

Public mask rule in Jericho

By John Abbott, Jericho Town Administrator

On Thursday evening, January 6, the Jericho Select Board voted to enact a masking policy in all public buildings for the next 45 days. This includes businesses and houses of worship in addition to all municipal buildings. The following exemptions apply:

- children under 2 years;
- a person with a disability who cannot wear a face covering or cannot safely wear a face covering for reasons related to the disability;
- a person for whom wearing a face covering would create a risk to workplace health, safety, or job duty as determined by the workplace risk assessment;
- any person while eating or drinking inside any establishment that serves food or beverage.

An extension of gratitude to all who attended the meeting to provide input and personal perspective. The comments and dialogue were respectful, civil, and shared in the spirit of positive public engagement.

To see specific articles and the signed rule, visit the *Join in Jericho* page here: https://jerichovt.org/town-departments/news_feed/selectboard-adopts-masking-rule-1-6-22.

To see public input and view meeting proceedings, visit Mount Mansfield Public Television page here: <http://mtmansfieldctv.org/jericho-meetings/>.

Town of Underhill mask advisory

From the Underhill Selectboard

As of January 11, 2022 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) designated Chittenden County's Level of Community Transmission as HIGH and they recommend that everyone in Chittenden County, Vermont should wear a mask in public, indoor settings. Mask requirements might vary from place to place. Make sure you follow local laws, rules, regulations, or guidance.

The Selectboard recognizes that Underhill is a small rural community with very few public places. The Selectboard strongly encourages everyone that is able to follow the CDC's recommendations to wear a mask, when entering public places, in order to help protect yourself and others.

Westford: Maple Shade Town Forest logging, some trail closures

By Sarah Pinto, Chair, Westford Conservation Commission

Forest management at the Maple Shade Town Forest: The forest management project at the Maple Shade Town Forest (MSTF; AKA the Jackson Farm) has begun. This work, supervised by Chittenden County Forester Ethan Tapper, will take place in Stands 1-3 over the course of a few years with a small area being managed each winter. The logger the Town is working with is Evan Aiken, who grew up in Westford and does small-scale, low-impact logging with a tractor in the winter.

The work will be taking place near the Beaver Pond Trail and the Big Beaver Pond Loop, which are to the left as one enters the woods from the field. Trail closures include the Big Beaver Pond Loop and that portion of the Beaver Pond Trail that runs to the left and goes to the Big Beaver Pond Loop. The Beaver

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Along the Browns River in Jericho, a bright cold winter day at the Old Mill Park. PHOTO BY SUZANNE FREITAS

Community Center in Jericho to pause for a facelift

The Community Center in Jericho will be closed from Monday, January 24 until Friday, February 18 for a facelift. The ceiling will be painted, the drapes cleaned, and other tasks completed. Once the work is done, and when COVID allows, an Open House will be held to invite community members in to view the freshened space.

As always, community members' support and involvement in the Center and its activities keep it as an active and vital part of Jericho. Support for the calendar sales was great and all were sold!

Richmond Food Shelf and Thrift Store news

The Richmond Food Shelf is open for food Tuesdays 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM; Thursdays 4:00 – 6:00 PM; and Saturdays 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

Our priority is the safety of our clients and volunteers. We are serving one person at a time. All masks must be properly worn. No children inside, please. If you can't leave your kids, call 802-578-4283 and other arrangements will be made.

The Thrift Store is now closed until further notice. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

Cambridge 2022 Town Meeting Information for registered voters

By Mark Schilling, Cambridge Town Clerk / Treasurer

In response to the concerns posed by COVID-19, the Vermont Legislature allows a legislative body to vote to use Australian ballot for Town Meeting in 2022. All voting in the Town of Cambridge for Town Meeting Day 2022 will be held via Australian Ballot. No floor meetings will be held in 2022 (to be voted by the Selectboard on January 18, 2022).

Consent of Candidate: If you are a legally registered voter and interested in running for local election of a town office in the Town of Cambridge, you must submit the *Consent of Candidate form* to the Town Clerk. This form is available at the Town Office or can be downloaded from <http://www.cambridgevt.org/townmeeting2022>. It is again anticipated that Petitions of Candidacy will not be needed in 2022, pending a final decision by the State Legislature.

The Consent of Candidate form must be filed with the Town Clerk no later than 5:00 PM on the sixth Monday preceding the election (January 24, 2022).

Officers to be elected in 2022:

1. Town Moderator
2. Town Clerk for 3 years
3. Town Treasurer for 3 years
4. Selectboard Member for 3 years
5. Selectboard Member for 2 years
6. Auditor for 3 years
7. Lister for 3 years
8. First Constable for 1 year
9. Trustee of Public Money for 1 year
10. Collector of Delinquent Taxes for 1 year
11. Library Trustee for 5 years
12. Cemetery Commissioner for 5 years

Polls will be open Tuesday, March 1, 2022, 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM, at the Cambridge Elementary School Gymnasium. Early Voting availability to be announced at <http://www.cambridge.vt.gov>.

Annual Meeting for Jericho Tuesday, March 1

The legislature has passed S. 172 and the bill is on the desk for Governor Scott to sign. This legislation will allow Jericho to hold the annual meeting as it did in 2021.

The Jericho Selectboard has announced that Jericho will not hold Town Meeting in person this March 1, 2022 and voting by Australian Ballot will replace Town Meeting. Everything to be voted on will be on the municipal ballot. The MMUUSD ballot (usually pink in color) will also be available.

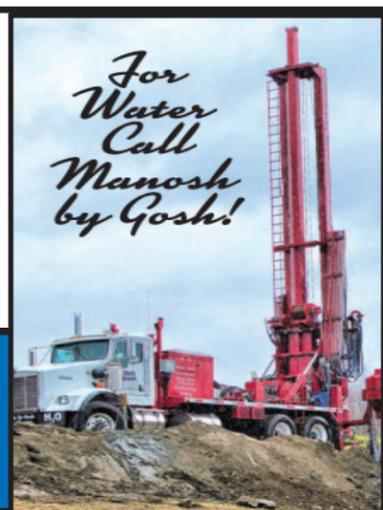
It is not too early to request an early/absentee ballot to be mailed to you. The annual meeting ballots will be available by Wednesday, February 9. For more information: <https://jerichovt.org/Elections>.

More information to come about the many ways early/absentee ballots can be returned. They do have to be received back by Tuesday, March 1, 2022 in order to count.



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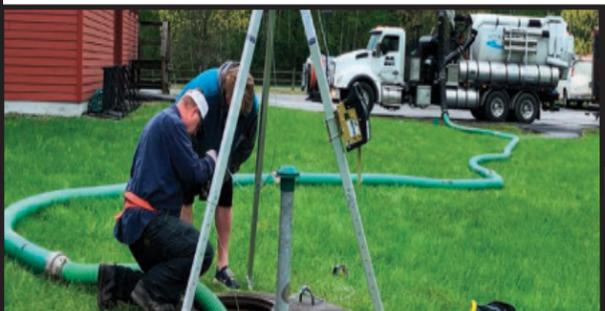


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Not a huge moose — my hand's not that big! Photo taken in March 2004. PHOTO BY SARA RILEY

Westford's First Annual Winter Festival — with Horse Power!

On Saturday, February 12, 12:00 – 4:00 PM, come meet Radar and Minor the Percheron draft horses! Patrick Palmer and his team from Thornapple Farm of New Haven will give you a trolley ride to and from the Common and School to participate in the various venues during Winter Festival.

Up near the School you can ski, snowshoe, or sled, and warm up and enjoy a bonfire! And near the Common you can attend concerts, enjoy a chili cook-off, skate, miniature golf, popcorn and cotton candy, great beer from Foam Brewery, and so much more. Come to the Winter Festival and Concerts on February 12! Any questions? Contact Westfordwinterfest@gmail.com.

Upcoming free business workshops with CVOEO

The Micro Business Development Program at CVOEO is pleased to offer two free workshops this January! See below for more information on each session and to register:

Topic: What's a Business Plan? Tuesday, January 25, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Zoom. If you are interested in starting a business and have questions on writing your business plan, this session is for you! Join us for a conversation with our business counselor John Gergely who will help guide you through the process. In this session, John will introduce what goes into creating a business plan, answer your questions, and review examples of different templates you might use. Register online at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MB_Plan22.

Topic: Introduction to Business Taxes, Thursday, January 27, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Zoom. Do you run a small business or are you thinking of starting one? Do you have questions on how taxes work and what is required for small business owners? Join us for a conversation with Ross Miller, a retired accountant with years of experience in the field, to learn more about federal taxes. Bring your questions and learn from others in the group, too! Register online at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MB_Taxes22.

For questions, please email Rachel at rgoldstein@cvoeo.org.

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Pond Trail that runs straight ahead from the kiosk will remain open and can be used to access the Little Beaver Pond Spur Trail. Please be aware that heavy equipment will be using the main entrance to the Maple Shade Town Forest, so use caution upon entering. Please refer to the map here <https://westfordvt.us/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Maple-Shade-Town-Forest-trails-v3.pdf> and posted at the kiosks (1) near Brookside Road at Westford Elementary, and (2) as you walk into the woods at Maple Shade Town Forest. The closed trails will re-open when the logging is completed for the season.

The goal of this project would be to improve the health, resilience and wildlife habitat of the MSTF while demonstrating responsible forest management in an open, transparent, and inclusive way. In this way, this project will be similar to a recent project at the Hinesburg Town Forest described in a "story map" online at <https://arcg.is/09zfc1>.

To stay apprised of what's going on at the MSTF you can watch videos on this project on the Westford Town Lands playlist on the Chittenden County Forester's YouTube page, <https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLWk3DKdWmNIZwn7sZqM8KDPseZ9y9eL4J>, or join Ethan for a public walk of the forest management area at 12:30 PM on Saturday, February 12 as part of the Westford Winter Festival. Stay tuned for other chances to learn more about this project by signing up for the Chittenden County Forester's email list, <https://vermont.us7.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=58398f7a782118e355bf99377&id=58d2751d34>.

Pre-commercial forest management at the Misty Meadows Trails and Forest: Over the next two weeks, the forestry program at the Center for Technology at Essex High School is finishing up the pre-commercial thinning that they started in the Misty Meadows Trails and Forest (MMTF) behind the Westford School last fall. This work, also done in conjunction with Ethan Tapper, consists of felling small and unhealthy trees to improve the growth of the healthiest trees in this area. An additional goal for this project was to add dead wood to the forest floor to promote improved habitat, hydrology, and carbon storage, and to create a "messier," more complex forest. As with the end of the last year, the CTE students will be working over several hours in the middle of the day from Monday-Wednesday for the next couple of weeks. Please be aware and avoid their workspace!

You can find a video about this project on the Chittenden County Forester's YouTube page, <https://youtu.be/LUVXQ0EOzvM>.

If you have any questions about either of these projects, email Ethan Tapper, ethan.tapper@vermont.gov.

Send your news
to the Mountain Gazette at
mtngazette@gmavt.net

4-H

4H plans two contests to inspire young engineers

Vermont 4-H invites students in grades 3-12 to explore their creativity, ingenuity, and engineering skills through two contests, the Rube Goldberg Challenge and Create Your Own Invention Contest.

The deadline for both contests is Saturday, February 19. Details and links for registration (required to access the Flipgrid contest site) can be found at www.uvm.edu/extension/youth/announcements. One winner in each age group (grades 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12) will be selected for each contest and will receive a \$50 gift certificate.

For the Rube Goldberg Challenge, students are asked to build their own Rube Goldberg machine, named for the late American cartoonist who designed crazy contraptions with a number of unrelated devices and steps to perform a simple task in a complicated, inefficient way.

Participants in this challenge will become familiar with six simple machines and basic energy transfer and learn about the engineering design process and backwards design. Working alone or in groups of up to four in their age group, they then will create and film their own Rube Goldberg machine completing a task such as watering a plant or putting coins in a piggy bank.

Each machine should be made from everyday household items and have a minimum of 10 steps. It also must employ three different types of simple machines from the contest list, which

includes incline plane, wedge, screw, wheel and axle, lever and pulley, and be able to accomplish the same task without human intervention at least twice.

Using a phone or camera, students should record a video of the machine working successfully and upload it to the Rube Goldberg Challenge Flipgrid on the contest website.

The Create Your Own Invention Contest encourages students to test their problem-solving, critical thinking, and engineering skills by identifying a problem and then brainstorming, planning, and designing an invention. A set of guidelines will help participants define a problem and walk them through the steps to solve by asking questions about purpose, uniqueness, cost of materials, and logistics.

To enter, students are required to produce a short video (three minutes or less) describing their invention and showing diagrams to demonstrate how it works.

The winning entries will be available for viewing on both the Vermont 4-H and University of Vermont (UVM) College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences Facebook pages during National Engineering Week (February 20-26).

If questions, contact Lauren Traister, UVM Extension 4-H Teen and Leadership Program coordinator, at 802-888-4972, ext. 402. To request a disability-related accommodation to participate, please call by February 1.

COMING EVENTS

Wednesday, January 19

Old Forests: Mosses, Mushrooms, and Mammals, 7:00 – 8:00 PM, online (register at <https://vlt.org/event/mosses>). Old forests are mossy ground, down and standing dead wood with animal cavities, and mushrooms in abundance. This richly illustrated talk will explore elements — other than trees — that we can see in old forests in the winter. It's a great time to see mosses, lichens, and fungi. It's also a great time to see animal tracks, tree cavities, and mystery nests. This talk is the first in a series of three online events and three summer in-person events related to old forests. Presenters: Liz Thompson, Director of Conservation Science, Vermont Land Trust; Bob Zaino, Natural Community Ecologist, VT Fish and Wildlife Department. Sponsored by the Vermont Land Trust. Please email maya@vlt.org with questions and accommodation requests.

The Origin of Baseball and More! 1:30 PM, online (contact jane@cscvt.org for link). Norwich University Professor Rowly Brucken will virtually present *Double-Talk on Doubleday: How a Dead Civil War General Invented Baseball Without His Permission*. Why, how, and when did Abner Doubleday become the imagined inventor of America's pastime? It is becoming more widely known that Doubleday had no connection to baseball, but why, and for what purposes, did baseball's boosters construct an origin story with him at the epicenter? Brucken will not only explore the founding myths of baseball's real and fictional origins, but will also consider the broader context of the age of imperialism in America, New England sports history, and Victorian-era scandals that gave birth to the Doubleday myth. The Community Senior Center is sponsoring this Vermont Humanities Council program.

Saturday, January 22

Understanding Forest Management with City Market, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Hinesburg Town Forest. Join Chittenden County Forester Ethan Tapper for *Understanding Forest Management* and walk an active forest management project at the Hinesburg Town Forest (HTF). Done well, modern forest management can be restorative and regenerative, helping create more diverse, vibrant, resilient forests with great wildlife habitat, helping forests recover from the effects of human land use and creating old forest attributes sooner than they would naturally occur. At the same time, forest management generates local, renewable resources which get turned into building materials, paper, power, and more. Like local food, local wood supports our working landscape and our rural communities and mitigates the use of resources produced under more adverse ecological and social conditions elsewhere in the country or the world. Please bring an open mind and all the questions you've never had a chance to ask about forest management. Learn more and register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/understanding-forest-management-tickets-223503042617>.

Organizing your genealogy research, 12:00 – 1:30 PM, on Zoom. Most of us want more than just our direct line ancestors included in our research. How do we control the flow of this massive research project so that it doesn't control us? How do we make the many systems available to us work to make our genealogical lives easier? Join Suzanne Blanchard to consider the options available to tame our work and get more done. VT Genealogy Library classes will be held on Zoom on Saturdays 12:00 – 1:30 PM; the cost is \$10. Registration is required for this class; to learn more and to register for the class, visit www.vtgenlib.org. You can also visit our Facebook page or call at 802-871-5647.

Saturday January 29

Winter Wildlife Ecology and Forest Management, 1:00 – 3:00 PM, Hinesburg Town Forest. Join Ethan Tapper, the Chittenden County Forester for the VT Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation, and Andrea Shortleeve, Wildlife Biologist for Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife, for a free, public walk of an active forest management project at the Hinesburg Town Forest (HTF). This walk will highlight winter wildlife ecology, wildlife tracking, and how the active management of the HTF is

expected to influence wildlife habitat and behavior. Meet at 1:00 PM at the HTF trailhead on Hayden Hill Road East, 0.3 miles from the intersection with Texas Hill Road. Please note that the Hayden Hill Road East trailhead is not accessible from Hayden Hill Road West, and that if you plug "Hinesburg Town Forest" into your GPS it will send you to the incorrect trailhead. Please come prepared to spend two hours out in the winter elements, including some walking over slippery and uneven surfaces.

Using Microsoft OneNote, 12:00 – 1:30 PM, on Zoom. Dwight Fowler will show how genealogists can organize their digital research using a free tool from Microsoft called OneNote, which can combine all media into one page. You can create customized templates to make note taking etc. fast and efficient. Dwight will review the basics of OneNote and examples of it in use for research. Class attendees should be familiar with Microsoft Word, Powerpoint, and Excel. An understanding of MS OneDrive, or cloud-based tools like Dropbox, or Google Drive, is also recommended. VT Genealogy Library classes will be held on Zoom on Saturdays 12:00 – 1:30 PM; the cost is \$10. Registration is required for this class; to learn more and to register for the class, visit www.vtgenlib.org. You can also visit our Facebook page or call at 802-871-5647.

Saturday-Sunday, January 29-30

Lamoille Valley Fish and Game Club Primitive Biathlon, start times 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM Saturday and 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM Sunday, Lamoille Valley Fish and Game Club, 1158 Garfield Rd., Morrisville. In the spirit of the "original" Smugglers' Notch Primitive Biathlon, the Club will host the fourth annual Primitive Biathlon. Two-mile course starts and ends at the Clubhouse. Trophies to be awarded for First, Second, and Third Overall, First Smoothbore, First Pistol, First Woman, First Elder (60 and over), and First Junior (under 16). Registration \$15; re-entries \$10. For more information contact Rick Reed, 802-355-6558; Harland Blodgett, 802-899-3889; or Keith Ulrich, 802-730-9340.

Monday, February 7

The Problem of Slavery in Early Vermont 1777-1810, 7:00 PM, on Zoom. In observance of Black History Month, the Ethan Allen Homestead Museum presents a discussion of Harvey Amani Whitfield's book. Vermonters have always been proud that their state was the first to outlaw slavery in its constitution — but is that what really happened? This book "explodes this myth, demonstrating conclusively that the enslavement of people of color under various guises persisted in the state for another thirty years," attests Joanne Pope Melish, Associate Professor of History, University of Kentucky. Whitfield forces us to squarely consider the deepest questions about what freedom actually meant for African Americans in Vermont well into the nineteenth century. Free. To register and/or to purchase the book, go online to <https://ethanallenhomestead.org/virtual-book-club>. Special thanks to a grant from Vermont Humanities for making this event possible.

Saturday, February 12

Westford's First Annual Winter Festival — with Horse Power! 12:00 – 4:00 PM, Westford Common and School. Come meet Radar and Minor the Percheron draft horses! Patrick Palmer and his team from Thornapple Farm of New Haven will give you a trolley ride to and from the Common and School to participate in the various venues during Winter Festival. Up near the School you can ski, snowshoe, or sled, and warm up and enjoy a bonfire! Near the Common you can attend concerts, enjoy a chili cook-off, skate, miniature golf, popcorn and cotton candy, great beer from Foam Brewery, and so much more. Come to the Winter Festival and Concerts! Any questions? Contact Westfordwinterfest@gmail.com.

Tuesday, February 22

Propagating Plants by Seeds, Cuttings, Layering, and Grafting, 1:00 PM, United First Methodist Church, 899 Dorset St., S. Burlington. Join Dr. Mark Starrett, UVM Associate Professor, for a hands-on workshop demonstrating methods of propagating indoor, outdoor, and tropical plants, shrubs, and trees. Free and open to the public.

Surprise that special someone with a

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Just email us at mtngazette@gmavt.net





Audubon Photography Awards are back

The 2022 Audubon Photography Awards are now officially accepting submissions! Until Wednesday, March 9 you can enter your best bird photos and videos for a chance to win. For the second year, Audubon will award the Female Bird Prize and the Video Prize along with six other prizes for spectacular images of birdlife. Winning photos will be published in future issues of Audubon magazine, our Youth winner will be awarded a special trip to take their bird photography to the next level, and our Grand Prize winner will take home a cash prize of \$5000! Combine your passion for birds and photography and apply today! For detailed contest rules and tips on how to capture that perfect shot, go online to <https://www.audubon.org/photoawards-entry/>

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Johnson Food Shelf thanks: LUHS! LUMS! VEC!

The Johnson Food Shelf has many people and organizations to be thankful for. At this time, we would like to send a belated *thank you* to the Lamoille Union High School students and staff for raising 321 pounds of food for us, and the Lamoille Union Middle School students and staff another 354 pounds of food! That is a lot of food! Many thanks!

The Food Shelf would also like to send a big *thank you* to the Vermont Electric Coop for their money donation through their Turkey Drive Fundraiser, and two boxes of fixings to go with the turkeys. Their donation helped many families!

We are very thankful for everyone's participation in helping our community members!

Your new New Year's resolution: volunteer with CVCOA!

If you're anything like the rest of us, you abandoned your New Year's resolution to give up sugar with the chocolate bar that was calling your name last night (it was worth it!) Lucky for you, CVCOA has a new New Year's resolution for you!

Why not help yourself and help someone else at the same time? Volunteering is more important than ever. And, it's good for you! Studies show volunteering results in an increase in mental and physical health, and in life satisfaction. You can help older adults live independently with dignity and choice in 2022!

No matter your interest or expertise, CVCOA wants to provide a great match for you. Right now, our most urgent needs are in delivering nutritious meals at the doors of older adults and checking on the recipient in a safe manner. Opportunities available through the Senior Centers in Barre, Lamoille County, Mad River Valley, Montpelier, Northfield, Randolph, and Twin Valley.

Not much of a driver? We need people to participate in training to lead exercise classes for older adults on Zoom, through which you will help people stay healthy and provide opportunities for socializing. Additional opportunities throughout central Vermont include companionship, friendly calling, organizing, transportation, technology training, and much more.

Contact Anne Greshin (agreshin@cvcoa.org, 802-241-4840) or go to <https://www.cvcoa.org/volunteering.html>. Help us help you change the world, one Central Vermonter (or a Zoom-room-full!) at a time!

COLLEGE HONORS

James Birmingham of Waterbury, VT has been named to the Dean's List at the University of Vermont, Burlington, VT. Birmingham is majoring in Computer Science, College of Arts and Sciences.

Brianna Borch of Jericho, VT has been named to the Dean's List at the University of Vermont, Burlington, VT. Borch is majoring in Food Systems, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Mason Combs of Jericho, VT has been named to the President's List at Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH.

Jacob Crawford of Jericho, VT has been named to the Dean's List at the University of Vermont, Burlington, VT. Crawford is majoring in Wildlife & Fisheries Biology, Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources.

Emma Downie of Waterbury, VT has been named to the Dean's List at the University of Vermont, Burlington, VT. Downie is majoring in Sociology, College of Arts and Sciences.

Zachary Fisher of Waterbury, VT has been named to the Fall Dean's List at Stonehill College, Easton, VT.

Samuel Frenette of Westford, VT has been named to the Dean's List at the University of Vermont, Burlington, VT. Frenette is majoring in Studio Art, College of Arts and Sciences.

Lazaria Harris of Westford, VT has been named to the Dean's List at the University of Vermont, Burlington, VT. Harris is majoring in Neuroscience, College of Arts and Sciences.

Ella King of Underhill, VT has been named to the Dean's List at the University of Vermont, Burlington, VT. King is majoring in Elementary Education – K-6, College of Education and Social Services.

WORSHIP SERVICES

Virtual services at MMUUF

Sunday services at the Mount Mansfield Unitarian Universalist Fellowship are held at 9:30 AM on the second and fourth Sundays of each month, September-June. Services are led by members of the fellowship and by invited guest speakers, including visiting UU ministers and leaders of other faiths. Each service explores a different topic. January 23, February 13: Sarah Ward. Worship, reflect, and sustain one another, within an inclusive spiritual community, built on values of honoring and affirming the worth of every person, striving for justice, participating in the world community, and respecting the natural web of existence. Services will be exclusively held over Zoom; please contact info@mmuuf.org or 802-899-2558 for how to join. Located at 195 VT Rt. 15, Jericho. Learn more at www.mmuuf.org and www.uua.org.

Jericho United Methodist Church

Jericho United Methodist Church welcomes you to grow in Christ with us. We hold dear the United Methodist Church's motto: "Open doors. Open Hearts. Open Minds." We recognize that our faith journeys are all unique, just as we as individuals are all unique. Know that whoever you are, whatever you do, you are welcome here. We believe that we grow together or not at all. All are welcome! Join us Sundays at 10:00 AM. There will be music, prayer and message from our pastor, Rev. Taeseob Cho. Please contact Rev. Cho at the church phone number, 802-899-4288, or his email, umecho@gmail.com. Located next to the Jericho Town Hall on VT Rt. 15.

United Church of Underhill

The United Church of Underhill is an active, vibrant congregation. We are young and old; single, couples, and families; believers, questioners, and questioning believers. All are welcome. Some people think of us as the Harvest Market Church or the Clutter Barn Church. We gather to worship together every Sunday morning at 10:00 AM. Our service is traditional but lively, with music, a children's sermon, and much more. For instructions on joining worship from home, please see <https://unitedchurchofunderhill.com/joining-worship-from-home/>. We provide many opportunities for worship, fellowship, and service, but we also welcome you to come in, be still, and contemplate your faith. Located at 7 Park St., Underhill. Pastor's office (with voicemail) 802-899-1722; church secretary, Tuesday and Wednesday 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM (no voicemail) 802-899-4583.

Church services in Jeffersonville, Waterville

The Second Congregational Church in Jeffersonville and the Waterville Union Church would like to invite all who feel called to join us for our online church services, Sundays at 10:30 AM. Know that no matter who you are or where you are in life's journey, you are welcome at our church; or in this case, our web-space! <https://www.facebook.com/watervilleunionchurch> or <https://www.facebook.com/SecondCongregationalUCC>.

Jericho Congregational Church is here to help

Jericho Congregational Church — "An Historic Church Proclaiming an Eternal Message" on the Green in Jericho Center, VT. Senior Pastor, David Coons and Youth Pastor, Peter Anderson. Sunday School at 8:30 AM for all ages, Fellowship at 9:30 AM, Worship Service at 10:00 AM; Nursery care provided. Youth group 6:15 PM Sundays in our Sunday school building ~ 899-4911; officejcc@comcast.net; www.jccvt.org

All are welcome at Good Shepherd, Jericho

You are invited to worship at Good Shepherd Church on VT Rt. 15 at 9:00 AM every Sunday. Services continue to be live virtual for the coming weeks. To join in: Zoom links are provided via Good Shepherd's communication document called the E-Bulletin. Subscribe ahead of time, by the Tuesday prior to a service you hope to attend, at www.goodshepherdjericho.org. You need to subscribe only once, and you can unsubscribe at any time. There are varied musical styles in worship services, including Folk, Contemporary, Celtic, Latin American, and traditional. In addition, online offerings include Monday evening Prayerful Meditation, Tuesday Evening Prayer, and Centering Prayer on Friday mornings. Good Shepherd also hosts the monthly online *Racism in America Forum*. We are an open-minded Christian community with a focus on social justice issues, where people from different faith traditions, along with those who aren't sure where they belong or what they believe, seek the support of a spiritual home. We welcome you in the name and love of Christ. Contact Pastor Arnold Isidore Thomas for more information at 802-503-9666 or pastorthomas@goodshepherdjericho.org.

Andre Latulippe of Waterbury, VT has been named to the Dean's List at the University of Vermont, Burlington, VT. Latulippe is majoring in Business Administration, Grossman School of Business.

Connor McCormack of Underhill, VT has been named to the Dean's List at the University of Vermont, Burlington, VT. McCormack is majoring in Business Administration, Grossman School of Business.

Ryan Parker of Cambridge, VT has been named to the Dean's List at the University of Vermont, Burlington, VT. Parker is majoring in Computer Science, College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences.

Connor Philbrick of Jericho, VT has been named to the President's List at Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH.

Faith Ploof of Westford, VT has been named to the Dean's List at the University of Vermont, Burlington, VT. Ploof is majoring in Exercise Science, College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

Zach Reinhardt of Underhill, VT has been named to the Dean's List at the University of Vermont, Burlington, VT. Reinhardt is majoring in Exercise Science, College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

Olivia Vita of Jericho, VT has been named to the Dean's List at the University of Vermont, Burlington, VT. Vita is majoring in Elementary Education – K-6, College of Education and Social Services.

Kyle Wright of Underhill, VT was named to the Fall 2021 Dean's List at the College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA. Wright is a member of the class of 2022 majoring in Chemistry.

Grace Zelazny of Jericho, VT has been named to the Dean's List at the University of Vermont, Burlington, VT. Zelazny is majoring in English, College of Arts and Sciences.

Calvary Episcopal Church

Calvary Episcopal Church in Jericho, now worships virtually via Zoom on Sundays at 9:30 AM due to the Omicron variant's rapid spread throughout Vermont. If you would like the worship service login information, please contact the parish administrator at calvarychurchjericho@gmail.com or 802-899-0453. All are warmly invited!

St. Thomas Catholic Church

St. Thomas Catholic Church in Underhill Center invites you to join us in person for the Holy Mass at 8:30 AM every Sunday. There is also a vigil Mass at 4:00 PM on Saturday evenings. Our priest, Fr. Richard Calapan, also celebrates Mass during the week, on Tuesdays at 6:30 PM and Fridays at 8:00 AM. Confessions are available on Tuesdays before Mass. Visit us at www.stthomasvt.com or call 802-899-4632 for more information.

Class on Buddhist foundational teachings

The Burlington Shambhala Meditation Center is offering an online course entitled *Taming the Mind*, on six Tuesday evenings from 6:30 – 8:30 PM, beginning Tuesday, January 25.

This course introduces the foundational Buddhist teachings, including the nature of suffering, selflessness, truth, liberation, discipline, peace, and the "Calm Abiding" sitting meditation practice. These lead to liberation from suffering, and the ability to be more available to ourselves and others in our everyday lives.

For more information, visit <https://burlington.shambhala.org/>.

The Humanist Being — a Secular Humanist group forming

We are starting a local secular humanist group in the Burlington area. Because of COVID-19, we are doing all of our meetings virtually for the time being.

Secular Humanism is a set of beliefs that focus on the wellbeing of humans and other sentient beings without including any supernatural beliefs. "Doing good without (a) god(s)" is one of the secular humanist creeds.

The group wants to create safe spaces for non-believers to gather, be social together, and work together to promote the goals of secular humanism, which include altruism, service and participation, environmentalism, critical thinking, empathy, responsibility, peace and social justice, global awareness, ethical development, empathy and empathy.

We strive to encourage the separation of religion and government and to work together to create a future of equity and cooperation with those who disagree with us.

We set up a MeetUp where people who want to know more can go, find out about our meetings, and start making a local group of like-minded people: <https://www.meetup.com/the-humanist-being-burlington-vt-meetup-group/>.

Looking forward to meeting all and any who are interested.



The Best Resolution Ever

Welcome the new year with a commitment toward the safety and wellbeing of children. Become a foster, kin, or respite care provider to a child or youth in need. Find out how at:

<https://dcf.vermont.gov/foster>

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HEALTH NEWS

Age Well free Grab and Go senior meals

Age Well sponsored *Grab and Go* meals are free to those over 60, and there are several locations in our area:

- Essex Senior Center: every Wednesday; to register, call Nicole 802-876-5087
- Jericho Community Center: second Wednesday of the month; to register, call Donna 802-434-3155
- Richmond Holy Family Church: third Wednesday of the month; to register, call Donna 802-434-4123
- Underhill Center St. Thomas Church: fourth Wednesday of the month; to register, call Teri 802-899-4632

Cambridge sponsors Senior Aqua Aerobics at Smuggs

Enjoy the benefits of a full-body workout in a heated 87 degree pool! This water-based class is suitable for every fitness level.

This program, sponsored by Smugglers' Notch Resort and the Cambridge Recreation Board, is run in conjunction with a pre-existing Aqua Aerobics class at Smugglers' Notch Resort. There may be additional drop-in participants that are guests to the resort. Class dates or times may be subject to change due to COVID-19 safety protocols. In the event of change, all participants will be effectively communicated with.

Cambridge residents: \$60 for eight classes (after Recreation Board subsidy); non-residents: \$80 for eight classes, held on Tuesday and Thursday, January 18-February 10, 9:15 – 10:00 AM at the Courtside Pool at Smugglers' Notch Resort. Additional parking is available at the FunZone 2.0. Maximum of 10 people.

To register, go online to https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc4JMWr1THxfHbyO64N4myYncyd7FPZiql9nAFqXUgS32zzQ/viewform?usp=sf_link or contact Emily Boek, Aquatic Manager, eboek@smuggs.com.

Please make checks payable to "Town of Cambridge" and send payment to: Smugglers' Notch Resort, Attn: Emily Boek, Aquatics, 4323 VT Rt. 108 South, Jeffersonville, VT 05464-9537.

An email will be sent to confirm registration and receipt of payment. For any questions or concerns, please contact Emily Boek, Aquatic Manager, eboek@smuggs.com.

Richmond Rescue Q4 statistics

By Michael Chiarella, Director of Operations
Richmond Rescue

In the fourth quarter of 2021 we went on 310 calls and transported 166 patients, for a transport rate of 53%. Our average for this period in the last three years was 167 calls and 100 transports, and a transport rate of 60%. This quarter was much busier than past years because we are temporarily providing ambulance service to the towns of Hinesburg and St. George while the fire department gets their new ambulance in service.

We had 36 volunteers actively participating in our operations. They contributed a total of 6071 hours on duty. Most of those hours are spent at the station so that we can provide a quick response. On average we left the station in 1 minute 43 seconds, and arrived on scene in 13 minutes. We spent about 19 minutes on scene and then another 27 minutes transporting our patient to the hospital. Prompt activation of 911 is vital when someone has a serious medical problem. By calling for an ambulance we can begin to provide care that would normally have to wait until you arrive at the hospital.

We went on 93 calls in Richmond, 79 in Hinesburg, 24 in Huntington, 20 in St. George, 13 calls in Bolton (one at Bolton Valley), 10 in Jericho, 1 in Starksboro, and 21 on I-89. We also traveled out of our area to Essex, Underhill, and Williston to assist other agencies. The busiest day of the week was Monday (49) and the quietest day was Sunday (40). Daytime (6:00 AM – 6:00 PM) accounted for 183 calls, while nights had 127 calls.

In the fourth quarter we were able to respond to 11 calls with our second truck while the primary truck was on another call. This means that instead of waiting for an ambulance from Williston or UVM, we were able to respond with no delay. Many other times we had a crew standing by for a second call. This is a testament to the depth and dedication of our volunteers.

Of our 166 transports, we only transported 16 patients with our lights and sirens activated (10%). We reserve the use of lights and sirens for the most critical patients. The difference in transport time with lights and sirens is only about three minutes faster. Please pull your car to the right and stop at a safe place if you see us approaching with our lights on.

Since we began the E911 sign program, we've made 940 reflective address signs. They have been making a great difference for us in being able to quickly locate addresses. You can order yours at <https://www.richmondrescue.org/e911-signs>.

I hope you found this snapshot of the fourth quarter interesting. If there are any additional numbers you are interested in, feel free to contact director@richmondrescue.org.

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LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

Legislative update — week 1

By Alyssa Black, State Representative, Chittenden-8-3
Monday, January 10

Welcome back! I'm hoping you all had a peaceful and restorative holiday season, and a happy New Year. As the calendar turns to January that also means the start of a new legislative session, and I've been eager for it to begin. I've had a very busy off session working my regular job, it feels as though I spent three months catching up and then the next three months preparing to step back again. I am incredibly fortunate that I have such a wonderful employer, they have been very supportive of me as I have taken on this new position. I'm also very grateful to all my constituents for their understanding when my communications are sometimes delayed.

While I was very excited to start this session, unfortunately it didn't quite begin as I had hoped. We were committed to conducting this session in person. It has been almost two years of legislating via Zoom, and as effective as we have tried to make that, it is not the same as being in the building. The week before we were to begin, the Joint Rules Committee concluded that with the emergence of the Omicron variant we would delay being in person for two weeks. In order to be able to conduct our business via Zoom, we had to pass a resolution authorizing this. We gathered at the state house for a very short morning session on Tuesday, January 4 to vote on this. I voted yes, only because this was a tri-partisan compromise.

At the time they made the decision the daily case counts were just beginning to rise and there was not time to take the adequate testimony from public health experts on what measures we should be looking at to make more informed decisions. Clearly case counts are not an accurate measure. After this two weeks, I'm not certain how I will vote if asked again. I feel we need to be in the building. We have asked so many Vermonters to go back to work, each with their own individual risks, and I have a hard time justifying why we should not as well. The only thing that gives me the slightest pause is that the State House is not exactly the safest building to be in. Let's face it, in the best of times it's basically a petri dish. It has an old and poorly functioning HVAC system, the rooms are tiny and packed with people. And it's important to remember, it's not just legislators that work there. There are very large staffs that support the work of the legislature. And it is open to the public and must remain so. Regardless, I hope we are back on the 18th.

So, as we headed back to the virtual statehouse on Wednesday we immediately set to work on budget adjustment, or BAA. The BAA is the mid-year adjustment of existing programs; new ideas wait until the FY2023 budget. It is the opportunity to attend to urgent needs that cannot wait. Pandemic-related needs are legitimate inclusions since, unhappily, we are still coping with virus-precipitated issues. This year the administration submitted approximately \$180 million in budget adjustment. Typically, the BAA request is usually in the \$30-40M range.

The Healthcare Committee that I serve on heard from the Department of Mental Health, Department of Vermont Health Access, and several advocates from our designated agencies. To refresh your memory, most of our state's social service programs are administered by DAs and special service agencies (SSAs). I'm also what's referred to as the "budget buddy" for appropriations, so I track everything healthcare-related that happens in Appropriations. I spent time this week in Healthcare, Appropriations, Human Services, and even Commerce. My head is swimming in numbers! Affecting healthcare, most of the ask is for unanticipated claims from Medicaid. This is due to the expanded Medicaid enrollments that have occurred under COVID. Part of the requirement from the federal government was that if we accepted additional Medicaid funding during the pandemic, we were unable to perform redeterminations on eligibility. Which equates to about 30,000 more Vermonters who qualify for Medicaid than normal.

The other major ask is for workforce retainment. I don't think I can adequately explain how dismal our workforce shortage is in healthcare and, most dramatically, mental health care. At a time when the need is so great, the workforce is depleted and frankly, demoralized. The BAA has sizable requests for recruitment and retention bonuses for state employees, but there is no request for our underpaid and overworked DAs and SSAs. We will most likely recommend a sizable amount in addition to the administration ask, for them. Frankly, none of this solves any problems, it just hopefully slows the bleeding. As I sat listening to testimony the thought that kept nagging me was, "there's not enough money in the world to solve this." This will require a complete overhaul of how we support and fund these vital services.

On that happy note, I hope you all have a great week and always feel free to call me at 802-598-1026 or email me at ablack@leg.state.vt.us.

Senate update: COVID safety, schools, pensions, climate

By Kesha Ram Hinsdale, State Senator, Chittenden District
January 12

We are in our second week of the 2022 legislative session, and we're feeling the appropriate sense of urgency to hit the ground running. My committee, Senate Government Operations, passed out the first two bills of the session to provide ongoing COVID guidance to meet the spirit of Open Meeting Law and safely hold Town Meeting Day. Here are some additional updates from the State House...

COVID Safety and Support: We continue to see new COVID cases in the thousands each day, as well as a strain on systems for testing and care. We know this is being felt most acutely by our children, families, educators, and school nurses. I applaud

the flexibility to allow remote learning to qualify as days of instruction, though I am concerned about the shortage of nursing staff available for contract tracing. I am continuing to call on the Governor to advance greater COVID precautions, as well as to provide schools with N95 masks and greater testing capacity.

Furthermore, whole families are in crisis as they and their children's early learning centers experience the Omicron surge. I am advocating for emergency unemployment resources so we can help get them back to their workplace quickly while making them whole in the recovery process. Otherwise, they will need to choose between going to work sick or staying home without income.

Education Equity: The Social Equity Caucus has made pupil weighting and its impact on low-income and ELL students a major priority. The Pupil Weighting Task Force did not recommend an empirically derived weight for ELL students, as it did for low-income students. If cost equity is not achieved, then Burlington and Winooski School Districts, and the hundreds of ELL students they serve, stand to lose significant ground. Our ELL students and the Limited English Proficient families that support their learning are some of our newest Vermonters and contain the immense potential to positively transform our state. They need and deserve the best possible start to becoming our future citizens and leaders. I will fight to ensure these districts have long overdue resources to fully support multilingual students and families.

Pensions: Last session, due to changes in assumptions and projections, the unfunded liability for educator and state employee pensions grew significantly. I joined our labor leaders in asking that they be in the driver's seat for building a sustainable, compassionate path forward, especially recognizing the sacrifices of frontline workers in the pandemic. This slowed down the process and created a Pension Task Force that has just released its recommendations. Over \$200 million in one-time funds will be used to pay down our liability, with significant ongoing dollars going toward closing the gap over time and making our pensions whole. We will also move from a "paygo" model for retiree health benefits to prefunding, which will save hundreds of millions of dollars in the system over time.

All labor organizations were at the table to achieve savings while preserving our defined benefit system, but I still want to hear as many perspectives as I can. The documents are available at <http://legislature.vermont.gov> and that is also where details will be announced regarding a virtual pension hearing for my committee, Government Operations, on Tuesday, January 18 at 5:30 PM.

Environmental Justice: This past Monday, alongside Senate Natural Resources Chair Christopher Bray, we were able to advance our environmental justice bill as a "must-pass" priority for the legislature. S.148 ensures that environmental benefits are reaching all Vermont residents and the most impacted communities receive priority for overdue environmental infrastructure, pollution mitigation strategies, and access to green space. We have built a broad coalition of support for this bill and were fortunate to have representatives from the Vermont branches of the NAACP, Rights and Democracy, the Vermont Natural Resources Council, 350 Vermont, VPIRG, the Sierra Club, and Renewable Energy Vermont.

As always, please let me know your thoughts, stories, and insights. I keep them on my mind and use them (with permission) to hold our systems accountable to meeting your needs in this critical time.

P.S. If you're interested in receiving more frequent email updates, please sign up here: <https://www.kesharam.com/get-involved>.

Legislative update

By Theresa Wood, State Representative
Washington-Chittenden

January 13

This is the first weekly legislative update of the 2022 session. I want to start off by thanking you for checking out these updates each week and for any feedback you might have for me as your representative in the House.

Last week legislators met briefly in person to vote on a resolution that called for us to meet remotely until January 18. I completely understand the differences of opinion on this matter. During the best of times, our beautiful State House is a petri dish for spreading colds, the flu, etc. We also have people convening from all parts of the State so the opportunity to spread an infection rapidly across the state exists. That being said, our Rules Committee is continuing to meet with medical professionals to determine parameters for our return to legislating in person in Montpelier.

S.172 – both the Senate and the House passed S.172 in the first week of the session and the bill has moved on to the Governor's desk for signature. Briefly, this is authorization, similar to last year, to hold annual meetings (town and school district) remotely, change the date, and vote by Australian ballot on items normally voted from the floor. This is a temporary measure for 2022.

In my committee (House Human Services) we spent the week taking testimony on the Governor's fiscal year 2022 budget adjustment request. At the midpoint of each year, the Administration requests to make adjustments in the state budget. This year has been more complicated given the amount of federal funding and different pockets of funds to be reviewed. The budget adjustment act, or BAA as it is called, will be voted on by the full House next week.

I also want to remind folks that a wealth of information can be found on the Legislature's web page, including a record of my votes on any roll call votes that we may have.

Thanks and stay warm!

Surprise that special someone with a

Valentine's Day

wish in the *Mountain Gazette!*

Just email us at mtngazette@gmavt.net



LIBRARY NEWS

DEBORAH RAWSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The library is now open with updated hours, no appointment needed: Tuesday and Thursdays 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM, Wednesday and Friday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Saturday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, and Sunday 1:00 – 4:00 PM. Everyone over the age of 2 is required to wear a mask. Please try to limit your visit to 30 minutes. Curbside pickup is still available; contact 802-899-4962 or rawsonlibrary@drml.org.

To register for programs, call 802-899-4962, or email Erik (program_assistant@drml.org) for Adult Programs or Abbey (youth_librarian@drml.org) for Youth Programs.

Adult programs

To register for adult programs, please go to drml.org/programs or email Erik, program_assistant@drml.org.

Ongoing

Preschool Story Time: too chilly to turn the pages, so story time will be moving inside to the program room, which has great airflow and an air purifier. Everyone over the age of 2 years old must wear a mask. As of now, no registration required (subject to change).

Sign up for these awesome programs!

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

JERICHO TOWN LIBRARY

We're sorry to announce that all in-person Jericho Town Library programs are canceled through at least the end of January. We've loved having Storytime back in the library these past few months, but we need to prioritize the health and safety of our youngest patrons. Given our small space, limited ventilation system, and this current surge of COVID cases, Storytime is taking a break until further notice. We will be continuing our weekly take-home craft kits, so look for social media updates when those are available.

Jericho Town Library continues to be fully open, no appointment needed: 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM Tuesday, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM Wednesday-Friday, and 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM Saturday. Thank you all for continuing to mask up, get vaccinated, and keep us all healthy!

Get snowshoes from your library! Jericho Town Library is excited to offer twenty pairs of snowshoes that can be checked out by all Jericho Town and Deborah Rawson Memorial Library cardholders, aged 18+. The variety of sizes should fit your whole family; visit our website for more details about the snowshoes sizes and lending policy.

Find us on Facebook and Instagram ([@jerichotownlibrary](https://www.instagram.com/jerichotownlibrary)) for regular updates on our programs, services, and collections. 802-899-4686, library@jerichotownlibraryvt.org, www.jerichotownlibraryvt.org.

Please check our website and the notice boards outside of the library for updates and more information on programs and library services: www.jerichotownlibraryvt.org or 802-899-4686.

VARNUM MEMORIAL LIBRARY JEFFERSONVILLE

The Varnum is undergoing renovation for the new hardwood flooring! We will be closed through Monday, February 7, resuming normal hours on Tuesday, February 8 (9:00 AM – 6:00 PM). Please DO NOT use the book drop. Hold onto your books until February 8.

Thank you to all who volunteered at the Varnum in anticipation of our flooring project in January, and a very special thanks to Paul Dunn, who put in over 20 hours during the holidays to help make this happen! Adult fiction has been moved to the front, and kids, young adults, and adult nonfiction to the back. New releases can be found in the middle.

We are hosting a few special virtual programs this January as our floors are worked on.

If you're interested in supporting the Varnum in any way, be sure to check out our Amazon Wish List! Any donations are sincerely appreciated. Our list this year includes fish tank filters, hot chocolate, crafts, and even a fireplace insert! https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2OTE5H2ICH0EE?ref=wl_share

Wednesday, January 19, 5:30 - 6:30 PM, virtual author talk: **Ecological Memory**. Contact the library for the Zoom link. Join Caroline Ailanthus, science-fiction writer and author of **Ecological Memory**. Caroline lives in Maryland, went to college in Vermont, and summers working in the state for Green Mountain Club. Hers is a novel of ecological fiction, set 20 years after a catastrophic pandemic. It deals with recovery and resilience on personal, societal, and ecological levels. That makes it unexpectedly timely, perhaps a source of perspective and hope. Pick up a copy to read in advance, or check it out after the talk.

If you're interested in supporting the Varnum in any way, be sure to check out our Amazon Wish List! Any donations are sincerely appreciated. Our list this year includes fish tank filters, hot chocolate, crafts, and even a fireplace insert! https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2OTE5H2ICH0EE?ref=wl_share

Please let us know how we can assist you by contacting varnumrequests@gmail.com or 802-644-2117.

The team at the Varnum: April, Carol, Carrie, Courtney, Hope, Jan, Karen, Krista, Laura, Lesley, Liv, Mark, Teelah, and Valerie

The Varnum Memorial Library is open for curbside pickup and in-person browsing. Please continue to wear a mask. Our hours are: Tuesdays 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM; Wednesdays 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM; Thursdays 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM; Fridays 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM; and Saturdays 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM; closed Sunday-Monday. (Note, hours at the Varnum can vary week to week; please check the website to be certain.)

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

WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

The library hours of operation (meaning come in and browse the shelves, use the computer, grab a DVD, etc.): Tuesdays 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM, Wednesdays 1:00 – 7:00 PM, Thursdays 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM, Fridays 1:00 – 7:00 PM, and Saturday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, no appointments needed. Patrons of all ages are welcome, children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. If you feel you need curbside service, for whatever reason, please email Bree at the library and we can work something out. We want nothing to impede you from using the library.

Masks are no longer required for fully vaccinated individuals. You are welcome to continue wearing a mask as a personal choice. We are continuing to require masks for all unvaccinated or not fully vaccinated visitors while you are indoors. This

includes children 2-5, who cannot be vaccinated at this time, and those 5-11 if unvaccinated. Infants and toddlers aged 2 and younger are not required to wear a mask. Masks are not required at any of our outside programs.

Seeking artists to display at the library! You don't need to be a professional to share your talent — contact Bree about displaying your photography, fiber arts, painting, drawing, and more. You can pair up with a fellow artist. Displays usually stay up for three months.

Thursdays, 6:30 PM: Fiber Arts Group meets in person at the library.

For kids

Wednesdays: Take and Make Crafts Kits. New kits offered every Wednesday, until they are gone. Crafters of all ages are welcome to take a new holiday themed craft kit each week. Materials, pictures, and instructions included.

Thursdays, 11:15 AM: Storytime, inside the library (masks required for all, regardless of vaccination status; children under two exempt from this requirement). We are moving back inside for the colder weather months, and will do our best to social distance. Crafts will be a blend of takeaways and in-person.

The Westford Food Shelf is now open twice a month, on the first Wednesday of each month (January 5), 4:30 – 5:30 PM, on the third Saturday (December 18), 8:00 – 9:00 AM. With increased openings, they need more inventory! The Westford Public Library has food collection bins at all curbside pickups from now on. These bins are for non-perishable food and household items.

Find us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/westfordpubliclibrary) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/westfordVT_pl). Bree Drapa, Librarian. 802-878-5639; <http://westfordpubliclibrary.org>; westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com.

FAIRFAX COMMUNITY LIBRARY

The Fairfax Community Library is looking more like usual with seating areas, new books, and book displays. We are moving forward with our programming as well while following safety guidelines and library protocols.

Hours: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 10:00 AM – 5:30 PM; Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00 AM – 7:00 PM; and Saturdays 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

We are asking everyone to please wear a face mask in the library. To help meet the needs of all library users, Curbside Pickup Services will be provided on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:00 – 7:00 PM upon request.

Please sign up at least one week before the program date! All events are free unless noted. Pre-registration required; please contact libraryfairfax@gmail.com or call 849-2420 to register!

Youth Events

Wednesdays, January 19, 26, 10:30 AM: Preschool Story Time. Join us for stories and songs! Children's books will be available to check out as well. Before you leave, pick up an activity to make at home!

Mondays, 3:30 PM: Chess Club. Chess Club has started up again! Learning chess has been proven to have many benefits such as building creativity, problem solving, and concentration! Ages 7+. Space is limited, so please register!

Thursdays, January 27, 3:15 PM: Read with Henry. Sign up for a 15-minute slot to read to Henry, a big friendly Newfoundland dog!

Saturday, January 22, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM: Pin Making. Make your own custom pins at the library! Materials provided. All ages encouraged. This is an all day event, so no need to sign up!

Wednesday, January 26, 1:00 PM: Snowy Owl Craft. Make a cute mini snow owl! Materials provided. Ages 8+

Adult Events

Thursday, January 20, 4:00 PM: Financial Literacy Workshop with Cody Fiala — Financial Credit. Starting in January, Fairfax Library will host three monthly workshops on personal finance topics. People are welcome to attend select sessions or the full series. The sessions will provide participants with information they can act upon to manage and protect their money, and to work towards their financial goals. Handouts will be provided at each session, capturing the major points of the presentation and providing additional resources. Each session will be strengthened by the questions people ask! Please register.

Monday, January 24, 4:00 PM: Age Well Presentation. Join Laura Need for a presentation about the Three Squares Program for Vermonters over 60, and the resources and events offered by Age Well to anyone over 60! Please register.

Saturday, January 29, 1:00 PM: Spark Joy Charlotte Program. It's time to get organized! A 60-minute recorded presentation in which participants will learn the philosophy behind the KonMari Method and discover what it means to live a life that Sparks Joy. We will dive into the guiding principles needed to tidy once and for all! Please register!

For up-to-date info about programs, visit our website www.fairfaxvlib.org, where you can also find a link to the interactive Google calendar. 75 Hunt Street, Fairfax; 802-849-2420.

RICHMOND LIBRARY

Mask up, please. Everyone over the age of two entering the Library is required to wear a facemask regardless of vaccination status. As a community library, we value the privacy and safety of all our patrons.

The Library's hours have changed to the following: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM; Wednesday, 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM; and Saturday, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Our webpage, Facebook, and email reflect this information and we will be changing physical signage soon.

Book Chat: Join the monthly *Discover Between the Covers* book chat with Rebecca Mueller of the Richmond Free Library and Stacey Symanowicz of the Huntington Public Library featuring materials from the two libraries. Chats will introduce readers to a variety of titles old and new, fiction and nonfiction, past and current award winners, favorite series, and perhaps a movie or two. There will be time set aside to let participants share what they have discovered, too! Use the zoom link found at <https://richmondfreeibraryvt.org/collections/book-chats/>.

Colección Española: If you have a child enrolled in the Spanish immersion program at Richmond Elementary School, you may be interested in our new collection of Spanish language resources. Books in the collection range from the simplest of board books to more complex language resources appropriate for intermediate students. Ask to be directed to the shelf where the collection is currently being held.

Thursday, January 20, 7:00 PM: Mystery Book Club. The Searcher by Tana French. Retired detective Cal Hooper moves to a remote village in rural Ireland. His plans are to fix up the dilapidated cottage he's bought, to walk the mountains, to put his old police instincts to bed forever. Contact group coordinator Maureen Parent, mspavent@gmavt.net or 434-2055 for more information on joining the discussion. Copies available at the library.

Youth Programs are currently ongoing with COVID precautions in place as needed. Program details are below. Weekly youth programs at the Library run September-May and follow the MMUUSD school district schedule for vacation days and weather closure days.

Mondays, 10:30 AM: Baby Laptime. This short, active storytime is for our youngest little book lovers and their grown ups. We'll look at picture books, sing simple songs, do some rhyming and bouncing, and sometimes get out the shakers and scarves. Designed for infants and early toddlers.

Wednesdays, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Storytime and Playgroup. The good times kick off with stories and songs in the Library Community Room and then it's outdoor play time with old and new friends. For Storytime, families will spread out in the spacious community room. After Storytime we will move outside to the playground for playtime as weather allows. Co-sponsored by the Library and the Lund Center. Kids from 0-5 and their grown ups are invited to join the fun.

Mondays, 5:00 PM in the Community Room: Kaiut Yoga with Caroline Sheftel. The Kaiut Yoga method applies biomechanical, integrative, and therapeutic techniques in the practice. Every individual class is designed with the purpose to increase freedom of movement and integration between body and mind. Caroline believes that yoga is for everyone, and finds this universal accessibility in Kaiut Yoga. Bring a yoga mat, a yoga bolster (or equivalent), and strap (or equivalent). By donation; proceeds will be given to charitable organizations.

Free Tong Ren sessions Molly Lawney leads a free bimonthly community energy healing class. She practices a form of energy healing called Tong Ren, which works well in a group setting and it's contact-free, so it also works well for social distancing purposes. For more information, contact molly@openchannelenergy.com.

Contact us at 802-434-3036 (leave a message after hours) or rfl@gmavt.net.

Richmond Free Library, 201 Bridge St., P.O. Box 997, Richmond, VT 05477; 802-434-3036; fax 802-434-3223; www.richmondfreeibraryvt.org.

BROWNELL LIBRARY, ESSEX JUNCTION

Contact us at frontdesk@brownelllibrary.org or 802-878-6955.

Brownell Library, 6 Lincoln St., Essex Junction. Contact Main Desk 802-878-6955, Youth Desk 802-878-6956, Reference Desk 802-878-6957, or frontdesk@brownelllibrary.org.

ESSEX FREE LIBRARY

Our online resources and services are always open. All you need is your library card. Don't have a library card? Request a virtual library e-card today to access our ebook and audiobook collections. (https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScH6EF1cpRRmOhjQ_O1GTNOzZ1_eJS3WJtR4BQe1aT6mYMT0A/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1)

Essex Free Library, 1 Browns River Rd., Essex. 802-879-0313; essexfreeibrary.com

Air quality improvements at Westford Library**By Bree Drapa, Librarian, Westford Public Library**

Happy New Year! I wanted to give everyone an update on what the library is doing to maintain a safe space during the pandemic.

You might remember that last year we were able to upgrade our air filtration and install a UV light cleaner in our duct work, thanks to a grant from UVM Extension. Those safety measures are still in place and working great. In addition to those upgrades, we were recently able to fix the library's air exchanger, allowing intake of clean, outside air into the building and the exhaust of inside air out. We appreciate the hard work of our town health officers and the support of the Selectboard in getting this equipment back online.

What can you do to insure safety at the library?

We strongly encourage you to wear a mask when visiting the library, regardless of your vaccination status. All patrons participating in programs are required to wear masks. Our staff is masked for both their and your safety.

Please do not visit the library when you are sick or supposed to be quarantining. If you would like library materials, but do not feel well, we are happy to bring them out to your car. Email or call the library and we can make that happen.

We hope these safety measures allow us to remain open, healthy, and maintain our library services and programs. It is such a pleasure to serve the Westford community.

We have room for your ad.

Call Brenda Boutin

at 802-453-6354

for more information

or email

mtngazette@gmavt.net

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS



2022 Conservation Camp registration is open

VT Fish and Wildlife Department

If you are 12-14 years old and want to learn about Vermont's wildlife and gain outdoor skills, consider attending one of the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department's Green Mountain Conservation Camps this summer.

Specific details about what protocols relating to COVID-19 will be in place will be communicated via the department's website as they become clear.

The one-week camp programs are held at Lake Bomoseen in Castleton and Buck Lake in Woodbury. Campers participate in hands-on learning about fish and wildlife conservation, ecology, forestry, orienteering, safe firearm and archery techniques, swimming, canoeing, fishing, and more. Natural resource professionals come to the camp to share information on their programs and take campers out for field activities.

"Whether kids come alone or with friends, they are guaranteed to meet new people and form new bonds while experiencing Vermont's natural resources to the fullest," said Fish and Wildlife Education Coordinator Alison Thomas. "An important take-away message and common theme during the week is that conserving and managing habitat will help ensure Vermont will have fish and wildlife in the future."

"We would love to have all of the advanced sessions filled for girls who have already attended a basic session," added Thomas. "Advanced sessions are for campers who have completed a basic session the summer before and who are 16 years old or younger. Advanced sessions include more in-depth activities about backpacking, camping, natural resources, and unique hunting and fishing techniques."

Conservation Camps open June 19 and continue until August 19. Tuition is \$250 for the week, including food, lodging and equipment.

Applications and information are available at www.vtfishandwildlife.com.

COVID-19 remains an unknown factor in planning for the 2022 Conservation Camp program. Keeping staff and campers safe and healthy could mean last minute changes. While registration is open, with all camp weeks available to the full number of campers, the specific details of how camp may run are subject to change based on guidance from the VT Health Department and the Governor's orders. This could include and is not limited to, reducing the number of sessions held, reducing the number of students in each session, or canceling the program for 2022. For more information, contact FWGMCC@vermont.gov or call 802-522-2925.

Electric vehicles: how to calculate fuel cost per mile

By Ruth Machell Julianelle
Underhill Energy Committee Member

The Underhill Energy Committee is continuing to answer questions people have about electric vehicles. These FAQs are not intended to be a binding, final definitive document, but should give enough information and resource websites that a reader can get a general appreciation of facts. If a reader wants updated or detailed information, they should talk directly to dealerships and reference web sites with updated information.

This week – What is the fuel cost per mile?

We are used to thinking about fuel cost in terms of cost of gas per gallon and the mileage of a car in miles per gallon. Understanding EV fuel cost is similar, except that we consider the cost of a kilowatt hour and the mileage per kilowatt hour. Depending on the mpg rating of the gas powered car, the fuel cost of an EV is usually about half of the fuel costs of a gas powered car. But you would be paying your money to the electric company rather than at the pump.

You may be able to moderate your fuel costs by choosing optimum times to charge at home. Some electric companies offer special programs for using an EV. You would need to contact your electric company for details.

If you have solar panels at your home you will pay even less for powering your car. It is not necessary to have solar panels, but it is satisfying to have a guaranteed carbon-free, 100% renewable source of power for your car.

To calculate the fuel cost of an electric car you will need the following:

- size of battery in kilowatt-hours;
- cost of electricity in dollars per kilowatt-hour;
- charging efficiency in % (this will be converted to a decimal in the formula by the use of the number 100, e.g., 85% is 0.85 as a decimal; you would enter 85 and the formula does the conversion);
- range of a charge in miles (how far can you go on a charge);
- how far you drive a month in miles.

Then you can make the following calculations:

- 1: Cost to fully charge battery in \$ =

$$\{[\text{Cost of electricity in } \$/\text{kWh}] \times [\text{Battery size in kWh}] \times 100\} / [\text{Charging Efficiency in } \%]$$
- 2: Fuel cost in \$ per mile for EV =

[Cost to fully charge battery in \$] / [Range in miles]

3: Monthly fuel bill =

[Fuel cost in \$ per mile] X [Miles driven in mile/month]

If you want to compare it to the fuel cost of driving a gas powered car you will need the following:

- size of battery in kilowatt-hours;
- cost per gallon of gas in \$ per gallon;
- mileage of car in miles per gallon.

Then:

4: Fuel cost in \$ per mile for gas powered car =

[Cost per gallon of gas in \$ per gallon] / [Mileage of car in miles per gallon]

5: Monthly fuel bill for gas powered car =

[Fuel cost for gas powered car in \$ per mile] X [miles driven per month]

6: Equivalent fuel cost of EV in \$ / gal =

[Fuel cost per mile for EV in \$ per mile] X [mileage of gas car in mile/gal]

Let's do an example. Some of your numbers may be guesstimates. Let's assume:

- you have a 66 kWh battery;
- your electricity is \$0.13 per kilowatt hour (local nighttime rate);
- charging efficiency is 85%;
- range of a full charge is 200 miles for your EV;
- you drive 1000 miles per month;
- you want to compare to a gas powered car that gets 25 miles per gallon;
- gasoline costs \$2.50 per gallon.

Now you can calculate:

1: Cost to fully charge your battery =

$\{0.13 \times 66 \times 100\} / 85 = \10.09

2: Fuel cost in \$ per mile for EV =

$10.09 / 200 = \$0.05$

3: Monthly fuel bill for EV =

$0.05 \times 1000 = \$0.50$

4: Fuel cost in \$ per mile \$ for gas powered car =

$2.50 / 25 = \$0.10$

5: Monthly fuel bill for gas powered car =

$\$0.10 \times 1000 = \100

6: Equivalent fuel cost of EV in \$ / gal =

$0.05 \times 25 = \$1.25$

3SquaresVT benefits tripled at Winter Farmers Markets

This winter, the Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont (NOFA-VT) has an exciting opportunity for 3SquaresVT/SNAP recipients to get more fruits and vegetables through the Crop Cash program!

Usually, Crop Cash doubles the value of 3SquaresVT/SNAP benefits at farmers' markets, up to \$10. Through the rest of this winter farmers' market season (through April 2022), 3SquaresVT/SNAP recipients can TRIPLE their spending power at farmers' markets by getting up to \$20 each market day to buy fruits, vegetables, and herbs.

Learn more about this program and find out which farmers' markets participate at <https://nofavt.org/cropcash>.

Lindsay's journey

From the VT Dept. For Children And Families

At the age of 21, Lindsay found herself eight months pregnant, living on her own in a homeless shelter. Though she worked 50 hours a week, she couldn't find a safe place to live that she could afford.

Because of bad credit and a limited knowledge of personal finances, she ended up locked into a long-term car lease with high monthly payments. And not enough money for basic necessities.

Luckily, the shelter provided more than just a place to sleep. It also provided a case worker who encouraged her to apply for a program that changed her life's path.

Lindsay applied and was found eligible for the Post-Secondary Education Program (PSE) — a state program that helps parents of minor children to earn undergraduate college degrees so they can get good paying jobs and support their families.

For the four years she was in college, the program provided:

- a monthly cash payment that helped with basic necessities;
- a case manager who helped her focus on short- and long-term goals;
- help with things like childcare, transportation, and school supplies; and
- referrals to programs that taught her skills like how to budget, use credit, and manage her time.

For her part, Lindsay had to get accepted into college, secure the funds to cover tuition, and do her school work. All while raising a baby!

Participating in PSE made her automatically eligible for 3SquaresVT, a federal program that helps eligible Vermonters to put food on the table.

"I grew up in poverty," said Lindsay, "with a single mom who struggled to put food on the table even though she had two jobs. What little food we had was either junk food or fast food-like meals. I didn't know what a healthy meal looked like."

The money she got from 3SquaresVT meant she didn't have to worry about food. It gave her peace of mind and flexibility in her budget.

"Knowing I had money for food every month reduced my overall stress so I could focus on caring for my son and doing my school work," said Lindsay. "The extra help also allowed me to buy healthier foods and cook healthy meals. This was new to me. I had to learn the basics — not only how to cook healthy but also things like how long fresh fruits and vegetables and meats stay fresh in the fridge."

PSE, along with 3SquaresVT, gave Lindsay the opportunity to secure safe housing for her and her son, put nutritious foods on the table, earn a bachelor's degree in business from Champlain College, and become financially independent. But make no mistake, it was a lot of hard work. Support from family members, friends, and her PSE case manager helped — a lot.

"To be successful in PSE, you need to be able to focus on your long-term goals over short-term gratification," said Lindsay. "It's about knowing what's important and being willing to make

sacrifices. But if you are motivated to do better and prepared to do the work, the program can help you change your life."

"My son now sees his mommy as someone who works hard, gets things done, and provides for her family. It was totally worth any embarrassment I might have felt for needing assistance."

Five years later, Lindsay is about to graduate from college, the first in her family to do so. And she has a full-time job with DCF's Economic Services Division — the division that manages the PSE and 3SquaresVT programs. She is very motivated to help others like herself.

By sharing her story, Lindsay hopes that others will see that it's okay to ask for help. "It's a stepping stone to a better life. A life jacket when you're drowning."

She also wants everyone to know that most people who get government assistance do work, hard. They are just regular people who need a bit of extra help to improve their circumstances.

And when they get better, it helps lift up the entire community.

Volunteer Opportunities with United Way

LEND A HAND — VOLUNTEER. United Way of Northwest Vermont's Volunteer Connection site is set up to help connect agencies and volunteers. Agencies are working hard to navigate volunteering during this time, but opportunities are increasing. Go online to <https://unitedwaynwvt.galaxydigital.com> to learn more about these and other opportunities.

MENTOR! — Mercy Connections is inviting volunteers to train to become a mentor in the Vermont Women's Mentoring Program. Mercy Connections partners with the Department of Corrections to match trained volunteer mentors with incarcerated and court-involved women to coach them as they make the transition to restorative, sustainable lives. Mentoring pairs meet virtually one-on-one and also participate in small group meetings and healthy social events and continuing education. Make wonderful friendships as you help to transform lives! Training will take place Wednesdays, February 16-March 16. Contact Joanne Nelson, 802-846-7164 or jnelson@mercyconnections.org.

COOKS NEEDED — Burlington Dismas House is in need of volunteer cooks at its Buell Street location. Cooks purchase and prepare dinner for up to 10 residents and one staff member once a month and can drop off the dinner or join the residents for the meal (vaccination card required). A great volunteer opportunity for individuals, families, and business and church groups. Contact Cory Bragg, 802-658-0381 or cory@dismasoft.org.

EXPERT ADVICE — SCORE is looking for volunteers with business knowledge to join their workshop teams and share their business acumen by leading educational workshops and seminars. Volunteers create and deliver presentations, lead seminars and other networking events, email and survey workshop participants, and track the statistics of their workshop programs. Flexible scheduling. For information, call 802-764-5899 or recruiting0284@scorevolunteer.org.

GUARDIANS AD LITEM — Vermont Guardian ad Litem Program needs volunteers for children who are involved in the juvenile court cases, mostly Children in Need of Services/Supports. It is essential that these young people have the benefit of an independent, compassionate, and dedicated adult who can ensure that their needs are met by an often overwhelmed child welfare system. Volunteers meet monthly with the child, collect information to understand important factors and people in the child's life, represent to a judge in court what is best for the child, explain the court process to the child, and consult with the child's attorney. Volunteers can take on as many or as few cases as they have time for. The average case involves about five hours of time a week. Contact Janice Santiago, 802-917-4150 or janice.santiago@vermont.gov.

SELECTION COMMITTEE — Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity is looking for volunteers to join its Family Selection Committee to help determine which home ownership applicants are best suited for the program. Hours vary, depending on time of year and number of homes being built. Contact Kali Wood, 802-318-7533 or volunteer@vermonthabitat.org.

Looking for Internet service in Lamoille County?

By Val Davis, Executive Director, Lamoille FiberNet CUD

Looking for Internet for your home or business, but not sure which internet service providers are available in your area? Lamoille FiberNet CUD can help you identify your options. Finding an ISP (Internet Service Provider) can be challenging in rural areas, and information online can sometimes be confusing or misleading, with automated location-based advertisements claiming to provide service to addresses that aren't covered.

Lamoille FiberNet has compiled a list of available providers in the Lamoille FiberNet area as of December 2021.

Consolidated: In many of our communities, service (though sometimes limited) is available through Consolidated, which offers DSL service and can sometimes offer a "bonded pair" to increase speed and reliability. DSL and Bonded pair services are delivered on the same copper wires that landline telephone service uses. The availability of DSL Service is dependent on your proximity to their CO or Central Office equipment. The service will not work beyond a specific distance. For more information visit <https://www.consolidated.com/residential/internet/vermont>.

Comcast (Xfinity): Comcast also offers service to many of our communities but is only found in population centers. Comcast's Internet service is delivered over coax cable, which is the same cable that is used for cable television. The connection speeds cable offers are usually much higher than can be achieved with DSL. Contact Comcast by visiting <https://www.xfinity.com>.

Mansfield Community Fiber: Mansfield Community Fiber has been expanding their network; their service is currently available in some areas of Cambridge, and they have plans to serve some parts of Waterville in 2022. These are fiber connections. To see their current service visit <https://www.mcfibervt.com>.

VTel Wireless: VTel Wireless lists many Lamoille County communities as being available to receive wireless Internet

PEOPLE -OBITUARIES



Robert Marcel Legrand of Jericho, VT passed away to join his family members in heaven on Thursday, January 6, 2022. He was born to Marcel Legrand and Gladys Russin Legrand on March 16, 1945 at Fanny Allen Hospital, Colchester, VT. Bob worked with heavy equipment all his life. He was a proud EAGLE member of #3210 Jeffersonville, VT. Bob married Reba Root on August 22, 1970; they had 51½ years together. He is survived by his wife Reba, daughter Leora, sister Theresa Raymond, brother Raymond and his wife Rae Marie, sister-in-law Peg Legrand, and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews. He was predeceased by his grandparents, father and mother, and two brothers Joseph and Leo. He was also predeceased by his oldest daughter Elizabeth Irene. The family would like to thank the staff at Queen City Health & Rehab and the Bayada nurses for the fantastic care they gave Bob. Due to COVID-19 and winter closing for burials, services will be held in the spring. Arrangements are in care of Corbin and Palmer Funeral Home, Essex Junction, VT.



Edwin Clayton McLaughlin, 89, of Harrisburg, NC passed away Monday, January 10, 2022 at Novant Health Mint Hill Medical Center under the care of Novant Health Hospice. Ed was born July 21, 1932 in Moretown, VT to the late Clayton Jordan McLaughlin and the late Edith Fannie White McLaughlin. He was also preceded in death by his daughters Donna Louise McLaughlin and Pennie Ann McLaughlin, and his brother, Raymond McLaughlin. Ed worked as a certified plumber/pipefitter/welder for many years for Commercial Piping in Colchester, VT. He also drove a truck for our good friends, John French and Sons in Underhill, VT. Ed enjoyed making things and fixing things. He lived in Dade City, FL, for 20 years. During those years, Ed remodeled the mobile home and built many miniatures. Over the last few years, he did many woodworking projects in his shop and painted garden statues. He enjoyed talking to his friends and family. Ed and Merlene had a camper and loved to travel with friends for 30 years. No services are being held at this time. Ed will be laid to rest at Mountain View Cemetery in Moretown, VT, at a later date. Survivors include his beloved wife of 58 years Merlene Ada Farnsworth McLaughlin of Harrisburg, NC; daughter Denise Hurst and husband Jimmy of Daytona, FL; son Greg Davis of Gastonia, NC; son Gary McLaughlin and wife Yvonne of Monroe, NC; daughter Robin Guilmain and husband Steven of Harrisburg, NC; brother Roger McLaughlin and wife Edie of Underhill, VT; brother Floyd McLaughlin and wife Vesta of Jericho, VT; sister Dorothy Blodgett of Underhill, VT; by 10

Miscellaneous continued from page 6

through VTel. The service requires the purchase of equipment and a 24-month contract, but for those who don't have any other options VTel might be a good solution. Find out more about VTel Wireless at <http://www.vtelwireless.com>.

ATT and Verizon: For residents who are not near any of the services mentioned above there are other options. Both AT&T and Verizon offer home Internet solutions over their wireless networks. In order to use these wireless cellular data services, you will need a good signal for whichever provider you choose. Find out more at <http://www.att.com/wireless> or <http://www.verizon.com/>.

Go to <http://www.LamoilleFiber.net> if you'd like to learn more about the different types of internet available, or learn more about Lamoille FiberNet's mission of bringing reliable, high-speed, symmetrical Internet that is locally controlled and cost-effective to every address in Belvidere, Cambridge, Eden, Hyde Park, Johnson, Morristown, Stowe, Waterville and Wolcott — as soon as possible. Serving community, not profit.

grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews, all of whom he was very fond of. The family would like to thank the staff of Novant Health Mint Hill and Novant Health Hospice for the care they provided to Ed. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to your local Humane Society. Ed would spoil his dogs. Hartsell Funeral Home of Harrisburg is serving the McLaughlin family.



William "Bill" Kinney passed away peacefully at UVMHC on Friday, December 31, 2021 at the age of 92, surrounded by his loving family. He was born on March 15, 1929 in East Fletcher, VT, son of May and Carl Kinney. Bill had one sister, Nellie LaBrie. Bill learned the value of hard work growing up on a farm at a young age. At sixteen years old, he regularly drove milk trucks to Boston, MA. There was no interstate, so the travel was long and the roads were not the best. A few years later Bill met the love of his life, Nancy Whitcomb of Essex Center, VT. They went to the local Chicken Coop in Jericho, VT at the beginning of their courtship, where Nancy's brothers Jack, George, and Harold chaperoned. It was love at first sight, and they married after a brief courtship on August 15, 1951. Early in Bill's career, he was a military man, and the couple moved to Georgia for some time as Bill became a paratrooper. He was a member of the 508th Airborne Regimental Combat Team and a Korean War Veteran. They moved home to Vermont and settled in Fletcher, where they had twin sons John and Robert, and a daughter, Susan Kinney. Bill was a hardworking businessman from a very young age and wore many hats throughout his career. He was a truck driver, cattle dealer, representing Eastern States Farmer's Exchange with a store in Cambridge Junction selling farm supplies and operating as a slaughterhouse partner in Hyde Park. In the early 1960s, Bill found a deal he could not pass up, so he made an offer, moving his family to Jeffersonville, where Bill and Nancy became the owners and operators of the Highlander Motel. Bill

also served as a director for 34 years on the board of the Union Bank and eleven years as a director for VT Electric Cooperative's board. Becoming the Patriarch of the family. When Bill was not working his various jobs he enjoyed dabbling in maple syrup making, ice fishing, gardening, traveling to the Maine coast for lobster, and playing a game or two of cribbage with dear friends. He was a financial genius, always paying attention to the stock market and providing his friends and family financial advice. He always put the needs of others above his own, making sure his family and community had what they needed to succeed. Bill was a frugal man who said it best, "I never wanted to get a taste for the good stuff." Bill was known to many as a headstrong family man, teaching his children to be just as thoughtful and generous as he was to the community he loved. Bill was also a Mason and member of the American Legion and Deacon of the Second Congregational Church in Jeffersonville. For many years Bill has cared for his wife Nancy, always being there for her every moment. He took his wedding vows seriously, and they were the definition of true love. Nancy once described their love: "I need Bill with me, I cannot paddle the canoe alone." Bill is survived by his loving wife Nancy of 70 years; his daughter Susan Kinney Wyckoff and devoted son-in-law Larry Wyckoff; son Robert's life partner David Marceau; grandchildren Ben Wyckoff and partner Katie Farnham, Dan Wyckoff, Laura Kinney and fiancé Trevor Lumbr, Kristy (Wyckoff) Marsh and husband Cody Marsh; his many great-grandchildren were the light of his eyes, Madison Wyckoff, Liam Wyckoff, Zophia and Bjorn Wyckoff, Khloe and Landon Farnham; many nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was predeceased by his parents Carl and May, sister Nellie, and his twin sons John and Robert. We would like to thank Mary Jane Machia and the nurses and doctors at UVMHC who took care of Bill in his final days. A celebration of his life will be held in the spring. Memorial contributions in Bill's memory can be made to Second Congregational Church, P.O. Box 40, Jeffersonville, VT 05464, or Cambridge Rescue, P.O. Box 431, Jeffersonville, VT 05464.

ART / MUSIC / THEATER

Robinson and Rohe at P.M. Sundays, Sunday, January 30, 4:00 PM at the Richmond Congregational Church, 20 Church St., Richmond. This is the fourth time Valley Stage Productions has presented the duo — they're that good and worthy of repeated witnessing. Liam Robinson recently was the musical director for the Broadway version of Vermont native Anais Mitchell's multiple Tony Award winning folk opera *Hadestown*. Jean Rohe began touring and recording with her band, *Jean Rohe & the End of the World Show*, honing a honeyed, far-ranging voice and collecting accolades along the way, and also garnered attention for her unflinching alternative anthem for the U.S., *National Anthem: Arise! Arise!* which continues to be performed and recorded by choirs and bands across the country.

COVID protocol: We will require all staff, performers, and patrons to show proof of COVID-19 vaccine when they work or attend performances. Patrons will be asked to show their vaccination card or a photo of their vaccination card when they enter the church. All of our events will be "Mask-On" for the foreseeable future. Streaming of this performance can also be enjoyed at <https://sidedooraccess.com/shows/YREMwMUnW15Gc5RmX63V>.

Tickets: \$22 advance/\$25 day of show; seniors (65+) and children under 16, \$15. Contact Valley Stage Productions, don@valleystage.net or 802-434-4563 for more information. To view other upcoming PM Sundays events, visit <http://www.valleystage.net>.

Unbound and Bradley Borthwick: Objects of Empire will be at the BCA Center, Burlington, Wednesdays-Fridays 12:00 – 5:00 PM and Saturdays 12:00 – 8:00 PM through February 5, 2022. Come explore our fall exhibitions! *Unbound* features the work of three New England artists — Rachel Gross, Rob Hitzig, and Kirsten Reynolds — who explore contemporary approaches to abstraction through their use of geometric, shaped forms that push outside the boundaries of the common rectangle. *Bradley Borthwick: Objects of Empire* examines the shared cycles of civilization, combining exquisitely hand-carved marble and cast beeswax reproductions of headstones and amphora with a rhythmic soundscape to create an experiential exploration of memory, place, history, and cultural connection. BCA Exhibitions are funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, and Vermont Arts Council.

Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival is pleased to announce the return of MNFF Selects, its monthly in-person screening series at the Town Hall Theater in Middlebury,

through May 2022. For this festival, MNFF Selects presents *Humans and Animals: Shared Experiences, Intersecting Worlds*. The series illuminates the deep connections between human beings and animals whose lives are intimately intertwined. Passes: individual tickets \$16 (under 12, \$7) available at www.midfilmfest.org, www.townhalltheater.org, by calling 802-382-9222, or in person at the THT box office, Monday-Friday, 12:00 – 5:00 PM. COVID-19 protocol: All attendees 12 and over must be vaccinated; and all attendees, including children under 12, must wear masks while inside the theater.

Upcoming films in the Series:

Duma [PG] Sunday, February 20, 2:00 PM. In this drama directed by Carroll Ballard, an orphaned cheetah becomes the best friend and pet of a young boy living in South Africa. Winner of the Humane Society's 2006 Genesis Award for Family Feature Film and inspired by a true story, *Duma* offers audiences a blend of excitement, adventure and compassion in a beautiful and grand landscape.

Buck [PG] Thursday, March 24, 7:00 PM. Directed by Cindy Meehl; winner of the 2011 Audience Award for Best Documentary at the Sundance Film Festival, *Buck* is a revealing examination of the life of acclaimed "horse whisperer" Buck Brannaman, who recovered from years of child abuse to become a well-known expert in the interactions between horses and people.

Grizzly Man [R] Thursday, April 21, 7:00 PM. Director Werner Herzog delivers a heartrending docudrama that centers on amateur grizzly bear expert Timothy Treadwell, who periodically journeyed to Alaska to study and live with the bears. He was killed, along with his girlfriend Amie Huguenard, by a bear in October 2003. Winner of the 2006 Directors Guild of America Award for Outstanding Directorial Achievement in Documentary, *Grizzly Man* is an epic tale of the profound and fraught relationship between a man and the animals he dared to befriend.

The Rider [R] Thursday, May 12, 7:00 PM. The highly acclaimed second feature from Oscar-winning director Chloe Zhao tells the poignant story of a young rodeo cowboy who, after suffering a near fatal head injury, begins a search for new identity, seeking to know what it means to be a man in the heartland of America. Focusing on life in the indigenous community of the Pine Ridge reservation, Zhao offers a penetrating vision of masculinity and humility set in a world where humans and animals intimately co-exist.

For more information about MNFF Selects and the Festival: <http://www.midfilmfest.org>.

Everything Sweet

By Kimberly Madura

In my fairy tale
there are
lavender castles
and pink mountains,
blue meadows
and pistachio rivers,
peach sky and
lemon trees.
Pastel splendor
saturates my soul.
And, I can protect
what is beautiful,
at least in this poem.

Surprise that special

someone with a

Valentine's Day

wish in the *Mountain Gazette!*

Just email us at mtngazette@gmavt.net

MOUNTAIN GAZETTE RATE SHEET 2022

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802-453-6354 mtngazette@gmavt.net

www.mountaingazetteofvermont.com

The *Mountain Gazette* is the hometown newspaper for Bolton, Cambridge, Jeffersonville, Jericho, Underhill and Westford, Vermont.

We store deliver copies of the paper in Bolton, Cambridge, Jeffersonville, Jericho, Underhill, Westford, Hinesburg, Huntington, Richmond, Fairfax, Essex and Essex Junction.

TOTAL REGULAR CIRCULATION - 4500

(During the pandemic it has varied at the present time we are back up to 3500 and rising. We plan to be back to full circulation by May 2022.)

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Copy - 12:00 Noon

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Mountain Gazette

Publication & Deadline Dates 2022

The Mountain Gazette publishes on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month. The deadline for receiving copy is Thursday, a week before publication, at noon. The advertising deadline is Thursday, a week before publication at 5:00 PM.

For more information, please contact Brenda Boutin

Publisher of the Mountain Gazette

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On the web at www.mountaingazetteofvermont.com

DEADLINE DATES:

THURSDAY

December 30
 January 13
 January 27
 February 10
 February 24
 March 10
 March 31
 April 14
 April 28
 May 12
 May 26
 June 9
 June 30
 July 14
 July 28
 August 11
 August 25
 September 8
 September 29
 October 13
 October 27
 November 10
 November 24
 December 8

PUBLICATION DATES:

THURSDAY

January 6
 January 20
 February 3
 February 17
 March 3
 March 17
 April 7
 April 21
 May 5
 May 19
 June 2
 June 16
 July 7
 July 21
 August 4
 August 18
 September 1
 September 15
 October 6
 October 20
 November 3
 November 17
 December 1
 December 15

Worms — the good, the bad, and the ugly

By Sara Riley, for the *Mountain Gazette*

Okay, to be up front about it: they're all pretty ugly. And they're all invasive non-natives in Vermont; what worms did occur here naturally were eradicated by the last glaciers that covered New England, long before humans arrived.

Locally, there has been some discussion recently about worms. Some argue that no invasive worm species are good, and some argue that some are good for the garden and composting, but it seems clear to me that some worms are less fun than others.

From the time I was a little girl and right on up to the present, I am a worm rescuer. I admit it, if I'm walking on a sidewalk in the rain and worms have been flooded out of the soil and are wriggling on the pavement, I'm gonna pick them up and put them back on the grass. I can't stand to see a plant or animal suffer, and the concrete surfaces of our towns and cities are meant to be trodden or driven by people and their mechanical devices, all to the detriment of a soft-bodied blind invertebrate that's just trying not to drown.

Yah, I once lost a boyfriend over his (let's just call it) insensitivity about my worm-saving behavior.

And yah, I went river and pond fishing a lot when I was young, but was very averse to impaling worms. My brother did it for me.

But I have encountered *Asian jumping worms* in the last year or so, and they are something else again.

First, as adults (July through October) they are much bigger than "normal" worms. Fatter and longer. And their behavior is unmistakably different from "normal" worms — if you touch them or try to pick them up (to save their lives, the dratted critters) they thrash about violently for about five seconds before heading off in a randomly new direction.

People I know who really, really don't like snakes have mistaken them for small snakes. That makes a kind of sense; "normal" worms are docile and slow, but the Asian jumping worm is far more active and seems almost aggressive in its wild thrashing. We associate this "aggressive" behavior more with snakes, which I at least think of as having more volition than a worm.

I've had to resort to subterfuge to save the darned things from the sidewalk. If I try to pick them up, they detect the alien (me) and are impossible to grasp. And I admit to a certain reluctance to wrestle the stupid little beast. So I look about for a small twig, or a long leaf of sturdy crabgrass, and lay it down in the path of the advancing worm. Generally they touch it, decide it's a naturally occurring obstacle, and crawl right across it. When they're about halfway over it, I use the natural thing to pick them up and toss them away from the concrete. They don't panic and fight it, so the method works pretty well.

According to <http://ecetompkins.org/resources/jumping-worm-fact-sheet> and other sources I've seen, Asian jumping worms degrade the soil and their castings (poop) are constituted in a way that makes the soil nutrients biologically unavailable to the roots of growing plants, thus also degrading the life cycles that make up our natural environment. If you walk on an area infested by them, it feels like you are walking over a two-inch thick layer of fluffy dried used coffee grounds — crunchy and fragile at the same time — kind of weird, and nothing seems to grow there.

Readers, I will spare you the photos and descriptions that help you know whether you're looking at a nightcrawler or a red wriggler ("normal" worms, in my book) or an Asian jumping worm. The fact sheet mentioned in the previous paragraph has plenty of that, as well as lots of other information about this invasive creature. For a Vermont resource on the topic, <https://www.vtinvasives.org/invasive/jumping-worms>.

Invasive or not, they are living creatures and I'm still not going to let them get squashed if I can help it.

But I do wish they weren't here.

Stump the Forester: Crowdsourced Tree ID webinar February 8

Have you ever wished you had someone knowledgeable with you when you were out in the woods trying to figure out which softwood you were looking at or whether the bark on that tree was red or sugar maple? This is your chance to get your most vexing tree identification questions answered!

This event will be held on Tuesday, February 8, 12:00 – 1:00 PM, on Zoom.

Vermont Land Trust's forestry team is gathering your questions about how to identify Vermont's trees and will answer as many as possible during this webinar. Include your question when you register, and give us your best shot!

Presented by VLT foresters Caitlin Cusack, Dan Kilborn, David McMath and Pieter Van Loon.

To register, go online to <https://join.vlt.org/event/stump-the-forester-crowdsourced-tree-id/e386382>.

Underhill Big Tree Contest entries due January 31

Have you submitted your Big Tree Contest entry yet? The Underhill Natural Resources Inventory and Mapping Committee are hosting this contest to generate interest in Underhill's natural resources and to find the largest trees in our town. Seeing where our big trees are can help us understand land use patterns over time.

Will you help identify Underhill's big tree champions? Entries are due Monday, January 31. Details on how to measure a tree and submit your entry are on the Town's website at <https://www.underhillvt.gov> and follow the links for the Underhill Big Tree Contest.

We will be announcing winners on Town Meeting Day and have lots of prizes from local vendors including:

- Covered Bridge Blueberries
- cremees from Palmer Lane Maple
- pie from the Pie Ladies
- breakfast for two from the 14th Chicken BnB
- local honey
- local jam
- a Christmas tree or two chestnut saplings from Ochs' Tree Farm

Please feel free to reach out to us at underhillbigtrees@gmail.com if you have any questions!

SPORTS NEWS



Vermont's Free Ice Fishing Day is January 29

VT Fish and Wildlife Department

Vermont's Free Ice Fishing Day this year is Saturday, January 29, according to the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department.

"Ice fishing can be a great way to introduce people to how much fun fishing can be," said Fish and Wildlife Commissioner Christopher Herrick. "Showing youngsters or adult new anglers how to jig for perch or how to use tip-ups is rewarding, and it can provide an excellent meal of fresh fish. Perhaps best of all — the experience almost always creates fond memories to last a lifetime."

Free Ice Fishing Day is held annually on the last Saturday in January. On Free Ice Fishing Day, residents and nonresident anglers without a fishing license may ice fish on any Vermont waterbody that is open to ice fishing.

For ice fishing tips and to learn how to safely go ice fishing, go to Vermont Fish and Wildlife's website, <http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com>. Be sure to visit the virtual ice fishing festival for a video presentation on fish identification, safety, and cooking your catch.

To learn about fishing regulations, you can pick up a free copy of the 2022 FISHING GUIDE & REGULATIONS booklet from any Vermont license agent or Interstate highway rest area, or it can be downloaded from the website.

Westford Women's Futsal registration now open

Women's Futsal, Session 2, sponsored by the Westford Recreation Department, will run on Thursdays, February 10-April 21, 7:30 – 9:00 PM. The cost is \$45 per ten-week session (no play during school breaks).

The play will be held at the Westford School gym. Masks are required.

To register online: <https://forms.gle/1nPDEvP6FeoCxKGD6>. The link is also available on the town website, at <https://westfordvt.us/recreation/>.

Lamoille Valley Fish and Game Club to host Primitive Biathlon

In the spirit of the "original" Smugglers' Notch Primitive Biathlon, Lamoille Valley Fish and Game Club, 1158 Garfield Rd., Morrisville will host the fourth annual Primitive Biathlon on Saturday, January 29 and Sunday, January 30. Start times will be from 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM on Saturday and 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM on Sunday.

The two-mile course starts and ends at the Clubhouse. Trophies will be awarded for First, Second, and Third Overall.

First Smoothbore, First Pistol, First Woman, First Elder (60 and over), and First Junior (under 16).

Registration \$15 and re-entries \$10. For more information contact Rick Reed, 802-355-6558; Harland Blodgett, 802-899-3889; or Keith Ulrich, 802-730-9340.

Group fitness classes at Cambridge Community Center

Group fitness classes have begun at the Cambridge Community Center. They run Monday-Friday at 6:30 and 8:00 AM, and Saturday at 8:00 and 9:30 AM, and will be running through the week of February 13. You can sign up for the full session or individual classes. All ages and abilities are welcome. Classes include Beginner Strength, Intermediate Strength, and a Strength/Plyometric hybrid class.

For more information and to sign up, contact taylorjoyfitness@gmail.com or go online to https://www.thecambridgecc.com/info/activities/program_details.aspx?ProgramID=30910.

BRLI registration open; girls softball returns

Registration is now open for the 2022 Browns River Little League season for boys and girls in Jericho and Underhill, aged 4-12! Register online (only) at www.brownsriverlittleleague.com. Registration is open through Monday, January 31 for 9-12 year olds, and through Tuesday, March 15 for 4-8 year olds. Early registration is important for league planning so don't delay.

Girls' softball is returning to Browns River Little League (BRLI) in Spring 2022. Registration is now open for girls age 9-12 (and advanced 8-year-olds following evaluation). Volunteers are needed across the program, so if you're interested in helping in any capacity, please contact President Casey Knudsen (caseyknudsen@gmail.com). Registration is live NOW and runs through Monday, January 31. For registration and more information, please go online to <http://www.brownsriverlittleleague.com>.

Mount Mansfield Girls Lacrosse Club registration is open

Welcome to the 2022 season of middle school girls' lacrosse — Mount Mansfield Girls' Lacrosse Club.

This program is for girls in grades 4-8. The season starts at the end of March (depending on snow) and runs through the first week of June.

Practice is held Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:00 – 7:30 PM, at Mills Riverside Park in Jericho. Games are Sundays in May and the first Sunday in June.

Please email melissamutolo@live.com for registration.



Cambridge Youth Soccer Spring Soccer Registration

Cambridge Youth Soccer is excited to announce that registration is now open for our Spring season. Teams for girls and boys are offered from pre-K through U16, depending on enrollment. For more information please go online to https://system.gotsport.com/programs/842N25686?reg_role=player.

Also, we are eagerly seeking individuals with time and energy to serve who may be interested in joining our board, as well as volunteers interested in working with us in other capacities, such as fields and equipment and program boosterism. Thanks!

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Jericho Development Review Board will hold a public hearing at 7:00 pm on WEDNESDAY February 9, 2022 at the Jericho Town Hall to consider the following.

- A request to the DRB by Jason & Kristy Garbarino for a boundary line adjustment. The properties are located at 33 & 35 Lee River Road which is in the Village Center Zoning District.

All interested persons may appear and be heard. Additional information related to this application may be viewed at the Jericho Planning and Zoning Office during regular business hours.

Chris Flinn
Zoning Administrator
cflinn@jerichovt.gov

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS



Annette's Preschool is now First Roots — Wild Roots

After nearly 40 years serving Chittenden and Addison families, Annette's Preschool is changing its name to *First Roots — Wild Roots*, and has become the first early education program in Vermont to set a living wage benchmark of \$17.50/hr as its minimum starting salary to all staff.

After more than three decades as Annette's Preschool, current owners Andrew and Andrea Sambrook have announced today that they are bringing all their programs under the *First Roots — Wild Roots* name. Its school-age programs will also be renamed as *Treehouse at Wild Roots*.

"This change better reflects our nature-based approach to early education," Sambrook said. "In fall 2020 we opened two new highly anticipated infant and toddler programs as *First Roots*, and this latest name change now allows us to unify the *Wild Roots* preschool programs with the *First Roots* birth-to-three programs under one canopy" — much like the trees in the new logo. "One of our guiding principles is to *Keep Kids Wild!*" Sambrook jokes, "so the new name aligns with this part of our program mission!"

The *First Roots* location in Underhill-Jericho was the first Infant/Toddler collaboration with any public school in Vermont — the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District (MMUUSD).

"Today its our pleasure to announce another first for our programs — as of March 1, 2022 every employee, whether part-time or full-time, will earn at least \$17.50/hour as a salary equivalent," Sambrook said. *First Roots — Wild Roots* have also committed to paying a "thriving" salary by 2027, allowing for a sustainable career and a professional level of compensation for all early educators. "We have taken the decision not to wait for Federal or State action on compensation. We think that our teachers deserve to be able to afford to live in Vermont with a

single salary rather than having to take on several jobs in order to work at what they love to do." Sambrook was not surprised by the reaction of *First Roots — Wild Roots* parents in the program. "When we announced this, we had universal agreement that this was the right step to take," Sambrook stated.

First Roots — Wild Roots is a nature-based early education program located in Hinesburg and Underhill serving Addison and Chittenden counties. It provides early education programs for 150 children aged 6 weeks to 8 years.

Discover the Center for Technology, Essex

Interested in Technical Education? Looking for a different pathway to college or a career? On Thursday, February 3 and/or Saturday, February 5, come to DISCOVER CTE!

These programs are open to students grades 7-11 and families at the Center for Technology, Essex, 2 Educational Dr., Essex Junction. Come explore an area of hands-on learning that you are interested in. You will hear general information on CTE, then visit a program area to meet instructors and participate in a hands-on activity. Parents can also join us for more in depth information in a parent workshop.

Register online at <https://www.ewsd.org/discoverCTE>.

Choose a Program Pod:

- POD 1: Pre-Tech 1 / Automotive / Building
- POD 2: Pre-Tech 2 / CAWD / DCM
- POD 3: Pre-Tech 2 / Engineering / CST
- POD 4: Pre-Tech 3 / CEHS / Cosmetology
- POD 5: Pre-Tech 3 / Health Professions / Dental
- POD 6: Pre-Tech 4 / Natural Resources — Forestry / Mechanical
- POD 7: Pre-Tech 5 / Professional Foods

Then, choose a Session (or several!):

Thursday February 3:

- Session 1: Discover CTE Session, 6:00 – 7:00 PM;
- Parent Info Session 1: 7:10 – 7:30 PM

Saturday February 5, 2022

- Session 2: 10:00 – 11:00 AM Discover CTE Session
- Parent Info Session 2: 11:10 – 11:30 AM
- Session 3: 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM Discover CTE Session
- Parent Info Session 3: 12:40 – 1:00 PM
- Session 4: 1:00 – 2:00 PM Discover CTE Session

Eagles offer two scholarships to Lamoille County seniors

Let's start off the New Year on the right foot. How about some extra funds for school? The Green Mountain Fraternal Order of Eagles in Jeffersonville is accepting applications for two achievement/scholarships they offer: the Robbie Pollander and the Edison A. Reynolds Awards. Both in the amount of \$500.

These awards can be used by the recipients for anything school-related, from books to transportation, or classes to clothing. They are available to any high school graduating senior in Lamoille County. Our awards are not based on academics; they are granted to any high school senior who expresses the qualities of a good citizen in their community with the desire to pursue a higher education.

Requirements for consideration are: The submission of a biography and a theme-based short essay. The theme is "In my community, people helping people." All entries are due postmarked by Tuesday, May 31, 2022. Send to: Fraternal Order of Eagles, Attention David May, P.O. Box 216, Jeffersonville, VT 05464-0216.

There is an additional Scholarship available from the Auxiliary specifically for female students. The criteria are the same as above. All entries should be submitted to Ladies Auxiliary, Fraternal Order of Eagles, P.O. Box 326, Jeffersonville, VT 05464-0216.

Three scholarships available through APWA

Three scholarships are available through the New England American Public Works Association (APWA) chapter. All are reimbursable scholarships. Applications can be found online at <http://newengland.apwa.net/PageDetails/4489>.

1. Tim O'Leary — for students attending an undergraduate degree program, graduate degree program, or vocational technical school. \$1250 per semester, for a total of \$2500. There are five awards to be given out.

2. Crombie PWX — this is \$2500 scholarship to attend the National Convention in 2022 in Charlotte, NC. There will only be one award per year.

3. Career Advancement Opportunity — promote and improve financial assistance to individuals committed to Public Works Profession who are seeking opportunities to advance within their department. Awards will be up to \$1000 per state in the New England Chapter (Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut). There is a possibility of all five states obtaining one.

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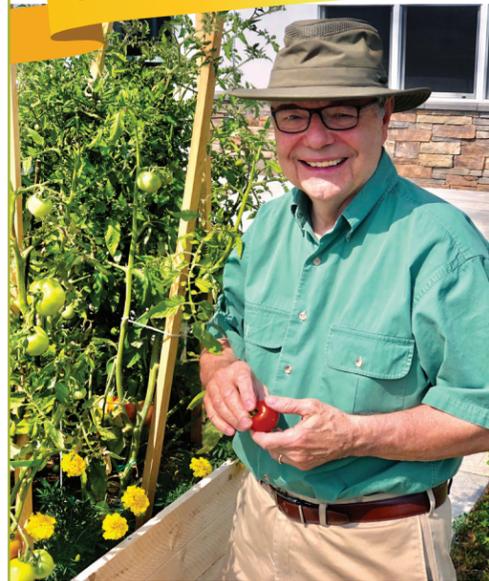
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