

# MOUNTAIN GAZETTE

VOLUME 7 • NO. 14 • Serving Bolton, Cambridge, Jericho, Underhill, Westford, and Jeffersonville, Vermont • February 5, 2009

## Board, teacher negotiators still deadlocked on contract

By Ted Tedford

*Special to the Mountain Gazette*

Negotiators for the teachers and the Executive Board of the Chittenden East Supervisory Union remain deadlocked over a new contract, with health care and salaries continuing as the major stumbling blocks.

The teachers' negotiators offered to accept all of a fact-finding report by mediator Robert Lobell, including a 4 percent pay raise and an optional change in teachers' health insurance premiums, according to Jon Harris, chief negotiator for the Green Mountain Chapter of the Vermont Education Association.

"The association put forward two definitive proposals to the Board," Harris said. "We said we will accept the entire fact-finder's report. They rejected our proposals." Harris said the union also proposed a one-year contract that would end in June. The teachers traditionally work on a three-year contract. The last contract expired last July 1.

"They (the teachers' negotiators) continue to be completely insensitive to the economic crisis facing our taxpayers, their families and the school boards, particularly in light of the governor's comments," said Board chief negotiator Robert Letovsky. Gov. Douglas has urged all school boards in Vermont to hold the line on per-pupil spending and delay voting on their budgets.

The Board has offered a three-year salary increase of 3.75 percent the first year with 3.5 percent the following two years. The Board also has proposed the new health care plan for all teachers, not as an option.

Harris said the Board at the meeting last week proposed a change in the salary index schedule which he said would change a schedule negotiated

two years ago. That change put all teachers on an index that includes steps up the pay scale for each year of service and additional pay for advance degrees or training.

"We said we want the same index," Harris said. "They rejected that in less than 15 minutes." Lobell meets with the teachers' negotiators and the Board negotiators in separate rooms. He moves back and forth between the rooms.

Harris also said he now accepts a recommendation by Lobell to make the new health care plan optional. He has opposed the Board's proposal of a change in the teachers' health care plan during negotiations before the two sides reached an impasse last summer.

Letovsky said the new health care plan, called Comp1000, "would save the taxpayers a significant amount of money while putting more money in the pockets of most teachers." Run by Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Comp 1000 would save the teachers and taxpayers \$400,000 a year, the Board says. It would have a higher deductible than the present health-care plan.

Harris said no other school district in Chittenden County has the Comp 1000 plan and he pointed out there is no need for a change because Blue Cross/Blue Shield has announced it is not increasing health care costs for the coming year.

Letovsky disagreed. "We need a change in our health insurance cost structure now and in the future and they (the teachers) put nothing forward on that. There are people in the community getting zero percent raises this year and others taking a 100 percent pay cut, losing their jobs. There is no give there. They must show some sensitivity."

No further negotiations have been scheduled.

## School directors criticize Douglas for 'level-funding' letter

By Ted Tedford

*Special to the Mountain Gazette*

School directors in Jericho and Underhill have criticized Governor Jim Douglas for urging school boards statewide to level fund their per-pupil spending and delay going to the voters to act on their budgets for the next school year.

The directors of the Jericho, Underhill Town and Underhill I.D. boards said their budgets had to be ready for the printers to be included in their town reports for March Town Meeting before the governor urged school directors to put a lid on spending.

All three board chairpersons said they are required to present a budget to the voters at Town Meeting. It would then be up to the voters to decide whether to postpone voting in districts where budgets are voted discussed and voted on the floor. Jericho is the only one of the three districts to do that, while Underhill Town and Underhill I. D. vote by secret ballot.

School budgets for Jericho and Underhill I.D. elementary school districts show minimal increases, while the Underhill Town budget is higher.

The Jericho Elementary School budget will increase 1.79 percent, the Underhill Incorporated District (I.D.) School budget will increase 1.58 percent and the Underhill Town School budget shows a 6.59 percent increase.

Jericho's budget is \$3,732,591, up \$65,630 from the present budget; the Underhill I.D. budget is \$1,533,913, up \$23,922; and the Underhill Town budget totals \$1,944,356, up \$120,195.

Underhill Town School Board chairman John LaRue said that nearly half the increase to run the Central School is mainly because of the first payment on a \$194,000 bond for renovations to the K-4 elementary school on Pleasant Valley Road.

The Jericho school trustees closely scrutinized their school needs and decided not to fill the position of a second-grade teacher who is retiring in June, said Chairwoman Karen Glitman. Other factors such as teacher salaries and the needs of special education students are out of school boards' control. Even so, she added, "We were very much aware that we needed a minimal, if any, budget

School directors continued on page 7

## Mentors, mentees skate/celebrate

By Katherine Quimby Johnson  
*Special to the Mountain Gazette*

Mentors and mentees from towns throughout the Lamoille Valley enjoyed an afternoon of ice skating at the Lamoille Area Recreational Center (LARC) on Sunday, January 25. Sharon Fortune, director of the Lamoille Valley Mentoring Partnership (LVMP), said that approximately 100 individuals enjoyed the skating, pizza, chips and hot chocolate. Speaking after the event, Fortune said, "It was very successful. Everybody had fun; no one got hurt."

The different approaches individuals used during their time on the ice reflects various ways the mentoring relationships can work. While it was most common to see an adult encouraging a child to "step, step, glide," in at least one instance a mentee looked more comfortable on the ice than her mentor, who pushed a stack of crates for balance.

LVMP includes all the schools in Lamoille County as well as those in Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union. "Mentoring looks differently depending on the school," Fortune explained. In the 13-year-old Cambridge Elementary School (CES) mentoring program, community members are paired with students in grades K-6. Hardwick Elementary ensures that all sixth graders have a mentor. Hyde Park Elementary School has both community mentors and peer mentors. Peer mentoring is older students serving as mentors for younger students, a model that is also followed at

## Underhill will see lower town budget in March

By Ted Tedford

*Special to the Mountain Gazette*

With an eye on the faltering economy, the Selectboard has approved a town budget three-tenths of a percent under the present budget.

Voters at Town Meeting in March will be asked to approve a \$1,773,197 budget, down \$174,424 from the budget of \$1,947,621 approved last year.

The General Fund budget (formerly called the selectboard budget) decreased \$83,266, or 8.15 percent; the highway budget decreased even more, down \$91,158, or 10.92 percent.

On the down side, revenues are expected to be lower by \$169,300, or 42.87 percent. Selectboard Chairman Steve Walkerman said, in his annual report to town residents, the town receives about 20 percent of its revenues annually from sources other than property taxes. Zoning and recording fees, investment income and state aid to the town for roads are among those items showing decreases. Town officials expect 10 percent less road funding from the state Agency of Transportation this coming fiscal year because of cutbacks by the Douglas administration.

Despite the loss of those funds, Walkerman said, "We have made significant reductions in operating expenses so that we stay within our revenue expectations, while at the same time not adding to taxpayers' own financial challenges by increasing property taxes to make up for this lower revenue."

Walkerman said that because health care costs have gone up from 15 to 20 percent, town employees will increase their contribution toward their premiums from 6 percent to 12 percent and will pay double for their co-payments at the time of medical service.

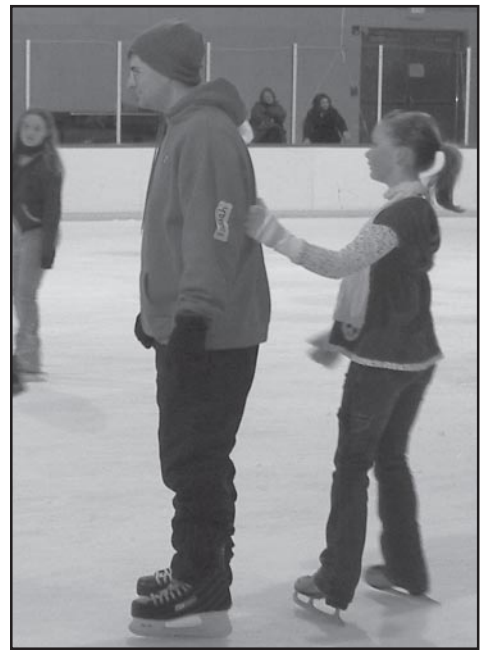
Those increases mean that although town employees will receive a 4 percent cost-of-living increase in salary, the rising health care premium costs will virtually wipe out their pay increase, Walkerman said.

Town meeting is March 3 at Browns River Middle School.

## Westford town plan due October 22

By Phyl Newbeck  
*Special to the Mountain Gazette*

Five years go by quickly. Vermont State law requires municipalities to update their town plans every five years, and the Westford Town Plan is due October 22 of this year. Town Planner Melissa Manko admits the Planning Commission has gotten a late start on the update. This was due to the fact that last fall, Westford switched from a Zoning Board of Adjustment to a Development



Lamoille Valley Mentoring Partnership celebrated National Mentoring Month with an afternoon of skating at the Lamoille Area Recreational Center (LARC).

PHOTO BY KATHY JOHNSON

Lamoille Union High School. In addition to community members and peers, Fortune reported that three Johnson State College students have volunteered to mentor.

Throughout the Lamoille Valley region, men-

Mentors continued on page 11

## Cambridge school budget finalized

By Katherine Quimby Johnson  
*Special to the Mountain Gazette*

The Cambridge Elementary School (CES) Board voted to present the town with a school budget of \$4,772,360, a 1.23% increase over last year's \$4,714,551. The Homestead Tax Rate, after a Cost of Living Adjustment of 98.1 percent, is \$1.313, a slight decrease from the prior year's rate of \$1.324. The Non-Homestead Tax Rate, set by the state legislature, remains \$1.324.

The CES Board's final adjustment was the removal of \$8,600 from the Custodial and Plant Maintenance budget. That sum, which was to fund a back-up pump near the gymnasium and a heating issue in the administrative rooms, will be a construction budget expense.

At earlier meetings, the board had approved a \$6,000 reduction in the technology budget and cut \$20,000 from the Business Administration line, as well as decreasing the amount budgeted for advertising to the amount actually spent in the previous year. The budget for heating was also lowered to reflect the actual cost of heating the renovated school, which used even less fuel than projected. Teachers' supply budgets also decreased by 10 percent.

The CES budget benefited from stability in the cost of health insurance. In addition, some revenues increased. Anderson reported an increase in enrollment of 14 students, which increases the Equalized Pupil Count used by the state to calculate funding. In addition, when the Title I formula was re-calculated, Cambridge gained \$6,000. From a variety of sources, including grants, Cambridge Elementary closed the 2008-09 school year with a surplus of \$145,850 that is being returned to the taxpayers.

While the budget will be approved by Australian ballot on Town Meeting Day, the CES Board is also requesting approval for the appropriation of \$75,000 from the surplus of \$145,850 to be added to the Transportation Reserve Fund. That article will be voted from the floor.

Review Board and during that process, the membership of the Planning Commission was revamped. It did not make sense to start the process with one board and complete it with a totally new board.

The first step toward revising the Town Plan is a survey, two of which are being sent to each address in Westford and each out-of-town landowner. The surveys will be sent out in early February and

Mentors continued on page 11

## Residents form neighborhood watch program

By Phyl Newbeck

*Special to the Mountain Gazette*

Deborah Shelby had had enough. After her home on Notch Road in Bolton was broken into twice in less than half a year she contacted all fifty-two of her neighbors on the road to see if there was any interest in forming a neighborhood watch. Shelby was not the only resident who had experienced a break-in, so three days later residents from nearly half of Notch Road's homes came to her house to brainstorm.

The group started by creating an e-mail list and providing contact information, including the make, model and color of their vehicles. Shelby is also creating a web site, [www.vtneighbors.org](http://www.vtneighbors.org), which will provide tips on how to prevent break-ins. To show would-be burglars they are serious, the group is soliciting donations to put up signs warning that there is a neighborhood watch. The Selectboard has already approved the placement of the signs.

Already the newly formed group is working on a series of "good neighbor tips," which, Shelby notes, also create a sense of community. Residents now have a heightened awareness of who their neighbors are and what to look for. As an example, Shelby said she recently saw a car parked on the road for twenty minutes so she took care to write down the make and model. "I would have written down the license plate number," she said, "if the thieves hadn't stolen my binoculars." Other tips include putting your name and contact information on valuables. Shelby has begun putting her name on the DVDs which were given to her over the holidays to replace the ones which were stolen.

Shelby admits that she is new to rural living, having moved to Bolton from Austin, Texas "where my neighbor could hear me sneeze" less than two years ago. Since the second break-in, she has tried to learn as much as possible about what can and can't be done by the Vermont State Police. Shelby's house was the only one broken into this summer and she learned that if the perpetrator isn't caught within forty-eight hours, it is almost impossible for the police to find the burglar. She received more attention from the police after the second break-in because more than one home was targeted. Shelby recognizes that the State Police don't have the resources necessary to attend to each individual crime. "I'm empathetic," she said, "but I'll never

Residents continued on page 10



## POLICE REPORT



On December 30, 2008, Steven Duda, 50, of Underhill received an anonymous phone call stating that the Christmas donation check that he wrote to St. Thomas Church in Underhill Center had been stolen and cashed at a convenience store. Around this same time, State Police in Saint Albans were contacted by the Sheldon Mini Mart advising that they had received a similar anonymous call about this same check. State Police were advised by the store that they believed the female who had cashed the stolen check was **Amanda Royea**, 29, (AKA Amanda Morris/Tatro) of Saint Albans. After receiving a copy of the check, which was in the amount of \$170, it was apparent that someone had erased the original name (St. Thomas Church) and written in "Sheldon Mini Mart".

Royea is being charged with possession of stolen property as well as uttering a forged instrument (felony). More arrests are expected in this case. State Police are urging anyone with further information on these checks to come forward. Royea was issued a citation to appear in Franklin District Court on March 30, 2009. CASE #: 09A200491

If you have any information pertaining to the second missing check, please contact VSP Trooper John Bruzzi, Saint Albans barracks, 802-524-5993.

On January 18, 2009, **Christine Haley**, 25, was arrested for DUI, her second offense, in the parking lot of the Madonna Mobil in Jeffersonville after Troopers made contact with the registered owner of the vehicle, Travis Cruz, for unrelated reasons. Cruz, 18, was found to have been consuming alcohol and was released on a citation. A 15 year old female passenger was also found to have been drinking. She was released to an adult after being issued a juvenile citation. Haley was also in violation of her court ordered conditions of release. She was processed at the Lamoille Outpost and later released. Haley appeared in Lamoille District Court on February 3, 2009 and Cruz will appear in Lamoille District Court on February 24, 2009. Case #09A100355. Investigating officers Shaffer and Scott, VSP, Williston.

**Christopher Shea**, 47, of Fairfax, was cited to appear in Lamoille District Court on March 24, 2009, to answer possession of marijuana charges after his vehicle was stopped by State Police for erratic operation on Vermont Route 108 in Jeffersonville, on January 17, 2009 at 4:50 PM. A subsequent search of his vehicle yielded marijuana and marijuana paraphernalia. Shea was also found to have been consuming alcohol while driving and ticketed for such. He was later released at the scene. CASE #: 09A100351. Arresting officer VSP Trooper Shaffer

**Patrick Sweeney**, 25, of Jeffersonville, was arrested for DUI after Troopers came upon his vehicle parked in the middle of the roadway on Main Street in Jeffersonville, on January 17, 2009 at 1:44 AM. Sweeney claimed to be waiting on a friend. He was processed at the Lamoille Outpost and released on a citation. He was cited to appear in Lamoille District Court on February 3, 2009. CASE #: 09A100334. Arresting officer VSP Trooper Shaffer.

**Thomas Rhodes**, 22, of Cambridge was arrested on Sunday, January 25 at 12:48 AM, for DUI after State Police responded to a

report of a fire alarm activation at the Highlander Motel. Rhodes, visibly intoxicated, was told to leave the property on foot. Minutes later, Troopers observed him drive his 2009 Toyota Tacoma into a snow bank in the parking lot in an attempt to leave and not be seen by police. Rhodes was processed at the Lamoille Outpost and later released. He is scheduled to appear in Lamoille District Court on February 10, 2009. CASE #: 09A100492. Arresting officer VSP Trooper Shaffer.

On January 23, 2009 at approximately 11:50 AM, **Wade Whitehouse**, age 26, of Bolton, was arrested after Vermont State Police pulled over his 2001 tan Ford Focus for having a Green #8 inspection sticker. Whitehouse was traveling west on US RT 2 in the town of Berlin, VT. Whitehouse was transported to the Middlesex State Police Barracks where he was processed and cited into Washington County District Court on March 3, 2009 to answer to the charges of Criminal DLS. Upon release, Whitehouse was also issued Vermont Civil Violation Complaints for No Insurance and VNI (Vehicle Not Inspected). Whitehouse's vehicle was towed from the roadway. CASE #: 09A300374. TROOPER: M. Sheridan, VSP-Middlesex.

**Christopher Coughlin**, 28, of Cambridge allegedly entered two vehicles and stole a snowboard and a credit card at Smuggler's Notch ski resort. The victims were Sandy Hook of Conn. and an unidentified man. The stolen items were found in Coughlin's home. He is charged with two counts of possession of stolen property, two counts of petty larceny and four counts of fraudulent use of a credit card.

On the February 1, 2009 and time VSP Williston received a report of a motor vehicle crash on Pleasant Valley Road. Upon arrival to the area troopers were able to identify **Craig Lang**, 22, of Underhill, as the operator. Lang was subsequently arrested for suspicion of DWI, second offense. Following processing Lang was lodged at the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility. Cited to appear at Chittenden County District Court. Bail set at \$500. CASE #: 09A100684. TROOPER: Michael Kamerling, VSP, Williston.

## COURTREPORT

## Wednesday, December 24

**Brian Wilcox**, 17, Jericho, charged with unlawful mischief \$250 or less in Williston on July 26; pleaded guilty; sentenced deferred for six months.

## Monday, December 29

**Dale Tinker**, 50, Jericho, charged with leaving scene of crash in Williston on October 19; pleaded guilty; sentenced to four to 12 months, concurrent, suspended, probation; charged DUI, first offense, in Williston on October 19; pleaded guilty; sentenced to four to 12 months, concurrent, suspended, probation.

## Monday, January 5

**Jeffrey Root**, 42, Jericho, charged with DUI, first offense, in Essex on October 9; pleaded guilty; sentenced to four to 12 months, suspended probation.

**Peter J. Horvath**, 40, Underhill, charged with vehicle operation – license suspended, in Essex on August 29; pleaded guilty; sentenced to 14 to 15 days.

## UNDERHILL JERICHO FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

By Kitty Clark

## EMERGENCY CALLS:

January 16, 8:39 AM, SQ51 only, responded to 311 Poker Hill Road, Underhill  
 January 16, 9:35 AM, Fuel truck leaking fuel oil in the area of Barber Farm and RT 117  
 January 16, 5:15 PM, Fire alarm at 364 VT RT 15, Jericho  
 January 17, 3:35 PM, Accident at RT 117 & Skunk Hollow Road, Jericho  
 January 19, 9:09 AM, Carbon monoxide alarm at 20 Sam Ward Road, Underhill  
 January 19, 2:15 PM, One-vehicle accident at Birch Lane & Barber Farm Road, Jericho  
 January 20, 11:00 AM, Browns River School, Jericho for smoke in building  
 January 23, 6:18 AM, Car fire at 18 Hawk Ridge Road, Underhill  
 January 23, 10:06 AM, EMS call on Griswold St., Jericho  
 January 25, 6:16 PM, One-vehicle accident, near 258 Skunk Hollow Road, Jericho  
 January 26, 2:27 PM, EMS call on Poker Hill Road, Underhill  
 January 27, 11:02 AM, EMS call on Poker Hill Road, Underhill  
 January 28, 10:58 AM, One-vehicle accident near 73 Stevensville Road, Underhill  
 January 29, 8:24 AM, One-vehicle accident, Fitzsimonds Rd. & Barber Farm Road, Jericho

January 13, the department held its annual meeting with election of administrative positions and officers. Moderator: Phil Surks, Clerk: Kitty Clark, Chief: Randy E. Clark, 1st. Asst. Chief: Todd Fischer, 2nd. Asst. Chief: Shawn Martell, Captain: Mike Greenia, Captain: Mat Champlin, Lieut: Joe Greenough, Lieut.: Parker Ripley and Treasurer: Randy H. Clark.

January 20, the department held its monthly business meeting with elections to committees.

January 27, the regular Tuesday night drill was held.

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## The Mountain Gazette

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ART / MUSIC / THEATER

ART

The **Essex Art League** meeting from 9:00 to 11:00 AM on Thursday, February 5 at the First Congregational Church at 39 Main Street, Essex Jct. Photographer and member Ron Russotti will present a program on digital photography. For more information call 862-3014 or visit the website at [essexartleague.com](http://essexartleague.com)

The **East Gallery at Helen Day Art Center** presents: *Altoon Sultan: Egg Tempera Paintings*, opening Friday, January 23 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. The exhibition will run through March 21. Gallery hours are Monday through Saturday, 12:00 through 5:00 PM and by appointment.

*The Shape of Things: Johnny Swing and the Best of Vermont Design 2009* exhibit opened January 23 at **Helen Day Art Center** in Stowe. *The Shape of Things* exhibit runs from now through March 21.

Veiled Lineage is at the **Fire House Gallery** through February 14, 2009. Veiled Lineage features two Vermont artists investigating concepts of ancestry, heritage and tradition, using sculpture, painting, and installation. Jerry Geier's assembly of sculptures, or totems, features carved faces of wood and clay derived from indigenous and modern societies. Terry Hauptman's Songline Scrolls feature colorful multi-cultural processions on wall-sized scrolls of paper. Gallery hours: Monday through Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Saturday 12:00 noon to 5:00 PM, closed Sunday; The Firehouse Gallery, 135 Church Street, Burlington.

The **Fleming Museum** presents *Hugh Townley-Against the Grain* - January 13 - March 22, 2009. Hugh Townley: Against the Grain highlights the career of one of the most original sculptors of the twentieth century, who spent the last eleven years of his life in Bethel, Vermont.

*More than Bilingual: William Cordova/Major Jackson* at the Wolcott Gallery, through May 10, 2009. *More than Bilingual* includes mixed media drawings, sculpture, and video by William Cordova and poetry by Major Jackson in response. The two artists have long admired one another's work and the Fleming Museum is pleased to bring them together for the first time in a collaborative venture.

The **Essex Art League** will be showing work at several venues during the months of February. *Bright and Bold* is the colorful theme for the show at Phoenix Books, 21A Essex Way, Essex. Meanwhile Kay Webb, Doug Hoppes, Betty Borah and Clair Aimi will show their work at the Fletcher Allen Health Care Center at 353 Blair Park in Williston. Jennifer Fay will display her art at the Essex Town Offices, 81 Main St., Essex Jct. For further information call 862-3014 or visit [www.essexartleague.com](http://www.essexartleague.com).

**Village Cup**, Jericho, paintings by Mike Smith, mirrors by David Gale.

**Flour Shop**, Underhill, Chris White, photography; Tim Durbrow, photography; Pam Fiaschetti, paintings; Donna Owens, photography; Lee Corder, photography; Chris Gluck's student art from Poker Hill Arts.

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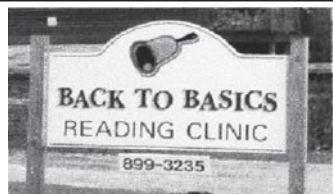
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MUSIC

Sunday, February 15 at the Westford Winter Music Series, Westford United Church from 4:00 to 5:00 PM. National and international singer and musician Tiffany Pfeiffer will be the featured artist in the first of a series of free musical performances to be offered throughout the winter.

Tiffany brings a blend of jazz, soul, trip-hop and classical music into a performance which distinguishes her unique sound, which is sometimes compared to Nora Jones'. Tiffany began singing in church at age 4. Early influences spanned from her grandparents' home in Iowa and her family's gospel singing groups to the warehouse shows and raves of the burgeoning Omaha music scene. She has sung in Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center and the B.B. King Blues Club. She has performed for several years with the Discarnate Band in New York. Her debut EP "Amore Frio" will soon go public through iTunes.

"MUSIC WITH MIA" weekly musical storytime at University Mall. Kids can enjoy music, stories, and singalongs with local singer/songwriter Mia Adams. Located in the JCPenney Court every Monday at 10:30 AM. Free. Mondays, now through March 23, 2009. For more information, please call 863-1066 x11.

Tuesdays - Open Mic, 9:00 - 11:00 PM, Smugglers' Notch Inn, Jeffersonville, 644-6765.

Wednesdays - NIPS-West Open Potluck and Songs/Dance Tunes Session, Moshe's house, Essex, first and third Wednesdays; contact Moshe 879-0876 or [www.groups.yahoo.com/NIPS-West](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/NIPS-West). Open Mic, 8:00 PM, Overtime Saloon, St. Albans; [www.overtimesaloon.com](http://www.overtimesaloon.com).

Open Mic Night, 6:30 PM on the first Wednesday of each month, Phoenix Books, Essex Shoppes and Cinema, Essex Center.

Thursdays - Open Mic, 8:00 PM - midnight, Village Tavern, Jeffersonville.

Saturdays - Acoustic music session, 1:00 - 4:00 PM, Foothills Bakery, Fairfax

THEATER

The Fairfax Community Theatre Company announces auditions for its 47<sup>th</sup> production, Mrs. Sorken presents three plays by Christopher Durang. This selection of delightfully irreverent plays by Christopher Durang, one of today's most beloved satirists, includes *Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You*, *Mrs. Sorken*, and *For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls*.

Roles are available for men, women, and one child. Auditions will be held on February 11, 12, and 13 at 7 PM at Bellows Free Academy in Fairfax. Performance dates are April 16-19. For more information, call (802) 324-5637, email , or visit us on the web at .

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Children's Sunday School, 9:00 AM  
Youth Group, Saturday 6:00 PM; Bible Study, Tuesdays, 7:00 PM  
[www.troyconference.org/jumc](http://www.troyconference.org/jumc) or [JerichoUMC@troyconference.org](mailto:JerichoUMC@troyconference.org)

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[www.ucavt.org](http://www.ucavt.org)

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RICHMOND / HUNTINGTON

ENGAGEMENTS

Lacaillade – Lewis

Yvonne Lacaillade of Colchester and Virgil and Kellie Lacaillade of Huntington announce the engagement of their daughter, Carrie Lacaillade of Colchester, to Gordon Lewis of Colchester, the son of Lynn and Lucille Lewis of Duxbury. A September 9, 2009 wedding is planned.

Engle – Rajchel

Kara Lynn Engle, daughter of Connie and Keith Engle of Richmond, and Peter Karl Rajchel, son of Eva and Rajchel, are engaged to be married.

LIBRARY

Friends of the Richmond Library need volunteers

We are planning to have our annual book sale this year, scheduled for March 7, and we are looking for volunteers from the community to help us organize and coordinate the sale. We also need people to do ongoing projects throughout the year. Specifically, we need several people to sort and categorize books for the sale. This task would involve 2 to 3 hours at a time, for as many sessions as would be convenient for you, between now and the sale. We also need a number of people to work at the sale selling books in shifts of two hours each, a number of people to help clean up and box leftover books after the sale, and people to help with other activities throughout the year, as needed.

If you are interested, please contact Pat Weaver at 434-2940.

COURT REPORT

**Adam A. Josey**, 21, Richmond, charged with simple assault in Burlington on July 4, pleaded guilty; sentenced to 60 days to one year, suspended but 60 days, probation.

**Peter Nino**, 25, Richmond, charged with leaving scene of crash in Williston on November 30; pleaded guilty; sentenced to two to three days.

OBITUARIES

**Frank C. Gillette**, 78, of Huntington died on Sunday, January 11, 2009 in Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington due to a long battle with cancer. Frank was born in Colchester on September 27, 1931, the son of Ralph and Beulah Gillette. On June 23, 1961, he married Genevieve (Culver) Gillette. Frank worked most of his life at Ward Lumber Mill, Lathrop's Lumber Mill and doing logging work. In his spare time, he enjoyed hunting, fishing and helping the boys, Ira and Joe Cul-



ver, with the lawn mowing. Frank is survived by his wife, Genevieve "Jenny" Gillette; son and daughter-in-law, John and Lisa Gillette, and son Stanley "Buster" Dushon, of Huntington; daughter Nancy Lovett, husband Brian and daughter Shirlene "Tooty" Pelkey, all of North Carolina; one sister, Lois Culver of Middlebury; several grandchildren, including his youngest granddaughter, Haylee Gillette, whom he lived with and became very close to, and great-grandchildren; special brother- and sisters-in-law; and nieces and nephews. Frank was predeceased by his parents; three brothers, Walter, Burton and Fredrick Gillette; and one sister, Betsy Pecor. Funeral services were held on Thursday, January 15, 2009 at Gifford Funeral Service, 22 Depot St., Richmond. Burial will be in Maplewood Cemetery in Huntington in the spring. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in his memory to Richmond Rescue, P.O. Box 404, Richmond, VT 05477.

**Ronald K. Lafreniere, Sr.**, 72 years old, of Bolton died on January 9, 2009 at his home with his family and friends by his bedside. He was born on February 13, 1936 to the late Leo and Bertha (Judy) Lafreniere of Bolton. He was married to Charlene Quesnel on May 16, 1957 in St. Andrews Church in Waterbury. She died in August 1998. He lived in Bolton all of his life and was a farmer and worked as a road foreman for Richmond and Bolton. He was very active in both communities, also serving as selectman, town constable, and justice of the peace, as well as in other capacities. He was an avid hunter and fisherman all his life. He served in the service for two years and was honorably discharged in September 1961. He is survived by his seven children and their families, Ronald (Joe) Lafreniere, Jr. and Gerald and Lisa Lafreniere of Bolton, Leon and Tammy Lafreniere of Holland, Vt., Laurie and Rusty Farnsworth of Bolton, Henry Lafreniere and partner Patty Edwards of Richmond, Debbie and Peter Bickmore, and Louie Lafreniere of Bolton. He is survived by 13 grandchildren; four great-granddaughters and another due in June; his sisters, Lorraine Smith and husband John of Bolton, Shelia Lafreniere and partner Paul Clooney of Essex; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law Albert and Jeannie Quesnel, Melvin Quesnel of Waterbury, Wayne and Cheryl Quesnel of North Carolina, and sister-in-law Pat Lafreniere of Arizona; many nieces and nephews; special former daughter-in-law Kelly Poulin Lafreniere of Hyde Park; and adopted son James Kilpeck and wife Kim and family of Jonesville. He was predeceased by his parents; his brother Roger; granddaughter Heather Farnsworth; his in-laws Aurel and Ellen Quesnell and Roger Quesnell; and his little companions Sambo, Nosey, and Nik. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Tuesday, January 13 at Holy Rosary Church in Richmond. Donations may be made to the American Parkinson's Disease Association, VT Chapter, University of Vermont, Given B202, Burlington, VT 05405, or VNA Hospice of the Champlain Valley, 1110 Prim Road, Colchester, VT 05446. Special thanks to Dr. Rick Dooley and nurse Julia Jacques for all the care they gave Dad, and also the VNA Hospice team and Nancy Carlson for all their help and care at this time. Arrangements are in the care of Gifford Funeral Service, Richmond.

**Paul Maitland Charland**, 68, died on Sunday, January 18, 2009, in Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington following several years of failing health. Paul was born on May 4, 1940, in Colchester, the son of the late Joseph F. and Edith Dell (Laurence) Charland. He married Elizabeth Pauline Martin on July 10, 1971, in Richmond. He was a volunteer fireman for several years and worked for First Response on rescue. He greatly enjoyed woodworking and was an outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting and fishing. Paul was employed at St. Michael's College, F.A. Tucker as a lineman, Pike Industries, Munson Equipment and the Town of Huntington as a heavy equipment operator. He is survived by his wife Elizabeth Charland of Huntington; two sons, Gary Charland and wife Lisa of Jericho and Joseph P. Charland and wife Julie of St. Albans; two daughters, Pamela Fay and husband Wallace of Bristol and Linda Blow of St. Albans; five grandchildren, Heidi, Adam, Mariah, Derek and Samantha; one brother, Leonard Charland and wife Betty of Jonesville; and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents, Joseph and Edith Charland; two brothers, Walter and Laurence; a sister, Phyllis; nephews, Ralph, Edward and Dennis; niece, Kay; and son-in-law Ronald Blow. Funeral services were held at 1:00 PM, on Friday, Jan. 23, 2009, in Gifford Funeral Home, 22 Depot St., Richmond. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the American Heart Association, Northeast Affiliate, 434 Hurricane Lane, Williston, VT 054952073; American Diabetes Association, Burlington VTNY Office, 1 Kennedy Drive, Suite L8, South Burlington, VT 05403; or Richmond Rescue, P.O. Box 404, Richmond, VT 05477.



POLICE REPORT

On January 12, 2009 Senior Officer Sarah Messier received information that several residents at the senior housing unit, Richmond Terrace, were victims of possible thefts. One of the victims, identified as Charlene Truax, 88, had her purse stolen. Truax's son was able to cancel her credit cards and checking account which subsequently led to the arrest of **Amber Guyette**, 19, of Jericho. Investigation reveals that Guyette was visiting a relative at Richmond Terrace on January 9, 2009. On January 12, 2009, Officer Messier received information that a female was trying to cash a check belonging to Truax at the TD Banknorth in Williston and Essex. Guyette was cited into Chittenden County District Court for Possession of Stolen Property and False Token and at that time it was discovered she had an outstanding warrant stemming from a retail theft case in Burlington, VT. Guyette was lodged at the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility. Investigating Officer: Senior Officer Sarah Messier, Richmond Police Department.

**Chris Hagan**, 30, was arrested at his residence, 57 Lower Circle in Richmond, VT on an outstanding warrant. Hagan is a registered sex offender and failed to comply with certain requirements. He was lodged at the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility in lieu of \$1,000 bail. Arresting officer, Senior Officer Sarah Messier, Richmond Police Department.

On January 20, 2009, Senior Officer Sarah Messier responded to a report of an assault. Marilyn Richardson is the site coordinator of Richmond Terrace and **Marianne Allen** is a resident. Allen had asked to speak with Richardson regarding the wording used in a meeting minutes pamphlet. Richardson met with Allen inside her apartment where the conversation turned into an argument. Allen subsequently assaulted Richardson and threatened her verbally with further harm. Allen's grand-daughter, Amber Guyette, was arrested on January 12, 2009 for a theft at Richmond Terrace. The dispute between Allen and Richardson was in regards to the theft and the subsequent investigation. Offense: Simple Assault. Offender: Marianne Allen, 65, of Richmond, VT. Investigating officer, Senior Officer Sarah Messier, Richmond Police Department, Richmond, VT 05477, 802-434-2156.

On January 29, 2009 Senior Officer Messier and Officer Michael Anderson were on patrol in the town of Richmond. A vehicle was observed making a minor traffic infraction. Officers identified the operator as **Michael Rosenfield**, 22, of Richmond. Further investigation revealed Rosenfield's driver's license was under criminal suspension for a prior DUI arrest. A search incident to arrest revealed Rosenfield had a misdemeanor amount of marijuana in his possession and \$450.00 in cash was confiscated. Rosenfield was cited to appear in Burlington District Court on March 9, 2009 for possession of marijuana and criminal license suspension. Offense: driving license suspended—criminal and possession of marijuana. Arresting officer, Senior Officer Sarah Messier, Richmond Police Department, Richmond, VT 05477, 802-434-2156.

Green Up Day poster, writing contest

Green Up Day Vermont is holding its annual Green Up poster design, essay, and poem contest. Students in kindergarten through grade 12 may enter the contest to design a poster promoting Green Up Day, or an essay or poem inspired by Green Up Day, which is May 2.

An overall winner is chosen for each contest, and winners are also chosen by grade categories and by counties.

Poster contest entries must be in vertical format and measure 11 by 14 inches. They must include the words "Green Up Vermont." Computer art is not accepted. Writing contest essays may include up to 400 words. For more information, visit Green Up's website at [www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org)

For more information call 802-229-4586 or 800-975-3259. Contest entries go to: Green Up Vermont, P. O. Box 1191, Montpelier, VT, or deliver to the Green Up office at 14-16 Baldwin Street, Montpelier.

Snowflake Bentley's Birthday

Jericho Town Library celebrates Snowflake Bentley's 144th Birthday Saturday, February 7 at 10:00 AM at the Library on the Green in Jericho Center and will present for viewing the first copy of the book *Blair Williams Story*. Elaine Salsbury, representing the Jericho Historical Society, will present a talk and slide show about the life of Snowflake Bentley, who developed the technique of photographing snowflakes back in the 1920s. Snowflake crafts and birthday cake will round out the morning. Call the library for more info 899-4686

Blair Williams arrived in Jericho in the late 1940s and was instrumental in drumming up interest in Jericho's history and its famous citizen Snowflake Bentley. The book *Blair Williams Story* is a compilation of friends' stories, newspaper articles and pictures concerning Blair's work with UVM, church, Snowflake Bentley, 4-H, the Jericho Historical Society and the Old Red Mill. The book will be on view from 10:00 AM until noon at the Jericho Town Library. Order copies from Elaine Salsbury or the Jericho Historical Society.

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For more great tips visit us at [www.affectionatelycats.com](http://www.affectionatelycats.com)

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Sled dog tours at Boyden Farm

Over 2.5 miles of trail can be enjoyed on the sled dog tours at Boyden Farm led by Joe and his team of 10 dogs. Tours are on Saturdays and Sundays by appointment. For more information or to schedule a tour, call Boyden Farm at 644-6363 or Joe at 858-4836.

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LIBRARIES / LEGISLATIVE REPORT

DEBORAH RAWSON LIBRARY, JERICHO

Art for February will feature dolls collected by Donna Toneatti and water colors by Jane Sandberg.

The Board of Trustees will meet Thursday, February 19 at 7:00 PM. Please join us.

The mystery book group will meet Wednesday, February 18 at 7:00 PM at the library. The book to be discussed is *The Big Bow Mystery* by Israel Zangwill. It is the first "locked door" mystery ever written. Everyone is welcome to join. The group will also be selecting the next book.

In honor of Abraham Lincoln's 200 Birthday celebration the library will be doing a 5 week book discussion. The discussions will be held on Mondays, February 9, 16, 23, and March 2 and 9 at 7:00 PM at the library. To celebrate the Lincoln Bicentennial The Library of America has created five paperback Lincoln in American Memory readers featuring excerpts of essays, speeches, poems, plays, fiction, and nonfiction about Abraham Lincoln — his life, his achievements, his legacy. The five books are: 1. *Lincoln as Literary Genius*, 2. *Lincoln: Legacy of the Great Emancipator*, 3. *Lincoln as the American Redeemer*, 4. *Lincoln as Self-Made Man*, 5. *Lincoln and His Critics*.

The selections in each book are drawn from the definitive 1,000-page collection, just published by The Library of America, *The Lincoln Anthology: Great Writers on His Life and Legacy from 1860 to Now*, edited by Harold Holzer.

For more information on the books visit the website: <http://lincoln.loa.org/readers/>

Copies of the book will be available at the library. Space is limited to 10 so call the library to sign up. 899-4962

**Parents to Read Raising an Emotionally Intelligent Child** - The Parent Book Group will discuss *Raising an Emotionally Intelligent Child* by John Gottman, in the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library fireplace reading room at 6:30 PM, Thursday, February 12. The library has multiple copies of the book. For more information, visit the library or google *DRMLPBG*. Dates for future book discussions are March 10 and April 14.

**Vermont Animals in Winter** - Friday, February 6 at 6:30 PM. Learn about identifying tracks and signs of animals, observe the prints and patterns that animals leave behind. Kristen, from Audubon Vermont will lead this interactive program. Recommended for families with children in Kindergarten and older. To register call: 899-4962

**Tuesday, February 10** - 11:30 AM - Music With Peter The ever popular Peter Alsen returns for the second of three performances. Families with preschool children will enjoy singing and moving to his songs

**Tuesday, February 10** - Family Yoga, 6:30 PM, Join in for a winter yoga adventure. For children in grade 1 through adult. Advance registration required. Call: 899-4962 Funded by the Winnie Bell Learned Grant.

**Thursday, February 12** - YA Book Selection Group at 3:00 PM, Middle and High School students are invited to come and help select new books for the library collection. Refreshments served. To register call: 899-4962

**Thursday, February 12** - Parents Book Discussion Group - Meet with other interested adults to discuss *Raising an Emotionally Intelligent Child* by John Gottman. A limited number of books are available at the library. Refreshments served. 6:30 PM. Group facilitator: Peter Duval. To register call: 899-4962.

**Wednesday, February 18 - Mar 4, 11, and 18**, 11:00 AM. And **Thursday, February, 19** - Mar 5, 12 & 19, 10:00 AM. Story Times - Stories, songs, fingerplays, craft and snack for preschool children.

**Thursdays, February - March 5, 12, and 19**, 6:30 PM. Family Story Times - Quiet stories for families with children preschool through grade two. Children are invited to wear pajamas and join us for a light bedtime snack.

Library hours: Tuesday 12:00 – 8:00 PM, Wednesday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Thursday 12:00 – 8:00 PM, Friday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Saturday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, Sunday 1:00 – 4:00 PM; closed Monday. For information on any of the library's programs, call 899-4962.

JERICHO TOWN LIBRARY, JERICHO CENTER

Thank you to everyone that helped make our Contra Dance a success. A special thank you to the Fiddleheads and all the talented musicians from MMU High School.

**Saturday, February 7**, 10:00 AM, Come celebrate the 144<sup>th</sup> birthday of Wilson "Snowflake" Bentley (1865-1931). Elaine Salsbury from the Historical Society will present a slide show, crafts for children and cake donated by Cakes by Grace will follow.

**Saturday, February 21**, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM, TAB (Teen Advisory Board-grades 7-12) Snowflake Chocolates Fudge Fundraiser Drive. Please meet at 9:00 AM at the Jericho Town Library to sell fudge TAB style.

**Monday, February 16**, 10:30-11:00 AM the library will provide an outreach story time at the Jericho Community Center for the Chittenden East Early Childhood Connection play group. Parents and children ages birth – 5 years and siblings are welcome to join the fun! The theme is Dentist/Teeth.

Feeling shut in? If you are sick or having a hard time getting around call us so we can bring you a good book (large print also available) at 899-4686.

If anyone wants to volunteer to be a part of the catalog automation project underway there is still more work to be done, which includes computer and non-computer tasks. So, if you have even an extra hour or two please consider helping. For more information call the library at 899-4686.

High School students needing to fulfill community service please volunteer



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Monday - Saturday  
11:00 AM - 9:00 PM  
Sunday 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**899-3718**

**Route 15  
Jeri-Hill Plaza  
Jericho**

at the library when your schedule permits. Your help is really appreciated. Call or stop by!

Story time including craft and snack is held every Wednesday upstairs at 10:00 AM. Come share the joy of books, finger plays, flannel board, and songs with guitar music led by Derek! Upcoming themes:

Wednesday, February 11, 10:00 AM – Valentines

Wednesday, February 18, 10:00 AM – Penguins

The Board of Trustees meets regularly the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM at the library. The public is welcome so join us at our upcoming meetings on and February 5 and March 5. The hours for the Jericho Town Library on the Green are Monday and Friday 1:00-5:00 PM, Wednesday 10:00 AM-12:00 PM and 2:00-6:00 PM, Saturday 10:00 AM-1:00 PM. For more information call 899-4686 or email us at [Jerichotownlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:Jerichotownlibrary@gmail.com).

WESTFORD LIBRARY

Upcoming Events:

The Beautiful New Town Sign is on display through February! Carved by Denise Vaughan. Painted by Janet Jaffe. Committee Members: Steve Knight and Rich Golden.

**February 10**, 6:45 - 8:15 PM: Vermont Earth Institute Discussion Course: Menu for the Future. A six-session discussion course exploring the connection between food and sustainability. The class is full. Contact Victoria at 878-5639 if you are interested in attending another session. Second session schedule is to be determined.

**February 11 – 14**, Love Your Library Week! Stop by and tell us how you love your library. Fill out a heart and get a candy heart in return!

**\*\*Rescheduled\*\* February 11**, 6:00 – 7:00 PM: Book Discussion. *Fahrenheit 451*, Ray Bradbury. Join us and many other Vermonters in Vermont's Big Read Program. Sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts through the Vermont Art Council. In one of literature's most haunting denunciations of censorship, Bradbury takes the materials of pulp fiction and transforms them into a visionary parable of a society gone awry, in which firemen are forced to burn books and the state suppresses learning. Meanwhile, the citizenry sits by in drug-induced and media-saturated indifference.

**February 12**, 11:00 AM: Storytime. Stories and activities for preschoolers. Theme: Love and Friendship.

**February 17**, 6:45 - 8:15 PM: Vermont Earth Institute Discussion Course: Menu for the Future. A six-session discussion course exploring the connection between food and sustainability. The class is full. Contact Victoria at 878-5639 if you are interested in attending another session. Second session schedule is to be determined.

**February 18**, 6:30-7pm: PJ Storytime. Jump into your pj's and head to the library for stories, crafts and activities led by Lynn Finn. Theme: Penguins.

**February 19**, 11:00 AM: Storytime. Stories and activities for preschoolers. Theme: Presidents' Day.

**February 21**, 6:30 AM: Women's Game Night. Join this fun and welcoming group for games, food and laughter! Contact Kara Bolton at 879-2513.

New Additions to the Collection: Adult Fiction: *Scarpetta* (Cornwell), *Black Ops* (Griffin), *Eve* (Elliott), *Plum Spooky* (Evanovich), Adult Nonfiction: *The Noble Qur'an*, *Animals Make Us Human* (Grandin), *Ultimate Cheapskates Road Map to True Riches* (Yeager), *30 Days Has September: Cool Ways to Remember Stuff* (Stevens). Juvenile Nonfiction: *A Restless Spirit: The Story of Robert Frost* (Bober).

Our hours are Wednesday 1:00 -7:00 PM, Thursday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Friday 1:00 – 6:00 PM (Jan 1 - May 1), Saturday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM. We can be reached at 878-5639, [westford\\_pl@vals.state.vt.us](mailto:westford_pl@vals.state.vt.us) and [www.westford.lib.vt.us](http://www.westford.lib.vt.us).

Building budgets in challenging times

By Rep. Martha Heath

Building budgets is always a difficult task. Each year there are always more needs than the state can afford to cover. This process is made infinitely more difficult this year by the dramatic downturn in the national economy resulting in corresponding decreases to revenue in Vermont. The legislature and the administration have already agreed to actions to close \$69M in gaps between revenues and expenditures. Over the course of the past year the revenues for FY2010 have been downgraded by \$152.5M. To add further uncertainty to the mix, the federal government is working on an economic recovery package that will bring millions of dollars of relief to Vermont. Until the package is passed, however, there will be varying opinions and ideas about exactly how much relief will be provided to soften the blow to the general fund budget.

On Thursday, January 22 the governor gave his budget address to the General Assembly. The responsibility now falls to the legislature to accept or modify his proposals. Crafting a budget is an

Heath continued on page 7

Notes from Montpelier

By Rep. Bill Frank

The 2009 legislative session has started at a pace as if it never ended last spring. The majority of time has been spent on the problems created by the downturn in the economy. The Human Services Committee has been busy reviewing reductions in service to the most needy and vulnerable Vermonters proposed by Governor Douglas. Everyone agrees reductions have to be made, but I don't believe the most needy, the most vulnerable, or those with the greatest needs are the Vermonters that should be asked to contribute the most. For example, the VPharm program is prescription assistance for seniors and Vermonters with disabilities that are living at less than 2¼ times the federal poverty level. This income level is \$47,700 a year for a family of four, \$31,500 a year for a family of two. It was created to provide assistance after the Medicare Part D pharmacy program has been used. We heard from people who have 10 to 15 prescriptions they take and have to exist at this income level. The Governor has proposed eliminating this program. Other Vermonters at this income level who have severe and persistent physical disabilities are eligible for attendant services. The Governor has reduced these services by up to 20%. These are not the people who should be called on to give up needed services they require for daily living. We will continue to take testimony on these and other services to needy Vermonters for the next week before making recommendations to the Appropriations Committee.

Each committee has had an equally busy schedule; here is a sample of what some other committees are working on:

The House Natural Resources and Energy Committee will focus most of its efforts this session on two critical and interrelated areas: (1) how to expedite, site, and deploy new renewable energy sources in Vermont, and (2) the pending question of the continued operation of the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant. They expect to be very busy with these two important issues. Specific legislation has not yet reached the committee. Many towns will be discussing Vermont Yankee at Town Meeting and at some, including Bolton, a petition has been submitted for a vote.

The House Education Committee heard the administration's proposal for a one-year freeze of funds to local school boards. The proposal would put any additional spending onto the local property tax where there is a tremendous difference in the ability of towns to raise revenues. It also calls for a reduction in the amount of general fund transfer to the education fund, a transfer of the teacher's retirement obligation to the Education Fund, and the level funding of all categorical aid programs including special education, technical education, transportation, and small schools. How these programs, some of which are mandates, are to be funded is unclear. The only local source of revenue is the property tax. It is interesting that this proposal is not a plan to change education funding, but a delay for one year while a plan is developed. No plans or ideas were offered with this proposal.

The House Judiciary Committee received the Senate bill to develop a comprehensive statewide approach to the prevention of child sexual abuse. S.13 easily passed the Senate the second week of the session. This is the bill created as a result of the hearings held over this past summer and fall in reference to the murder of Brooke Bennett and the circumstances surrounding this horrific incident. It is a huge bill encompassing a vast range of issues to be addressed, all directed toward the end of never having a repetition of this episode. S. 13 proposes a statewide comprehensive approach to the prevention of child sexual abuse and currently has thirty-four stated purposes.

Some of the bill's initiatives are: inclusion of a sexual abuse prevention component in all school health curricula; a requirement that school boards ensure that all school employees receive orientation on the prevention, identification and reporting of child abuse; full funding and staffing of special investigation units and placement of responsibility for sex offender registry compliance with the units; establishment of a new crime of aggravated sexual assault of child with a mandatory 25-year-to-life sentence; and elimination of the option of a deferred sentence for a person charged with sexual abuse of a child. It is hoped that the House can complete work on S.13 and

Frank continued on page 6

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COMING EVENTS

**Friday, February 6**  
**Fish Fry**, by Men's Auxiliary at Post 6689 VFW, 73 Pearl Street, Essex Jct., from 6:00 to 7:00 PM. There will be a \$10.00 per plate charge. A choice of chicken is also available. Any questions, contact 878-0700.

**Saturday, February 7**  
**French Canadian Supper**, Saturday, 5:00 PM, Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Church Hall, Richmond. Pea soup, meat pie, mashed potatoes, dessert, beverages, etc. Freewill donation to benefit the charities of Rosary Council of the Knights of Columbus. For info call 434-3526 – evenings.

**An Evening of Celtic Music & Dance** at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on Route 15 in Jericho, VT at 7:00 PM. All ages are welcome to this lively event of energizing music that will warm the heart and chase the chill of winter. Cider, tea, shortbread and scones will be available. Tickets are \$10 for individuals, \$8 for students 13 - 18, and children 12 and under may attend free. Ticket cost is only \$8 for adults with advance purchase from Pat at 878-3840 or [ggildeme@verizon.net](mailto:ggildeme@verizon.net)

**Wednesday, February 11**  
**The Green Mountain Chapter of the Embroiderers' Guild** will meet on February 11 at 9:30



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EVENTS

AM at the Pines Senior Living Community, 7 Aspen Dr., South Burlington. Contact number, 879-0198.

**Friday, February 13**  
**Queen City Contras** will hold its regular contra dance at 8:00 pm at St. Anthony's Hall, 305 Flynn Ave., near the corner of Flynn and Pine, Burlington. The caller will be Jeff Petrovitch and music will be provided by Knotty Pine (Nate Gusakov, Katie Trautz, and Jason Pappaso.) All are welcome, all dances taught, no partner or experience necessary. Beginners' session at 7:45 PM. Admission is \$8.00 for adults, under 12 free. Please bring clean, soft-soled shoes for dancing. Dance info: 802-371-9492 or 802-343-7165. Website: [www.contracopia.net/sites/qcc](http://www.contracopia.net/sites/qcc).

ON GOING EVENTS

ADULT ACTIVITIES

The **Essex Art League** holds monthly meetings at the First Congregational Church, 39 Main St., Essex Jct. For information, 862-3014.

**Westford Knitters Group** meets the first Friday of each month, 6:00 – 8:30 PM at the Westford Library. All needle-crafters in Westford and surrounding communities are welcome. Enjoy conversation with neighbors and friends while you work on your current project. Come early or late; bring a brown bag dinner and drink if you like. For information: Julie Nelson, 343-0165 or [Julie@coolmoonyoga.com](mailto:Julie@coolmoonyoga.com).

**Handbell ringers**, Tuesday evenings, United Church of Underhill. All are welcome at rehearsals. Two ensembles; opportunity for small groups/shorter time periods. We ring a variety of music in a variety of settings and look forward to new faces joining us. Beginners welcome! Call Roger, 899-3106 for information.

**The Vermont French Canadian Genealogy Society library** is open for research Tuesdays 7:00 to 9:30 PM and Saturdays 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. We offer Vermont & Canadian Catholic Parish records, Vermont Vital Records on Microfilm, census records and other resources to assist with family history research.

Genealogy Workshops: January 24, *Beginning Genealogy*; February 14, *Acadian Genealogy*; February 18, *Using Computers & the Internet*; more classes to be held in March and April.

The library is located at the Dupont Building, Hegeman Ave. across from the VT State Police building in Fort Ethan Allen, Colchester. For more information or appointment call 862-8082, 878-8081, or go online at [www.vt-fcgs.org/library](http://www.vt-fcgs.org/library) or email us at [mail@vt-fcgs.org](mailto:mail@vt-fcgs.org).



*Green Mountain Derby Dames play "Ruff." Save Our Strays Huntington all-volunteer pet rescue group has been helping cats and dogs locally for 14 years and have placed nearly 3000 pets into adoptive homes. They recently had a fundraiser for vet expenses and were joined by their supporters the Green Mountain Derby Dames, Vermont's new premier roller derby team. Join Save Our Strays and the Derby Dames at the Champlain Valley Expo Fairgrounds Indoor Derby Bout on Saturday, February 7.*

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

HEALTH GROUPS

**Alzheimer's Support Group** - Free educational support group series for families coping with a loved one with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. This series gives caregivers the opportunity to better understand and develop strategies for the future. Held monthly at The Arbors at Shelburne. For more information and to register, contact Nicole Houston, Director of Family Services, The Arbors at Shelburne, 985-8600.

**Overeaters Anonymous** meets 6:00 – 7:00 PM, Wednesdays at the Jericho United Methodist Church, VT Rt. 15, Jericho.

**TOPS Chapter** 145 Jeffersonville meets 6:15 PM on Thursdays at the Eagles Club, Route 109, Jeffersonville. Weigh-in 5:30 – 6:00 PM.

**Healing Circle Breast Cancer Network**, support group for women with breast cancer, meets first Tuesday of every month at 5:30 PM, Northwestern Medical Center, Conference Room 1. Please RSVP at 524-8479.

**Franklin County Prostate Cancer Support Group**, first Tuesday of each month, 5:15 - 7:00 PM, Northwestern Medical Center Conference Room #2, St. Albans. This support group offers men opportunities to educate themselves and each other; share and learn from each other's experiences; offer support to each other, a spouse or partner; and advocate early detection of prostate cancer. For information, Fern Mercure, 524-0719.

**Fit Kids Support Group**, first Mondays, 4:15 – 5:00 PM. Program for kids 8-13 and their parents. Learn about nutrition, physical activity, ways to increase activity level safely, changing eating behavior, self-esteem, and obstacles that interfere with weight management success. Northwestern Medical Center, Cobblestone Building, Classroom A. Speaker: Kay Tran, Reg. Dietitian, MS, CDE. Free; pre-registration required: 524-1234 or [cfnw@nmcinc.org](mailto:cfnw@nmcinc.org).

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

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

KIDS

**Underhill Playgroup**, kids ages 0-5 with their caregivers are always welcome to join us Fridays

from 9:30 - 11:00 AM at Underhill Central School for playtime, crafts, stories, songs and fun! For additional information or questions, please contact Heather Lebeis at 899-4415 or [Underhillplaygroup@yahoo.com](mailto:Underhillplaygroup@yahoo.com).

**Bolton Family Play Night**, in the Smilie School gym, usually the first and third Fridays, 6:00 – 7:30 PM. Free. Mostly unstructured play with the school's equipment. Contact Tim Grover, 434-4180.

**Kids' Yoga**, 3-5 years & 6 years and up, classes pre-registering now for February. Toddler tumbling and new moms' groups. The Well, 644-6700.

SENIORS

**Jeri-Hill XYZ Seniors** meet at the Town Hall in Underhill Center on the first and third Wednesday of each month. All seniors are welcome! Dinners are served at 11:30 AM. For information, please call Lenore Whitten, 878-8996, Bette Workman, 899-4446, or Loreen Teer, 899-1363.

**Westford Senior lunches** – Join Westford Seniors for lunch at the Red Brick Meeting House on the Common the second Monday of each month. Lunch is served at 12:00 noon with a short meeting or presentation following. Call 878-7405 or 879-7382 for information or for a ride.

SPORTS ACTIVITIES

**Adult coed volleyball** in Westford, 8:00 – 10:00 PM, Mondays, Westford Elementary School gym. Fun, casual volleyball. \$2 at the door. Call coordinators Jon and Tammy Brown, 872-8333, for information.

**Bolton Men's Basketball**, Tuesdays, 7:00 – 9:00 PM, Smilie School Gym. For adults and young adults, age 16 and up. Contact Bill Newton, 434-3348.

SUPPORT GROUPS

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

**Approach Autism With Advocacy, Recovery & Education (AAWARE)** in the Lamoille Valley, third Sunday, 3:00 – 5:00 PM, Second Congregational Church of Jeffersonville Community Room, Jeffersonville. Special topics, guest speakers, resource information; playground for kids, fenced side yard for outdoor play. For information, Terry

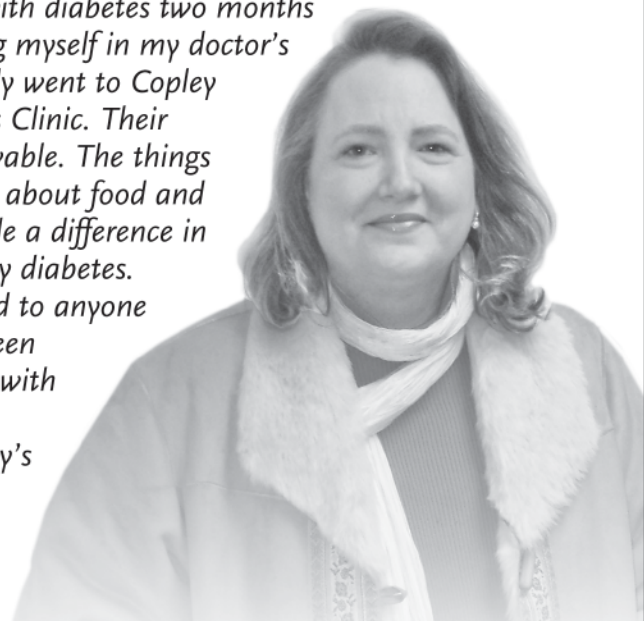
Ongoing continued on page 7

# UNDERSTANDING DIABETES

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**Beth Conner,**  
 Morrisville



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Frank continued from page 5

send it to the Governor before Town Meeting.

Finding ways to jump-start the state economy and build long-term, sustainable jobs is a key focus of the Commerce Committee. To highlight the need for change, the Committee's name was changed, by adding "Economic Development." The new name is the Committee on Commerce and Economic Development. Fittingly, they spent the first couple of weeks of the session grounding themselves on the state of economic affairs and gathering ideas for what can be done.

The transportation fee bill was delivered to the Ways and Means Committee by the administration. It details \$8.5 million in transportation fee increases and net \$218,088 in other executive fee increases. For the most part these fee increases are no more than the consumer price index. Both the Transportation Committee and the Ways and

Means Committee will have to examine the specifics. In general, fees like car registration are collected from Vermonters only and are considered regressive since the same amount applies to each vehicle regardless of the value of the vehicle or the income of its owner. A fuel tax, while still considered regressive, is somewhat less so because it depends somewhat on the choices of the owner. We also collect some from out-of-staters (estimates are between 17% and 20% but it is really hard to measure.)

On February 1st my email address changed due to FairPoint's taking over the Verizon internet services. My new email address is [Rep.BillFrank@myfairpoint.net](mailto:Rep.BillFrank@myfairpoint.net). If you have it in your address book please make the change. As always I like to hear from you, either by email or at 899-3136 or 19 Poker Hill Rd., Underhill, 05489.



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**Ongoing** continued from page 6 —

Holden, 644-2759 (Jeffersonville) or Tina Karl, 888-3430 (Hyde Park.)

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

**Eating Disorders Parental Support Group**, third Wednesday, 7:00 – 9:00 PM, Covenant Community Church, VT Rt. 15, Essex Center. For parents of children with or at risk of anorexia or bulimia. We focus on being a resource and providing reference points for old and new ED parents. For information, Peter, 899-2554.

**TOWN GOVERNMENT/ORGANIZATIONS**

**Cambridge Area Rotary** meets on the first Thursday of every month, rotating to local restaurants, 7:00 – 8:00 AM at 158 Restaurant, Main St., Jeffersonville. For information, call Anita Lotto, 793-0856, or Chuck Hogan, 644-8134.

**Tim Nulty, Jericho Selectboard member**, at the Village Cup, first and third Wednesdays, 8:00 – 9:00 AM, and at the Flour Shop, second and fourth Wednesdays, 8:00 – 9:00 AM.

**Westford Fire Department**, Mondays, 7:00 PM, at the fire station next to the Town Garage. Volunteer for firefighting, dispatching, radio communications, computer operations, grant writing, equipment maintenance, fire police, education, and much more. For information, email John Quinn, [jquinninv@aol.com](mailto:jquinninv@aol.com).

**Westford Food Shelf**, open on the third Saturday of every month, 8:00 – 10:30 AM, United Church of Westford. All are welcome! Fresh produce, meat, and non-food items available.

**Jericho-Underhill Water District** meets first Monday of each month at the United Church of Underhill, Underhill Flats, 7:00 PM. For information, call 899-4076 or 899-3810.

**Jericho Historical Society**, second Thursday, 7:30 PM, Old Red Mill, Jericho.

**Jericho Underhill Park District Board** meeting, first and third Wednesdays, 7:00 PM, Deborah Rawson Memorial Library project room, Jericho. Residents of Jericho and Underhill always welcome. 899-2693 for information.

**Fairfax Food Shelf** has moved to the United Church on the corner of Fletcher Road and River Road, near the Foothills Bakery. The Food Shelf is open the first two Wednesdays, 9:00 AM – 12:00 noon. Please use the downstairs entrance. Information, 849-6588.

**School directors**

continued from page 1

increase. We couldn't in good conscience go to the voters with a large budget increase."

Underhill I.D. School's enrollment has been decreasing over several years, but this year it showed an increase of seven students, Board Chairman Robert Letovsky said. The proposed budget shows few increases, the largest being \$12,727 for teacher salaries. Salaries are set for all teachers in the Chittenden East Supervisory Union's nine schools through negotiations between the teachers union, the Green Mountain Chapter of the Vermont Education Association, and the Chittenden East Supervisory Union's negotiators.

At the Underhill Central School, the first payment of \$43,577 on a bond for school renovations and a previous bond payment has caused about half the percentage increase in the budget, said Chairman John LaRue. The directors also have added \$10,000 for a foreign language part-time teacher.

As for the governor's proposal, "I don't think it is a workable solution at all," LaRue said. "He (Douglas) didn't present anything reasonable at all to me. I don't think he is a friend of K-12 education, in my judgment."

He and the others said their budgets were completed before a letter was sent to school superintendents around the state by Administration Secretary Neil Lunderville on the governor's behalf.

Glitman said her board's budget was completed in December. She said she got a copy of Lunderville's letter a few days ago.

Letovsky said the I.D. School's per-pupil cost, set by the state for the coming school year, will be \$13,106, but should be lower because that figure was based on 97 students, which was the number of children at the school last year. However, there are 104 children there now.

Underhill Town's per-pupil cost is set at \$12,506, and Jericho's is \$12,894.

**School Board Budget Information Meetings**  
The CES Budget is voted by Australian ballot and the polling place is in the same space as Town Meeting, there can be no discussion of the budget on March 3. The board has scheduled two informational meetings:  
- Tuesday, February 17, 2009 - 6:00 PM  
Cambridge Elementary School Gymnasium  
This meeting is followed by the Lamoille Union Informational Meeting at 7 PM.  
- Saturday, February 28, 2009, 4:00 PM  
Cambridge Elementary School Gymnasium

**RECIPES**

**Pineapple-Strawberry Rhubarb Jam**  
By Marian Tobin



4 cups rhubarb cut into 1/2 inch pieces.  
4 cups sugar.  
8 1/2 ounce can of crushed pineapple with juice.  
3-ounce package of strawberry gelatin.  
Mix sugar and rhubarb, let stand at room temperature until the juice exudes.  
Could take overnight.  
Boil for 12 minutes at a rapid boil.  
Add pineapple and simmer for 3 minutes.  
Take off the heat and add the gelatin, stir until it is dissolved.  
Pour into sterilized jars and seal.

**CVAA MEALS**

The Champlain Valley Agency on Aging offers an ongoing series of special meals for groups of seniors at a variety of restaurants in the area. The schedule is listed below. All seniors are welcome to join the group and enjoy lunch with neighbors and friends. Participating seniors must be at least 60 years old, or the spouse of someone at least 60 years old. Suggested donation for meals is \$3 at Covenant Church and United Church; for meals at other sites, \$5. Transportation may be available if needed. Reservations are required for these meals and may be arranged ahead of time by calling 865-0360.

Thursday, February 5 – Bridge Street Café, Richmond, 11:00. Roast pork dinner.

Friday, February 6 - Hinesburg meal site, 11:30.

Monday, February 9 - Covenant Church, Essex Center, 12:00. Goulash, garden salad, fruit bread, mandarin oranges.

Papa Nick's, Hinesburg - Chicken 'n' biscuits.

Tuesday, February 10 - Pizza Hut, Susie Wilson Road, Essex Junction, 10:00 check in, 11:00 lunch. All you can eat pizza buffet.

Wednesday, February 11 - Mardi Gras Celebration at the Elks' - North Ave., Burlington, 10:00 check in, 11:00 lunch. Bourbon chicken, entertainment by Dixie Six, tickets required, please see Pat Pike.

Thursday, February 12 - Ponderosa, Williston, check in 11:00, lunch 11:15. All you can eat buffet.

Friday, February 13 - United Church of Hinesburg, 12:00. Beef Stroganoff, red potato, Harvard beets, pumpernickel bread, brownie.

Monday February 16 – Holiday - no meals.  
Tuesday, February 17- Colonial Room, Essex Educational Center, Essex Junction, 11:00 check in, 12:00 lunch. Baked ham dinner.

Wednesday, February 17 - Dutch Mill, Shelburne Road, Shelburne, 10:30 check in, 11:00 lunch. Stuffed chicken.

Thursday, February 19 - Ponderosa, Williston, 11:00 check in, 11:15 lunch. All you can eat.

Friday, February 20 - United Church, Hinesburg, 12:00. Chicken and biscuit, mashed potato, spinach, peaches.

In addition, CVAA-sponsored meals for seniors are offered on an ongoing basis at the following establishments. Tickets must be presented before ordering. For details about the special ticket program, call 865-0360:

A.J.'s Kitchen, 85 Main St., Essex Jct. – open menu; tickets limited. Sunday-Tuesday, 5:00 AM – 2:00 PM, and Wednesday-Saturday, 5:00 AM – 8:00 PM.

Bridge Street Café, Richmond – breakfast, lunch, or dinner (ordered before 5:30 PM) Monday-Thursday. Regular menu excluding shrimp, steak, and some specials.

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

Old Yankee, 4A Jericho East, Jericho. Meals Wednesday-Sunday, 3:00 – 5:00 PM. Order off senior menu.

Pizza Putt, Airport Parkway, So. Burlington – lunch or dinner, seven days a week. Choice of spaghetti with marinara sauce or baked ziti with tomato sauce and cheese, salad, garlic bread or roll, soda, coffee, or milk.

Ponderosa, Williston – lunch buffet, 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM, Monday-Friday. Tickets are limited.

**Heath** continued from page 5

exercise in establishing priorities. The legislature will have different priorities in some areas and will agree with the governor in others. Two of the questions the legislature will be looking to answer are: Is the sacrifice required shared fairly among various groups of Vermonters? Are we spending in a way that will set the stage for our vision of the future we want for Vermont?

Last year the governor built a budget that relied heavily on his proposal to lease the lottery. Vermonters rightfully rejected that idea. This year his budget is built on assumptions that are likely to dramatically raise the property tax. We will be examining these ideas carefully. His proposal to move the teachers' retirement obligation to the education fund is particularly troublesome. The obligation for FY2010 is \$40M which will be borne on the back of the property tax. Even more troubling, the state's obligation to teachers' retirement is underfunded by \$200M. Do we think property taxes are the right source of revenue to fill this gap?

The governor's budget also limits how much the state will pay toward K-12 education and asks communities to fund the difference on their own homestead property tax base. Many question the constitutionality of this proposal. When a penny on the tax rate raises \$17.40 per student in Orleans, \$44.77 in Plainfield and \$119.22 in Landgrove, one can easily see that moving in this direction will lead to the disparities that the Brigham decision said could not exist. That said, and contrary to the assertion expressed in a recent *Burlington Free Press* editorial, I do not believe K-12 education can be held harmless during these difficult financial times. There is a place

somewhere on the continuum of budget decisions between closing rest areas and increasing the state police budget by 5% where the education of our children should fall. I would put it far closer to the state police end of the continuum than the governor has in his proposal.

The governor has proposed approximately \$30M in cuts to human services. We will be studying the impacts of these cuts carefully. Is forcing our low-income elderly, who rely on costly prescription drugs to keep them healthy, to pay thousands more out of their largely empty pockets a decision that reflects Vermont's values? Is increasing premiums for low-income Vermonters who finally have health insurance the right direction? These questions and many more must be answered during the budget process.

The brightest spot in this gloomy financial picture seems to reside in the area of transportation. Both the speaker and the governor have proposed large revenue bonds to finally address our roads, bridges and culverts that are falling apart. The federal government is also likely to assist in this area with economic recovery assistance directed to these types of projects. Jobs will be created and our failing infrastructure will finally get the attention it deserves. It is my hope that some of these dollars will also be used to make dramatic improvements to our mass transit systems.

Creating a budget that reflects Vermonters' values and shares the needed sacrifice fairly will be challenging. If you have thoughts to share or questions about this or other legislatively related subjects please contact me by calling 893-1291 or by e-mailing me at [mpheath@aol.com](mailto:mpheath@aol.com). I always appreciate hearing from you.

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- Will Hayden, Shelburne Class of 2009

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**Red Clover Salon's community partnerships**

Michelle Ottaviano, owner of the Red Clover Salon, located at 20 Lincoln Street, Essex Junction believes in giving to the community. They have programs designed to do just that: From February 1 through Feb 14 is *Share a little WARMTH* this Valentine's Day. For every gift card or for every gift card or salon product you purchase, they'll donate 5% to the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO) WARMTH program to help Vermonters heat their homes this winter. Call 802-878-3499 to make an appointment or to purchase a gift card. Take a moment and look at the Community Action website [http://www.cvoeo.org/hm/Community\\_Action/fuel\\_terms.html](http://www.cvoeo.org/hm/Community_Action/fuel_terms.html) and Red Clover's at <http://redcloversalon.com>. Between February and October are CVAA Tuesdays. Again the Red Clover Salon will make a donation for every hair cut or salon product you purchase on Tuesdays, they'll donate 5% to the Champlain County Valley Agency on Aging (CVAA) helping people age with independence and dignity. <http://www.cvaa.org/> and <http://redcloversalon.com> 20 Lincoln St., Essex Junction, Appointments may be made by calling 802-878-3499. Then on Saturday, February 7, WONDROUS WOMEN, 6:00 to 8:00 PM, 20 Lincoln Street, Essex Junction. Join Red Clover stylists Tony Ottaviano and Kimberly LePage for an evening out. Learn creative techniques to make the most of your hair and makeup or spruce up an outdated look. Snacks provided by the Lincoln Inn. Register with the Essex Junction Recreation and Parks at <http://www.ejrp.org>.

**Lamoille Home Health Hospice Volunteering**

It might be sitting in another room while a patient sleeps, which allows her husband to take a rejuvenating walk, or it could be looking through a sentimental scrapbook with the patient or assisting a Licensed Nursing Assistant while she repositions a patient. The roles of our hospice volunteers are as varied as Vermont's climate. Lamoille Home Health & Hospice has been training volunteers for these special visits since 1980. Hospice volunteers enter people's lives during the end of life. Often they are greeted by people who are tired, anxious and sad about the impending death of a loved one. A hospice volunteer offers compassion and relief to patients and family members alike. If you would like to be a part of this meaningful work, consider attending our spring Hospice Volunteer Training. It involves 16 hours of comprehensive learning. Our training schedule is April 29 and May 6 (evening) and May 2 and May 3 (daytime). For more information or to register, call Charlene at 888-4651.

**Symptoms and Care for Hypothermia**

Recent media coverage of the airplane crash landing in the Hudson River focused on the threat of hypothermia while the survivors waited to be rescued. While hypothermia is often a concern during emergency situations, you should be aware that hypothermia can occur at any time during the winter. Hypothermia could affect elders at home with inadequate food, clothing or heat; babies sleeping in cold rooms; or people who are outdoors for long periods: homeless people, hikers, and snowmobilers, for example, particularly if alcohol or drugs are being used. "Anyone who spends extended time in cold temperatures or a cool, damp environment can get hypothermia," states Nancy Natvig, R.N., Director of Emergency Services at Copley Hospital. Natvig explains that hypothermia occurs when the body loses heat faster than the body can produce it. The severity of hypothermia can vary depending on how low one's core body temperature goes. "A normal body temperature is usually around 98.6 F. A body temperature of 95 F or lower can signal hypothermia," said Natvig. Severe hypothermia can eventually lead to cardiac and respiratory failure. "Hypothermia is an emergency condition and can lead to unconsciousness and death if heat loss continues," explains Natvig. "Knowing the symptoms and getting treatment quickly is critical." Natvig notes that symptoms include shivering, appearing disoriented, being unsteady in balance or walking, having cold, pale skin, appearing tired and slurring speech. "If someone shows sign of hypothermia you need to call 9-1-1 and warm him or her up until help arrives," she added. The best ways to prevent hypothermia are by staying healthy, dressing for the weather by wearing layers including a hat, avoiding activities that cause you to sweat while outside, and staying dry. Natvig also suggests keeping emergency supplies in your vehicle such as extra blankets, matches, candles, drinking water and food such as granola bars or crackers. If you or someone you know may be experiencing hypothermia, Copley Hospital suggests you do the following until medical care is available: - Move the person out of the cold. If you are unable to move the person, shield them from the cold and wind as best as you can. Always keep the person face up. -Remove wet clothes immediately. Replace with a dry covering. Make sure to cover the person's head. -A person with severe hypothermia may appear unconscious, with no apparent signs of a pulse or breathing. If breathing has stopped or appears dangerously low or shallow, begin CPR immediately if you're trained. -Warm the center of the body first—chest, neck, head and

groin—with dry layers of blankets, towels or sheets. Skin-to-skin contact works well. Do not attempt to warm the arms or legs. Heat applied in the arms and legs forces cold blood back toward the heart, lungs and brain causing the core body temperature to drop. Don't massage or rub. -Warm beverages can help increase the body temperature, but do not give alcoholic beverages. Do not try to give beverages to an unconscious person. -After the body temperature has increased, keep the person dry and wrapped in warm blankets including on the head and neck. -Get medical attention as soon as possible. Natvig says it is important not to apply direct heat such as hot water, a heating pad or heating lamps; when extra blankets are not available, sharing body heat to warm the person's body works very well. For more information on hypothermia, or any other illnesses, Copley Hospital's Health Science Library is happy to assist with either on-line research or pamphlets. The Library can be reached by calling 888-8888.

**March is Red Cross Month**

Red Cross Month is a time to encourage the public to donate its time, money, and blood. The Red Cross is present in communities across the United States to provide relief to disaster victims and to ensure a safe and sufficient blood supply for patients and hospitals. Area residents and visitors alike are encouraged to give blood on Wednesday, March 4 at the United Christian Assembly on Raceway Road in Jericho between the hours of 1:00 and 6:00 PM. Donors must be at least 17 years old and weigh at least 110 lbs. For information on other donor sites, call 1-800-843-3500 or visit [www.newenglandblood.org](http://www.newenglandblood.org) to find a blood drive near you.

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WELCOME HOME

**Westford (Carpenter)** Brent and Maureen Carpenter, 11 year residents of Westford, proudly announce the birth of their second child, Nathan Jeffrey Carpenter. On November 6th, 2008, Nathan was born prematurely at Fletcher Allen Hospital in Burlington, Vermont. Nathan weighed just 2 pounds and measured 14.5 inches. He is growing and healthy and will be released from Fletcher Allen NICU in early 2009. Nathan's older brother Brady is 2 years old and very eager to have him come home. He constantly boasts that Nathan is "his Nate-in" and "his brother." Paternal grandparents are Peter and Mary Carpenter of Barre, VT and great-grandmother is Ethel McKeage of Graniteville, VT. Maternal grandparents are Jean Kinney and Craig and Julie Stroud of Westfield, NJ.



**Jericho Center**

**(Loeffler)** Jake and Kacie Loeffler announce the birth of their daughter, Blake Ellen Loeffler, born October 20, 2008 at the Fletcher Allen Medical Center in Burlington, VT. Blake is also welcomed by her big brother, Jackson.



**Cambridge**

**(Hutchins)** Natalie (Niquette) and Frank Hutchins welcomed a son Chase Buck on Wednesday, December 17, 2008 at Fletcher Allen Medical Center, Burlington, VT.

**(Curran)** Jessica Curran and Scott Trudell had a son, Brody Maddox Trudell, on Friday, December 19, 2008 at the Northwestern Medical Center in St. Albans, VT.

**Jeffersonville**

**(Elliot)** Dawn (Worcester) and Jeremy Elliot gave birth to a son, Ridge Turner on Wednesday, December 3, 2008 at Copley Hospital, Morrisville, VT.

**Jericho**

**(Dumas)** Jenifer (Cobb) and Andrew Dumas gave birth to a son, Seamus Michael Dumas, on Thursday, December 4, 2008 at Fletcher Allen Medical Center, Burlington, VT.

**(Kaigle)** Anthony Kaigle and Lori Tourville welcomed a daughter, Anna Lin Kaigle, on Saturday, December 6, 2008 at Fletcher Allen Medical Center, Burlington, VT.

**(Levi)** Amy (Hauser) and P. Andrew Levi gave birth to a son, Oliver Nathan Levi, on Wednesday, December 3, 2008 at Fletcher Allen Medical Center, Burlington, VT.

**(Abbott)** Kathryn (Meyer) and John Abbott welcomed a daughter Macalister Jane, on Monday, December 22, 2008 at Fletcher Allen Medical Center, Burlington, VT.

**Underhill**

**(Horvath)** Victoria (Morrison) and Peter, had a daughter Abigail Quinn, on Friday, November 28, 2008 at Fletcher Allen Medical Center, Burlington, VT.

**(Wood)** Caroline (Humphrey) and Sarah Wood, had a daughter Alora Polar, on Thursday, November 20, 2008 at Fletcher Allen Medical Center, Burlington, VT.

**(Roucoulet)** Amber Bessette and Edmond Roucoulet Jr., welcomed a son Edmond Louis Roucoulet III, Sunday, December 14, 2008 at Fletcher Allen Medical Center, Burlington, VT.

**West Bolton - (Huwiler)** Amanda (Feener) and Matt Huwilwe had a son, Benjamin David, on Sunday, December 14 at Fletcher Allen Medical Center, Burlington, VT.

**Westford**

**(Sidortsova)** Stafanie (Dick) and Roman Sidortsova gave birth to a son, Max Roman, on Friday, December 19, 2008 at Fletcher Allen Medical Center, Burlington, VT.

**(Pouliot)** Jessica (Hayes) and Tony Pouliot had a daughter, Allyson Yvonne, on Friday, December 26 at Northwestern Medical Center, St. Albans, VT.

OBITUARIES

**Ruth Ann (Goss) Lewis**, 73, of Jeffersonville passed away on Thursday, January 22, 2009 in The Manor in Morrisville. She was born in Medford, Mass., on January 28, 1935, daughter of the late William and Mae (Powers) Goss. Ruth married Chester "Chet" Lewis on September 3, 1955 in West Summerville Baptist Church. She had been employed as a receptionist with IBM. She was loved by her family and very close to all her grandchildren. Ruth will be greatly missed by all those whose lives she touched. She is survived by her husband and soulmate of 53 years, Chester "Chet" Lewis of Jeffersonville; two sons, William A. Lewis and wife Wendy of

Richford and Daniel F. Lewis and wife Sophia of New Mexico; two daughters, Ellen Blanchard of Underhill and Gail Lewis of Jeffersonville; her brother Buddy Goss of Florida; her sister Lorraine Wilson of Massachusetts; two grandchildren, Elisa Gelineau and husband Brent of Jeffersonville and Colt Blanchard and Renita Arnold of Hyde Park; two great-grandchildren, Cody Gelineau of Jeffersonville and soon to arrive Baby Lyla; several nieces and nephews; and her faithful companion, Maxie. She was also predeceased by her three sisters Ethel DeMeo, Dorothy Goss, and Edith Wilson. The family extends a sincere thank you to all of the caring staff at Lamaille Home Health and Hospice and The Manor. There were no public visiting hours or funeral services held. Inurnment will be private and at the convenience of the family. Memorial contributions in Ruth's memory may be made to a charity of one's choice. The family invites you to share your memories and online condolences by visiting Ruth's tribute at [www.awrichfuneralhomes.com](http://www.awrichfuneralhomes.com)

CAMPUS HONOR

**Ian Rockwell** of Jericho as been selected as a delegate to the 47<sup>th</sup> annual United States Senate Youth Program that will be held March 7 through 14 in Washington, D.C. Rockwell is a student representative to the School Board and attends Mount Mansfield Union High School. He is a member of the National Honor Society and the Scholar's Bowl and was the recipient of the Dartmouth College and Sarah Lawrence University Book Award. He also received the 2008 UVM High School Mathematics Certificate of Merit.

**Douglas Arthur Clift**, a graduate of Mount Mansfield Union High School, is the Recipient of a Rush Rhees Scholarship at the University of Rochester. This scholarship is given to students for academic excellence and is renewable for all four years of college. Clift, a freshman and the son of Anne and David Clift, is a resident of Jericho, Vt.

**Andrew D. Davis** of Underhill and **Andrea M. Walsh** of Underhill Center were named as Presidential Scholars at Clarkson University. Presidential Scholars must have achieved a minimum 3.80 grade point average and carry at least 14 credit hours.

ENGAGEMENTS

Dubuque – Reid


Lenny and Laurie Dubuque of Jericho announce the engagement of their daughter, Rachel Marie Dubuque, to Patrick Richard Reid, son of Richard and Maryellen Reid of Jericho. An August 8, 2009 wedding is planned.

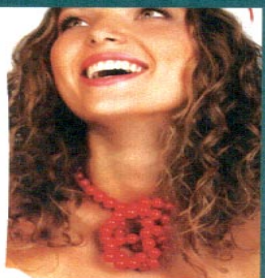
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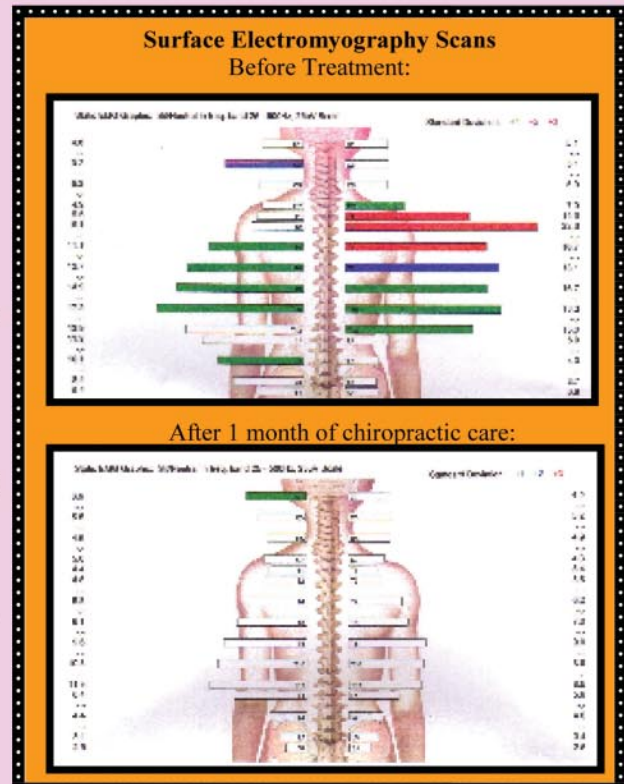
Do you or a loved one suffer the pain of ear or sinus infections? Studies show chiropractic care may boost your immune capacity, naturally and without drugs. The immune system fights colds, flu and other illness when its strong. Studies also show that many people actually pay less for their health care expenses if they are seeing a chiropractor.

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 How was patient referred to our clinic? **"Mom, R., was a patient throughout pregnancy."**  
 Describe fully patient's aches and pains, illnesses, & how they affected the daily life of patient: **"Ear Infections"**  
 Previous methods of treatment: **"Antibiotics"**  
 What were the results of previous methods? **"Worked while she was on them, but as soon as she'd stop taking them the ear infection came right back."**  
 How long under chiropractic care before patient improved? **"Immediate."**  
 Describe health improvements in patients condition and how they enabled patient to lead a better, more useful life: **"Pediatrician tried talking me out of going and wanted to put tubes in her ears, she still doesn't understand her miraculous change!!"**

Patient's Name or Initials: **E.F.** Age: **26**  
 Occupation: **"Graduate student"**  
 How were you referred to us? **"Workshop"**  
 Describe your aches, pains or illness and how they have affected your daily life: **"Lower back pain, sinus problems, always tired, leaned forward a lot (posture was bad)."**  
 When did you first experience symptoms? **"Long ago"**  
 Previous methods of treatment? **"Sinus infection > get antibiotic > never helped"**  
 What were the results of these previous methods? **"Didn't help, sometimes made things worse."**  
 How long were you under chiropractic care before you felt improvement? **"Immediately!!!! I improved after first visit."**  
 Describe health improvements in your condition and how they enabled you to lead a better, more useful life: **"My sinus drained for a couple of weeks and now I can breathe!! My lower back isn't sore anymore and my posture has improved a great deal."**



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**Residents** continued from page 1

Residents are asked to return them by Town Meeting Day. A similar survey done in 2003 in conjunction with the last Town Plan had a return rate of 32%, which Manko describes as "almost unheard of." Planning Commission Chair Mark Letourney is hoping to have an even better rate of return for the current survey. "Westford has a history of having really good community response," he said. A municipal grant helped pay for the prior survey but this one is being conducted at town expense. The old survey served as a template, with additions and subtractions based on the issues which are important in 2009.

The 37-question survey asks people to rank their feelings about the importance of issues such as affordable housing, elder housing, economic growth, historic sites, land conservation and community facilities. The survey also asks residents their feelings about current residential and commercial growth in town, and then inquires about the kinds of growth they would like to see such as light manufacturing, restaurants, small scale businesses, farming and forestry, and day care centers. Residents are asked to comment on current development with questions geared to learning whether they approve of clustering, would like to see better landscaping, and whether they believe ridgelines should be protected. There is also a series of questions about wind turbines, as well as queries about the provision of services (fire, library, municipal, etc.) in town.

In a section of the survey devoted to transportation, residents are asked specific questions about ditching, pavement, trail networks, carpooling, pedestrian path connections, and a park and ride. Resi-

dents are also asked whether road and fire impact fees should be collected in addition to the current school impact fee. Other questions deal with residents' opinions of open space and their views on recreation.

Manko said some areas of the plan will only be tweaked while others, such as the energy policy section, will be completely rewritten. Thankfully Patrick Haller, a Project Manager with Efficiency Vermont, is a member of the Planning Commission and has offered to take charge of that section. Haller pointed out that the energy section of the current Town Plan is very short, consisting of one sentence on policy, a short paragraph entitled "inventory and discussion," and five objectives. Although the town has guidance from the State and the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission, Haller would like to see a town plan which goes even further.

Despite his expertise in the field, Haller does not want to tackle the energy section alone, for fear his personal opinions will supersede those of other residents. Therefore, the Planning Commission will ask the Selectboard to appoint an Energy Committee to assist in revising the section. Haller hopes the committee will be able to craft a document which discusses efficiency, conservation, and renewable energy. This, in turn, will provide guidance for the zoning and subdivision regulations. Haller noted that current regulations don't even mention wind turbines (although windmills are mentioned.) "We need a good set of goals and policies to guide the regulations," he said.

Haller gave the example of someone who has solar panels on his or her roof. A neighbor wants to build a house next door that partially blocks the panels. Haller would like to see guidance in the regulations to help the Development Review Board deal with that sort of quandary. Should the panels be protected? Should the new homeowner be allowed to build whatever he or she chooses? Is the new development more important than the individual resource?

Haller is also concerned with transportation, an issue which he says dovetails with energy. He noted that Westford citizens often have lengthy commutes which increase the town's carbon footprint. Haller learned that grant funding is often contingent on an idea being present in a Town Plan. For example, if the Plan doesn't have any discussion of Park and Ride facilities or bus service, the likelihood of securing a grant to help achieve those things is lessened. Currently, the Town is looking for grant money to reduce energy consumption in the Town Offices but there is nothing in the Plan to show that this is one of Westford's goals.

Manko said the Planning Commission may also take a long look at the Economic Development portion of the plan. "We need to ensure," she said, "that we are inclusive enough to allow the commercial uses people want, but also allow the town to retain its rural character." Letourney echoed Manko's concerns. "Westford hosts several entrepreneurial home businesses," he said, "and we want to give them the ability to grow." Letourney hopes the Town Plan will allow Westford to develop zoning language to help small commercial enterprises.

In particular, Letourney, a thirty-year resident of Westford with almost twenty years in municipal government, is interested in preserving open land and agriculture. "Agricultural activities and housing activities don't go together," he said, "and we need to develop accordingly. If regional agriculture returns to Vermont, we want to be prepared." Letourney hopes to make it possible for some farms to be able to grow into "light commercial establishments," giving the example of a small farm that wants to begin processing its own food. "We want an environment conducive to young farmers," he said.

Letourney recognizes that rural character can be hard to maintain. "Every town is under development pressure," he said, "but we have very good zoning in Westford." Letourney hopes the survey will determine the extent to which residents want to preserve the town's rural character, something which residents ranked highly on the earlier survey. "I think the nice thing about Westford," he said, "is the town government is truly free from politics. Almost everyone involved wants to do what is best for the town. The amazing thing about Westford is there seems to be a vibrant sense of community and town preservation."

**BROWNS RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS**

We have been very busy since our December break. Ms. Diane DeRuyck, BRMS parent, came in and cleaned and decorated our faculty room for us. What a pleasant surprise to come back to such a pleasant environment. Thank you, Diane.

The BRAG 5/6 party committee, chaired by Lisa Mously and assisted by the 5/6 Student Voice group led by Miranda Keir, organized a fantastic 5/6 party for us on January 9. Lots of good food, face painting, games, and music/activities run by Supersounds made for a delightful time. Thank you to all of our parent volunteers and staff who helped to make this possible.

BRMS 7/8 grade winter concert was held January 21 and BRMS 5/6 winter concert was held January 22. The program of music was outstanding and showcased the many talents of our students. Thank you to Dave Tisdell and Rebecca Karwan for holding these events and to Janet Gallagher for accompanying the students in grades 7 and 8.

Our Student Assistance Program, run by Lynn Butler-Dube, Student Assistance Counselor, organized a team building activity for our VKAT (Vermont Kids against Tobacco) group on January 28. The activity was coordinated by the Vermont National Guard Drug and Alcohol Reduction Officer and provided an opportunity for students to work with other students, have fun and strengthen their communication skills.

An upcoming event sponsored by the Student Assistance Program is Red Ribbon Day on February 18. Students and staff are encouraged to wear red on that day and activities will occur during lunch periods which will celebrate living healthy and drug-free.

Once again, BRMS is participating in the Penguin Plunge February 7 at the Burlington Waterfront. We had a kick-off assembly on December 19. Cheered on by Bryant Pless (faculty organizer of the event) and his surprise penguin, Shelley Salzer, we enjoyed their spirit and the excitement of a slide show in honor of one of our students as well as the challenge to raise money to support the Vermont Special Olympics, which sponsors the Unified Sports Program in which we participate. Our goal is to win the Peerless Flock award for the 4<sup>th</sup> year in a row, something no other organization has ever done. As of Tuesday, January 27, 55 individuals had pledged to raise at least \$175 each for the privilege of jumping into Lake Champlain and had raised a total of \$5800, with a little more than half coming from online fundraising. (Check out the student web pages by following the links from the BRMS homepage [www.brownsriver.k12.vt.us](http://www.brownsriver.k12.vt.us).) Tax deductible donations can be made through these web pages to individual plungers. The team will gather by 10:00 AM at City Hall Park in Burlington and by transported by bus to the waterfront. Come on down and cheer them on!

Ms. Rita Wells, longtime employee in our BRMS kitchen—24 years, has retired as of the end of January. We wish her well and will miss her always pleasant smile and great personality.

**Bridget Iverson earns recognition**

Bridget Iverson, a sophomore at Mount Mansfield High School, earned honors in a recent statewide writing contest organized by the Young Writers Project. In her essay *Aichan*, Iverson writes about the language and culture barriers she encountered while being overseas. She tells humorously of what Vermont means to students in Japan, and shares what it means to her at the same time. The writing contest was sponsored by Northfield Savings Bank as a part of the ongoing Council on the Future of Vermont (CFV) project and asked young people to think deeply about what it means to be a Vermonter, what they would like to see change, and how they view their state. Iverson will receive \$25 for her Silver award. Nearly 350 students from grades 5-12 submitted entries, far exceeding expectations.

To view the winning entries, go to [www.youngwritersproject.org](http://www.youngwritersproject.org) and click the link on the home page. The CFV is a project of the Vermont Council on Rural Development through a special partnership with the Vermont Community Foundation.

**LUHS Fundraising for Project Graduation**

The Class of 2009 at Lamoille Union High School is fundraising for their Project Graduation, a drug- and alcohol-free end-of-high-school event.

The students have adopted the Ecophone Project to help them raise funds. This project protects the environment by asking people to donate their used cell phones, inkjet printers, laptop computers, iPods, digital cameras and digital video cameras. These items will be recycled in accordance with EPA regulations, refurbished and sold.

On average, Americans replace their cell phones every 12 to 18 months. These cell phones are stockpiled in households, creating 30,000 tons of potentially hazardous waste. Cell phones create toxic substances which leach into soil and groundwater from landfills and form highly toxic dioxins and furans during incineration. These toxins have been associated with cancer and a range of reproductive, neurological and developmental disorders.

It takes about 600 pounds of fossil fuels and chemicals to create the chips for one personal computer. Seventy pounds of water are used to rinse impurities out of a single computer chip. The amount of waste generated to produce one laptop is close to 4,000 times its weight. When you throw away a five-pound laptop, you are throwing away roughly 20,000 pounds of waste.

Approximately 300 million cartridges are thrown away each year. The production of a single inkjet cartridge requires 2½ ounces of oil. That's more than 6 million gallons of oil wasted each year.

Please do your part to help our environment. You'll also be helping out the LUHS Class of 2009 at the same time. 100% of the proceeds will go to support Project Graduation, a fun, substance-free event to celebrate the end of the class's high school years.

Collection boxes have been set up at the town transfer/recycling stations, post offices, Lamoille Union High School, Lamoille Union Middle School, and Green Mountain Tech Center, as well as most convenience stores in the community.

For more information, contact Marianne Newsom-Brighton at 888-6954 or e-mail [brightnews@pshift.com](mailto:brightnews@pshift.com).

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### Westford School Board Notes

This month's article is entirely devoted to the FY10 budget for the Westford School District. Since some members of the community may choose to vote by absentee ballot prior to receiving their Town Report, we wanted to include all the information in the *Mountain Gazette* as well as the *Westford Newsletter*.

Results of Public Input: As a result of public input received at the January 15 meeting, the board cut \$36,600 from the proposal it was considering at that time by:

- Eliminating the proposal to add a world language offering for K-4
- Eliminating the proposal to add a new entrance/exit door on the west side of the building
- Reducing the amount budgeted for settling the teachers' contract

Tax Impact: The resulting budget increases by 1.5% over FY2009. The tax impact is as follows:

- For those who pay based on income, no increase in the rate. In fact someone with a constant household income of \$50,000 will pay \$85 less than they did three years ago.

- Based on the most recent information from the state, the homestead property rate would also remain the same based on the budget but must be adjusted by the CLA (Common Level of Appraisal.) The CLA adjustment results in a \$31 per \$100,000 of assessment increase.

- Non-homestead property is any property you own that is other than your residence and all its contiguous acreage. The non-homestead rate is set at the state level and is not directly tied to the school budget voted in any one town. Next year the base rate is expected to be \$1.35. After adjusting for Westford's CLA the rate will be \$1.88, four cents more than the present year.

- The following is the complete school budget report which will appear in the Town Report. Please contact a member of the board if you have any questions.

#### SCHOOL BOARD BUDGET REPORT

The Westford School Board is grateful for the support the Westford community has shown for its school district by passing school budgets each year. We are fortunate to serve in such an engaged and caring community, qualities that are essential to a high quality educational system.

### Mentors continued from page 1

tors commit to spending one hour a week with their mentees. That hour is usually spent at the school or on the school grounds. Cambridge Elementary Mentoring Coordinator Donna Rooney says her school's program is open from 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM, with mentors able to meet with their mentees before school or after school through the Cambridge After School Program.

While the commitment is made on a yearly basis, it is not unusual for the relationship to last longer. Rooney says, "Typically the relationship continues, depending on the mentor." It is also not unusual for mentors and mentees to stay in touch after the mentees have moved on in their lives.

Although most of the LVMP mentoring programs are school-based like the one at CES, Peter Ingvaldstad of Cambridge is involved in a community-based program. He and his 14-year-old mentee alternate their time together between a building project and outings such as kayaking the Green River Reservoir. "I don't know who's getting more out of this," said Ingvaldstad. "This isn't like being a parent. With this program, you don't put things off, the way you tend to do with your own kids."

According to Fortune, LVMP includes 200 mentor-mentee pairs, but more students would like to have mentors. "Lots of kids are waiting," Fortune said, adding, "All kids would benefit from having a mentor." With a laugh, she continued, "I need a few good men." Fortune explained that male mentors play a crucial role in a society where so many boys are being raised by single mothers. "It is important that we have men who will show these boys how to become men."

For more information on how to become a mentor, contact Fortune at 802-888-0548 or [lvmp@pshift.com](mailto:lvmp@pshift.com). To reach Donna Rooney at Cambridge Elementary School, call 802-644-8821, ext. 144. Mentoring information is also available by clicking on the link at <http://www.vita-learn.org/ces/>.

At a time of great economic uncertainty in our lives, the School Board worked particularly hard to balance the needs of taxpayers with the need to maintain the high level of educational quality our district presently enjoys. As you know, the board has systematically reduced the number of certified teaching staff as the enrollment in our elementary school has declined. Unfortunately, classroom sizes in the upcoming year do not allow for the elimination of a classroom teacher. As a result of public input at the January 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, the board made further cuts of \$36,600 to the budget presented at that meeting. The following adjustments were made: reversing a proposal to add world language exploration for grades K-4, eliminating the proposal to add an exit/entrance door to the west side of the building, and reducing the amount we budgeted for settling the teacher contract being negotiated for FY2010.

To provide additional context to the following budget information, Westford's per pupil spending, as defined by the state, is \$320/pupil less than the statewide average for FY2009. Act 82, the law enacted two years ago requiring two votes on some school budgets, will not apply to our school district this year. Since our spending per pupil is less than the statewide average and since our proposed education spending does not exceed the allowable inflationary factor, we pass both "tests."

The proposed FY2010 budget represents an increase of \$77,831 or 1.52%. The effect on taxes will vary according to whether one pays based on property or income and whether the property is residential or nonresidential. The projected tax impacts are explained later in this article.

*Westford School board*

### Mount Mansfield Youth Lacrosse to hold registration

Mount Mansfield Youth Lacrosse registration will take place at Browns River Middle School on February 11 from 6:00 - 7:30 PM and at Camels Hump Middle School on February 12 from 6:00 - 7:30 PM. Open to grades 4 to 8 in Chittenden East Supervisory Union District. For more information contact Craig Benson at 899-3017.

### Mount Mansfield Lacrosse looking for volunteer coach

Mount Mansfield Girls Lacrosse Club is a non-profit organization with a mission to teach lacrosse to middle school girls in the Chittenden East community. We are looking for someone to fill a volunteer position as a coach for the 2009 season. The season begins at the end of March and runs through the beginning of June. We practice two times per week with a game on Sunday. Please contact Melissa Mutolo at 899-1456 or email [melissamutolo@live.com](mailto:melissamutolo@live.com) for details.

### Jericho summer camp registration

The Jericho Camp program has two camps: The Jericho Camp (entering Kindergarten - Grade 4) at Jericho Elementary School and the Browns River Camp (entering Grade 5 - 8) at Browns River Middle School. Registration March 21, 2009 at the Jericho town office from 10:00 AM to 2:00PM. For more information, call the Camp Director, Lynn Wagner at 899-4936 ext. 105(not always checked) or home 244-1786 or email [lwagner@jerichovt.gov](mailto:lwagner@jerichovt.gov).

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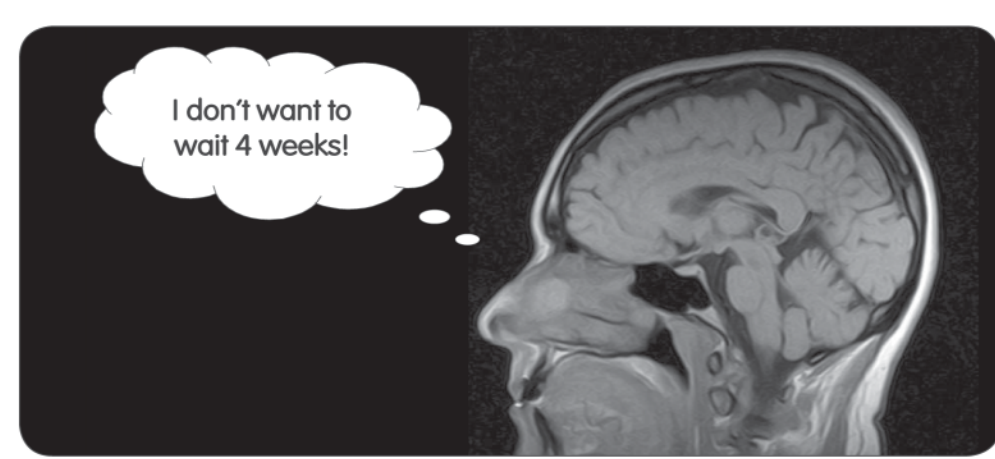


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# Toiling in relative obscurity, MMU Winter Track Team quietly builds a reputation for excellence

By Richard Mindell  
Special to the Mountain Gazette

Winter Track...the term is almost oxymoronic. Who would want to run around in short shorts and a T shirt in January and February, or March for that matter, in Vermont? Well, apparently forty-four kids from MMU and a die-hard coach who thinks the whole thing

is... "fun," believe it's a great idea. And a more dedicated bunch of young men and women you'd be hard-pressed to find.

So, as Jerry Seinfeld would say... "Who are these people anyway?"

First, there's the coach, MMU Science teacher Bill Escholz, who was there at the beginning when the MMU Boys and Girls Winter Track teams became varsity sports in 2005 and has built the program into a successful varsity sport that excels every year in local and state-wide tournaments. "We've consistently been among the top two or three teams in the state," Coach Escholz pointed out recently. Last year the MMU boys finished second in the state, led by Kurt Vesosky who finished first in the high jump and by the boys 4x400m and 4x800m relay teams, who also finished first in the state. This year should be no exception. "I think we'll be top-four or top-five again this year in the states," Coach Escholz added. "I think that's realistic."

The 2008-2009 version of the MMU boys and girls Winter Track team has already set twelve individual team records, including two by freshman Ellie Pitmon (freshman girls high jump and 600m), two by fellow freshman Laurel Cole (freshman girls 1600m and 1000m), two by freshman, Jason Hardacre (freshman boys 1600m and 1000m), one by freshman Dan Shank (freshman boys 55m hurdles) and one each by Meredith Hu (girls high jump) and Matt Dufresne (senior boys 55m). Team co-captain Adrion Pitmon has already broken two school records this year (boys 1000m and 1600m).

The team has also broken five MMU relay records in the early going this winter, including freshman boys 4x400m (Jason Hardacre, Nayo Ogilvie, Ryan Peden-Spear and George Haley), freshman boys 4x800m (Dan Shank, Nayo Ogilvie, Derek Schultz and Jason Hardacre), Junior Girls 4x200m (Devon Lautenschlager, Dana Willard, Sam Bissonette and Hillary Hagen-Peter), junior girls 4x400m (Devon Lautenschlager, Cyndi Krause, Sam Bissonette and Hillary Hagen-Peter) and girls 4x400m (Hillary Hagen-Peter, Hayley Maynes, Ellie Pitmon and Laurel Cole).

This year's team features 44 kids, the most students ever to come out for Winter Track. "Our kids go out there and drag their friends in," Escholz said. Coach attributes the growth in the program to several reasons, but points out the most significant reason may be the emergence of interest in the girls' program which soared after MMU's Erin Sullivan (class of '99) turned the Vermont track world upside down by smashing the Vermont state records in the 1500m and 3000m. While the turnout is most welcome by Coach Escholz, it has caused a few logistical problems for the team. The kids currently alternate practice between the Racquets Edge, in Essex Junction (where they pay their own way to practice), and the hallways of MMU, where the fun really begins. "We've had to dodge the janitor chasing us with a broom," senior co-captain Becky Murray joked.

"I've caught my shirt on a water fountain and a doorknob," sophomore Jess Varney added.

"We practice in the gym, in the weight room; we warm up in the halls..." Coach Escholz said. "It doesn't matter. The kids are really dedicated."

The adverse conditions seem to have had a positive effect on the team. "We work hard but we have fun," Jess Varney said. Varney also pointed out the tremendous camaraderie on the team. "We're a tight team," she said. "We help each other out a lot."

"We are diverse," Coach Escholz added. "We have a little bit of everything in terms of personalities...and we like to have fun. Coach was sure to point that out."

So come on down to one of the tournaments this winter. The schedule is on the MMU web site. You'll definitely be impressed by the kids' performances. And you, too, might have some fun.



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If so, please join the Underhill Recreation Committee in their efforts to raise funds for the Town tennis court repairs. We have an estimate that the repairs, which include repairing the cracks, replacing and resetting the net posts, and cleaning, repainting and relining the courts will cost \$10,000. In recognition that this is a stringent budget year for the Town, the Committee decided to fund raise to cover the cost of the repairs. At this point, we are asking for pledges, payable upon full funding being secured. Ideally, we would be able to secure enough pledges so that we can discuss at Town Meeting whether we can proceed this year with the repairs. Pledge forms are available on-line at [www.underhillvt.gov](http://www.underhillvt.gov) or at the Underhill Town Hall. The recreation committee will match \$25 for every \$100 pledged from their non-tax dollar reserve fund. Please join us in support of this valuable town asset!

### LEGAL NOTICE

**UNDERHILL PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
7:00 PM Wednesday, February 18, 2009

The Underhill Planning Commission will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, February 18, 2009 at 7:00 PM to discuss the results of the recently completed Town Plan survey. Staff from UVM's Center for Rural Studies who conducted the independent survey will present the results. The public is urged to attend.

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**TOWN OF BOLTON**  
**DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD**

The Bolton Development Review Board will hold a public hearing (postponed from January 21<sup>st</sup> due to weather) on February 25, 2009, 6:00 pm, at the Bolton Town Office, 3045 Theodore Roosevelt Highway (RT 2) to consider the following appeal:

The request of Mountain Operations and Development LLC (dba Bolton Valley Resort) for reconsideration of conditions of approval under the amended conditional use approval issued by the DRB on November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2008 for year-round use of "the Ponds" events facility, with shared parking at the Timberline base area. The applicant requests reconsideration of Paragraph 2, Condition 3 which states: "In the event the parking area is paved, individual parking spaces and pedestrian walkways shall be clearly lined."

This request for reconsideration will be considered under DRB findings related to parking, site layout and circulation requirements under the Bolton Land Use & Development Regulations. The property, Parcel ID #6-3004250, is located at 3223 Bolton Valley Access Road in the RR District.

Participation in the hearing process is required to appeal a decision of the Development Review Board. Copies of the decision and request for reconsideration are available and may be viewed at the Bolton Town Office during regular business hours.

Sharon Murray, Chair  
Development Review Board

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**Residents** continued from page 1

see my grandmother's wedding ring again." Shelby said the State Police directed her to check out pawn shops after the second burglary, but they were unable to provide a list of such establishments. She plans to have such a listing on her website, as well as a list of convenience stores. Several Susan B. Anthony coins were stolen from her home and she went to local convenience stores asking them to photograph anyone using several such coins at once. She would like the website to be able to provide these and any other listings which might help burglary victims.

Shelby notes that the police don't always have the time to sit down with homeowners and provide safety tips so she hopes the website can assist residents with that kind of information. After her first break-in, which was through an unlocked door, she was simply told to lock always. However, whoever broke into her house the second time smashed a double-paned window with a rock. Shelby would like to be able to provide more resources to residents of Bolton and beyond on how to keep their property safe.

A second local meeting convened by Shelby resulted in a plan to keep the group informal but to hold regular monthly meetings. By then she had gathered material from other neighborhood watch programs. The group realized that Bolton was far more rural than the norm so they are working on modifications to some of the plans they've seen. In search of more information, Shelby attended the quarterly meeting of the State Police's Citizens Advisory Group in January and was promptly appointed to the regional group which

is based in Williston. All municipalities without their own police force are asked to send representatives. The Williston regional group is creating a survey which will be passed out on Town Meeting Day to learn what municipalities would like to do to improve security. Additionally, a subcommittee is working on a grant to provide financial support for neighborhood watch programs.

The number of attendees at Shelby's monthly meetings is growing, and she promises to try to hold meetings to one hour or less. Shelby's goal is to help increase neighborhood awareness, but she hopes that her efforts will go further. "I want this to be a viable working tool for Bolton," she said, "and a pilot project for the state." Shelby recognizes the limitations of the State Police due to inadequate resources but notes that with the current economic times, there is no question that crime will increase. Although her group is limited to Notch Road, she is more than willing to assist other local groups interested in forming their own neighborhood watches.

Shelby does not want to inundate the State Police with local problems, recognizing that resources are scarce. "We need more organization and key point people," she said. "In difficult economic times, more and more people may be looking for a quick fix to their problems, and we need to be ready to help the police when and where we can. It's like Obama said in his inauguration speech: We've got to pull together. This is a group effort."

For more information, contact Deborah Shelby at 434-7607 or [deb@iensemble.com](mailto:deb@iensemble.com).

**OFFICIAL WARNING  
MOUNT MANSFIELD UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT #17**

**February 19, 2009 and March 3, 2009**

The legal voters of the Mount Mansfield Union School District #17 consisting of the town school districts of Bolton, Huntington, Jericho, Richmond, Underhill Town and Underhill Incorporated School District are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Mount Mansfield Union High School on **Thursday, February 19, 2009, at 7:30 p.m.** to transact any of the following business not involving Australian Ballot, the meeting is to be adjourned and reconvened in the respective polling places hereinafter named for each of the above-referenced town school districts on **Tuesday, March 3, 2009** at 7:00 a.m. (Huntington at 6:30 am) at which time the polls will open, until 7:00 p.m. at which time the polls will close, to transact any business involving voting by Australian Ballot.

- Article 1: To elect the following officers:  
a Moderator for one year,  
a Clerk for one year,  
a Treasurer for one year, and  
an Auditor for three years.
- Article 2: To hear and act upon the written reports of the District Officers.
- Article 3: This time serves as a public information hearing for public review of the 2009-10 proposed budget—for discussion purposes only.
- Article 4: Shall the voters of the Mount Mansfield Union School District authorize the school board under 16 V.S.A. 562 (9) to borrow money by issuance of bonds or notes not in excess of anticipated revenue for the school year?
- Article 5: To transact any other school business thought proper when met.

**March 3, 2009 — Australian Ballot Questions**

- Article 6: Shall the Mount Mansfield Union School District #17 adopt a budget of \$26,184,467 for the school year 2009-10?

Upon closing of the polls, the ballot boxes will be sealed, re-opened at Jericho Elementary School in the Town of Jericho, the ballots commingled and publicly counted by representatives of the Boards of Civil Authority of the Towns of Bolton, Huntington, Jericho, Richmond, Underhill under the supervision of the Clerk of Mt. Mansfield Union School District #17.

The legal voters of Mt. Mansfield Union School District #17 are further warned and notified that informational meetings will be held at Mt. Mansfield Union High School in the Town of Jericho on February 19, 2009 and February 26, 2009, commencing at 7:30 p.m., for the purpose of explaining the 2009-10 proposed budget.

The legal voters of Mt. Mansfield Union School District #17 are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee voting relative to said special meeting shall be as provided in Section 706u-706w of Title 16, and Chapters 43, 51, and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Said voters and persons warned, are further notified that voter qualification, registration, absentee voting, and voter procedures shall be in accordance with Chapters 43 and 51 of Title 17 Vermont Statutes Annotated.

**Polling Places**

The voters residing in each member district will cast their ballots in the polling places designated for their town as follows:

Bolton	*	Smilie Memorial School
Huntington	*	Brewster-Pierce Memorial School
Jericho	*	Jericho Elementary School
Richmond	*	Camels Hump Middle School
Underhill	*	Browns River Middle School

Dated this 8<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2009

George Till	Linda Willmott	Marsha Faryniarz
Ken Wyman	Jerome Mendicino	Carol Shallow
Judith T. Jones	Yasmine Ziesler	Alison Lane Anand
Peterson	Ann Whitman	Clifford
frey Forward		Diane L. Kirson-Glitman

**SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

Received for record this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January 2009, A.D.

Nancy C. Bradford, Clerk, Mt. Mansfield Union School District #17

**\*\* Budget Informational Meetings \*\***

**Thursday, February 26, 2008, 7:30 p.m., Camels Hump Middle School**

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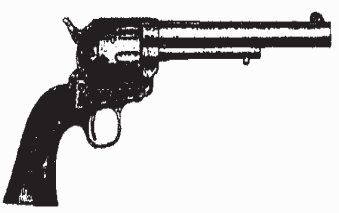
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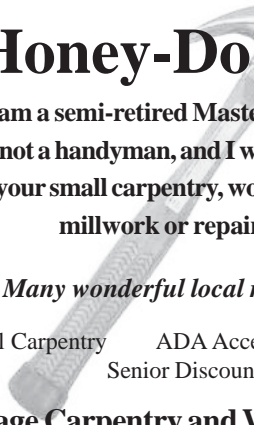
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