and I tell them because I liked the uniform because it was a chick magnet, I liked the food, I liked shore duty as it turned out. I didn't like the Air Force because there was more of a chance I would be dealing with planes. I felt if you fell out of a plane, or the plane fell out of the sky, you would probably die, but if you fall off the ship you have a chance of living if somebody sees you. I also didn't like the Army because of slogging thru mud, etc., and latrines which they used to burn; powdered milk, K-rations, and cold food, and crawling around. I wasn't gunning enough to go into the Marines, although I learned that the Navy SEALs were there first but I would not want to even try to be a SEAL. Navy boot camp was hard enough for me. Quite a few guys had to take the swimming requirements over again which meant if you didn't qualify, you had to take boot camp all over again.

There were a couple of things that separated the men from the boys. I couldn't believe there were boys that didn't know how to swim in my barracks. We had to jump off a 30 meter platform into a deep pool, or they would push you in. You had your dungarees ready to hit the water and use for a temporary life preserver, and had to swim underwater the length of the big pool and swim like a frog on the surface on your back.

I received the mail many different ways: by helicopter, which was the best way; going ashore in the crew boat or captains gig; getting pulled across a rope between our ship and the other ship; sitting on a boatswain chair. I didn't have a big problem with receiving the regular mail bag because they generally tied it to a rope and lowered it to us. I did have to get the secret mail in person and with a briefcase handcuffed to my wrist. On one occasion I took the crew boat to shore and it wasn't bad weather, but on the return trip it was

so bad that we couldn't pull up to the side ladder with regular steps because of the waves making the steps rock up and down so much that you could have your feet cut off, so we had to go to the stern which had a rope ladder. Bear in mind, they hoisted the large mail bag up but I had the secret mail briefcase handcuffed to my right wrist and my .45 in my holster, and I looked up at the climb I had to make and that's when I really started to pray. I even remember what I prayed for: "Please God give me the strength to climb up this rope ladder and not fall back down because I don't want to die today," and started up. The ladder was swinging back and forth and I was making sure my feet and hands were solidly on the rope. I was so scared that I would not be able to make it to the top, which was 40 to 50 feet, but when the alternative is death the adrenalin kicks in and when I got to the top I had to pry my fingers off the rope. I wasn't happy about going on a rope to another ship and back with the waves almost hitting my butt.

In previous columns I have said how that being a postman was great duty but I have to make a confession, I made that statement when I was the postmaster in Malta. When I got onto the ship it was like going from heaven to hell on the ocean. We got news that we were picked to go on a good will tour in the Caribbean so we were excited about that and I figured my luck was about to change. It changed all right but I will let you decide how good.

Next column: Dominican food poisoning, Cuban rum, loss of uniform.



### 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

**899-3718**

Route 15, Jeri-Hill Plaza  
Jericho

### Notes in the night

By Sue Kusserow  
*Special to the Mountain Gazette*

It is 3:00 AM and I am writing in the dark, trying to judge the marked lines on the paper, and the borders of this small paper tablet. It is interesting that these guesses are based on years of bringing spiral notebooks, marked with a subject and carried from room to room in hopes that the new ideas encountered in high school and college could be summed up in a few scrawled notes.

The first cramp that woke me screams down my leg... a muscle that tore away from the femur due to cobalt sloughing out of a defective prosthesis. For a few debilitating seconds, it feels as if a kidney stone was mistakenly lodged someplace in my knee. Sleep writhes and shatters; the night magnifies pain. Tomorrow it will seem foolish and over-dramatized, and will make a good recital of symptoms to some patient friend. Tonight it shrieks.

Pain makes a person cuddle into a fetal position. It curls against itself and turns you into a pretzel of positions that protect you from those spurts of warning hidden inside you someplace. Knees are drawn up to the flabby comfort of a sagging abdomen; arms are hugging each other. Somehow, this fetal position brings one back to beginnings when sleep came packed in short soothing bursts.

Something hard and stiff is stuck in the last page of this paper tablet, so that my pen rubs up against a tiny wall of resistance. I can't stand a guessing game with the dark, so I turn on the light. It is a credit card that I lost in November. I remember the minutes spent looking for it, the calls to cancel it (since your call is important to

us), the disgusted feeling of aged misplacement. How can such a small thing bring on so many varied and tiny crabs of feeling?

I turn off the light and the room is immediately swallowed again in darkness. Light destroys the mysterious turns of phrases; words are blurred by the strangeness of this half-awake, half-asleep state. There is actually a name for it: *hypnogenesis*: "production of a sleep-producing condition." Wouldn't it be nice if we could produce it at will!

My dogs make all sorts of puffs and squeaks as they sleep. Luna claims the foot of my bed and has rather rasping slurs of noise. Occasionally she stops – a form of sleep apnea – finally cured by a huge rattling inhalation. Lucy likes an old stuffed chair, in which no one would dare to sit. Her breathing is usually quiet, except when she realizes she doesn't quite fit her Labrador body into a medium-sized chair. Then comes the snuffling of getting up, rearranging legs so one hangs over the edge, and putting her head over one upholstered arm. The tail wags slightly in case anyone is still awake and would like to share a pat.

Dawn is pewter-colored lines on the snow. It creeps inside drapes and brushes the walls with grays and storm-cloud blue. Objects are blurred... then clear. The dogs stretch; the heater flicks on; my slippers are waiting... worn to the sculpture of my feet, made of cozy sheepskin. The cold is crisp, but not terrifying. The phone is quiet; so is my calendar. With a cup of coffee, I can try and read what I have written...

And hope to sleep tonight.

### Vet Center Maple Sugaring and Firewood Program

Combat veterans, are you looking for a new and different social activity? If yes, then join us. This is our third year partnering with Greenmont Farms (Underhill Center) Veterans Outreach Post on a maple sugaring program. Last season we had six combat vets participate.

You will learn the basics of producing, marketing, and pricing the maple syrup that we produce. In 2019 that was 35 gallons of maple syrup! Family members are welcome and encouraged to participate as well.

In addition to our sugaring program, this upcoming summer/fall we will cut and split firewood for veterans in need.

These programs take place at Greenmont Farms Veterans Outreach Post, 17 Krug Rd., Underhill Center, VT 05490. We

will host a lunch (at Greenmont Farms) prior to beginning of each afternoon. The Maple Sugaring program schedule is as follows:

Thursday, March 4, 1:00 – 4:00 PM: Set up arch, start tapping/hanging buckets;

Friday, March 6, 1:00 – 4:00 PM: Continue tapping/hanging buckets;

Saturday, March 7, 1:00 – 4:00 PM: If needed to finish tapping/hanging buckets.

After trees have been tapped and buckets hung we will collect and boil as the weather dictates.

For questions or more information, please contact Joe Gilmond, Veterans Outreach Program Specialist, S. Burlington Vet Center, 802-862-1806, or John Connell, [jc6greenmont@gmail.com](mailto:jc6greenmont@gmail.com).

### Coming events continued from page 2

will speak about how climate change is affecting our Vermont forests. Free; refreshments provided. Hosted by Transition Town Jericho, [www.transitiontownjericho.net](http://www.transitiontownjericho.net).

#### Thursday, January 30

**Hollywood in Vermont**, 1:30 PM, Richmond Free Library, Richmond. Join Amanda Kay Gustin of the Vermont Historical Society as she presents an engaging look into Vermont's nearly 100 years as a featured location for Hollywood films. Amanda shares film clips ranging chronologically from 1919's *Way Down East* with Lillian Gish, to the more recent 2005's *Thank You for Smoking*. Her examination of various scenes reveals interesting and novel insights into the captivating appeal Vermont has had to filmmakers and audiences alike in the media age. Free. For information contact Jane Vossler, [janevossler@gmail.com](mailto:janevossler@gmail.com).

**Modern Heating Workshop**, 6:30 – 7:30 PM, Richmond Free Library Community Room, second floor, Richmond. Curious about heat pumps? Want to learn more about automated pellet boilers? Thinking about upgrading to a more efficient wood stove? Join local energy expert Adam Sherman and the Richmond Climate Action Committee to learn more about the new heating options now on the market. These systems save money, keep our heating dollars local, and are tried and true in our harsh winters. Adam will compare the pros and cons of different technologies and help you figure out what will be best for your home or business. Information will also be available about incentives (up to \$6000 off), financing (down to 0% interest), and qualified contractors (lots of good local options). Questions: Phoebe Howe at [phoebe.howe@gmail.com](mailto:phoebe.howe@gmail.com).

**Information session on Teacher Apprenticeship Program**, 6:00 – 7:00 PM, 175 Lakeside Ave., Burlington. Learn about Champlain College's unique Teacher Apprenticeship Program to earn a Vermont teaching license in just eight months. Visit [champlain.edu/tap](http://champlain.edu/tap) for more information and to RSVP. Applications are being accepted for the Fall 2020 cohort of teaching interns, which begins in August with seminars followed by full-time student teaching through the Fall 2020 semester.

#### Sunday, February 2

**Winooski and the Buffalo Soldiers**, 2:00 PM, United Methodist Church of Winooski, 24 West Allen St., Winooski (use side entrance). Part of a Celebration of Black History Month co-sponsored by the Chittenden County Historical Society, the Winooski Historical Society, and the United Methodist Church of Winooski. The program will include the history of the church's Hall organ, the legacy of the Buffalo Soldiers at the church, historic organ music, gospel music, and a spiritual sing-a-long. Free and open to the public. Parking is free on Sundays in Winooski and behind the municipal building. Not handicapped accessible. For more information contact Ann Gray, 878-4088 or [grayann8@aol.com](mailto:grayann8@aol.com).

#### Thursday, February 6

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

### COMMUNITY COLUMNS

so bad that we couldn't pull up to the side ladder with regular steps because of the waves making the steps rock up and down so much that you could have your feet cut off, so we had to go to the stern which had a rope ladder. Bear in mind, they hoisted the large mail bag up but I had the secret mail briefcase handcuffed to my right wrist and my .45 in my holster, and I looked up at the climb I had to make and that's when I really started to pray. I even remember what I prayed for: "Please God give me the strength to climb up this rope ladder and not fall back down because I don't want to die today," and started up. The ladder was swinging back and forth and I was making sure my feet and hands were solidly on the rope. I was so scared that I would not be able to make it to the top, which was 40 to 50 feet, but when the alternative is death the adrenalin kicks in and when I got to the top I had to pry my fingers off the rope. I wasn't happy about going on a rope to another ship and back with the waves almost hitting my butt.

In previous columns I have said how that being a postman was great duty but I have to make a confession, I made that statement when I was the postmaster in Malta. When I got onto the ship it was like going from heaven to hell on the ocean. We got news that we were picked to go on a good will tour in the Caribbean so we were excited about that and I figured my luck was about to change. It changed all right but I will let you decide how good.

Next column: Dominican food poisoning, Cuban rum, loss of uniform.

### Awesome Fudge

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### The Mountain Gazette

6558 VT Rt 116 Starksboro, VT 05487  
(802) 453-6354 • [mtnngazette@gmavt.net](mailto:mtnngazette@gmavt.net)

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Send your news to [mtnngazette@gmavt.net](mailto:mtnngazette@gmavt.net) • [www.mtnngazettevt.com](http://www.mtnngazettevt.com)

### Area Worship Services

#### JERICHO CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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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  
Lessons & Carols Service, Dec. 22 at 8:00 & 11:00 AM  
Christmas Pageant, Dec. 24 at 6:00 PM  
Christmas Candlelight Service, Dec. 24 at 9:00 PM  
Signing for the deaf upon request  
899-4911; [officejcc@comcast.net](mailto:officejcc@comcast.net); [www.jccvt.org](http://www.jccvt.org)

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The big red barn, 195 VT Rt. 15, Jericho.  
Worship Services 9:30 AM, 2nd & 4th Sundays, September-June  
195 VT RT 15, Jericho VT (red barn across from Packard Rd)  
899-2558 [www.mmuuf.org](http://www.mmuuf.org)

#### ST. THOMAS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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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](mailto:office@stthomasvt.com), Website: [www.stthomasvt.com](http://www.stthomasvt.com)

#### UNITED CHURCH OF UNDERHILL

UNITED CHURCH OF UNDERHILL  
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Worship 10:30 AM, 9:30 AM in July and August  
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## HEALTH NEWS

## What it means to volunteer with Essex Rescue

October 1, 1971: The first official day that Essex Rescue offered emergency medical services from trained, volunteer personnel to the towns of Essex, Essex Junction, Westford, Underhill, and Jericho.

January 1, 2020: Essex Rescue continues to provide emergency, pre-hospital care via trained, volunteer, and paid personnel to the towns of Essex, Essex Junction, Westford, Underhill, and Jericho.

You might be asking yourself, "Okay so what's your point? There was an ambulance service then and there is still an ambulance service now, serving the same towns." What I want to shine a light on here is the volunteers. For 49 years, Essex Rescue has been largely composed of volunteer members. Currently there are 43 volunteers making it possible to have fourteen three- or four-person crews to provide quality pre-hospital, emergency care, 24/7/365. Without the volunteers, Essex Rescue would not be able to operate at the capacity that it does now.

Now, the members that make up this squad are just like many other community members in the sense that some of them are 20 years old and some of them are 70 years old. Some have careers and some are retired. Some have young children and some have grown children; even grandchildren and great-grandchildren! We have gone through different walks in life with a common desire that bonds us and that is the desire to help. And the thing is, there is no scale in our minds measuring if we helped one individual more than another. What we know is that when that tones go out — someone is having a bad day and they're trusting us to come help them. It might be that they need help breathing or maybe they need assistance with being lifted up off the floor and brought back to bed. There are a large variety of needs in the five communities that we serve, and we are happy to do it all.

As volunteers we make the choice to give up time with our families. We sacrifice holiday gatherings and sporting events. We miss meals and sometimes even bathroom breaks. But we would have it no other way. Being a part of EMS is an eye opening experience. It has taught me the value of time — what I chose to do with it and who I chose to spend it with. It has taught me to be a more realistic, calm, and nurturing mother and wife. I have learned that I am capable of far more than I ever imagined. And yeah, I know how that sounds "cliché." But, it's true.

So, if you have a desire to help other people while forming friendships along the way, that may have otherwise never been formed, get out there and pursue that desire. You will absolutely be shocked at the things that you can accomplish when your heart is in it. Essex Rescue is always accepting applications and we will help you through the certification process. We want to hear from you!

Courtney Newman EMT

If you are interested in volunteering, please visit our website [essexrescue.org](http://essexrescue.org) or contact Colleen Nesto, 802-878-4859.

## Jericho, you've done it!

By Julia Blake

Jericho has raised enough money to place six AEDs in public places around town, two in each village center! All those pennies, quarters, bills you dropped into the donation jars, the many checks from \$15 to \$250, plus the generosity of the Lions Club, Friends of Rawson Library, Richmond Rescue, Jericho Center Preservation Association, Methodist Church, Jericho Market (Flats), Union Bank, Mansfield Barn, have raised a total of \$8190. The defibrillators will be ordered as soon as the final pledges are collected, and once they are installed it will be announced on FPF.

As a community, you have really stepped up. Also, the assistance and guidance of Harry Schoppmann of the Underhill-Jericho Fire Department has been invaluable. The UJFD will be maintaining the units, and their help is greatly appreciated.

Gratitude is also due the numerous local businesses that kept donation jars on their counters for months. Snowflake Chocolates and Chittenden Mills gas station take honors for collecting the most money. Their help in sorting and counting the donations is also appreciated. Jericho Center Country Store was close behind the top two in collections, and others who kept donation jars are Clark's Truck, Matt's Wash & Wax, Jericho General Store, Jeri-Hill Hardware, Mountain High Pizza, Union Bank, Farrell's Chiropractic, Mount Mansfield Veterinary Hospital, and briefly the Dollar Store, Jolly's, and Mane St. Hair Salon.

In March there will be another CPR/AED class at the Community Center to familiarize people with the AEDs and CPR. Watch for announcement of date and time.

Congratulations to all you Jericho residents (and Richmond Rescue) for coming up with the funds for these defibrillators. Anyone who suffers cardiac arrest in our town will now have a greater chance of survival.

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Dr. Mary H. Kintner

## What it means to serve the community on the UJFD

To the Editor,

I would like to comment (on the note that was posted in FPF) about the Underhill Jericho Fire Department (UJFD) needing firefighters. I thought I would share a little about what it means to me to be a firefighter...

The UJFD needs dedicated, hard working people to serve our communities, and this will be different than any other community activity that you could be involved in. There will be lots of training required, at least every Tuesday night and other times as needed. But shouldn't there be a lot of training — any job that can kill you, you need to train until you can't get it wrong. You will work as a team like in sports but beyond that. You will get alerted to an emergency at any time of day or night and stop your plans and head

Letters continued on page 5

## Tai Chi classes for fall prevention

Tai Chi Ongoing: This class is for those that have completed Tai Chi 1, 2, and 3. We will review the form and play Tai Chi until all are comfortable. I will be bringing new ideas as I learn them. This class will be held at 10:00 AM at Covenant Community Church, 1 Whitcomb Meadows Lane, Essex, VT (across VT Rt. 15 from John Leo's).

Tai Chi 1, 2+: This class is for those that have had Tai Chi 1 and 2 and some of TC 3. We will review the forms, as we know it, until all are comfortable. This class knows some of the forms of TC 3. We will continue to learn TC 3 bringing the new forms into our practice of TC 1 and 2. I will be bringing new ideas as I learn them. This class will be held at 11:00 AM, also at Covenant Community Church.

Classes will begin Tuesday, January 28 and continue through May 28. Classes are every Tuesday and Thursday. The goal is to give you enough play time to get this Tai Chi form into your brain and muscle memory. In both classes, I plan to focus on slowing down to bring more flow to our practice of Tai Chi, which is one of the focal points of Tai Chi for Fall Prevention.

Contact Billie Hall, [hall.bd@comcast.net](mailto:hall.bd@comcast.net), if you have questions.

## Women Walk for Wellness in Cambridge

On Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10:00 – 11:00 AM at the Cambridge Christian Fellowship Hall (white Church across from Kinney Drugs) in Cambridge, join women getting together and doing a walking video on a large screen. Great music, easy steps. One, two, or three miles. Don't forget your walking shoes, and comfy clothing! No charge. Contact Patti for more information: 802-598-0115 or [patti\\_jasmin@myfairpoint.net](mailto:patti_jasmin@myfairpoint.net).

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Wood for Good — help us continue the giving

Hi all,

So our first go at *Wood for Good* was a success! For those who didn't see our original post, my boys and I donated some split and seasoned firewood to local families in need.

My sons really loved doing this and want to do more!

"I want to do this everyday!" (Devin, age 13)

It was a good feeling to help out some neighbors in need and help keep their homes a little warmer this winter.

Great news — we found someone who was willing to donate some seasoned logs, so my boys and I processed it and are now ready to help two additional families in need. We are not looking to have a criteria for a family in "need," so if you feel okay receiving we are happy to help you out!

Also we have had a few bags of wood pellets donated by Jerihill, can anyone use that?

In addition we are going to have a follow up post about how we can really give this thing some legs, so please be on the lookout for our next post and for how you may be able to help. By next year we want to do a lot and we are going to talk about how.

Thanks for reading all.

~~~

Hi neighbors,

We have been able to successfully deliver a few more loads of *Wood for Good*. Thanks to Jerihill Hardware and the friend who donated some seasoned wood!

Here are some things we could use to continue the giving.

A. Some flat land In Jericho that is accessible where we could process and season wood for next years giving.

B. Some neighbors with seasoned *hardwood* trees, either standing or down, that we could process and give this year. It needs to be easily accessible; we do not have resources to go into the woods to remove wood. (Please send me a picture of the trees you have, [eric.axelrod@yahoo.com](mailto:eric.axelrod@yahoo.com))

C. In the springtime we would like to drop some trees that we could use for next year's giving. The wood needs to be easily accessible. The ideal scenario would be to drop the trees as buds begin to pop, let them season where they fall, and process them next October/November for distribution. Doing this would mean fully dry wood for next year. (I am an experienced woodsman, but need the trees to have a safe landing spot. (Please send me a picture of the trees you have, [eric.axelrod@yahoo.com](mailto:eric.axelrod@yahoo.com))

D. It would be really cool if someone has a dump trailer that we could use, this would increase our efficiency and enable us to deliver more, especially in the fall when we hope to do a lot.

E. Volunteers, we could use people to help in all areas (splitting, loading, delivering). The boys feel that we want to maximize our ability to keep people warm. If any kids want to help us we will only ask them to load the trailers and offload and keep them away from the dangerous stuff.

If you have a truck/ trailers/ or an extra splitter that would all be amazing!

Who wants to give back a little?

Eric, Devin, and Logan Axelrod  
Jericho

## United Way of Northwest Vermont –

### Volunteer Connection Listings

By Sue Alenick, United Way Volunteer Columnist

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. Stay connected to community needs. Go to [www.unitedwaynwvt.org](http://www.unitedwaynwvt.org) or [galaxydigital.com](mailto:galaxydigital.com) or contact us, [volctr@unitedwaynwvt.org](mailto:volctr@unitedwaynwvt.org) or 860-1677.

ON THE ICE – Military Kids Vermont is planning its annual Military Kids Vermont Skate Day on Sunday, January 26 at Leddy Park in Burlington's New North End. They are looking for volunteers to serve as greeters, photographer, food servers, and those willing to bake ahead of the event. Contact Allison Smith, 651-8343 or [mkvt@uvn.edu](mailto:mkvt@uvn.edu).

MENTOR! MENTOR! – Mercy Connections, in partnership with the Department of Corrections, matches women volunteers with women being released from prison for nonviolent offenses. Volunteer mentors are needed to help women stay focused on the goals they have set for themselves and to help identify community resources they may need to reach those goals. Training will be offered in February. To register contact Maeve Keating, 846-7063 or [mkeating@mercyconnections.org](mailto:mkeating@mercyconnections.org).

ON THE SHELF – Northwest Family Foods is in need of volunteers from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM to weigh and sort donations from local grocery stores and shelf the donations in their proper places. Volunteers may also be needed to assist the coordinator with pick-ups from donors. Contact Toni Auriemma, 527-7392, Ext. 106, or [taurienna@cvoeo.org](mailto:taurienna@cvoeo.org).

WISH LIST – YWCA Vermont/Camp Hochelaga invites volunteers and donors to help them continue to create unforgettable summer camp experiences for girls. Their donation wish list includes tents and camping equipment, lifejackets, paddleboards, yoga mats, arts and craft supplies, sleeping bags, twin size sheets and blankets, cleaning supplies, and office supplies. Volunteers can serve as Board members or on committees, bookkeeper, carpenters, indoor/outdoor painters, gardeners, and more. Contact Hannah Bogard, 862-7520 or [Hannah.bogard@ywcavt.org](mailto:Hannah.bogard@ywcavt.org).

AND JUSTICE FOR ALL – Essex Restorative Justice is seeking volunteers to serve on their Restorative Justice Panel. The Panel uses restorative justice to support low-level offenders to be accountable for their crimes and to support them in making amends to the victims and to the community. Volunteers are needed for panels in Milton, Colchester, and Essex. Background check required. Jill Evans, 872-7690 or [jevans@essex.org](mailto:jevans@essex.org).

TIME TO SHARE – Bayada Hospice invites volunteers to share some time and companionship with patients in their facilities or at home. Hold a hand, read a story, share a hobby... 30 minutes of your time can make a huge difference for someone. Training and support provided. Interview and background check required. Contact Beverly Hill, 448-1610 or [bhill2@bayada.com](mailto:bhill2@bayada.com).

A TAXING TIME – Working Bridges is looking for volunteers to serve in its Mobile Tax Preparer program to help provide free tax assistance for low-wage workers at their workplaces. Volunteers serve at least four hours a week from early February through early April, usually between 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Returns are prepared online using TaxSlayer Online (provided by the IRS) and the workplace's computers and printers. Training can be done online or in classroom sessions, and volunteers must pass an IRS Certification Test. Background check required. Contact Rick Castillo, [rick@unitedwaynwvt.org](mailto:rick@unitedwaynwvt.org).

THE KIDS ARE WAITING – Connecting Youth is in search of mentors in Charlotte Central School. CY Mentors are fun, caring, trustworthy, and respectful friends who meet one-on-one with students in the community. There is a careful screening process, which includes background checks and fingerprinting, and all mentors receive ongoing support and training from CY and school staff. Annual comprehensive training is provided along with additional training opportunities and support throughout the year. There is a minimum of a one year commitment. Contact Christine Lloyd-Newberry, [cnewberry@cvsdvt.org](mailto:cnewberry@cvsdvt.org) or 985-1931.

READ TO THEM! – RSVP of Northwest Vermont invites volunteers to become Read To Me volunteers. Share your passion for reading with a great bunch of kids at Head Start programs in the new North End of Burlington, Winooski, Colchester, St. Albans and Swanton and help them gain the literacy skills to be ready for Kindergarten. Contact Danielle Williams at 861-7821 or email [daniellew@unitedwaynwvt.org](mailto:daniellew@unitedwaynwvt.org).

MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR KIDS – the Foster Grandparent Program is looking for volunteers to make a difference in the lives of children. Foster Grandparents are volunteers, 55 years of age or over, who serve at preschools, child cares, Head Starts, and elementary schools with supervision for a teacher or staff person. They serve between 15-40 hours a week tutoring, mentoring, and helping to build self-esteem. Volunteers receive a small, non-taxable stipend. Placements are available throughout Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle Counties, and there is a very specific need at locations in Shelburne, Alburgh, Georgia, and the Integrated Arts Academy. Background check required. Contact Danielle Williams, 861-7821 or [daniellew@unitedwaynwvt.org](mailto:daniellew@unitedwaynwvt.org).

**UJFD looking for members (volunteers)**  
Are you over 18 and a resident of Underhill or Jericho? Do you want to help serve your community? Are you interested in training to learn a skill that will help make your community a safer place? If you answered yes to any of these questions then you should consider joining the Underhill Jericho Fire Department.

Please note, we have many positions/roles to be filled in emergency services, so if running into a burning building (interior firefighter) is not for you, that is totally fine and one of the many other positions/roles would be an option.

We are currently looking for applicants to join and be part of our upcoming training class. No previous firefighting experience is necessary, as we will train you. If you are interested or would like to learn more, please stop by the Fire Station located at 420 VT Rt. 15, Monday-Friday, 7:30 AM – 3:30 PM, or on a Tuesday evening from 7:00 – 9:00 PM for a tour and to pick up an application.

You can also call our Deputy Chief, Harry Schoppmann, 899-4025. You can learn more about the UJFD, and download applications, at [www.UJFD.org](http://www.UJFD.org), but I strongly encourage anyone who really wants to learn about what we do, or to see if there is a role for them to fill, to stop down to the station for a more in-depth experience.

**LIBRARY NEWS****DEBORAH RAWSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

All events are free and some activities require advance registration.

**Adult Programs**

French Conversation Group — Thursday, January 23 and Tuesdays, February 11 and 25, 6:30 – 8:00 PM. Join in the conversation! Practice your French in a relaxed setting with the French Conversation Group. Whether you're a first-timer or fluent, you'll always find something to talk about!

Energy Task Force: Last Tracks — Thursday, January 23, 7:00 PM. The Jericho Energy Task Force, in collaboration with the Vermont Climate and Health Alliance and *SolaVida.org*, will show the movie *Last Tracks*. Created by UVM students, the movie explores the impact of climate change on skiing. The film will be followed by a question and answer session with State Senator Ginny Lyons, Dan Quinlan of *SolaVida.org*, Tom Hughes of VPIRG, and Amy Kelsey, the former Executive Director of the Catamount Trail Association. Light refreshments will be served but this is a waste-free event so please bring your own bowls and mugs. For more information, contact Phyl Newbeck, [phyl@together.net](mailto:phyl@together.net).

Underhill Conservation Commission presents *Final Straw* on Tuesday, January 28, 7:00 PM. The Underhill Conservation Commission will present three films this winter to inspire action in our community to combat the effects of the climate crisis. The first film in the series will be *Final Straw*: "A breathtaking journey through Japan, Korea, and the United States that turns our perceptions of food and life upside down in an amazingly simple and poetic way." On Tuesday, February 18 at 7:00 PM: *The Biggest Little Farm*, which chronicles the eight year quest of a family to create a harmonious life in the country; and at the Underhill Town Hall Thursday, March 12 at 7:00 PM for the *Rivers and Tides*, an exploration of the environmental art of Andy Goldsworthy.

Artist Talk: Mary Hill — Thursday, January 30, 4:00 – 5:00 PM. Mary will be sharing her process of experimenting with new materials. Having worked in two-dimensional art using acrylics paint for years, she is now delving into her collection of reused materials: old tents, bubble wrap, and many other delightful "found" items foraged by herself and many friends who like to bring her boxes of unusual items. Free motion sewing is another tool she has been experimenting with, breaking needles along the way! She will provide a demonstration of her techniques and answer questions.

Sunday Concert Series: On Sunday, February 2, 2:00 PM, *The Insiders* play and sing music from the mid to late 20<sup>th</sup> Century. With Andrew Albright on bass and vocals, Todd Sagar on fiddle, dobro, button harmonica, and vocals, and John Penoyer on guitar and vocals.

Mah Jongg: Mondays, February 3, 6:30 PM and February 17, 1:00 PM. Please join us as we explore the ancient Chinese tile game of winds, dragons, and number tiles. If you like Rummy-style card games, you'll love Mah Jongg! All are welcome, no experience necessary!

Knitting with Neighbors — Thursdays, February 6 and 20, 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, [juliehhehir@comcast.net](mailto:juliehhehir@comcast.net).

Deborah Rawson Book Lovers: Tuesday, February 11, 7:00 PM. DRBL is a monthly adult book discussion group. This month's selection is *Unsheltered* by Barbara Kingsolver. New members are always welcome to drop in on any meeting, which is always the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM. For more information, contact [Christine@cstaffa.com](mailto:Christine@cstaffa.com).

Scrabble: Thursday, February 13, 11:00 AM. Join us on the second Thursday of every month for the original wordplay game. Exercise your mind and improve your vocabulary (especially of two- and three-letter words).

Legislative Update: Thursday, February 13, 6:30 – 8:00 PM. George Till will be here to provide legislative information and answers to your questions. Please feel free to drop in and meet up with your representatives.

**Youth Programs**

Story Hour with Beth and David London — Fridays, January 24, 31, 10:30 AM. Beth and David London, formerly of Poker Hill School, will be at DRBL to share songs and stories with young children and their families. Snack will follow!

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 library programs, call 899-4962.

**JERICHO TOWN LIBRARY**

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

JTL Board meetings are held the second Monday of every month (February 10), 5:30 PM. All are welcome to attend.

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

For more information on programs and library services, please visit our website [www.jerichotownlibraryvt.org](http://www.jerichotownlibraryvt.org) or call 899-4686.

**VARNUM MEMORIAL LIBRARY JEFFERSONVILLE**

Snow Secrets — Thursday, January 23, 3:30 – 4:30 PM. Do you know the secret of snow? How does a snowflake form, and is every snowflake really different? How can snow keep things warm? Activities include snowflake collection and observation, snow melting experiments, and a snow detectives' scavenger hunt. Sponsored by the Cambridge Conservation Commission and the Varnum Memorial Library, and presented by the Lamoille Valley Nature Center. Designed for pre-school and elementary school kids, but all are welcome!

Varnum LEGO Club, every other Wednesday (January 22), 3:30 – 5:00 PM. Each meeting will feature themed and free build time, team exercises, and opportunities for collaboration and — most importantly — creativity and imagination. Open to all ages. Large, Duplo, and LEGOs provided.

Baby Got Books, Tuesdays, January 21, 28, 9:30 – 10:30 AM. A story time for the littlest patrons age 0-24 months, but all are welcome. We read age-appropriate books, sing songs, finger plays, use musical instruments, and have plenty of time for free play.

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, too.

Crafting Circle, Thursdays, 5:30 PM. It's winter and that means that

**Library news continued on page 6**

**FROM MONTPELIER****First day of VT legislative session**

**Lucy Rogers, State Representative, Lamoille-3**

Today was the first day of VT's 2020 legislative session. The length and timing of legislative sessions varies by state, but VT's runs roughly from January-May each year. This is the second year of our two-year term, for which all Senators and Representatives were elected in November 2018. For me, as a first-term legislator, preparing to begin this second year of the biennium feels much more focused and directed than it did last time. This time around, I know which committee I will be on (health care again), I can prepare for some of the topics we are likely to work on in committee, and I also can prepare for some of the topics that the legislature as a whole will continue working on.

Legislators are not paid when the legislature is not in session, and many of us (including myself) have completely different employment during that time. However, there are still a large number of legislative tasks associated with the "off-session," and I wanted to take this opportunity to share some of what I've been working on since the 2019 session ended in May.

First and foremost for me is corresponding with community members and assisting with issues relating to accessing state resources for local projects, navigating state regulations, and understanding policy details. This work means a lot to me. It also reinforces to me the importance of creating straightforward, clear, practical laws that do not add confusion for Vermonters down the road.

The second category of tasks that I've been working on is my own policy research in preparation for the session. This has led me to draft several bills that I will be introducing at the start of this term (more information to come in a future posting).

The final category of tasks has been attending meetings and participating in work groups to brainstorm policy improvements and set legislative agendas for 2020 and beyond. One of the great advantages of the "off-session" is that it allows us as legislators an opportunity to think about the bigger picture and long-term policy goals, whereas much of the legislative session is spent dealing with immediate and urgent issues in front of us.

In the statehouse, I am a member of the Rural Economic Development Working Group (also called the Rural Caucus), a non-partisan collaboration of state representatives that works on issues of rural development in Vermont. Last year, among other projects, we advocated for broadband expansion and for appropriations to the Working Lands Grants, which are given to land-based businesses such as loggers or farmers for infrastructure, marketing, or research/development.

In early December, the Rural Caucus held a public hearing and asked people from across rural Vermont to come speak with us about how we can support economic development in their community. We had nearly 30 Vermonters speak, and received written testimony from others who could not attend. The biggest category of feedback we received was positive stories about funding from Working Lands Grants. Beyond this, two main themes emerged. The first was all of the infrastructure needs of rural places that indirectly make it difficult for employers and employees to thrive. This includes housing needs, available and affordable childcare, high-speed Internet, and affordable healthcare to offer to employees. The second theme was the burden for small communities of receiving the same regulations as huge corporations and more populated areas. One speaker summarized this concern with, "All regulations should be scaled appropriately." On a statewide level, specific concerns were the time and expense of going through Act 250, as well as a need for better communication of state resources and regulations to individual towns in Vermont.

In addition to continuing to participate in the Rural Caucus, this session I will also be a member of the Equity Caucus, a brand-new group of which I will be a founding member. This caucus will be a starting place for addressing issues of racism, gender discrimination, religious persecution, and other social inequity within our state.

The most time-intensive project of mine during the off session was serving as a member of the Department of Mental Health's Think Tank to create a 10-year vision for the delivery of mental healthcare in the state of Vermont. This plan will be presented to my legislative committee, House Health Care, early in the 2020 legislative session.

Finally, during the off-session, I attended as many meetings of the Rural Health Services Task Force as I could. I created this Task Force with my committee during the 2019 legislative session to bring together practitioners of rural healthcare from across the spectrum of care.

I am excited to get back to work, and I will consistently update you during the coming months. Please reach out by phone or email with thoughts, feedback, and concerns (730-0604, [LRoberts@leg.state.VT.us](mailto:LRoberts@leg.state.VT.us)). I am honored to serve as your representative!

**Letters continued from page 4**

out to help someone in need. I will say the adrenalin is a rush to answer the alarms and ride the fire engine with lights and sirens, but it is more than that... it is knowing that you have helped someone in their time of need and it may be the worst day they have ever had. It might simply be a CO alarm with a bad battery, it could be a car crash that you help free someone from wreckage, a house fire that the actions of you and your team give the owners the ability to rebuild or salvage family treasures. The rewards are simple, a community member might bake cookies and drop them at the fire station to say thanks, it might be in your heart that you know "you" made a difference, or it might be your daughter's friend tells you, "Thank you for saving my house..." let me tell you those are big.

You will need to dig deep to know if this job is right for you and you need the commitment of your spouse and family as this job will affect them as well. For me, I don't think of being a firefighter as something I do; it is more about who I am. I grew up at the fire station, my parents had a "RED PHONE" in their home for emergency calls (as did my wife and I, before VSP started answering the calls) and I rode with my father to fire calls starting at 12 years old and at 16, I became a member. January 2020 marks 39 years for me as a member of the UJFD, with 10 of those as Chief. The Clark family has been involved in the UJFD for almost 100 years and has a fourth generation in the membership.

Are you up for the most demanding yet the most rewarding job you could ever have?

If your answer is yes, I would proud to serve with you.

**Randy E. Clark  
Jericho  
Honorary Chief 9C43**

**Weekly legislative update**

**By Theresa Wood**

**State Representative, Washington-Chittenden**

Welcome back to my weekly legislative update about activities, events, and bills that are happening at the State House. First I want to thank everyone who filled out the survey I sent out a few weeks ago. Please watch the local papers and town reports for the results of the survey. Out of the nearly 2000 responses received statewide, 70 people responded in our district (Bolton, Buel's Gore, Huntington, and Waterbury). Thank you!

Last week the Governor gave his State of the State Address — this is generally commenting on the Governor's thoughts about the overall status of the State. As you most likely saw in the news coverage, his speech was interrupted by a group of individuals concerned about the climate and lives affected by climate change. It was apparent that this was expected, and all in attendance listened for several minutes. It became apparent that the group was going to continue on repeating what had already been said, and after fair notice, the group was led out by security and State Police.

Next week the Governor will give his budget address for fiscal year 2021, where we will hear more details about what the Administration identifies as priorities. Then it will be the Legislature's job to sift through the hundreds of pages, take weeks of testimony, and finally pass a budget. It is often customary that the budget is the last bill passed before adjournment.

The major action in the House last week is that the minimum wage bill and the paid family leave bill were voted into conference committee. The House and Senate will work through differences and we expect to see these bills on the floor in the near future.

In my committee, House Human Services, we began prioritizing the dozens of bills on our schedule, and many more were introduced. We will start the year with a focus on the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living — both for testimony on the proposed Older Vermonters Act (I am the lead sponsor), and on issues affecting people with developmental and intellectual disabilities and their families. We also will be taking testimony on the future of Woodsider, the juvenile detention facility. The Administration is proposing to close the facility.

In summary, the second year of the biennium is off to a quick start, almost like we never left. As always, I appreciate hearing from you and can be reached at [twood@leg.state.VT.us](mailto:twood@leg.state.VT.us).

Thank you for the honor and responsibility of representing you.

**Clean water initiatives**

**Tim Ashe, State Senator, Chittenden District**

With so much distressing national and international news, I want to offer a quick reprieve with good news here in Vermont.

During the 2019 legislative session, we made significant progress in cleaning up Vermont's water. Three new laws will clean up both natural waters like lakes and streams, and drinking water supplies.

1. Lead-free Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Facilities. This year we implemented the strongest school-based lead standards in the U.S. while requiring every school and child care facility in Vermont to test for lead in its drinking water and do something about it when needed. This is a substantial public health initiative, and when all districts have complied we'll have a healthy baseline at every school and child care facility in Vermont so all parents can be confident their kids are in a healthy environment. The results of all testing is publicly available at this site: <https://leadresults.vermont.gov>. Since the law passed, testing has turned up elevated lead levels in some drinking sources, and the schools and child care operators are immediately fixing the problems. When we passed the law we knew we'd be confronting results like this across the state. In fact, we passed it \*because\* we knew we'd see results like this. Our job is to keep people safe, and to be transparent in doing so. I'm glad we rejected the arguments of those who thought we should not require this testing and remediation. I was a lead sponsor of the bill, and was joined by Senators Phil Baruth and Debbie Ingram, as well as Rep. Kate Webb from Shelburne, in getting it to the finish line. This story provides more information about this initiative:

<https://www.sevendaysvt.com/OffMessage/archives/2019/12/13/schools-around-vermont-are-detecting-elevated-lead-levels-in-water>

2. Long-term Funding Source to Clean Up Vermont's Lakes, Rivers and Streams. Decades of poor management of our lakes and other waters has us digging out from the pollution that's developed. The last few years we've approximately doubled the amount of money to do remediation projects on farms, roadways, etc. And this year we achieved what had eluded previous legislatures and governors — we established a substantial ongoing source of money to address this problem, while significantly improving the investment strategy to make sure every dollar spent has more positive impact. Unfortunately, many of the investments that will clean up our waters won't produce immediate results or prevent near-term beach closures from time to time. So while the EPA affirmation of our policies referenced in the story below is encouraging, we all need to gird ourselves for years of sustained, hard work to get our waters where they should be. Vermont ignored this problem for too long. The good news is the current legislature has put in place the funds and strategy to turn things around:

<https://vtidigger.org/2019/07/21/epa-endorses-vermonts-new-clean-water-funding-law/>

3. Testing Public Drinking Water Sources for Dangerous PFAS Chemicals. The only thing worse than paying to clean up contaminated drinking water sources is not knowing the water is contaminated.

That's why the VT Senate and House passed some of the strongest legislation in the U.S. to test and remediate drinking water supplies for PFAS chemicals. PFAS chemicals are industrial inputs that damage the human body if ingested. The EPA says they can lead to low infant birth weights, effects on the immune system, cancer, and thyroid hormone disruption. Bennington was the first community to confront these chemicals in drinking water, but we knew more communities may have troubling PFAS levels in their water. Without the law, the three towns in the story below would not know they're ingesting worrying levels of chemicals out of their taps. More communities will follow. As hard as the news is, we're better for the knowledge. Now we can clean it up and track down the source of the PFAS:

<https://www.wcax.com/content/news/3-Vermont-public-water-systems-flagged-for-PFAS-chemicals--566344641.html?>

We've certainly got more work to do, but at this terrible political moment in our country I think it's important to recognize when elected officials actually do come together to address public problems.

As always, feel free to contact me with any question, comments, or ideas: [timashe@burlingtontelecom.net](mailto:timashe@burlingtontelecom.net). And Happy New Year!

## Library news continued from page 5

the Craft Circle is starting again! Bring your current W.I.P. (Work-in-Progress) or come to get ideas and learn something new. Be sure to take a gander at our growing collection of craft-related materials. All crafts welcome. No pre-registration required, just bring your supplies and join in!

Spanish Conversational Hour: Fridays, 6:00 – 7:00 PM. Join native Spanish speaker Milagro as she guides the group, helps with pronunciation, and plays a few games to help with vocabulary.

Crescendo Club Library Association — If you enjoy the Varnum's collection and programming, we would enjoy having you on our board! Join us for just a few hours each month and support the library.

The Varnum Library, P.O. Box 198, 194 Main St., Jeffersonville, 802-644-2117; [thevarnum@gmail.com](mailto:thevarnum@gmail.com); [www.varnumlibrary.org](http://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

Thursdays, January 23, 30: Coloring Club meets after school until 5:00 PM. Sign up required for the four-week program.

Tuesdays, January 21, 28, 2:30 – 4:00 PM: The Hate U Give teen book group.

Wednesday, January 22, 7:00 – 8:00 PM: Adult Book Group, discussing Ordinary Grace by William Kent Krueger.

Saturday, January 25, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM: Make Your Own Scrunchies. Sign up required.

Early Literacy Storytime: birth to pre-school, Thursdays, 11:00 AM. Several stories will center around a theme, and there will be 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! January 9: Snow. January 16: Birthdays. January 23: Dragons. January 30: Libraries.

Fiber Arts Group: Thursdays, 6:30 – 8:00 PM. Knit, crochet, and stitch with a vibrant group. All levels welcome, help given to beginners. Questions? Contact Marianne, [mfishcar@together.net](mailto:mfishcar@together.net).

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

### RICHMOND LIBRARY

Art Gallery: The Photography of Jake Levison. Jake has been a lifelong photographer. The photos in this exhibit represent his appreciation for jazz musicians and their music, animals and flowers of this area, and other characters that he has encountered along the way. He always carries a camera with him: "You never know..." Jake has lived in Richmond for 35 years, so far. (Some of his wonderful photos are available for sale; inquire if you're interested.)

Display Case: Catherine Peacock is sharing her collection of, you got it, peacocks! After marrying in 1977 and taking on the surname Peacock, Catherine began collecting peacocks. Friends and family have also brought her peacock items from all over the world. From earrings to ornaments, we can see the many ways that peacocks can be depicted.

Wednesday, January 22 at 4:30 PM, Professor Teresa Mares will discuss her recently published book, Life on the Other Border: Farm Workers and Food Justice in Vermont. In the joint Vermont Public Radio and Vermont Public Television rural survey project, 72% of respondents considered dairy farms to be extremely important to Vermont's sense of itself. Migrant workers are the backbone of this and other agricultural sectors, yet they face food insecurity and other vulnerabilities. Professor Mares points out the misaligned agriculture and immigration policies impacting our food system today.

Wednesday, January 29 at 4:30 PM, authors Liz Thompson, Eric Sorenson, and Bob Zaino will present a fascinating slideshow about Vermont's natural communities in celebration of the new edition of their book Wetland, Woodland, Wildland: A Guide to the Natural Communities of Vermont. Books will be for sale, and the authors will be available to sign them. Liz Thompson is Director of Conservation Science at Vermont Land Trust; Eric Sorenson is Natural Community Ecologist for Vermont Fish & Wildlife; and Bob Zaino is State Lands Ecologist for VT Fish & Wildlife.

Friends of the Richmond Free Library annual Love Your Library book sale. Mark your calendar! This year's sale takes place on Friday evening, February 14, 5:30 – 8:30 PM and Saturday, February 15, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. As always, a wonderful selection of books and media in great condition. Browse accompanied by live music from our incredible local talent.

Tuesday, February 11, 6:00 PM: the Mostly Fiction Book Group meets to discuss Garden Spells by Sarah Addison Allen. It tells the story of lonely Claire Waverley after her long-lost sister Sydney comes back to town after being gone for over ten years.

Thursday, February 20, 7:00 PM: the Mystery Book Group meets to discuss Dark Angel by Elly Griffiths (the tenth in the *Dr. Ruth Galloway* series). In this highly atmospheric mystery, Ruth Galloway investigates a murder in a medieval Italian town where dark secrets are buried as deep as bones.

Celebrate the New Year with dancing! Learn to waltz and swing for any social dancing occasion. Taryn Noelle of Waterbury Performing Arts Center will teach basic footwork and rhythm and partnering skills, for beginners or those feeling a bit rusty. This four-week session begins Tuesday, January 14 (6:30 – 8:00 PM), \$20 per person for the session. The first two meetings will cover waltz (or another dance if participants choose) and the second two meetings will cover swing. Singles and couples alike are welcome, no partner or previous dance experience necessary. Wear non-marking, comfortable shoes. Community Room, Richmond Free Library. Contact the Library to register.

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

Playgroup with Stories and Songs — The good times kick off with songs and shakers around the colorful alphabet rug. Next up is storytime and snacks (bring your own). Then, the toys and art supplies come out for free play and crafts. Co-sponsored by the Lund Center. Kids from infant to age five and their caregivers are invited to join us in the community room on Wednesdays, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

Preschool Storytime — This special storytime is for children ages 3-5. We will share picture books, songs, and activities, with a focus on the six pre-reading skills that form a child's early literacy experience and help set them up for a lifelong love of books and reading. Join us on Fridays, 10:30 AM.

Free Coffee and Tea: Warm yourself with a hot cup of coffee or tea during the cold winter season. The beverage table is to the left of the circulation desk on the ground floor. Help yourself and sip while you browse, read, work, or gather with friends.

Open Monday and Wednesday 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM, Tuesday and Thursday 1:00 – 6:00 PM, Friday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Saturday

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM; closed Sunday.

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

### DOROTHY ALLING MEMORIAL LIBRARY, WILLISTON

#### Youth Programs

Story Time: Tuesdays, 10:30 AM (except February 25). Includes a simple craft activity. February 4: Eric Carle; February 11: Friendship; February 18: Fun with Art. Geared toward preschoolers, but all ages are welcome.

Toddler Time: Thursdays, 10:30 AM (except February 13 and 27). February 6: Love; February 20: Bathtime. Aimed at toddlers, but all are welcome.

Preschool Yoga with Danielle: Thursday, February 13, 10:30 – 11:00 AM. Simple yoga poses, stories, and songs for children birth to age 5 and their caregivers.

Thursday Playtime: Thursdays, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Young children and their caregivers are invited for an informal playtime following our Toddler Time program. For children birth to age 5.

Preschool Music: Mondays, 11:00 AM (except Monday, February 17) and Fridays, 10:30 AM. Up to age 5 with a caregiver. No pre-registration. Limit: one session per week per family.

#### After-School Tuesdays:

- LEGO Club: February 4, 2:00 – 3:00 PM. Build your own creations using the library's LEGO collection. All ages.

- Movie: February 11, 2:00 PM. Musical comedy film about ugly plush toys. Rated PG; 1 hour 27 min.

- Game Café: February 18, 2:00 – 3:00 PM. Board games and a snack. Gr. 3 + up.

Homeschool Meetup: Monday, February 3, 1:00 – 2:30 PM. Connect with other homeschool families and play with the library's LEGOS.

Food for Thought Teen Group: Monday, February 3, 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. Teens meet for pizza, discussion, and planning special events at the library. Grades 7-12. New members welcome.

Food in Fiction: Friday, February 21, 5:00 – 6:00 PM. Make a recipe from your favorite fictional book or create a recipe inspired by one! Come ready to share and eat. Need ideas on what to make? Come visit the library! Grades 7-12.

Drop-In Craft: Monday, February 24-Friday, February 28. Stop in the youth area during the week of winter break to make a craft (while supplies last).

Drop-In Legos: Tuesday, February 25, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM. Enjoy our LEGO collection during winter break!

#### Multi-age Programs

Read to a Dog: Wednesday, February 5, 3:30 – 4:30 PM. Read to Lola, a therapy dog. Pre-register for a one-on-one reading session. All ages.

Read to a Cat: Thursday, February 20, 3:30 – 4:30 PM. Read to Edgar, a therapy cat in training. Pre-register for a one-on-one reading session. All ages.

#### Adult programs

Brown Bag Book Club: Tuesday, January 21, 12:30 – 1:30 PM. Meet others who love to discuss books. This month we will discuss In the Midst of Winter by Isabel Allende. Books are available at the front desk. Beverages and dessert provided.

Cook the Book: Wednesday, January 22, 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM. Our monthly cooking program has a selected cookbook which remains in the library for you to photocopy a recipe of choice. Prepare the dish and bring the recipe to the next month's potluck meeting. This month: Joy of Cooking: 2019 Edition Fully Revised and Updated by Irma S. Rombauer, Marion Rombauer Becker, Ethan Becker, John Becker, Megan Scott. Please pre-register.

How to Organize: Put Your House on a Diet Series: Bring your own lunch and learn something new. Join one or all sessions. Presented by Melanie Saia, Director of Staging Services, The Malley Group and KW Vermont. Sessions:

- Tuesday, January 28, 12:00 – 1:00 PM: Clear the Clutter. Feeling overwhelmed with stuff? Come learn simple steps to reduce your clutter and lighten the weight of your home!

- Tuesday, February 4, 12:00 – 1:00 PM: Organize to Simplify. Learn how to make your home functional so it works for you and your needs.

- Tuesday, February 11, 12:00 – 1:00 PM: Stage to Live or Stage to Leave. You're not on HGTV, but your house could look like it is. Learn what staging is and why it works. Send the presenter a photo of your home and receive professional tips during today's program.

Mah Jongg: Wednesdays, January 29, February 12 and 26, 1:00 – 3:30 PM. Learn how to play, revisit the game, or just enjoy the game of Mah Jongg. Come alone or bring a friend and play with members of our community. All experience levels are welcome.

Tech Tutor: Wednesdays, January 29, February 19, 4:00 – 6:00 PM. One-on-one technology help from a teen. Guarantee a time by making a 30-minute appointment at 878-4918. Drop-ins are welcome if space is available.

Put Your House on a Diet Series: Bring your own lunch and learn something new. Join one or all sessions. Presented by Melanie Saia, Director of Staging Services, The Malley Group and KW Vermont. Tuesday, February 4, 12:00 – 1:00 PM. Organize to Simplify: Learn how to make your home functional so it works for you and your needs. Tuesday, February 11, 12:00 – 1:00 PM. Stage to Live or Stage to Leave: You're not on HGTV, but your house can look like it is. Learn about staging and why it works. To receive personalized professional tips during the program, email photos of your home to [melanie.saia@themalleygroup.com](mailto:melanie.saia@themalleygroup.com).

Movie: Wednesday, February 5, 5:30 PM. New release. The worldwide phenomenon of Downton Abbey becomes a grand motion picture event, as the beloved Crawleys and their intrepid staff prepare for the most important moment of their lives — a royal visit from the King and Queen of England. Snack provided. Rated PG (122 minutes).

Meditation Program: Fridays, February 7 and 21, 12:00 – 1:00 PM. Lower your stress level and unlock calm at our bi-monthly meditation program. Learn about the different types of meditation through practice, breath-work, and balancing Chakras. All levels are welcome.

Cook the Book: Wednesday, February 12, 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM. Our monthly cooking program has set aside a cookbook in the library for you to photocopy a recipe of your choice. Prepare the dish and bring it along with the recipe to our potluck meeting. This month: All About Dinner by Molly Stevens. Please pre-register.

Technology Night: Wednesday, February 12, 5:30 – 6:30 PM. Ken Bernard of Vermont Tech offers a monthly learning technology series. This session will focus on basic computer terms and operations of both the Mac and PC. Bring your own device if you would like. All ages.

Health Education — Advance Directives: Friday, February 14, 12:30 – 1:30 PM. What a lovely "gift" to give your sweetheart. Take steps to learn about planning critical health care choices and completing an Advance Directive. There may come a time when you can't make health care choices for yourself, so learn what resources are available

to you and your loved ones.

Brown Bag Book Club: Tuesday, February 18, 12:30 – 1:30 PM. Meet others who love to discuss books. This month we will discuss Tribe: On Homecoming and Belonging by Sebastian Junger. Books are available at the front desk. Beverages and dessert provided.

Current Events Conversation: Wednesday, February 19, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM. Gather with others interested in discussing newsworthy topics.

Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, 21 Library Lane, Williston; 878-4918 or [www.williston.lib.vt.us](http://www.williston.lib.vt.us).

### FAIRFAX COMMUNITY LIBRARY

All events are free unless noted. Pre-registration encouraged.

Fairfax Community Library patrons can read or listen to eBooks and eAudiobooks for free using OverDrive. Here are some helpful tips for getting started! Create an account at [OverDrive.com](http://OverDrive.com). Your login will be the letter 'p' and the last four digits of your library card number. This is an example of what it would look like when you type it in: p0000. The online version of Overdrive is compatible with any Windows or Mac computer. Using an Android, iOS, or Windows 10 device? Download the free Libby app to use with your OverDrive account. This is also a good option for some Chromebooks as well. Other options? The original OverDrive app is also free and can be used on Android devices, Chromebooks, Windows 8 and 10, iPads, and Kindle Fire HD. OverDrive provides "Getting Started" guides, videos, how-to articles, troubleshooting, and more at [OverDrive Help](http://OverDrive Help). Also, feel free to contact the Fairfax Community Library with any questions, 802-849-2420.

Wednesday February 26, 4:00 – 5:00 PM: Family Game Night. Come enjoy our wide selection of games at the library! Drop in and play one of our games, or bring some of your own! Refreshments provided.

#### Youth Events

Tuesdays, January 21, 28, February 4, 11, 18, 9:30 – 10:30 AM: Preschool Story Hour. Join us for themed stories, songs, and activities for ages 0-6. No registration necessary for Story Hour.

Tuesday, January 28, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: Wordsmiths Creative Writing Club. Wordsmiths is the library's creative writing club, a positive and relaxed place to share and work on your writing. We will be meeting once a month for the rest of the school year. Grade 6 and up. Please register.

Wednesday, February 5, 4:00 – 5:00 PM: Failed It! Cooking Challenge. Do you have limited experience with cooking and baking? Great! Come in to the library and try your hand at making Valentine marshmallow pops... without instructions. Whatever the outcome, it's sure to be fun! Ages 12+. Please register.

Thursday, February 6, 6:00 – 7:00 PM: PJ Story Hour. Kids age 0-6 listen to themed stories, followed by a craft and a snack.

Thursday, February 6, 3:15 – 4:00 PM: Chess Club. Learning chess has been proven to have many benefits, such as building creativity, problem solving, and concentration! Please register. Ages 7+. Limit of 20.

Tuesday, February 11, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: Valentine Workshop. Learn how to make different Valentine cards to make the holiday creative and fun! Ages 6+. Please register.

Wednesday, February 12, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: LEGO Club. Kids ages 6+ enjoy themed Lego play after school. Please register.

Thursday, February 13, 27, 3:15 – 4:15 PM: Read to a Dog. Sign up for a 15-minute slot to read to McKenzie, a big friendly Newfoundland dog!

Tuesday, February 25, 9:30 – 10:30 AM: Preschool Story Hour. Join us for themed stories, songs, and activities for ages 0-6. February is Children's Dental Health Month! We are happy to welcome a pediatric dental hygienist program to our Storytime! No registration necessary for Story Hour.

Tuesday, February 25, 4:00 – 5:00 PM: DIY Spa Treatments. Learn how to make all-natural face masks, scrubs, and toners! For ages 10+. Please register.

## ART / MUSIC / THEATER

## ART/PHOTOGRAPHY

Call to Artists for Spring Open Studio 2020 — Artists wishing to participate in the Jericho Underhill Open Studio Tour held on Memorial Day Weekend, May 23-24, are invited to contact Dianne Shullenberger, [vtdianne@hotmail.com](mailto:vtdianne@hotmail.com), 899-4993, or Emilie Alexander, [ealexander22@yahoo.com](mailto:ealexander22@yahoo.com), 899-3211. The Jericho Underhill Tour is part of the Vermont Crafts Council annual Open Studio Weekend, which provides a venue for the public to meet artists all over the state, primarily in their places of work. There is a participation fee of \$20, which covers advertising materials. The Jericho Underhill Tour provides additional promotion for the artists in this area, with the Emile A Gruppe Gallery serving as headquarters for the public to get maps for both the state and local participants. The deadline for signing up is Saturday, February 29.

Announcing a community art exhibit to draw attention to the realities of the climate crisis. Art to express, communicate, and illustrate: feelings, emotions, concerns, and ideas. The exhibit will be shown at the Richmond Free Library and Richmond Town Center for the month of April 2020. Artists must support their work, citing a source for their inspiration (quote, need article, magazine, book, poem, etc.). Artists may accompany their work with a short paragraph or statement. We hope to have room for everyone and if space allows, artists may exhibit more than one piece. Most work must be two-dimensional or in low relief (be able to hang on wall). There will be some room for 3D work. For possibilities and limitations of 3D work, contact Judy; everyone please register your interest at [judybush@gmail.com](mailto:judybush@gmail.com). Sponsored by Radiate Art Space and Richmond Climate Action Committee.

Kathleen Berry Bergeron will offer intermediate watercolor classes beginning in January and running eight weeks, to be held in the daytime at the Jericho Community Center, Browns Trace, Jericho. Space will be limited. For more information, contact [paint78@hotmail.com](mailto:paint78@hotmail.com).

Walk through the beautiful woods and gardens of unique Jericho artist Marcia Rosberg in a new retrospective exhibit of her paintings at Mount Mansfield Community Television's studio, 35 W. Main St., Richmond. The exhibit will be open to the public during our office hours until Sunday, March 1. Stay tuned for a special reception and video about the artist soon. For more information and to check that we are open when you drop by, call 434-2550. Our website: [MtMansfieldCtv.org](http://MtMansfieldCtv.org).

Visions of Vermont Art Galleries in Jeffersonville is open Tuesday-Sunday, 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM. Hosts Jane and Terry Shaw, 644-8183; Visions of Vermont, 100 Main St., Jeffersonville. For more information, visit [www.VisionsofVermont.com](http://www.VisionsofVermont.com).

Dianne Shullenberger Gallery, 228 Nashville Rd., Jericho; 899-4993 or [vtdianne@hotmail.com](mailto:vtdianne@hotmail.com).

Emile A Gruppe Gallery, 22 Barber Farm Rd., Jericho; gallery hours Thursday-Sunday 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM or by appointment, 899-3211.

Helen Day Art Center, 90 Pond St., Stowe. Open Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM and by appointment; 802-253-8359, [www.helenday.com](http://www.helenday.com).

River Arts of Morrisville Inc., 74 Pleasant Rd., Morrisville; 802-888-1261, <http://www.riverartsvt.org>.

Milton Artists' Guild Art Center & Gallery, 199 U.S. Rt. 7 South, Milton; open Wednesday-Saturday, 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM and Sundays, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM (closed Monday and Tuesday); <https://www.miltonartistsguild.org>.

HAVOC Gallery, 27 Sears Lane, Burlington; [www.HAVOCGallery.com](http://www.HAVOCGallery.com); [HAVOC@havocgallery.com](mailto:HAVOC@havocgallery.com) or 800-639-1868. Hours: Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM, and every first Friday, 5:00 – 8:00 PM.

Bryan Memorial Gallery, 180 Main St., Jeffersonville; 802-644-5100; [www.bryangallery.org](http://www.bryangallery.org). Gallery hours: Thursday-Sunday, 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM, and by appointment.

## MUSIC

Music at the Double E — On Saturday, January 25, 6:30 – 9:30 PM, Carol Gross and Ivan Goldstein will be at the Double E at Lang Farm, Essex, playing folk, blues, light rock, and country. They will also be introducing singer/musician Sue Hurd. Sit back, have a bite and the beverage of your choice, and enjoy the show!

Come to a Pan-Celtic Music and Dance Concert on Saturday, January 25, 7:00 PM at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, VT Rt. 15, Jericho – Slip away to the Mystical Isles for an evening of live Celtic music and dance. Enjoy the traditional roots of Irish and Scottish music plus Highland Dance, and then travel across the ocean for some Québécois and Appalachian tunes. Acclaimed local musicians will perform as well as the Heather Morris Dancers and an a cappella choir. Bagpipes, Celtic whistles, drum, fiddle, hammered dulcimer, guitars/bass, and voices will make up a lively and entertaining evening for all ages. The music will be followed by reception. Tickets at the door: \$12 adults, \$10 students ages 13-18, and children 12 and under free. Parking is free, on premises, and the building is handicapped accessible. For more information contact Pat Gildermeister, 802-878-3840 or [gildeme@gmail.com](mailto:gildeme@gmail.com); [www.goodshepherdjericho.org](http://www.goodshepherdjericho.org).

Orkney (Scotland) born fiddler Louise Bichan and Indiana (USA) mandolinist Ethan Setiawan join forces to explore fiddle traditions from Scotland to Appalachia, via Scandinavia and Canada on Friday, January 31, 7:00 – 9:00 PM at the Underhill Town Hall, Underhill Center. New compositions, informed by these traditions and by the

## SCHOOL NEWS - CAMBRIDGE

## Cambridge after school program open for vacation care

The Cambridge Connections After School Program is open and offering care on Monday, January 20, Martin Luther King Day, for full day care from 7:00 AM – 6:00 PM, and for February break, Monday, February 24-Monday, March 2. We will be closed for Town Meeting Day.

If you are looking for care for children K-6, please contact [dnevil@cesvt.net](mailto:dnevil@cesvt.net) for registration forms or more information. We offer breakfast, lunch, and snacks. We have a lot of fun and please note that you can register for the full week or specific days as needed.

wealth of inspiration their current home of Boston has to offer, blend together with age old tunes. Ethan Setiawan's accolades include the 2014 National Mandolin Championship and the 2017 RockyGrass Mandolin Championship. Louise Bichan has appeared at the likes of the BBC TV's Hogmanay Live show, Edinburgh Castle, Reading Festival, Cambridge Folk Festival, Lorient Interceltique Festival, Milwaukee Irish Festival and Sligo Live festival. Tickets are \$15 in advance, or \$20 on the day of the show. For more information or for tickets contact Don Sheldon, [don@valleystage.net](mailto:don@valleystage.net) or 802-434-4563; or mail a check made out to Valley Stage Productions to: Valley Stage Productions, 246 Blackbird Swale, Huntington, VT 05462. Please include your email address for ticket purchase confirmation.

The Westford Music Series 2020 is held Sundays at the White Church on the Common, 4:00 – 5:00 PM (usually). Open to the public; refreshments will be served. February 9: Allison and Cameron Steinmetz; March 15: Christine Malcolm; April 5: Patrick Fitzsimmons; May 3: Paul Asbell. For information, 802-279-4028.

## THEATER/FILM

On Thursday, January 23, the Jericho Energy Task Force, in collaboration with the Vermont Climate and Health Alliance and *SolaVida.org*, will show the movie *Last Tracks* at the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library, 8 River Rd., Jericho. Created by UVM students and filmed in Vermont and the Rockies, *Last Tracks* explores the impact of climate change on skiing. Vermont's greenhouse gas emissions have risen by 16% since 1990 and skiers hold the power to change that trajectory. The film begins at 7:00 PM and will be followed by a question and answer session with State Senator Ginny Lyons, Dan Quinlan of *SolaVida.org*, Tom Hughes of VPIRG, and Amy Kelsey, the former Executive Director of the Catamount Trail Association. Light refreshments will be served but this is a waste-free event so please bring your own bowls and mugs. For more information, contact Phyl Newbeck, [phyl@together.net](mailto:phyl@together.net), or Dan Quinlan, [dan@solavida.org](mailto:dan@solavida.org).

The UVM Outing Club and the SkiRack will bring the 26<sup>th</sup> annual screening of the Banff Mountain Film Festival to the Grand Maple Ballroom of the Dudley Davis Student Center at UVM on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, January 23-25. Banff MFF offers the best documentary films in 2019 highlighting world class climbing, skiing, big mountain expeditions, remote cultures, and the world's last great wild places, all brought to life on the big screen. For more information and to view film trailers, go online to <http://www.banffcentre.ca/mountainfestival/worldtour/>. This event is a fundraiser for the UVM Outing Club. All shows begin at 7:00 PM; show and pricing information at [www.skirack.com](http://www.skirack.com).

The Underhill Conservation Commission will present three films that share hope and inspiration for our natural world. The first film will be screened at the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library on Tuesday, January 28 at 7:00 PM: *Final Straw* will lead the viewer on a breathtaking journey to Japan, Korea, and the United States and will change our perceptions of food, farming, and living. On Tuesday, February 18, again at DRML at 7:00 PM, the second film in the series is *The Biggest Little Farm*, which chronicles the eight-year efforts of a family who create a harmonious life in the country. The third film, to be shown Thursday, March 12, 7:00 PM at the Underhill Town Hall, is *Rivers and Tides*, by Andy Goldsworthy — a visual delight that is filled with wonder and beauty. All three film showings are free and open to all. Bring a friend! For questions or more information, please contact Betsy Chapek, 899-4576 or [echapek4@mysfairpoint.net](mailto:echapek4@mysfairpoint.net).

The film *Suppressed: the Fight to Vote* will be shown on Wednesday, January 29, 6:30 PM at Main Street Landing Film House in Burlington. This new documentary by Robert Greenwald weaves together personal stories from voters across the state of Georgia to paint an undeniable picture of voter suppression in the 2018 midterm election, where Stacey Abrams fought to become the first Black female governor in the United States. The issues Georgians faced included polling place closures, voter purges, missing absentee ballots, extreme wait times, and a host of voter ID issues, all of which prevented many from casting their ballots. *Suppressed: The Fight to Vote* features experts, poll watchers and everyday Georgians speaking to the reality of voter suppression and the threat it poses in 2020. In the Georgia race, ultimately decided by 54,723 votes, the film exposes that the basic constitutional right to vote continues to be under siege in parts of America. Efforts to discourage and disenfranchise voters — in voter registration, ballot access, or counting of votes — can and do have a catastrophic effect on our democracy and our communities. The event is free; donations are encouraged to support *Fair Fight*, a group founded by Stacey Abrams to fight voter suppression. *Fair Fight* promotes fair elections in Georgia and around the country. They encourage voter participation in elections and educate voters about elections and their voting rights. *Fair Fight* brings awareness to the public on election reform, advocates for election reform at all levels, and engages in targeted voter registration and other voter outreach programs and communications (<https://fairfight.com/about-fair-fight/>). For more information and to RSVP (appreciated but not required), go online to <https://www.mobilize.us/leanleftvt/event/175469/>. The event is sponsored by Lean Left VT, Essex Resists, Flip the Vote, and the Peace and Justice Center. Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center has generously donated the use of their facility for this important event.

**Preschool screening in Cambridge**

Will your child be turning 3 or 4 by August 31, 2020? Cambridge Elementary Early Childhood Program invites families with future preschool students to call 802-521-5600, to make an appointment for a developmental screening.

The screening will be held at the Cambridge Elementary School/Preschool on Friday, January 24, 8:30 – 9:30 AM or 9:30 – 10:30 AM. Contact Beth (802-521-5600), no later than Wednesday, January 22, to reserve a time for your child.

Screenings will take approximately 60 minutes. During this time parents will fill out a brief developmental questionnaire about their child while educators interact with the children to gain information about each child's development in the areas of speech and language, social/emotional, motor and cognitive. This is also a time for parents to ask questions about their child's skills and about our preschool program.

## www.mtnngazettevt.com

Westford  
Music Series

Newlyweds Cameron and Allison Steinmetz employ their vocal artistry as they bring their repertoire of Valentine love songs to the Westford Music Series on Sunday, February 9, 4:00 – 5:00 PM at the White Church on the Common. Brought together through music, they will share their love for both music and each other by offering light classical, musical theater, and jazz selections that portray a love story in all its varying stages and moods. Cameron, a tenor, is a proficient pianist, organist, and tribal percussionist. He serves as Executive Director of the Monteverdi Music School in Montpelier. Allison has been described as "feisty and funny" on stage, with "brilliant nuances and a lyrically expressive soprano voice." She is known to excel in all vocal genres she pursues with her keen interest in musical theater, contemporary music and operatic roles. Accompanying Allison and Cameron will be Alison Bruce Cerutti on piano. Free-will donations. Refreshments will follow the concert. For more information, call 802-879-4028.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## Line dancing classes in Jericho

Line Dancing classes will be held at the Jericho Community Center, Browns Trace, Jericho Center on Friday evenings at 7:00 PM. Classes began on January 17. This is a beginner level class but all levels are welcome. Only \$10 per class.

For information contact Krystal, [better\\_in\\_boots@yahoo.com](mailto:better_in_boots@yahoo.com).

## Join VT's Freedom &amp; Unity Chorus

Have you ever thought about joining a chorus? Joining Vermont's Freedom & Unity Chorus would make a terrific New Year's resolution. Not only will you meet new people, you will be part of a movement that seeks to bring light and love to drive out the darkness and hate in this world. In the words of Martin Luther King, Jr., "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

We meet on opposite Thursdays – in the Chapel at St. Michael's College, Colchester, and Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Jericho, 7:00 – 9:00 PM.

We are close to breaking the 60-member mark but we don't want to stop there. Let's make this group an ensemble of 100 voices or more! It is never too late to join. For those who cannot attend every rehearsal, we have practice files to rehearse from home or to get new members up to speed. This spring we will begin looking for performance opportunities. We have already been invited to sing for the centennial celebration of women's suffrage this summer in Montpelier!

Visit our website to learn more about the chorus and how you can join us: [www.vermontsfreedomandunitychorus.org](http://www.vermontsfreedomandunitychorus.org).

## SPORTS NEWS

## Spring CYS/Lancer Soccer sign-ups

Registration for this coming Spring CYS/Lancer Soccer Season is now up and running. The registration deadline is Sunday, February 2. Registration is online, at <https://www.gotsport.com/asp/application/reg/?ProgramID=87127>.

For those motivated youth players between the ages of 8-16 who want to take their soccer to the next level, we offer a spring season with our "Lancers" division, from late April to mid- to late June. Please note that this league requires more travel (as far as Plattsburgh, Derby, etc), up to two games per week, and more intense competition. Teams are often made up of players from several neighboring towns, and practices may be held in Cambridge, Johnson, or Hyde Park, depending on team makeup and age.

Please be aware at all U14 and U16 teams need to practice in Johnson at the Old Mill Park because they have the proper size field for these age groups who play 11 v. 11. The spring soccer league is run by the Vermont Soccer Association (VSA) and involves a higher registration cost to cover higher league and referee fees, regulation

**CYS Lancers continued on page 8**

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## PEOPLE - OBITUARY



**Jessie (Huntley) Pecor**, 84, passed away at her Jeffersonville, VT home on Tuesday, December 31, 2019 with her family at her side. Jessie was born in Morrisville, VT on March 18, 1935, the oldest of two children born to the late Russell and Helen (Fairbanks) Huntley. Jessie attended schools in Cambridge, VT, attended college part-time, and married the late Robert Wayne Pecor in October 1953, and soon after started a family. Following many years of employment at both the Howard Bank and the South

Burlington School District, Jessie eventually focused her energy into her passion for knitting and spinning and opened up *Knitters Nook*. Over the years, Jessie was actively involved in a variety of knitting, spinning, and weaving groups, including Twisted O'Wool Guild, Fifth Wheel Spinners, Spa-Neta, The Braidy Bunch, and Strands, and became an extremely talented artist. She taught knitting/spinning classes, sold her wares at craft fairs throughout the northeast, and just last summer was awarded first place in a knitting competition at the Addison County Fair. And there was always a multitude of hand knitted/felted/woven Christmas gifts for her children and grandchildren over the years. Jessie was also a long-standing member of the Cemetery Committee in Jeffersonville. Jessie was predeceased by her husband of 55 years, Robert Wayne Pecor, on May 10, 2008, and her son Mark Pecor of Jeffersonville

on March 2, 2008. She is survived by her children Wayne (Katie) Pecor of Burlington, VT, Dale (Colleen) Pecor of South Burlington, VT, and Marlalynn Pecor of Jeffersonville, VT. She is survived by her grandchildren Jacob, Sarah, Caitlin, and Conor Pecor and Emily, Alina, and Sophie DeCarolis, and by four great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her brother David Huntley of Sheldon, VT and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Visiting hours were held on Saturday January 11, 2020 at A.W. Rich Funeral Home – Fairfax Chapel, Fairfax, VT. A graveside service will be private at the convenience of the family. Memorial contributions in Jessie's memory may be made to Maggie's Briteside or to Lamoille County Home Health and Hospice. The family also invites you to share your memories by visiting [www.awrfh.com](http://www.awrfh.com).

## SPORTS NEWS

## BRMS Softball Cornhole Tournament

The BRMS Softball Team is holding a Cornhole Tournament on Friday, February 21 to raise money for much needed renovations to the MMU softball field. These renovations will ensure a safer environment on which the girls can play. The goal is to create a field that will truly promote the sport of softball, prepare the girls to participate in a higher level of the sport, and create consistency between middle school, high school, and college fields.

Play for the tournament will begin at 6:30 PM, with registration open at 5:30 PM. For more information on how to register, be a sponsor, or make a donation, please contact Nan Campbell, [nancamvt@gmail.com](mailto:nancamvt@gmail.com), or follow the link for online registration: <https://forms.gle/QuuIVX6CfwobY8QU9>.

## Browns River Little League begins February 1

Registration for Browns River Little League (BRLL) baseball begins on Saturday, February 1! Little League is available to boys and girls in Jericho and Underhill ages 4-12. The child must be 12 on August 31; a child turning 13 anytime prior to August 31 is not eligible for little league. Register online at [www.brownriverlittleleague.com](http://www.brownriverlittleleague.com). The deadline Friday, March 27, or late fees incur.

Join our great baseball program! BRLL will be tentatively holding Spring Training open gyms at MMU on Saturdays, March 7 and 14. Follow us on facebook or our website to keep up with upcoming events and announcements.

BRLL partners with Richmond Little League for youth softball: <https://www.richmondarealittleleague.com>.

## Cambridge Ski and Ride program

The Cambridge Recreation Ski & Ride Program offer five weeks of lift tickets, equipment rentals, and snow sport lesson at Smugglers' Notch Resort to Cambridge residents at a discounted and affordable rate. The program is open to all Cambridge, VT residents. The goal of the program is to provide affordable access to snow sports for the Cambridge community. The program runs on five set dates (Sundays, February 2 and 9, March 1, 8, and 15) and lessons are offered for both alpine skiing and snowboarding through Snow Sport University, Smugglers' Notch Resort's ski & ride school. Participants are required to take a two-hour lesson each week to ensure that we are promoting a safe and educational program.

A Kick-off Meeting at 11:00 AM on Sunday, February 2 at the Smuggs' Village Lodge next to the main parking lot will cover a program review, Q&A session, and Notch Card distribution.

Lessons run from 1:00 – 3:00 PM each of the program dates. Lessons will be held rain, snow, or shine. Lift tickets are valid all day, each day of the program, even outside of your required lesson.

Participant 5-week pricing: Youth: \$80 – 5 lessons; \$80 – 5 lift tickets; \$80 – 5 days of rentals. Adult: \$100 – 5 lessons; \$100 – 5 lift tickets; \$100 – 5 days of rentals. The Cambridge Recreation Board is subsidizing \$20/person for this program! Please subtract this amount from your per person rate!

Registration Forms are available by email at [eboek@smuggs.com](mailto:eboek@smuggs.com); or in person, with copies posted for pick-up on the cork board below the Town Clerk's Office (next to the Post Office entrance).

We look forward to seeing you on the Mountain! Think Snow!

## CYS Lancers continued from page 7

uniforms, etc.

It is important to know that the VSA Spring soccer league is organized by birth year, not by grade level, and is as follows for this season: U8 2012-2013; U10 2010-2011; U12 2008-2009; U14 2006-2007; U16 2004-2005.

Fees for 2020 are as follows: For U8 to U12: \$80 per player, plus a uniform fee for a full uniform kit (shirt, shorts, socks), to be ordered online by the individual players. For U14 and up: \$100 per player plus uniform fee for a full uniform kit (shirt, shorts, socks), to be ordered online by the individual players. Note, for families registering more than one child, there is a 10% discount for each additional child registered after the first one.

Space on teams is limited and will be on a first come, first served basis. Once maximum roster size is met for a team, additional registrants will be put on a wait list and a second team formed only if we are able to get enough players and a volunteer coach for an additional team. Please don't delay in signing up your child if they are interested! If we have enough players for a team but no coach committed by the end of registration period on February 2, we will not be able to field a team for that age division. This is an important deadline since we are required to submit the number of teams for each age division to the VSA by February 3. Questions? Contact CYS President Steve Bredice, [sbredice@poblaw.net](mailto:sbredice@poblaw.net), or our Registrar Amanda Wagner, [mandywagner0704@gmail.com](mailto:mandywagner0704@gmail.com).

## Chittenden County Soccer 2020

Registration open for Chittenden County Soccer School (CCSS) 2020. CCSS will be held Monday-Friday, July 13-17 at Mills Riverside Park in Jericho. All players receive a camp tee and team award. Individual ball skills, teamwork, game tactics, full-sided and small-sided games, and goalkeeper training are all part of our daily plan! New this year: a full-day camp option for all ages! Age groups range from 4 and up.

Email [barkereric15@gmail.com](mailto:barkereric15@gmail.com) with any questions, or visit the CCSS website [www.chittendencountysoccerschool.org](http://www.chittendencountysoccerschool.org) to register!

## SCHOOL NEWS

## MMUUSD private and school-based preschool opportunities

The Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District (MMUUSD) announces PreK opportunities for the 2020-21 school year. These opportunities are available to residents of Bolton, Huntington, Jericho, Richmond, and Underhill. Under the Universal PreK bill (Act 166) all 3-, 4-, and 5-year-olds may receive 10 hours per week of publicly-funded PreK for 35 weeks. This education can be in any pre-qualified private program or home-based program with a tuition of \$3445 paid to the provider by the school district. If a child attends a public school-based PreK, the program is free of charge. Visit <https://www.mmuusd.org/our-schools/pre-kindergartenschool> for more information about MMUUSD's school-based programs.

Families new to PreK or the district, please complete the online enrollment form by Friday, February 14: <https://tinyurl.com/wpu67f3>. Once that form has been filled out, you will receive an email from [data@mmuusd.org](mailto:data@mmuusd.org) within 24 hours with instructions on how to proceed with the registration process (wait times may be longer on weekends, holidays, and school breaks). If you do not

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## Fletcher volleyball Thursday nights

Still have room for some players to join in Thursday nights at 7:30 PM with a lively group of folks for volleyball at Fletcher Elementary School gym. We'd describe ourselves as level II players, veteran players, but not so serious that it is no fun. The fee is \$2/week to help offset the cost for using the gym. So dust off the sneakers, fight that cabin fever and join in neighbors! If you plan to attend, please email [Dawn.Pelkey@UVM.edu](mailto:Dawn.Pelkey@UVM.edu). Hope to see you on the court!

