Mount Mansfield School District tax rates

Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District (MMUUSD) budget as approved by voters in April resulted in an increase of 2.81% in our equalized homestead tax rate (\$1.2066 last year to \$1.2405 this year). In the prior year (i.e., 2022-23), the statewide Education Fund had a surplus returned to taxpayers which helped to drive the tax rate down. The Education Fund did not have a similar surplus this year. Anticipated changes in Vermont's PreK-12 education funding model will influence school funding and tax rates in subsequent years. We continue to take great care in spending to optimize educational resources

More than the change in the school district tax rate, year to year differences in an individual taxpayer bill are highly influenced by changes in property values as shown in their town Common Level of Appraisal (CLA). Changes in household income (from two calendar years ago to the previous calendar year) also have an impact on property tax bills. Approximately two-thirds of Vermont homeowners receive a property tax adjustment on their property tax bill. As of 2023, this applied to households with incomes below \$128,000. If applicable, be sure to file a homestead declaration, property tax credit claim, and household income schedule with your annual state income tax return.

Education property taxes are collected statewide. To ensure that homeowners pay education taxes based on the fair market value of their homes, the Vermont Department of Taxes conducts an annual study of home sales and adjusts the appraised values in each town by their Common Level of Appraisal (CLA). The following shows the impact of the Common Level of Appraisal.

<u>pre-CLA</u> <u>CLA</u> <u>with CLA</u>: \$1.2405 104.08% \$1.1918 <u>Town</u> Bolton 65.58% \$1.8915 Huntington \$1.2405 \$1.2405 73.13% \$1.6963 Jericho \$1.2405 103.45% \$1.1991 Richmond Underhill \$1.2405 97.22% \$1.2759

For more information, please see the State of Vermont Understanding Your Property Tax Bill, online at https://tax. vermont.gov/property-owners/property-tax-bill; and the State of Vermont Equalization Study (CLA), online at https://tax. vermont.gov/municipalities/reports/equalization-study.

Explanation of my vote on H.887, the yield bill

Washington-Chittenden House District

As your State Representative, I have a responsibility to be accountable. I have received emails from constituents asking how I voted during the recent veto session, unhappy with the results of the "yield bill," which impacts local property tax rates. I also received many more emails prior to the veto session, asking me to vote to override the Governor's vetoes on several bills, including the "yield bill." I work to make decisions considering the overall impact for my constituents and the State as a whole. The one thing that I hope all Vermonters understand is that there are no simple or perfect answers to these complex issues. Below is information on H.887 – the "yield bill," as that is the one most people have asked questions about.

H.887 – This is the "yield bill" that is used in setting property tax rates across the State that help to fund education services for Vermont students. First, a few facts:

- · School budgets are developed locally by each school board in every district across the state; they are voted on locally. The Legislature does not vote on school budgets, but is required to fund them.
- The Legislature needed to pass a "yield bill" otherwise an estimated \$82 million deficit would have occurred in the Education Fund.
- Property taxes are not the only funding source for education expenses:
 * homestead property taxes – fund 25% of education;
- * non-homestead property taxes fund 41% of education;
- * sales tax and other consumption taxes fund 32% of education;
- * lottery and other miscellaneous revenue fund 2% of education.
- The Legislature DID NOT vote to increase property taxes; the Legislature voted to decrease property taxes from the 20% amount estimated in December down to approximately 13.8% yes, it is still too high.
- Two-thirds of Vermonters pay their property taxes based on income; if you have not applied for income sensitivity, you can

News continued on page 2

NEWS BRIEFS

Information on buyout/elevate programs for flood victims

From the United Way of Lamoille County

Are you interested in participating in the buyout program or to elevate your home due to the flooding last year? Both programs are available to homeowners.

Elevations support funding is reimbursed, not granted, to homeowners to raise their home above the flood level. All interested folks need to let towns know by Friday, August 16.

The buyout program is when the town purchases your home to create a flood buffer zone. All applications for buyouts need to be submitted and approved by your town selectboard before Friday, August 16.

Important things to know about buyouts:

- the price that you will receive is based on the day-before-theflood appraised price of your home;
- there is no cost share for the buyouts;
- the process can take anywhere between 12-60 months.

If you are interested, please be in touch with *learn@uwlamoille.org* or call Sarah (LeARN Coordinator) at 802-730-9513 to get paperwork and support.

Public meeting July 8 on proposed **Underhill Center sidewalk**

By Brad Holden, Underhill Town Administrator

Please join us for our second public meeting for the Underhill Center Active Transportation Scoping Study. The Town of Underhill received a grant this year through the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission to perform a scoping study to explore the potential for improving pedestrian travel through Underhill Center.

This project is looking at options to make walking and biking through Underhill Center safer and more comfortable for all ages and abilities. In this meeting we will share what we have learned so far and get input and insights from the community.

The meeting will take place upstairs at the Underhill Town Hall (12 Pleasant Valley Rd., Underhill Center) on Monday, July 8. Open House is from 6:00 - 6:30 PM, followed by a presentation from Toole Design, the firm that is carrying out the study, from 6:30 – 7:00 PM, with questions and answers from 7:00 - 7:30 PM.

For more information: https://www.underhillvt.gov/homepage/meeting/underhill-center-sidewalk-study-meeting. you are unable attend, please send your input or questions to ssarepalli@ccrpcvt.org.

House fire on Cloverdale Road, Underhill

On Thursday June 20, 2024 at around 17:40 (5:40 PM) the Underhill Jericho Fire department received a 911 report of smoke filling a basement of a residence on Cloverdale Road in the Town of Underhill. The Underhill-Jericho Fire Department quickly notified and requested assistance from the Cambridge, Fairfax, Essex Town, Vermont Air National Guard Fire Department, and Essex Rescue.

First units arrived at 17:48 and they were able to quickly extinguish the fire utilizing an ultra-high pressure water line, resulting in very little water damage to the building. The building has received some heat damage that was contained mostly to basement level and there is moderate smoke damage throughout

The cause of the fire is accidental. Smoke alarms were installed and working at the time of the fire and aided the family with safely exiting the home and calling for help.

The Underhill Jericho Fire Department would like to remind the public to make sure that they have working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms on all levels of their homes, including the

Questions regarding this incident may be sent to UJFD Chief Mat Champlin, chief@ujfd.org.

Underhill's Community Food Sharing Shed opens

From John Connell and the Shed Team

The Underhill Community Food Sharing Shed, located in Moore Park across from the Underhill Town Hall, enters her

The shed welcomes all garden produce. The produce is then available to anyone wishing the food. Happy summer sharing!

Mills Riverside Park culvert replacements, other improvements

By Livy Stronsoard Chair

The Jericho Underhill Park District Board of Trustees is asking all park visitors to be aware that construction work continues at Mills Riverside Park. Please avoid any heavy equipment and comply with trail signage.

Posts will be installed as a barrier in the new parking lot and two culverts will be replaced. Our driveway entrance and exit have already been regraded and crowned to remove potholes.

Please contact the Park District, jupdistrict@gmail.com, with any questions. Thank you!



Free summer meals for children 18 and under

In partnership with the Essex Westford School District and Hunger Free Vermont, free summer meals for children 18 and under will be available on Fridays through August 16, 11:30 AM – 2:00 PM in the United Church of Underhill parking lot behind the church at 3 Park St. in Underhill; and on Thursdays, July 11-August 15, 11:00 AM – 12:15 PM at Smilie Memorial School, 2712 Theodore Roosevelt Highway (U.S. Rt. 2), Bolton.

Multi-day meal kits are available to families with children 18 and under. The box will include the equivalent of seven breakfasts and seven lunches with items like cereal, muffins, wraps, deli meats and cheese, nut butter, fresh fruits and vegetables, and a gallon of milk.

No registration is required and you don't have to reside in the area. Simply show up and request a box for each child. Children do not need to be present for the distribution. The Essex Westford School District has underscored that this distribution is for all families, regardless of need.

Please help spread the word about this opportunity, and if you plan to use it, please complete the survey at https:// bit.ly/4cyaPC6.

More information can be found online at https://www. ewsd.org/page/2024-vermont-summer-meals — there are additional distribution sites in Montpelier, Waterbury, PHOTO CONTRIBUTED Roxbury, and Waitsfield.

Nighttime summer fun with kids

(Ideas from Parents Magazine

via Foster Care News – June 13, 2024)

Arm yourself with bug spray and you're ready for an evening in the night air. Here are some ideas for enjoying an evening outside.

- Camp in the backyard. Pitch a tent and bring out the sleeping bags. Sleep as a family under the stars.
- Catch lightning bugs. And then watch them flicker away into the night.
- · Have a bonfire. Roast marshmallows and hot dogs. Make s'mores.
- Go to the drive-in. If there isn't a drive-in in your town, look for one nearby or at your vacation spot. • Host an outdoor movie night. Rent or borrow a movie projector and show a movie on a white sheet draped across PVC pipe in the backyard. Or use the side of your house as the screen. Bring out sleeping bags, air mattresses, and pool rafts as the seating and enjoy the show (with
- popcorn of course). • Listen to an audiobook under the stars. Your library probably has a great collection of classics and newer titles.
- Stargaze. Invite friends and make a party of it under the stars.

Brewster Uplands update: Loggers' Loop reopens, Pond Loop closes

From Annalise Carington, Vermont Land Trust Work on the Loggers' Loop Trail network has wrapped up!

The trail reopened to foot traffic only on Monday, July 1 as we allow the earthwork to settle. We will be monitoring conditions and will announce when bikes and horses are allowed back on the trail later in July.

The Pond Loop Trail was closed to the public (since Wednesday, June 26) through the end of August. Rabbit Tracks Trail Works will be completing accessibility upgrades on the entire trail loop, along with renovating the spur trail and pond overlook area. The upper parking lot on West Farm Road will be closed during construction to stage equipment and materials. The lower parking lot on West Farm Road with the kiosk will remain open all summer.

All other trails at Brewster Uplands will remain open throughout the summer, including the West Farm Trail and the Alden Bryan Brewster River Trail.

We appreciate your cooperation as we work to improve these well-loved trails! Visit our website for more information on the work this summer: https://vlt.org/newsroom/trail-improvementsat-brewster-uplands/.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

Cambridge-Jeffersonville July 4th Town Fair information

By Rockin' Ron Carter, Jeffersonville

The Town Fair has returned to Cambridge Elementary School Field in Jeffersonville! Presented by Cambridge Area Rotary on Thursday, July 4, it starts after the Parade at approximately 10:30 AM, and goes until 1:30 PM. Here's the lineup so far:

Music and Awards: live music by *Blackwolf*; National Anthem by Annie Rheaume; Best Float Awards.

Bingo in the cafeteria — thanks Melody!

Crafts and art: Siber Sled Dogs Gifts; Karen Cayton's Creations; Bella's Hairwraps; Connie Edwards' Crafts.

Community groups: Cambridge Conservation Commission; Vermont Covered Bridge Society; Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War: Cambridge Area Rotary.

Food and drink: Kingdom Creamery Ice Cream; Wandering Roots Snow Cones; Rick Lansing's Daquiri (non-alcoholic) Drinks; Green Mountain Kettle Corn; Dried N' True freeze-dried candy; Scout Troop 39's Burgers and Dogs; Mediterranean Mix.

Sponsors: Thanks to our Gold & Platinum Sponsors Height of Land Publications; Three Mountain Roofing;, G.W. Tatro Construction; and Smugglers' Notch Resort.

Vendors should arrive no later than 9:30 AM to set up.

For more information contact Rockin' Ron, rcarter@smuggs. com.

Calling all Westford equestrians — to the July 4th parade

By Carol Winfield, Westford

Do you love a parade? Join in the fun on July 4th! Bring your horse, donkey, mule, or even goat or heifer, and parade twice around the Westford Common!

Line up starts at 10:30 AM at the Town Garage; the parade leaves at 11:00 AM. Please fill out the Westford Rec Department's participation form in advance, online at https://forms.gle/fuX2FssacuF6oEfu5.



This is our country, land that we love; our flag is one of its most powerful symbols. Long may it wave. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Wanted: 4th of July vendors at CES Fair

Cambridge Area Rotary is looking for food, craft, non-profit, and other vendors for the Town Fair at Cambridge Elementary School Field in Jeffersonville (we're back at the school) on Thursday, July 4, 2024.

Your window to vend/promote is from10:30 AM - 1:30 PM.

To beat the parade traffic, arrive no later than 9:45 AM to set up. \$25 per vendor, and non-profits are free.

Mountain Gazette, July 4, 2024

Meet those ready to vend: Bella's Hairwraps, Rick's Frozen Daiquiri Drinks (non-alcoholic), Scout Troop 39 with burgers and dogs, and The Eagles (not the Philadelphia ones, but the ones who host bingo on VT Rt. 109).

To book your dream vending gig, contact Rockin' Ron Carter at *rcarter@smuggs.com*.

July 4 Celebration in Jeffersonville

By Rockin' Ron Carter, Jeffersonville

Cambridge Area Rotary announces the lineup for the July 4th Celebration in Jeffersonville and at Smugglers' Notch Resort! There will also be a Town Fair at the Cambridge Elementary School (CES) field, beginning at 10:30 AM.

Here are the highlights:

10:00 – 10:30 AM: Parade — starts at GW Tatro's, ends at CES. Paraders and Floats should arrive no later than 9:30 AM at GW Tatro. Theme: Create Magic! Grand Marshal: Jan Sander; marching band: Hanaford's Volunteers Fife & Drum Corps.

10:30 AM – 1:30 PM: Town Fair at Cambridge Elementary School Field, with live music by *Blackwolf*. The National Anthem will be performed by Annie Rheaume. There will be vendors, games, and food!

Other town events include:

- 9:00 AM 3:00 PM: Varnum Memorial Library Book Sale (hard back, paperback, children's, and more);
- 10:00 AM 2:00 PM: Waner Lodge open house (Cambridge Historical Society);
- 10:30 AM 4:00 PM: Visions of Vermont open house and Art Fair;
- 11:00 AM 5:00 PM: Bryan Memorial Gallery open house. Fireworks and events at Smugglers' Notch:
- 5:00 PM: Jammin' Sam is your host/DJ; food trucks;
- 5:30 9:30 PM: live music: *House On Fire*;
- Dusk Fireworks!

Events are subject to change; for more information contact Rockin' Ron, *rcarter@smuggs.com*.

SUMMER CAMPS

Camp DREAM receivessupport from VT Land Trust

The DREAM Program (DREAM), a Vermont nonprofit, worked with the Vermont Land Trust (VLT) to buy an island on Metcalf Pond in Fletcher, the two organizations announced on Tuesday, June 18. DREAM bought and conserved the one-acre island with funding support from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board and will add it to Camp DREAM, its overnight, year-round camp for youth from low-income housing neighborhoods and rural communities across Vermont.

Located at the northern end of 71-acre Metcalf Pond, the island was privately owned and locally known as Rich Island. DREAM purchased it in January to add to Camp DREAM, their 50-acre overnight camp less than a quarter mile to the southeast

The island will be available to about 800 youth each year, as part of the camp. Camp attendance, including all transportation, is free, to ensure access for youth from low-income households.

Lindsay Vajda from the Bennington Housing Authority said: "Opportunities for overnight camps, eco-friendly activities, introducing them to the outdoors and inspiring the next generation of environmentalists, is not an option to most of our children and youth living in subsidized housing, without Camp DREAM."

For 20 years, Camp DREAM has focused on building the next generation of outdoor enthusiasts and stewards, offering environmental programming and a safe space for youth to play, explore, and connect with the natural environment. Through nocost programming, trusting relationships with caregivers, and committed transportation assets, Camp DREAM reduces barriers to Vermont's outdoors.

"Coming out of the pandemic, it is clearer than ever that all youth, and especially the most vulnerable, need opportunities to connect with each other, find meaning and purpose, and engage in healthy outdoor activities," shared Elise Oshlag, Camp DREAM's Director.

The island boasts a stunning marsh to the north and a boating entry on its southern shore. Its forested, wetland, and shoreline spaces provide habitat for a range of wildlife, including loons and bald eagles, and contribute to the diversity on Metcalf Pond. The island's conservation ensures the land's natural resources will remain undeveloped and be thoughtfully managed.

"This is a wonderful little island in a spectacular setting," said VLT Project Director Bob Heiser. "You just have to see a kid's Newsroom

face light up at the mention of visiting an island to know the impact of ensuring this type of access for all kids, now and into the future."

Camp DREAM began in 2003 when DREAM bought and conserved 50 acres with over 600 feet of shoreline on the eastern side of Metcalf Pond. Over the years, DREAM has transformed the mostly wooded property into a place for kids to be in nature and experience the wonder and adventure it can bring. The camp welcomes youth from across Vermont and further afield who would normally not have access to an overnight camp.

DREAM plans to use the island to expand waterfront adventures for their campers and offer ecology education programs. Possibilities include transforming the small hut into a nature lodge for ecological programs, day-expeditions by canoe, and occasional, small-group overnight primitive camping.

"Among the many new adventures that this island will catalyze, it will be a special canoeing destination, create new overnight camping options, provide a unique environment for campfires and ceremonies, and act as a basecamp for marsh exploration and pond stewardship," said Mike Foote, Director of DREAM.

DREAM is planning a ribbon cutting ceremony later this summer and are currently running a campaign inviting their camp alumni and other community members to name the island.

VT Literacy Network offers camps for ages 3-5 and 6-9

This summer, Vermont Literacy Network offers eight unique, literacy-rich summer camp options, ongoing through mid-August. On alternating weeks, children ages 3-5 years and 6-9 years will immerse themselves in creative, multi-sensory reading and writing activities based on each week's topic. From the summer Olympics to pirate adventures, there is truly something for everyone!

Be sure to look at the specific dates, age ranges, and themes. Registration is required for each camp individually, so register early to secure your child's spot. Specific information and registration is available at https://www.vermontliteracynetwork.com/summer-camps.

Camps offered for ages 3-5 include Ocean Odyssey, Fairy Garden, Pirate Adventure, and Space Explorers; camps for ages 6-9 include Secret Agent, Superhero, Olympic Reading, and Newsroom.

The Vermont Literacy Network is located at 3391 Mountain Road, Unit 2, Stowe. Camps are offered weekly, Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Please note that snacks are not provided; please pack two healthy, nut-free snacks each day.

MMCTV Middle School TV Camp registration open

By Angelike A. Contis, MMCTV

Do you have a budding filmmaker in the house? Send them to Mount Mansfield Community TV's (MMCTV) summer TV camp to hone their skills, while having fun! Once again, the group will be tasked with recreating the scene from a Hollywood film as a part of the Crowdsourced Cinema VT project. This year's film is *Home Alone*. There are still spots available!

Due to popular demand, we are offering two sessions, one for grades 5-6 (July 8-12), and one for grades 7-8 (July 15-19).

To register online, please go to https://mtmansfieldctv.org/youth-camps-and-workshops/.

VTSU Johnson Summer Athletics Camps

The Johnson Athletic Department is excited to share its our upcoming Athletic Summer Camps for 2024. We have a full summer of fun for all!

All camps can be found on the official Athletics site of Vermont State University Johnson, https://nvubadgers.com/CAMPS-CLINICS/INDEX.

- Boys and Girls Soccer Camp, day only, three sessions, all Monday-Friday: July 8-12 (session 1), July 15-19 (session 2), July 22-26 (session 3);
- Girls Softball Camp, Sunday-Thursday July 14-18, day and overnight;
- Girls Basketball Camp, Sunday-Thursday August 11-15, day and overnight.

Lake Champlain Yacht Club's Junior Sailing Camps

Lake Champlain Yacht Club's (LCYC's) Junior Sailing camps are open to children ages 8-17. Our program creates a love of sailing. Your child will learn safe on-water practices while having

Summer camps continued on page 3

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still do so until October 15, 2024, see this website: Homestead Declaration | Department of Taxes (https://tax.vermont.gov/property-owners/homestead-declaration). This will help you pay your property taxes.

• Vermont property values have skyrocketed during and since

the pandemic; this is good news if you are selling your house, but not as good if your property is "undervalued" by the current town assessment of its value. The "common level of appraisal" (CLA) is set by the Department of Taxes and impacts all towns and property owners.

• The Department of Taxes completed an equalization study

to determine the common level of appraisal for each town. You can see the actual sales data for every town and see how this study has impacted our communities. Here is the link to the study and data: Equalization Study | Department of Taxes (https://tax. vermont.gov/municipalities/reports/equalization-study)

• The Tax Department also has information on understanding

| Department of Taxes (https://tax.vermont.gov/property/tax-bill)

• Vermont's education financing formula is complicated; it is complicated because it seeks to be as equitable as possible. Should equity outweigh the ability of citizens to understand it?

your property tax bill, as it contains a lot of information. You can

find that explanation here: Understanding Your Property Tax Bill

Current feedback is maybe not.

I voted in favor of H.887. To be absolutely clear, I did this with

no great joy in overriding the Governor's veto. I did it because:

• Legally the Legislature has a responsibility to fund school budgets that have been voted on by local voters. The bill fully funds school budgets that voters have approved.

• A commission on the future of public education is established, requiring public hearings in all 14 counties. This information is required to be reported back to the Legislature and will help the body make decisions to right-size our education system in a way that balances quality education with ability of taxpayers to pay for it

 \bullet The bill reduces property taxes by applying \$69 million to do so.

I did not agree with the Governor's late-coming proposals to utilize a lending/borrowing scheme with school districts, which the State Treasurer testified would negatively impact the State's bond rating — increasing the cost for every municipality or government entity seeking to borrow funds. It takes years to recover from a negative bond rating.

I did not agree with the Governor's proposal to entirely deplete the education reserve fund and use significantly more one-time funds. These funds are used when a recession results in lower property values or other issues that impact the education fund. The Governor's proposal for additional use of one-time dollars could result in a 20-cent increase to property taxes next year. Again, a negative impact.

I did agree with the Governor on the use of some limited onetime dollars to offset the tax increase. The Legislature does not ordinarily utilize one-time dollars for ongoing expenses, but given the impact this year, we agreed to do so with reservation.

If we think Vermont is immune from the divisiveness of the national political scene, it is not. Day in and day out during the legislative session, representatives and senators of all parties work collaboratively, not always agreeing, but doing so respectfully. In my nine years of serving in the Legislature, I have always kept my updates non-political, opting to report on the policies, programs, and impacts on people. However, I am compelled to veer away from this as it relates to the rhetoric that is coming from the Governor's office on the yield bill. And I only do this because of the lack of complete transparency about the impact of the proposals and the name-calling by the Governor has resulted in State legislators receiving actual death threats. I get that people are upset, and I am truly sorry for that. Sometimes doing the responsible thing is not the popular thing, and such is the case on this vote.

Thank you for reading this lengthy statement. I can still be reached during the summer/fall months at my legislative email, twood@leg.state.vt.us. You will receive an "out of office" response, but I do check that email periodically, just not always daily.

WORSHIP SERVICES

Mount Mansfield Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Sunday services at MMUUF are held at 9:30 AM on the second and fourth Sundays of each month, September-June. Services are led by members of the fellowship and by invited guest speakers, including visiting UU ministers and leaders of other faiths. Each service explores a different topic. Worship, reflect, and sustain one another, within an inclusive spiritual community, built on values of honoring and affirming the worth of every person, striving for justice, participating in the world community, and respecting the natural web of existence. Services will be held at our Barn, located opposite Packard Road at 195 VT Rt. 15, Jericho, and also over Zoom; please contact <code>info@mmuuf.org</code> or 802-899-2558 for how to join virtually. Learn more at <code>https://mmuuf.org/</code> and <code>www.uua.org</code>.

Jericho United Methodist Church

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

United Church of Underhill

The United Church of Underhill is an active, vibrant community. We are young and old; straight and LGBTQIA; singles, couples, and families; believers, questioners, and questioning believers. We are an Open and Affirming and Reconciling church, which means all ARE truly welcome. We

are the Old Fashioned Harvest Market Church, the Clutter Barn Church, and a church of fellowship, mission, and service. We gather to worship together virtually and in-person every Sunday morning at 10:00 AM for a traditional but lively service with music, and Sunday School and nursery for the children. We welcome you to join us for worship or just come in, be still, and contemplate your faith. Located at 7 Park St., Underhill. Pastor's office (with voicemail) 802-899-1722; church secretary email secretary@ucu.church. For instructions on joining worship from home, please see https://unitedchurchofunderhill.com/joining-worship-from-home/.

Second Congregational Church, Jeffersonville

The Second Congregational Church in Jeffersonville would like to invite all who feel called to join us for our online church services, Sundays at 10:00 – 11:00 AM, in person or on Zoom. Know that no matter who you are or where you are in life's journey, you are welcome at our church; or in this case, our webspace! https://www.facebook.com/SecondCongregationalUCC

Jericho Congregational Church

"An Historic Church Proclaiming an Eternal Message"
On the Green in Jericho Center, VT
Senior Pastor, David Coons and Youth Pastor, Pete Anderson
Sunday School at 8:30 AM for all ages
Fellowship time at 9:30 AM
Worship Service at 10:00 AM
Nursery care provided
Youth group 6:15 PM Sundays in our Sunday school building

All are welcome at Good Shepherd, Jericho

You are invited to worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on VT Rt. 15 at 9:00 AM every Sunday. The building is accessible — all are welcome! There are varied musical styles in worship

services, including Folk, Contemporary, Celtic, Latin American, and traditional. Weekday online offerings include Centering Prayer. We are an open-minded Christian community with a focus on social justice issues, where people from different faith traditions, along with those who aren't sure where they belong or what they believe, seek the support of a spiritual home. We welcome you in the name and love of Christ. More information is at www.goodshephrdjericho.org.

Calvary Episcopal Church

Calvary Episcopal is a welcoming, caring, Christian community called to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ, grow our spiritual gifts, and serve our neighbors. The Spirit is stirring in this little church. Come be a part of it! Calvary is located at 370 VT Rt. 15 in Jericho and worships Sundays at 9:30 AM. The parish administrator can be reached at *calvarychurchjericho@gmail.com* or 802-899-0453.

St. Thomas Catholic Church

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

Waterville Union Church

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

COMING EVENTS

Ongoing Events

Jeffersonville Farmers' and Artisan Market — rain or shine on Wednesdays, 4:00 PM – dusk, 49 Old Main St., Jeffersonville, across from the painted silos. Visit this local marketplace of farmers, specialty food producers, and artisan crafts. More information on the Farmers' Market — vendors, live music, and family events — is available at www.jeffersonvillefarmmarket.com, where you can sign up for their newsletter.

Jericho Farmers' Market — Mills Riverside Park, Jericho, Thursdays, 3:00 – 6:30 PM. This wonderful community market supports local farmers, artisans, and musicians and serves as a community gathering space with access to fresh food and Vermont crafts. Information is online at https://www.jerichofarmersmarket.com/, where you can sign up for their weekly newsletter.

Richmond Farmers' Market — Volunteers Green, Richmond, Fridays, 3:00 – 6:30 PM. The Richmond Farmers' Market strives to strengthen the direct connection between producers and consumers by providing an inclusive space for all members of the community to convene over and celebrate local food, artisanal crafts, music, and more. The music and events schedule at https://richmond-farmers-market.square.site/ entertainment. More information on the market and parking is available online at https://richmond-farmers-market.square.site/.

Summer Food Truck Nights in Underhill — monthly on third Fridays, July 19, August 16, and September 20, 5:00 – 9:00

PM at Moore Park, Underhill Center. Bring a lawn chair to chat with neighbors and enjoy food trucks and great music!

The Underhill-Jericho Walking Club meets Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 5:30 PM, at the United Church of Underhill on Park St., Underhill. We walk for 30-45 minutes; we don't walk if it is raining or snowing. Please bring yak tracks and a headlamp. Join us whenever you like!

The Jericho Historical Society meets at the Old Red Mill, VT Rt. 15, Jericho on the second Thursday of each month (July 11) at 6:00 PM. Visit our website for more information or to request a zoom invitation: https://www.jerichohistoricalsociety.org/events.

Craft Group: meets twice a month on Thursdays (July 11, 25), 6:00 – 8:00 PM, Deborah Rawson Memorial Library, 8 River Rd., Jericho. Open to anyone interested in coming with any craft they like: crocheting, rug hooking, knitting, needlepoint, watercolors, jewelry making, macramé... you name it! If you have any questions please contact Amy Tower, 802-355-9671 or atowerinvt@gmail.com, or Julie Hehir, 802-899-3199 or juliehhehir@comcast.net.

Waterville Country Church hosts a Community Meal the first Thursday of each month (August 1; note that because of the holiday, the July 4 meal was held on June 27). Come enjoy a relaxing homemade meal with neighbors at the church, or pick up meal(s) to go. Donations accepted. All donations will be given to a local nonprofit, charity, or community service organization. For information contact Susan Schill or Kim Pitt,

watervillecountrychurch@gmail.com. Ask about delivery to shut-ins!

Yoga in Underhill Center, Tuesdays through July 23 — The Underhill Recreational Committee is pleased to offer a weekly by-donation Gentle Yoga Classes, 6:30 — 7:30 PM, at the Underhill Town Hall, Pleasant Valley Rd., Underhill Center. Diana Rose teaches these classes designed for all: no expectations or prior experience needed. We begin with joint opening exercises and warm-ups, then a balanced series of standing, seated, and reclined poses (modifications available), and finishes with guided relaxation meditation. Please RSVP to InfinityOasis1111@gmail.com or 802-345-9435; drop-ins are also welcome. Donations by cash/check/Venmo will be accepted but not expected. Please bring a yoga mat if you have one or Diana will have a few extras to borrow!

Bone Builders Class: at the Jeffersonville Church (Second Congregational Church of Christ, 16 Church St., Jeffersonville) from 11:00 AM – 12:15 PM on Mondays and Thursdays. It is a drop-in class, but first-timers have a couple of pages to fill out and sign. It is free, but a donation bucket is available for those wishing to reimburse the church for the use of the space. All are welcome. We have a good time — be prepared for some laughter as well as improving your strength and balance. Call Melody Tobin (802-644-2409) to discuss, or just show up.

Bone Builders Class: at St. Thomas Catholic Church, Underhill Center, on Mondays/Wednesdays/most Fridays, 9:00

Coming events continued on page 5

Summer camps continued from page 2

fun and gaining a sense of stewardship for Lake Champlain.

Registration is open for the 2024 season. Don't miss out on all the summer fun! Sessions are week-long half-day and full-day for new and experienced sailors. LCYC's program builds confidence and independence. Instructors are U.S. Sailing certified and maintain Red Cross First Aid and CPR qualifications.

For more information go to https://lcyc.info/junior-sailing.

Summer camp registration open at Saxon Hill School

Register today for summer camp at Saxon Hill School in Jericho!

Weekly camps at Saxon Hill School provide the ideal experience for children looking to explore the wonders of nature through discovery and adventure. Saxon Hill School camps engage children with art, adventure, creation, construction, nature, and fun.

Our camps are designed for children ages 3-6. All weeks of summer camp will include outside play and time for self-guided exploration. At Saxon Hill School, our approach is to follow the lead of children and learn through play. In the spirit of child-led adventure, counselors will aim to focus each week on children's interests and passions as identified on the registration form. Registration is now open!

Camps run weekly through August 12, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. See our website for more information and to register: https://saxonhillschool.org/summer-camp.html.

Green Mountain Conservation Camp registration open

If you are 12-14 years old and want to learn about Vermont's wildlife and gain outdoor skills, consider attending one of the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department's Green Mountain Conservation Camps (GMCC) this summer. If you are a GMCC alum, 16 or younger, consider coming back for another summer.

There are a few spots still available — check out the information and registration at https://vtfishandwildlife.com/learn-more/gmcc.

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

programs and take campers out for field activities.

Conservation Camps continue until Friday, August 16. Tuition is \$250 for the week, including food, lodging, and equipment, and financial assistance is available.

For more information, contact FWGMCC@vermont.gov or call 802-522-2925.

Vermonter summer programs at Smuggs for kids ages 7-15

This summer, dive into the adventure that awaits at Smugglers' Notch Resort in Jeffersonville. Smuggs Camp is your ticket to extraordinary summer memories, filled with unique experiences you won't find anywhere else. Transportation is available for \$10 per day, per child round trip to and from Burlington, Jericho, and Essex. The cost is \$119 (one program is \$129) per day, per child, for programs available Monday-Friday through August 30: High Adventure Mountain Bike; STEM Projects, Problems, and Puzzles; Wilderness and Survival Skills; Arts and Crafts; and Discovery Camp.

For more information, to check space availability, and to register: https://www.smuggs.com/pages/summer/kids/vermonter-camp.php.

Stowe Children's Theatre: Seussical Jr. camp

Stowe Children's Theatre is excited to get to know your camper this summer! Our creative team has chosen *Seussical Jr.* because this show features student performers, student producers, student costumers, and student stage managers like none other!

This summer, we have four camp options for your young Actors and Producers:

Option 1: Costume Design Camp, July 8-12, for burgeoning fashion designers, where we will dye fabric, sew, design, and hot glue all week — no experience sewing is necessary. For information: https://stowechildrenstheatre.com/product/seussical-jr-costume-design-camp-2024/.

Option 2: Performing Camp, August 5-17, for those who want to get out on the stage. This two-week camp requires no experience performing, dancing, or singing — this camp option caters to the first-timer and those who have loads of experience, all are welcome! We will sing, dance, and act this show to life! Ages: 8-16. For information, https://stowechildrenstheatre.com/product/seussical-jr-performing-camp-2024/,

Option 3: Production Camp, August 12-17, for those interested in the arts of Scenic Design and Lighting Design. Learn

together what it takes to put all of the technical elements of a show together; no experience needed. For information, https://stowechildrenstheatre.com/product/seussical-jr-production-camp-2024/.

Option 4: Stage Managing, August 5-17. Have a camper who was born to be a boss? This is the camp for them! This two-week camp teaches the skills necessary to manage an entire production. Stage Management Campers will learn how to record staging notes, manage daily rehearsal schedule, cue lighting, actors, and more. Information at https://stowechildrenstheatre.com/product/seussical-jr-stage-management-camp-2024/

We are offering a 25% tuition discount for siblings. Feel free to use the CODE: geisel24stowe.

Questions?ContactMollytheDirector, stowechildrenstheatre@gmail.com or 802-730-4157.

Our Retail Stores are Open! Stop in and see us, we have missed you!



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mtngazette@gmavt.net

HEALTH NEWS

Have a fun and safe summer

From the VT Department of Health

Sunshine and bug bites

Enjoy the sun without the burn! Protect yourself from the sun's harmful rays with SPF 30 (or higher) sunscreen for FREE thanks to sunscreen dispensers all around the state. Wear long sleeves and pants to keep the sun, ticks, and mosquitoes at bay. Don't forget your insect repellent and daily tick checks too! Find more tips at https://www.HealthVermont.gov/summer-safety-tips.

Swim safely

If your summer adventures include swimming, always have a buddy and watch out for cyanobacteria (a.k.a. blue-green algae) that can make you and your pet sick. Learn to spot it at https://www.HealthVermont.gov/cyanobacteria.

Stay cool and breathe easy

While we often think of summer as an outdoor season, staying indoors is sometimes the best option for our health like when there is wildfire smoke or extreme heat. Sign up for air quality alerts at https://vem.vermont.gov/VTalert and find a map of cooling locations at https://www.HealthVermont.gov/hot-weather.

Register a booth at Substance Use Addiction Summit

From Northwestern Medical Center

Register your free booth for third annual Substance Use Addiction Summit, scheduled for Friday, July 19 at the ChamplainExposition in Essex Junction.

Over the last few years, we have seen progress on substance use addiction awareness and identifying valuable resources for help and change. We also know that there is a lot of work to do.

We welcome all organizations who have any mission related to substance use addiction recovery. Your work is important, others can learn from what you do. We provide the booth, tables, chairs, tablecloth. If your organization is large, sign up for additional attendance free.

Please sign up and reserve your space at https://bit.ly/3X4mHHt (short for https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdsWo GFZYsM7MyeUoYGSYIDAZbn5yapI-52G4zvnZtxSVVoCA/viewform.)

News from Healthy Lamoille Valley

Welcome new staff: We are thrilled to welcome Carrie Patterson to the Healthy Lamoille Valley team! Carrie is stepping into Brian's position as the Youth Substance Prevention Coordinator and we're so glad they're getting to overlap this month. Congratulations and best wishes to Brian as he begins his graduate school journey!!

Be prepared for summer: summertime can be filled with adventure and fun. However, for some adolescents, the departure from the structure of the school year can create opportunities to try risky behaviors such as drinking alcohol or using other substances. Check out these 5 Conversation Goals for talking to kids about alcohol and other drugs: https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/talk_to_your_kids_5_conversation_goals.pdf.

TimeWise Parent/Caregiver Guide: Attention parents/ caregivers looking to support students with how they spend their free time this summer. We have been engaging many of our local schools around helping students develop agency in their free time and make healthy and meaningful decisions through grant funding from the Roessner Family Foundation. We are happy to share these topics with you through our Live TimeWise Parent/ Caregiver Guide, so that you can discuss with your children and set some goals for their summertime activities. We also have some additional summer planning support documents. If you are interested, please reach out to alison@healthylamoillevalley.org.

Signs for summer events and outdoor spaces: Interested in signage for an existing smoke, vape, cannabis, alcohol and/or substance free public space, business, event, or agency? Healthy Lamoille Valley has smoke- and vape-free signs and can offer design and permanent signage printing for your town. We are also giving out some cigarette "buttlers" that are used to collect cigarette butts. Contact Alison, alison@healthylamoillevalley. org, for more information.

Hot cars and heat

With summer here, things are heating up, especially cars left out in the sun on a hot day. This is why I want to park some information with you about the dangers of young children being left — even for a few minutes — locked in a hot car.

A dangerous environment

Believe it or not, a car left in the sun can heat up inside by more than 20 degrees in about 10 minutes if the windows are closed and the air conditioning is off. This can start to happen when the outside temperature is as low as 57 degrees Fahrenheit.

It is also important to know that a child's body can heat up three to five times faster than an adult's body.

If the temperature inside a car reaches 104 degrees, a child's major organs may start to shut down. At 107 degrees, death can occur from heat stroke.

Parents, whom I know would always want to be attentive to their children, might still forget their child is in the back seat — especially if the child is sleeping quietly in the back in the setting of a parent stopping to run an errand while focused on something other than their child.

What can you do to prevent this?

- Always check the back seat and make sure all the children are out of the car before you lock it and walk away.
- A great idea is to put a cellphone, bag, or purse in the back seat every time you load your child in the car, so you are forced to check the back seat when you get to your destination.
- Another idea is simply to open the back door whenever you park even if your child is not in the back so this action becomes routine. A great expression to keep in your head is "Look before you lock!"
- It is also possible a child may climb into your car when it is parked but not locked and then lock themselves inside. So please keep your car locked when it is parked and make sure children do not have easy access to your car keys, which should always be stored out of reach of your children. Better yet just teach your children that cars are off-limits for play at all times.

• If you should come upon a child alone in a car and you are concerned, please call 911 for help whether it is hot out or not.

Hopefully, tips like these will drive home the importance of never leaving a child locked in a parked car, especially on a hot

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Find a way to preserve the Cambridge Community Center

To the Editor,

As with so many issues these days, the vote on the town purchasing the Cambridge Community Center (CCC) was closely divided in our community. I can understand that a very narrow majority do not feel that the town should own the property. We must all respect the democratic process of voting, at whatever level of government.

That said, I very much want the CCC facility to stay in operation and I will support whatever model we can come up with. I'd pay the next five years of gym membership in advance, for example, even though at age 87 I may not live that long. Let's find a creative solution to operate this as a non-profit so that I can continue to benefit from the physical and social aspects of its availability.

The campground adjacent to my house provided me with exercise, social contact, and a place to cool off for the past 25

years. Now that I sold it and no longer have access, I'm looking for the community center to provide all these aspects. We should have a senior center for our aging population, as well as a community meeting space. Let's figure out the next step in providing them as part of this opportunity.

William McKone Jeffersonville There is a statewide listing through VT Fish and Wildlife online at https://vtfishandwildlife.com/sites/fishandwildlife/files/documents/Learn%20More/Living%20with%20Wildlife/Rehabilitation/Wildlife_Rehabilitator_Locator.pdf.

Rehabilitation/Wildlife_Rehabilitator_Locator.pdf.
Thanks to everyone who cares about our reptile neighbors.

Ann Greer Jeffersonville

Turtles crossing roads

To the Editor,

In my ideal world everyone would drive slowly and check the roads for slow-moving turtles that cross roads this time of year to find nesting areas. But that isn't always the case.

If you come upon an injured turtle, you can contact one of the VT Wildlife Rehabilitators:

- in Fairfax there is Audrey, home 802-849-6937, and work 802-849-2023;
- in Westford, you can contact Carol of VT Wildlife Rescue, 802-879-4449.

Thanks for helping the Lions Strawberry event

To the Editor,

On behalf of the Jericho Underhill Lions Club, thank you for posting notice of our June 22 Strawberry Shortcake Extravaganza in the June 20 edition of the *Mountain Gazette*, even though I sent it in a day late. The event was a success! Thanks again!

Chuck Cyr Jericho Underhill Lions Club

LIBRARY NEWS

VT public libraries summer reading programs bolster family literacy

From the moment children are born, the foundations of literacy are built through the songs parents sing, the board books babies explore, and the stories families share. Vermont's public libraries have long been champions of early childhood literacy, offering a wealth of children's literature and programming supporting parents and caregivers in fostering a love of reading.

As summer has arrived, Vermont's public libraries are launching their annual Summer Reading Programs, centered around the theme *Adventure Begins at Your Library!* These programs are essential in helping students maintain their reading skills over the summer break, preventing the "summer slide." Research consistently shows that children who participate in summer reading programs return to school with stronger reading skills compared to those who do not.

Summer Reading Programs offer a fun and engaging way for children to develop a lifelong love of reading. Families are encouraged to visit their local libraries regularly, to check out a fresh stack of books, and to participate in library-hosted events

and programs, featuring science, music, storytelling, arts, crafts, StoryWalks®, and outdoor exploration. Public libraries also host programs for our youngest Vermonters, including rhyming and singing sessions for babies. These early literacy programs are designed to instill a love of reading and learning from an early age, setting children up for future success in school. The VT Department of Libraries supports these Summer Reading Programs through non-competitive grants of \$300 to each library through the estate of the Elva S. Smith Trust in support of youth library activities.

This year's summer reading theme aligns perfectly with another popular service provided by the Department of Libraries: the State Parks and Historic Sites Pass Program. Each of Vermont's 187 public libraries receives passes that allow for free day admission to state parks and historic sites for a carload of up to eight people. This program, a collaboration between the Vermont Department of Libraries, the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation, and the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation offers Vermonters the chance to explore and appreciate their state's natural beauty and rich history.

Many public libraries also serve as summer meal sites, providing free meals for their communities through state and federal programs and by partnering with community organizations.

Visit your local library to learn about the exciting summer reading programs and activities planned for this year. While you're there, don't forget to check out a park or historic site pass and pick up a great book!

DEBORAH RAWSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The Deborah Rawson Memorial Library has air conditioning and is listed as a cooling site, so come beat the heat with us!

Summer hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM;

Wednesday and Friday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM; Saturday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM; Sunday — closed for the summer; Monday — closed.

The library is closed on Thursday, July 4.

All programs are held at the library and open to all, unless otherwise noted.

All ages

Poetry Walk, daily at Mills Riverside Park: visit the Seventh Annual Poetry Walk, a collaboration between Deborah Rawson Memorial Library and Mills Riverside Park, this year featuring the works of nine poets on the subject of summer.

Story Walk® — starting at the end of the sidewalk on the right side of the building and wrapping around the edge of the field. Look for a new story almost every month, or reread great stories

an anala reinit

Featured Artist Exhibit: works by Essex Art League artists in a variety of styles and mediums are on display in the library during July.

Thursdays throughout the summer — visit DRML and JTL at the Jericho Farmers' Market. DRML and JTL will be taking turns at the Farmers' Market again this summer. We will have book giveaways, some games, probably bubbles, and a lot of fun. See you there!

Saturday, July 13, 10:00 AM, Old Red Mill, VT Rt. 15, Jericho: Jericho Families in Nature. [all ages] This month we check out the Old Red Mill. Bring gear to splash around in the river with! Walks are free and open to all. They last about an hour, move at a slow pace, and happen rain or shine. Register here to let us know you'll be there: https://bit.ly/jfin24.

Thursday, July 18, 12:00 PM: Very Merry Theater presents Finding Nemo Jr. [all ages] We are thrilled to once again host our friends from Very Merry Theatre and their all-star kid cast! If the weather is nice we'll be on the lawn between the UID building and the library. Bring your lunch, and something to sit on! If it rains we'll be at the Jericho Community Center. See you at the show!

Saturday, July 20, 10:00 AM: Introduction to Geocaching. [all ages] Meet at Mills Riverside Park Pavillion. Mike and Deb Weinberg and other geocachers will tell us all about the adventurous pastime of geocaching. After talking about it, we'll split into small groups and spread out in the Park to find some caches. Please bring a small, inexpensive (\$1 or less) trinket to trade for something in the cache you find!

Adult programs

Adults ages 19 and older may pick up a Summer Reading BINGO card at the library, then complete five squares in a row vertically, horizontally, or diagonally to get BINGO. Turn in the card with your name and telephone number included for a chance to win a \$25 Amazon gift card at a drawing to be held Thursday, September 1.

Poetry Walk, daily, Mills Riverside Park, 338 VT 15, Jericho. Visit the Seventh Annual Poetry Walk, a collaboration between Deborah Rawson Memorial Library and Mills Riverside Park. This year features the works of nine poets on the subject of summer.

Tuesdays (except July 23), 7:00 – 8:00 PM: French Conversation Chez Henry. All levels of French speakers, as well as the French curious, are welcome to this informal conversation group.

Library news continued on page 5



Library news continued from page 4-

Tuesday, July 9, 7:00 PM: Deborah Rawson Book Lovers read The Monk of Mokha by Dave Eggers, the true story of a young Yemeni-American man who dreams of resurrecting the ancient art of Yemeni coffee but finds himself trapped in Sana'a by civil war. Reserve the book online, or by calling or visiting the library. Questions? Please contact Amy Tower (802-355-9671 or atowerinvt@gmail.com) or Julie Hehir (802-343-0034 or juliehhehir@comcast.net).

Thursday, July 11, 6:30 – 8:30 PM: Mah Jongg. We had enough players last month to have two games going simultaneously! Come join the fun.

Thursdays, July 11 and 25, 6:00 – 8:00 PM: Crafters Group. Bring any craft you can transport and join this group for conversation and camaraderie in the Fireplace Room. Questions? Please contact Amy Tower (802-355-9671 or atowerinvt@gmail. com) or Julie Hehir (802-343-0034 or juliehhehir@comcast.net).

Thursday, July 18, 7:00 PM: Library Board of Trustees Meeting. The meeting is open to all. Those who wish to attend remotely may email Holly, *drawsonmemlib@gmail.com*, to receive a link.

Saturday, July 27, 10:00 – 11:30 AM: Protect Your Garden from Invasive Jumping Worms. Master Gardener Sue Cromwell will explain why Jumping Worms are a threat to Vermont home gardens, woodlands, and agriculture; then Penny Miller will give participants a hands-on opportunity to identify the worms and learn practical steps for controlling their population. This workshop will begin with an indoor presentation and move outside to the library garden at 10:30 AM, rain or shine. Participants may attend both parts, or either part, of the program. This workshop qualifies for UVM Extension Master Gardener continuing education credits.

Sunday, July 28, 1:00 PM: Eric Carle Garden Tea. You are cordially invited to our annual garden tea to thank and honor the UVM Extension Master Gardeners who keep the library's grounds looking beautiful. This dedicated group of volunteers has created a very special Eric Carle Garden, reflecting the renowned children's book author, designer, and illustrator's colorful works, including The Very Hungry Caterpillar. Please join us for refreshments and a presentation of Eric Carle stories.

Tuesday, July 30, 7:00 PM: Mystery Book Group. Call the library for the book title, and to reserve the book. To attend via Zoom, email Holly at *drawsonmemlib@yahoo.com* for the link.

Summer Reading: Youth ages 0-18 may register online now for the summer reading program, *Adventure Begins at Your Library*, then pick-up a goody bag and reading log at Deborah Rawson Memorial Library (DRML) or Jericho Town Library (JTL). Read (or be read to) at least 60 minutes a week and record the time in the reading log. Show the log to a librarian at DRML or JTL, and you may pick a prize from the treasure box. You may visit one treasure box one time per calendar week through Saturday, August 24. If all participants read a combined total of 700 hours this summer, DRML will host cosmic bowling at the library! All who register online will be entered into an end-of-the-summer drawing for raffle prizes. Register online at https://bit.ly/3yZHNwR (short for https://docs.google.com/

forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfcKbofUfgb6k6Y9EvWNuX2DHGBKG_IbLRMZJwJGxanbauiWw/viewform).

Tuesdays except July 9, 10:30 AM: Baby-Toddler Story Time [birth to Pre-K] on the back lawn of the library when it is nice, or in the story corner when it is not. Join us to meet other parents, caregivers, and little ones, as we play finger games, lap bounce, sing, dance, and read a story or two.

Monday-Friday, July 8-12, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Puppetry Camp [ages 8+] Make your very own puppets, build a puppet theater, write a show, and perform it for your family and all who wish to come on Friday, July 12, 12:00 PM! Puppetry camp is always a blast, but space is limited so sign up when you call, email or visit the library.

Friday, July 12, 3:00 – 4:30 PM: Read to Wyatt. Cozy up to therapy dog Wyatt and read him a story. Sign up for your 15-minute spot when you call, email, or visit the library.

Saturday, July 13, 10:00 AM: Jericho Families in Nature Walk. Meet at the Old Red Mill. [All ages] This month we explore the Old Red Mill. Bring gear to splash around in the river. These free walks open to all, move at a slow pace, last about an hour, and happen rain or shine. Register so we know you're coming: https://bit.ly/jfin24.

Tuesday, July 16, 3:00 – 4:30 PM: Maker Day — Cricut Totes [ages 8+] We're busting out the Cricut again, this time to make some tote bags with iron-on designs. Use the digital design space to pick what you want to put on the bag, use the Cricut machine to cut it out of iron-on vinyl, and then use our heat press to stick it on. Space and supplies are limited so sign up to join us when you call, visit or email the library.

Thursday, July 17, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: Adventure Club: Armchair Travel [ages 6+] Let's go anywhere in the world! We'll explore from our seats with Google Earth on the big screen. Want to visit Machu Picchu or Antarctica? We can do that! We'll also set up the green screen to take pictures and digitally transport you wherever you want to go. No sign up needed, come on down!

Thursday, July 18, 12:00 PM: Very Merry Theater presents *Finding Nemo Jr.* [All ages] The Very Merry Theatre and their all-star kid cast present *Finding Nemo Jr.* If the weather is nice, we'll be on the lawn. Bring your lunch, and something to sit on. If it rains, we'll be at the Jericho Community Center.

Friday, July 19, 3:00 PM: LEGO Club [ages 6+] Build a fireworks machine, a supersonic space plane, or a gorgeous summer garden. Need inspiration? We've got idea cards. There's no wrong way to LEGO. Sign up to come play when you call, visit or email the library.

Saturday, July 20, 10:00 AM: Introduction to Geocaching. Meet at Mills Riverside Park Pavilion [All ages] Mike and Deb Weinberg and other geocachers will tell us about this adventurous past time before we'll split into small groups to find caches in the park. Please bring a small, inexpensive (\$1 or less) trinket to trade for something in the cache you find.

Tuesday, July 23, drop-off by 1:00 PM: Stuffed Animal Sleepover [stuffed animals] Calling all stuffed animals for a sleepover at the library! Start their library adventure with a story time Tuesday morning at 10:30 AM, and then let them stay with Mz. Abbey at the library for the night. Stuffed animals will play

games, help the librarians, and have plenty of adventures during their overnight stay. Make sure to drop them off by 1:00 PM so they can join in the fun, and pick them up any time the next day.

Thursday, July 25, 11:00 AM: Adventure Journals w/ Diana Dunn [ages 8+] Local artist and engineer Diana Dunn (author and illustrator of *Pipsqueaks Adventure*) helps you capture your adventures and travel with an easy to make accordion book or loosely bound book. Please sign up when you call, visit or email the library.

Tuesday, July 30, 3:00 PM: STEM Waterslides [ages 8+] Using a variety of craft and recycled materials, create the tallest water slide you can that won't leak, and that a LEGO mini figure can slide all the way down. What design will work, and will just get wet? Drop in for this fun STEM activity.

Please visit drml.org or call 802-899-4962 for the most up-to-date information. Contact information: rawsonlibrary@drml.org; www.drml.org; 802-899-4962.

JERICHO TOWN LIBRARY

Hours: Tuesdays 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM; Wednesdays, Thursdays, 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM; Fridays 12:00 - 6:00 PM; Saturdays 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM.

Tuesdays, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: Slime Club. Kids ages 9 and up are invited to learn new recipes and try some special slime challenges. Kids are welcome to attend unaccompanied. Registration required; please register here: https://forms.gle/MNuhpLtnXn7io8hQ7.

Fridays starting July 12, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Fairy Tale Steam Challenges. Kids ages 6 and up are invited to join library staff, before the library officially opens, to read a fairy tale and then participate in a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) challenge related to the story. Kids must be accompanied by a grown-up. Registration required; please register here: https://forms.gle/MYsVIbqXZsSYAwzH6.

Select Wednesdays and Saturdays starting July 6: 3D Printing Adventures. Interested in using the 3D printer? Sign up for a 3D Printing session at the library! Library staff will be on hand to teach you about 3D printing and to help you troubleshoot your design. This program is open to kids ages 8 and up. Kids are welcome to attend unaccompanied. Registration required; please register here: https://forms.gle/n4v2WXc22UJ8N2iQA.

Thursdays, July 18 and August 16, 10:30 – 11:15 AM: Music & Movement with Miss Emma. Join Emma Cook for mornings of song and dance on the Town Green. Geared towards 4 and younger, but all are welcome! No registration required.

Saturday, July 27: Pet Parade. More info coming soon! This year will be all about adventure, in honor of our summer reading theme: Adventure Begins at Your Library.

We will continue running our regularly-scheduled programming, including but not limited to:

Thursdays, 9:30 – 10:00 AM: Graphic Novel Club for grades 2-5 (our Thursday morning storytimes for kids 6 and under).

Thursdays, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM: playgroup for kids 6 and under.

Saturdays, 9:00-10:00 AM: storytime & playgroup for babies and toddlers.

Library news continued on page 6

Coming events continued from page 3 -

– 10:15 AM; first Friday of the month, 9:45 AM. Sponsored by the United Way of Northwest VT, RSVP Bone Builders is a free exercise program for men and women, designed to prevent the negative effects of osteoporosis. For more information contact Danielle Schwer, 802-861-7821 or danielle@unitedwaynwvt.

RSVP Bone Builders program, Westford Common Hall, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10:30 – 11:30 AM. Free! Please wear comfortable clothing and bring water. This program focuses on balance and light weight training to protect against fractures caused by osteoporosis. Per studies by Tufts University published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, those who participated in the program just twice a week gained muscular strength, balance, and increased bone density. Contact Jocelyn Chauvin, 802-999-6387.

The Power of Perspective art show at the Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd., Huntington. Open every week on Wednesday-Sunday, May-October, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM. The Museum's 2024 community art exhibit is for visitors to explore, examine, and delight in art that speaks to both humans' and birds' perspectives and experiences. How might a change in perspective alter our understanding of the lives and needs of the birds who share our world? Included with museum admission, no registration necessary. For more information, 802-434-2167 or museum@birdsofvermont.org; online at https://www.birdsofvermont.org.

Coming Events

Saturday, July 6

Annual Butterfly and Bug Walk, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd., Huntington. Beetles! Butterflies! And so much more! Join Vermont Entomological Society naturalists and entomologists for an exploratory stroll on the Birds of Vermont Museum grounds. Bring magnifying glasses and an insect net if you have one. Binoculars can be helpful. Do bring your water bottle and dress for outdoors. Pack a lunch and picnic after the walk. Pre-registration is helpful but not required, online at https://sevendaystickets.com/organizations/birds-of-vermont-museum. Free: donations welcome.

Wednesday, July 10

Pirates and Smugglers and the Green Mountain Byway, 7:00 – 8:00 PM at the Cambridge Historical Society, 49 School St., Jeffersonville, Rockin' Ron the Friendly Pirate will regale you with tales Pirates and Smugglers and discuss the Green Mountain Byway. Free; all are welcome; the building is handicapped accessible. Refreshments will be served (homemade, of course) and COVID masks are available.

Saturday, July 13

Jericho Families in Nature family walk, 10:00 AM at Old Mill Trails (meet in the parking next to the Old Red Mill in Jericho). Join Jericho Families in Nature for adventure on trails and in natural areas close to home with other local families! Free and open to all. Walks are about an hour, and we walk rain or shine. For more information and to register, go online to https://bit.ly/4aCN1wf.

Thursday, July 18

Reception for *The Power of Perspective* Community Art Show, 3:00 – 5:00 PM, Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd., Huntington. Visitors are invited to our low-key informal welcome reception for our 2024 show. Meet artists, be inspired, ask questions, explore visual and written art at your own pace, and browse through the book of artists' statements. Read more about the show at https://birdsofvermont.org/art/art-exhibits/. Donations welcome; registration is helpful (especially for refreshment planning): see https://sevendaystickets.com/organizations/birds-of-vermont-museum.

Sunday, July 21

Blueberry and ice Cream Social, 3:00 – 5:00 PM, District No. 5 Schoolhouse, 32 Pleasant Valley Rd., Underhill Center. This fun event is the Underhill Historical Society's 10th Annual Blueberry and Ice Cream Social. Bring your favorite blueberry dessert! The Historical Society will provide the ice cream, beverages, and music.

Saturday, July 27

July Bird Monitoring Walk, 7:30 AM, Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd., Huntington. Join our monthly monitoring walk to record birds on the Museum's property. Please bring your own binoculars and dress for the weather. Free, suggested donation \$5-15. Limited to 12 people; please register for Museum events at https://sevendaystickets.com/organizations/birds-of-vermont-museum.

Friday-Saturday, August 2-3

MMU Alumni Fest 2024, 5:30 – 10:00 PM, Mansfield Barn, 3 Irish Farm Rd., Jericho. Come to the Fest for your graduation year — Friday, August 2 for class years 2000-2023; Saturday, August 3 for class years 1967-1999. Hosted by Grant Allendorf and Supersounds. Friday will feature the Lloyd Tyler Band, 5:00 – 8:00 PM and Supersounds DJ, 8:00 – 10:00 PM. Saturday will feature the Duncan Macleod Trio Band, 5:30 – 8:00 PM and Supersounds DJ, 8:00 – 10:00 PM. For detailed information, go online to https://photos.app.goo.gl/5qhd4asZU2315xEq5. For tickets, contact bpudvah@gmail.com.

Saturday, August 3

Brewster River Bluegrass Festival, 12:00 – 11:00 PM, Martell's at the Red Fox, 87 Edward's Rd., Jeffersonville. This first annual event will feature favorite local bluegrass bands on an outdoor stage. Bands include: *Beg, Steal, or Borrow; Forest Station; Otter Creek; Junction Holdup; the Stragglers; Dale & Darcy; Wadenick*; and more tba. Outdoor cash bar and takeoutstyle food will be available. Family friendly, but please leave pets at home! Cover charge \$20; kids 12 and under, free.

Community Cancer Survivor Paddle Day, 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM, Burlington Waterfront. Dragonheart Vermont invites you to experience the thrill of dragon boat paddling, no experience necessary; and free! Free! Water shoes and moisture wicking lightweight clothing are suggested. All paddling and safety equipment will be provided. Hosted by the Dragonheart Vermont Breast Cancer Paddler Team. To register go online to https://forms.office.com/r/HYcAzyrk6m.

rms.office.com/r/HYcA Sunday, August 4

Lake Champlain Dragon Boat Festival, at the Waterfront

in Burlington (practice weekend July 20-21). The Festival needs you! No experience necessary, but minimum age 14. You can register a team or join a team that needs a paddler. This is a fundraising event that raises money for Vermonters with cancer. For more information about the Festival and to register (advance registration required) go online to https://secure.dragonheartvermont.org/event/lcdbf2024. Contact Patricia Bauer, psecure.dragonheartvermont.org/event/lcdbf2024. Contact Patricia Bauer, psecure.dragonheartvermont.org/event/lcdbf2024.

Wednesday-Friday, August 14-16

Green Mountain Woodcarvers: Mallard Carving three-day class, Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd., Huntington. The Museum is hosting the Green Mountain Woodcarvers' annual three-day seminar. This year, they will carve a mallard drake. Matt Strong and Bob Lindemann will teach the course. If you are interested in taking the class, visit http://greenmountainwoodcarvers.org/class/class.html and follow the instructions there for more details and to register.

Saturday, August 31

July Bird Monitoring Walk, 7:30 AM, Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd., Huntington. Join our monthly monitoring walk to record birds on the Museum's property. Please bring your own binoculars and dress for the weather. Free, suggested donation \$5-15. Limited to 12 people; please register for Museum events at https://sevendaystickets.com/organizations/birds-of-vermont-museum.

Move Forward Together VT community engagement sessions

Move Forward Together Vermont is a project of the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation and the Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative. The yearlong process will result in a vision and priorities for outdoor recreation in Vermont that will direct funding and resources for the next five years.

Share your feedback on the Draft Vision and Priority Actions that will shape the future of outdoor recreation in Vermont. Community engagement sessions to collect public input are being hosted online and in-person throughout July:

- Tuesday, July 2: 12:00 1:00 PM, Launch Webinar (will be recorded and posted online);
- Monday, July 15: 5:30 7:00 PM, Southern Vermont Open House, Manchester Community Library (138 Cemetery Ave., Manchester Center);
- Wednesday, July 17: 7:00 8:30 PM, Northern Vermont Open House, Johnson Elementary School (57 College Hill Rd., Johnson);
 - Monday, July 22: 7:00 8:30 PM, Open House Webinar.

Public input is also being collected through an online feedback form. Visit the Move Forward Together Vermont project website to learn more about community engagement sessions, the online feedback form, and find detailed information about the Draft Vision and Priorities.

Learn more at the Move Forward Together Vermont website, https://fpr.vermont.gov/move-forward-together-vermont. Library news continued from page 5-

Tuesdays and Saturdays, 8:00 – 9:00 AM: Community Yoga (a donation-based class for adults).

Thursdays, July 11, August 8, 6:30 - 8:00 PM: Fiber Arts Circle for adults.

Thursdays, July 18, August 15, 7:00 - 8:00 PM: Speculative Fiction Book Club for adults.

Thursdays, July 25, August 22, 7:00 – 8:00 PM: Sustainability Book Group for adults.

Find us on Facebook and Instagram (@jerichotownlibrary) for regular updates on our programs, services, and collections. library@jerichotownlibraryvt.org, jerichotownlibraryvt.org

VARNUM MEMORIAL LIBRARY JEFFERSONVILLE

The Annual Varnum Library Independence Day Book Sale is Thursday, July 4, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM.

Just a reminder that the Varnum now has air conditioning, and it's actually on! Though we're a compact space, we have rearranged to make more seating, so if you need to come cool off during the heat, please know we're here.

The Varnum Memorial Library is still accepting book donations for their upcoming Annual Book Sale. Please drop off during library hours. We cannot accept textbooks, encyclopedias, atlases, dictionaries, bibles. Books should not be musty, dirty, or in poor condition. We also could use some bags for folks to take home their "new to them" books in. As always, we look forward to seeing our community members and visitors at this long-time event during and after the 4th of July Parade! Hours will be 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Thank you for understanding that no library business (checkouts, returns, computer access, copies, etc.) will be available that day.

The Varnum is excited to announce that we will be serving FREE lunches to all youth aged 18 and younger, Monday-Friday. Our Lit(erature) Lunch Bunch summer program will offer free lunch with a chapter read-aloud of beloved books. Each child who participates will have the opportunity to choose a book for their own summer reading enjoyment as well as various crafts and activities. Each child will also leave with a packed breakfast for the next morning. The Varnum gratefully acknowledges the Winnie Bell Learned Foundation and the USDA for supporting such an endeavor! This institution is an equal opportunity

For your summer adventures, we now offer two State Park Passes that can be checked out for three days; two State Historic Site passes; Read-and-Win State Fair ribbons for youth to the Champlain Valley Fair; as well as our typical passes to local attractions, such as ECHO.

Our normal weekly offerings are:

Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 10:00 AM: Story Time.

Tuesdays, 3:30 – 5:00 PM: Self-Guided Scavenger Hunts.

Wednesdays, 3:30 - 4:30 PM: Coloring Club — not just for

Thursdays, 10:00-11:00 AM: Coffee and Conversations.

Thursday, June 20, 4:30 - 5:45(ish) PM: Boundless Book

Thursday, June 27, 4:00 - 5:30 PM: Adult Crafting (reservations required).

Please check our website for details regarding these and other

programs: www.varnumlibrary.org. We're always happy to see you at the library! Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Friday/Saturday 9:00 AM – 3:00

PM; www.varnumlibrary.org, 802-644-2117 WESTFÖRD PUBLIC LIBRARY

We are closed Wednesday-Thursday, July 3-4: Book Sale only. The Westford Public Library is an official Vermont Cooling Site. Come in and cool off if you need it. We can also help with other fun ways to stay cool: borrow a state park or museum pass from the library. Maybe you want to cool off in a lake, or learn about history in an air-conditioned space? You could also visit Shelburne Museum, VINS, ECHO, Shelburne Farms and more! For our complete list of passes and to check their availability, check our card catalog: https://westford.kohavt. org/?browseCategory=westford-aspen_museum_and_park_

Library hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM, Wednesdays and Fridays 1:00 - 7:00 PM, and Saturdays 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM, no appointments needed. Patrons of all ages are welcome; children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. If you feel you need curbside service, for whatever reason, please email Bree at the library (westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com) and we can work something out. We want nothing to impede you from using the library.

Mango Languages — Visit the "Resource" tab on our website or download the app. To sign up for Mango, create an account with your email, library card number (starts with 2vsr5), and a password of your choosing. Mango for libraries offers over 70 world language courses expertly designed to adapt to a diverse range of learning needs, styles, and backgrounds.

Children

Thursdays, 11:30 AM: Early Literacy Storytime. For birth to pre-school. Outside, rain (gazebo) or shine! Bring a blanket. We will sing songs, read stories, move and do crafts! No sign up needed, all ages are welcome.

Fridays, July 12, August 2, 9:00 – 10:00 PM: Star Party. Join amateur astronomer, Molly Drapa, on a tour of the night skies. We will have several telescopes set up for viewing, but feel free to bring your own. (Leave your flashlights at home!) All levels of star lovers are welcome. Weather dependent.

The Westford Food Shelf is now open twice a month, on the first Wednesday of each month (July 3, August 7), 4:30 – 5:30 PM, on the third Saturday (July 20), 8:00 - 9:00 AM. With increased openings, they need more inventory! The Westford Public Library has food collection bins at all curbside pickups from now on. These bins are for non-perishable food and household items.

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

FAIRFAX COMMUNITY LIBRARY

It's official! We are now moved in to our temporary location at 1151 Ethan Allen Highway and are open for business, so please stop by and visit us!

Our hours have been updated to $10:00\,\mathrm{AM} - 6:00\,\mathrm{PM}$ Monday-Thursday, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM Friday, and 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM Saturday.

If you can't make it to our new location and would still like to borrow books, please feel free to contact us at 802-582-3071, or libraryfairfax@gmail.com, and let us know what books you would like to borrow. We can check them out for you and bring them to the Fairfax Town Office to be picked up.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in our new space! Please sign up at least one week before the program date! All events are free unless noted. Pre-registration required. Contact 802-582-3071 or libraryfairfax@gmail.com.

Youth events

Wednesdays, July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 10:30 AM: Preschool Story Time. Join us for stories and songs! Children's books will be available to check out as well. Before you leave, pick up an activity to make at home! On July 3, Story Time will be held at the Fairfax Town Office.

Tuesday, July 2, 1:00 PM: Interview with a Mermaid. GPL was fortunate to meet two mermaids on their last visit to Maine! They will be visiting, and available to answer all your questions. Ages 4+ Costumes encouraged! This event takes place at The Georgia Public Library. Please call 802-524-4643 to register!

Wednesday, July 3, 3:00 PM: Submarine Window Craft. Make a submarine window out of paper plates! Materials provided. Ages 8+ Contact 802-582-3071 or libraryfairfax@gmail.com to register! This event takes place at The Fairfax Community Library's new location.

Wednesday, July 3, 6:00 PM: Titanic Escape Room. The library is hosting an escape room! Can you find the treasure, and escape the Titanic in time? Ages 8+ This event takes place at The Georgia Public Library. Please call 802-524-4643 to register!

Friday, July 5, 1:00 PM: Talk like a Pirate — Pirate Legends and Lore. Ahoy Mateys! Shiver me timbers! Learn to talk like a pirate and some of the fascinating history of pirates, including fierce women pirates. Bring your own parrot and eye patch! Ages 5+ This event takes place at The Georgia Public Library. Please call 802-524-4643 to register!

Tuesday, July 9, 1:00 PM: Craft Stick Catapults. Using basic popsicle sticks, make a catapult to launch "lethal pom poms" super useful in storming your own castle/home! Materials provided. Ages 6+ This event takes place at The Georgia Public Library. Please call 802-524-4643 to register!

Wednesday, July 10, 3:00 PM: DIY Crown. Make a crown fit for a royal! Materials provided. Ages 8+ Contact 802-582-3071 or libraryfairfax@gmail.com to register! This event takes place at The Fairfax Community Library's new location.

Wednesday, July 10, 6:00 PM: Royal Ball and Mini Waltz. Prepare to get fancy! The GPL Community Room will be transformed into a royal ball. Wear your best princess and prince clothes, and learn to waltz in 15 minutes or less! Bring your favorite people for an evening of fun and memories. Ages 3+ This event takes place at The Georgia Public Library. Please call 802-524-4643 for more information!

Thursday, July 11, 1:00 PM: Unicorns Storm the Castle. Diversify your castle defense arsenal with flying unicorns (provided). We'll stack 'em up, you knock 'em down. Launch rubber unicorns at solo cups at the castle gate. Will the Vikings or the Picts prevail; your skill determines the outcome. Save the Kingdom! Materials Provided. Ages 6+ This event takes place at The Georgia Public Library. Please call 802-524-4643 to register!

Tuesday, July 16, 1:00 PM: Barbie Zombification. Transform Barbies into beasties. Paint, glue, wild hair and your imagination combined make a sister not to mess with! Materials provided. Ages 10+ This event takes place at The Georgia Public Library. Please call 802-524-4643 to register!

Wednesday, July 17, 3:00 PM: Ghost in a Jar. Make a minighost and decorate a jar to put him in! Materials provided. Ages 8+ Contact 802-582-3071 or libraryfairfax@gmail.com to register! This event takes place at The Fairfax Community Library's new location.

Wednesday, July 17, 6:00 PM: Night of Spooky Stories. Bring your favorite ghost story or spooky urban legend to share at this evening circle of oral storytelling! This event takes place at The Georgia Public Library. Please call 802-524-4643 to register!

Tuesday, July 23, 1:00 PM: Dino Detectives. GPL welcomes Fairbanks Museum Science educator Adam for a presentation of dino science and some artifacts from the Fairbanks collection. This event takes place at The Georgia Public Library. Please call 802-524-4643 to register!

Wednesday, July 24, 3:00 PM: Dino Puppets. Make dinosaur puppets out of clothespins! Materials provided. Ages 8+ Contact 802-582-3071 or libraryfairfax@gmail.com to register! This event takes place at The Fairfax Community Library's new

Wednesday, July 24, 6:00 PM: Dino Meet and Greet PJ Storytime. Get on your comfy jammies and slippers and join us for a special evening dino storytime! This event takes place at The Georgia Public Library. Please call 802-524-4643 to register!

Thursday, July 25, 1:00 PM: Digging for Dinos. Unearth your very own dinosaur specimens as you practice being an archaeologist. This event takes place at The Georgia Public Library. Please call 802-524-4643 to register!

Tuesday, July 30 at 1:00 PM: Fairy Houses. Create a cozy home for a local fairy. We'll provide the materials, you bring your imagination! Ages 10+ This event takes place at The Georgia Public Library. Please call 802-524-4643 to register! Adult events

Thursday, July 25, 4:00 PM: Library Book Club. The book this month is The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown. Book club will meet in the library. A Zoom link will be available for anyone who wants to attend remotely. If you would like to borrow a copy of the book, or request the Zoom link, please contact the library at fairfaxlibrarian@gmail.com or call us at 802-849-2420. All are welcome!

The library also offers passes to local museums and parks! You can view our full list of passes at https://fairfaxvtlibrary. org/passes.html.

Useful links: VTGrandpa, http://www.vtgrandpa.com/; Facebook, http://www.facebook.com/pages/Fairfax-Community-Library/160431583972368; Instagram, https://www.instagram. com/fairfaxcommunitylibrary/.

Fairfax Community Library, 75 Hunt Street, Fairfax; 802-849-2420; http://www.fairfaxvtlibrary.org; 802-849-2420.

Library Hours: Monday, Wednesday: 10:00 AM - 5:30 PM; Tuesday, Thursday: 9:00 AM – 7:00 PM; Friday, 1:00 – 4:15 PM; Saturday, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

RICHMOND LIBRARY

Library hours: open for in-person browsing and pick-up at the circulation desk on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM; Wednesday, 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM; and Saturday, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM. *Children*

The Library will be closed on Thursday, July 4.

Summer construction — thanks to Town of Richmond ARPA funding, the Richmond Free Library will be "under construction" this summer to paint the entire building (September). While we won't need to close the library there may be a brief time when one or both handicap parking spots or the sidewalk from Bridge Street are blocked or are within the construction area. The construction crew will work to minimize any disruptions. If handicapped access is unavailable, the staff is happy to meet you in the parking lot to provide materials or pick up items that can't go in the book drop. Just give us a call at 434-3036. The beautiful murals on the library were saved and returned to Radiate!

Covid tests: pick up your free tests at the circulation desk. It is wise to have them on hand prior to needing them, so stock up.

Make the most of your Libby app! Do you enjoy listening to audiobooks or reading ebooks? There are thousands of titles in the Green Mountain Library Consortium inventory to download. Don't be discouraged if a title doesn't seem available for a while. Go ahead and put in a hold. The wait is rarely as long as originally indicated. Tip: Patrons can place up 10 holds, can check out up to three titles at one time. If you're not quite ready to download a title that is ready to borrow, just click "Deliver Later." You won't lose your place in the queue. Want something right away? Use the advanced search feature to search titles 'Available Now." Download the Libby app and get started. Sign in with your library card barcode in the user field and your last name as the password. Contact us if you have questions.

Summer Reading Program — This year the theme is *Adventure* Begins at your Library. A flyer with details of special programs and events this summer is available at the library. Below are a few of the first special programs of the summer:

Tuesday, July 2, 12:00 PM: Very Merry Theater Presents A Little Princess. Vermont's only touring company for actors ages 6-15 will present an entertaining, homegrown musical version of this familiar story. Bring your picnic lunch to enjoy while you watch the show on the back lawn. Don't forget your sunscreen. No registration required; all ages.

Wednesday, July 3, 10:30 AM: Story Stones, a fun way to spark your creative storytelling skills. Create a unique set with small stones, rock paint, cut-out magazine pictures, and Mod Podge. Youth ages 6-12 please register in advance by calling or emailing the library.

Monday, July 8, 10:30 AM: Make Space for Pollinators and T-Shirt Craft. It is time we paid more attention to our important friends, the butterflies, bees, bats, and other pollinators. Children's educator Jerry Schneider will show us how to create and maintain their habitat. Participants will create a unique t-shirt using fabric dye spray and cutouts. Youth ages 6-12 please register in advance by calling or emailing the library.

Tuesday, July 9 at 1:00 PM: Octopus Puppets. Participants will receive a kit with everything necessary to sew a cute octopus puppet. Instruction will be provided by members of the local chapter of the Embroiderers Guild of America. Youth ages 6-12 please register in advance by calling or emailing the library.

Wednesday, July 10, 6:30 PM: Family Game Night. We will have the community room set up with tables and lots of board and card games and even a puzzle or two. Bring the whole family to play together and meet up with other kids and families who love a good game. We'll also have some backyard games available as well as ice cream!

Monday, July 22, 10:30 AM: Spanish Immersion Treasure Hunt. Eva, our friend from Argentina, will give you a chance to use your Spanish language skills or be exposed to the language for the first time. We will follow clues throughout the library which will lead us to treasure! Plus, music and freeze dance! No registration is required for this fun program for ages 4-10.

Monday, July 29, 10:30 AM: Busy Morning Band concert and story. The Busy Morning Duo of Linda Bassick and Greg Rothwell will share original tunes and their new picture book, Squirrel in a Tree. Kids will enjoy singing, hopping, and flying along while they listen. No registration is necessary for this program for ages 2-10.

Wednesdays, 6:30 – 8:00 PM: Knitting and Stitching Group. Drop in to knit, embroider or otherwise needlecraft with your neighbors.

Tuesday, July 9, 6:00 PM: (Mostly) Fiction Book Group. Join us in the Mezzanine Lounge to discuss Goodnight Irene by Luis Alberto Urrea. Contact Gwen Landis, 802-434-5012 or gwennie1972@yahoo.com for information on joining this group.

Thursday, July 18, 7:00 PM: Mystery Book Group. Join us in the Mezzanine Lounge to discuss The Life We Bury by Allen Eskens. Contact Maureen Parent, 802-434-2055 or msparent@ gmavt.net with any questions.

Wednesday, July 24, 6:30 PM: Barbie Movie. Ready for a beach-off? Join us for a night of trivia, themed snacks and one of the biggest movies of last summer. Costumes and pink encouraged! For adults and teens.

Seed Library — Our new seed library is officially open for (free) business. Stop in to "check out" some of our seeds generously donated by High Mowing, FedCo, Annie's, and Seed Savers Exchange. If possible, plan to save and bring back some of your harvested seeds for next year! Stop in or email skrohn@ richmondvt.gov for more information.

Trustees Meetings are on the second Monday of the month (July 8) via Zoom until further notice. All meetings are open to

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

Richmond Free Library, 201 Bridge St., P.O. Box 997, Richmond, VT 05477; 802-434-3036; fax 802-434-3223; http:// richmondfreelibraryvt.org

BROWNELL LIBRARY, ESSEX JUNCTION

Ongoing drop-in programs:

Adults

Community Puzzle: spend some time working on a puzzle in the Main Reading Room. Puzzles rotate as they are completed.

Pattern Swap: bring in sewing/cross stitch/knitting etc. patterns and take a few!

Puzzle Swap: bring a puzzle, take a puzzle, adult and kid friendly! Only puzzles that have all the pieces. Drop your puzzle

Library news continued on page 7

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Get help paying for child care

From the VT Department for Children and Families

Did you know — the State of Vermont helps cover the cost of regulated child care, preschool, afterschool, or summer programs. More families now qualify for tuition assistance based on family size and income. For example, a family of four making \$124,800 a year can receive help paying for care.

To be eligible, families must:

- have child(ren) age 6 weeks-13 years (19 years for those with special needs);
- have an approved reason for needing child care, like work or training;
- meet Vermont's income guidelines;
- be a Vermont resident; and
- have less than \$1 million in assets.

Visit the program's webpage (https://dcf.vermont.gov/benefits/ ccfap) to learn more. If you have questions, contact your local Community Child Care Support Agency (https://dcf.vermont. gov/contacts/partners/cccsa). Agency staff can also help you find child care.

Subscribe to receive news/updates on our homepage at https:// dcf.vermont.gov/cdd.

United Way Volunteer Connection

GET CONNECTED TO VOLUNTEERING — United Way's Volunteer Connection site is set up to help connect agencies and volunteers. Go online to https://unitedwaynwvt.galaxydigital. com/ to learn more about these and other opportunities.

MEALS AND MORE - Age Well is seeking volunteers to deliver Meals on Wheels and share a friendly conversation with recipients. Volunteers can work a regular route every week, substitute for openings throughout the month, or serve as oncall volunteers in case of last-minute cancellations. Delivery is typically between 9:30 - 11:30 AM. Contact 802-662-5249 or volunteer@agewellvt.org.

Score a Hit – SCORE Vermont is looking for mentors to help individuals and small businesses reach their goals by providing business advice and education to aspiring and existing entrepreneurs. Volunteers help clients solve issues, become more efficient, and develop long-term business plans. This is an ideal volunteer opportunity for those with marketing, finance, management, technology, and good communication skills. Contact recruiting 0284@scorevolunteer.org.

Sailing, sailing... - Northeast Disabled Athletic Association (NDAA) is ready to set sail this summer and is seeking a volunteer, age 16 and older, to lead their adaptive summer sailing program located at The Moorings in Malletts Bay. This volunteer must be comfortable launching, rigging, and maintaining two sailboats and an inflatable, and instructing and scheduling sailors and volunteers. Two days a week, from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM, June-September. Contact nbesio@gmail.com.

LITTER CLEANUP - Franklin-Grand Isle Counties invite volunteers to help clean up their parks and other public spaces: downtown St. Albans, Wednesday, July 31, 9:00 – 11:00 AM, meet at City Hall; St. Albans Industrial Park, Wednesday, August 7, 9:00 – 11:00 AM, meet at the first driveway; St. Albans Bay Park, Wednesday, August 14, 9:00 - 11:00 AM, meet at Stone House in the park, VT Rt. 36/end of Lake Road. Come to one or all! Gloves and trash bags provided.

SUPPORT MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL BEING - COTS is looking for volunteer individuals and groups to help support

- Afterschool Mentors: age 18 and older to work and play with school-age youth in the Family Shelter. Be a friend and role model, help with homework, or just have fun! Flexible Monday-Friday, 4:00 - 6:00 PM schedules.
- Respite Providers: give one- to two- hour respite care for one or two children living in the Shelter. The family will provide food and supplies, as needed, and a COTS staff member will be present for support. Flexible Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM, based on need.

• Activity Facilitator: volunteers with experience in education and/or mental health to provide and facilitate a short activity for COTS residents, Monday-Friday, 4:00 – 8:00 PM or any time on

Background check is required; contact the Community Outreach Specialist at atromyt@cotsonline.org.

Do you have a funny nickname like me?

From Burlington Family Services, VT DCF

My name is Gardener. But most people call me "Deener." It's a funny nickname, I know, but it's what my mom called me as long as I can remember. Back then she was funny and sweet. She had a lot of confidence and was happy. That was then. This is now. I see her as often as I can but it's not always easy. And I can't live with her anymore. Thankfully, I live with a family who understands and takes good care of me. They are helping me in ways my mother and father never could. And as much as I'd like to be with my birth family, foster care has given me a kind of stability I didn't even know existed until I needed it myself.

Foster care doesn't take away the longing to be with my family, but it does help make sense of why I can't be with my parents right now and why my brother is living with friends. He's older, so he's on his own. I'm just fifteen. Yeah, I know, not the chubby-cheeked smiling toddler most families think of when they think of taking in a kid. But there are a LOT of teens in foster care, too. Some of us return to our families; some can't. And so, foster care helps. I'm doing okay. Made some new friends. Feel settled again. And my foster parents' five-year-old calls me "Deener Beaner." Whaddya gonna do?! She's a cute kid. I'm grateful. Hopeful. And just like my real name, "Gardener," we're all rooted a little differently.

For people who might be ready to consider foster care, DCF would love to hear from you. They'll explain what foster care is all about and help you determine if providing foster or respite care to someone like me could be something you might consider.

To learn more, go online to https://dcf.vermont.gov/fsd/foster. Ready to start the process? Sign up here: https://dcf.vermont.gov/ foster-care-inquiry.

Lamoille FiberNet update

From the Lamoille FiberNet CUD Board

Have you seen more trucks and flaggers on the roadside than usual? Crews climbing the poles and stringing fiber? That's Fidium Fiber bringing multi-gig service to more than 8000 homes and businesses in Lamoille County this summer. This upgrade and expansion is made possible by a partnership between Lamoille FiberNet Communications Union District (CUD) and Consolidated Communications, which owns Fidium.

'We are thrilled that Fidium's construction is underway in Belvidere, Cambridge, Eden, Jeffersonville, Johnson, Stowe, andWaterville, and its fiber expansion will begin soon in Elmore, Hyde Park, Morristown, and Wolcott," said Jeff Tilton, WatervilleDelegate and Lamoille FiberNet CUD Board Chair. "And we're even more excited that Fidium is expanding its investment beyond our grant-funded build to reach areas, such as Pleasant Valley in Cambridge. When the project's Phase I is completed this fall, universal fiber broadband service will be available in almost all of Lamoille County.'

Note: Internet services will be provided by and through Fidium; Lamoille FiberNet is helping to fund the construction and is not a service provider.

Fidium is overbuilding Consolidated's existing network, so it is using its existing permits, easements and rights of way to install new fiber. If your road has existing Consolidated service and is part of Phase 1, you can expect to see construction crews this summer.

This work may require some temporary traffic delays and detours, noise and dust. Stringing fiber means vehicles and flaggers along roadsides and pole lines. Installing new fiber optic



Long Trail Day is Saturday, September 21! Green Mountain Club's (GMC's) annual community fundraising event celebrates the Long Trail and invites all members of the hiking community to raise funds in support of the hard work that goes into caring for the trail. Help us reach our \$80,000 goal as an individual registrant or as part of a team. Individual fundraising goals are set at \$272 — \$1 for each mile of the Long Trail. Then on September 21, we invite you to celebrate our collective fundraising success by hiking. Join a Long Trail Day hike with one of GMC's membership sections, hike your own hike on your favorite stretch of trail, or celebrate with GMC staff and our sponsors at Barnes Camp. Go online to www.greenmountainclub.org/longtrailday to register, join a team, or donate to Long Trail Day.

PHOTO FROM THE GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB

lines may also require some digging to access existing conduit or even bury new lines. Paint markings and flags, principally "Dig Safe" markings, may be placed in areas in advance of construction; actual digging typically takes place within a few weeks of such markings. Flags will be removed once work is complete in the area. Crews will work quickly, clean up after themselves and aim to minimize any disruption. Your patience while Fidium upgrades neighborhoods to 100% fiber internet is appreciated.

Depending on where you live, you will get service in late summer or early fall. Construction of the distribution network will take two to three months. Service will not be available until all the necessary engineering and system checks are complete and addresses are verified and activated for service. Fidium will be using mailers and construction alerts to keep the public informed. Once service is activated, then installations may be scheduled. To see your town's map and timetable for the 2024 Phase I construction, go to: https://lamoillefiber.net/is-youraddress-eligible-for-fiber/

To see details for which construction phase your town is in, find your town on this page: https://www.fidiumfiber.com/fiberlocations, and scroll down to the Phases section; that page also shows Fidium's pricing options.

Miscellaneous continued on page 8

Library news continued from page 6-

off on the table next to the main desk.

Magazine Swap: need some new reading material? Check out the magazine swap! Seed Library: check out our seed library! Bring in extra seeds

from packets or from plants. (Please label seeds). Coupon Swap: do you coupon? Bring in coupons that you

don't use and swap them out for ones you do use! Alternatively, donate coupons or come in for coupons to cut down on your grocery bill. Please check coupon expiration dates.

Community loom: collaborate on our community loom! Weave in a few strands and patterns and check in to the final product after the summer!

All summer long: Register for Summer Reading program Adventure Begins at your Library! Register online, then stop by the youth circulation desk to pick up your summer reading materials, including a reading log. You can report books read by bringing your reading log to the library during any hours we are open to the public. Receive a raffle ticket or small prize each time you show us your reading log. Listening to audiobooks counts! Other lists of books read will also work. Visit our website to learn more or ask at the youth desk.

T-Shirts for sale: Adventure begins at Your Library tees will be on sale at the youth desk. Youth sizes \$8, adult sizes \$10

Wednesdays through August 14: Community Walk to Mordor! Join us to trek across the Shire, climb the Misty Mountains, and brave the fiery depths of Mount Doom (metaphorically, of course). Log your miles on hiking boots in the library and let's see how far we can walk together! (Based on The Lord of the Rings trilogy by J.R.R. Tolkien)

Wednesdays all summer long: Adventures in Reading Bingo calling all book explorers! Step off your well-worn reading path and take a reading adventure, persevere through three quests to complete a row, and bring your bingo card to the youth desk to claim your treasure.

Bird Watch Quest — pick up your Birding Journal at the youth desk and find the five birds hidden in the library. Scan the QR code to listen to the bird's song. Show your finished journal at the youth desk for a prize. Tuesday, July 2, 5:00 – 6:00 PM: Taskmaster. Teens in grades

6-12, come do fun, wacky challenges together like those found on the TV show Taskmaster.

Fridays, July 5 and August 9, 4:00 - 5:30 PM: Teen Anime

Club. Adventure to Japan and stream your favorite anime shows while eating Japanese snacks.

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

ESSEX FREE LIBRARY

Hours: Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM; Tuesday/Thursday 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM; Saturday 9:00 AM -

Closed Thursday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day. Library of Things — Traveling outside North America this ummer? Keep your devices charged with our adaptor for EU and UK-compatible wall sockets. Has four USB connectors. Use in over 150 countries.

We still have free COVID tests, gun locks, and seeds!

All library programs are free and open to the public. Children's Area

Summer Reading Program! The theme is Adventure Begins at Your Library. Sign up online or in person at the library. We need everyone's help to grow a jungle in the children's room, and see how many rows you can fill out for the Children's Summer Reading Bingo! Details on the website.

Friday, July 12, 10:30 AM, Memorial Hall: The Swing Peepers. If you like to boogie and wiggle, join us for this wonderful, musical storytelling duo!

Friday, July 26, 10:00 AM, Memorial Hall: Dance with Ashley. Dance your heart out! Spin, jump, and stretch with choreographer Ashley Hensel-Browning!

Wednesdays through August 7, 2:00 - 3:00 PM: Make and Build Group. Are you creative? Want to make something during the summer? Join us for a STEM or arts/crafts activity! Group is limited to a maximum of 20 participants. Materials are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. Details on website.

Thursdays, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: Pokemon Club. Open to grades 4-8. Pokemon decks available for kids to play the card games, as well as some themed crafts available. Participants are invited to bring their own handheld video game devices or tablets to play their own Pokemon games or Pokemon Go.

Fridays: Grab'n'Go Craft Kits. While supplies last.

Exploration Station — ongoing. Check out the blue table for this week's challenge. Musical Storytime: 11:00 AM. Rock'n'read with one of our fabulous librarians!

Adult area

Adventure Begins at Your Library Summer Reading Program Book BINGO! For ages 16+. Grab a Book BINGO sheet and create BINGOs with books read through August 10. Bring your sheet to the front desk and earn a raffle ticket for each BINGO completed to be entered into the Book Bundle Raffle. Winners drawn Monday, August 19. Details on the website.

Adventure Begins at Your Library Smartphone Photo Contest submissions accepted through 5:00 PM on Tuesday, August 6. Community voting Monday-Friday, August 12-16. Winners will be announced Monday, August 19. Open to Essex Town residents ages 16+. Photos must be taken between January 1, 2023 to the present. Categories: Essex Excursions (in Essex Town), Vermont Ventures (in Vermont), Adventures Abroad (anywhere else!). See website for entry form and rules.

Tuesday, July 16, 6:00 – 7:00 PM: Evening Zentangle for adults with Julia Davenport. Enjoy this beautiful art form that welcomes slowing down and tapping into your creativity. No prior art experience needed. Limited class size. Register through the website.

Thursday, July 25, 6:30 – 7:30 PM: Lawn Games for adults, ages 18+. Bring your friends and enjoy a summer evening in the Library's back garden playing bocce, corn hole, and ladderball! Light refreshments provided. Rain location: Memorial Hall, 5 Towers Rd.

Thursday, August 1, 12:00 – 1:00 PM: Noontime Book Group July Vacation! Join us to discuss Flower Net by Lisa See. A thriller on a joint American-Chinese investigation into the smuggling of immigrants and human organs.

Tuesdays, 10:30 – 11:30 AM: Tech Time. Drop in with your device and your questions. We'll do our best to answer them! No appointment needed.

Tuesdays, 1:00 – 3:00 PM: Drop-In Needlecraft Group. Enjoy chatting with other crafters as you work on your project.

Fridays, 1:00 – 3:00 PM: Rummikub for Adults. Museum Passes are available for year 'round fun! State Parks,

ECHO, Shelburne Museum, and more!

Social media: check us out on Facebook and Instagram for updates on events!

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

essexfreelibrary; website https://www.essexfreelibrary.org/.

could find him hard at work for his HVAC company sunup to

sundown, seven days a week. After retirement you could find

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

College news

Rohan Basnet of Westford, VT was named to the Dean's List for Spring 2024 at Champlain College, Burlington, VT. Basnet is majoring in Finance.

Owen Bauman of Underhill, VT has been named to the spring 2024 Dean's List at Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY. Bauman is in the individualized program.

Ayla Bishop of Jeffersonville, VT has been named to the Spring 2024 Dean's List at Emmanuel College, Boston, MA.

Desirae Byrd of Waterbury, VT was named to the Dean's List and the Trustees' List for Spring 2024 at Champlain College, Burlington, VT. Byrd is majoring in Psychology.

Mason Combs of Jericho, VT has been named to the President's List for the Spring 2024 semester at Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH. Combs's major is Elementary Ed and Youth Development.

Jada Diamond of Jericho Center, VT was named to the President's List for Spring 2024 at the College of Charleston, Charleston, SC. Diamond is majoring in Psychology.

Lily Korczykowski of Jericho Center, VT was named to the President's List for Spring 2024 at the College of Charleston, Charleston, SC. Korczykowski is majoring in Exercise Science.

Aedan Lahiff of Jericho, VT has been named to the spring 2024 Dean's List at Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY. Lahiff is in the computing and information technologies

Avery Luther of Jericho, VT was named to the Dean's List for Spring 2024 at Champlain College, Burlington, VT. Luther is majoring in Computer Networking and Cybersecurity.

Violette Martin of Cambridge, VT has been named to the spring 2024 Dean's List at Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY. Martin is in the photographic and imaging arts

Ari Mckennedy of Jericho, VT has been named to the President's List for the Spring 2024 semester at Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH. Mckennedy's major is undeclared

Piper Parks of Underhill, VT has been named to the spring 2024 Dean's List at Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY. Parks is in the physician assistant program.

Connor Philbrick of Jericho, VT has been named to Dean's List for the Spring 2024 semester the Plymouth State University,

Joseph Poley of Underhill, VT was named to the Dean's List for Spring 2024 at Champlain College, Burlington, VT. Poley is majoring in Cybersecurity.

Ryan Richter of Jeffersonville, VT has been named to the spring 2024 Dean's List at Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY. Richter is in the software engineering program.

Reilly Stevens of Jericho Center, VT was named to the Dean's List for Spring 2024 at the College of Charleston, Charleston, SC. Stevens is majoring in Psychology.

Haily Sumner of Underhill, VT was named to the Dean's List and Trustees' List for Spring 2024 at Champlain College, Burlington, VT. Sumner is majoring in Social Work.

Ben Treybal of Underhill, VT was named to the Dean's List for Spring 2024 at Champlain College, Burlington, VT. Treybal is majoring in Graphic Design and Visual Communication.

Emmitt White of Jeffersonvlle, VT has been named to the spring 2024 Dean's List at Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY. White is in the graphic design program.

Aidan Woods of Jericho, VT has been named to the President's List for the Spring 2024 semester at Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH. Woods' major is Political Science.

OBITUARIES

Marlys June Willeford joined the angels in Heaven on Saturday, June 1, 2024. She was born on April 4, 1937 in Dawson, MN, the daughter of Reuben and Gladys (Brown) Lehman. She was co-valedictorian in high school in Alexandria, MN, received her Associate's degree from Bethel College, and her Bachelor's degree from Colorado State University. She married Allen Willeford on June 6, 1964 at First Baptist Church in Alexandria, MN. She worked at Glacier National Park in Montana, in the accounting department at General Mills headquarters in Minneapolis, MN, and part-time at the U.S. Census Bureau, but was a deeply devoted full-time wife and mother as she raised her family. She was proud of her children and grandchildren, she rarely missed one of Tim's baseball or basketball games, and was especially pleased with her grandson Parker's visits to Vermont over the last few years. She designed her own dresses, loved hiking and biking, gardening, and cooking from scratch from thousands of recipes. She liked sewing, quilting, decorating, and crafting, and participated in sewing conferences around the country. She composed her own poetry to send to close friends and family through the years. She was a volunteer for many decades, teaching reading in first grade at Jericho Elementary School, as a mentor for Pioneer Girls at church, and served as church librarian for nearly 40 years with her dear friends at North Avenue Alliance Church. She was the planner and navigator of annual vacations, visiting all 48 continental United States by car together with her husband. She traveled through Europe in 1962, and again three times later in life, when she finally saw the Christmas markets in Germany and visited Prague with her granddaughters. She also visited Ecuador and the Galapagos, as well as Israel. She collected many hundreds of children's books from her visits around the world. Her largest hobby later in life was genealogy, and she proudly traced her family history back to the Mayflower in 1620, in England before that, and from German Prussia in the 1800s. She was a woman of deep faith in God, and she was a fighter, having previously survived cancer, heart disease, and stroke, until God finally called her home. She was predeceased by her son Brent in 2009, her brother Kendall in 2016, and her parents and grandparents. She is survived by her husband Allen, her son Tim, five grandchildren, and by many nieces and nephews and her cousin Carole, and their families. Visiting hours will be held at the Ready Funeral Home, Pinecrest Dr., Essex, VT, 4:00 - 7:00 PM on Wednesday, July 10, 2024. A memorial service will be held at 11:00 AM on July 11, 2024 at North Avenue Alliance Church, Burlington, VT. Interment will follow at Jericho Center Cemetery, Jericho, VT at approximately 1:00 PM. The family would appreciate anyone attending any of the events to share their memories of Marlys with them and join in singing her favorite hymns. Arrangements are in the care of Ready Funeral & Cremation Services. To share online condolences, please visit www.readyfuneral.com.



Leonard F. Charland, age 80, a longtime resident of Richmond, VT and St. Albans Bay, VT, passed away on Friday, June 7, 2024, in the comfort of his lake house on Lake Champlain — one of his favorite places in the world. Leonard was born on August 23, 1943 in Burlington, VT, the fifth child to his loving parents Joseph and Edith (Lawrence) Charland. Leonard was a self-taught, diligent, and zealous businessman, but also a compassionate,

committed and loving family man. During most of his life you

him in his home shop building furniture (oak beds, hope chests, desks... anything his family asked for, he built it); relaxing with a cold Coors Light (or Crown Royal on the good days). During the summer days you could find Leonard at his lake house on Lake Champlain, whether it be gardening, napping on the porch, fishing, boating, and watching his family partake in various water sports. Leonard loved the summer and being near the water it was his favorite time of the year. Leonard met his wife Betty (Champney) Charland in 1962 and they were married on April 25, 1964. They were happily married for 60 years and built a wonderful life together, filled with love, laughter, and adventure and went on to start a beautiful family with their two children, Jerry and Karen. Leonard was the epitome of success. At the age of fourteen he started working full time on local farms to help support his family. Even from a young age family was the most important thing to him and not only did he make it his priority, he didn't think twice about doing whatever it took to help his family. This instilled a strong work ethic and dedication to family that he strongly believed in his entire life and that he passed on to his family. Leonard enlisted in the U.S. Army and following his honorable discharge he went on to have a very successful career in HVAC, working for Vermont Heating from 1966-1975; New England Air from 1975-1983; Northeastern from 1983-1987; and from there he partnered with lifelong friend Donald "Jonesy" Jones establishing Sheetmetal Specialist in HVAC Incorporated 'SSI" in 1987, where he worked until his retirement in 2009. SSI is still thriving today under the ownership of Leonard's son Jerry Charland and devoted friend David Laurie. Leonard was an avid hunter; he spent many years of his life traveling the globe with his friend Scott Thomas. He passed on the love of hunting and outdoors to his son Jerry. Leonard enjoyed long drives, traveling, and quality time with his daughter Karen. Leonard's entire life was his family, especially his granddaughters and great-grandchildren, they were the light of his life and he theirs. Leonard was more commonly known to his family and their friends as "Bubba." He never was "Grandpa," only "Bubba," and it could not have suited him better. The bond he shared with his granddaughters and great-grandchildren is something to be cherished. He was the leader of our family and a hero and idol whom we will always look up to. Leonard's daughter-in-law Kim once described Leonard as being a "silent leader" and it was the best way to describe him. He didn't say much, but what he did say was brilliant and words that you listened to and remembered. Leonard was preceded in death by his parents Joseph and Edith; siblings Phyllis (Charland) LaPlant, Lawrence "Bucky" Charland, Walter Charland, and Paul Charland. Leonard is survived by his wife Betty (Champney) Charland; daughter Karen Charland; son Jerry Charland and daughter-in-law Kim (Martin) Charland; grandchildren Anna (Charland) and husband RJ Sargent, Emily Charland and husband RJ Moore, Courtney Charland and fiancé John Keen, Katie Charland and fiancé Shawn Careau, and Allison Charland; great-grandchildren Devyn Sargent, Daxton Sargent, Izek Careau, Rosemary Careau, Harlow Careau, Kai Anne Careau and Blake Careau; along with many nieces, nephews, inlaws, and friends. His family would like to send a heartfelt thank you to the VNA and Hospice of the Southwest Region for all their support in his final care. A special thank you to his granddaughter Emily Charland, who provided respite care in his final days so that **Obituaries** continued on page 9

Miscellaneous continued from page 7

How does installation work? And what about my long

You can pre-order so Fidium knows you want service. To preorder fiber internet go to: https://www.fidiumfiber.com/pre-order. For additional updates on Fidium's progress, visit this webpage: https://www.fidiumfiber.com/Expanding. Residents with specific construction questions or concerns should call 877-769-4771.

A "drop" is the connection from the roadway pole or pedestal to your premises and is necessary to activate service in your home or business. Fidium has a very generous drop policy. Fidium's free installation policy covers all addresses with existingConsolidated poles or conduit — that Fidium can use as well as all addresses that are 500 feet or less from the access point (pole line or street). If your address is more than 500 feet from the access point and does not have existing telephone poles or conduit that Fidium can use, you will need to work with a contractor to install conduit on your property. Fidium does not cover the cost of the contractor. We will provide more information about drops and installation as the summer progresses.

VTrans construction project updates Richmond/Bolton

Richmond - U.S. Rt. 2 Bridge #29 Replacement June 20

Traffic impacts:

 \bullet U.S. Rt. 2, Monday-Friday, 6:00 AM - 7:00 PM: traffic control present with intermittent one-lane of alternating travel.

• I-89 traffic in the Town of Richmond, south of Exit 11: northbound passing lane closed to northbound traffic between Mile Markers 75.45-76.79; southbound passing lane closed to southbound traffic between Mile Markers 77.29-75.71; beginning June 25, northbound traffic will be placed in the southbound passing lane between Mile Markers 75.45-76.79. This new lane configuration will be in effect for the next several weeks.

Northbound and southbound traffic entering the traffic control zone shall expect the zipper merge to be implemented. Please follow the direction of the traffic control signs and devices.

Motorists shall follow the posted speed limit within the construction zone; Speed enforcement will be present, and fines

Project update: Completed Phase I steel erection and bolt torquing; set temporary barriers; site clean-up for a new traffic

The following was the anticipated work schedule for the week beginning June 24, Monday-Friday, 6:00 AM – 7:00 PM: mobilize cranes and build crane pads; begin Phase II — steel

Please use caution while traveling through the construction

zone and follow the posted speed limits!

Project type: Complete bridge replacement

Please email sbarrett@coibsinc.com, reference Bridge#29, Richmond, if you would like to receive weekly project updates

Completion date: September 2025

Richmond - Bolton U.S. Rt. 2 Rehabilitation

June 20

Traffic impact: minimal traffic interruptions on U.S. Rt. 2 between Kenyon Road and Cochran Road Monday-Friday, 7:00

Project update: completed driveway tie-ins; continued project clean-un

The following was the anticipated work schedule for the week beginning Monday, June 24, Monday-Friday, 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM (daytime work): continue with completion of punch list items and general project clean-up work.

Please use caution and follow the posted speed limits!

Please email sbarrett@coibsinc.com, reference US-2 Richmond, if you would like to receive weekly project updates via email.

Completion date: July 2024

Cambridge-Johnson VT Rt. 15 construction update

Cambridge-Johnson VT 15 Resurfacing Project

June 21

Traffic impact and duration: Monday-Friday, June 24-28, 6:00 AM - 7:00 PM, motorists can expect up to three traffic control packages on VT Rt. 15 (VT 15) in Johnson and Cambridge. There will be alternating one-way traffic controlled by flaggers within the project limits from just east of the VT 100C intersection in the Village of Johnson to the VT 15/ VT108 junction in Cambridge.

Motorists are encouraged to slow down and exercise caution while traveling within the project area. Expect traffic delays and plan extra time for travel.

Construction activities: Crews will begin paving the leveling course of asphalt on VT 15 within the Village of Johnson, starting iust east of the VT 100C intersection and continuing west. During peak commuting hours (6:00 - 8:00 AM and 4:00 - 6:00 PM), crews will be off the roadway within the village limits.

Crews will continue milling the roadway on VT 15, starting near Hogback Road and moving west toward Cambridge. On Thursday, crews are anticipated to begin reclaiming the roadway on VT 15, starting just west of the Village of Johnson limits and continuing west.

Location: VT Rt. 15 from the VT 15/ VT108 junction in Cambridge, continuing 9.1 miles to a point east of the VT 100C intersection in the Village of Johnson.

Clarina Howard Nichols Center seeks donations

The Clarina Howard Nichols Center is seeking donations of the following items for their emergency shelter for survivors of domestic and sexual violence, stalking, and human trafficking.

The need is for toilet paper, paper towels, drawstring trash bags (13 gallon), and liquid dish soap.

Drop-off items you would like to donate at these locations:

- In Company, Stowe; daily 10:00 AM 5:00 PM;
- · Clarina's Community Center, Morrisville (to schedule, please contact info@clarina.org); • Johnson Health Center, Johnson; Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM
- Three Mountain Roofing, Jeffersonville; Monday-Friday, 7:00 AM - 3:00 PM.

It's hot... is a heat pump right for you?

From Efficiency Vermont

Heat pumps are all the rage, but let's be real: they can be an investment. And like any investment, you want to make sure it's the right choice for you and your family before diving into

Efficiency Vermont has compiled a list of five questions that can help determine whether a heat pump is right for your home's unique setup and your family's specific needs. See whether a heat pump could work for your home: https://www.efficiencyvermont. com/blog/how-to/is-a-heat-pump-heating-cooling-system-right-

It can also be helpful to hear from homeowners who have heat pumps. We talked to three families who installed them, each for different reasons. Their stories are helping Vermonters learn what life is like with a heat pump: https://www.efficiencyvermont.com/ blog/your-story/3-stories-that-show-that-heat-pump-systemswork-in-vermont-homes.

If you've done your homework and you're ready to dive in, be sure to check out the available rebates and options to pay for the project costs monthly. Rebates start at \$350 off, plus an additional tax credit of up to 30% of cost: https://www.efficiencyvermont. com/rebates/list.

ART / MUSIC / THEATER

Music in the Park — Mills Riverside Park in Jericho has Wednesday night concerts, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, scheduled throughout July. For all ages; free admission (cash donations accepted) and free parking. Bring chairs, blankets, and a picnic! All shows are weather permitting. Dogs are welcome but must be leashed. For more information: https://www.millsriversidepark.org/calendar/concerts.

July 3: Shellhouse is a melodic rock band, doing original tunes and rock favorites from the 1960s-2000s. All members originally come from New York City except Steve, who comes from the Chicago area; all have lived in Vermont for decades. The band is: Bob Teer, vocals, harmonica, guitar, songwriter; Andrea Teer, vocals and manditar; Marshall Breakstone, bass guitar and vocals; Dan Lurie, lead guitar; and Steve Wanderlich, drum.

July 10: Sugar in the Pan plays traditional music from New England, Québec, maritime Canada, and beyond, featuring lively tunes that will have folks of all ages up and dancing! These fantastic teenage musicians with the Young Tradition Vermont Touring Group — Ari Glasser, Eleanor Freebern, Eli Glasser, Emma Taylor McCallum, and Winslow Solomon — offer creative and engaging arrangements for fiddles, five-string banjo, keyboard, and harp. They have performed at the New World Festival (Randolph) and the Young Tradition Festival (Burlington), toured Cape Breton (2023) and Québec (2024); and entertained at retirement communities and schools in Vermont.

July 17: The *Smokey Newfield Project* decided that starting a band was a cheaper way to deal with their mid-life crises than therapy or buying convertibles. SNP burst onto the local music scene in 2013 playing farmers' markets, private parties, local bars, restaurants, and fundraisers. Known for rich vocal harmonies and varied instrumentation, SNP features Bill Valliere (a.k.a. Smokey Newfield) on guitar, Cathy Cameron-Muscente on guitar and bass, Tom Chadwick on drums, and Laura Chadwick on keyboard/melodica, violin, bass, mandolin, and guitar. They cover an eclectic mix of folk rock, classic rock, country, pop, and anything else that tickles their musical sensibilities.

July 24: *Mama Tried*, a four-piece Americana band with Rebecca Padula's smokin' vocals, guitar, and ukulele; Linda Kallinger on fiddle, mandolin, and harmonies; "Ukulele" Clare Innes on ukulele, banjo, and vocals; and Kathy Mulligan holding down the baselines.

July 31: *The Buck Hollers Band* returns with their eclectic mix of Americana, folk, country, R&B, rockabilly, rock'n'roll, newgrass, and Irish music — mixed with a good dose of stage banter and comedy. Dave Vallett's clean melodic acoustic guitar work, hot rockabilly electric sounds, and a little banjo mix with Steve White's rhythm guitar and sweet harmonica and Joel Snyder Jr.'s tight percussion. Local 'kids' Matt Parisi on bass and Cathy (Parisi) Weymouth on keyboard round out the group, which also features some nice *a capella* and four-part harmonies.

Westford's Red Brick Coffee House will meet on Friday, July 5, 7:00 – 9:00 PM for an open mic and jam for musicians and audiences, at the Red Brick Meeting House, VT Rt. 128, Westford. All forms of music or presentations encouraged. Bring a snack and/or beverage and hang out for some music and chats or BYO board/card games. All ages. Donations welcome for building maintenance support.

Underhill Food Truck Night Summer Schedule: Underhill Food Truck Nights are back for another summer of food and live music, presented by the Underhill Recreation Committee! Mark your calendars for the following dates: Friday, July 19: *King Me*; Friday, August 16: *The Buckhollers*; Friday, September 20: Blake Matteson, followed by the *Barn Rats*. All Food Truck Nights are in Moore Park in Underhill Center and are from 5:00 – 8:00 PM except for September 20, which is 5:00 – 7:30 PM. Hope to see you there!

Johnson's Tuesday Night Live kicks off a new season of free, family-friendly concerts on July 9, 6:00-8:30 PM with *PURPLE*, a Prince tribute band, taking over the Tuesday Night Live outdoor stage at the Legion Field on School Street with an all-star cast of musicians. The funky, good time dance party is led by Craig Mitchell, who navigates through Prince's vast catalogue of music.

Tuesday Night Live is free thanks to the support of local businesses. Just bring a blanket or chair. A variety of vendors with food, including the Historical Society with slices of homemade pie, will be on site. Parking is along School Street in the Elementary School lot and at the McClelland Building parking lot on College Hill. Rain or shine — summer showers may dampen the enthusiasm for a few minutes, but it is lightning and thunder that stops the music.

Subsequent Tuesday Night performances include: July 16, Dipped in Moonlight; July 23, The Steppes; July 30, Beg, Steal or Borrow; August 6, TEKE::Teke; August 15, Rik Palieri and George Mann; August 20, to be announced; and August 27, Soul Project NOLA.

Tuesday Night Live is planned and delivered by a volunteer committee of the town of Johnson. All are welcome to attend,

free of charge! For more information, contact 802-635-2943. **Burlington City Arts** (BCA) has two new summer exhibitions.

Essential Figure (https://www.burlingtoncityarts.org/exhibition/essential-figure) explores the diverse identities and narratives of people through intersections of race, class, and gender. These artists enliven and expand the figurative tradition as they simultaneously reflect shifting social and cultural perspectives. Featuring artists Sophie Cangelosi, Jennifer McCandless, Hannah Morris, Enrico Riley, Suzy Spence, and Lorenzo Triburgo and Sarah Van Dyck. Rachel Rose: Lake Valley (https://www.burlingtoncityarts.org/exhibition/rachel-rose-lake-valley) is a video installation, in which artist Rose creates a dreamlike narrative centered on isolation, imagination, and longing for personal connection using digital animation, sound, and imagery from children's literature. Save the date for our artist reception on Friday, July 12.

Weekly Burlington Literature Group meets on Tuesdays, via Zoom: Michael Sevy of Jericho co-leads this weekly virtual book group and would welcome new committed readers to our sessions. The group met for years meeting in person, but since the has met via Zoom every Tuesday at 6:30 PM. We break down interesting, challenging books into weekly segments of 60-100 pages to discuss form, content, and our impressions in a friendly online forum. Details can be found at https://nereadersandwriters.com/ or by emailing info@nereadersandwriters.com. Our next author is Nobel Laureate Patrick Modiano and we are reading his novel Suspended Sentences. Schedule: July 2: Flowers of Ruin.

The Bryan Memorial Gallery in Jeffersonville in their 40th season presents the Legacy 2024 Collection (through Sunday, December 22 in the East Gallery) features the works of 17 contemporary artists and includes selected works by Mary Bryan and Alden Bryan. The Legacy Collection continues to honor the tradition of artists who visit Vermont and New England specifically to paint. The Bryan Memorial Gallery opened two new exhibitions this spring. The first: New England Waterways (through Sunday, July 7) in the Middle Room Gallery, tasks artists of all mediums to depict the waterways and shorelines around New England, lake, river or the ocean. Stop in to see the artists who successfully tackled this waterway challenge! The second: 40 Years Together (through Sunday, August 25) in the Main Gallery, celebrates the Gallery's 40th anniversary with a vast collection of historical and contemporary works as well as a selection of Mary and Alden Bryan's original paintings. Artists were asked to create works with subject matter from this region of Vermont, highlighting Jeffersonville, Lamoille County, and the landscapes that artists have been coming to paint for over one hundred years. Gallery Hours: Wednesday-Sunday, 11:00 AM -4:00 PM or by appointment Mondays and Tuesdays. Additional information: Stephen Gothard, Director, 802-644-5100 or info@ bryangallery.org or www.bryangallery.org.

At Bryan Fine Art Gallery in Stowe through Sunday, July 14: Evoking Vermont's Landscape. Six talented Vermont artists showcase their original interpretations of the state's diverse scenery, celebrating Vermont's natural surroundings in works that capture the spirit of Vermont, each artist bringing their own flair and interpretation. Participating artists: Ken Rush, Danby; David Pound, Stowe; Steve Clark, Vergennes; Kate Follett, Jacksonville; James Rauchman, Morrisville; Mathew Pardue, N. Ferrisburgh. Free admission. For more information about this and other upcoming exhibitions and events: www.bryangallery.org. Bryan Fine Art Gallery, 64 S. Main St., Stowe. Hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Sunday 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM; Friday, Saturday 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM. For more information contact 802-760-6474 or info@bryangallery.org.

Monthly Essex Art League meeting on the first Thursdays, September-June — Artists and art lovers are welcome to join Essex Art League (EAL) and participate in our year-round, weekly en Plein Air gatherings. We meet each Thursday to paint in a different and beautiful location in the area. Joining EAL also avails you of opportunities for field trips to shows and galleries as well as participating in workshops. The Essex Art League has been open to artists and art lovers from throughout Vermont for 50+ years. For more information: http://essexartleague.com/.

SongFarmers, a community music jam — a place for friends and neighbors to play music just for the fun of it. SongFarmers meets on every third Wednesday of the month (July 21), 6:00 – 8:00 PM at the Jericho Community Center, Browns Trace, Jericho Center. For people of all ages who want to play folk, Americana, blues, bluegrass, Celtic, and more on acoustic instruments — no electronics except keyboard and bass. Everyone who wants to will have a chance to lead songs. Common tunes with simple chord progressions are encouraged so that everyone can play along. Both songs and instrumentals are great. Please note this is not a performance, open mic, or lesson. Folks who want to sing, or just enjoy the gathering, are welcome. Bring snacks and drinks if you like, but no alcohol. Free. Registration is appreciated; contact CommunityJamJUVT@gmail.com.

Fall Open Studio / Underhill Art Council: There is a motion afoot to have a gathering of local artists and artisans on Saturday, October 5 from 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM in the Underhill Town Hall. The idea would be similar to past efforts by our artistic community; however, the focus would be to have a day to show



Burlington City Arts (BCA) in collaboration with Patrick Leahy Burlington International Airport (BTV) announce the completion of Radiant State by acclaimed artist Phoebe Lo. Unveiled in early June, the work spans over 60' across two sections, captivating viewers with its color palette, minimalist forms, and multi-layered surfaces. The work is a testament to the transformative power of travel and the cultural richness of the Greater Burlington region. Lo has fashioned an evocative tableau celebrating Vermont's vibrancy, inviting visitors and locals to immerse themselves in its radiant beauty. The artist's work reflects the essence of Vermont's spirit, offering a glimpse into the diverse narratives and vibrant landscapes that define our shared identity. Nic Longo, Director of Aviation at BTV, said "Phoebe Lo's vision encapsulates the essence of our region, serving as a testament to the transformative power of art and the boundless possibilities of travel." BCA echoed this sentiment, emphasizing the significance of public art in fostering connections and enriching communal spaces. Lo is a multidisciplinary artist based in Brooklyn, NY and Burlington, VT, renowned for her vibrant color palettes, fluid, minimalist forms, and whimsical style. A muralist, illustrator, sculptor, and painter, Lo's work is thoughtful and original. Her projects range from individual commissions and graphic design to large community murals and public art initiatives. For more information about Radiant State and upcoming public art initiatives, please visit www.burlingtoncityarts.org.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

and sell artwork and fine craft as a part of the Vermont Open Studio supported by the Vermont Crafts Council. The intention is to make available a place for those artisans who don't have their own studio space or folks who might like to join in a collective. There may be a small nominal fee to participate. Those funds would go directly to support Open Studio. We imagine adding in food vendors and music as possible to the event. If you are interested in this potentially fun and colorful activity or have questions, please email Betsy Chapek, <code>echapek4@gmail.com</code>.

The Richmond Historical Society summer concert series in the Old Round Church has a concert featuring a local band on Tuesday, September 17, 7:00 PM: feature *Mama Tried*, an allgal foot stomping bluegrass, country folk, and blues string band from Vermont. Admission by donation. For more information contact *rhs@richmondvthistory.org*.

The Persistence of Memory By Kimberly Madura

The years, the waves, come crashing down on this moment. That's what we cling to, moments. This is what keeps us going. All the in between, the waiting for this moment. Now we

have it.

Oh how long
it took for
love to bloom
darling, how long.
Now it is
alright.

It is going to be okay.
We can both breathe again.

Past and present and future collide into this, melt into this moment, melt into this embrace which we can now hold for eternity in our souls, in our minds.

Obituaries continued from page 8

he could remain in the comfort of his own home. In accordance to Leonard's wishes a private family memorial will take place. To know Leonard was to love him. There will never be enough words to accurately describe who he was or the impact he had on his family and friends. We are forever indebted to him and we will miss and love him for everyday that is to come. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to Boston Children's Hospital (BostonChildrensHospital.org, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (stjude.org), or VNA and Hospice of the Southwest Region (vermontvisitingnurses.org).

Bill Haddock of Richmond, VT passed away peacefully,

surrounded by family and dear friends, on Wednesday, June 5,



2024. Although the last five years were filled with the many challenges that Alzheimer's disease brings, Bill held on to his sense of humor and would often bring a smile to people's faces. He would still delight at watching children play, much as he had when his sons Haynes, Luke, and Matt were kids. The quintessential extrovert, he would happily join a conversation in his own unique, warm style. Music was a great passion, and he

continued to sing, whether it was with the Richmond, VT senior group, a special dementia singing gathering, or with family and

friends. His beautiful voice was even able to belt out You Are My Sunshine until close to the end. He truly found his home in Richmond and continued to enjoy walks on his beloved Snipe Ireland Road, often accompanied by friends and his loyal dog Luna. Born in Charleston, SC, Bill was proud of his southern roots. He grew up in Atlanta, GA and attended the University of Georgia, which transformed him into a lifelong Bulldogs fan. Years later he received an MA in counseling psychology from Antioch University New England. Summers were spent up at Blackrock, a family home in the north Georgia mountains, where Bill had so many happy memories. Bill's passion for music was nurtured at an early age when he was chosen through a competitive selection process to be a member of the Apollo Boys' Choir, a nationally renowned choir based in Palm Beach, FL. Modeled after the Vienna Boys Choir, the group toured throughout the country and was instrumental in developing Bill's love of classical music. After college, he spent several years in New York City, where he worked as a social worker with minority groups. In 1969 he moved to Vermont, where he would spend the next 55 years continuing to help people in various positions, including as a social service consultant for the State of Vermont and later through his own business, called Lifetypes, providing personal and vocational counseling to

individuals and couples. He also held positions as an adjunct faculty member at the University of Vermont, New England Culinary Institute, and Burlington College, teaching courses in personality theory and learning styles. During his retirement years, he enjoyed substitute teaching and loved to bring history to life for his students by talking about his experience meeting Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. as a student at the University of Georgia. He also spent many years writing the Business Beat column for the Times Ink, Richmond's local newspaper. In his leisure time. Bill loved anything outdoors: camping, fly-fishing, canoeing, hiking, cross-country skiing, astronomy and, of course, Georgia football. He instilled these passions for nature in his three sons. Bill leaves, Gina, his beloved wife of 34 years; his sons Haynes (Dana) of Bowling Green, KY, Luke (Emily) and Matt (Hope); grandchildren Anna and Daniel; niece Ashley LeConte Campbell, and nephews Scott Campbell and Stewart and Karl Haddock, of Atlanta; along with many dear friends who have been just like family. A celebration of Bill's life will take place on Wednesday, July 10, 2024, 1:00 PM, at the Richmond Congregational Church. To celebrate Bill's life, please consider doing a random act of kindness or hug someone you love. If you wish to make a donation, gifts can be made to the Richmond Congregational Church or the Alzheimer's Association.

SCHOOL NEWS

Hosting an exchange student

By Susan Grab, Underhill

An exchange program I worked with, and had a fantastic experience with, is looking to place some students at Mount Mansfield Union High School, potentially for the next school year. Information below. And feel free to reach out to me about my exchange year, I'd love to talk about it!

Do you want to help change the world?

Open your heart and home to a young adventurer! Promote international understanding through cultural exchange and host an EF High School Exchange Year student. Make international friendships and create memories to last a lifetime! Students are fully insured and have their own spending money. Host families provide room, board, a caring environment, and family.

Choose the student who fits your family. Perhaps you would

Mathis, from Germany — "I would say that I am a well mannered and funny person. I am also very nice and open. I am talkative and adapt well to others. I am reliable and also not messy. I like all kinds of sports and I like to practice them. I like to spend a lot of time in the fresh air and to exercise. But I also like staying indoors and playing video games, with friends, my dog, and doing homework. I have been playing soccer since I was a little kid. Now I am playing in a club at state level. I train at least three times a week and almost always have a game on the weekend. Basketball is also a small part of my life.

Lilly, from Sweden — "I appreciate nature a whole lot and

I enjoy activities like hiking, walking, etc. So my mom is a real environmentalist and works so hard to give back to mother nature. Which also inspires me to keep on fighting for our climate and she has really taught me why it's important. My mother is a very kindhearted and hardworking person and without her I would not be able to go to the U.S. and be apart of your family. I do see myself as a very grateful person and I do try to show and say that as much as I can by helping out. So you can count me in if you need my help. I am happy for this opportunity and look forward to meeting you. I just hope we can learn and teach each other new things.'

For more information, please contact 802-338-2492 or gbedard920@gmail.com. For more information, please check out https://efexchangeyear.org/iec/jan-bedard/ efexchangeyear.org.

SENIOR NEWS

Age Well Grab'n'Go meals

Age Well provides services to individuals 60+ and their spouse or caregivers, and a disabled person(s) living with the senior, regardless of financial status, who completes a yearly registration form; please contact Maggie Gordon, 802-434-3155, to register. Forms are updated each fiscal year, which begins on October 1. Suggested donation is \$5 per meal.

Richmond will offer Age Well Grab'n'Go meals on Thursdays, July 4 and August 1, with pickup between 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM at Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Church Richmond, 64 W Main St., Richmond. Please call 802-865-0360 to order a meal by Friday before the meal is to be delivered; or contact Maggie

Gordon, 802-434-3155 to register. For more information about AgeWell and their services, visit http://www.agewellvt.org.

Age Well seeks Meals on Wheels drivers

Age Well is seeking regular and substitute Meals on Wheels volunteers in Jericho and Underhill.

Happiness knocks when you volunteer to deliver a meal! Meals on Wheels provides so much more than a nutritious meal. The moment you knock on that door, you make a connection. It might be a quick hello or a conversation, but the impact lasts a lifetime. Not just for those receiving the meal, but for you, too.

We need your help. Age Well is currently looking for folks

- · deliver routes regularly (every week or every other week on the same day);
 - substitute in for openings throughout the month;
- serve as on-call volunteers who are able to step in in the case of last-minute cancellations.

Time commitment is based on your availability; it can vary from one day a week to two days a month (weekdays only). Delivery is typically between 9:30 - 11:30 AM. We are in particular need of volunteers in Jericho and Underhill.

For more information, please contact the Volunteer Office, volunteer@agewellvt.org or 802-662-5249, or visit https://www. agewellvt.org/giving-back/volunteer/.

Thank you so much for your help.

SPORTS NEWS

Westford Rec offers Parent-and-Me T-ball, soccer

By Amanda Gifford, Westford Recreation Coordinator Summer is finally, really, seriously here!

Be sure to register for the Westford Recreation Parent-and-Me T-ball and soccer programs. Spend an hour with your little one and other kids and parents encouraging life-long wellness! You don't need to be a sports-person to play!

Registrations are due by July 5 — fill out the form at https:// forms.gle/fhNPtZrfLMsU4KBK8 (note: gmail account sign-in

Fall K-League soccer registration open

Registration for fall soccer is open for Mansfield United's K-League, a youth soccer program for players born between

The season runs from September 8 to October 20 and plays at Mills Riverside Park in Jericho. The team divisions are:

- Pitchniks (born in 2020): Tuesdays/Sundays;
- Kicks (born 2018-2019): Tuesdays/Sundays;
- Ballers (born 2016-2017): Thursdays/Sundays.

The registration deadline is Sunday, August 18; please register https://system.gotsport.com/programs/958P01938?reg role=player.

For more information, please contact mountmansfieldsc@ gmail.com.

Fires, swimming prohibited at fishing access areas

With the beginning of summer and anglers fishing from shore, the VT Fish and Wildlife Department reminds people that open fires and swimming are prohibited at all Vermont state fishing

Open fires and their remnants create unsafe areas for other anglers and boaters to use and enjoy. The remnants of these fires are also unhealthy for the animals and fish that live in the adjacent waters. Fish and Wildlife cleans up the toxic waste left by open fires on state lands annually at considerable expense.

Swimming at fishing access areas is prohibited due to safety concerns and because the primary uses of the fishing access areas is for launching and retrieving motorboats and for shore fishing.

The VT Fish and Wildlife Department maintains 203 developed fishing access areas on lakes and rivers throughout the state. These areas have allowed uses determined by law, and swimming is not one of them.

The access areas were purchased and are maintained with funds derived from the sale of fishing licenses and motorboat registrations, as well as a federal excise tax on fishing equipment, fishing tackle, and gasoline for motorboats. These funding sources explicitly prohibit activities that are in conflict with fishing and boating.

Fish and Wildlife regulations prohibit certain uses of fishing access areas including, but not limited to swimming, littering, camping, picnicking, making a fire, washing dogs, parking of vehicles not related to priority uses, and commercial activity.

"Vermont State Game Wardens will be strictly enforcing the rules at state fishing access areas this summer," said Col. Justin Stedman, Vermont's Chief Game Warden. "Please help keep our lands clean and open for others to enjoy, and report violations to your local warden or use the anonymous Operation Game Thief online report form (https://vtfishandwildlife.com/hunt/ hunting-regulations/operation-game-thief) or the Vermont Fish and Wildlife website at this link: https://tinyurl.com/yxv8x7tk. Reports of time-sensitive violations should be called in to a local State Police radio dispatcher who can contact a warden."

Pick-up games of Ultimate Disc (Frisbee) on Wednesdays

The Cambridge Rec Department is excited to invite you to its community program for Ultimate Frisbee this summer! Whether you're a seasoned player or new to the sport, we welcome all skill levels for a fun and active evening.

Ultimate Frisbee is a fantastic way to stay fit, meet new people, and enjoy the great outdoors. Bring a friend, bring your enthusiasm, and join us for some friendly competition and lots

Meetings are Wednesday evenings, 6:00 - 7:30 (ish) PM, through August 28 at the Town fields by Cambridge Elementary School, School Rd., Jeffersonville.

Please check for updates in case of inclement weather at http:// www.facebook.com/groups/cambridgeultimate/.

Don't forget to bring water and sunscreen. We look forward to seeing you on the field!

Youth field hockey skills and scrimmages

From the Browns River Action Group (Jericho and Underhill) GameOnVT is excited to announce our upcoming youth field

hockey program designed for both girls and boys! Join us every Tuesday evening, 5:30 – 7:30 PM, from July 2-August 20 on the University of Vermont, Moulton-Winder field hockey field for an exciting session of skill development and friendly scrimmages.

Whether your child is new to field hockey or looking to enhance their skills, this program offers a supportive environment for growth and love of the sport.

There will be two one-hour sessions per night (come for one or stay for both). Learn the game, improve skills, and participate in short field matches for age groups: 9U, 11U, and 13U.

For more information and to sign up, please visit http://www. gameonvt.com. Don't miss out on this opportunity to be part of a fun and low key summer field hockey experience!

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Please don't alter tennis courts at JES

By Sarah Brown, Jericho

Whoever keeps putting duct tape lines down on the Jericho Elementary School tennis courts, please stop.

When pulled up, it pulls up paint and leaves sticky marks. The courts are going to be resurfaced soon to a cost of \$30,000. Please, please do not put tape on them! The cameras are on at the school and can be reviewed to see who is doing this repeatedly. If you see someone doing this while you are there, please ask them to stop! There are signs posted asking for no tape.

We are so fortunate to have the courts — please help us maintain them to last for a long time!

We have room for your ad. Call Brenda Boutin at 802-453-6354 for more information or email mtngazette@gmavt.net

MOUNTAIN GAZETTE RATE SHEET 2024

6558 VT RTE 116, STARKSBORO, VT 05487 802-453-6354 mtngazette@gmavt.net www.mountaingazetteofvermont.com

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

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

Total regular circulation 3500

OPEN RATE

\$8.25 COLUMN INCH Column width 1 7/16" Listings below are measured width x height

> Business card - \$33.00 3 1/4" x 2"

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1/12 page - \$66.00 3 1/4" x 4"

1/8 page 3 1/4" x 6" or 5" x4 - \$99.00

> 1/4 page - \$170.00 3 1/4" x 12" 5" x 8" 6 1/2" x 6"

1/2 page - \$290.00 10 1/4" x 8" or 5" x 15 1/2"

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Deadlines: Thursday before publication
Copy - 12:00 Noon
Advertising 5:00 PM

The Mountain Gazette, 6558 VT RTE 116, Starksboro, VT 05487
Phone: 802-453-6354 mtngazette@gmavt.net
www.mountaingazetteofvermont.com

Helping fireflies and other nocturnal animals

From Sabina Ernst and xerces.org

In celebration of World Firefly Day (overnight, Saturday-Sunday, July 6-7) and in support of fireflies everywhere, we encourage you to consider the impact your lighting activities may have on our nighttime fauna. The theme of this year's World Firefly Day is *Fireflies, Our Cultural Heritage*. Being thoughtful about outdoor lighting can benefit not only fireflies but also other nocturnal animals such as moths and bats.

The most important step to take to protect nocturnal species like fireflies from light pollution is to reduce or eliminate unnecessary outdoor lighting. For fireflies, this is especially important in the summer when adults are active. We can strive to keep as many areas as possible dark at night, while still keeping them safe for humans

To help fireflies in areas where lights cannot be turned off at night, consider the following options:

• swap bright light bulbs for dim red bulbs, which fireflies are less able to see, or filter existing bulbs to make them dimmer and redder;

- limit outdoor illumination to desired areas such as sidewalks or pathways;
- place landscape lighting low to the ground to reduce the lit area;
- shield lights so they point down, rather than radiating outward in all 360 degrees;
- use motion-detection and/or automatic timers so lights are on only as needed;
 limit the number of hours that lights are
- kept on;

 close your curtains or blinds at night when interior lights are on in order to reduce
- when interior lights are on in order to reduce the amount of light that shines outside of your windows.

 Many of us have fond memories of summer nights watching fireflies. Let's help our future

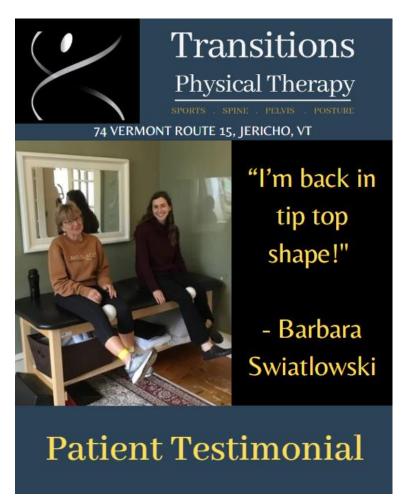
Many of us have fond memories of summer nights watching fireflies. Let's help our future generations have the same opportunities by taking steps to provide firefly habitat and following guidelines to keep our night skies dark.

For more information, go online to https://www.xerces.org/blog/world-firefly-day-keep-nights-dark.



You can see the turning of the stars around Polaris (that is, the rotation of the Earth) but you can't count the flashes from fireflies in this long exposure photo.

PHOTO BY MIKE LÉWINSKI / FLICKR CREATIVE COMMONS 2.0





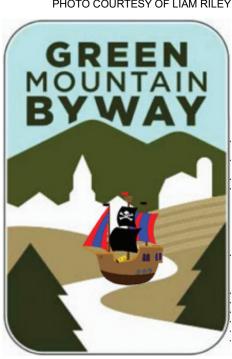
An Eastern Painted Turtle, often called a "Painter" — is no danger to anyone. This is a big one, that has hibernated through quite a few winters. These turtles are omnivores that like ponds, lakes, marshes, and other bodies of still to sluggish water, with soft bottoms and abundant aquatic vegetation. Liam (hands pictured above) carried the turtle a ways in the direction it was already going and past any danger, and let it go on its way to the pond it was headed toward.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LIAM RILEY





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At their meeting on Wednesday, July 10, 7:00 – 8:00 PM, the Cambridge Historical Society (49 School St., Jeffersonville) will host Rockin' Ron the Friendly Pirate to regale you with tales Pirates and Smugglers and to discuss the Green Mountain Byway. Free; all are welcome; the building is handicapped accessible. Refreshments will be served (homemade, of course) and COVID masks are available.

We have room for your ad.

Call Brenda Boutin at 802-453-6354

for more information or email **mtngazette@gmavt.net**