

Karen Winslow: Painting for a Cause

By Phyl Newbeck
Special to the Mountain Gazette

Karen Winslow of Cambridge has been making a lot of new friends recently. She has embarked on a project of painting portraits of 100 people in her community with the goal of raising money for local non-profit organizations. "I call it *Face to Face: Community to Community*," she said. "I always paint from life and I wanted to meet new people in my community. This way, I'm making new friends or reconnecting with old ones. They learn about me and I learn about them and we build community. It will be all of us as a community giving back to the community."

Winslow announced the idea of painting 100 local portraits on *Front Porch Forum* and people responded enthusiastically and volunteered to sit for her. Subjects generally sit for two hours and Winslow adds some details afterwards. At this point, she has 27 portraits although some, including those of her grandchildren, are unfinished. She has given herself a year for the project after starting with a self-portrait on October 7.

Initially, Winslow thought about donating money to an international charity like *Doctors without Borders* but later she decided to stick closer to home. Some of the proceeds will go to an organization called *Cambridge Cares*, which provides direct assistance to those in need. "You can see the results of what they do," said Winslow. "It's a person who gets the help." Additional money will go to the local food shelf and perhaps the Rotary Club, as well as the Clarina Howard Nichols Center, which works to end domestic and sexual violence in Lamoille County. "I'm open to suggestions from people who pose for me," Winslow said.

Winslow studied at the Art Students League in New York City in the 1970s under Frank Mason, who taught figures and portraits. He gave an annual landscape class in Vermont, which helped propel her move to the state in 1979. Winslow and her husband Jack would come up to Vermont to take his class, camping out near the property they now own in Cambridge. Upon moving to Vermont, Winslow discovered that people were more interested in landscape and still life paintings than portraiture. She became known for her still life work and her husband for his landscapes, in part because raising five children restricted her from heading outside to paint as much as she would have liked. The couple's work is exhibited at the Bryan



Artist Karen Winslow of Cambridge is hard at work in her studio painting local residents for her *Face to Face: Community to Community* project. Here she exhibits her skill painting her model Gregory. PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Winslow has included this study of her little granddaughter as part of the *Face to Face: Community to Community* project. The proceeds from this project are being donated to non-profits around the county.

Memorial Gallery and Visions of Vermont in Jeffersonville as well as the Stowe Craft Design Center.

Winslow wants as much variety as possible in her subjects. The oldest person she has painted was 90 and the youngest was a two-month-old baby. More women than men have volunteered to be painted and Winslow is hoping for a little more racial and ethnic diversity. Most of her subjects are Cambridge residents, but they have come from all walks of life.

"I've been around here forever," said Winslow, "and artists are

always asked to donate paintings to help raise money. It's usually a place that is doing the fundraising so you don't see a personal result." Winslow has noticed that the price for auctioned off paintings is usually around \$200, which is well below the worth of the art, so she thought it was time for a new idea. "I love to paint people," she said. "The people posing for me don't have to buy their paintings but they are helping to get me to 100 so it is a group activity. They are giving back, too. It only took me 67 years to come up with this idea."

Jericho Center – but where?



By Bernie Paquette and Maeve Kim

Happy Holidays Jericho Center neighbors, friends, and residents of nearby towns and villages. As a new way to highlight the beauty and character of Jericho Center, each edition of the *Mountain Gazette* will include an image that helps define the community. Perhaps you will have passed some of these iconic views many times not noticing them, or you have stopped to look closely at images small in themselves yet large in their contribution to this neighborly and creative town. Our first image is an easy one!

I encourage you to share your thoughts about each photo, where it is located, what it is, and the story behind it as you know it. Email me at bernie.paquette@yahoo.com. We will publish responses in the following issue along with a new mystery photograph. Jericho Center, like Vermont – a special place because you make it so!

BY BERNIE PAQUETTE AND MAEVE KIM

UID students donate to Humane Society of Chittenden County

Sophia – "It will be great if you donate because it will help change an animal's life."

Third graders in Mrs. Bernier's class at the Underhill I.D. school in Jericho are learning a lesson about what it means to give back to their community. The 19 students have embarked on a year-long service project where they are partnering with the Humane Society of Chittenden County.

The class has raised money to donate towards medical costs for pets being cared for at the Humane Society. They held a bake sale in September to raise money and raised \$239.53. Ella Fulton said, "It makes me really excited and happy that people want to help animals so much."

In October, the class visited the shelter in Burlington to see first hand the animals that would benefit from their hard work. The third graders loved visiting all of the animals and touring the facility. Aly Dorman said, "I feel that I understand more about people adopting pets. They really need a lot of care. We're helping them get nice food." This visit motivated the students even more to continue their philanthropic work for the Humane Society. They have spent time hand crafting cat toys and just wrapped up a food and supply drive to benefit the animals. The students plan to continue their efforts throughout the rest of the school year.

One of the third graders, Sutton Kemp, summed up the overall feeling of the class by saying, "I feel happy and proud that people are donating to the Humane Society to help animals in need."

Maggie – "I'm really happy that people have been donating."
Violet – "I feel really grateful for all of the people who are donating."

Ella – "It makes me really excited and happy that people want to help animals so much."
Michael – "I feel great helping the animals get food and get a better life."

Morgan – "It's been really fun helping the animals."
Eli – "I am very happy that people are donating peanut butter, spray cheese and things like that."

Aly – "I feel that I understand more about people adopting pets. They really need a lot of care. We're helping them get nice food."
Ava – "I am very glad, happy and excited that people decided to donate to change an animal's life."

Jean – "It makes me feel so happy and grateful that we changed animals lives and made them feel like they were at home."
Anna – "I am very happy that people are donating, but I am also very excited that so many people are helping us."

Sutton – "I feel happy and proud that people are donating to the Humane Society to help animals in need."

USDA to measure bee and honey production and colony loss

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will be collecting information about the honey industry. The Bee Production and Loss, Bee and Honey Inquiry, and Quarterly Colony Loss surveys will be conducted through February of 2018. These surveys collect information about colony inventory and loss, honey production and sales, and production expenses from approximately 2500 growers in the Northeastern region of the United States.

"The information from these surveys directly impacts our region's beekeepers and honey producers," said King Whetstone, director of the USDA's NASS, Northeastern Regional Field Office. "Keepers and producers can use the survey results when making business plans and marketing decisions and to review average commodity prices in their area. Cooperative Extension uses the data to provide needed outreach and education and State Departments and Agencies of Agriculture use the information to set insurance values."

In these surveys, NASS asks participants to answer a variety of questions about their colonies, honey production and expenses. For their convenience, survey participants have the option to respond online. As with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law. NASS safeguards the confidentiality of all responses and publishes only state and national level data, ensuring that no individual producer or operation can be identified.

NASS will compile, analyze, and publish survey results in the March *Annual Honey* report. All previous *Annual Honey* publications are available online at <http://www.nass.usda.gov>. For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Northeastern Regional Field Office at 1-800-498-1518.

White River Jct VA Medical Center Community and Veteran Town Hall

The White River Junction VA Medical Center will host a Community and Veteran Town Hall event on Friday, December 15, from 1:00 – 2:00 PM. The event will be on the White River Junction VA campus (163 Veterans Dr., White River Junction) in Research Building 44. The meeting is a chance for veterans, family members, and other beneficiaries to ask questions and provide feedback to the White River Junction VA leadership team. White River Junction VA also welcomes input from Congressional stakeholders, veteran service organizations, non-governmental organizations, community partners, and the general public.

This town hall meeting is part of a nationwide VA effort improve communication with, and hear directly from, veterans nationwide.

As White River Junction VA Medical Center's Leadership seek continual improvement, it is critical that we continue to listen and learn directly from those who utilize our services.

Windthrow and Salvage

By Ethan Tapper

Chittenden County Forester

Many of us awoke on Monday, October 30 with trees on houses, cars, and powerlines, our homes and businesses without power, our roads and driveways impassable. This storm reminded some of us of the December 2010 windstorm in Chittenden County, when huge areas of forest were leveled. This recent storm seems to have been less catastrophic than the 2010 storm, but in some parts of Chittenden County it was worse. I would be interested in hearing from you about how it was in your part of the world.

Why do blowdowns occur?

When trees fall due to wind events, it is called "blowdown," or "windthrow." Blowdown is caused by the interaction between trees

COMING EVENTS



The 35-member Vermont Brass Ensemble will present a brass and percussion concert, A Salute to the Winter Olympics, on Tuesday, December 12, 7:30 PM in the UVM Recital Hall, Southwick Music Building, 384 South Prospect St., Burlington. Free admission. The student run brass ensemble is directed by AJ Banach and Mei Endo, and conducted by Larry Solt. Music on this concert will feature compositions by John Williams, Giovanni Gabrieli, Gustav Holst, Eric Whitacre, Ola Gjeilo, and Alfred Reed.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Tuesday, December 5

Antifa: The Anti-Fascist Handbook book talk, 7:00 PM, Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St., Burlington. The "antifa" opposition movement is suddenly appearing everywhere. But what is it, precisely? And where did it come from? Join Mark Bray for a discussion of his book, a smart and gripping investigation. Historian and former Occupy Wall Street organizer Bray provides a detailed survey of the full history of anti-fascism from its origins to the present day and offers "... a record of advice from anti-Fascist organizers past and present," says the *New Yorker*. Tickets \$3 include coupon for \$5 off a copy of the featured book; proceeds go to the VT Foodbank. Coupons expire at closing the evening of the event. For information, www.phoenixbooks.biz or 448-3350.

Thursday, December 7

Free Community Soup and Bread Supper, 4:30 – 6:30 PM, Covenant Community Church, 1 Whitcomb Meadows Lane, Essex. Hearty soups, breads, and a sweet dessert. Stay at the church to enjoy your meal with friends and family, or pick up to take home. Donations not expected but welcome. Call Pastor Jeannette Conner at the church, 879-4313, for more information.

Friday, December 8

Contra Dance, 8:00 PM, Shelburne Town Hall, 5376 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne. Queen City Contrasts presents its regular dance, with music by *Honey in the Hive* and caller Lausanne Allen. All are welcome, all dances taught, no partner or experience needed. Beginners' session 7:45 PM. Admission \$9 adults; under 12 free. Please bring clean soft-soled shoes for dancing. Information: 802-371-9492 or 802-343-7166; www.queencitycontras.org.

Saturday, December 9

Christmas Cookie Extravaganza, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM, Jericho Community Center, Jericho Center. Come to the Jericho Community Center and fill a box with your choice of Christmas cookie goodies! They make great gifts for neighbors, co-workers and friends. The cost is \$7 per pound. There will be a table where the kids can decorate their own cookie. The event is sponsored by the Jericho Congregational Church. Proceeds stay in the community: Jericho Community Center, Jericho Town Library and the Jericho-Underhill Ecumenical Food Shelf. For more information: 899-3315.

Vermont Wild Vol. 5, 1:00 – 4:00 PM, Phoenix Books Essex, 2 Carmichael St., Essex. Join us for a meet-and-greet and book signing with Megan Price, author of the popular *Vermont Wild* series, featuring tales from our state's Fish and Game wardens. Come in and have Megan personalize a copy of her new book for the hunter or wildlife watcher in your life. Free and open to all. Information: www.phoenixbooks.biz or 448-3350.

Sunday, December 10

Sunday Brunch, 9:00 – 10:30 AM, VFW Post 9653, Pleasant St., Morrisville. Menu: scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, strata, fruit salad, pancakes, sausage gravy with biscuits, juice, coffee, baked beans, and more. Benefits Lamoille County VFW Auxiliary Post 9653. Adults \$10; children under 10, \$5.

The Vermont Non-GMO Cookbook, 1:00 – 2:30 PM, Phoenix Books Essex, 2 Carmichael St., Essex. Join us for a meet-and-greet with author Tracey Medeiros, and enjoy free samples of a recipe from her new book which honors the state's mission to connect with its local organic farmlands and the farmers who nurture and care for them. The book also serves as a guide for eating organically and non-GMO in Vermont. Tracey Medeiros also wrote *The Connecticut Farm Table Cookbook*, *The Vermont Farm Table Cookbook*, and *Dishing Up Vermont*. Free and open to all. Information: www.phoenixbooks.biz or 448-3350.

Wednesday, December 13

Free Community Meal, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM, United Church of Johnson, 100 Main St., Johnson. Hot lunch on the second and fourth Wednesday of each, through May, for all who attend. Johnson State College will offer a free community meal, open to the public. Johnson students, faculty, and staff serve as volunteers. All meals are at the same time and location. Sponsored in part by JSC Dining Services, the JSC SERVE program, and Laraway Youth and Family Services.

Thursday, December 14

Energy Saving Workshop, 6:30 PM, Deborah Rawson Memorial Library, Jericho. Join the Underhill Energy Committee and the Jericho Energy Task Force for an energy saving workshop with Building Science expert David Keefe, who will give weatherization tips and explain how you can lower your energy bills. Almost half of your monthly energy costs are controlled by your thermostat and Bob Murphy of Efficiency Vermont will join David to talk about smart thermostats, which are subject to a \$150 rebate if you buy them before the end of the year. There is only space for 20 participants so reserve your seat by emailing dwright.dcoaster@gmail.com.

Friday, December 15

Kids' Night Out, 6:00 – 9:00 PM, SHAPE Gym, Johnson State College, Johnson. The JSC Student-Athlete Advisory Community event is for children ages 5-13. Activities may include an obstacle course, soccer, swimming, climbing a rock wall, basketball, kickball, arts and crafts, and a movie. Kids should bring a swimsuit and gym clothes. Cost: \$10 per child; registration at the door. For more information, contact JSC Assistant Athletic Director Greg Eckman, 635-1498 or greg.eckman@jsc.edu.

Saturday, December 16

Full Circle, 7:00 PM, Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St., Burlington. Browse for gifts while you enjoy live holiday music from many countries and many times. *Full Circle* is a group of five women who play a mixture of medieval, Renaissance, Celtic, folk, and holiday music on recorders, tin whistle, harp, guitar, hammered dulcimer, percussion, and voices. Their recordings will be offered for sale at the store. Free. For information, www.phoenixbooks.biz or 448-3350.

Tarot Readings with Rachel, 6:00 – 7:30 PM, Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St., Burlington. Join us for a Jungian-inspired tarot reading with Rachel, who has been reading tarot for six years and whose approach draws from the concept that we can access collective symbols and archetypes from our unconscious that can assist in guiding our intuition. Rachel has an MA in clinical mental health counseling from Antioch University New England and has a private psychotherapy practice. Readings are first come, first served, and are for entertainment purposes only. Suggested donation \$5-10. For information, www.phoenixbooks.biz or 448-3350.

Friday, December 29

Tarot Readings with Rachel, 12:00 – 1:30 PM, Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St., Burlington. Join us for a Jungian-inspired tarot reading with Rachel, who has been reading tarot for six years and whose approach draws from the concept that we can access collective symbols and archetypes from our unconscious that can assist in guiding our intuition. Rachel has an MA in clinical mental health counseling from Antioch University New England and has a private psychotherapy practice. Readings are first come, first served, and are for entertainment purposes only. Suggested donation \$5-10. For information, www.phoenixbooks.biz or 448-3350.

Windthrow continued from page 1

(species, age, size, and quality), site conditions (soil depth and quality, topography, aspect), and the intensity, direction, and qualities of the wind event. While windstorms are sometimes powerful enough to knock over nearly any tree, they disproportionately affect unhealthy trees, those dealing with various stressors, with restricted or shallow root systems, or those that happen to be especially exposed.

Like the 2010 windstorm, the October 30 windstorm was so devastating primarily because it toppled areas of unhealthy softwoods, mostly field-grown white pine. The scale of these disturbances can be generally attributed to the many agricultural fields that succeeded to forest in the 1930s-1960s, as discussed in previous articles. In my survey of the damage, most of it was caused either directly or indirectly by the effects of field-origin stands.

What are the effects of windstorms?

The most obvious effect is on our visual landscape. Following a windstorm, the view can be catastrophic, our orderly forests turned into a jumble of trunks and branches. Trails can be lost, vistas obscured. A woodlot that we may have watched grow for decades can be suddenly and irreversibly changed.

From an ecological perspective, the effect of blowdown is different. Windthrow is a natural part of forest disturbance regimes, and forests respond to them with abundant growth. What looks like a big pile of sticks at year one will be transformed by year five into a thicket of blackberries, raspberries, and young trees. Openings in the forest's canopy create an ideal foraging environment for insectivorous birds, and young plants and trees provide browse for deer, moose, bear, rabbit, and many other species. Dead wood on

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From United Way Lamoille County – holiday greetings

Greetings all,

I hope the early winter temperatures and weather have gotten you all into the holiday spirit. The first thing out of my son's mouth when he sees the snow in the morning is, "Wow it's Christmas time already!"

We have a number of exciting things happening here at the United Way.

Save the date! Edgewater Gallery & United Way invite you to the opening of a new gallery location in Stowe. Join us Friday, December 8 from 5:00 – 7:00 PM for "lite bites," music, and a painting raffle of donated works from Homer Wells, Matt Brown, and Joe Bolger. All ticket proceeds will be donated to the United Way of Lamoille County. Raffle tickets can be purchased for \$20 in advance on The Edgewater Gallery website, The United Way of Lamoille County website, or in person at any Edgewater Gallery location. The winners of the raffle must be present at the opening to claim their painting. For all additional questions, please contact info@edgewatergallery-vt.com.

Our H.O.P.E. Program is in full swing. If you are interested in sponsoring a senior in our community or know of a senior who would love a holiday surprise, please reach out to Kylie at 888-3252. Additionally, if you are interested in delivering holiday cheer, please reach out as well. Speaking from experience, I enjoy the time spent delivering much more than holiday gifts.

Teen Gift Card Program. Teens are often excluded from children's holiday programs, but they certainly enjoy this time of year also! The United Way of Lamoille County is currently accepting donations of \$25 gift cards. We will distribute these to low income families so they can purchase a gift or two for their teen, or allow the teen to find just the right gift for themselves. Please call 888-3252 to learn how to help.

Thank you all for your continued support!

Jim Curran, Executive Director
United Way of Lamoille County
20 Morrisville Plaza, Suite B
Morrisville, VT 05661
802-888-3252
www.uwlamoille.org

Vermonters share their voice on energy

To the Editor,

Energy eats up a large portion of Vermonters' monthly expenses. That's one thing we heard from Vermonters we met during *Efficiency Vermont's* statewide tour this fall. In addition to these in-person conversations and live polling, *Efficiency Vermont* gathered input online to help identify the most pressing energy issues facing Vermonters.

Of the people who attended our forums, 32 percent of live-poll respondents reported spending over \$500 per month on heating, driving, and electricity; and an additional 45 percent spend between \$250-500. For those living at or below the poverty line, these costs can consume 10 percent or more of their income.

Efficiency Vermont held these forums in Bennington, Brattleboro, Newport, Randolph, and Milton to inform our next three-year performance period. For Vermonters not able to take part in person, an online survey was available.

From these exchanges we learned that Vermonters are focused on a few key areas.

First, the people we heard from value *Efficiency Vermont's* role in making efficiency services and efficient products more affordable and accessible in all regions of the state. This has been

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the forest floor provides wildlife habitat, future soil, and carbon storage. These events also allow young trees to grow, promoting structural diversity and species diversity, trees of a variety of ages and species, which benefit the long-term health and resiliency of the forest.

On the negative side, blowdowns can encourage invasive exotic plant species such as buckthorn, honeysuckle, and Japanese barberry, especially if they are already present. Anyone with a blowdown should check out www.VTInvasives.org for more information on these species.

Salvaging

If your woodlot is larger (five to ten acres) you may consider having a logger "salvage" your woods. This means harvesting fallen trees, usually in addition to some standing trees that are either damaged or at risk of falling in the near future. Salvaging is unnecessary from an ecological perspective, and actually eliminates some of the aforementioned benefits, but it clears trails, roads and sugaring lines and diminishes the negative aesthetic impacts of blowdowns. Depending on the quality and amount of the wood, salvaging can also help landowners capture some of the value in their blown-over trees, though salvaging is dangerous and laborious work, and loggers rarely pay landowners for salvaged timber. For most landowners, I encourage them to clear their trails and lawns and learn to embrace the positive ecological benefits of the disturbance. While it may be frustrating or counter-intuitive, these blowdowns are a positive for our forests in many ways.

Residential Work

Following windstorms like this, many people become suddenly hyper-aware of the trees near homes, power lines, and property. The calls from landowners with problem trees have started to trickle into my office over the last few weeks. If you have a small property, or the trees of concern are near homes, structures, power lines, etc., call an arborist. Arborists are tree-care professionals who specialize in working in sensitive and residential areas, and with problematic trees. You can find an ISA-certified arborist near you at www.ISA-arbor.com.

If you have any other questions or reports of wind damage, please feel free to contact me by any of the means below. Good luck!

Ethan Tapper is the Chittenden County Forester. He can be reached at 802-585-9099, ethan.tapper@vermont.gov, or at his office at 111 West St., Essex Junction.

United Way volunteer opportunities

By Sue Alenick
United Way Volunteer Columnist

LEND A HAND. VOLUNTEER – 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.galaxydigital.com or contact us at volctr@unitedwaynwvt.org or 860-1677.

FRIENDLY VISITS – RSVP of Northwest Vermont is looking for volunteers to spend one-on-one time with a senior in Franklin, Highgate, Swanton, or St. Albans. Visitors can take a senior on an outing once a week, grocery shop, accompany a senior to a medical appointment, or just sit and chat for an hour or so. Contact Mary Pelkey, 802-527-6337 or maryp@unitedwaynwvt.org.

SHOPPING SHUTTLE – Neighbor Rides seeks volunteers, age 55 and older, to help with Green Mountain Transit's weekly shopping shuttle. Volunteers ride the shuttle to senior housing complexes and then to local supermarkets and socialize with riders, help with boarding and re-boarding, help with shopping as needed, etc. 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM on Tuesday (S. Burlington) or Wednesday (Winooski). Contact Leah Soderquist, 861-7833 or leah@unitedwaynwvt.org.

BUS BUDDIES NEEDED – Neighbor Rides is looking for public transit users in Chittenden County to help new riders build confidence and bus riding skills. A bus buddy accompanies a new rider and teaches the rider how to read the bus schedule, navigate different routes, manage fare payment, and get on and off the bus safely. Training provided. Volunteers will receive a complimentary bus pass if they make a monthly commitment! Flexible scheduling. Contact Leah Soderquist, 861-7833 or leah@unitedwaynwvt.org.

FAMILY ROOM – Ronald McDonald House Charities of Burlington is seeking Family Room volunteers to greet and offer support to visitors and assist with the daily operation of the room (tidy up, let staff know when food and supplies run low, etc.). Three-hour shifts are available between 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM, seven days a week. There is also a need for volunteers to clean and help keep the House beautiful. Contact Deanna Cameron, 862-4943 or deanna@rmhcv.org.

IT'S RED KETTLE TIME! – The Salvation Army is bringing out the red kettles and is looking individuals, families, and groups of volunteers to work at kettle sites in Burlington, S. Burlington, Essex, Williston, St. Albans, and elsewhere. Shifts are Monday-Saturday from the second week in November through Sunday, December 24 between 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM. Contact Dominic Nicoll, 864-6991, Ext. 101, or Dominic.Nicoll@use.salvationarmy.org. There is also a need for volunteers to help set up the Christmas Castle, pack toys, distribute toys, and clean up when the holiday is over. Shifts between 9:30 AM – 4:30 PM, Monday-Friday. Contact Elizabeth Nicoll, 864-6991, Ext. 102, or Elizabeth.Nicoll@use.salvationarmy.org.

THE GIFT OF READING – Fletcher Free Library invites volunteers to share the joy of reading with less advantaged preschoolers during the 27th annual *Books for Children Gift Campaign*. Choose from a provided list or make your own selections and then purchase books at Crow Bookshop or Phoenix Books for a discount. Books will be distributed to community centers, Head Start preschools, and COTS shelters. Contact Rebecca Goldberg, 865-7216 or rgoldberg@Burlingtonvt.gov.

FIRST RUN – RunVermont needs volunteer help for its 30th annual First Run 5K and Youth Fun Run on Monday, January 1, 2018. Volunteers can staff the registration table, help with children's activities, help with food set up, and more. A great, festive way to start the New Year! Contact Chuck Spear, 863-8412 or volunteer@runvermont.org.

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a staple of our work for 17 years: training contractors, bringing the best technology to Vermont, and buying down the cost for consumers. It's enabled Vermont to meet 15 percent of its power supply through efficiency – and is something *Efficiency Vermont* will continue to do.

Second, people are interested in innovations in the energy sector. Smart appliances, electric vehicles, and zero energy homes (among other solutions) were discussed frequently. The energy system of tomorrow may look very different than the system of today. We want to make sure we continue to provide customers with objective advice to make sense of the options and find the solutions that are right for them.

Finally, we heard that *Efficiency Vermont's* partnership with Vermont tradespeople is important and should remain a priority. Echoing much of the broader public dialogue around contractor availability, the Vermonters we talked to also see a need for more energy efficiency contractors in a number of regions across the state.

In the coming weeks and months, expect to hear more about our plans for the future, which will incorporate this essential customer feedback.

We're proud of our work serving Vermont and Vermonters and invite you to share your thoughts on how we can help you save energy and save money.

Karen Glitman
Efficiency Vermont
VT Energy Investment Corp.
Burlington

COMMUNITY COLUMNS

M's Florence Goodwin – the teacher from Hell

By Doug Boardman
Special to the Mountain Gazette

My sister and I went to a one-room schoolhouse in Montpelier Center close to our house. We actually lived too close because I was called on to get fires going in the school, community house, and two stoves in the church. Our Dad used to do it until I got old enough to tend to the fires. My dog Curley walked to school every day and would wait out by the swings until we got out for recess and home. The teachers back in those days lived with a family in the neighborhood and our teacher was 70 years old when I started school. I guess back in the day, you could teach as long as you wanted to.

I felt that M's Goodwin would live forever because she was so mean. In second grade I recall her hitting me for the first time and of course I reported it to my parents who slapped me again for disobeying the teacher and all I had done was look briefly out the window to check on Curley. I recall hearing about the witches of Salem and felt that she may have come from that Haven. I do not know why she was so focused on me and all the abuse but it may have been that she knew my parents were real strict and I never told my parents about her throwing anything she had in her hand at me, even throwing a stack of books on my head and telling me to pick them up. She made sure my head was always looking at a book or paying attention to her. We always sat with our backs to the teacher except when she stood in the front of the stage and glared at us. She never grinned or smiled and I figured if she ever did, her face would probably crack.

The only time we caught a short break was when she had to go to the bathroom and at her advanced age, she went often. I was the only one in my class for seven grades and there were only 10 kids in the school, so we all learned two grades ahead and when we got older, we used to help the younger kids. She made us read, study, and absorb every book on reading, writing, arithmetic, and history, etc. Once in awhile I would deliberately stare out the window for awhile and then I got the maximum punishment, which was getting hit with anything in her hand and banished to the front step of the school for an hour. It was worth getting hit in order to sit outside, that was the best part of the day when I sat out there in the spring or fall; no so nice in the winter.

I hated M's Goodwin for all seven years but it turned out that she forced me to learn and taught me more about every subject and was the best teacher I ever had. In eighth grade, we got a new first year teacher named Frannie Hubbard, who was an angel compared to what we had. She didn't teach me anything I didn't already know because of the witch but it was a real pleasant year except for a 19 year old juvenile delinquent that they made check in every day and then get kicked out so he could get a diploma at end of year.

In eighth grade we had district testing down in East Montpelier and I scored 100 but they didn't believe me and thought I had cheated because no one had ever scored that high coming from a one-room school. They obviously didn't know M's Florence Goodwin. They made me go down again and take another test (oral this time) and luckily I scored another 100, with four people firing questions at me. Florence Goodwin retired at the end of seventh grade and as it happened Frannie Hubbard only taught my eighth grade year, and got married and moved. Frannie told my parents that she could never top that year with me getting a perfect score and decided to get out of teaching. I owe a lot to Frannie Hubbard because Dad and Mom were so proud of me that I never got another kick in the ass from Dad, plus Mom didn't backhand me anymore.

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How much sleep is enough for children?

By Lewis First, MD

Chief of Pediatrics at UVM Children's Hospital

How much sleep does an infant, child, or teenager need? That's one of the questions I never get tired of hearing. So this week, let me keep everyone awake with a few tips on this topic.

The amount of sleep a child needs depends on the age of the child. While there are guidelines that I can share with you, every child is different. Your child may need more or less sleep each day than what is recommended.

Getting adequate sleep is critical to a child's physical and mental wellbeing. Children who get enough sleep are less susceptible to infections and perform better in school and on the athletic field. They are also better behaved than those who lack adequate sleep.

Newborns, for example, will sleep up to 18 hours a day, waking up for periods of feeding. Older infants may need about 14 hours with eight to nine of those occurring at night. The rest can happen during two to three daytime naps lasting anywhere from 30 minutes to two hours.

Toddlers require about 11-14 hours of sleep. Most of this happens at night. A bedtime routine can help: try a bath, brushing teeth, reading a story, and perhaps some soft music. Naps of one to two hours or at least some quiet time during the day can help the evening sleep routine go more smoothly.

Preschoolers need about 10-12 hours per night. The daytime nap is no longer a requirement to make that happen. School-age children need 10-11 hours of sleep each night. Homework, after school sports and activities, and computer and TV time can shorten the amount of sleep. Too little sleep can create some irritability or a decline in school performance.

Turning off electronics 30 to 60 minutes before bed can help make bedtime easier for this age group.

Finally, teens need about 9 hours of sleep per night. This is easier said than done. Some schools are starting later in the morning to help children get an adequate amount of sleep time.

The bottom line is this: the more you can establish a bedtime routine at any age, the healthier your child will be.

Hopefully tips like these will help you and your child to rest more easily and get plenty of sleep.

Lewis First, MD, is chief of Pediatrics at UVM Children's Hospital and chair of the Department of Pediatrics at the Robert Larner, M.D. College of Medicine at UVM.



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www.becauseyoumay.com

OBITUARIES

June Elizabeth Gilbert Hitchcock, 82, of 36 Sky View Dr. (P.O. Box 41), Jericho, VT 05465 died on Thursday, November 9, 2017 in Burlington, VT surrounded by her family. She was born on June 19, 1935 in Rutland, VT, the daughter of David John Gilbert and Nora Elizabeth Cunningham Gilbert. She was a graduate of Burr Burton High School class of 1953 and the Mary Fletcher School of Nursing in 1956. On December 22, 1956 June married her high school sweetheart Thomas W. Hitchcock at the Dorset Congregational Church. June is survived by her husband Thomas W. Hitchcock and their five daughters Ginger McDowell, Sandy Wilmot, Jennifer Bedell, Carol Hitchcock, Mary Streeter and their spouses Tim Wilmot, Jim Bedell, Ed Salls, and Robert Streeter; along with twelve grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. June loved spending time with her family, in her gardens, and was well loved in her community. A celebration of June's life took place on Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at the United Church of Underhill, Vermont. Arrangements were entrusted to the care of the Cremation Society of Chittenden County, a division of the Ready Funeral Home, Burlington, VT. Please place on-line condolences at www.cremationsocietycc.com.



Eugenia (Hathaway) Evans was born May 6, 1928 in Taunton, MA and died from complications of an aortic aneurism. She graduated from New Bedford, MA HS with honors. In 1946, she moved to Martha's Vineyard, MA where she met her husband. Jeanne was a stubborn Yankee, a daughter of the American Revolution, and a lifelong member of the Mayflower Society. She was an empathic, patient, and dutiful woman. She was a bus driver, a bookkeeper for Twin State

Neon, a gentle caregiver for the City of New Bedford, a librarian, and a Meals-On-Wheels advocate. She taught us how to forgive. She loved all living things, especially her garden, growing dahlias, and picking mayflowers each spring on her birthday. Her life centered around family, which meant going home to Sassaquin to swim in the pond and spend weekends up-to-camp. We will miss her very much. She is predeceased by her husband of forty years, Leon Evans, and eldest son Curt Evans whom she loved with all her heart. She is survived by her daughter Wendy (Evans) Fleury and partner Denis Bernier of Jericho, VT, who took care of her these past five years, and the twins David Evans and partner Tammy Walters of Shelburne, VT and Dawn (Evans-Hofer) Comtois and husband Luc Comtois of Milton, VT; four grandchildren: Emily Fleury, Jacqueline Fleury, Sarah Hofer and partner Liam O'Keefe, Christopher Hofer; two great grandsons, James and Cian; sister Barbara (Hathaway) Meehan of New Bedford, MA; and six nephews. Visitation was held on Saturday November 18, 2017 at LaVigne Funeral Home and Cremation Service, Winooski, VT 05404. Condolences may be shared at www.lavignefuneralhome.com. Visit burlingtonfreepress.com/obituaries to express condolences and sign the guest book.



Roland Gerard Morel of Underhill, VT passed away peacefully in his sleep on Saturday, November 18, 2017 at the VNA Respite House in Colchester, VT. He was 77 years old. Roland was born March 5, 1940 to Eva Auger and Josephat Morel of West Charleston, VT. He met his soul mate Betty in Newport, VT and they spent the next 58 years together. He was proud of his home in Underhill where they raised their five children. Roland worked at the University of Vermont in Essex and General Electric in Burlington.

After 33 years he retired to spend time with his wife. Roland was a true Vermonter and a wealth of information on its history and the people that worked the land. He was always helping a neighbor in need or just stopping by for a visit to catch up. He loved people

and people loved him back. His smile and mischievous laugh will be greatly missed. Roland is survived by his wife of 58 years, Betty Bickford. He leaves behind his children and their spouses: Colette, Catherine, Armand and his wife Jae, and Joseph and his wife Amy; his grandchildren: Josh, Christy, Jackie, June, Matt, Eva, Pete, Jeffery, Hugo, Genevieve, and Horace, as well as nine great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister Annette Chenette. He was predeceased by his son and namesake Roland Jr. and granddaughter Aimee, his sister Theresa Gerard and brother Armand. A celebration of his life and mass were held on Saturday, November 25, 2017 at Saint Thomas Church Parish, Underhill Center, VT followed by a lunch at The Jericho Cafe & Tavern, VT Rt. 15, Jericho, VT. In lieu of flowers, please consider helping a farmer in need. Mail donations to: The Farm Fund, P.O. Box 1213, Montpelier, VT 05601.



Richard Paul Streeter, 58, of 3658 Stage Rd., Jericho, VT died unexpectedly on Friday, November 24, 2017. Richard was born on May 5, 1959 in Burlington, VT son of Robert Hoyt Streeter Jr. and Shirley Trieb Streeter. Richard attended Mount Mansfield Union High School in Jericho before joining the Army. He then worked in construction for many years. Richard is survived by his fiancé Victoria Gaylord, his daughters Spring Streeter and Doug Lowell, Sarah and Jesse Haven, Stacey Streeter and Brett Kirchoff, his mother Shirley Streeter and his brothers, Robert and Mary Streeter, Robin and Virginia Streeter, and his five grandchildren Emily, Bob, Nora, Brigham, and Wesley. Richard was loved and was a loving father and grandfather. He enjoyed hunting with his brothers; spending time with his extended family, he would fill a room with his presence. To celebrate Richard's life, calling hours were held on Wednesday, November 29, 2017 at Giffords Funeral Home. A graveside service was held on Thursday, November 30, 2017.

ONGOING EVENTS

ADULT ACTIVITIES

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

The Vermont Genealogy Library in Fort Ethan Allen, Colchester has the resources to help you find those elusive ancestors. We are open every Tuesday from 3:00 – 9:30 PM. We continue to be open every Tuesday. Please see our website www.vgenlib.org for more information including directions and how to contact us if you are visiting the area.

Toastmasters of Greater Burlington, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 7:00 PM, Holiday Inn, 1068 Williston Rd., S. Burlington. Do you want to develop your speaking and leadership skills? Ace an interview? Ignite your career? If so, Toastmasters of Greater Burlington is the place for you. You'll find a supportive learn-by-doing environment that helps you achieve your goals. For information, 802-782-4832.

Eagles Auxiliary #3210 holds bingo at the club house, VT Rt. 109, Jeffersonville, Friday nights. Doors open at 5:30 PM. Bingo starts at 6:45 PM. For information, contact Sally, 644-5377.

Handbell ringers, Tuesday evenings, United Church of Underhill. All are welcome at rehearsals. Two ensembles; opportunity for small groups/shorter time periods. We ring a variety of music in a variety of settings and look forward to new faces joining us. Beginners welcome. Call Amy, 899-2154, for information.

Mount Mansfield Scale Modelers, 3rd Thursday of the month, 6:30 – 8:30 PM. Modelers encompassing all categories of interest and skill levels are welcome. Brownell Library, Kolvoord Community Room, Lincoln St., Essex Junction.

The **Underhill Historical Society** meets at the Underhill Town Hall on the 2nd Monday of the month, 6:30 PM. Anyone welcome.

HEALTH EVENTS & GROUPS

Healthier Living with Diabetes – free six-week class at the Cambridge Health Center to learn self-management techniques to prevent low blood sugar, practice healthy eating, be more active, reduce stress, communicate effectively with your healthcare team, and more. Upcoming sessions will run Wednesdays, April 18-May 23, 2018, 2:00 – 4:30 PM. For information, contact Rorie, 644-5114.

La Leche League of Essex Junction – monthly breastfeeding support meetings, first Thursdays, 6:30 – 8:00 PM, Essex Free Library, 1 Browns River Rd., Essex Junction. Join us whether you are pregnant, nursing your first tiny baby, or weaning your last toddler. Free! We meet downstairs in the children's area.

Al-Anon meetings, Jericho United Methodist Church, Thursdays 10:00 AM, and Saturdays 10:00 AM.

Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, "Women's Big Book" group meets Thursdays 6:00 – 7:00 PM, United Methodist Church, VT Rt. 15, Essex Junction, across from Grange Hall.

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

Alzheimer's support group, monthly on the 3rd Wednesday, 9:30 – 11:30 AM, The Arbors, 687 Harbor Rd., Shelburne. Free education for individuals and families in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. For information and to register, contact Cathy Michaels, 985-8600.

Brain Injury Support Group – a place for survivors and family members, caregivers, friends, and the community to receive valuable resources and information about brain injury. The support group is a place to share experiences in a safe, secure, and confidential environment. Evening group: first Wednesday of every month 5:30 – 7:30 PM at Fanny Allen Campus, 790 College Parkway, Colchester, follow the signs; daytime group last Friday of every month at the Department of Labor, 63 Pearl St., Burlington, 12:00 – 1:00 PM conference room A. Call the BIAVT help line, 877-856-1772.

Autism – Vermont Healing Network, excellent autism resource 1-800-800-4005, vermontfamilynetwork.org.

Foot Clinics – Having trouble trimming your own toenails? Franklin County Home Health provides foot clinics around the county that can help. Call 802-527-7531 for an appointment and information. Cost: \$20.

Champlain Valley Prostate Cancer Support Group, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, 2nd Tuesdays, Hope Lodge, 237 East Ave., Burlington. Newly diagnosed? Prostate cancer recurrence? General discussion and sharing among survivors and those beginning or rejoining the battle. Information: Mary L. Guyette RN, MS, ACNS-BC, 802-274-4990.

Lamoille Home Health & Hospice: Hospice Volunteer Training. Health care professionals share their knowledge and passion for hospice. Please contact Charlene, 888-4651 or ccamire@lhha.org for more information.

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

KIDS

Playgroups free of charge and open to all children birth-5 years, and their caregivers. Stories, songs, crafts, free play, local events and information, and more – an opportunity to play with the children in your life, meet other playmates, and connect with other parents and caregivers. Playgroups follow the school calendar. Come to any or all groups that fit your schedule. For information on any playgroup, contact Heather Lebeis, 899-4415 or underhillplaygroup@yahoo.com. Mondays: Good Shepherd Church, VT Rt. 15, Jericho, 9:30 – 11:00 AM; Wednesdays: Richmond Free Library, 8:45 – 10:15 AM; Fridays: Huntington Public Library, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM.

Early Literacy Storytime, Thursdays, 11:00 AM, Westford Public Library. Stories and activities using early literacy concepts for ages birth-preschool. Drop-in; no registration needed. New families welcome. Information: Victoria, 878-5639 or westford_pl@vals.state.vt.us, or visit www.westford.lib.vt.us and click on Events @ Your Library.

SENIORS/COMMUNITY MEALS

Jeri-Hill XYZ Seniors meet at the Catalyst Church on the Raceway, Underhill on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. All seniors welcome. Dinner served at 11:30 AM. Information, Bette Workman, 899-4446, Loreen Teer, 899-1363, or Doug Keith, 899-2582.

Johnson Community Meal – 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM, United Church, Johnson. Come for a hot meal and get to know your neighbors. Meal followed by community gathering. Information: Ellen Hill, 635-1439, ellen.hill@jsc.edu.

Westford Senior Lunches – Join Westford Seniors for lunch at the Red Brick Meeting House on the Common, monthly on the 2nd Monday. Lunch, 12:00 PM; short meeting or presentation after. Call Carol Howrigan 878-3090 for information or for a ride.

Bolton Up and Downtown Club meets the last Thursday of the month at the Bolton Fire Station. Meal at 5:00 PM. Open to adults 60+. Contact Doris Wheelock at 434-3769.

Ongoing continued on page 5

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LIBRARY NEWS

DEBORAH RAWSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY
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We are open on Sunday afternoons from 1:00 – 4:00 PM. Stop in for an afternoon of library enjoyment.

Mah Jongg at DRML – We play Mah Jongg on the first and third Mondays of each month. Please join us as we explore the ancient Chinese tile game of winds, dragons, and number tiles. If you like card games, you'll probably love Mah Jongg!

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

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

JERICHO TOWN LIBRARY

Our new library director is Lisa Buckton. Please come in and say hello!

Board meetings are held the second Monday of every month at 7:15 PM at Jericho Town Library. All are welcome to attend.

Jericho Town Library is open Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursday, and Fridays 2:00 – 5:00 PM; Wednesdays 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM and 2:00 – 7:00 PM; and Saturday 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

For more information on programs and library services, please visit our website at www.jerichotownlibraryvt.org or give us a call at 899-4686.

VARNUM MEMORIAL LIBRARY
JEFFERSONVILLE

Weekly Crafting Circle, Mondays, 5:00 – 7:00 PM. Come and enjoy fiber and fabric with craft novices, as well as folks who have enjoyed handwork arts for their lifetimes! Have a project you're already working on? Bring it in and share your expertise and enthusiasm.

The Varnum Library, P.O. Box 198, 194 Main St., Jeffersonville, 802-644-2117; thevarnum@gmail.com.

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

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

RICHMOND LIBRARY

Gifts Galore: A festival of locally made treasures will be held on Sunday, December 17 from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM at the Richmond Free Library. This new festival will be the perfect holiday gift-buying opportunity, in a small and friendly setting with 14 local vendors. Come to the second floor of the library, where shoppers can enjoy finding a wide variety of gift ideas and price ranges that include table top decor, art, jewelry, wood products, clothing, note cards, and more. Event Chair Alyson Chase has organized this new event with perfect timing for the holidays. Alyson reflected that buying local and supporting our local artists is a gift to everyone. Refreshments and gift wrapping will be provided. Participating vendors: Alyson Chase, Mary Claire Carroll, Jen Kenney, Peregrino Art, Snipe Ireland Soaps, David Gonyon, Sara DeVico, Pennie Rand, Sugar Tree Maple Farm, Cherie Marshall, Westcoast East Leather. Quadri, the notecards of Eleanor B. Daniels, with the help of Bridge Street Hair, will be donating proceeds from their sales on this day to the Eleanor B. Daniels Fund at the University of Vermont Cancer Center with a mission to provide education on gynecologic malignancies and other women's health cancer topics. For more information, contact alysonchaseart@gmail.com.

Baby Laptime, Mondays, 10:30 AM: This short storytime is for babies ages 0-24 months and their grownups. We will share the magic of stories, songs, rhymes, bounces, and fingerplays designed

to introduce these youngest children to color, sounds, fine motor skills, and body movement.

Early Bird Math Storytime, first three Fridays of the month, 11:00 AM: For children ages 2-5. We will explore numbers, shapes, patterns, and sets through books, songs, rhymes, and games. This fun, interactive storytime happens in the community room.

Yoga Storytime, fourth Friday of the month, 11:00 AM: For ages 2-5. We'll enjoy thoughtful books and engage our bodies with active movement.

Read to Tippy the Dog, second Tuesday the month, 3:00 – 4:00 PM in the Community Room. Children ages 4-12 can sign up for a private session with Tippy, a Certified Therapy Dog. Tippy is friendly and cute and she will love anyone who reads her a story. Readers will gain confidence while they enjoy some private story time with Tippy. Tippy will gain praise and adoration. Sign up for a slot in advance or just drop by.

Is the font on the page starting to look smaller and smaller? Try some of our large print titles. We've added some recently, so browse our "new" shelves. They represent an array of fiction and non-fiction. After being on display for a while, large print items are shelved with regular print items. We also maintain a small rotating list of large print titles, from the VT Department of Libraries. Titles are swapped out every three months. Please ask a staff member to help you if you're not sure where to look.

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

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

DOROTHY ALLING MEMORIAL LIBRARY,
WILLISTON

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

Preschool Story Time: Tuesdays at 10:30 AM. Join us for stories and a craft activity. December 5: The Shape of Things with Victoria Francis; December 12: Blankets; December 20: Fairy Tales. (No story time December 26; library closed). All ages.

Food for Thought Teen Library Volunteers: Thursday, December 7, 4:00 – 5:00 PM. Teens meet for pizza, discussion, book/DVD selection, and planning special events at the library. Community service opportunity. Gades 7-12. New members welcome!

Preschool Yoga with Danielle: Fridays, December 8 and 22, 10:30 AM. Simple yoga poses, stories and songs for children birth to age 5 and their caregivers.

Spanish Musical Playgroup: Saturday, December 9, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM. Spanish rhymes, books, and songs for children birth to age 5. Presented by Constanca Gomez. Includes playtime and snack. Non-Spanish speakers welcome.

Pajama Story Time and Cookie Decorating: Monday, December 11, 6:30 PM. Bring kids in PJs with their favorite stuffed animal for cozy stories and cookie decorating fun. All ages.

Read to a Cat: Thursday, December 14, 3:30 – 4:30 PM. Bring a book and read to Van Gogh, a certified therapy cat with *Love on a Leash* Foundation. Call 878-4918 to pre-register for individual sessions.

Author Visit: John Churchman, *The SheepOver*, Saturday, December 16, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Meet author John Churchman and his sheepdogs Maisie and Laddie, stars of the new book, *A Farm for Maisie*. Book signing available. All ages.

Chess Club: Wednesday, December 20, 5:30 – 7:00 PM. Have you wanted to learn how to play, revisit the game, or just love the game of chess? Come on your own or bring a friend and play with members of our community. All ages and experience levels are welcome.

Preschool Music: Mondays at 11:00 AM (except Monday, December 25: library closed), and Thursdays at 10:30 AM. Second

Thursday of each month: Spanish Music with Constanca Gomez. For children up to age 5 with a caregiver. No pre-registration. Limit one session per week per family.

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

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

FAIRFAX COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Tuesdays, December 5, 12, 19, 9:30 – 10:30 AM: Preschool Story Hour. December 5: *Hats and Mittens*. December 12: *Music with Caitlin*. December 19: *Winter*. Join us for themed stories, songs, and activities for ages 0-6. No registration necessary for Story Hour.

Tuesdays, December 5 and 12, 3:00 – 4:30 PM: Sewing Club. Youth age 8+ will make aprons in this two-part class. All participants must bring one yard of fabric for their apron. Students will meet in the library then go to room #457 to work. Must register for both sessions. Space is limited.

Thursdays, December 7, 14, 3:15 – 4:15 PM: READ to a DOG. Kids ages 5-10 can read a book of their choice to a fuzzy, friendly dog. Call to reserve a 15-minute slot.

Thursday, December 7, 6:00 – 7:00 PM: PJ Story Hour. Kids age 0-6 listen to themed stories, followed by a craft and snack. Thanks to Building Bright Futures for this wonderful program.

Monday, December 11, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: Crafternoon: *Happy Trees*. Kids ages 6+ will learn two different techniques for creating watercolor trees. One piece will be made with washes of different intensities to create depth, and the other will use wax resists and a collaging technique. Must register.

Wednesday, December 13, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: Lego Club. Kids ages 6+ enjoy themed Lego play after school. This month we will see who can make the tallest tower. Please register.

Thursday, December 14, 6:30 – 7:30 PM: Family STEAM Night. Join us for this new family program, where each month parents and children will complete fun activities having to do with Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and/or Math (STEAM). This month our theme is *Wild Winter* and we will be joined by special guest Kurt Valenta of Exordium. Please register.

Monday, December 18, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: Lab Girls. This club empowers young women to explore science and technology through hands-on experiments and activities. For grades 4-8. This month we will be joined by a UVM Extension Scientist who will lead a workshop on identifying different soil types by feel. Be ready to get your hands dirty! Must register.

Wednesday, December 20, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: STEM Club. Kids age 6+ will continue to learn about motion and work on automatons with local inventor Ralph Lemnah. Must register.

Thursday, December 21, 6:00 – 7:00 PM: Family Cookie Decorating. Learn how to pipe frosting onto gingerbread cookies to create beautiful cookies that are almost too pretty to eat. Kids will have their own set of cookies to decorate more free style. Please register.

Wednesday, December 27, 4:00 – 5:30 PM: Stuffed Animal Sleepover Drop-Off. Kids will drop off their lovelies, listen to a story, and say goodnight. Then the Stuffies will have a sleepover at the library and we'll give them a camera to record all the fun they have.

Thursday, December 28, 9:30 – 10:30 AM: Stuffed Animal Sleepover Pancake Breakfast. Kids will come back to the library in the morning to collect their Stuffedies and enjoy a pancake breakfast while they watch a slideshow of all the fun their stuffed animals had. Gluten free pancakes will be available upon request. Please let us know about any other food allergies.

Thursday, December 28, 5:00 – 7:00 PM: Pizza & Movie Night. We'll order pizza and watch a superhero movie. Please register so we know how much pizza to order.

December 2017 Adult Events

Non-Fiction book group will take December off, but our book pick, *Hillbilly Elegy* by J.D. Vance, is available at the library. The discussion will be Thursday, January 11 at 6:30 PM.

Saturday, December 9, 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM: Wreath Making. Join Helen Fursing as she leads this fun seasonal activity. Learn how to make a wreath from evergreen branches and decorate it with bows and natural elements. \$20 for everything to make a 22-24" wreath, \$10 to make a swag. (This is a great project for children because they just pick out greens, tie it together and put a bow on it.) Families welcome. Must register.

Saturday, December 16, 9:00 – 11:00 AM: Tech Help. Get help with individual tech questions. You can ask any technological question and/or bring in a device with which you need help. You

Libraries continued on page 6

Ongoing continued from page 4

Huntington senior meal site – The Huntington senior meals are served monthly on the 3rd Tuesday, 12:00 PM at the Community Baptist Church, Huntington Center.

St. Jude's Church senior meals, Hinesburg, 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. Free bingo games afterward. Everyone welcome, including caregivers. Suggested donation \$4 per person. Information: Ted Barrette, 453-3087.

Starksboro First Baptist Church senior meals, Starksboro, 4th Thursday of the month, 11:30 AM. Call Brenda Boutin, 802-453-6354 for more information. **All ages are welcome!**

"Good Food for All" free dinners, 2nd Thursday of the month, United Church of Underhill, VT Rt. 15, Underhill Flats, 5:00 – 7:00 PM; and on the last Thursday of each month at Calvary Episcopal Church, VT Rt. 15, Underhill Flats, 5:00 – 7:00 PM. Everyone in the communities is invited.

TOWN GOVERNMENT & ORGANIZATIONS

Cambridge Area Rotary meets on 1st four Thursdays of the month, upstairs at 158 Main restaurant, Jeffersonville, 7:00 – 8:00 AM. Information: Susan Lassiter, 644-6600 or Slassiter@unionbankvt.com.

Westford Fire Department, Mondays, 7:00 PM, at the fire station next to the town garage. Information: John Quinn, jquinnivt@aol.com.

Jericho Village Water District Board of Commissioners meet

on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, 7:00 PM, Old Red Mill, Jericho.

Jericho-Underhill Water District meets 1st Monday of the month, United Church of Underhill, Underhill Flats, 7:00 PM. Information: 899-4076 or 899-3810.

Jericho Historical Society, monthly on 2nd Thursdays, 7:30 PM, Old Red Mill, Jericho.

Jericho Underhill Park District Board meeting, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7:00 PM, Deborah Rawson Memorial Library project room, Jericho. Residents of Jericho and Underhill always welcome. Information: 899-2693.

Jericho Energy Task Force meets monthly, 3rd Mondays, 7:00 – 8:30 PM, Jericho Town Hall, VT Rt. 15, Jericho.

THRIFT SHOPS & FOOD SHELVES

Essex/Jericho/Underhill Food Shelf, open 3rd Saturday each month, 9:00 – 11:30 AM, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, VT Rt. 15, Jericho. Meat, dairy, produce, pantry items, pet food, and some non-food items. All are welcome.

Westford Food Shelf, open monthly, 3rd Saturdays, 8:00 – 10:30 AM, United Church of Westford. All are welcome. Fresh produce, meat, and non-food items available.

The Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop, just east of Five Corners, Essex Junction, VT Rt. 15, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM Tuesdays and Wednesdays; 4:00 – 8:00 PM Thursdays.

Volunteer continued from page 3

A CHILD WAITS – Steps to End Domestic Violence invites volunteers to sponsor a child affected by domestic violence by fulfilling a holiday wish list. Volunteers will be provided with the age and gender of the child and the option to buy up to four gifts not to exceed \$100. Businesses and organizations are invited to consider sponsoring a whole family. Volunteers can also help organize donated gifts. Contact Kelly Dougherty, 658-3131 or kellyd@stepsvt.org.

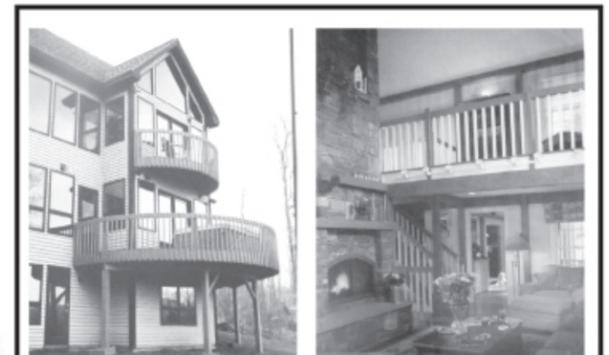
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT – Essex CHIPS is looking for a part-time volunteer to provide administrative support to the Executive Director. Tasks include preparing mailings, making phone calls, helping with fundraising projects, and more. Contact David Voegel, 878-6982, Ext. 101, or david@essexchips.org.

MENTOR! MENTOR! – Spectrum Youth & Family Services is in search of mentors, age 21 and over, particularly male identified mentors, LGBTQ+ mentors, and mentors of color, for youth who can use another healthy adult in their lives. Spend four hours a month reflecting, respecting, and celebrating the identities that are

important to a mentee. One year commitment is needed. Contact Stephanie Ball, 864-7423, Ext. 321, or 660-0578.

BABY ROOM – Pine Forest Children's Center serves 75 young children in the South End of Burlington. They have a classroom of one-year-olds who need some extra love from a volunteer who enjoys snuggling, reading, and playing. Background check required. The Center could also use a volunteer handyperson to do minor repairs and maintenance, and a sewing expert to make repairs to soft furnishings. Contact Christina Goodwin, 651-9455 or Christina@thepineforest.org.

SKI CUBS – City of Winooski offers Ski Cubs, a free "learn to ski" program for 7-14 year olds. Transportation, equipment, instruction, and ski passes are provided at no cost for the six-week program. An adult volunteer is needed to serve as chaperone during the ski trips. Ride the bus, ski, and enjoy great days with the kids! Background check required. Contact Aphaia Lambert-Harper, 655-6410, Ext. 12, or volunteer@winooskivt.org.

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ART / MUSIC / THEATER

ART/PHOTOGRAPHY

Established and emerging artists are invited to submit one or two pieces of two-dimensional artwork in any medium (including photography) for *My Favorite Things*, an exhibit scheduled for January-April 2018 at the Jericho Town Hall. The work must depict one or more identifiable people, objects, or places. It must be able to be hung on a wall. Registration deadline Friday, December 15. Information and registration at catherinemcmains@gmail.com. The exhibit is one of an ongoing series of shows that are part of a collaborative project between the Town of Jericho and a committee of volunteers involved in the arts. The Committee includes Jericho Selectboard member Catherine McMains, gallery owner Emilie Alexander, and artists Dianne Shullenberger and Carla Hochschild.

Fiber, Watercolor, and Ink, used on two-dimensional surfaces to capture representational images of real objects, places, and things – these are the tools of three artists opening in a new show at the Emile A Gruppe Gallery in Jericho Center. Through Saturday, January 6. Anne Standish is an emerging artist in the field of fiber arts. Her inspiration for her quilted art work comes from the natural world. Harald Aksdal's architectural background provides the eye for detail in the everyday world but his interpretation creates beauty from unlikely subjects. Gil Myers has been painting in watercolors for over 50 years and still discovers something new as he interprets the landscape. Emile A Gruppe Gallery, 22 Barber Farm Rd., Jericho; open 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM Thursday-Sunday or by appointment; 802-899-3211 or www.emilegruppegallery.com.

The Lamoille County Courthouse announces the second installation of artwork in the newly renovated Courthouse. Bryan Memorial Gallery of Jeffersonville has been invited by the Courthouse to install a newly refreshed exhibit of original paintings in its public spaces in anticipation of the fall season. The artworks comprise an exhibition on the theme of Vermont Landscape, and will remain in place through the end of the year. Bryan Memorial Gallery selected 37 artworks by 18 artists, all of whom paint frequently in Vermont, most of whom are Vermont residents. The paintings in oil, watercolor, pastel, and acrylics present vistas and views of mostly local scenes throughout the seasons. The works are installed in the Main Corridor and a conference room on the first floor, and outside the Courtroom on the second floor. The Lamoille County Courthouse is at 154 Main St., Hyde Park; open Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM (closed 12:00 – 12:30 PM). For a preview of the work on exhibit, visit www.bryangallery.org. For more information, Bryan Memorial Gallery, 802-644-5100 or mickey@bryangallery.org.

Bryan Memorial Gallery presents *Fantastical Landscapes and Imaginary Places*, featuring over 100 works by 53 artists invited to depict those places that exist only in their imaginations: enhancements of daily reality or depictions of dreams. The exhibit includes three-dimensional works, photographs, monoprints, and mixed media works as well as paintings in oil, watercolor, and acrylic. All work in this exhibit is for sale through Saturday, December 23. Free. Also, *Land and Light and Water and Air*, including over 100 juried landscape paintings of New England scenes from regional artists. The gallery is open daily, Thursday-Sunday, 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM and by appointment. Free admission. Bryan Memorial Gallery, 180 Main St., Jeffersonville; 802-644-5100; www.bryangallery.org.

Helen Day Art Center in Stowe will again dedicate its gallery walls to its *Members' Art Show and Sale*, simultaneously with the *Festival of Trees and Light*. Saturday, December 9, 1:00 – 4:00 PM is Family Day, so drop in, free, for an afternoon of sweet treats and seasonal art activities – create holiday decorations, play dreidel

games, and decorate gingerbread houses with NECI students. The events run through Saturday, December 30. The eclectic group exhibition features members' artwork amongst evergreen trees decorated by master artisans and a beautiful Hanukkah display of menorahs, games, and dreidels. A variety of artwork is available for sale, from ceramic sculpture to fine art photos. For more information, contact gallery manager Amanda Marquis, 802-253-8358 or gallery@helayday.com. Helen Day Art Center, 90 Pond St., Stowe, free and open to the public Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM and by appointment.

At the Fleming Museum at UVM in Burlington, the fall 2017 season features two special exhibitions. In the East Gallery will be *Spirited Things: Sacred Arts of the Black Atlantic* featuring objects from the Yorubá religion of West Africa as well as Haitian Vodou, Cuban Santería, Brazilian Candomblé, and Caribbean Spiritism, faiths that emerged from the practices of enslaved Africans who blended their ancestral cultures with that of their captors. In the Wolcott gallery will be an exhibition of the mid-century modernist painter Herbert Barnett and his distinctive landscapes painted in Vermont between 1940-1948. Fleming Museum of Art, UVM, 61 Colchester Ave., Burlington.

Shelburne Vineyard has announced that Stowe-based artist Keilani Lime will display her works at the vineyard's Tasting Room through the end of December. She holds a degree in Fine Art from the Academy of Art University in San Francisco, and resides in Stowe. She will exhibit large format pieces that focus on design and structural texture on canvas using acrylic and found media. Through her work's minimalistic philosophy, she aims to create balance, focus, and peace, reforming the "din that consumes us." For information, www.shelburnevineyard.com or 802-985-8222.

Visions of Vermont Art Galleries in Jeffersonville is open Tuesday-Sunday, 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Hosts Jane and Terry Shaw, 644-8183; Visions of Vermont, 100 Main St., Jeffersonville. For more information, visit www.visionsofvermont.com.

Essex Art League meets the first Thursday of the month, September-May, 9:00 – 11:00 AM at the Essex Junction Congregational Church on VT Rt. 15, Essex Junction. The agenda includes a business and social time and a guest speaker/artist presentation. More information including a calendar and online gallery is available at the League's website www.essexartleague.com.

The Milton Artist Guild offers a number of fun and varied workshops. For information, contact the Milton Artists' Guild, P.O. Box 369, Milton, VT 05468; www.miltonartistsguild.org.

MUSIC

The United Church of Underhill is offering its free concert *Gift of Christmas Music* on Sunday, December 17 at 3:00 PM in the church in Underhill Flats. Among several groups will be the *Christmas Choir*, which is open this year to community singers who are interested in singing with us. Our schedule is now set and we have four rehearsals on Thursday nights at 7:00 PM in the church sanctuary – November 9 and 30, December 7 and 14. The ability to read music is desirable though not required, as we are doing concert pieces and not sing-alongs. Please join us to share some lovely music.

The 35-member Vermont Brass Ensemble will present a brass and percussion concert, *A Salute to the Winter Olympics*, on Tuesday, December 12, 7:30 PM in the UVM Recital Hall, Southwick Music Building, 384 South Prospect St., Burlington. Free admission. The student run brass ensemble is made up of majors, non-majors, alumni, and community members getting together to share a love for brass music. Come enjoy a night of brass and percussion music.

The group is directed by AJ Banach and Mei Endo, and conducted by Larry Solt. Music on this concert will feature compositions by John Williams, Giovanni Gabrieli, Gustav Holst, Eric Whitacre, Ola Gjeilo, and Alfred Reed.

The Johnson State College Jazz Ensemble and Funk/Fusion Ensemble will present the Johnson Jazz-Contemporary Ensemble Concert on Wednesday, December 13, 7:00 PM at the Dibden Center for the Arts on the campus in Johnson. Admission is \$5 for the public, and free with a JSC ID. JSC professor Greg Matses directs the ensemble, and Lyndon State College professor Steve Blair directs the Johnson Jazz Ensemble. For tickets, contact the Dibden box office, jscboxoffice@jsc.edu, or call 635-1476 Monday-Friday, 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM. For more information, www.jsc.edu/dibden.

The annual JSC Winter Gala Concert, with performances by multiple student choral groups, will be held at 4:00 PM, December 17 at the Dibden Center for the Arts on the Johnson State College campus in Johnson. The concert will feature performances by a capella and other groups including the Chorale, Johnson State Chamber Singers, Badger Tones, Badger pitches, and Badger Beats, and will feature pieces by Bach and Handel and selections from South Africa and Sweden – and a barbershop quartet classic. The JSC Holiday Brass will perform at intermission. Admission is \$5 for the public; free with a JSC ID. A poinsettia raffle and silent auction of framed artwork, maple syrup, artisan jewelry, and restaurant gift cards will support the Johnson State Chorale's tour in Estonia, Finland, and Latvia in July 2018. For tickets, contact the Dibden box office, jscboxoffice@jsc.edu, or call 635-1476 Monday-Friday, 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM. For more information, www.jsc.edu/dibden.

On Friday, December 15 the JSC Concert Band and the JSC World Music Ensemble will perform at the Dibden Center for the Arts on the Johnson State College campus in Johnson. The Concert Band, directed by JSC professor Steven Light, will perform a variety of pieces from jazz to classical from the U.S., Russia, Spain, Latin America, Australia, and other regions. Light also directs the World Music Ensemble, which will perform pieces from Ghana, Japan, Java, and Macedonia. For some pieces, students built instruments including African mbiras or thumb pianos, and Japanese kotos, which are stringed instruments. Some students will play a set of Javanese gamelan instruments, which include flutes and stringed and percussion instruments. Admission is \$5 for the public, and free with a JSC ID. For tickets, contact the Dibden box office, jscboxoffice@jsc.edu, or call 635-1476 Monday-Friday, 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM. For more information, www.jsc.edu/dibden.

Close out the 2017 First Thursday series at Shelburne Vineyard (6308 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne) on Thursday, December 7 at 6:00 PM with *Hardscrabble*, a popular favorite band anytime they play. They are family friendly with a bluegrass/acoustic blues beat. Free, all are welcome; part of donations benefit Global Giving's Hurricane Irma Relief Fund for Puerto Rico. Wine, beer, and food available for purchase. Information: 802-985-8222 or www.shelburnevineyard.com.

The Burlington Chamber Orchestra's eleventh season performances this season will include Soovin Kim, Conductor on Saturday, January 20; a Collaboration with the UVM Dance Department featuring Claude Debussy's *Prelude to the Afternoon of Faun* and Aaron Copland's *Appalachian Spring* on March 3 and 4; and a collaboration with *Bella Voce Chorus* Mozart's *Marriage of Figaro Overture*; Mel Bonis, *Suite en forme de valse pour orchestre*; and Gwyneth Walker's *Love is a Rain of Diamonds, I Will be Earth, Thank you God, The Tree of Peace and How Can*

Art / Music / Theater continued on page 7

Libraries continued from page 5

will be ably assisted by our techie, Josiah. Call to reserve a half hour time slot, or drop in.

Saturday, December 16, 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM: Needle Felt an Ornament. Local artist Nicole Vance leads this hands-on workshop where participants will learn how to needle felt a decorative ornament that can be used on a tree or anywhere in the home. (Ages 8+; youth 8-12 must be accompanied by an adult.) Must register.

The Library will be closed Monday, December 25, Tuesday, December 26, and Monday, January 1. The Library will open at 9:00 AM Thursday-Saturday, December 27-29.

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

BROWNELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY, ESSEX JCT.

Bring in a canned good for our food drive to benefit the Heavenly Food Pantry.

Wednesdays, December 6, 13, 20, 10:00 – 10:45 AM: Story Time for Preschoolers. Picture books, songs, rhymes, flannel stories, and early math activities for preschoolers.

Wednesdays, December 6, 13, 27, 12:00 and 1:00 PM: Tech Help with Clif. Offering one-on-one technology help. Bring in your new gadget or gizmo and Clif will sit with you to help you learn its ways! Reservation required. Please call 878-6955 at least 24 hours in advance.

Wednesdays, December 6, 13, 20, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: Read to Daisy. Daisy loves to listen to kids read. She is certified by Therapy Dogs of Vermont. Daisy's owner is Maddie Nash, retired school counselor. For all ages. Please register online.

Wednesday, December 6, 4:00 – 5:00 PM: It Takes a Village. Come build a village of card stock for our Train Hop train table. All ages.

Wednesday, December 6, 7:00 – 8:30 PM: First Wednesday Lecture. *Reformation and Response: What Luther Did to Art* – Dartmouth professor Jane Carroll examines how the Reformation, driven by Martin Luther 500 years ago, affected Europeans' assumptions and the art of the time.

Thursdays, December 7, 14, 21, 3:15 – 4:15 PM: Read to Archie. Archie loves to listen to kids read. He is certified by Therapy Dogs of Vermont. Archie's owner is Christine Packard, Chair of Brownell Library Trustees. For all ages.

Tuesdays, December 8, 22, 29, 10:00 – 10:30 AM: Story Time. Come hear some picture books, sing songs, rhyme and interact with puppets.

Friday, December 8, 6:00 – 8:00 PM: Train Hop. Come check out the trains and Essex Players, write a letter to Santa with the *Essex Reporter* at Brownell as part of this community-wide event. Visit local businesses and organizations to see their trains as well.

Mondays, December 11, 18, 12:00 and 1:00 PM: Tech Help with Clif. Offering one-on-one technology help. Reservation required. Please call 878-6955 at least 24 hours in advance.

Mondays, December 11, 3:15 – 4:15 PM: Knitting for Kids. Knit a hat or a scarf with our looms or knitting needles. You can check them out and take them home to finish. We have yarn, or bring your own favorite colors. For all skill levels.

Mondays, December 11, 18, 5:30 – 6:30 PM: Go Club. Come learn and play this 4000 year old strategy game with Max and Celia. Best for grades 1 and up.

Monday, December 11, 6:00 – 6:30 PM: Pajama Story Time. Come in your pajamas and listen to some picture book stories. Enjoy some milk and cookies. For all ages.

Monday, December 11, 6:30 – 7:30 PM: Must Read Mondays! *Redbird Christmas* by Fannie Flagg. Flagg takes us on an emotional roller-coaster ride through the lives and hearts of an engaging crew of misfits, fixers, and ordinary good-hearted folk, set against the vivid natural backdrop of a mellow Alabama winter, along the riverside where birds and fish abound. Her enchanting story culminates at Christmastide with surprises and a magical 'redbird' moment. Pick up a copy of this book at the main desk and join us for a casual discussion.

Tuesdays, December 12, 19, 9:10 – 9:30 AM: Story Time for Babies and Toddlers. Picture books, sign language, songs, rhymes and puppets for babies and toddlers with an adult.

Tuesdays, December 12, 19, 10:00 – 10:45 AM: Story Time for Preschoolers. Picture books, sign language, songs, rhymes, flannel stories, and early math activities for preschoolers.

Tuesdays, December 12, 19, 3:15 – 4:30 PM: Steam Tuesdays. Create and explore with Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math. Make your own water color paint and design a greeting card. Decorate a balloon to prepare for the holiday balloon races. Make bags out of t-shirts and luminaries out of glass jars to give as gifts this holiday season. Best for grades 1 and up.

Wednesday, December 13, 9:00 – 10:00 AM: Red Clover Group for homeschooled students. Each month, students in grades K-3 read two titles and do activities with one of the on the list for this year's Red Clover Award. Voting takes place in April.

Wednesday, December 13, 9:00 – 10:00 AM: *Dorothy's List* Group for homeschooled students. Each month, students in grades 4-8 hear book talks from this year's *Dorothy's List*. Students keep a log and vote for their favorite to win the *Dorothy's List* Book Award in the spring. Group discussion is encouraged.

Wednesday, December 13, 9:00 – 10:00 AM: GMBA Book Discussion for homeschooled students. High school aged students discuss this year's GMBA nominees. Voting takes place in April. For grades 9-12.

Wednesday, December 13, 6:00 and 7:00 PM: Tech Help with Clif at Night. Offering one-on-one technology help. Bring in your new gadget or gizmo and Clif will sit with you to help you learn its ways! Reservation required. Please call 878-6955 at least 24 hours in advance.

Thursday, December 14, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM: Library closed for

staff in-service.

Thursday, December 14, 3:30 – 4:00 PM: Winter Stories with Linda Costello. Come hear a collection of winter folk tales from storyteller Linda Costello!

Fridays, December 15, 22, 29, 6:30 – 8:30 PM: Sit and Knit. Adult knitters and crocheters are invited to settle in front of the fireplace in the Main Reading Room to knit, share projects and patterns, and engage in conversation.

Friday, December 15, 10:00 – 10:30 AM: Music with Raph. Come sing and play with Raph. All ages.

Friday, December 15, 3:00 – 4:30 PM: Lego Fun. Come build creatively with Legos and see what others build. Children under 8 years old must bring a responsible caregiver.

Friday, December 15, 6:30 – 8:30 PM: Family Movie – Free popcorn and drinks!

Saturday, December 16, 10:30 – 11:00 AM: Dutch Story Time. Hear stories from Holland and learn some Dutch songs and traditions, and make a windmill craft. All ages.

Monday, December 18, 3:30 – 4:30 PM: Chess Club – Come play chess for an hour! We provide chess sets and you provide the strategy. All ages and skill levels are welcome. Chess sets funded by the Brownell Library Foundation.

Tuesday, December 19, 7:00 – 9:00 PM: Brownell Library Trustees Meeting.

Wednesday, December 20, 7:00–8:30 PM: TEDxBrownellLibrary: A World of Discovery. Brownell will be hosting TEDx Events will occur the third Wednesday of the month through March. Ted Talk videos around this theme will be viewed and reflected upon. This is a great opportunity to connect with others!

Friday, December 22, 3:00 – 5:00 PM: LARP. Live Action Role Play is open to all middle and high school students who want to have adventures in a mythical land.

Friday, December 22, 6:30 – 8:30 PM: Dungeons & Dragons. Embark upon imaginary adventures. A Dungeon Master serves as this role playing game's referee and storyteller. For grades 6 and up.

Monday-Tuesday, December 25-26: Library closed for the holidays.

Wednesday, December 27, 2:00 – 4:00 PM: *Wii* Love School Vacation. Come play *Wii* Sports Resort, MarioKart, and others! All ages.

Thursday, December 28, 1:30 – 4:00 PM: School Break Movie
Friday, December 29, 2:00 – 3:00 PM: Comics and Cocoa. Come out and enjoy hot cocoa and cookies while discussing *Ghosts* by Raina Telgemeier.

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

SENIOR MEALS

Age Well hosts Community Meals at over 70 locations. Programs vary from small rural gatherings, to senior centers, to an ever-growing array of restaurants. Menus are available on the 22nd of each month for the following month. Meals are on a first-come, first-serve, month-by-month basis; \$5 suggested donation. Call Age Well, 802-662-5200, for reservations for the following month on, or after, the 22nd of the month. If the 22nd falls on a weekend, reservations may be made the following Monday. Milk is served with all meals.

Tuesday, December 5 – Pizza Hut, Susie Wilson Rd., Essex Junction. Check-in 11:00 AM; lunch 11:30 AM. All you can eat buffet – salad and pizza.

Wednesday, December 6 – American Legion, Colchester. Check-in 10:30 AM; lunch 11:00 AM. Small garden salad, spaghetti and meatballs, garlic bread, dessert.

Thursday, December 7 – Dutch Mill, Shelburne. Check-in 10:30 AM; lunch 11:00 AM. Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, strawberry shortcake.

Monday, December 11 – Papa Nick’s, Hinesburg. Check-in 2:30 PM; lunch 3:00 PM. Baked ham, mashed potatoes, vegetables, rolls, dessert.

Tuesday, December 12 – Ray’s Seafood, Essex Junction. Check-in 10:30 AM; lunch 11:00 AM. Fish, potato, coleslaw, squash, roll, cream.

Wednesday, December 13 – Athens Diner, Colchester. Check-in 10:30 AM; lunch 11:00 AM. Roast pork, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetable, chocolate pudding.

Thursday, December 14 – Holiday Inn, S. Burlington. Check-in 10:30 AM; lunch 11:00 AM. Turkey buffet, salad, sliced turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, cranberry sauce, assorted desserts.

Tuesday, December 19 – Holiday Inn, S. Burlington. Check-in 10:30 AM; lunch 11:00 AM. HOLIDAY! Special event with live music. TICKETS REQUIRED, contact Pat Long, Community Meal Coordinator, at the meal sites or visit Age Well’s office (76 Pearl St., Suite 201, Essex Junction, VT 05452, 865-0360). Turkey buffet, salad, sliced turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, cranberry sauce, assorted desserts.

Wednesday, December 20 – JP’s Diner & Deli, Essex Junction. Check-in 10:30 AM; lunch 11:00 AM. Chicken and biscuit dinner, dessert.

Thursday, December 21 – Pizza Putt, S. Burlington. Check-in 10:30 AM; lunch 11:00 AM. Ziti with meatballs, garden salad, garlic bread, ice cream cake.

Tuesday, December 26 – Pizza Hut, Susie Wilson Rd., Essex Junction. Check-in 11:00 AM; lunch 11:30 AM. All you can eat buffet – salad and pizza.

Wednesday, December 27 – Athens Diner, Colchester. Check-in 10:30 AM; lunch 11:00 AM. Turkey dinner, mashed potatoes, vegetables, cranberry sauce, dessert.

Thursday, December 28 – American Legion, Colchester. Check-in 10:30 AM; lunch 11:00 AM. Meatloaf dinner, mashed potatoes, vegetable, dessert.

Restaurant ticket program – Age Well’s restaurant tickets are

available year round, and no longer need to be used the month they are purchased. Tickets are good for Age Well’s fiscal year, October 1, 2017-September 30, 2018, but are nonreturnable and nonexchangeable. For tickets, connect with Pat Long, Community Meal Coordinator, at the meal sites or visit Age Well’s office (76 Pearl St., Suite 201, Essex Junction, VT 05452, 865-0360). Tickets must be presented before ordering. Restaurants have the right to offer limited menus.

The Abbey Pub & Restaurant, Enosburg Falls, lunch and dinner Tuesday-Sunday, 11:30 AM – 5:00 PM.

Athens Diner, Milton, Monday-Saturday, 6:00 AM – 4:00 PM, Sundays 6:00 AM – 3:00 PM.

Dutch Mill, Shelburne, Monday-Sunday, 7:30 AM – 2:00 PM.

Halfway House Restaurant, Shoreham, Monday-Thursday, 5:00 AM – 8:00 PM.

Harpers at Holiday Inn, S. Burlington, Early Bird dinner, Monday-Sunday, 5:00 – 7:00 PM.

IHOP, S. Burlington, Monday-Sunday, 7:00 AM – 9:00 PM.

Mimmo’s, Essex Junction, Mondays, 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM.

Pizza Putt, S. Burlington, lunch or dinner served seven days a week.

Professional Foods Café and Bakery (formerly Colonial Room), Essex. Call 879-5595 after 5:00 PM on Monday to listen to a recorded message with menu options and days the café will be open that week. Luncheon check-in is promptly at 11:00 AM. Always closed on Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays, and Tuesdays.

Art / Music / Theater continued from page 6

I Keep on May 12. The Concerto Competition winner will also perform at the May concert. The Burlington Chamber Orchestra will be holding a special performance Classical Holidays on Sunday, December 17 that will include the music of Corelli, Amy Beach, and choral movements from *Messiah*. General admission is \$30 adults and \$10 students (with identification). Adult tickets for the January Concert with Soovin Kim will be \$40. Season tickets are \$120 for adults and \$40 for students. For more information go to www.bcovt.org, or contact Sharon Radtke, 802-893-4082 or bco@bcovt.org.

THEATER/FILM

Comedic Storytellers will perform in a benefit for the Vermont Family Network on Thursday, December 7, 7:30 PM, at the Black Box Theater in the Main Street Landing, 60 Lake St., Burlington. Storytellers Sue Schmidt and Kevin Gallagher will be joined by Melinda Moulton and live band *The Brevity Thing* in an all-new show, *Home for the Allidays: Stories from the Kids’ Table!* – for anyone thinking of the miles traveled in the name of family at holiday season. The event will open at 6:30 PM at the Black Box with a cash bar provided by Skinny Pancake. Tickets are \$30 and on sale through VermontFamilyNetwork.org. The mission of the Vermont Family Network is to empower and support all Vermont families of children with disabilities.

The popular *Danceland* show at Johnson State College will be offered at 7:00 PM, Friday-Saturday, December 8-9 at the Dibbon

Center for the arts. *Danceland* is free for the public, but a donation of \$5 per person is suggested. The event will feature about 30 students in JSC’s dance club who will perform to a variety of music, ranging from the rock band *Imagine Dragons* to the soundtrack for the web TV series *Reasons Why*. The club presents *Danceland* at the end of each semester. The public is encouraged to reserve tickets, as the show draws a sellout crowd. For tickets, contact the Dibbon box office, jscboxoffice@jsc.edu, or call 635-1476 Monday-Friday, 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM.

The Nebraska Theatre Caravan returns with Charles Jones’ delightful adaptation of Dickens’ “ghostly little tale” – *A Christmas Carol* – on Friday, December 8 at the Flynn MainStage in Burlington. Weaving traditional Christmas carols into the narrative,

this classic, which has played the Flynn every year for 35 years, features a 24-member ensemble and Broadway-style scenery to spirit away a MainStage audience. On Tuesday-Wednesday, December 5-6, the Flynn hosts *Kinky Boots*, about factory owner Charlie, struggling to save his family business, and Lola, a fabulous drag queen with a promising idea. Together they embrace their differences and create a line of sturdy stilettos like the world has never seen. Original music by Cyndi Lauper, the play won six Tony Awards on Broadway in 2013. For information and tickets, contact FlynnTix Regional Box Office, 802-863-5966 or www.flynntix.org.

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Chittenden East Wolverines State Champions

By Jim Driscoll

The Chittenden East Wolverines and the Burlington Seahorses met for the Northern Vermont Youth Football League Championship on Saturday, November 4 at Essex High School.

The Seahorses brought their 9-0 record and top scoring offense and the Wolverines brought their 8-1 record, with their only loss coming at the hands of the Seahorses in a tough, low scoring game. All signs pointed to another close, well played game.

The vibe for this game was different. Wolverine Nation was pumped up. Purple and gold everywhere, painted faces, balloons, banner, and a vibrant positive attitude. Coach Hallock's Wolverines

were ready from the opening kick off.

The Wolverines elected to kick off and for the second week in a row, this proved to be very effective. Ryan Whitney put the ball deep and high, giving a very athletic Wolverine kick off unit time to make plays inside the 20 yard line and pinning the Seahorses deep in their own territory. The Wolverine Defense just took over. They squashed the Seahorse's outside threats, with an outstanding defensive play from Nate Warren, Danté Samuelson, and Ryan Whitney. Coach Hallock moved his defensive ends out having string out attempted sweeps, giving linebackers Carson Holloway, Maggie Hallock, and Harper DesRoches, and corners Nick Turdeau and Brody Little, a chance to finish the plays.

The Seahorses' first possession resulted in a pick six by linebacker Carson Holloway, giving the Wolverines a quick 6-0 lead.

The Wolverines special teams again came up big on the ensuing kick off, pinning the Seahorses deep into their territory. A fired up Wolverines defense came up big again, forcing the Seahorses to attempt a quick bubble screen, but the pass was thrown backwards and incomplete; therefore, it was a live ball. Gabe Baron reacted and recovered the loose ball inside the 15 yard line. The Wolverine offense took over and promptly scored on a Taylor Bowen QB keeper, giving the Wolverines a 12-0 lead early in the first quarter. Wolverine Nation was beside itself.

Burlington was struggling against the Wolverine defense. The play of Jacob Burbank, Cooper McLaughlin, Gabe Baron, and Maggie Hallock in the trenches denied the Seahorses all day long.

Coach Hallock's defense wouldn't let the Seahorses out of their own territory

and early in the second quarter, Maggie Hallock broke through and sacked Burlington for a two point safety, giving the Wolverines a 14-0 lead.

The Seahorses had to punt the ball on their own 20 yard line, giving the Wolverines offense a chance to show their stuff. Coach Autumn Hallock's offense promptly marched down the field behind a great offensive line play and a tremendous running game. The combination of Harper DesRoches, Nick Trudeau, Max DeJong, and Brody Little ran with passion. Pick your poison, they were all terrific on this day. Nick Trudeau broke free up the left side, giving the Wolverines a 20-0 lead, late in the second quarter.

A 20-0 lead would seem very comfortable, but Burlington was loaded with terrific athletes and just like that the Seahorses broke free for a 30 yard scamper down to the Wolverine 15 yard line. A score here by the Seahorses and it was a different game. The Wolverine defense picked it up another notch. Big plays by Jacob Burbank and Brody Little and a 10 yard penalty pushed the Seahorses back to the Wolverines 35 yard line, where the Wolverine offense took over with just over three minutes to go in the half.

The Wolverines moved the ball behind a not-to-be-denied running game. The Wolverines had the ball on the 12 yard line with 14 seconds left. A beautiful play action pass from Taylor Bowen to Cooper McLaughlin in the corner of the end zone looked like a 26-0 lead, but it was over-ruled by the back judge. Tough call.

The Wolverines were not to be denied on this day. The second half was all Wolverines as the defense dominated, frustrating the Seahorses from start to finish, with key defensive plays from Ethan Roy, Reece Wolcott, Wyatt Leombruno-Nicholson, Jake Shattuck, Shane Phillips, and Keaton Bennett-McCormick.

Autumn Hallock's offense kept the ball on the ground, keeping the clock moving and putting up two more scores for a final score of 32-0. This was a beautiful effort by the Wolverines, who fed off the intensity of their starting QB and Captain James Curley, who had broken his leg in the first game of the season.

A special shout out to the large contingent of MMU football players who were in attendance. These players were coming off a tough loss to defending state champion Hartford in the Division 1 semi-final the night before.

The Wolverine Nation is a beautiful thing.



No Appointment Needed

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Wishing you the happiest of holidays and new year! Thanks so much.

- Bill Black and staff



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