

MMU lifts mask mandate



By Zoe Bernstein
Special to the Mountain Gazette

It's just another Monday morning to the rest of Vermont, but for nearly 900 students and teachers at Mount Mansfield Union High School, life just got flipped on its head. In mid-February, Governor Scott announced that the state would be lifting its mask mandate as of February 28 for schools with a vaccination rate of over 80%. On March 11, MMU principal Mike Weston sent out an email to all students, parents, and administrators, announcing that masks would become optional on the following Monday. Students spent the next few days texting, talking, telling friends what they were going to do, and asking parents and immunocompromised relatives what they would feel most comfortable with. Monday rolled around, and everything changed very quickly.



In MMU's cafeteria, the "beloved Panini presses were back in business, and had a line down the hallway. The 25-minute period sped by, with the dilemma of what table to sit at emerging after three years in hibernation," wrote Zoe Bernstein in her debut story for the Mountain Gazette. Zoe says, "I'm a sophomore at MMU. I'm super excited to be interning with the Mountain Gazette and to learn more about journalism and reporting overall. I enjoy reading and writing poetry, and in my free time I do musical theatre."

PHOTOS BY ZOE BERNSTEIN

The first thing most people noticed were noses. The younger two grades of the school had never seen the lower halves of some of their classmates' faces. There were reunions in the halls during passing periods, compliments flying everywhere as friends saw each others' faces for the first time in two years. Teachers didn't recognize students they had spoken to every day for months, attendance rosters had to be double-checked, and students didn't recognize teachers either.

The majority of students and teachers had decided to take off their masks, but most people were still cautious. At least two students in each class had kept their mask on, and plenty did a mix, masks off for a few classes, on for the others. However, students were still nervous. When Senior Rita Wheeler was asked how she felt about taking masks off she said, "If it's safe, I feel good about it, because I like

seeing people's faces, and it's nice to feel kind of normal again." She is a member of the only class currently at MMU who had a full year without COVID-19.

With the departure of the mask mandate, a new way of living at MMU emerged in only one day. Since the beginning of last school year, each student has been eating lunch in their advisory. Pre-COVID, advisories met for 30 minutes a day to talk, work, and do group projects with the same group of 10-15 students and one or two teachers. When COVID hit, advisory became an hour-long class period for students to eat in, and the little communities grew tight-knit. No one used the cafeteria anymore; instead, the cooks would roll around carts with pre-made trays, and students wouldn't have to step a foot out of their classrooms.

On Monday, the cafeteria welcomed in all the
 Mask mandate continued on page 2



Mud season is serious this year, as shown in this photo along Bryce Road in Cambridge. The view is of Pleasant Valley, southward toward Mount Mansfield. PHOTO BY JIM McMAHON

Rusty's Pizza and Pie: a new look for an old favorite in Cambridge

By Phyl Newbeck
Special to the Mountain Gazette

You'd be forgiven if you didn't know that Angelina's on VT Rt. 15 in Cambridge changed hands over two years ago. Justin and Serena Perdue bought the business in December of 2019, but it was a quiet acquisition. "We didn't make any big changes at first," Justin said. "We ran with what they were doing and then COVID hit." Last summer, the couple decided to be more vocal about their new establishment, changing the name to Rusty's Pizza and Pie, remodeling, painting, undertaking a massive plumbing renovation, and adding new items to the menu.



Among the alterations to the long-time Cambridge establishment is the addition of a nine-seat lunch counter and a banquet room in the back. "It looks like a bar," Justin said, "but we want to be welcoming to people of all ages." That said, one major change for the eatery is the addition of beer and wine to the menu. The outside of the building has undergone a drastic change with a new purple exterior. "We wanted to keep bold colors to attract attention," Serena said, "but Angelina's had Italian colors and we wanted to move away from the idea that we just served Italian food."

Both Justin and Serena are veterans of the

hospitality industry. Serena grew up outside Chicago and went to college in Denver and then the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, NY. She held a number of restaurant jobs before meeting Justin when they both worked at a hotel in Chicago. Justin was eventually transferred to Philadelphia where he served as executive chef for a large hotel. The couple ended up in

Pizza continued on page 5

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NEWS BRIEFS

VT Homestead Declaration filing deadline is April 15

By Vermont law (<https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/32/135/05401>), property owners whose homes meet the definition of a Vermont homestead must file a Homestead Declaration (HS-122) annually. This year, the deadline to file a Homestead Declaration is Friday, April 15. Failure to file the form by the deadline will result in a penalty being assessed. For more information and to file your form online, go to <https://tax.vermont.gov/property-owners/homestead-declaration>. You will need a copy of your tax bill to complete the HS-122. If you do not have a copy, please contact your town office.

Cambridge Area Rotary Ukraine Shelter Box fundraiser

We all are heartbroken over the growing humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. The number of refugees is climbing daily, now well over two million. Many are wondering, "How do I help?" The Cambridge Area Rotary is reaching out to the community for donations to purchase multiple ShelterBoxes to send to Ukraine refugees in and around Ukraine. For the donations received, Cambridge Area Rotary has committed to match purchasing up to two additional boxes on top of what the community donates!

The ShelterBox organization provides boxes of survival goods to displaced families from natural disasters and war-torn countries. Cambridge Area Rotary has been sending Shelterboxes to countries in need for the last decade. It is a worthy, tried-and-true cause. As described by the ShelterBox website:

Everyone deserves a place to call home. It is a human right and the first step towards recovery after disaster. Shelter is so much more than just a roof. It's the foundation for life, families, and communities. It is a place to feel safe after days or weeks of fear. It offers protection from harsh weather, privacy, and helps to preserve dignity. It's a space to heal from trauma... Emergency shelter can also prevent communities from scattering. This means people stay connected and build resilience together... Items like tents, tarpaulins, tools, blankets, mosquito nets, cooking sets, and water filters help to meet the most urgent needs, so you can start to earn a living, send children to school and rebuild your home. Recovery doesn't happen overnight, but a dry and warm place to sleep, prepare meals, and be with your family is the vital first step.

We thank you for your donations. As a 501c3 charitable organization, we will provide a donation letter for your tax-deductible donation. We look forward to coming together as a local community to make a difference to those whose lives have been so grievously affected.

To donate, go online to www.rotarycambridge.org/ukraine.

Westford Dog Warden needed

By Nanette Rogers, Westford Town Administrator
The Town of Westford is looking for someone who is interested in serving as Dog Warden. What is a Dog Warden? A Dog Warden is a person who helps dog owners comply with the Westford Dog Ordinance.

Qualifications: A love for dogs, the ability to communicate effectively, and a location to bring dogs until they can be reunited with their owner, to name a few. You may think you need a kennel to be a Dog Warden. This is not the case. However, a stray dog does need to be kept in a healthy environment until it is reunited with its owner. A healthy environment includes shelter, food, water, and a suitable area for them to relieve themselves.

The Dog Warden position receives an annual stipend of \$500 and there are funds available for training, supplies, and mileage. The Town will provide a doghouse.

If you would like more information on helping your community by serving in this position, please contact the Town Office at 802-878-4587 or townadmin@westfordvt.us. Westford residency is preferred but not required.

Bolton seeking a Town Constable

By Amy Grover, Bolton Town Clerk and Treasurer
We are sad to accept the resignation of Bolton's Town Constable, Jonathan Dennis, elected March 1, 2022. Please see Jon's note to the community below.

The Bolton Select Board will be seeking to appoint a replacement for Jonathan to serve until Town Meeting 2023. If you are interested in applying to be appointed, please submit a letter of interest outlining your experience and your interest in the position. The responsibilities are statutory: "The power to serve civil process, assist the health officer in the discharge of his or her duties, destroy unlicensed dogs, kill injured deer, remove disorderly people from town meeting, collect taxes if no tax collector is elected," and to assist with enforcement of Bolton's Traffic Ordinance (primarily illegal parking). This is a volunteer position with a \$500 annual stipend. Please contact the Town Office for more information or to apply.

*Dear Bolton residents,
I'm sad to say I have to step down from serving as your Town Constable.*

Due to recent events in the past year I sold my place and will no longer be a resident of Bolton. Due to the rules one who holds the constable position for the town needs to be a resident. I will in fact still be an active firefighter for the town so I will be around to help and serve the community whenever I can.

Jonathan Dennis

Westford news and notes

The Town Office is closed on Tuesday, April 12, the date of the ESWD School Budget Vote; and on Wednesday, April 27 for Staff Training.

The Town Office (802-878-4587) is open to the public! The office is open Monday-Thursday, 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM and Friday, 8:30 AM – 1:00 PM. Masks are recommended regardless of vaccination status.

2022 Green Up Vermont is Saturday, May 7! You can find Green Up bags in the clear plastic bin on the Westford Town Office Front Porch. Please take only what you need and thank you for helping keep our community green!

Burn permits: According to the calendar, Spring has arrived! Westford Fire Warden Dennis Angiono says, "Burn permits (are) mandatory in the Town of Westford beginning Friday, April 1, 2022. What you can burn, when you can burn, and how you can burn has not changed. If you have any questions pertaining to your fire please call me at 802-879-1231 and I will be glad to help you any way I can." When cleaning up your yard, please keep in mind that burn permits are required prior to any burning. Burn permits are available online at <https://westfordvt.us/administration/fire-warden/>, from Fire Warden Dennis Angiono, 802-879-1231, or from the Town Office (802-878-4587) during regular office hours.

Yard waste, such as leaves, brush and topsoil are not considered household garbage; therefore, Myers will not collect these materials when picking up your garbage. You can compost yard waste or bring it to a participating CSWD drop off center. For a list of centers please visit <http://www.cswd.net/>.

Assessor visits: The Town of Westford has contracted with NEMRC (New England Municipal Resource Center) for assessing services. Property owners who received a building permit for this past year, or have one from a prior year, can expect a visit from the assessor. This inspection is separate from the Zoning Administrator. The assessor will stop by your property to gather the information necessary to determine the assessed value of your project. They will leave a notice letting you know they were there. Notices of Change of Appraisal will be sent in May. If you have any questions, please contact listeners@westfordvt.us.

Doggie Bag Help? Westford is (desperately) asking for a dog walker/ volunteer to take over the responsibilities of emptying and replacing dog bags for two "dog bag dispensers" near the Elementary School Kiosks. This a necessary and much appreciated bi-monthly task for the community of Westford. The same volunteer has been doing this for four years and no longer owns a dog. Dog bags and replacement bags are provided along with a key for access. Please contact the Town Office (802-878-4587) or the Westford Conservation Commission if you'd possibly consider taking over this very helpful and important responsibility.

Town Trails: A map of the town trails can be found at <https://westfordvt.us/westford-town-lands/>. Please respect private landowners whose property trails may run through. All users and their animals must stay within trail right-of-way limits. Please let us know if you see downed trees or other required maintenance to any of the trails. We're happy to go out and clean things up! Email westfordcc@googlegroups.com.

Westford Rec offerings: Sign up for all Westford Rec programs at <https://westfordvt.us/recreation/>; for more information or to volunteer, contact recreation@westfordvt.us:

- Star Wars LEGO Movie Night for ages 5 and up on Friday, April 8, 6:00 – 8:00 PM at the Red Brick Meeting House in Westford. For \$25, you can build a LEGO kit, watch a movie, snack on popcorn, and take the kit home!
- DIY Bluebird House Kit, \$20, that includes all supplies to build your own birdhouse, at the Westford Town Common Gazebo, Sunday, April 16, between 10:30 – 11:00 AM.
- Slime Making Class for ages 5 and up: make your own slime to bring home, Saturday, April 30, 10:00 – 11:00 AM at the Westford Town Common Gazebo (if it rains, the Red Brick Meeting House).

Please, no vehicle access to Cambridge cemeteries for now

From Cambridge Cemetery Commission
Please refrain from driving in the Jeffersonville and North Cambridge cemeteries for another month! The unpaved areas are completely waterlogged, and we would like to avoid muddy ruts and disturbed resting places.

You can pull in to the flagged area at the upper end of North Cambridge and walk.

You can drive only on the paved area at the lower gate entrance of Jeffersonville and walk.

Thank you in advance for following these guidelines.

Westford draft meeting minutes

By Nanette Rogers, Westford Clerk and Callie Hamdy Westford Town Clerk

The draft minutes from the Thursday, March 10 Selectboard Meeting are available for viewing at <https://westfordvt.us/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/2022-03-10-Draft-Minutes.pdf>.

You can now find the draft minutes for the Board of Civil Authority meeting of Tuesday, March 15 online at https://westfordvt.us/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/2022_03_15-Draft-BCA-Minutes.pdf.

COMING EVENT

Save the dates for the Annual Jiggety Jog & Fun Run to benefit the McClure Miller Respite House in Colchester. This week-plus-long event will take place Thursday, May 5-Saturday, May 14. Participation — wherever you can! — can be entirely virtual. The Respite House has provided our community with compassionate end-of-life care for over 30 years, comforting thousands of families throughout Vermont. Each year, we rely on the funds raised at our annual Jiggety Jog and this year, community donations are more important than ever. Every dollar raised will go right to work caring for our neighbors. To register and get more information, go online to <https://www.uvmhomehealth.org/events-volunteering/respite-house-run-walk-volunteering/>. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Mask mandate continued from page 1

students in the school, rotated in through four different time slots. It was very different to say the least. The vice principal and other teachers stood outside the doors, directing traffic through many of the food lines. MMU's beloved panini presses were back in business, and had a line down the hallway. The 25-minute period sped by, with the dilemma of what table to sit at emerging after

three years in hibernation. Students scattered throughout the school, eating in open gathering spaces, at tables, in the library, and tucked against hallway walls. Tables talked about how weird it was to be back. Freshman Asa Kramer says that he "likes lunch better with the advisory," but doesn't really mind either way. Sophomore Morgan Turner tentatively likes this new

style of lunch and schedule but agrees that "with the way things have been going in Vermont, it's going to happen whether we like it or not." Though there has been disagreement, difficulty, and a lot of emotion involved with MMU going mask-optional, Grace Baisie says what a lot of the students have been feeling. "It feels nice to be a sophomore and finally eating in my high school cafeteria."

Now accepting stock donations

The Jericho Historical Society would like to express thanks for the continued generosity of its many donors to the Old Red Mill Preservation Fund.

The Old Red Mill is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The JHS is now coordinating with stockdonor.com so that donors can easily gift stocks to us. Donating appreciated stocks can be of up to 20% more valuable than selling and donating the cash. This results in bigger financial gain for the receiver of the gift and saves on the donor's taxes.

Federal capital gains tax can be avoided by donating stock and most donors can claim an income tax deduction for the stock's full market value (state and local income tax deductions may be also available in some areas).

If you are interested in donating stock to the JHS you can go to stockdonor.com or contact

Louise Miglionico
68 VT RTE 125 • Jericho, VT 05465 • 802-355-5382
LOUMIG@AOL.COM

The JHS is a 501(c)(3) approved organization.

COMING EVENTS



For its monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 26, 1:00 PM, Burlington Garden Club monthly meeting will feature VT Land Trust Director of Conservation Liz Thompson on a tour of the beautiful woodland wildflowers that bloom in our area in the spring. Thompson is an ecologist and botanist who has also worked for the Nature Conservancy and the VT Natural Heritage Inventory, and has written a book with Eric R. Sorenson and Robert J. Zaino, *Wetland, Woodland, Wildland: a Guide to the Natural Communities of Vermont, 2nd edition* (2019). Free and open to the public, the meeting will be held at Faith United Methodist Church, 899 Dorset St., S. Burlington. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Wednesday, April 6

Craft Group, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, Underhill Town Hall (upstairs), Underhill Center. Gather your current craft project and join us for a couple of hours of socializing, and productivity of course! The group meets every two weeks. All are welcome. For questions or more information contact Amy Tower, 802-355-9671 or atowerinvt@gmail.com.

Thursday, April 7

The Evolution of School Districts and General School History 1763 to 1867 Essex, VT, 1:30 PM, on Google Meets. Please join Bolton Community Senior Center and Hubert “Hubie” Norton for a unique opportunity to learn about the creation of Vermont’s public schools. Although this presentation is an examination of early school history in the Town of Essex with emphasis on establishment of school districts, much is applicable to the evolution of all of Vermont School districts. The period covered is from the earliest years of the Town’s existence in the 1760s up to the mid 1800s. Selected transcripts from Town records and other source material have also been included to add the flavor of the times. Please contact martha@cscvt.org for the link.

5th annual Howard Center Vision, Visionaries, and Voices conference, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, on Zoom. Speakers include Mary Bassett, Anita Hill, Byron Katie, Ethan Nadelmann, and Tara Westover. Registration required; cost is \$89. CEU credits available for a variety of professions. For more about our speakers and topics, please visit <https://howardcenter.org/conference-2022/>.

Friday, April 8

Baked Fish Take-Out dinner, 4:30 – 5:30 PM, St. Thomas Parish Hall, Underhill Center. There are two choices for dinner for the last Friday of Lent: an adult meal, \$15, of baked fresh haddock with lemon butter dill glaze, wild mushroom and herb rice pilaf, buttered green beans, coleslaw, roll, and dessert; and a kids’ meal, \$8, of crispy battered fillets, tater tots, buttered green beans, coleslaw, roll, and dessert. Please call ahead to reserve tickets, 802-899-4632; or purchase tickets at Wells Corner Market, Underhill Center, or at Snowflake Chocolates, VT Rt. 15, Jericho.

Saturday, April 9

Genealogy research plans: how and why? 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM, on Zoom. If you’ve ever spent hours searching databases for the perfect document to solve an ancestral mystery, you may have wondered how the experts can complete client projects, sometimes in just hours. One difference is that their research is very disciplined and their scope is intentionally limited. Both traits are supported by a focused research plan to guide their efforts. Christopher Centracchio will discuss the five main parts of an effective research plan, and teach you how to focus your process. A detailed handout with links to additional resources will be provided, and a Q&A session will follow. All classes at the VT Genealogy Library will be Zoom webinars; cost is \$10. Please visit our website, www.vtgenlib.org for additional details and for registration.

Global Warming Forum, 9:00 AM, Hyde Park Town Office, 344 VT Rt. 15W, Hyde Park. Join the Lamoille County Republican Party for a unique opportunity to gain a better understanding of the global warming issue and the Global Warming Solutions Act

legislation. The GWSA is a controversial bill that will affect how we heat our homes and fuel our cars, while delivering questionable environmental benefits. Tom Evslin will share his unique insights and offer alternatives to high taxes and government regulation of the energy industry. The cost of energy will be a big issue in the 2022 election and Republicans will need to do more than sit on the sidelines and criticize; we need to offer constructive ideas to the debate. Do electric cars really save carbon emissions? Maybe not under our present circumstances according to Tom. Attend our forum and find out why. Donuts and coffee buffet served at 8:30 AM; meeting starts at 9:00 AM. Please RSVP or direct questions to StoweRepublicans@gmail.com.

Tuesday, April 19

Update with Underhill/Jericho legislators, 6:00 PM, on Zoom. Join your local representatives George Till and Trevor Squirrell for an update on the current legislative session. Registration required; please email program_assistant@drml.org.

Wednesday, April 20

Craft Group, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, Underhill Town Hall (upstairs), Underhill Center. Gather your current craft project and join us for a couple of hours of socializing, and productivity of course! The group meets every two weeks. All are welcome. For questions or more information contact Amy Tower, 802-355-9671 or atowerinvt@gmail.com.

Thursday, April 21

What’s a Timberdoodle? 7:00 – 8:00 PM, online. Friends of Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge and the Green Mountain Audubon Society welcome University of Maine PhD student Liam Berigan to share the important work he has been doing tracking the American Woodcock. This informative presentation will cover the ecology of this elusive forest-dwelling shorebird, and delve into the evolving understanding of woodcock migration. We will specifically take a look at the migration patterns of some of Vermont’s tagged birds. Free. To register visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/meet-the-timberdoodle-tickets-215742982067>.

SUMMER CAMP, SUMMER FUN INFORMATION

Musical Theater Camp for Kids at Poker Hill Arts — Two wonderful teachers will be hosting a one-week musical theater day camp at Poker Hill Arts, Poker Hill Rd., Underhill, Monday-Friday, July 18-22. The camp, which will run 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, is for children entering second grade or exiting fifth grade at the end of the current school year. There are just a few more spaces open. Read more online at <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1McOkftOITmT0D7ZFjMcfMLW-xKUDleJ8IpnQRgVoXJE/edit> or email Dana, dthomas0712@gmail.com.

Westford Rec is offering summer programs, including: Archery Mondays, June 20 and 27, 4:30 – 5:30 PM at the Westford School (limited slots available), \$50; Parent and Me T-Ball for ages 3-6 on Saturdays, June 25-August 20, 9:00 – 10:00 AM at the Westford School, \$25. Sign up for all Westford Rec programs at <https://westford.us/recreation>; for more information or to volunteer, contact recreation@westfordvt.us.

Burlington City Arts will offer a summer camp, and registration is now open for their half- or full-day camps and aftercare; full and partial scholarships are available. For more information, see BCA’s digital summer camp catalog at <https://www.burlingtoncityarts.org/adult-youth-and-family-classes>.

Green Mountain Conservation Camp Sponsorships: GMCC, operated by VT Fish & Wildlife since 1966, is open to any child 12-14 years old with an interest in the natural world and joining a welcoming community. Financial aid is available to cover full cost. To learn more, contact 802-522-2925 or FWGMCC@vermont.gov, or go online to <https://vfshandwildlife.com/node/244>.

YMCA Summer Day Camp in Underhill: The YMCA’s Camp Koda returns to Underhill this summer, at a time when kids need a safe and stimulating environment during the summer more than ever.

Camp Koda offers seven one-week sessions for children who have completed kindergarten through age 12. Parents have three-day or five-day options and, as a licensed program, eligible families can use state subsidy for this camp. Y financial assistance may also be available. Learn more and register at <https://www.gbymca.org/summer-camps/camp-koda>.

Each week has a different theme, so campers who come for multiple weeks remain engaged and having fun. In addition to fun, fun, fun, kids develop skills, gain confidence, and build positive relationships with peers and adults.

Y staff create opportunities for your child by providing creative, age-appropriate, and safe activities that promote social, physical, intellectual, and emotional growth — all through recreational play and hands-on activities.

Learn more and register at <https://www.gbymca.org/summer-camps/camp-koda>.

Cambridge CC Buck Lake Camp; scholarships may still be available: Are you looking for something for your child to do this summer? Do they love the outdoors? The Cambridge Conservation Commission (CCC) would like to help send your child to the VT Fish and Wildlife’s Green Mountain Conservation Camp at Buck Lake.

Camp runs in one-week sessions in June, July, and August for boys and girls, ages 12-14. Please send an email to Conservation

Commission Member Tim Larned, timlarned@myfairpoint.net, stating why you would like to go and what you love about the outdoors, to be considered for this scholarship. The amount of the scholarship will be determined by the number of applicants. Scholarships will be awarded until funds are depleted. Camp spots fill fast so please respond ASAP.

Campers will meet game wardens, foresters, fisheries and wildlife biologists, and others who work in the outdoors. Some of the fun activities that take place include learning about forestry, wetland ecology, orienteering, outdoor safety skills, fly fishing and spin casting, fly tying, archery, hiking and camping, canoeing, swimming, firearm safety, and much more... Opportunities for new friendships abound! Campers will receive both their State Hunter Education and Bow Hunter Certifications at the completion of the week.

For more information about the camp and specific dates, go to www.vfshandwildlife.com.

Lamoille Natural Resource Conservation Summer Camp: It’s not long until kids will be out of school for summer. Registration is now open for Lamoille Nature Center Summer camps! At the camp located on Cole Hill Road in Morrisville, kids will spend the days learning through hands-on exploration at our 40 acres forest reserve. Camp groups are capped at 10-12 kids and run from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. The cost per camper \$225 for LCCD members and \$275 for non-members; scholarships are available. This year we are offering:

- Layers of Life (5-8 year olds, July 11-14);
- Guardians of the Watershed (8-12 year olds, July 18-22); and
- Wild Art, a collaborative camp with River Arts (8-12 year olds, July 25-29).

For more information and to register, go online to <https://lcnrcd.com/summer-camps/>.

CHURCH - EASTER SERVICES



Annual Easter Egg Hunt
On the Common
Saturday, April 16th 10am

The Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 16 takes place at 10:00 AM on the Westford Common; immediately following are activities at the Westford Town Library. You also can pick up a DIY Bluebird House Kit, \$20, that includes all supplies to build your own birdhouse, at the Westford Town Common Gazebo between 10:30 – 11:00 AM. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

St. Thomas Church, St. Mary’s Church: Holy week schedule for St. Thomas Church, Underhill Center and St. Mary’s Church, Cambridge:

Palm Sunday, April 10 — 8:30 AM at St. Thomas; 10:45 AM at St. Mary’s.

Wednesday April 13 —Tenebrae Service 7:30 PM at St. Thomas.

Thursday, April 14 — Holy Thursday “Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper” (Maundy Thursday); 7:00 PM at St. Mary’s.

Friday, April 15 — Good Friday “Commemoration of the Lord’s Passion and Death” 3:00 PM at St. Thomas; 7:00 PM at St. Mary’s.

Saturday, April 16 — Easter Vigil 8:00 PM at St. Thomas.
Sunday, April 17 — Easter Sunday Mass, 8:30 AM at St. Thomas; 10:30 AM at St. Mary’s

Easter outdoor get-together: The resurrection of Jesus is often best celebrated outside. The sound of birdsong and the nearby running river makes Moore Park in Underhill Center one of the best places to do it.

Last year, a few people gathered at Moore Park to sing a couple Easter songs, read aloud some scripture, and pray together. It was a touching and tranquil way to celebrate the resurrection. We are hoping to do this again this year.

We are not affiliated with any church, nor do we have a pastor to lead us. However, as Jesus said, whenever there are two or more gathered in your midst, He is there!

You don’t have to belong to a specific denomination to attend. Just bring yourself, your love for your neighbors, and any prayer requests you may have. There will be printed-out bulletins to pass around with song lyrics and scriptures.

Kids and all ages welcome!
Email Sarah Bahr, rdnckviolinist@aol.com, if you have any questions, or would like to be a part of this.

Good Shepherd Church Holy Week and Easter Services: You are invited to worship with Good Shepherd Church in Jericho at this special time:

Monday-Friday, April 11-15 Ecumenical Morning Prayer, 6:45 – 7:00 AM, hosted by Good Shepherd. Short devotions led by area clergy.

Maundy Thursday, April 14, 7:00 PM: service with communion. Worship focuses on the last night that Jesus was with his disciples.

Good Friday, April 15, 7:00 PM: Virtual service via Zoom. *Tenebrae* is a Latin word meaning shadows. Candles on a cross are gradually extinguished as the story of Jesus’ suffering and death is told. Zoom link is provided via Good Shepherd’s E-Bulletin. Please subscribe by Tuesday, April 12 at www.goodshepherdjericho.org. You can unsubscribe at any time.

Easter Sunday Worship, April 17, 9:00 AM service with communion. Festive worship with joyful hymns and choral music. Fellowship time follows, outdoors, weather permitting.

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Stop in and see us, we have missed you!

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HEALTH NEWS

Blood Drive April 6 at Richmond Congregational

The need for blood continues to be urgent! New and loyal donors are welcome. Please consider helping us match or exceed our December record.

The next local American Red Cross blood drive is scheduled for Wednesday, April 6 from 12:00 – 6:00 PM, at the Richmond Congregational Church, 20 Church St., Richmond.

Appointments are required. Call 1-800-REDCROSS (1-800-733-2767) or go online to <https://www.redcrossblood.org/> for more information, and to make an appointment; or email dthomas@gmavt.net for assistance.

Stay healthy around backyard chicks

From VT Dept. Of Health

If you're adding a few feathered friends to your backyard this spring, know how to stay healthy around baby birds. Even if they look clean and healthy, backyard poultry can carry harmful germs that make us sick.

Salmonella outbreaks are linked to contact with backyard poultry every year. Salmonella can cause diarrhea, vomiting, fever, and stomach cramps for four to seven days.

Take these steps to keep you and your family healthy while raising a backyard flock:

- Wash your hands after touching birds and anything in areas where they live and roam.
- Don't kiss or snuggle birds, or eat or drink around them.
- Keep birds and their supplies outside of your house.
- Always supervise kids around birds and don't let kids under 5 handle birds because they are most likely to get sick.
- Stay outdoors when cleaning any equipment or materials used to raise or care for poultry, such as cages or food and water containers.
- Set aside a pair of shoes to wear while taking care of poultry and keep those shoes outside of the house.

Learn more at <https://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/pets/farm-animals/backyard-poultry.html>.

Tasty tips for healthy snacking

Parents have been hungry to ask me questions about how to ensure that their child eats healthy when they snack. Let me see if I can provide some information on this topic that is easy to digest.

It's important to remember the concept that snacks, although always fun, can also be healthy at the same time and the more children think about eating healthy, the more children will snack healthy. In fact, snacks can be a terrific way to satisfy a child's hunger needs and get the vitamins and nutrients your body needs, especially if your child is a picky eater. So how do we do this?

Pay attention to portion sizes and timing of snacks so they don't get in the way of a scheduled meal.

Be a smart snack shopper. If a snack says "all natural" it may still mean it contains sugar, which is a natural ingredient but one that is high in calories with little nutrition. Learning to pay attention to food labels is a great way to snack healthy. Be careful with low-fat as well, since that may mean if the fat is low, the sugar content is high and may have just as many calories as high fat foods.

Get rid of the candy and soda from your fridge or pantry. Instead, have lots of fresh fruits and veggies in the fridge such as cut melon, carrots, celery sticks, and cheese sticks in an easy-to-reach container so kids can grab and go and avoid turning to unhealthy snacks they might be able to access from a vending machine before or after school.

If your child has a craving for something sweet, you might make some healthier substitutions such as using hot chocolate, which has less calories and fat, instead of a candy bar. Frozen yogurt can be a great substitute for ice cream, and even baked tortilla chips are healthier than corn chips and can then be paired with salsa rather than sour cream (which can be high in fat and calories).

And parents: be sure to set a good example. If you snack healthy, your children will too.

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

United Way of Northwest Vermont hires new controller

United Way of Northwest Vermont, an organization dedicated to improving lives and advancing the common good in Chittenden, Franklin and Grand Isle counties, has hired Nina Lovelace as its new Controller. In this role, Lovelace will provide strategic organizational financial leadership and manage day-to-day finance and accounting functions for the organization. Lovelace spent the first 10 years of her career in manufacturing, working her way up from Accountant into Accounting Management at Pepsi and Jos. A. Bank Clothiers. She spent several years supporting a varied base of small business clients and in IT as an Accounting Manager before relocating from Maryland to Vermont in 2021. "I'm thrilled to join United Way and be a member of a team where I can be inspired and energized by the mission every day. Strengthening communities through education, financial stability, and health, as well as embracing diversity, equity, and inclusion, are matters that are near and dear to my heart," Lovelace said. Lovelace has a Master's in Leadership from Grand Canyon University and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a Finance Concentration from Towson University. She lives in Underhill with her teenage son.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Catherine Simonson retired from Howard Center

The Howard Center's Chief Client Services Officer Catherine Simonson will retire at the end of 2022 after 27 years of service there, 22 years as a social worker leading child and family programming, including a program delivering school social work services to every school in Chittenden County. Howard Center CEO Bob Bick says, "At this year's KidSafe Collaborative Awards Celebration on Tuesday, April 26, Catherine will be honored with their Lifetime Achievement Award."



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

Legislative update — Vermont House

By Theresa Wood, State Representative
Washington-Chittenden

March 14

As the turmoil in the world only seems to deepen, I hope that you are finding quiet time to reflect on the peace needed in this world.

The next few weeks will see a variety of bills coming to the floor for action as committee work on House bills is wrapping up. The second half of the session will focus on Senate bills that have passed and are moving to the House.

The Legislature started the week with quick action on H.717 — humanitarian relief for the people of Ukraine. \$644,826 was authorized, representing \$1 for each Vermonter and \$1749 representing the sales of Russian liquor prior to it being removed from the shelves. (<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/H-0717/H-0717%20As%20Passed%20by%20Both%20House%20and%20Senate%20Official.pdf>)

H.517 — this bill extends the provisions under the Vermont National Guard Tuition Benefit Program so that individuals can pursue additional coursework/degrees. (<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/H-0517/H-0517%20As%20Passed%20by%20the%20House%20Unofficial.pdf>)

H.680 — this bill proposes to allow individuals to obtain a marriage license in any town in Vermont. Currently, non-residents can already do so, and this extends that ability to residents as well. (<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/H-0680/H-0680%20As%20Introduced.pdf>)

H.115 — is a bill that seeks to reduce household hazardous waste from landfills, reduce the financial burden on solid waste entities and taxpayers, and lessen the environmental and public health risk posed by waste that is improperly disposed. It implements a stewardship organization to collect household products containing hazardous substances free of charge to the public. (<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/WorkGroups/House%20Natural/Bills/H.115/Drafts,%20Amendments,%20and%20Legal%20Documents/H.115~Michael%20Grady~As%20Recommended%20by%20the%20House%20Committee%20on%20Natural%20Resources,%20Fish,%20and%20Wildlife~3-8-2022.pdf>)

H.572 — is a bill that enables retired teachers to resume working in schools for up to one school year without the loss

of their retirement pay during that time. The teacher must meet certain criteria (e.g., valid license, been retired for at least six months, etc.). (<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/WorkGroups/House%20Government%20Operations/Bills/H.572/Drafts,%20Amendments,%20and%20Legal%20Documents/H.572~Rebecca%20Wasserman~As%20Recommended%20by%20House%20Committee%20on%20Government%20Operations%20-2-25-2022.pdf>)

H.361 — this is an amendment to the Brattleboro charter that enables youth ages 16-18 to vote in local elections. The Governor previously vetoed this bill, and the House overrode the Governor's veto on a vote of 102-47. The bill now moves to the Senate for an override vote.

Thanks for reading and as always, I can be reached at twood@leg.state.vt.us.

Climate, homeownership, public safety, wildlife

By Kesha Ram Hinsdale, State Senator
Chittenden District

March 22

We are now largely through the middle of the session — known as "crossover" because bills must cross over from one chamber to the other in order to be considered and approved by both the House and the Senate. Your input is critical during this time to ensure we prioritize the issues most pressing to you. Below are some key priorities for me, and I will have a workforce, labor, and economic development update forthcoming as we continue to allocate dollars to economic recovery in a meaningful, transparent way.

Climate Action and Environmental Justice: The Arctic Circle experienced record heat this past weekend. We need immediate global climate action, and Vermont has an important role to play. I was proud to co-sponsor S.251, which would put us on the same path as the State of New York to divest Vermont's state pensions from fossil fuels and fossil fuel infrastructure. Additionally, S.148 is an environmental justice framework that ensures environmental benefits are reaching all Vermonters, with the most impacted communities receiving priority for overdue environmental infrastructure, pollution mitigation strategies, and access to green space. Both bills have been debated for over a decade, and I am grateful to see both headed for a vote in the Senate.

Investing in Homeownership and Home Improvement: As we navigate an escalating housing crisis, we must remember that the middle class does not create homeownership — indeed, homeownership creates the middle class. This is why I led sponsorship of S.226, an omnibus housing bill that

- creates first-generation homebuyer grants;
- directs resources to improving the well-being and housing stock of the 40,000 Vermonters living in mobile homes;
- gives homeowners more flexibility and resources to build accessory dwelling units; and
- incorporates the Governor's "missing middle" proposal to build new housing stock for those between 80-120% of median household income.

S.226 will be voted on by the Senate this week before moving over to the House.

Police Accountability and Reform: Two bills, S.250 and S.254, were advanced by the Senate last week and represent a step forward in law enforcement policies that foster trust, accountability, and safety for all Vermonters. S.250 expands data collection, creates a database of officer misconduct and misclassification of information available to prosecutors and our Criminal Justice Council, mandates the recording of all custodial interrogations related to felony investigations, and commissions a report on deceptive and coercive law enforcement interrogation techniques that elicit an involuntary confession. Additionally,

S.254 requires an independent legal analysis on the extent to which victims of police misconduct are denied access to justice under the doctrine of qualified immunity. Both bills are advancing to a final vote in the Senate and then will go to the House.

Supporting Our Veterans and Military Families: We are working hard to ensure those who serve our nation are acknowledged for the sacrifices they and their families make. I have sponsored several bills advancing in the Senate right now that will ensure access to advance enrollment, continuity of student well-being and curricular advance, and in-state tuition for the children of military service members. These will be combined with a House initiative to provide in-state college tuition for Guard members. These are important steps to welcome and support military families and veterans.

Wildlife Protection: Many of you have reached out to voice support for wildlife protection and animal welfare bills being considered this session. Specifically, S.201 requires the Fish and Wildlife Commissioner to develop trapping best-management practices based on national standards to phase out the use of leg-hold traps; and S.281 enacts a moratorium on hunting coyotes with dogs unless in defense of a person or property. While there is much work to be done, these bills, which are moving through the Senate, are the result of years of advocacy towards building a Vermont that is friendlier to our wildlife and respects landowners and all stakeholders in wildlife management.

As always, I am here to represent you. Please don't hesitate to reach out at kramhinsdale@leg.state.vt.us to share your thoughts and concerns.

Gratitude and follow up

By Kate Donnally, State Representative, Lamoille-2
March 30

Thank you to all who joined Dan Noyes, Richard Westman, and me this past Saturday for the third Lamoille District 2 legislative community conversation of the 2022 session!

A special thank you to Emily Rosenbaum for joining us to talk about the Working Communities Challenge. The WCC is an exciting grant that has been awarded to Lamoille County to create creative solutions to current workforce challenges. You can find more information about the WCC online at <https://wvlamoille.org/who-we-are/working-communities-challenge.html>.

Community Conversations are live streamed and recorded. If you would like to watch the discussion from this weekend, you can find it at the following link (where you can watch it at 2x the speed!): <https://youtu.be/5Ej-4consz8>.

These community conversations are a great opportunity to share your thoughts, concerns, and questions about your community and the state as a whole. They are held the fourth Saturday of the month from 9:00 – 10:00 AM via Zoom. If you would like to attend upcoming conversations, please RSVP to <https://forms.gle/xyarvpVehia4tQ2o6>.

Thanks as always for your engagement!

COLLEGE NEWS

Simona Hankins of Jericho, VT was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Hankins was initiated at Oklahoma City University, Baton Rouge, LA.

William Harvey of Jericho, VT has earned a place on the Headmaster's List for the first semester of the 2021-2022 school year at Worcester Academy, Worcester, MA.

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COMMUNITY COLUMNS

Plants for pollinators addict

By Bernie Paquette

Hi, my name is Bernie and I am a native plant addict. Every year I buy more plants. I buy bare-root plants from WVPD's yearly plant sale and the Intervale Conservation Nursery in BTV. I buy plants online, wildflower seeds for example, from Prairie Moon Nursery. Always on the lookout for affordable native plants. I even created a list of all of the plants native to Vermont, 1458 of them. And if I could get my hands on every one of them, I WOULD.

However, my reasoned self — Maeve — and my psychoanalyst all tell me when it comes to my obsession, yes that was the term used, when it comes to my plant obsession, I must slow down.

I have reduced our lawn size considerably to have more room to grow plants native to Vermont. Pretty soon we are going to have to look into purchasing some of our neighbor's vacant land as we are running out of room for me to put more plants in the ground on our 1.3-acre yard.

Our goal is to create a bird and pollinator sanctuary with at least 70% of all our plants native to Vermont.

When I am not planting, I may be building more critter houses, woodpiles, stone piles, stone piles with underground tunnels and custom-built skylight (hey the little critters deserve an open, airy, and sunny home, too). Or I might be placing a bumblebee box with a vacancy sign on it in a secluded area of our yard.

I have hung up countless bird boxes including one for owls and one for pileated woodpeckers (both unoccupied so far), two bat boxes, bee boxes for Mason bees and other cavity-nesting bees, birdbaths, frog pools, bee watering stations, butterfly food, and water stations, and even a multi-story apartment house for critters of all sorts.

This winter, while my non-green thumb rested, I researched wild solitary bees, bumblebees, butterflies and moths, and other pollinators and compiled the best photos out of the 3941 insects I observed and photographed in 2021 in our back yard. Then I put together over ten one-hour Zoom presentations to show those photos and share some interesting facts about the insects I observed in our yard. The one titled *Eat or be Eaten* is gory but cool, I think. The one about *Insect Sex* is, well let's just say that insect sex is a lot more shocking than *Fifty Shades of Grey*. Another one is about beneficial insects and garden pests. Also, I created one titled *Native Plants for Pollinators and for You*.

So it is not like planting is the only thing I do in nature. But, with 1458 plants native to Vermont, and my having only planted

a bit over 200 (okay, way over 200) species in our yard, I ask you: how can that be an obsession?

Over the last two years, I have hauled enough cardboard to our backyard (in preparation for wildflower planting) to wallpaper an entire city. Finally, last fall I planted 27 species of wildflowers native to Vermont. Fingers crossed that at least some will come up this year. Perennial wildflower seeds are notoriously slow in germinating; some take years. Thankfully I have (some) patience and still have a wee bit of yard left to plant in.

So I ordered even more wildflower seed this spring. I also purchased two Bali Evans Cherry trees, a Wolf River apple tree, a Johns Elderberry, three Autumn Brilliance Juneberry, one Smoky Juneberry, and a Northern Juneberry. They all came in from St. Lawrence Nurseries a few days ago. All bare-root so they had to be planted within a couple of days. All this after saying last year, I have got to stop buying more plants before someone mistakes our backyard for the Amazon (the forest not the world resource extractor).

Note to self, purchasing plants is so much easier than planting them: figuring out where to plant them (yup, I did this in advance last year, but my stakes indicating planting spots seem to be missing, along with my notes), digging in the mud, pulling out humongous rocks the size of Utah, making three piles of dirt from the hole then placing the plant in place and refilling the hole from the three piles in reverse order with top-level sod going in first to feed the plant over time, the cutting hardware cloth (small opening fencing) to disfavor rabbits, then tall fencing to discourage deer, then cardboard and mulch, then a gazillion trips with five gallon-watering buckets.

Later this spring (April 30) I will pick up my latest WVPD Tree Sale order of two Gray Dogwood, two Northern Spicebush, and two Witch Hazel. Yes, we already have some of those, but ours looked lonely. All bare-root; I better mark that day on the calendar as full.

Now, where in the world will I plant them? Maeve is already feeling claustrophobic in the back yard. Perhaps she would let me take the clothesline down, that would be enough space for one, maybe two plants... hmmm.

The ground is barely thawed, yet when I walk about in the backyard today, in late March, I can almost hear the awakenings underground. The roots stretching like I do in the morning, the microbes having their first breakfast in perhaps months; I see buds struggling to protrude from the cambium, I see crocuses leading the charge, snowdrops finding it easier than ever to



bloom without snow or ice. And I am already looking forward to the early flowering bloomers, the lilacs, cherry bushes and cherry trees, redbuds, honeyberries, flowering quince, serviceberry (or Juneberry), and others that will feed the newly emerging queen bumblebees, the early emerging mason bees, and many other insects coming out of their winter dens for their first look at the new year above ground.

Finally, the last plant is in the ground. Well, the last one for today anyway. I am a bit lame around my knees, my back aches a bit, my arms are like spaghetti, just about all of me is covered in mud, my stomach is growling, I have a gazillion tools, fencing, stakes, buckets, shovels, sledgehammer, wire cutters, gloves, and more yet to be put away. I am wasted and have not even prepared the ground for the wildflower seeds that came in the mail today. In the future, I must learn to pace myself. Too old, not enough space in the yard, (still working on persuading Maeve to let me plant under the clothesline), not enough hours in the day. Time to move on to another interest.

After a shower, a real quick food gulp, I head to my computer. And guess what captures my attention as quickly as tinker-bell on caffeine!

My wish list of native plants for specialist bees (bees that feed on only one or only a few species of plants). Of course, I must have some of those and it is so easy to order them. Now, what was that I wanted to remind myself the next time I thought about ordering more plants. Oh yah, I remember, you can't ever have too many native plants!

P.S., if you need a plant fix, check out the Community Center in Jericho benefit Plant Sale.

Small joys from an old woman in quarantine

By Sue Kusserow

Special to the Mountain Gazette

It is chilly, even with the sun at high noon. I hobble along to keep warm, through the flattened grasses and the skeletons of milkweed. I will try and remember the summer meadows. The dogs snooze in the newness of a wan sun, unaware that they are now labeled as vectors.

It is hard for us, with our history of invincibility, to imagine power in nothingness. How daunting that an invisible virus can so completely immobilize with disbelief and fear. Perhaps that is why the smallest of joys can be soothing. I have lived long enough at 88 to know isolation, to accept it and find its pockets of beauty through my window. Fatalism becomes a form of serenity.

Aside from the birds at my window, all of my visitors are now in voices. Voices become life; caring is floated on a whisper, a phone ringing.

A chickadee has a very business-like flight, with only a few swoops... straight from the feeder with one sunflower seed in its bill, landing on a bare branch to bang away at the husk. I wonder at the amount of energy that is used up in preparing the meal. But I guess the rich oil is worth it.

A jay sings his strident, one-note call, shifting from pine to balsam, doesn't seem to come to the openness of the red maple. I have cut off a few twigs of it to prop up in warm water to try and

speed up its metamorphosis. I should know it won't work quite yet; nature has its own schedule. I need to find pussy willows down by the pond.

I scratch my arm, reaching underneath my ragged "hiking" sweater. A tiny scab rips off. I expect the usual oozing that an anti-coagulant produces. But no, it stays pink and dry... a testimony to the body's ability to heal itself. We need that now.

My son-in-law wanders in his garden, following the paths of snow-melt. The tulips are up early: small spikes of folded leaves, the color of dried blood.

I hear a chattering of birds as a flock of finches flit overhead. People have said they have seen robins, but none here. The grandfather of corvids flies overhead, his song starting with a gurgle and ending in a burp... completely unmelodious. One guard crow settles in the tallest black cherry; the three others fly low to see if they can roust a chickadee from my feeder.

I move my rickety lawn chair to a sheltered spot. The lawn is littered with the detritus of two dogs not willing, in freezing weather, to venture farther than the back door. It is dangerous to watch the sun and your feet at the same time.

The sun finds a small cloud to hide behind and the wind turns chilly. It is winter again.

Snow. The eaves drip, the balsams turn into Christmas again. I can see the small hill behind our old house; we dragged stones down to outline our garden. The kids ran barefoot all summer and washed their lithe bodies in the summer rains.

Hope is in remembering.

Butternut: a profile

By Ethan Tapper

Butternut (*Juglans cinerea*) is an enigmatic tree. Also called "white walnut," butternut is the hardiest member of the walnut genus, with a range stretching north into southern Ontario, Québec, and New Brunswick, as far west as Minnesota, Iowa, and Missouri, and south to Tennessee.

In Vermont, butternut trees are usually found on rich, moist soils, growing alongside sugar maple, basswood, white ash, and plants like maidenhair fern and blue cohosh. It is shade-intolerant, needing lots of sunlight to thrive. While butternut was likely never a common or long-lived tree in Vermont's forests, it is becoming increasingly uncommon and shorter-lived due to the prevalence of a non-native pathogen called butternut canker.

Butternut trees produce butternuts: a hard-shelled, fatty nut — much like a walnut — encased in a fleshy, green, football-shaped husk. Butternut has a compound leaf of seven- to seventeen-pointed leaflets, unfurling from brown twigs with distinctive large, light-brown terminal buds and leaf-scars that look like little "monkey-faces" with yellow "unibrows." Their bark is patterned with narrow, interlacing ridges, similar to that of ash

Community columns continued on page 7

Pizza continued from page 1

Vermont when he was asked to open a restaurant for a boutique hotel in Stowe, something that pleased him because he wanted to scale down from his work in Philadelphia. Unfortunately, the new job required a lot of driving to other restaurants owned by the chain, so the couple looked around for a place to plant their business roots. They had driven by Angelina's before and commented on its location but when it was up for sale, they took the plunge. "It happened all of a sudden," Justin said.

Given the timing of their opening with the onslaught of COVID, Justin and Serena pared down their menu for several months but with the tide turning, they are building it back up. The couple kept a lot of the popular items from Angelina's but have added several things including quiche with bacon, leeks and goat cheese, pesto mac and cheese, a burrito, and specialty pizzas. "We're trying to bring more flavor into the dishes," Justin said. Welcome additions to the menu are Serena's desserts, which include crème brûlée, key lime pie, and chocolate mousse. Justin hopes to add a variety of pizza slice specials on weekends and to include more Mexican cuisine.

The restaurant's name is Justin's family nickname, and the three-eyed alien logo is based on a painting by local artist Justin Atherton, which the couple bought from Artists' Mediums, a since-closed gallery just up the road from the restaurant. Serena liked the painting so much that she sent a photo to her brother-in-law Michael Ullegue and he created the logo using it as inspiration.

"We've had really positive reactions," Serena said. "People didn't realize the transition right away but when we opened our doors and folks started seeing new people, they realized there had been a change. We didn't make a lot of noise because of the state of the world at the time." Serena noted that as the couple began to make renovations, people started asking questions and shortly before the official name change, she began to talk more about their plans for the restaurant.

"I just want to thank everyone in the community," Justin said. "When you buy a restaurant three months before a lockdown you have to adapt and continue to adapt." When indoor dining was shut down, the couple brought a table to the front window and plugged in their cash register and credit card reader. "We handed out pizzas to people waiting outside in 20 below zero," Justin said. "We want to thank everyone for their encouragement and continued support through the changes."

Foster Care Changes Lives

Be the change you wish to see in the world.

It's tough enough to adjust to living with someone other than your birth family. Imagine, then, if you were a child with autism? Or if you had some other intellectual difference that made it potentially more complicated for you to feel safe, loved, and, perhaps, most of all, understood.

We are looking for just that kind of understanding and connection. Children and youth in foster care come with all kinds of individual differences and complexities and we need care providers who will be there for them for the long haul. Might that be you?

To learn more, contact:

Julie Duggan | Resource Coordinator
Department of Children and Families
Burlington District Office | Williston, VT
C:(802) 598-2252 | O:(802) 863-7370

Julie.Duggan@Vermont.gov



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

LIBRARY NEWS

Our library should be for everyone!

Take a short survey to help shape the future of Jericho Town Library.

Click here to get started!

ACCESSIBILITY | PRESERVATION | GROWTH



JTL seeks community input on future of library building

From Jericho Town Library Board of Trustees

Our community deserves ADA access to this historic, town-owned building. We are asking for preservation of this historic building on the treasured Town Green and to ensure that it is accessible to ALL community members.

The Jericho Town Library (JTL) building was constructed in 1825 and its historic nature contributes greatly to the sense of charm and community of Jericho Center, one of Jericho's three treasured Village Centers and a registered Historic District. However, very little structural work has been done to the building in the last two hundred years, and a preservation/modernization project is long overdue.

Currently, no part of the building is ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accessible, the foundation is crumbling from below, the floors are nowhere close to modern weight-bearing codes, the roof and rafters are not strong enough to support their own weight, and the insulation and HVAC system need to be brought up to 21st century standards.

In December 2021, JTL's Board of Directors presented a plan to the Jericho Selectboard that would address all these issues, making the library fully accessible to the whole community and preserving the building so it can continue to serve the town and remain a vibrant part of our historic Village Center for many years to come. As this venture takes off, the Board of Directors is looking for your input, to ensure that the final project is an authentic reflection of what the Jericho community needs and wants from its library.

Here is the link to the Selectboard Presentation: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/12zsHoWgGITYAVF7zVo7owx3ezbf54n7/view>.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this short survey: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfEWmmYy13AVuNFaEoOdoPQoFwRlFzCzQ3Iiz2OYGFduXZUboA/viewform>.

DEBORAH RAWSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The library is open, 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.

Youth Librarian Abbey Pasquene is in the midst of planning DRML's summer programming for kids (and kids at heart) and is looking for some volunteers to help round things out. Here's what she's hoping to find: someone interested in helping run a puppetry camp for ages 8+ in July (exact dates TBD), preferably from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Monday-Friday, who would help participants learn about different kinds of puppets, make puppets, and write a short puppet show to perform at the end of the week; and a connection with a marine biologist or another scientist who studies the ocean, and would be willing to do a presentation and Q&A with our community. Thanks everyone!

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.

Thursday, April 7: Tech Talk, 12:00 PM, on Zoom. This series of programs is designed to demystify digital technologies. This month will be an informal Q&A about technology that has been acting out for you. Join us to share your tech troubles and to learn from the stories of others. Registration required; please email Erik (program_assistant@drml.org) for the link. Need assistance in joining the program? Email program_assistant@drml.org.

Tuesday, April 12: Deborah Rawson Book Lovers, 7:00 PM, on Zoom. DRBL is a monthly adult book discussion group. This month's selection is *Me Talk Pretty One Day* by David Sedaris. New members are always welcome to drop in on any meeting, which is always the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM. For more information on how to join in, contact Christine@cstaffa.com.

Thursday, April 14: An Evening of Poetry with Scudder Parker, 6:30 PM, in-person at DRML and on Zoom. Join us for an evening of poetry with Scudder Parker. His first volume of poems, *Safe as Lightning*, was released in June 2020 by Rootstock Publishing. It won the award for Best Poetry Book of 2020 by the Independent Publishers of New England. Scudder loves to share his poems in intimate settings such as the Deborah Rawson Public Library in Jericho. He looks forward to reading poems from his first collection as well as from the new, unpublished volume he is working on titled *What We Share and Cannot Keep*. Scudder considers poetry to be a process of exploration and connection and looks forward to feedback and discussion after his readings. Scudder Parker grew up on a family farm in North Danville, VT. He's been a Protestant minister, state senator, utility regulator, candidate for Governor, consultant on energy efficiency and renewable energy, and is now a full-time poet and writer. He and his wife Susan live in Middlesex, VT. Registration required; to reserve a seat at DRML, please call the library, 802-899-4962. To register for the virtual livestream, please email DRML's Program Assistant, program_assistant@drml.org.

Tuesday, April 19: Legislative Update, 6:00 PM, on Zoom. Join your local representatives George Till and Trevor Squirrel for an update on the current legislative session. Registration required; please email program_assistant@drml.org.

Sunday, April 24: Frederick Law Olmsted: New England's Beloved Son, 2:00 PM, on Zoom. Frederick Law Olmsted, the

father of landscape architecture, designed our first city parks, park systems, and model suburban communities. He promoted environmentalism and the subsequent creation of the national park system. Greatly influenced by his New England upbringing, Olmsted instilled in us a love of our American landscapes. This talk begins with a brief overview of Olmsted's early life here in New England and his numerous jobs before partnering with the architect Calvert Vaux to design Central Park. The talk then turns to two of his New England works, the Emerald Necklace and Shelburne Farms, which display his fundamental design principles and techniques. Boston's Park System reveals Olmsted's sensitivity to the growing city and the need to "green" it through parkland and parkways. Shelburne Farms, one of his two contributions to the Country Place/Estate Era, presents additional design strategies while underscoring his fundamental design principle, "look to the genius of the place." The talk is intended for a general audience but pays particular attention to the interests of gardeners and those interested in exploring these Olmsted sites with family and friends. Presenter Ann McEntee is a former Communications and Theatre professor. She left teaching to earn a Master of Landscape Architecture from the University of New Mexico. While living in Santa Fe, she earned her certification as a Master Gardener, and more recently, her Advanced Master Gardener certification. Ann currently teaches architectural and landscape history for Keene State College's Lifelong Learning program and works part-time as a landscape consultant. Registration required; please email Erik (program_assistant@drml.org) for the link.

Tuesday, April 26: Mystery Book Club, 7:00 PM, in person in the program room at DRML. Masks are required. A Zoom meeting will also be available for those who prefer a virtual option. Please contact Holly (drawsonmemlib@yahoo.com) if you would like to receive a link to the Zoom meeting.

Youth Programs

This year our summer program theme is Ocean of Possibilities, and so far we've got a visit from a local friendly pirate and a live animal program on the books. Look for more info next month!

Ongoing

Tuesdays, 3:00 PM: Story Time [PreK-K]. Come share jokes with Freddy the Fox, sing, play and hear wonderful stories!

Beginning in April: Scavenger Hunt. Spring is here! Each time you visit the library, you can hunt for the six cutouts hiding all over the library. When you find them all, visit the front desk to enter a raffle for a Pop It Fidget toy! You can play the scavenger hunt and enter as often as you like.

School vacation week; begins April 19: Community Sculpture. In March, using all the bits and bobs pulled out of the LEGO bins, we started gluing together a community sculpture.

Check out these great programs!

All programs meet in person at DRML. We still ask that everyone over the age of 2 years wear a mask to protect our vulnerable populations. If you would prefer to join programs via Zoom, please email youth_librarian@drml.org.

Wednesday, April 6: Among Us, 3:00 – 4:30 PM [ages 10+]. Can you figure out who's crew and who's the imposter? Come test your skills with Ms. Abbey and friends! To sign up visit the library, call us at 802-899-4962, or email youth_librarian@drml.org.

Thursdays, April 7 and 21: Animation Club, 3:00 – 4:30 PM [tween/teen]. Have you ever wanted to make your own movie? Now's your chance! Come to Animation Club to learn how to make stop motion films and use video editing software. We have all the tools you need. To sign up visit the library, call us at 802-899-4962, or email youth_librarian@drml.org.

Friday, April 8: LEGO Club, 3:00 – 4:00 PM [ages 6+]. Build a gem-powered rocket or a flying pet store at LEGO club. Build on your own or with a buddy. The only limit is your imagination! You can sign up when you visit the library, call us at 802-899-4962, or email youth_librarian@drml.org.

Saturday, April 9: Read to Wyatt, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM [all ages]. Wyatt the Bernese Mountain Dog and his handler Ms. Sue would love to hear you read stories. They don't care if you get all the words right, they're just happy to listen. Please pre-register for a 15-minute spot. You can sign up when you visit the library, call us at 802-899-4962 or email youth_librarian@drml.org.

Friday, April 15: Crafternoon: Kites, 3:00 – 4:00 PM [all ages]. Let's go fly a kite! But first you have to make it. Experiment with different materials and designs to see what flies best. You can sign up when you visit the library, call us at 802-899-4962 or email youth_librarian@drml.org.

Wednesday, April 20: Minecraft Social, 3:00 – 4:30 PM [ages 8+]. Bring your own device and get together at the library with other people who love Minecraft! Show off your worlds, your building and your skills. Make new friends and play together! Spots are limited so please sign up when you visit the library, call us at 802-899-4962, or email youth_librarian@drml.org.

Fridays, April 22 and 29: Stories and Songs with the Londons! 11:00 AM [preschool]. We are absolutely thrilled to welcome back Beth and David London for stories and songs on the last two Friday mornings in April. We will be outside so dress for the weather (which will hopefully be warm by then).

All information accurate as of March 24. Please visit drml.org for the most up-to-date information on programs at DRML.

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

JERICHO TOWN LIBRARY

Wednesdays, 10:30 AM: Storytime takes place in our programming area on the second floor of the library and is intended for children aged 0-5 (though all are welcome!). We usually share a few books together and a related craft or activity. Please note that masks are required indoors for everyone over 2 years old.

Thank you for supporting Jericho Town Library's second virtual Adopt-A-Book Sale! How it works: visit our Amazon charity list and choose a book to purchase. It ships directly to us, and then you get to be the first person to read it once it's ready for circulation. You can view the list online at https://smile.amazon.com/hz/charitylist/ls/2S96EX5QFBM0Q/ref=smi_ext_lnk_lcl_cl. You are more than welcome to make your purchase from another bookseller, just let us know so we can remove your book from the Amazon list. Feel free to reach out with any questions. Thanks so much for your support as we strive to keep our collection current, comprehensive, and exciting!

We are open 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM Tuesday, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM Wednesday-Friday, and 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM Saturday.

Find us on Facebook and Instagram (@[jerichotownlibrary](https://www.facebook.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

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.

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/2OTE5H21CH0EE?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

We have moved back inside for the colder weather months. We require that all participants wear a mask (regardless of vaccination status). Children under 2 are exempt from this requirement. We will do our best to social distance. Crafts will be a blend of takeaways and in-person.

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 Saturdays 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.

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

The Westford Food Shelf is now open twice a month, on the first Wednesday of each month (April 6), 4:30 – 5:30 PM, on the third Saturday (March 19), 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/WestfordVTpl). Bree Drapa, Librarian. 802-878-5639; <http://westfordpubliclibrary.org>; westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com.

FAIRFAX COMMUNITY LIBRARY

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.

All events are free unless noted. Pre-registration required; please sign up at least one week before the program date; call 802-849-2420 or email libraryfairfax@gmail.com.

April: Community Poet-Tree. Add a poem to the library's poet-tree for national poetry month! You can post your favorite poem, or write one of your own. The tree will be up all month, so you have plenty of time to get inspired!

Saturdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM: Pin Making. Design your very own pins! No registration required. Kids and adults of all ages encouraged!

Youth events

Wednesday, April 6, 1:00 PM: Suncatchers. Make a suncatcher for spring! Materials provided. Ages 8+ Contact libraryfairfax@gmail.com or 849-2420 to register!

Wednesday, April 13, 3:00 PM: Kinetic Sand and Foam Dough. Learn how to make squishy foam dough and soft kinetic sand! Materials provided. Ages 8+ Contact libraryfairfax@gmail.com or 849-2420 to register!

Wednesdays, April 6, 13, 20, and 27, 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!

Thursdays, April 14 and 28, 3:15 PM: Read with Henry. Sign up for a 15-minute slot to read to Henry, a big friendly Newfoundland dog!

Wednesday, April 20, 1:00 PM: Escape the Titanic. The library is hosting an escape room! Can you find the treasure and escape the Titanic in time? Sign up for a time slot and test your wits! Ages 8+ Contact libraryfairfax@gmail.com or 849-2420 to register!

Wednesday, April 27, 3:00 PM: Growing Sprouts. Decorate a planter and grow some seeds! Materials provided. Ages 8+ Contact libraryfairfax@gmail.com or 849-2420 to register!

Adult events

Thursdays, April 14 and 28 and May 12 and 26, 6:00 PM: Sewing Studio with Chris Bessette. Learn some sewing skills with Chris Bessette! Materials provided. Contact libraryfairfax@gmail.com or 849-2420 to register.

Thursday, April 7, 3:30 PM: Library Book Club. The library book club will meet to discuss the book *Dust Tracks on a Road* by Zora Neale Hurston. If you would like to borrow a copy of the book or sign up for the discussion, please contact libraryfairfax@gmail.com or 849-2420. All are welcome!

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.

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

Libraries continued from page 6

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.

Library hours: 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.

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.

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.

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.richmondfreelibraryvt.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; essexfreelibrary.com



Butternut is an awful firewood; as an old-timer once told me: "It burns as well as a snowball and produces half the heat."
— Ethan Tapper, Chittenden County Forester

Community Columns continued from page 5

trees but darker in color. When stressed or afflicted with butternut canker (as they usually are), butternut bark is black and ashy-gray and its ridges look "sanded-off."

Butternut is culturally important to the Abenaki, who call butternut "bagon." Abenaki and other indigenous peoples eat butternuts and use their fleshy husks and the tree's bark as a dye; the abundance of butternuts at archaeological sites suggests that indigenous peoples may have planted and dispersed the species for millennia. After European colonization, butternut trees were widely planted by colonists and butternuts became an ingredient in traditional New England cuisine.

While butternut trees were historically prized for their nuts (rather than their wood), today butternut lumber is used for a variety of purposes — most of them ornamental. Butternut wood is soft, light, and pretty, an excellent carving wood. Butternut logs can be sold living or dead, and butternut lumber is often full of character, including the wormholes prominent in dead trees. Butternut is an awful firewood; as an old-timer once told me: "It burns as well as a snowball and produces half the heat."

In today's forests, healthy butternut trees are extremely rare due to a fungus called butternut canker (*Sirococcus clavigignenti-juglandacearum*). Butternut canker was first discovered in Wisconsin in 1967, perhaps introduced on Asian walnut trees. Dispersed by wind, rain, and insects, this pathogen creates black cankers on butternut's bark, which proliferate until they girdle and kill the tree. According to the U.S. Forest Service, close to 100% of butternuts in its native range are infected, with mortality rates exceeding 90%.

Efforts have been made to study and promote resistance to butternut canker using a variety of methods, including crossing butternuts with Japanese walnut (*Juglans ailantifolia*). Interestingly, a certain amount of hybridization between butternut and Japanese walnut has been occurring for over a century; Japanese walnuts, especially the cultivar known as Japanese heartnut, have been planted in North America since the 1800s. This species naturally hybridizes with butternut, creating a tree called "buartnut," which was noted in the United States by the early 1900s. While buartnuts are more resistant to butternut canker than butternuts, hybridization comes at a risk, potentially eroding some of the unique and adaptive genetic qualities of the butternut species.

Each native tree species has a unique role to play in Vermont's forests. Forests are natural communities: complex assemblages of species which are greater than the sum of their parts and which are enriched by diversity. The loss of a tree species impacts forests in profound ways, and butternut is just one of several important tree species that we have lost, that we are losing, or whose role in our forests has been radically changed as a result of a non-native pest or pathogen — others include elm, beech, chestnut, and ash.

In a changing world, taking care of forests means supporting their resilience and their ability to adapt. Doing our best to save butternut is just one piece in this puzzle — others include stopping deforestation and forest fragmentation, controlling non-native invasive plants, and addressing the many other threats to forest health and to biodiversity. It's up to us to help forests respond to the profound challenges of the modern world as they move into an uncertain future.

Ethan Tapper is the Chittenden County Forester for the Vermont Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation. See what he's been up to, check out his YouTube channel, sign up for his eNews, and read articles he's written at <https://linktr.ee/ChittendenCountyForester>.

Coyotes and dogs

By Robert Mullen, Bolton Animal Control Officer

A post on Thursday (FPF, March 24) described a hiker and his dog's worrisome encounter with three coyotes that shadowed him and his dog for some distance. It is the second report of concern about dogs and coyotes that I've heard over the last couple of weeks. The first was a worry about coyotes luring dogs to their deaths during the coyotes' breeding season. What both of these reports most likely have in common is an understandable misinterpretation of coyote behavior.

Coyotes do not hunt people or, normally, domestic dogs. (They will hunt cats; I've seen that; another good reason to have your cat inside.) However, this is their breeding season and they are denning up in preparation for the birth of their puppies. Naturally, they are especially defensive of the areas near their dens, and if you and/or your dog approach too closely, the normally shy and retiring coyotes may well try to warn you off and drive or lead you away (they may quite likely also abandon

that den afterward). As alarming as this behavior no doubt seems in the moment (I've been shadowed and tipped at while out at night — it is a bit unnerving :-), they are not any real threat to you, nor to a well-behaved or leashed dog.

Coyotes (and bears, bobcats, and fishers, among others) are wild predators and certainly are equipped to be potentially dangerous (as are dogs). So don't try to approach them and don't feed them (on purpose or accidentally, e.g. with unsecured garbage or untended pet food). All of them deserve our respect, but as far as being a threat to anyone's safety in the woods, your odds of being flattened by a falling tree are higher and ticks are far more of a risk.

I am also the PPCA trail steward. I've been hiking these woods for closing in on 60 years — with never a spot of trouble from any animal (though I had a tense encounter with a mama moose and calf once near the Bombard cellars). So be careful of course, but attacks on humans, certainly in Vermont, are incredibly rare and no reason to spend time worrying in the woods — unless some fool reconstitutes velociraptors from ancient mosquito DNA.

Also, be very careful of and try to avoid muddy trails.

All dogs are good dogs; people are the problem

By Sara Riley

Special to the Mountain Gazette.

Dogs. I've had dogs all my life, so I get why we all love our dogs.

The two breeds I've owned and loved over the past 30 years were and are happy, love-the-world golden retrievers and alert, on-the-job German shepherds. Most but not all were either people-lovers or at least people-tolerant. One became a 95-pound fear biter. One came to me already Schutzhund trained — that means, trained to protect. One would have kissed the burglars, helped them load the truck, and wanted to go for a ride with them. One was dominant, dog-aggressive from birth but well-trained and obedient, and would have eaten anyone who laid an unfriendly hand on me. Two were certified therapy dogs. One just wanted to love on every human he encountered, whether or not they wanted a huge coal-black GSD to immediately lean on them and gaze adoringly up at them in the expectation that they'd love him right back.

Lots of words have been posted on local forums lately about loose dogs in public spaces not designated as "leash optional" or "off-leash area." As a life-long dog person, I come down on the side of those who absolutely do not want to encounter loose dogs when they are out and about in those public spaces, with or without their own dog.

I will explain.

Last summer, I was walking my leashed dog by a house I'd gone past a hundred times without incident. This time my dog alerted, so I looked up to see what had caught her attention. About 100 feet away, here came a 50-ish-pound brindle dog, every hair in a stripe from ears to tail standing on end, glaring at my dog with a fixed fanged snarl *but making no sound*, at a dead run. I had time to put my dog behind me and stand assertively with the flat of my hand out to the attacker, repeating "No!" as loudly as I could. This often works; most dogs will at least divert and circle, giving time for their owner to arrive, but this dog was on a mission and just barreled straight into my dog and the fight. My job now was to pull my dog away by her leash (*) and to move away from the busy road so none of us got run over; the dogs were certainly not paying attention. This went on for about 20 long seconds until the other dog's owner arrived and grabbed his dog's collar and pulled her off.

He said to me, "She never does this!"

To which I replied, "She's doing it now."

Dogs are unpredictable. He'd been out with his dog, loose in his own yard, to get in the truck and drive somewhere. Why did his dog decide mine had to die? We will never know. Dogs have their own communication, most of it far faster than we humans perceive, and their own reasons. His dog made a snap decision that my dog was evil, and suddenly there was an out-of-control aggressive dog attacking passers-by. I do not doubt that owner's word that his dog's action was inexplicable. But it bears repeating: dogs are unpredictable and if they make a bad decision, bad things can happen.

Another time, an Aussie came off its front porch and out of its yard to attack my dog, walking peacefully down the middle of a dirt road on a lovely summer evening. Another time — well, repeatedly — a dog fenced by a non-functional radio collar and

wire came out of his yard to the other side of the street to drive us off. Another time, a small terrier at the end of a fully-extended "retractable" leash came around a corner 20 feet ahead of its oblivious humans and went straight at my dog, leashed and laying down behind me. I've had a 70-pound doodle come bumbling around the corner of a pet store aisle with a 40-pound seven-year-old at the other end of the leash; the dad was twenty feet behind the child, thirty feet back from my dog who did *not* want to be overwhelmed by that canine bundle of enthusiasm. Another time, in an enclosed dog park, my own dog-socially-inept rescue dog was harassing a larger bully breed that was clearly on edge; when its owner told me (nervously) that he'd trained and worked for months to overcome his dog's aggression, I got hold of mine and took her home. We don't do dog parks anymore.

Another time, my dog-aggressive girl was defending our property against a mild-mannered and inoffensive German shorthaired pointer walking quietly up the right-of-way with a young family, and had gone right after him. For a miracle, she broke off and came to my call when I was still 50 feet away. I never expected that to happen, well trained though she was. When dogs are fighting — or rough playing, even — they are highly excited, and it is nigh impossible for us to overcome that excitement, for them to respond to commands when they are that worked up.

So. Do you think your dog will never be an aggressor? Do you think that as far as you've ever seen your dog is friendly, so every dog you meet should and will respond playfully? Do you think that everyone and every dog should have your "friendly" dog bound up to them, exuberantly and boisterously, no matter what they'd prefer?

That is really selfish.

And, does your dog jump? Grab food or toys? Run dodging past people (movable, as dogs know) at high speed?

Your dog is a good dog. No one is arguing that. Your dog is not doing anything wrong; your dog is just being a dog.

If your dog is not *perfectly* voice trained (mine is not) and is loose in an un-enclosed space where it can interact in an uncontrolled way with people and/or other dogs (and/or other animals: *squirrel!* or *cat!* or, God forbid, *skunk!* or *porcupine!*), then the problem is not your dog.

The problem is you.

(* **Never put your hands or face near the business end of a dog fight.**)

A note recalling spring

By Sue Kusserow

Special to the Mountain Gazette

The deer stands against the shadow of a small clearing just right for a quick startled dash into the trees. She is sizable, probably the mother of many, most of whom have forgotten their lineage and her role in the soft days of early summer.

Somewhere in the early grasses of the meadow is a bundle of dried brown leaves, speckled with small dots of moonlight. It moves, but only on command. It waits with the patience of unquestioning instinct. His mother is tuned in perfectly, her ears held straight upwards like a TV antenna, in perfect alignment with the signal blaring from me as I walk the meadow.

We look at each other... both alert and unafraid... for the few seconds that stops time. "I can beat you at any game: jumping that tipsy fence that clumsily sags into your garden." "I can outrun your dogs when the snow doesn't bind my feet." "I can hear you breathing, but you can't hear me. Perhaps your hearing isn't in good working order?" "I go hungry in the cold days, but I don't have enough memory to worry." "I understand that you have a bigger brain than I do. How does it work?"

Something changes and the illusory role of equality is gone. The deer quick-steps the tiny rise into the trees and is gone. Perhaps I, out of my human conditioning, ruined the moment with my evolutionary instinct of superiority. I can see me slugging up that incline, calling it steep, and I realize how we have adapted differently: you to grace, me to clumsiness.

There will be a day when your graceful flight is gone. Me, too. Is it better to waltz through a short life or to conquer each hill, no matter how small, knowing we will slide down the other side at the end of life?

Will you ever know how beautiful you are? No. But I have memory in my supposedly superior brain and I can fold and carry this moment. Is that better than instinct? Perhaps.

Use memory as an aid to remembering grace. Use instinct to understand where we came from. Use beauty to keep us on the right path.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS



VT Lt. Governor Molly Gray visits Salvation Farms

On Monday, March 7, Salvation Farms welcomed VT Lieutenant Governor Molly Gray for a day of hands-on participation in the local food system. Gray was introduced to the work of Salvation Farms, an agricultural surplus management organization, through taking part in several components of their work, at three sites. She toured the storage and wash-pack operations at long-time Salvation Farms partner Pete's Greens farm in Craftsbury and assisted in a glean of culled storage crops, her staff and volunteers collecting more than 800 pounds of potatoes, beets, and carrots. From there, the Lt. Governor visited Salvation Farms' barn in Morrisville, a space owned and renovated by the United Way of Lamoille County and provided to Salvation Farms for five years rent-free, where she met with Salvation Farms Board President and the Co-Directors of the United Way of Lamoille County and helped unload the crops collected that morning into the barn's cooler. Wrapping up her visit, the Lt. Governor traveled to the Vermont Studio Center in Johnson to process surplus potatoes with the Center's staff and Salvation Farms staff. A small batch of 40 pounds of potatoes was processed into a cubed, frozen product. All crops collected from Pete's Greens and processed at the Vermont Studio Center will be distributed to community-based food programs like food shelves and senior meal programs. For more information about Salvation Farms, visit www.salvationfarms.org.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Cambridge #1 in bear/car collisions

That's right, Cambridge has more bear/car collisions than any other town in the state — by far. As bears emerge from their winter hibernation, here are some tips to keep you, the bears, and your car safe in bear country.

Use special caution when driving at night, and use your high beams. They extend the distance that you can see, and help to pick up the "eyeshine" of animals at night. This is especially important in the case of bears, whose dark coats make them particularly hard to see.

If you see a bear cross the road ahead of you, slow down. Female bears will often be followed by one or more cubs.

While bears can be found in a wide range of places, they select certain habitats at different times of the year. Be cautious when driving near wetlands in the spring, old meadows (berry patches) in the summer, and especially cornfields in the late summer and fall.

The following areas are hotspots for bear/car collisions — use extra caution when driving here:

- VT Rt. 15 between Whitefield Dr. and McGovern Dr.;
- VT Rt. 15 between Junction Hill Rd. and Willows Crossing;
- VT Rt. 109 from VT Rt. 108 to Hogback Rd.;
- VT Rt. 104 from Boyden Winery to River Rd.

If you hit a bear, or see a road-killed bear, call a game warden. You can find their contact information on <https://vtfishandwildlife.com> (choose the "I want to" drop-down list, then "Find a Warden") or you can call the state police dispatch. If you have time, wait for the game warden to arrive.

It goes without saying to never approach a bear unless you are certain it is dead. Injured bears are extremely dangerous. Do not collect the bear or let anyone else do so. Wardens gather data from road-killed bears that helps the Fish and Wildlife Department gain knowledge of Vermont's bear population. If you want the bear, the warden may let you have it after they are done with it. Road-killed animals in good condition are butchered and donated to soup kitchens.

Drive safe, and be bear aware!

Cambridge Food Shelf wish list

Hello, caring community!

The Cambridge Food Shelf is seeking donations of the following items:

- crackers;
- hearty soups (e.g., Campbell's Chunky);
- hamburger helper-type meals (any variety);
- hot dogs;
- any type of meat;
- mustard and mayonnaise;
- apples and oranges;
- laundry detergent;
- large size diapers (such as toddler).

Donations may be dropped off at the Food Shelf on Tuesdays from 1:00 – 7:00 PM, or at the Union Bank on VT Rt. 15 during lobby hours.

Thanks for the support this community has given the Food Shelf, and thanks in advance for any and all donations!

CVCOA offers tools for caregivers, and two tech opportunities

Central Vermont Council on Aging (CVCOA) has some exciting upcoming opportunities for older adults and caregivers in Central Vermont!

Senior Planet: Come to CVCOA's Barre office for in-person workshops or five-week courses to learn ways technology can enhance your life. These free offerings include a *Finding Info*

Online workshop in April, *Staying Safe Online* workshop in early May, *Video Chat with Zoom* workshop in May, and a five-week *iPad Essentials* course in mid-May through mid-June. Spots are limited, so complete our interest form today and learn more about specific dates and times online at <https://tiny.cc/cvcoa-seniorplanet>.

For more information or assistance with completing the interest form, please contact Meredith Holch at mholch@cvcoa.org or 802-476-0116.

GetSetUp: Welcome to GetSetUp. Vermont residents 60+ now have free access to GetSetUp's live interactive online classes taught by older adults for older adults to make digital learning, connection, and exploration a reality. Learners can choose from a catalog of over 3000 classes that shift weekly and are available around the clock for the next year. To learn more about GetSetUp and enroll in your classes, visit <https://www.getsetup.io/partner/vermont>.

Powerful Tools for Caregivers: Powerful Tools for Caregivers is a six-week course to provide you with the tools to care for your own needs, even as you care for others. The series equips family caregivers with the resources needed to reduce stress, foster self-confidence, improve communication, and make challenging decisions. Class will meet online, Fridays, 2:00 – 3:30 PM, beginning Friday, April 15 and ending May 20 (six sessions). Visit <https://www.cvcoa.org/powerful-tools-for-caregivers.html> for more information or contact Barb Asen, basen@cvcoa.org or 802-476-2681 to register.

Help provide meals for older adults in Central Vermont by donating \$50 in honor of the 50-year anniversary of Senior Nutrition Programs during the 2022 March for Meals! Donate to CVCOA (<http://tiny.cc/cvcoa-marchformeals>) to support all of our nutrition programs throughout Central Vermont, or support the March for Meals campaigns at your local meal site (<https://www.cvcoa.org/food-and-nutrition.html>). Thanks for your support during March for Meals!

Clutter Barn opening for donations May 7

If you happen to see
Some activity
Around UCU CLUTTER BARN
We're airing it out
So have not a doubt
The door will be opening soon.

So start gathering up
Unused dishes and cups,
Toys and puzzles and books;
All gently used stuff
You've had long enough —
Check drawers and closets and nooks.

Knick-knacks and games,
Pictures and frames,
Spring/summer clothes long outgrown;
Linens, pot holders,
Office goods, folders,
Fabric from things you have sewn.

Then a circle affix
Around May the 7th
And bring all your treasures in,
Thanks for your help
In filling our shelves!
Now the CLUTTER BARN season can begin!
— By Betty Wilson

This spring we are making changes inside the Clutter Barn to provide more display space for items our shoppers like to purchase. We will not take shoes and cookbooks as both take up lots of shelf space and do not sell well. We do take boots!

To see a complete list of things we accept and items we do not accept, visit the website of the United Church of Underhill at <https://unitedchurchofunderhill.com>. Clutter Barn is under the SERVE tab.

Basically, we will accept donations every other week as we did last year. However, in May, we will accept donations on Saturdays, May 7, 14, and 28 from 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM.

Tag Sales will be the last Saturday in June, July, and August. Watch the *Mountain Gazette* and *Front Porch Forum* for more information about the summer's schedule.

We can always use more workers. If you'd like to volunteer, call Sharon Damkot, 802-899-3572, or Kathy Williamson, 802-899-3122.

Staffing Solutions: Hiring Right the First Time on May 18

By Pat Ripley, Executive Director

Lamoille Economic Development Corporation

Lamoille Economic Development Corporation (LEDC) is offering a workshop on *Staffing Solutions: Hiring Right the First Time* on Wednesday, May 18, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

IMPORTANT NOTE - Masks are NOT required for this event. To register, go online to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/staffing-solutions-hiring-right-the-first-time-tickets-310083115947>.

With statewide staffing shortages continuing to challenge businesses, we'll give you the tools to recruit and hire right the first time.

Do you rely on "post and pray" for recruiting? Attracting talent is more than placing a traditional ad. In today's competitive world, candidates have choices, many choices. In this workshop, participants will explore alternative methods to recruitment and learn about solid interviewing strategies to build upon their current strategies.

Why should a candidate choose your company? What is your competitive edge? Would you work for you? Let's step up recruitment, play to your strengths, and connect with the talent looking for a company like yours!

Hiring the right employees is a critical business management function that helps you get more done, grow your business, lighten your load, and broaden the skills and capabilities of your company. It can also be a significant expense, energy drain, and distraction when your selection process fails. This workshop will

provide you with a strong foundation of knowledge and practical tools to use whether you're hiring your first employee or the 100th.

You'll be guided through an overview of the legal issues of interviewing and hiring, determining your priorities for skills as well as how to efficiently prescreen, interview, and select your employees. As a bonus, you will receive an overview of traditional and social media recruitment techniques, including how to use social media for recruitment and applicant pool building. You will leave this workshop with techniques and interview questions in hand aimed at helping you choose the best people so you can hire right the first time.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY: Teresa Miele, a lifelong Vermonter with 25+ years of human resource experience, is strategically positioned to work primarily with small- and medium-sized businesses. Her practical approach allows for ease in understanding and implementing practices that are of benefit to both employer and employee. In 2015, a traumatic event brought her HR career to a new threshold, when Rutland Plywood Corporation was destroyed by a catastrophic fire. It was one of the most difficult and eye-opening experiences in her career, a chapter that led to her decision to start HR Acquired, LLC. Her passion for working with people has become her profession.

Vermont elections ranked first (again) in national index

VT Secretary of State Jim Condos announced that the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's (MIT) Election Data & Science Lab has released its post-2020 Elections Performance Index (EPI), ranking Vermont first overall nationally in elections administration for the 2020 election. This marks the second #1 ranking for Vermont following the last two Presidential elections.

The EPI is widely considered by state election administrators as the most reputable elections management index. It provides a non-partisan, data-driven measure of how well each state is performing in managing the conduct of elections, using a number of indicators ranging from voter turnout to the availability of online tools for voter accessibility.

"I'm very proud of the hard work our office and specifically our Elections Division team have done to achieve a first overall ranking in the EPI," said Secretary of State Jim Condos. "This ranking means that across numerous measures we have increased accessibility, and decreased roadblocks, for Vermont voters, while ensuring that our elections process is functioning effectively as the bedrock of our democracy."

This marks the second time Vermont has achieved a first place finish, in two consecutive Presidential election years. Since the 2012 ranking, Vermont has moved from 38th nationally, to 16th in the 2014 ranking, to a first-place overall score in 2016 following the 2015 implementation of our state-of-art elections platform. In the 2018 ranking Vermont maintained a Top 5 finish at third place, and now, following the 2020 election, we have retaken the #1 spot.

Vermont is the first state in the history of the EPI to achieve above a 90% grading across all categories for a Presidential election year.

"Over the past decade Vermont has shot from the middle of the pack to the top of the EPI. It's long been a place where Vermonters could vote conveniently with assurance their votes count," said Charles Stewart, MIT Election Lab director and Kenan Sahin Distinguished Professor of Political Science at MIT. "What's made a difference is that the state has added even greater convenience through the use of Internet outreach, and greater security through post-election audits."

"Our focus has been, and will continue to be, making our election systems as accessible and secure for Vermont voters as possible, including through Vermont's most recent election reform which makes the mailing of ballots to all voters a permanent feature of Vermont General Elections," said Condos. "Our #1 overall ranking and performance increase show that we're on the right path, and we will keep working daily to innovate and improve."

The Elections Performance Index and complete 2020 data can be viewed at <http://elections.mit.edu/>.

Volunteer Opportunities with United Way

LEND A HAND. VOLUNTEER — United Way'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. Here is a link for Volunteer Connection to learn more about these and other opportunities.

THE VOICE OF VOLUNTEERISM: American Red Cross will be celebrating National Volunteer Week with its second annual Voice of Volunteerism event on Wednesday, April 20, 6:00 – 7:00 PM. Listen to Northern New England volunteers tell about their experiences with the American Red Cross and learn how you can make a difference in the community. Those who register and attend will also receive a free gift. For information, email Erica.Fuller4@redcross.org. Please put in the subject line "Please register me for the NVW: Voice of Volunteerism Event."

KEEPING THE CONES: Local Motion is looking for volunteers to check the cones along the Burlington Greenway Detour along Battery Street from Maple Street to Main Street. Volunteers will fix and reposition any tipped or moved cones to make the road safe for all users. Two shifts available, 7:00 – 11:00 AM and 3:00 – 7:00 PM through November 14. Contact Jonathon Weber, jonathon@localmotion.org, or text 413-387-9715.

GET AIR! Military Kids Vermont will be holding its annual Military Kids Vermont Get Air event on Sunday, May 15, 6:00 – 8:00 PM. They are looking for volunteers to greet guests, serve food, take photos, or bake and drop off food treats for families. To join in the fun, contact <https://signup.com/go/WJrLBmV>.

JUDGE AND JURY: UVM Extension is seeking volunteers to evaluate projects at their upcoming 4H State Day contest on Saturday, May 7, at the Vermont Granite Museum in Barre. Youth from across Vermont will be participating in public speaking, demonstration, stage presentations, and tabletop exhibits, and

Miscellaneous continued on page 9

Miscellaneous continued from page 8

volunteers can provide valuable feedback on these projects. There are also opportunities to evaluate projects virtually. For information contact Allison, 802-651-8343, Ext. 509 or Allison.smith.2@uvm.edu.

TAKE A WALK: COTS is gearing up for the COTS Walk on Sunday, May 1 to raise awareness about homelessness and to raise money to support COTS' shelters and services for the homeless and those at risk of losing their homes. Music and registration begin at 1:00 PM, and the Walk begins at 2:00 PM and will take walkers on a tour of seven shelters and facilities operated by COTS in Burlington. There will be interactive features and installations outside each area. One lucky registrant will win a three-day, two-night trip for two at Liberty Hill Farm in Rochester, VT! Contact <http://cotsonline.org/COTSWalk2022>.

KEEPING FIT: RSVP of Northwest Vermont is looking for volunteers, age 55 and above, to lead weekly osteoporosis prevention classes in their Bone Builders program. Classes consist of a warm-up, balance exercises, arm and leg exercises, and then a cool down with stretching. A perfect opportunity to strengthen your own body while meeting new people! It only takes one day of training to be certified. Come and bring a friend! Contact Danielle Schwer, 802-861-7821 or danielle@unitedwaymvt.org.

A DRIVING NEED: Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired has a need for drivers, age 21 and older, to take clients to Peer Assisted Learning Groups. Contact Vicki Vest, vvest@vabvi.org or 802-863-1481 ext. 243.

EVENTS HELP NEEDED: Maquam Bay of Missisquoi is looking for volunteers to help with events at the Tribal Office and at outside events. Volunteers can help with sign-in, directing visitors, serving food, and more. Contact Chantel Bockus, info@abenakination.com or 802-868-6255.

LEAD VOLUNTEER NEEDED: American Red Cross is looking for a skilled Lead Volunteer to assist new local volunteer recruitment initiatives. Tasks will include managing the "ambassador" program to encourage current Red Cross volunteers to address new needs in their communities, facilitating a monthly planning meeting, and conducting volunteer "check-ins." Communication and computer skills are important. If you have experience managing a team, here's the chance to give back to your community. To join the team, sign up at <https://www.redcross.org/volunteer/become-a-volunteer.html#step1>.

MAKE IT WORK! Vermont Works for Women is in need of a volunteer co-facilitator for Rosie's Girls to empower middle school girls in after school programs. Help build skills in STEAM including "Power Skills" and a social and emotional curriculum. Experience working with youth and a background check are required. Contact Caelan Keenan, 802-655-8500, Ext. 106, or ckeenan@vtworksforwomen.org.

ON THE BOARD: Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity has openings on its Board of Directors for members to guide their work throughout Chittenden County. For information, kali@vthabitat.org.

MENTOR! MENTOR! SCORE mentors advise individuals and small businesses reach their goals by solving problems, making their businesses more efficient, and developing long-term business plans. A great opportunity for those with experience in marketing, finance, accounting, management, technology, websites, etc. Seize the opportunity to continue your own professional growth by helping other achieve theirs. Email recruiting0284@scorevolunteer.org.

Weatherizing a home for the summer?

From Efficiency Vermont

We often think of preparing our homes for the winter... but if you're anything like us, the summer heat really gets to us (that's why we live in Vermont, right?!). And with these early spring temperatures... who knows what's in store this summer.

The average Vermont home has so many air leaks, it's like leaving a window open all winter long. But that also means it's hard to keep your home cool on those hot summer days, whether you use air conditioning or not.

A comprehensive weatherization project helps keep your home warmer in the winter *and* cooler in the summer. When you work with an Efficiency Excellence Network contractor, Efficiency Vermont will pay for 50% of your project (up to \$3000), and you can pay for the rest monthly, with 0% interest.

Contractors' schedules are already filling up, so now is the time to start thinking about your project. Learn more about eligibility for 50% off your weatherization project and 0% interest financing at <http://www.EfficiencyVermont.com/Weatherize>.

EVs: environmental considerations

By Ruth Machell Julianelle

Energy Committee Member, Underhill

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 are the environmental considerations?

One of the main motivations for driving an EV is to reduce carbon emissions and therefore address climate change. The following chart from the Trancik Lab at MIT shows the carbon emissions from various models of cars. It compares the emissions from internal combustion engines, hybrids and EVs. MIT calculator for cars evaluated against climate targets: <https://www.carboncounter.com/#/explore>.

While EVs are considered "clean" because of low or no carbon emissions, what about the electricity used to charge them? From an overall emissions standpoint, do they still make sense? In order to answer that you need to understand how your electricity itself is generated. People who have solar or wind power at their home can see that their power source is carbon free. If you purchase electricity at home or use a charging station, you would need to check with the local power company.

Carbon-free sources in our area include solar, hydroelectric, and wind. Oil and natural gas have significant carbon emissions.

Coal is one of the worst fuel sources when considered for carbon emission. The burning of wood chips or pellets contributes substantial carbon dioxide to the atmosphere, considerably more if the chips are from green wood. Nuclear fuel is carbon-free, but it is non-renewable and presents a waste disposal problem.

The electricity for Underhill residents comes from Green Mountain Power or Vermont Electric Coop. Both of these companies produce little carbon in their generation of electricity. The majority of electricity generated by these companies is from hydro or wind sources and they are reducing the amount of power they receive from nuclear fuel.

Power Supply — Vermont Electric Coop: <https://vermontelectric.coop/electric-system/power-supply>.

Energy Mix — Green Mountain Power: <https://greenmountainpower.com/energy-mix/>.

GMP's energy supply is 94% carbon free and more than 63% renewable: <https://greenmountainpower.com/gmps-energy-supply-is-94-carbon-free-and-more-than-63-renewable/>.

There are other environmental considerations in the sourcing of materials and recycling of materials used in the batteries. Read more How Green Are Electric Vehicles? At <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/02/climate/electric-vehicles-environment.html?searchResultPosition=1>.

CVOEO Community Needs Assessment

CVOEO wants your input to help them know what you and your neighbors need and is conducting their every-three-years Community Needs Assessment. If you have some time, could you please fill out the survey, online at https://middlebury.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4MIF18nJ5pT6BE2. It will help CVOEO prepare to serve our community in the future. Your responses are confidential! Enter for a chance to win a \$50 Visa Gift Card.

Questions? Contact Stephanie Davison, sdavison@cvoeo.org or 802-862-2771 x734.

Capstone Community Action survey

Capstone Community Action provides emergency housing, food, and fuel assistance as well as free tax preparation, Head Start early childhood services, home weatherization, and economic development opportunities to low and moderate-income Vermonters. Capstone is conducting its three-year community needs assessment and would like your input. Please take the time to take our community needs survey, which can be found online at https://middlebury.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_24ymNgjzBj2kIK.

Your participation is greatly appreciated and if you complete the survey to the end, you can enter to win one of 10 \$50 grocery store gift cards! If you have questions please contact Liz Scharf, 802-477-5215 or lscharf@capstonevt.org.

Ethan Allen Homestead Museum needs volunteers

The Ethan Allen Homestead Museum is seeking volunteers for the 2022 season!

There are openings for greeters, shopkeepers, tour guides, and gardeners; no experience necessary, and flexible schedule! Perfect for retirees, history enthusiasts, and student community service hours.

The Museum is open daily, May-October.

Find out more at the Volunteer Information Session on Sunday, April 10, 2:00 PM, located at the museum.

Questions? Contact 802-865-4556 or ethanallenhomestead@gmail.com.

Inside, he's still a scared kid who needs family

VT Dept. for Children and Families

There are more than 1000 children and youth in foster care in Vermont. The story shared below represents a teen who may be in need of foster care. We are recruiting for safe and caring homes of all types for children and youth. This story typifies their experience. Might you consider becoming a foster, kin, or respite care provider? As a trained care provider, you will be giving the gift of stability to a child. You will be fully supported, trained, and provided a stipend for any child or youth placed in your care. Find out more. Thank you!

Zane is having a rough time finding where he fits. Being in foster care is just one of the reasons. He's been challenged in so many ways, and at just 14 years old, you would think he's lived four lifetimes already — which explains some of the reasons he has a hard time staying put.

But under all the challenging behaviors, Zane is a kid who wants to fit in — with friends, family, and anyone who will make an effort, with patience, to understand him. He reads people well. Knows when he's being played — or thinks so. What Zane doesn't yet trust is that he deserves to be cared for and have the stability that every teen deserves. He's just not going to be all cuddly and easy about showing you appreciation when you provide it. And, he'll test you every nerve until he feels safe.

That may take some time.

Are you up for the challenge of caring for a kid like Zane? If so, we'd love to hear from you. Foster parenting will be challenging, but it will also be one of the most meaningful decisions you'll ever make.

Can you provide a safe, stable, and nurturing home for a child or teen in need? Can you commit 100% to their well-being? Do you promise to not give up even if they push you away? Will you support their connection to family and friends who are still important to them?

To learn more, go to <http://fostercare.vt.gov>. If you want us to contact you, complete the form at <http://dcf.vermont.gov/foster-care-inquiry>.

You can also call your local Family Services District Office and ask to speak to the Resource Coordinator. <http://dcf.vermont.gov/fsd/contact-us/districts>.

Lamoille Fibernet and Northwest FiberworX Partnership

By Val Davis, Executive Director

Lamoille FiberNet CUD

Lamoille FiberNet (a CUD with 10 member communities) and Northwest FiberworX (a CUD with 21 member communities) are formalizing plans together to build, own, and maintain an "open-access" fiber network that can host multiple ISPs (Internet Service Providers). When construction is finalized, the CUDs intend to universally serve every on-grid home and business. The network will create a marketplace for retail ISPs, tele-health providers, mobile providers, enterprises, schools, towns, and other entities.

"We believe we have a model for success. There are many moving parts and hurdles ahead, but with support from the Vermont Community Broadband Board and CUD leadership, we're committed to our mission of bringing affordable and reliable access to all in our communities," said Sean Kio, Executive Director of Northwest FiberworX.

The State of Vermont has committed over \$300M to accelerate community efforts that advance the State's goal of achieving universal access to reliable, high-quality, affordable, fixed broadband achieving speeds of at least 100 Mbps symmetrical. A combination of state, federal, and private funding will be used to advance the CUDs' infrastructure project.

"By joining forces the CUDs represent a larger population, which improves economic efficiencies working with broadband consultants, service providers, and network operations vendors," said Val Davis, Executive Director of Lamoille FiberNet.

The CUDs are excited to be in advanced discussions with what would be the network's first retail ISP, Google Fiber. Google Fiber is a fiber broadband Internet service currently deployed in 18 metro areas across the U.S., notable for its high speed (up to 2 gig) and highly rated customer experience.

"These CUDs are committed to bringing fiber internet service to every home and business in their districts — in one of the most rural states in the country — and we're thrilled to be in discussions with them about how Google Fiber can help make that happen," said David Finn, Google Fiber's Director of Corporate Development. "We hope this project will turn out to be an example for many other communities who need fast, reliable Internet."

A CUD is a municipality established by two or more towns for the purpose of delivering communications services together, and CUDs are regulated by Vermont law (see 30 VSA Chapter 82). In addition, a CUD may not accept funds generated by taxation from a town, nor can it levy any taxes or obligate the town in any debt.

The mission of Lamoille FiberNet Communications Union District is to make locally controlled, affordable, and reliable high-speed Internet service available to every address in our member towns — Belvidere, Cambridge, Eden, Hyde Park, Johnson, Morristown, Stowe, Waterville, and Wolcott — as soon as possible. For more information, go online to <http://www.LamoilleFiber.net> or contact director@lamoillefiber.net.

Septic and water issues? There's federal funding for that.

From the VT Department of Environmental Conservation

You may have heard about recent funding from the federal government (ARPA). Vermont is using some of this money to replace failed onsite wastewater and drinking water wells.

Homeowners and manufactured housing communities in need who meet the income requirements initiating the process by filling out an application (link below). Depending on the income level and other qualifiers, the entire cost, including designing a system, may be covered.

Application process, timelines, and deadlines

As of Friday, March 4, 2022, the application for the Healthy Homes Onsite Wastewater/Water System replacement funding has been open. Homeowners can now apply to receive funding to repair or replace a failed or inadequate onsite water or wastewater system. Applications for the first round of funding are open through Friday, April 15, 2022. Starting April 16, 2022, applications will be accepted on a rolling basis and funding will be provided as available. This process is separate from the wastewater permitting process.

The application for homeowners to apply online at <https://forms.office.com/g/UPQ7DN9prR>. For those with accessibility needs, a dedicated staff member can help fill out the application at no cost to those who request this assistance (Rosalie Sharp, a State of Vermont Accessible Assistance Specialist; rosalie.sharp@vermont.gov or 802-461-7433).

Instructions for the applications are available at <https://anr.vermont.gov/sites/anr/files/ARPA%20HH%20Onsite%20App%20Instructions.pdf>.

You can reach out to Rosalie Sharp, a State of Vermont Accessible Assistance Specialist, rosalie.sharp@vermont.gov or 802-461-7433, if you have questions or problems.

Miscellaneous continued on page 10

Foster Care Changes Lives

Be the change you wish to see in the world.

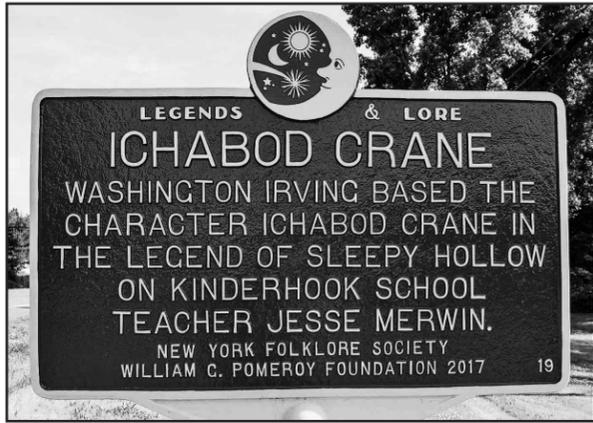
It's tough enough to adjust to living with someone other than your birth family. Imagine, then, if you were a child with learning differences? Or if you had a physical or cognitive challenge that made it potentially more complicated for you to feel safe, understood, and, most of all, loved.

We are looking for just that kind of understanding and connection for children and youth in foster care. Every child comes with a range of individual differences and complexities. And so, we need care providers who will be there for however brief or extended a time the child needs. Might you be who we're looking for? To learn more, contact:

Julie Duggan | Resource Coordinator
Department of Children and Families
Burlington District Office | Williston, VT
C: (802) 598-2252 | O: (802) 863-7370
Julie.Duggan@vermont.gov



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



Does your community have a great piece of folklore that should be shared? *Legends & Lore* is designed to promote cultural tourism and commemorate legends and folklore as part of our heritage. Generally speaking, folklore is the customs and traditions that are passed on from one person to another, often from generation to generation. Myths, legends, tall tales, place-name anecdotes, superstitions, festivals, holidays, parades, foodways, and more — folklore is the knowledge that people share as members of a group or community. Our shared identities and sense of belonging are the result of shared traditions, stories, customs, and activities. For more information including application details, go online to <https://www.wgpfoundation.org/history/legends-lore/>. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

New Cambridge Town Clerk/ Treasurer thanks voters

To the Editor,

I would like to thank the people of Cambridge for electing me as Town Clerk and Treasurer. I have enjoyed working for the town for many years now and look forward to serving you in the future.

Whenever you have any questions or concerns, feel free to call the office at 802-644-2251 or e-mail us at clerk@cambridgevt.org. We will do our best to assist you, or direct you to people who can.

Thank you for your support,
Dana Warren
Cambridge
(pronounced "Donna")

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Patti Danis to retire from UCS

To the Editor,

As some of you might know, Patti Danis, who has been an amazing third and fourth grade teacher at Underhill Central School, will be retiring at the end of this year after 40 years. We are sad to see her go, but we're excited for her as well!

As a thank you for being a part of our community, staff members (including myself) wanted to give her something great to take with her. We were thinking of creating a memory gift with letters from past students!

If you, a sibling, or your child had Patti at one point or another, we would love for you to write (or message me) a kind note.

This could be done by emailing our secretary Connie Arceneaux with the subtext text "Letters for Patti" at connie.arceneaux@mmuud.org; or by sending a letter to Underhill Central School, 6 Irish Settlement Rd., Underhill, VT 05489; or contact me at nancy.jones@mmuud.org and I'll pass along the message!

Nancy Jones
Underhill

Help save local food production and the Davis Farm

To the Editor,

Food is vital to life and often taken for granted until availability is jeopardized. To have local food, farmland must be preserved, as well as the expertise to produce that food. We must make every effort to preserve the farmland here in our Jericho-Underhill area. Remember that local food is especially important in these uncertain times.

One of those farms is the Davis Farm on Cilley Hill Road. This farm produces high-quality organic milk from grass-fed cows and care is taken to keep the soils fertile.

Dairy farming is grueling work and requires unique skills and commitment, but dairy farms are not all the same.

Industrial-scale dairy farms produce high volumes of cheap milk by crowding cows in indoor housing, pushing them physically to the limit, eroding soil, and contributing significantly to pollution in our lakes and waterways.

Organic farms, on the other hand, keep cows healthier in uncrowded conditions on pasture lands and open shelters. Building soil is a major focus and this practice not only reduces CO₂ in the air but also limits runoff into streams.

In addition, the organic milk provides many health benefits not found in grocery store processed milk.

There are two ways to help preserve the Davis Farm:

1. Buy their organic milk. We have been drinking their milk and making yogurt with it for 25 years and have always been satisfied with the quality. You can arrange to pick up milk at the farm through Tammy Davis' email, davisfarmvt@gmail.com; or if you live near Jericho Center, we can pick up milk for you once a week (email agnagey@vtc.edu for details).

2. Donate to the Jericho-Underhill Land Trust (JULT) fundraiser on behalf of the Davis family. This effort will allow the purchase of a conservation easement and preserve 181 acres of farmland in perpetuity. Checks should be made out to the JULT, P.O. Box 80, Jericho, VT 05465 and add Davis Farm on the memo line. Donations can also be made through PayPal at www.jult.org.

Ann Gnagey
Jericho

Trails Committee seeks members to help make Jericho walkable

To the Editor,

Wouldn't it be great to be able to travel throughout Jericho without having to get in a car? Being able to ride or walk trails safely with your family? Getting to neighbors, stores, and local activities without worry of traffic and busy roads?

The Jericho Trails Committee is hoping to recruit a few new members who are interested in promoting non-motorized travel and outdoor recreation in Jericho. We meet on the second Monday evening of every month and are looking for positive and thoughtful people who are excited to work with our neighbors to maintain and expand our local trail opportunities.

If that sounds like you, please reply directly to Steve Schwartz (stevovt1@gmail.com) or any other JTC member with any ideas and questions you might have. Please check out our Join In Jericho page, <https://jerichovt.org/Trails-Committee> for more about who we are and what we do.

Thanks,
Jericho Trails Committee

CHURCH 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 (April 10). 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. 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, umccho@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.

Second Congregational Church, Jeffersonville

The Second Congregational Church in Jeffersonville 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/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. The building is accessible — all are welcome! At this time, masks are worn by everyone, regardless of vaccination status. There are varied musical styles in worship services, including Folk, Contemporary, Celtic, Latin American, and traditional. In addition, weekday online offerings include Prayerful Meditation, Tuesday Evening Prayer, and Centering Prayer. Good Shepherd also offers the monthly online *Racism in America Forum*. Access information and more about the church is at <http://goodshepherdjericho.org/>. We are

Churches continued on page 11

Miscellaneous continued from page 9

Internet at the speed of light for Lamoille County

From Lamoille FiberNet CUD

Many people ask us about the difference between their existing Internet service and the fiber that Lamoille FiberNet is working to deploy.

Existing services like DSL and cable rely on copper. DSL uses the same copper lines that phones have operated on for many decades. Much of that infrastructure is old and in need of replacement or repair. Sometimes when it rains, water creates problems that reduce Internet speeds or disable it completely. Additionally, DSL requires that customers be within a specific distance from the CO (central office equipment) to get a connection. The farther you are from the CO the slower your speeds will be. While a CO might be capable of providing 25mb (mb = megabytes) down and 3 mb up, people at farther distances from the CO may not be able to get those service levels.

Cable is on a different kind of copper wire, called "Co-ax" or coaxial cable. These cables are the same cables that Cable Television is delivered on. They can provide much faster speeds than DSL but are limited by the infrastructure. Cable, like DSL, provides slower upload speeds than download speeds. You might get 300mb download but only 20mb upload.

"For both DSL and cable," explained Val Davis, executive director of Lamoille FiberNet, "much of this infrastructure is old as well, and both cable and DSL are not future-proof, meaning they cannot be upgraded further."

Fiber is different from DSL or Cable because instead of copper it uses light to transmit data — at about two-thirds the speed of light. Fiber is very robust and durable and can support very long runs over 25 miles before seeing any signal loss. Additionally, fiber can provide synchronous data speeds, meaning if you have 500mb down you can also have 500mb up, or 1gb (gb = gigabyte) down and 1gb up. Fiber will be around for many years to come and service levels can be increased by upgrading equipment at the distribution end and customer end, without needing to string new fiber.

In other words, Lamoille FiberNet is building a network that will provide state of the art data connections for many years to come. If you'd like to stay posted on the Lamoille FiberNet's progress, please send an email to info@lamoillefiber.net.

The mission of Lamoille FiberNet Communications Union District is to make locally controlled, affordable, and reliable high-speed Internet service available to every address in our member towns (Belvidere, Cambridge, Eden, Elmore, Hyde Park, Johnson, Morristown, Stowe, Waterville and Wolcott) as soon as possible.

For more information, go to <http://www.LamoilleFiber.net>. Contact director@lamoillefiber.net.

Transition Town Jericho seeks new Steering Group members

Join the Transition Town Jericho (TTJ) Steering Group and help us build a more resilient Jericho! The next Steering meeting is Monday, April 11, 5:30 – 6:30 PM, at the Jericho Community Center on Browns Trace, Jericho Center.

The current TTJ projects include building local food sovereignty via GRO-Jericho, which includes formation of neighborhood garden hubs, and a Kid's Garden Contest where families can win a free raised bed to get you going with gardening!

For more details, go online to www.transitiontownjericho.net. For more information, contact ttjericho.vt@gmail.com.

Four candidates seek three seats on VEC board

Four candidates are vying for three seats up for election this year on the board of directors of the Vermont Electric Cooperative (VEC).

Three districts — District 3, 4, and 5 — each have one seat up for election. The candidates are:

- Carol Maroni (District 3)
- Mark Woodward (District 4)

- Charles "Charlie" Van Winkle (District 5)
- Art Woolf (District 5)

District 3 represents Albany, Craftsbury, Glover, Greensboro, Irasburg, Jay, Lowell, Newport Town, Troy, and Westfield.

District 4 represents Bakersfield, Belvidere, Cambridge, Eden, Fairfax, Fairfield, Fletcher, Hyde Park, Johnson, Morristown, Stowe, and Waterville.

District 5 represents Bolton, Essex, Hinesburg, Huntington, Jericho, Milton, Richmond, Shelburne, Starksboro, St. George, Underhill, Westford, and Williston.

VEC members will be able to vote for candidates online or by mail. The winners of the election will be announced at VEC's Annual Meeting. The meeting, entitled *Committed to our Members in an Era of Change*, will be held on Saturday, May 14 at Smugglers' Notch Resort.

VEC members who would like to attend the Annual Meeting are invited to a free breakfast starting at 8:00 AM. The meeting starts at 9:30 AM and will include updates from VEC, an opportunity for Q&A, and a drawing for prizes.

2022 Vermont Young Adult Survey now open

Are you a Vermonter between the ages of 18 and 25? Take the Vermont Young Adult Survey and you could win a gift card worth up to \$500! This survey is sponsored by the VT Department of Health, takes about 10-15 minutes to complete, and is completely anonymous. Once you have completed the survey, you may enter a drawing (on a different site) to win a gift card.

Take the survey online at <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6768148/2022-Vermont-Young-Adult-Survey-2>.

For more information visit the survey Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/vermontyas/>.

OBITUARIES



David (Dave) Charles Quesnel of Monkton, VT died on Tuesday, March 22, 2022 after a courageous battle with early onset Alzheimer's disease. He is pre-deceased by his parents John Louis Quesnel and Anita Berger Quesnel of Barefoot Bay, FL. Dave is survived by his sister Linda Mathews and her husband Matt of Riverview, FL; his wife Kathleen (Kathy) Rawson Quesnel of nearly 33 years; his daughter Laura Quesnel Byrne (and husband Jim Krebs) of Towson, MD; and his son Doug Quesnel (and wife Dee) of Huntington, VT; by two step-

children, Dr. Rebecca Joyce (and Dr. Stephen) of Richmond, VT and Christopher Moultroupe (and Melissa) of Weare, NH; six Grandchildren: Skylar Quesnel, Leo, Augustine, and Rose Joyce, and Belle and Reed Moultroupe. He is also survived by several cousins, nieces, nephews, and close family and friends in VT, MD, NH, FL, PA, and UT. Dave was born on January 13, 1950 in Burlington, VT. He graduated from Vergennes Union High School in 1968 and attended Johnson State College. Dave began an extensive career (32½ years) at Goodrich Corporation a.k.a. Simmonds Precision in 1985, located in Vergennes, VT. Dave had a strong passion for working with people, providing excellent customer service, and executing timely and efficient results. Shortly after September 11, 2001 Dave left Goodrich Corporation. He later utilized his extensive facility management experience in working for Aquilent, Inc., which specialized in web design and development for the federal government and other agencies in the Washington D.C. area. Dave retired from Aquilent and the family relocated back to Vermont in July 2015. Dave loved sports! He was an avid New York Yankees fan and looked forward to their spring training and seasonal baseball games. He also enjoyed football (N.Y. Giants) and professional golf. Dave was a great chef, and his delicious meals were thoroughly enjoyed on several occasions by his family and friends. He also loved and trained the family golden retrievers. One of Dave's biggest lifetime accomplishments with his son Doug and best friends John Quesnel and Kevin Brooks was his hand-hewn built log cabin located in Westford, VT. The cabin was constructed with only a chain saw and a desire to build a getaway camp on a piece of Kathy's family land, 40 acres and a 20-minute walk from the header to the cabin. Dave wrote about the construction of his rustic cabin and then delivered a presentation on *How to Build A Log Cabin* to the staff and "Project" attendees at Middlebury's Elderly Services in July 2019, one year following his unexpected Alzheimer's diagnosis. Dave was a talented multi-instrumentalist with a deep appreciation of music gleaned from his mother and grandmother. Skilled on piano, guitar, and trumpet, he passed his passion for music on to his daughter Laura, who is an accomplished professional flutist of classical and Irish traditional music. Visiting hours for Dave were held on Tuesday, March 29 at the Brown-McClay Funeral Home, Vergennes. Funeral Mass was held on Wednesday, March 30 at the St. Peter's Catholic Church, Vergennes. In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations be made in his memory to the Alzheimer's Research Fund. A private graveside service will be held at a later date. To send online condolences to his family, please visit www.brownmcclayfuneralhomes.com.



Henry Clifford Moultroupe of Richmond, VT, October 18, 1930-Thursday, March 17, 2022. If you have lived in the Richmond area over the past 91 years, especially if you frequent the main road leading from the center of Richmond out into Huntington and beyond, chances are, you have crossed paths with Henry Moultroupe. Though the little yellow house in the valley was not his first home, having spent his boyhood on Kenyon Road and his teen years in Jericho, that is the house he built in 1951 and made home with his wife, Charlotte. And that is the home where

they raised their five boys: Bruce, David, Mark, Jeffrey, and Terry. After 91 years of life, Henry Clifford Moultroupe went to be with his Lord while lying in his own bed, his oldest grandson holding his hand. It is impossible to sum up a man's life. Much could be

said of Henry's service and involvement in his town and wider community. But as the years wore on, it was the things he loved most that came to the surface and became central. Henry was a keeper of places and people: his expansive gardens and vegetable stand, his sugar works, his farm, his friends, his family — and the stories he told about them all. His neighbors remember stopping to buy veggies or maple syrup — and receiving much more: a connection, a story — or if you were a child, maybe a sample of syrup, a molasses cookie, or a tiny pumpkin "too small to sell anyway." His friends remember golf on a Saturday or a night of dominoes or bowling. His church family remembers him cutting boughs for the annual Christmas decorating party or singing his favorite hymns. His grandchildren and great-grandchildren remember tapping trees on "Grandpa's Mountain," four-wheeler rides, weeding cucumbers or squash, finding the golf balls he hit into the field near the house, eating his homemade donuts, watching the Red Sox play every game of the season and — especially — calling him for help in getting out of one fix or another. It seemed he was always home when you needed him. His daughters-in-law became the daughters he never had. They remember his playful jesting, mowing his lawn, weeding and reaping the benefits from his gardens, and the way he enjoyed their cooking. His sons remember working and playing beside a man who was hard to beat at either. Milking cows, haying fields, running chainsaws, digging with his backhoe — and then a boisterous game of O'Heck, pick-up baseball in the field, or tracking down the big one on the first day of hunting season. Years ago, while weeding with one of his granddaughters, Henry said "I want to wear out, not rust out." He wore himself out doing the things that he loved. There was never a spring that he didn't break ground and plant his seeds. This spring he is the seed, and we bury him in the hope that this planting is not the end, that one day he will realize the new life in Jesus in which he quietly, firmly hoped. Henry was predeceased by his parents Reta (Goodrich) and Clyde Moultroupe; his step-father, John Goodrich; his sister, Claire "Sis" (Moultroupe) Woodard; his brother, Willard "Bill" Moultroupe; and also a daughter-in-law Josie (Wood) Moultroupe. He leaves behind his loving and faithful wife of 72 years, Charlotte (Tomlinson) Moultroupe, with whom he raised their five sons: Bruce (and Connie) Moultroupe, David (and Bonnie) Moultroupe, Mark (and Alice) Moultroupe, Jeff (and Debbie) Moultroupe, and Terry (and Dawna) Moultroupe. He also leaves 15 grandchildren and nearly 40 great-grandchildren. We are all so grateful to have known and loved him.



Gregory Lee Rieder PE, 57, of Jericho, VT passed away unexpectedly Friday, March 25, 2022. Greg was born in Syracuse, NY on May 26, 1964 to Dian and Siegfried Rieder. He attended Clarkson University and graduated in 1986, majoring in Electrical Engineering. Greg worked for Commonwealth Electric, Green Mountain Power, Square D, IBM, and his final position was Principal Member of the Technical Staff of Electrical Facilities at Global Foundries. Greg was a pillar of knowledge in the area of high voltage power.

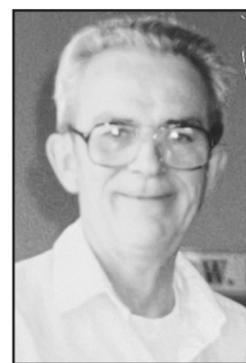
He was currently working toward the establishment of Global Foundries Self Managed Utility in Vermont. While Greg was at Clarkson University he became a member of Delta Upsilon (DU) Fraternity. He wore his letters with pride and retained life-long friendships in the brotherhood. One Sunday evening in the fall of 1984, DU raided the Alpha Delta Kappa Sorority in Potsdam, NY. Greg met Mychelle Watson that evening and they were married at the Newman Center in Potsdam, NY in July 1986. Together they built a life, raising their children Daniel, Raychel, and Jacob. Greg's greatest pride and accomplishment is reflected in his family. Greg was intense about living life to the fullest. His hobbies included hunting, fishing, downhill skiing, and water skiing. He liked to be at the gym at 5:00 AM, five days a week to stay fit so that he could participate fully in the things he loved. His goal was to be able to keep up with his children as long as possible. He was looking forward to sharing these hobbies with his grandchildren. Greg is survived by his wife of 35 years, Mychelle; children Daniel Rieder, Raychel and TJ Zalocha, and Jacob Rieder; grandson Jace Zalocha; parents Dian and Siegfried Rieder; brother Mike and Reisha Rieder; sister Christine and Brian O'Hern; in-laws Richard and Sue Watson and Lynn Watson and Robert German; and by nieces, nephews, and so many very good friends from each stage of his life. There will be no calling hours or services for Greg at this time. The family will say goodbye to Greg per his wishes together at the family hunting camp where he loved to be. His wish was to be there with them always. A celebration of life for Greg will be held at a later date. Donations may be made to the American Heart Association in memory of Greg.



Norman Joseph Deyette of Jericho, VT passed away on Monday, February 28, 2022, surrounded by his loving family. Norm was born on August 4, 1940 in Troy, NY. He was raised by his loving foster parents, Frederick and Elizabeth Deforge, of Winooski, VT. Norm lived the best 62 years of his life with his loving wife, Veronica E. Deyette, whom he referred to as "Boo." Norm leaves behind his five children and their spouses, Donald (Pam), Katherine (Raul) Guevara, Bryan (Karen), Robert (Francine), and David. An important part of his life were his

13 grandchildren and their spouses; Maria (Drew), Patrick, Suzzanna (Brian), Sarah (Rafa), Katrina (Josh), Dustin, Nikki (Jimmi), Tawnee (Moose), Bryan (Jillian), Jesika (Tom), Chase, Ashley, and Danielle. Norm was also blessed with 15 great-grandchildren, and he had one more on the way. He also leaves his four foster nieces and their families, Helen (Paul) Pinan, Lu Cunningham, Doris (Jim) Dastalto, and Claire Mayer; as well as his niece Bernadette Flaherty. Additionally, he leaves his great-nephews, Kevin (Aura) Cunningham and Michael (Gina) Cunningham, and their children; as well as many other relatives

and friends. Norm deepened his appreciation for life and family in 2004 when he became one of Jehovah's Witnesses. He attended meetings at the Kingdom Hall in Cambridge, VT. The brothers and sisters within that community provided great friendship and guidance through the last 16 years of his life. The moments he got to share with his "Five Musketeers" — Bill, John, Roger, Luke, and Marshall — were ones that he treasured greatly. Norm was one of the most special souls you would meet in your life. He always looked at you with his handsome smile and ears perked like he didn't hear what you were saying but would then crack a joke with his witty humor showing that he clearly had heard you. He was one of the best storytellers around and would randomly break into song to bring joy to your moments together. He always wanted to know what was happening in your life, asking, "What's the word?" He loved his family and, at the end of his life, always spent his time telling them to spend as much time as they could together and to cherish every moment. At the end of every get-together and visit from family and friends, he would always wheel to his car or stay in his chair and say, "Until we meet again," to which many responded with "Cheerio, pip-pip." Services were on Saturday, March 19 (on Zoom) with family, friends, and members of his congregation. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Jehovah's Witnesses (donate.jw.org/ui/E/donate-home.html#/donate) or the University of Vermont Health Network Home Health & Hospice (uvhomehealth.org/donations/make-an-online-donation). "Pooof."



Norman Kenneth Nye, May 29, 1938-March 28, 2022. Norman passed away on Monday, March 28, 2022, he was 83 years old. He was born May 29, 1938 in Burlington, VT and lived all his life, apart from his time in the Navy, in Lamolle County, beginning with the dairy farm on the Nye homestead in Jeffersonville, VT and the last 26 years in Johnson, VT. He ran the family dairy and maple sugaring business with his father until 1975. The homestead, built in 1811 as a stagecoach tavern, was also run as a "Guest House" by his mother

and father. The homestead is now owned by Marsha "Nye" Lane and her husband David as "Nye's Green Valley Farm Bed & Breakfast." Norman was the son of Kenneth and Ruth "Boyden" Nye. He is survived by his wife Yvonne "Nadeau" Allen; daughter Ginny and husband Gerry Cincotta of Essex Jct., VT; daughter Averil Nye and life partner Tim Page of Sheldon, VT; and son-in-law David Langlois, currently of Olympia, WA; as well as his sisters Phila "Nye" Roberge of Maine and Martha Jane "Nye" Blaisdell and husband C. Kent Blaisdell of New York. Norman was blessed with seven grandchildren: Brittany, Lucas, Kayla, Jocelyn, Devry, Matthew, and Andrew; and by nine great-grandchildren: Jaiden, McKenna, Mason, Malcolm, Stacy, Ryker, Kashton, Emilia, and David; and by a large encompassing family of brothers- and sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, and cousins. He is predeceased by his first wife Wilma "Blaisdell" Nye and daughter Stacy "Nye" Langlois. Norman proudly served in the U.S. Navy as a jet mechanic from 1956-1960, being formally discharged in 1962. He was stationed in Jacksonville, FL and served on the U.S.S. Essex aircraft carrier for 18 months. He is a long-time member of the VFW in Hyde Park, VT. He spent a few years as a volunteer firefighter with the Cambridge (VT) Fire Department. He raised three daughters with his wife, Wilma, in Jeffersonville, sharing his love of horses with his daughters and grandchildren. With 500+ acres of land there was always plenty of room to ride. Winter month pastimes consisted of skiing, as a younger man, and snowmobiling, becoming a VAST member. Again, all that land came in handy for his kids, nieces, and nephews to roam on snowmobiles. The Nye family owned a camp on Metcalf Pond in Fletcher, VT where the family spent many wonderful days during the summer months swimming, boating, fishing, and water skiing. And the kids spent hours exploring the various caves in the hills behind the camp and roasting marshmallows over a fire. How they never managed to encounter poison ivy is still a mystery. Norman loved to dance. He loved to take his wife out for a night of dancing, fortunately both wives loved to dance. Those who knew Norman would not be surprised to hear that he would occasionally compare his dancing prowess to those of Fred Astaire — humility was never a strong suit with Norm. The 1965 movie *Those Calloways* was filmed in Smugglers' Notch. Norman did some work for the filming company during their short stay in Vermont and drove the buggy with Linda Evans as the passenger at the end of the movie. Norman was loved deeply and will be missed by his wife and family. Services will be Saturday, April 30, 2022. There will be a graveside service for the family at 11:00 AM at the Jeffersonville Cemetery. A reception is being hosted by the VFW at 129 VFW Dr., Hyde Park, VT for all who wish to attend, starting at 12:00 PM. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Lamolle Home Health & Hospice, 54 Farr Ave., Morristown, VT 05661, 802-888-4651.

Churches continued from page 10

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, 802-503-9666 or pastorthomas@goodshepherdjericho.org.

Calvary Episcopal Church

Calvary Episcopal Church in Jericho has now resumed worshipping in person on Sundays at 9:30 AM. If you would like worship service information, please contact the parish administrator at calvarychurchjericho@gmail.com, or call 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.

Waterville Union Church

We meet in person at 9:30 AM at the church; masks recommended. Zoom is only available when there is bad weather or illness of a speaker. We do not post our recorded services to Facebook. But information can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/watervilleunionchurch>. watervilleunionchurchvt@gmail.com; 32 Church St., Waterville.



SILENT AUCTION TO BENEFIT THE RES PTO

Please join us at Stone Corral on Thursday, April 14th from 2:00pm - 8:00pm.

You can support the RES PTO by bidding on generously donated auction items. All items have been donated by local and national businesses, artists and community members.

Cash and check donations will also be accepted, and Stone Corral will match those donations up to \$500!

Reservations are strongly encouraged, but you don't have to eat or drink in order to stop by to view the items. All items may be viewed online as well. All bidding will be done online whether you're home or at Stone Corral.

More details about the auction and dinner reservations may be found at: <https://resp.betterworld.org/auctions/res-pto-silent-auction-at-stone>



ART / MUSIC / THEATER



Get creative and make art together at Family Art Saturday! Join Burlington City Arts to celebrate Earth Day on the Church Street Marketplace, in front of the BCA Center, on Saturday, April 23, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM, with a free make-and-take art activity that connects with our exhibition Eric Aho: *Headwater*. Inspired by Aho's immersive paintings of the natural world, reflect on the importance of protecting our environment and create your own artwork that celebrates the beauty of nature and expresses your wishes for the earth. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Art in the Park: A small group of Underhill and Jericho residents has been incubating the idea of art in the parks, specifically Mills Riverside Park and the Jericho Center Green. The idea is to create some sculptures reflective of the history of out towns and that will also enhance the park experience.

The group would welcome participation from the community in joining the group or by donations. An application has been submitted to the Vermont Arts Council and is in the final stages of acceptance. There will be a need for more resources and input from the community.

Please contact Kirk Peterson, kirkmakespizza@gmail.com or 802-338-6520, for details of the next meeting.

Lyric Theatre presents *Matilda* at the Flynn, April 7-10. Lyric Theatre Company is beyond thrilled to be back at the Flynn with *Matilda The Musical*. Make sure you and your family don't miss this fabulous show!

Matilda is the story of an extraordinary girl who, armed with a vivid imagination and a sharp mind, dares to take a stand and change her own destiny. Inspired by the twisted genius of Roald Dahl, the Tony Award-winning Roald Dahl's *Matilda The Musical* is the captivating masterpiece from the Royal Shakespeare Company that revels in the anarchy of childhood, the power of imagination, and the inspiring story of a girl who dreams of a better life. With book by Dennis Kelly and original songs by Tim Minchin, *Matilda* has won 47 international awards and continues to thrill sold-out audiences of all ages around the world.

Packed with high-energy dance numbers, catchy songs, and an unforgettable star turn for a young actress, *Matilda* is a joyous girl-power romp. Children and adults alike will be thrilled and delighted by the story of the special little girl with an extraordinary imagination.

Performances are Thursday, April 7 (7:30 PM); Friday, April 8 (7:30 PM); Saturday, April 9 (1:00 and 7:30 PM), and Sunday, April 10 (1:00 and 6:00 PM). Tickets range from \$19-\$44 and can be purchased online at <https://www.flynnvt.org/Events/2022/4/lyric-matilda>.

Star Wars LEGO Movie Night for ages 5 and up on Friday, April 8, 6:00 – 8:00 PM at the Red Brick Meeting House in Westford. For \$25, you can build a LEGO kit, watch a movie, snack on popcorn, and take the kit home!

VYD presents *Far From Home, In Search of the Emerald City!* Vermont Youth Dancers (VYD) will present this classic story of the *Wizard of Oz* as a full-length dance theatre production to current music at Mount Mansfield Union High School (Browns Trace, Jericho) on Saturday, April 9, 1:30 and 6:30 PM, and on Sunday, April 10, 1:30 PM. These dancers are so excited to be back on stage in their local community. Exciting hip-hop and compelling lyrical choreography along with beautiful sets, costumes and lighting, and song choices that tell the story make this production something unique and wonderful. Do not miss it! Tickets are \$10 presale and \$12 at the door, should any be left available. Go to <https://vyd-oz.eventbrite.com> to purchase tickets, or vermontyouthdancers.org.

Intermediate Watercolor Class — Offered by Kathleen Berry Bergeron of Jericho, these six classes will be held on Thursdays, 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM, at the Community Center in Jericho Center on Browns Trace, beginning Thursday, April 7. Space is limited; contact paint78@hotmail.com or go to <https://www.kathleenberrybergeron.com/> for more information.

June 21 is international Make Music Day! Vermont musicians are invited to make it happen across Vermont! Join music makers in 1000 cities and 120+ countries who *come out and play*, celebrating music in their communities all over the world. It started in France 40 years ago and Vermont is the first statewide participant in this totally inclusive festival that everyone can be a part of. Every style of music is welcome in every kind of place, from front porches to Main Street sidewalks, library steps to parks, and anywhere that people can share and enjoy music with each other. For more information and to put yourself on the festival map, visit <http://www.bigheavyworld.com/makemusicvt>. Vermont Make Music Day is coordinated by Big Heavy World and made possible by our community partners Front Porch Forum, Vermont Public Radio, and our national presenting sponsor, the NAMM Foundation. Questions? Problems registering? Contact David, dafschein@bigheavyworld.com or call 716-640-4639.

Jericho Town Hall Art: Tracks — The latest exhibit of art within the Jericho Town Hall, *Tracks*, is now open through April.

It is open to all to view during regular Town Hall hours. The Town Hall does require masks to be worn inside the building. Stop by to see how various artists viewed the theme. To pique your interest, Angelike Contis of MMCTV has created a short video of the work at <https://archive.org/details/jericho-art-tracks-jan-2022>. The video will also be posted on the Join in Jericho site.

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.middfilmfest.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:

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.middfilmfest.org>.

Burlington City Arts will offer a summer camp, and registration is now open for their half- or full-day camps and aftercare; full and partial scholarships are available. For more information, see BCA's digital summer camp catalog at <https://www.burlingtoncityarts.org/adult-youth-and-family-classes>.

BCA's spring exhibitions are open Wednesdays-Fridays 12:00 – 5:00 PM, and Saturdays 12:00 – 8:00 PM. First floor: *Headwater*, a new series (<https://www.burlingtoncityarts.org/exhibition/eric-aho-headwater>) of monumental paintings by Eric Aho. Second floor: *What Still Remains* (<https://www.burlingtoncityarts.org/exhibition/sarah-trad-what-still-remains>) is comprised of single- and multi-channel videos by Lebanese-American artist Sarah Trad.

BCA is gearing up for another year of amazing summer programming in City Hall Park, and will present a large number of concerts and events in the park, June-September. With a focus on finding new VT talent and presenting a diverse lineup, we want to hear from you if you're a performer, have a great band, or are a DJ that hasn't worked with us before. Drop a line and a link to Zach Williamson, zwilliamson@burlingtoncityarts.org.

Get creative and make art together at Family Art Saturday! Join Burlington City Arts to celebrate Earth Day on the Church Street Marketplace, in front of the BCA Center, on Saturday, April 23, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM, with a free make-and-take art activity that connects with our exhibition *Eric Aho: Headwater*. Inspired by Aho's immersive paintings of the natural world, reflect on the importance of protecting our environment and create your own artwork that celebrates the beauty of nature and expresses your wishes for the earth.

VT Arts Council offers free workshops on digital media production: The Vermont Arts Council is partnering with the Media Factory to present a series of online workshops, tech sessions, and consulting services to support Vermont cultural organizations. In 2021, the Vermont Legislature approved \$1.15M in funding to the Arts Council to help build the digital capacity of Vermont cultural organizations.

VT arts organizations can sign up to consult with Media Factory's professional medi makers to plan digital programming projects, including assessing equipment and project needs and exploring concepts and feasibility. These hour-long sessions are free and are scheduled first-come, first-served. Please only sign up for one session (see below).

Through these Wednesday sessions, Media Factory professionals will help cultural organizations identify the tools and strategies they need to build their capacity to create digital media and engage with their audience in new ways. Participation is free to Vermont nonprofit arts and culture organizations. This series will be offered again in July on Wednesdays, July 6, 13, 20, and 27 at 3:00 PM.

Wednesday, April 13, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Editing Essentials. A comprehensive introduction to video production techniques.

Wednesday, April 27, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Going Live with What You Got. A comprehensive guide to live-streaming events and discussions.

Wednesday, May 11, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Tech Session with the Media Factory. In-depth Q&A and hands-on exploration.

For more information and to schedule a consultation, go online to <https://www.vermontartscouncil.org/programs/digital-capacity/technical-assistance/digital-programming>.



Get creative and make art together at Family Art Saturday! Join Burlington City Arts to celebrate Earth Day on the Church Street Marketplace, in front of the BCA Center, on Saturday, April 23, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM, with a free make-and-take art activity that connects with our exhibition Eric Aho: *Headwater*. Inspired by Aho's immersive paintings of the natural world, reflect on the importance of protecting our environment and create your own artwork that celebrates the beauty of nature and expresses your wishes for the earth. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Birthday

By Kimberly Madura

fantasy and reality
blurred,
like watercolors
in the rain,
listening to Rachmaninoff
in Monet's Giverny,
greens and blues in full relief,
lost and found
in the quiet rain,
only peace

ART / MUSIC / THEATER



Vermont Youth Dancers present their own version of *The Wizard of Oz*. The show highlights local youth and honors the work and raises funds for the Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program. Included in the cast are Naia Surks as Dorothy Gale (with braids); Finn Verdonk as the Cowardly Lion; Nuala Dougherty as the Scarecrow (overalls); Edie Watson as the Wizard (wearing hat); Jada Bean as the Wicked Witch of the West (wearing long gloves); Emma Montgomery as Glinda, the Good Witch of the South (wearing crown); Keira Haessig as Taddy, the Good Witch of the North (holding mirror); and Audrey Rogers as a Munchkin (holding lollipop). Performances at Mount Mansfield Union High School will be Saturday, April 9, 1:30 and 6:30 PM, and on Sunday, April 10, 1:30 PM; tickets are \$10 presale or \$12 at the door, if available. Go to <https://vyd-oz.eventbrite.com> for tickets, or vermontyouthdancers.org. PHOTOS BY ROB GROFF

SCHOOL NEWS

Scholarships for MMU grads

By Angelike A. Contis, MMCTV

Know a high school senior planning on studying media in college? The Scott Campitelli Memorial Scholarship is accepting applications through Friday, May 6. Please point them in the direction of this \$2000 scholarship offered at our sister station Media Factory in Burlington. Here's the link to apply: <https://www.mediafactory.org/scholarship>.

Also, do you know any MMU grads-to-be who excel in community service and/or business savvy? There's another opportunity! The Western Slopes Business Association is accepting applications from MMU seniors through Friday, May 13 for two \$2000 Entrepreneur Business Scholarships. The application is available at the MMU guidance office or you can email me (mmctv15@gmail.com) to send it to you.

Cambridge Elementary Early Childhood Program registration

Will your child be turning 3 or 4 by September 1, 2022? Cambridge Elementary Early Childhood Program is now enrolling children for our pre-kindergarten program for the school year 2022/2023. Our 5 STARS program offers a session for 3-year-olds Tuesday and Thursday, 7:30 AM – 12:30 PM; and a session for 4-year-olds Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 7:30 AM – 12:30 PM.

Pre-register your child at <https://www.lnsd.org/community/universal-prek>. To inquire about our program, please call 802-521-5613.

EWSD Annual School Meeting Vote

The Essex Westford School District (EWSD) Annual School Meeting vote will occur on Tuesday, April 12, 2022. Based on a decision of the School Board, ballots are being mailed to all active registered voters. Their decision was based on temporary changes that were made to the election laws due to COVID. Ballots were mailed around March 23, 2022. If you do not receive a ballot, please contact the Town Office, 802-878-4587 or townclerk@westfordvt.us.

Polls will be open at the Westford School 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM for in-person voting on Tuesday, April 12.

If you have any questions about the proposed EWSD budget, please visit www.ewsd.org/budget.

Westford Recreation upcoming programs

By Tonya Calley, Westford Recreation Department

Kids Make and Take Slime Workshop, Saturday April 30, 10:00 – 11:30 AM, Westford Red Brick Meeting House. Join Professors Squelch and Florp for a Slime-tastic session on how to make your own homemade ooze. For kids 5 years and older; cost \$10. Limited spots available; register at <https://westfordvt.us/recreation/>.

April Break Activity Kits

DIY Bluebird House: This bluebird house is designed with pine wood, an entry hole, ventilation, and a cover with a hinge so birders can check inside! It can be attached to any surface or set between trees or branches. Kit includes all materials to build and paint your very own bird house; cost, \$20. Tools needed and NOT included: Phillips head screwdriver, hammer. Limited kits will be available for pickup on Saturday, April 16 at the Westford Common Gazebo, 10:00 – 10:30 AM, immediately following the Easter Egg Hunt. Sign up at <https://westfordvt.us/recreation/>.

Stars Wars Lego building and movie night, for adventurers age 5 and up, Friday, April 8, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, at the Red Brick Meeting House (not a galaxy far, far away). Come join the Rebel Alliance and build your own X-Wing fighter to defeat the Imperial Army and restore balance to the galaxy! While building your spacecraft, get inspired with a movie and refuel

with popcorn! Cost: \$25; pre-registration required, register at <https://westfordvt.us/recreation>. Space may be vast, but slots for this event are not! Reserve yours today!

Parent and Me Tball, Saturdays June 25-August 20, 9:00 – 10:00 AM, Westford School Softball Field. The Westford Recreation Department is excited to offer this program for kids ages 3-6 and their parent(s) on Saturday mornings this summer. Join us for drills and games that focus on the FUN-damentals of baseball and softball. \$25 fee for season. Sign up at www.westfordvt.us/recreation.

Let's Get Muddy! Family-friendly bike race benefits CES

Please come out on Saturday, April 30 at 10:00 AM to support the Cambridge Elementary School (CES) PTA's efforts to raise money for CES playground improvements! Enjoy the beauty of our local Lamoille Valley Rail Trail on a leisurely bike ride with the family — or buckle down and race to the finish. Staggered start times and a shorter route option will be offered to allow cyclists of all ages and abilities the opportunity to have fun.

Prizes for the muddiest and the fastest... Let's Get Muddy! Registration information is available on our Let's Get Muddy! Facebook event page, <https://www.facebook.com/events/2771674666472247?ref=newsfeed>.

We hope to see you there!

New VTHM contest submission deadline May 2

Inspiration from the strength and courage demonstrated by many survivors of the Holocaust has given hope to many young students in the past year, a story they are being asked to describe in a competitive contest organized by the Vermont Holocaust Memorial (VTHM). VTHM is the State's sole voice for advocating Holocaust education as a means of transmitting tragic lessons of the Holocaust to combat anti-semitism and intolerance.

Students are encouraged to submit from a variety of media including video, art, prose, or poetry. Deadline for submissions is now Monday, May 2. The top entries in three age categories will be awarded cash prizes.

More information and guidelines for the contest can be found at VTHM's website "Educational Resources" section, <https://www.holocaustmemorial-vt.org/20212022-student-contest>.

2022 Poetry Out Loud results

Nineteen schools across Vermont registered to bring the national Poetry Out Loud program to their classrooms in 2022, reaching more than 2500 students. Students were selected by their teachers as school champions and advanced to participate in the statewide competition held at the Barre Opera House on Monday, March 14, emceed by spoken word poet Rajnii Eddins.

Students recited their chosen poems in two rounds. The five students with the highest cumulative scores after these rounds continued to round three, reciting their last poem. Poetry recitations were evaluated by the judges, using these criteria: physical presence, voice and articulation, evidence of understanding, dramatic appropriateness, accuracy, and overall performance.

Gianna Morin, a student at South Burlington High School, took top honors; Mary Bosco, a student at Thetford Academy, was the runner up.

As a part of Poetry Out Loud, the VT Arts Council partnered with the Brattleboro Museum & Art Center's Scholastic Writing Awards program to hold the Original Poetry Awards. This year, three poems from three students are recognized with a \$100 cash award. The Original Poetry Award winners are:

- Samantha Aikman from Mount Mansfield Union High School for her poem, *To the Fig Tree on Kolocep Island*;
- Mars Sell from Woodstock Union High School for their

poem, *My Dad Went to Europe and All I Got Was a Wooden Giraffe*; and

• Brooks Balkan from South Burlington High School for his poem, *Their Pumpjack*.

To support the Vermont's Poetry Out Loud program each year, the Arts Council funds poetry recitation and creative writing workshops led by dynamic teaching artists and local poets.

Vermont Poetry Out Loud is supported by the Poetry Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the state of Vermont. Since the program began in 2005, more than four million students across the country have participated in the national program. The Poetry Foundation provides and administers the monetary prizes.

For more information about Vermont Poetry Out Loud, visit <https://www.vermontartscouncil.org/programs/poetry-out-loud>.

Westford school news

Universal meals: You may be aware that the USDA waivers allowing EWSD to provide two meals to every student on every school day are set to expire on June 30. There is a Universal School Meals bill working its way through our legislature, S.100, that if passed will make Universal School Meals permanent in Vermont. With Universal Meals, we know that every student has access to the nutrition they need during the school day. Scott Fay, EWSD Food Services and President of the School Nutrition Association of Vermont, is working alongside Hunger Free Vermont to advocate for this bill. To learn more about the benefits of Universal School Meals, go online to <https://www.universalschoolmealsvt.org>.

Science Fair: Westford School is pleased to announce the 11th Annual Westford School Science Fair. This event has been virtual over the past two years and happily returns for a public exposition this year on Thursday, April 14 in the Westford School gymnasium. The theme for our fair will be *The Sky is the Limit!*

Presentations of science ideas will be on display in primary (K-2), elementary (3,4) and middle school (5,6) grades. We ask that families and public attendees join us in the gymnasium within staggered times as we are mindful of how well attended and crowded this event historically is.

- K-2 attendees: 5:30 – 6:00 PM
- 3-4 attendees: 6:00 – 6:30 PM
- 5-6 attendees: 6:30 – 7:00 PM

Student-Led Conference: Thank you, families, for your participation in student-led conferences. It is always exciting to see students sharing their learning. We know that this practice creates an authentic experience for students to reflect and communicate on their own learning.

Student placement: The placement process is designed to create the best learning environment for all children by establishing classes of complementary learners. In doing so, we consider factors such as social relationships, individual student to teacher relationships, learners' strengths, and learners' needs. Heterogeneous groupings and gender balances are also factors considered.

We invite parent input into your child's learning needs as we determine student placement. Your responses on the Learner Characteristic Form are included with school-based information as we undertake the process of assigning students to classes.

SBAC Dates: Thank you to the PTO for providing snacks during SBAC testing for students and a thank you to parents for ensuring students are present during the planned assessment times: grades 3-4, May 9-13; grades 5-6, May 16-20; grades 7-8, May 23-27.

Free college and career planning sessions to view online

High school students and parents, what's next? Whether you're college-bound, thinking of training or apprenticeships, or not sure, VSAC's free one-day Saturday event is for you.

This year's event was held virtually on Saturday, March 5 — but the sessions were recorded and are now available for

Schools continued on page 14

Schools continued from page 13

viewing. Review virtual workshops, discover free resources, get expert advice, and meet with local representatives from colleges and training programs across the state.

The sessions available to view include:

- College Options for Students with Developmental Disabilities and Autism;
- Financial Aid and Managing College Costs;
- Money After High School;
- Navigating the Admissions Process;
- Non-Degree Pathways to a Great Career: Short-Term Training and Apprenticeships;
- Strategies for the SAT and ACT;
- The College Search: Finding the Right Fit.
- Exploring Career and Education Pathways with MyFutureVT;
- I Wish I Knew That! Programs to Pursue Before You Graduate;
- Navigating the College Search for Students Who Learn Differently;
- Scholarships: Free Money!
- Supporting Your Teen's Career Search;
- Writing the Admissions Essay.

For more information, go online to <https://www.vvac.org/plan/college-career-pathways>.

New at Audubon Vermont: Early Release Wednesdays

Following the MMUUSD calendar, one Wednesday each month will provide an opportunity for children in grades K-4 to get outside at Audubon, to explore and ramble with nature as our guide. Brewster Pierce Memorial School students can ride the bus to Audubon (arrives approx at 1:15 PM), but we welcome others to join us from 1:00 – 5:00 PM! Come to one or all. Cost: \$20/day for Audubon Members, \$24/day for the general public.

For more information, go online to <https://vt.audubon.org/programs/afterschool-audubon-vermont>.

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.

Winona Smith Scholarship opportunities now open

The League of Women Voters of Vermont Education Fund is now accepting applications for its Winona Smith Scholarship program. Created in 1998 to honor the legacy of League leader Winona Smith, the scholarship is awarded annually to local high school seniors who embody the characteristics and qualities Smith displayed, of civic participation and community service.

Four \$1500 scholarships will be awarded to students who demonstrate financial need, scholastic achievement, and come highly recommended by their teacher. Scholarship details can be found at <https://bit.ly/LWVScholarshipDetails>.

Applications, due on Sunday, May 1, can be completed online at <https://bit.ly/lwvScholarship>. Students need to submit two essays (500 words), one on issues concerning voting rights, and the other on the impact of a recent civic, national, or world event. A letter of recommendation from a teacher is also required, <https://bit.ly/LWVTeacherRec>.

The scholarship can be applied towards continuation of education in an accredited vocational-technical or trade school and two- or four-year college or university. Scholarship recipients will be announced on Wednesday, June 1.

Last year, LWV scholarships were awarded to students from Winooski, Burr and Burton Academy, Otter Valley and Missisquoi Valley Union High Schools.

Questions can be directed to Becky Miller, lwvofvt.edfund@gmail.com.

VFN Conference on Wrightslaw Spec. Ed. Law and Advocacy

Registration has opened for Vermont Family Network's annual in-person conference on Thursday, April 14, 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM (exhibits open at 8:00 AM) at Delta Hotel by Marriott Burlington.

VFN's goal is to bring inspiring speakers and practical information to families of children and youth with disabilities or special health needs and the professionals who serve them. Pete Wright, Esq. from *Wrightslaw* will focus on Special Education Law and Advocacy. This program should meet the needs of parents, educators, health care providers, advocates, and attorneys. It will focus on Special Education Law; Rights and Responsibilities; Tests and Measurements to Measure Progress and Regression; SMART Individual Education Plans (IEPs); and Introduction to Tactics and Strategies for Effective Advocacy.

If you have questions, contact Rachel Boyers, 802-876-5315 or rachel.boyers@vfn.org. For an agenda, CEUs, scholarships, and to register, please visit <https://www.vermontfamilynetwork.org/what-we-do/resources/annual-conference/>.

Parent/Guardian registration fee \$80; Professional registration fee \$150. The fee includes breakfast, lunch, and three hardcopy books needed for the training. There will be the opportunity for parents to chat during lunch.

EWSD FY'23 budget and voting information

By Ben Dickie, EWSD Communications and Public Relations Coordinator

On February 15, the Essex Westford School District Board (EWSD) approved the FY'23 recommended budgets for the EWSD and Center for Technology, Essex, which will be presented to voters in April.

Learn more about the budget with presentations, videos, meeting minutes, and more by visiting <http://www.ewsd.org/budget>.

Upcoming dates to remember: Tuesday, April 5: Public Informational Meeting at Essex High School, 6:30 PM; and Tuesday, April 12: Voting, 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM (Westford residents vote at Westford School).

EWSD Budget Information: Budget Work Sessions with slides/minutes/video at www.ewsd.org/budget; text of the approved warning: <https://www.ewsd.org/cms/lib/VT02217845/Centricity/Domain/124/2022%20EWSD%20Annual%20Meeting%20Warning%20-%20For%20Publication.pdf>.

Free June weekend program for HS sophomores

The Cambridge Area Rotary will be sponsoring two students to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Academy (RYLA), which will be held at the Lyndon campus of Northern Vermont University, Friday-Sunday, June 24-26. Students currently enrolled in their high school sophomore year are eligible.

The RYLA is a nationally recognized honor that focuses on developing leadership skills, communication abilities, and team-building tools. This unique opportunity brings young people from VT, NH, and Québec together to share, evolve, and learn to be more effective and self-confident leaders in their schools, teams, communities, and other facets of everyday life. Over these two and a half days, participants can expect to learn by experience and actions, learn about personality traits and how to bring out everyone's talents, learn about their own traits and talents, and they have fun while doing this! The weekend will include a service project where participants will personally make a difference for someone that they do not know.

Please share this information with any high school sophomores that you know. Applications are due soon! We want to support local students.

The application can be found on the Cambridge Area Rotary Facebook page, <http://facebook.com/CambridgeAreaRotaryVT>. Alternately, contact rachaelvw@gmail.com for a link to the application.

For more information on RYLA from a student perspective: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oGEF5ludjX0>.

Two new principals in MMUUSD

Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District is pleased to welcome two new principals to our district for the 2022-23 school year: Derek Howard as the Principal for Smilie Memorial School, and Todd Rohlen as the Principal for Jericho Elementary School.

Derek Howard received his Bachelor of Education Degree with a concentration in Physical Education and Science from the West Sussex Institute of Higher Education, and his Master of Education Degree from Chichester University, both located in the UK. He also received a Master of Education Degree from Saint Michael's College in 2021. Since 2013, Derek has been performing various administrator roles in the Williamstown, VT schools, where he is currently serving as the Interim Principal at Williamstown Elementary School.

Todd Rohlen received his Bachelor of Science Degree with a Major in Forest Biology and Minor in Wildlife Biology from the University of Vermont, and his Master of Arts in Teaching from National Louis University. Mr. Rohlen is an experienced classroom teacher and is currently the Principal of Coventry Village School in Coventry, VT, where he has been in that role since 2018.

Please join us in welcoming Todd and Derek to our community.



Road Crew Member

The Town of Underhill seeks a qualified candidate for the position of Road Crew Member. This full-time position requires driving trucks with manual transmissions, snow plowing, operating a loader, excavator and other equipment, and physical labor. Applicants must possess a Class B CDL (Class A preferred) and a clean driving record, and must be able to respond to emergencies and snow removal outside of regular work hours within one hour. Underhill provides an excellent pay and benefit package (including health/dental/vision, life & disability insurance, a clothing allowance, winter on-call pay, and a retirement plan). Drug test required.

Applications due by 3/31/2022.

See a complete job description and application form at www.underhillvt.gov. To apply submit a resume or completed application to H.R. Administrator by email at jsilpe-katz@underhillvt.gov, in person at Underhill Town Hall (12 Pleasant Valley Road, Underhill), or by mail to PO BOX 120 Underhill, VT 05489. The Town of Underhill is an E.OE.



We're Hiring! MMUUSD has Multiple Job Openings!

Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District (MMUUSD) is seeking responsible and reliable individuals for the following positions.

Mechanic
Accountant
Bus Drivers
Building Maintenance/Custodial Positions

In addition to an excellent benefits package, which includes competitive salaries, sign on bonus (for mechanic, custodians and bus drivers), paid time off, medical, dental and life insurance policies, MMUUSD allows for flexible hours, a supportive and family-oriented work environment and the opportunity to make a difference in your community.

For more information about our school district, please visit our web page at <https://www.mmuusd.org/>. For a complete list of job openings at MMUUSD, click [HERE](#)

Interested in applying? Please contact Andrea Sandy, Human Resources Specialist, at andea.sandy@mmuusd.org/.



Flowers that bloom by night

By Zoe Bernstein

Outside my window, there is a flower that blooms by night
During the day it is simply a stick blocking my view of the evergreens

A withered bulb, white petals that are wet-cat damp, colors washed out like community pool towels
It only seems to bloom when I am not awake, and by morning it looks again of tired tea leaves

But I will not dig up this flower, I will not corrode the stem or pluck the sometimes-weepy petals
Because at night she is a dancer

Her perfume waltzing into my dreams on the wind of a loon call
Coming to rest above antique books and grandmother quilts
Drifting down to dance

Glissade across the bridge of my nose
Gather like a misty purple crown above my head to crown me queen of the dreamers

What this flower cannot do by day
It engulfs at night

Outside my window, there is a flower that only blooms by night
And though others may wish to pluck it

SCHOOL NEWS



PRIDE. POISE. PASSION

A celebration of our students and a thought about community

By Bailey Brown

After a couple years of hiatus due to the pandemic, solo and concert festivals are finally back for in-person attendance. Festivals are incredible opportunities for students to experience high level music outside of the classroom and form connections with other students from across the region.

The MMU family would like to begin by congratulating our students for their great successes this year. Congrats to Molly Billings/Flute, Ava Morrill/Flute, Ella Bushey/Flute, Nicholas Vinson/Oboe, Lorelei Austin/Bassoon, Jayme Billings/Saxophone, Izzy Subin-Billingsley/Saxophone, Gus Gautsch/Saxophone, Ada Krull/Saxophone, Sophia Rosacker/Clarinet, Matt Chien/Clarinet, Kurt Moore/Clarinet, Leah Smith/Clarinet, Marin Spilva/Clarinet, Shea Smith/Bass Clarinet, Gretta Pahl/Tenor Saxophone, Aedan Lahiff/Trumpet, Soit Ole-Musa/French Horn, Tessa Nowell/French Horn, Kayley Selig/French Horn, Brody Norris/French Horn, Seamus Buford/Tuba, Jacob Laird/Tuba, Peter Knepper/Percussion, Audrey Mundell/Percussion, Owen Lahiff/Percussion, Sonya Klinger/soprano, David Acus/tenor, Dylan Beer/tenor, Lemon Ploof/tenor, Otto Mabley-Ward/tenor, Sonnet Lawson/tenor, Olivia Wheeler/tenor, Onyx Hughes/bass, and Oliver Cohen/bass for successfully auditioning into the festival. We would like to extend a special congratulations to Jaymie Billings, Saxophone, for winning the District I Scholarship. Performances will be taking place on Friday, May 20 at the Collins Perley Sports Complex in Saint Albans.

We would like to congratulate Lorelei Austin/Bassoon, Jayme Billings/Alto Saxophone and Honorable Mention in Scholarship, Noah Bushey/Trombone, Libby Carleton/Cello, Aedan Lahiff/Trumpet, Peter Knepper/Percussion, Kurt Moore/Clarinet, Soit Ole Musa/French Horn, Sophia Rosacker/Clarinet, Nicholas

Vinson/Oboe, and Annabella Voyer/Violin for successfully auditioning into the Vermont All State music festival, where they will be representing MMU in Colchester this year. Performances will take place on Saturday, May 7.

MMU Music would also like to congratulate Jaymie Billings/Saxophone, Sophia Rosacker/Clarinet, Lorelei Austin/Bassoon, Aven Baughman/soprano, Anzhela Cannizzaro/soprano, Zoe Rosen/soprano, Lucia Aristondo/alto, Cara Gagliardi/alto, Lauren O'Malley/alto, David Acus/tenor, Nathan Smith/tenor, Oliver Cohen/bass, and Jeffrey Lewis/bass for attending the New England Music Festival, where they performed challenging programs under the direction of Dr. Jared Chase, Dr. Cory Boulton, and Allen Tinkham in the Concert Band, Choir, and Orchestra respectively. We are so proud of all of our students who successfully auditioned into festivals this year!

As we approach and enter year three of the COVID-19 pandemic, it has become increasingly clear how important music is as a portion of our lives. Music serves not only as a form of entertainment, but an important form of connection between one another.

At about mid-way through my time student teaching in the instrumental music program at MMU, I asked my students for feedback on their time in their classes with me. Among the questions that asked about my teaching strategies and demeanor, I asked them, "What do you enjoy the most about this class?"

One of the prevailing pieces of feedback that I obtained from that specific question was how important the sense of community in ensembles was to students. These students love playing music together — together as a community of peers, friends, and musicians. Playing music as a group creates a unique sense of unity that I think is hard to find anywhere else. Music is a team effort that requires us to breathe together and listen closely to one another constantly in order to successfully reach our goals. Studies done on the subject have found that a sense of community has a great impact on student morale. Students are more successful at school when they are surrounded by a supportive group of friends, peers, and other members of the greater community (i.e. parents, relatives, neighbors, etc.).

As someone who was a student during the thick of COVID lockdowns, I understand just how frustrating it was to not be able to play music with my peers for so long. I also know how thankful folks are that we're back to creating music like normal. As we approach an end to the pandemic, we hope to keep approaching milestones of musical normalcy and continue to rebuild the communities that we worked so hard to maintain through the pandemic. These students are currently doing that in stellar ways, all while producing some really awesome musical work.

Please contact Bailey Brown (bailey.brown@mmuvsd.org) or the MMU Music Department with any questions or requests for citations.

SPORTS NEWS

Registration open for Girls on the Run

Girls on the Run is way more than a running program! We are a positive youth development program dedicated to creating a world where every girl knows and activates her limitless potential. Our tested curriculum blends physical activity with skill development that enables team members to adapt to whatever comes their way. In today's unpredictable world, the strategies learned at Girls on the Run are more critical than ever.

Our eight-week program is for students from Cambridge and Waterville in grades 3-6. Our season begins Tuesday, April 5. Our team will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00 – 5:30 PM at the Cambridge Elementary School gym. The season will culminate with our team crossing the finish line at GOTRVT's 5K Celebration!

The registration fee is \$85. GOTRVT provides financial assistance directly on the registration form for qualifying families. Please contact GOTRVT directly at 802-871-5664 regarding financial assistance options.

Visit <http://gotrvt.org/register-now> to register! Questions? Contact Coach Clare Salerno, Clare.Salerno@gmail.com.

Browns River Little League seeks umpires

The Browns River Little League, which serves Jericho and Underhill children, is looking for volunteer umpires this season! We strive for the highest level of sportsmanship in a friendly environment. Little league is committed to volunteer staff leading by example with good humor. You don't need to be a baseball or softball expert or an athlete to learn the rules of the game and make sure that children and their families enjoy a season of play and learning together.

Over the years, the League has had women coaching and girls playing but we've never had a woman behind the plate and we'd love to change that. Umpiring is first and foremost about fairness and safety, not about being the judge who is always right. Those of us who have done this for a while can give you plenty of examples of the times we got it wrong. We want people who aren't afraid to do their best while knowing that they will make mistakes. That's not a bad lesson to pass along to our young players. We're excited about getting together at the end of this pandemic and celebrating this century old game together.

If you're not sure and just want to learn more, there will be an on-field meeting on Sunday, April 17, 2:00 PM behind the Jericho Elementary School.

The league offers support, training and equipment, a flexible commitment, and no in-depth knowledge is required, just an interest in baseball and helping local kids and their families. Teens and adults, men, and women are all welcome.

If you're interested or want more information contact Bob Robbins, rjrobbins802@gmail.com or 802-899-2436. Season runs early May to mid-June. Come out, learn a new skill, and join our local families in the Spring sunshine — weather subject to change!

Lake Champlain Longbeards 10th Annual Jakes Day April 16

The Lake Champlain Longbeards 10th Annual Jakes Day will be held on Saturday, April 16 at the Waterbury Stowe Fish and Game Club, VT Rt. 100, Waterbury Center, with registration 9:30 – 10:00 AM, and the event itself running 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

Join NWF for a youth-focused Learn to Turkey Hunt event. Participants will learn about turkey biology and behavior, how to use turkey calls, and will have the chance to practice shooting and/or patterning their shotgun. Families are welcome! Lunch provided at no additional cost. We will have plenty of activities and prizes for the kids, including a free raffle for a hunting blind and other great items.

The cost is \$10 per youth; no cost if the youth attended a 2022 NWF banquet. Registration is required: for more information or to register contact Ron LaFreniere, ronlafreniere@oudrs.net or 802-434-4274. If your child is in need of a hunting mentor for the youth weekend, please let us know. NWF volunteers may be able to assist.

Contest encourages kids to move more

Do you like to jump rope? Swim, sprint, or do yoga? If you are age 18 or younger, enter the Move Together Contest! for a chance to win great prizes.

Military Kids Vermont and University of Vermont Extension 4-H are sponsoring the contest in conjunction with the Month of the Military Child. This celebration, held every April since 1986, recognizes the contributions and challenges of the children of military families.

No military affiliation is required to take part, although all activities must be completed between April 1-29. The drawing for prizes will be held on Friday, May 6.

Go to www.uvm.edu/extension/youth/announcements for contest details, including the check-off list of activities. To submit your entry, scan, take a photo, or email a written list of completed activities to allison.smith.2@uvm.edu by Friday, April 29. Include your name, age, phone number, and mailing address.

You will earn one ticket for every activity completed. Most of the 20 activities are based on the military physical fitness tests — with a few just for fun. Activities include crunches, biking, push-ups, walking on a treadmill, and doing jumping jacks. You also can earn tickets by wearing purple on Friday, April 15 for the Month of the Military Child, or telling a family member or friend about your favorite activity that gets you moving.

Although not required for prize eligibility, participants are encouraged to take a photo of an activity in action and tag @MKVermont on Facebook and use #purpleupvt2022.

If questions or to request a printed copy of the activities list, contact Allison Smith at allison.smith.2@uvm.edu.



Browns River Middle School (BRMS) Guidance Counselor Gregory Martin, BRMS student and Sleep Out participant Joseph, Community Bank Public Relations and Community Outreach Manager Erinn Perry, and BRMS sixth-grade ELA and science teacher Kate Roberge are pictured as Community Bank donates \$500 to Browns River Middle School to support its Sleep Out team for Spectrum Youth & Family Services' annual fundraiser. All proceeds from the event help fund Spectrum's programs and services to help youth facing homelessness. This is the fourth consecutive year Community Bank has supported the initiative. Kate Roberge says, "As a school, we have raised \$25,000 and counting! In a world where many things seem heavy, this shines a bright light on the loving future these kids want to build." For more information about Spectrum Youth & Family Services, visit <https://www.spectrumvt.org/>. For more information about Community Bank, visit <https://cbna.com/>.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

TOWN OF JERICO- DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Jericho Development Review Board will hold a public hearing at 7:00 pm on WEDNESDAY April 27, 2022 at the Jericho Town Hall to consider the following.

- A request to the DRB by Dan Rexford to reaffirm the approval of a conditional use review approval. This property is located at 308 VT Route 117 which is in the Rural Agriculture Residential 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

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SPORTS NEWS

Mansfield Nordic Club skiers shine at Jr. National Championships

Led by the four gold medals of Ava Thurston, skiers from Mansfield Nordic Club (MNC) returned from the U.S. Ski and

Snowboard Junior National Championships in Minneapolis, MN with a collection of impressive results.

Ava Thurston of Waterbury swept the individual U18 women's events, and anchored her relay team to victory. This was the first sweep of Junior Nationals racing since Olympic gold medalist Jessie Diggins achieved the feat in 2011 at the same venue.

Standing atop the U18 women's relay podium with Thurston was Underhill's Hattie Barker, as MNC women made up half of the mixed-gender U18 4x3km relay team. Barker began the week with a third place in the individual skate race, before notching a 23rd in the classic sprint and 17th in the classic mass start.

Anders Linseisen of Shelburne took home a fifth place finish in the U16 boys' classic sprint, achieving All-American status in his first trip to Junior Nationals. Linseisen also took home a 25th in the individual skate race and a 16th in the classic mass start.

Julia Thurston, younger sister of Ava, also brought home All-American honors in her first Junior Nationals trip, finishing tenth in the U16 girls classic mass start. Julia also notched 19th in the individual skate, and 26th in the classic sprint.

Emma Page of Underhill scored a 13th place finish in the U18 individual skate race, while marking another top-30 in the classic mass start with a 25th place.

Virginia Cobb of Westford, competing in her first Junior Nationals, made it into the top-30 in all her individual races as well, scoring points for national club rankings.

At the end of the week, MNC skiers took home three individual Junior National titles, six individual All-American (top 10) finishes, and a relay national title that Thurston and Barker shared with Stratton



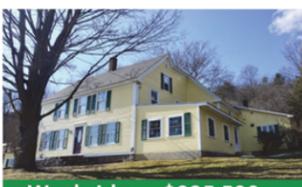
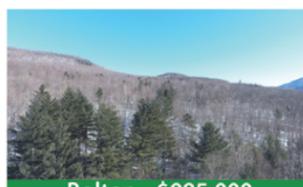
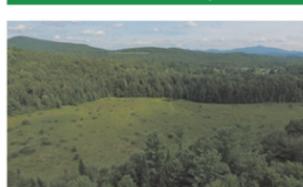
Mansfield Nordic Club skiers at the recent Junior National Championships. The MNC skiers competing hail from Waterbury, Westford, Underhill, and Shelburne.

PHOTO BY KRISTEN BARKER

Mountain School athletes Fin Bailey and Jack Lange.

Mansfield Nordic Club finished the Junior National Championship ranked as the sixth strongest club in the entire country, with the women's team finishing third overall. In both of these categories, MNC was the top team from New England.

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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!

Register for Mount Mansfield Girls Lacrosse Club

Welcome to the 2022 season of middle school girls lacrosse! The program is for girls in grades 4-8. The season starts at the end of March (depending on snow) and runs through first week of June.

Practice is held Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:00 - 7:30 PM at Browns River Middle School in Jericho. Games are Sundays in May and the first Sunday in June.

Please email melissamutolo@live.com for registration information.

Ryan Cochran-Siegle interview

By Angelike A. Contis, MMCTV
The day after the parade honoring him last month, Olympic Medalist Ryan Cochran-Siegle sat down with local students for a short (14 minute) interview. Here's the link: <https://archive.org/details/cochran-siegle-interview-2022>.

Mya Peters did the interviewing (with help from Blake B.) and Ben Witters filmed. The students did the filming, interviewing, and editing, with support from MMCTV. The students were able to ask Cochran-Siegle a long list of questions, including his experience in Beijing, how he prepares for races, and where he likes to ski.

Bolton Outdoor Adventure Fund launched

Bolton Outdoor Adventure Fund aims to raise funds to cover the cost of outdoor recreation programs for Vermont youth who want to participate in mountain-based activities that are in Chittenden and Washington counties of Vermont.

There was a soft launch fundraiser on Wednesday, March 30 at Bolton Valley Resort. A portion of all night skiing ticket sales were generously donated to the fund, which hopes to grant its first scholarships in summer 2022. Donations will be tax-exempt thanks to the Vermont Outdoor Business Alliance, which will serve as the fiscal agent while Bolton Outdoor Adventure Fund awaits its own 501(c)(3) status recognition.

Bolton Outdoor Adventure Fund recognizes the value of outdoor recreation in Vermont as one of the greatest assets our state has to offer. They seek to promote equitable access for all Vermont children to the fun, education, and beauty that outdoor recreation uniquely provides. Early access to the outdoors creates lifelong stewards for the natural environment, promotes healthy lifestyles, elevates joy, and brings people together.

The organization was a dream of Lindsay DesLauriers, President of Bolton Valley Resort, as a tool for giving back and enriching the lives of community members. She recruited industry partners and like-minded individuals who are also passionate about creating opportunities for all to make this dream a reality. DesLauriers' vision will be executed by a strong Board of Directors, which will be led by Meghan Ksiazek, co-Vice President and Head of Design at Turtle Fur. Ksiazek will be supported by Board Treasurer Bettina Guevara, who promotes inclusion in recreation through her leadership role with Unlikely Riders; and Board Secretary Matt Gile, whose work as the Winooski School District Librarian will be indispensable in tying the efforts directly to Vermont families.

"Every child should have the opportunity to experience the thrill of what our great state has to offer. My hope is to expand their minds via outdoor experiences." Meghan Ksiazek, Chair of Bolton Outdoor Adventure Fund.

Please consider donating by visiting <https://givebutter.com/ZBJA4J>. To learn more, visit the organization's website at <https://bolton-outdoor-adventure-fund.webnode.page/>.

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