

Marilyn James exhibits at Gruppe Gallery



Marilyn James is currently showing at the Emile A Gruppe Gallery, Barber Farm Rd., Jericho in a new show titled Old and New Paintings. For over 50 years, Marilyn James of Essex has been a part of the Vermont art scene. Moving here with family in the 1970s, she became part of a group of women who established the Essex Art League (which just celebrated their 50th anniversary). Over the years her art has kept tempo with life's changes, going from traditional oils to watercolors to palette knife and back to water-soluble oils. This exhibit reflects those changes. Marilyn's inspiration comes from the changing landscape that surrounds her, which she records in her studio using the skills acquired from years of workshops and classes. The show will hang through Sunday, November 6. For hours and more information, go online to emilegruppegallery.com.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

NEWS BRIEFS

On the November 8 Proposal 2 (Article 1 of Chapter 1)

From the Vermont Public website <https://www.vermontpublic.org/local-news/2022-10-03/a-guide-to-voting-in-vermont-for-the-2022-midterm-election>.

For additional information, see also [https://ballotpedia.org/Vermont_Proposal_2,_Prohibit_Slavery_and_Indentured_Servitude_Amendment_\(2022\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Vermont_Proposal_2,_Prohibit_Slavery_and_Indentured_Servitude_Amendment_(2022)).

Voters will decide on whether to adopt two different amendments to the Vermont Constitution. These are on the ballot after going through the state Legislature. A majority of voters have to approve the proposed amendments for the Constitution to change. Proposal 5/Article 22 was covered in the September 1, 2022 edition of the *Mountain Gazette*. On the ballot for the Tuesday, November 8 midterm election, voters will be asked:

To see if the voters will amend the Vermont Constitution by amending Article 1 of Chapter 1 to read:

"Article 1. [All persons born free; their natural rights; slavery and indentured servitude prohibited] That all persons are born equally free and independent, and have certain natural, inherent, and unalienable rights, amongst which are the enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing and protecting property,

and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety; therefore no person born in this country, or brought from over sea, ought to be holden by law, to serve any person as a servant, slave or apprentice, after arriving to the age of twenty-one years, unless bound by the person's own consent, after arriving to such age, or bound by law for the payment of debts, damages, fines, costs, or the like slavery and indentured servitude in any form are prohibited."

This amendment to Article 1 of Chapter 1 is commonly known as Proposal 2 or Prop 2.

Most residents of the state have probably heard at some point in their lives that Vermont was the first state to abolish slavery. In fact, Vermont's Constitution, first written in 1777, actually contains language that allows for slavery or indentured servitude under certain circumstances.

Two organizations — the Vermont Racial Justice Alliance (VRJA) and Vermont Interfaith Action — launched a campaign this summer to strip those so-called "exception clauses" from the state's founding document.

Rev. Mark Hughes, executive director of the VRJA, told Vermont Public getting people to vote "yes" on Prop 2 is the easy part. The heavier lift, he said, is explaining the state's complicated history with slavery, and how its legacy persists.

More than 20 states have constitutions with exception clauses. In the last four years, three states — Colorado, Nebraska and Utah — have approved constitutional amendments to remove them.

NEWS BRIEFS

Halloween candy donations needed in Jeffersonville

By Kevin White
Cambridge Recreation Board Chair

October is here and Halloween is just around the corner! Halloween in Jeffersonville is a special event and a great evening of outdoor family fun. The residents of Jeffersonville Village welcome an enormous number of trick-or-treaters each year and there is a way that all of us can help lighten the burden for our neighbors.

Collection boxes are at Cambridge Elementary School, the Union Bank, and Hanley's again this year. Donated candy will be distributed to anyone in the village who requests it.

Please reach out if you would like to receive some and please check in with neighbors who may not be online. If all of us who enjoy this great tradition contribute what we can, we can keep those porch lights on!

Vermont Public
ELECTION 2022

VOTER GUIDE

Vermont Public's online Voter Guide (<https://www.vermontpublic.org/local-news/2022-10-03/a-guide-to-voting-in-vermont-for-the-2022-midterm-election>) offers nonpartisan, accurate information about the candidates, races, and issues that voters will decide on Tuesday, November 8.

PHOTO BY LAURA NAKASAKA
VERMONT PUBLIC

CSWD: Materials Recovery Facility bond information

By Alise Certa, CSWD Marketing and Communications Manager

Questions are pouring in to Chittenden Solid Waste District (CSWD) about the new Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) Bond that will be voted on in the upcoming General Election. We picked the top three questions about the Bond and wanted to share the answers with the community.

QUESTION: *What is the bond for?*
Chittenden County needs a new municipally-

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COMING EVENTS



We can't highlight the creativity of our community without your brilliance, so be sure to submit your big ideas for Burlington's New Year's Eve celebration by Monday, October 24. The Bright Ideas Project, powered by VSECU, offers up to \$10,000 of support to make concepts for events, performances, and installations a reality, empowering the creative dynamos in our community to shape Highlight from the inside out. From multimedia dance performances to pop-up dining experiences, The Bright Ideas Project encourages you to think big and share your idea with your neighbors, bringing us all together for one special night! Learn more and apply online at http://highlight.community/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/HighlightNYE2022_RFP.pdf PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Wednesday, October 19

Craft Group, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, District 5 Schoolhouse, Pleasant Valley Rd. (corner of Stevensville Rd.), Underhill Center. Spend a couple of hours working on your current project while socializing with your neighbors. The group meets every two weeks. Open to everyone. For questions or more information contact Amy Tower, 802-355-9671 or atowerinvt@gmail.com; or Julie Hehir, 802-899-3199 or juliehehir@comcast.net.

EWSD Vision meeting, 6:00 – 8:30 PM, Essex High School cafeteria, Essex Junction. Come help determine the skills Essex/Westford students need to be successful in the 21st century. Facilitated by Batelle for Kids, a national nonprofit that will work with this EWSD group to help guide the district in making sure kids graduate with what they need to be successful. To learn more and sign up: www.ewsd.org/PortraitOfAGraduate.

Thursday, October 20

Farmer Peer Network meeting, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, on Zoom. Farmers are in a unique position to help other farmers manage the stressors of farm life and to learn to thrive together. That's the idea behind the Farmer Peer Network, a new program of Farm First, a Vermont-based public program providing resources and support for farmers for over 10 years. Come learn about the Farmer Peer Network at a virtual community gathering, for discussion about farming stress and ways to manage it, Farm First resources, the 2022-2023 Peer Training schedule, and next steps. Register at <https://farmfirst.org/events>. If you can't attend the Zoom meeting but would like more information, please visit <https://farmfirst.org/peer-support> or contact andyg@investeap.org. Learn more about what Farm First can do for you at farmfirst.org.

Healthy Lamoille Valley Fall Coalition Meeting, 6:00 – 7:30 PM, River Arts, Pleasant St., Morrisville. Community members of all ages are invited to join us to celebrate our 2022 Prevention Honorees and our Live Your Why and TimeWise programs. Family-friendly, interactive community event with special guest speaker and honoree Dr. Linda Caldwell. The theme of the evening is supporting youth, families, and community members

of all ages in making the most of their time. Pizza, cookies, and fruit will be served. Please RSVP at <https://hlvcoalition.eventbrite.com> so we know how much food to provide. Walk-ins welcome. Children are welcome, please use the Children's ticket for children with child care needs when registering. Please contact Jessica, jessica@healthylamoillevalley.org, if you think you will need child care. Educators! Come early for a special reception from 5:00 – 5:45 PM when we celebrate you! Join us for delicious appetizers and an opportunity for a meet-and-greet with Dr. Linda Caldwell, author of the *Timewise Curriculum*. Learn more at <https://www.healthylamoillevalley.org/wp-content/uploads/Educator-Meeting-Poster-v2.pdf>. Supported by the VAIL Epic Promise Program, the Roesner Family Foundation, and a Drug Free Communities Grant.

Friday-Saturday, October 21-22

Fall Rummage Sale, 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM Friday, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM Sunday, Richmond Congregational Church Fellowship Hall, Richmond. We are seeking donations of gently used items including adult clothing, (especially sweaters, coats, and winter boots; no shoes please), children's clothing, children's shoes and boots, toys, games, puzzles, children's books, Halloween costumes, craft supplies, and household items (linens, dishes, kitchenware etc.). Please no sports equipment, books for adults, suitcases, adult shoes, electronics of any kind, large appliances, or large furniture. Remember that we only want good quality, gently used items that another person/family would be happy to have. We must pay to have trash removed. Please gather your donations for drop off at the church the week before the sale on Tuesday, October 18 and Wednesday, October 19, 3:00 – 7:00 PM or Thursday, October 20, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM. The sale supports the community by providing good quality clothing and household items for inexpensive prices and offering folks an opportunity to clean out their cupboards and closets for a good cause. Vouchers for free shopping are provided to some and Saturday's Bag Sale guarantees a bargain. Proceeds from the sale go right back into the community as financial support for organizations like Our Community Cares Camp, The Richmond Food Shelf, The Refugee Resettlement Program, COTS, and others.

Saturday, October 22

Bark at the Moon! 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, Brook Run Dog Camp, Bolton. (Rain date Sunday, October 23, same time.) Come have some fun and help raise money for Emma's Foundation for Canine Cancer. We have a DJ, games, prizes, dog costume contest, photo booth, dog vendors, photographers, and crafts. Admission \$10 cash. Bring cash for the food truck: Rescue Dawgs Smoke and Grill will be there — Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream Truck will be there!

Craft Fair, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Jericho Community Center, Browns Trace, Jericho Center. Come see wares offered by 20 local Vermont crafters and vendors for some early holiday gifts.

Big Truck Day! 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, Richmond Elementary School, Richmond. The Richmond Elementary School PTO is hosting this event to raise money for a new playground. All proceeds from this event will go towards a new, ADA-approved playground with enhanced features to offer more accessibility to more children. A \$5 donation per person for food, all the big vehicles, a bounce house, art projects, a visit from Champ, and more! Please contact the RES PTO, res.pto@mmuvsd.org, with any questions.

Dinner and a show with Steve Hartmann, 6:30 – 9:00 PM, Westford Common Hall, 21 Brookside Rd., Westford. An easy night out — let us do the cooking! Purchase tickets for the show and choose among dinner options online at <https://westford-common-hall-2307.myshopify.com>. The event is BYOB; non-

alcoholic drinks, snacks, and desserts will be available to purchase from the concession stand (cash or Venmo). Proceeds support WCH and the featured artist.

VT French-Canadian Genealogical Society's annual fall conference and business meeting, St. John Vianney Parish Hall, 160 Hinesburg Rd., S. Burlington. The public is invited to join us. There will also be displays and books for sale that day. Our speakers will focus on Vermont and New York. Kyle Hurst, from the New England Historic Genealogical Society, will present on patterns of settlement, expansion, and migration for each state. Patrick Lacroix, Director of the Acadian Archives in Fort Kent, ME, will speak on very early French-Canadian migrations to both states. And Howard Coffin, author of books on Vermont in the Civil War, will speak on a newer topic of interest to him, 1816, "the year with no summer" a.k.a. "1800 and froze to death," and how this strange weather phenomenon caused many to head West. For additional information, along with registration, go online to www.vtgenlib.org or <https://www.vtgenlib.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/2022-Fall-Conference-Speakers-and-Full-Lecture-Descriptions.pdf>.

Family Art Saturday, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM, Burlington City Arts Center, 4th floor Education Studio, Burlington. Join us at the BCA Center for a make-and-take art activity that connects with our new fall exhibition *The Garden of Absolute Truths* by Vermont artist Valerie Hird. Inspired by Hird's colorful patterns and iconic symbols that reference memory, literature, and pop culture, come enjoy the chance to experiment with watercolor and collage techniques to create your own fantastical garden. Free and open to the public.

Wednesday, October 26

Chili Dinner and OCCC Annual Meeting, 6:30 – 8:00 PM, Richmond Free Library, Bridge St., Richmond. Come celebrate, learn, and share in a meeting about how Our Community Cares Camp (OCCC) has lived its mission for the past two years, and join the vision of the future! Chili Dinner (veggie options available) followed by Annual Meeting (child care provided). Please RSVP to occcvt@gmail.com and include names and ages of the kids and total people attending

Friday, October 28

Scary Story Contest Celebration, 7:00 – 7:00 PM, Deborah Rawson Memorial Library, River Rd., Jericho. Hear our young writers read their scary stories by the light of the fireplace and see who won the spookiest story of them all this year. No registration required — just bravery!

Saturday, October 29

Solving More Mysteries with DNA, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM, on Zoom. Sometimes, gaining insight into how a new tool can help solve an existing problem is best demonstrated with actual examples. Case studies are particularly powerful vehicles for visualizing the simple power of complex methods. They are especially useful when showing how to employ the tools of genetic genealogy to push through brick walls. In this talk, Michael Dwyer will present several new case studies of genealogy mysteries solved using DNA and traditional research methods. He will include examples using atDNA, mtDNA, and YDNA. All classes at the VT Genealogy Library will be Zoom webinars; cost is \$10. Please visit our website www.vtgenlib.org for additional details and for registration.

Sunday, October 30

Dia de Los Muertos 5K, 8:00 – 10:00 AM, Westford School Trails, Westford. Sign up for this 5K run/hike through online at <https://goldenheartsevents.com/>. This is a non-profit event; all proceeds are donated to the Westford Trails committee for upkeep of our trail system and to dogs that need rescuing.

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owned MRF to meet current and future demands and to recycle more material. The current MRF is at the end of its life. Space is limited and cannot be expanded, technology is outdated, and the working conditions are difficult. Even with significant investments, the current MRF will still be too small and we expect that within five to ten years it will be unable to keep up with market quality demands and will have to shut down.

QUESTION: How will the bond be paid off? The bond will be repaid over 25 years from revenues generated by the MRF from the sale of recyclables and the tip fee. The tip fee is the fee charged to our Drop-Off Centers and to other haulers that collect recyclables. This is how the MRF currently covers all capital and operating expenses.

QUESTION: How do I get the CSWD ballot? There are three options:

- go to <http://mvp.vermont.gov> and request the CSWD Materials Recovery Facility ballot;
- request or pick up a ballot from your Town Clerk; or
- in-person voting: the CSWD ballot will be available at all Chittenden County polling places on Tuesday, November 8.

Still have questions? Visit our website (<http://www.cswd.net/mrf-bond>) or contact acerta@cswd.net.

Richmond/Bolton U.S. Rt. 2 rehabilitation schedule

Thursday, October 13, 2022

Completion Date: July 2024

Traffic Impact: Motorists can expect traffic control to be present allowing for one-way alternating travel. Motorists can also expect to be traveling on unpaved roadway in the constructed area. Motorists are urged to slow down while driving on the unpaved roadway.

Project Update: (October 13) Fine grading operations continued along with drainage work in Richmond Village. Paving between Cochran Road and Snipe Ireland Road began today and will continue into Friday, October 14. (October 6) The roadway excavation and slab removal has been completed to approximately Snipe Ireland Road, which was the goal for the 2022 construction season.

The following is the anticipated work schedule for the week that began Monday, October 17, 2022:

Monday-Friday, daytime: Weather permitting, paving on U.S. Rt. 2 from Snipe Ireland Road proceeding westerly; continue drainage upgrade between Bridge Street and Lemroy Court.

Monday-Thursday, nighttime 7:00 – 6:00 AM: drainage upgrade on the west end of Richmond Village.

Please use caution and follow the posted speed limits!

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

Update from the Bolton Planning Commission

By Amy Grover, Bolton Town Clerk and Treasurer

The Planning Commission is grateful for the public comments regarding the proposed amendments to the Bolton Land Use and Development Regulations (BLUDRs), which were received during their recent public hearing process and at their September meeting.

As a result of the number of folks fully engaged in the process, comments, questions, and the ensuing discussion, the Planning Commission has decided to hold the amendments concerning the Bolton Valley Resort Master Plan, steep slopes, and trail regulation for further consideration, research, discussion, and public engagement. These amendments were NOT forwarded to the Select Board for their public hearing on the BLUDRs scheduled for Monday, October 17.

Only the following amendments will be under consideration by the Select Board on that date, and they will NOT be entertaining public comment on any other potential, future amendments:

- Section 3.10 Outdoor Storage;
- Section 3.17 Surface Waters and Wetlands;
- Section 4.4 Camper;
- Section 4.5 Campground;
- Section 9.7 Violations and Enforcement;
- Section 10.2 Definitions.

The full text of these proposed amendments is available on the Select Board page on the town website: <https://boltonvt.com/boards-minutes/selectboard/>.

Westford Town Center area site work

By Melissa Manka, Westford Town Planner

Site work in relation to brownfield remediation at the 1705 Route 128 property and within the VT Rt. 128 right-of-way is expected to take place over the following few weeks.

Specifically, temporary shoring of VT Rt. 128 and installation of jersey barriers at the edge of roadway is expected to have occurred on Wednesday, October 12-Thursday, October 13 and remediation work is expected to have occurred on Monday,

October 17-Tuesday, October 18.

Shoring infrastructure and barriers will be removed in early November. Both lanes of VT Rt. 128 are expected to remain open, except for the days noted above.

New policies for hunting and trapping on VYCC property

With hunting season in full swing here are some updates to the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VYCC) hunting and trapping policy to ensure the safety of staff, residents of VYCC, youth, and community members alike:

1949-2083 E Main St. in Richmond: Hunters/trappers may only use the property with written permission from VYCC.

One "safety zone" is designated as a no-shooting area. This zone covers the front farm fields and around the parking lots, buildings, and yurts on campus, and encircles eight lean-tos associated with the VYCC's youth and education activities. This zone is posted with white "safety zone" signs.

For the safety of youth and staff, and to ensure the enjoyment of hunters, hunting and shooting are not allowed when VYCC programming is taking place on the land. We therefore require all visitors interested in these activities to contact VYCC in advance to obtain permission.

To obtain permission, please fill out our hunting usage form, and a VYCC staff member will contact you with next steps. Hunting Usage Form: <https://vycc.wufoo.com/forms/z19sz2hn1ybhxac/>

Signs with a QR code to the form and maps of the safety zone and our trails are posted at the main entrances of VYCC campus.

Thanks so much for your cooperation!

Cambridge Recreation Board meets monthly

By Nanci Lepsic, Cambridge, Recreation Board Clerk

The monthly meeting of the Cambridge Recreation Board is open to all town residents. The Board meets on the first Tuesday of each month through December 6, 7:45 – 8:45 AM at the Cambridge Town Offices, Church St., Cambridge.

Join the Rec Board's meetings on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81277614651?pwd=aGENjFrOEdxNHpXNHdHUHMoStNZQT09>. Your input on recreational opportunities for residents of all ages in the Town of Cambridge is greatly appreciated.

WORSHIP SERVICES

Virtual services at MMUUF

Sunday services at the Mount Mansfield Unitarian Universalist Fellowship are held at 9:30 AM on the second and fourth Sundays of each month, September-June (October 23; November 13, 27). Services are led by members of the fellowship and by invited guest speakers, including visiting UU ministers and leaders of other faiths. Each service explores a different topic. Worship, reflect, and sustain one another, within an inclusive spiritual community, built on values of honoring and affirming the worth of every person, striving for justice, participating in the world community, and respecting the natural web of existence. Services will be exclusively held over Zoom; please contact info@mmuuf.org or 802-899-2558 for how to join. Located at 195 VT Rt. 15, Jericho. Learn more at www.mmuuf.org and www.uua.org.

Jericho United Methodist Church

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

United Church of Underhill

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

Second Congregational Church, Jeffersonville

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

Jericho Congregational Church is here to help

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

All are welcome at Good Shepherd, Jericho

You are invited to worship at Good Shepherd 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.goodshepherdjericho.org or contact Pastor Arnold Isidore Thomas at 802-899-3932 or pastorthomas@goodshepherdjericho.org.

Calvary Episcopal Church

Calvary Episcopal Church in Jericho has now resumed worshipping in person on Sundays at 9:30 AM. If you would like worship service information, please contact the parish administrator at calvarychurchjericho@gmail.com, or call 802-899-0453. All are warmly invited!

St. Thomas Catholic Church

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

Waterville Union Church

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

COMMUNITY COLUMNS

No Trespassing. We're tired of hiding the bodies.

A short story (fiction) by Bernie Paquette
From the series of stories in
"It Happened in Jericho, Vermont"



Being new to Jericho and eager to set roots down, I sought the advice of a long-time resident with a deep Vermont ancestral heritage. The kind that distills a good deal from observation and speaks but few words when giving advice or information.

Her first advice teetered vaguely close to some clue to a crossword puzzle. "Getting ahead sometimes requires rolling a stone so as not to gather moss," she told me with what I thought was a wry smile. Stones are one thing Jericho, Vermont has plenty of. You can dig them up to your heart's (and your back's) content, but they just keep coming. *Re-birthing*, the locals call it.

Just a small plot to grow some potatoes, I had shyly shared with her. "Well, plan on a good full day or two for clearing

enough earthen-bound small boulders in your ten-by-ten-foot plot before you even think of sacrificing your shovel in a head-to-head duel it cannot win. Without hydraulic power behind the shovel, granite will beat steel every time."

And with that, she seemed to have fulfilled her neighborly contract; the last word rode out with the volume of expired air from her lungs. From then on, she would only occasionally look out across her field at my digging efforts, or shake her head at my cussing. But no more advice would she offer — nor critique, for that matter. I was now on my own in this land of rural ways as set as the granite it lay upon.

Three weeks later, with seed potatoes in the bed, I wiped my brow in relief, and gave a snickering look at my neighbor across the way, as if to say, a city boy knows a thing or two about persistence. There would be no moss growing on my stones I wanted to tell her. But no, I'd just show up in a few months with a pan of homegrown roasted vegetables, and leave the dish in her hands without uttering a word. The Vermont neighborly thing to do.

It was a good plan. I wish to Almighty I had stuck to it. I inadvertently started a process of disturbing the ancestral heritage of Jericho. No matter how much I might like it to stop, the stone had been overturned or (to be more specific) I rolled one too many stones. The last stone I was ever to uncover was set to expose a long-held secret of the Jericho community regarding trespassers of their ancestral and soil lineage. A secret that nearly set my face to rest, literally in bedrock.

Harvest day in October was, as is nature's way in Vermont, a most glorious release of summer's duties, awash in a colorful celebration of dancing crimson, yellow, and orange leaves, of modulating melodies of temperatures, and a fulfilling harvest, enough to fill the pantry, freezer, and root cellar.

Reminded of my omniscient neighbor as she drove her small tractor along the road, passing with nary a gesture of recognition, I was startled into remembering my good faith return-a-favor idea. That of dropping off some of my fresh produce roasted up nicely with some herbs. Perhaps that might melt a few more words from her less-than-charming personality that kept city folks at bay.

And indeed I did intend on moving ahead on building a relationship with my neighbor. Only then, reaching the stone wall that separated our two properties, something caught my eye. I set the hot steel pan gently down on a bed of moss close

Community columns continued on page 5

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



Blue Mall, So. Burlington • 802-863-8306
Factory Location, Route 15, Jericho • 802-899-3373
SnowflakeChocolate.com

The Talk, Vermont

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and *The Talk, Vermont* invite you into a wide range of topics and conversations concerning bias and bigotry in our state and the ways people of all races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, and gender identities may overcome them. *The Talk, Vermont* is sponsored by the Vermont Racial Justice Alliance, Mount Mansfield Community Television, and Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, and is financially supported by the VT Humanities Council. Hosted by the church and streamed online at 7:00 PM on certain Wednesdays, October 2022-January 2023 and moderated by the Reverend Dr. Arnold Isidore Thomas, Pastor, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

Past talks are archived for those who wish to stream them (see below). The program schedule runs October 2022-January 2023 as follows:

November 2, 7:00 PM: *The Hopes and Challenges of Black Democrats*. The majority of Black Democrats lean toward the center, with the remainder almost equally divided between the right and left. What are the hopes and challenges of Black Democrats within their party? Recommended reading: [Steadfast Democrats: How Social Forces Shape Black Political Behavior](#) by Ismail K. White and Chryl N. Laird. https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_bVn5LdPLQbyr0aw2iNRscg

December 14, 7:00 PM: *Children of Color Who Grew Up with White Parents*. In a racially divided nation, and one of the whitest states in the country, the challenges of White parents raising children of another race are daunting. However, the challenges of those children of color being raised by White parents in a racially divided nation in one of the whitest states in the country are equally daunting. Parents and children of such families will share their experiences. Recommended readings: [What White Parents Should Know about Transracial Adoption](#) by Melissa Guida-Richard; [In Their Voices: Black Americans on Transracial Adoptions](#) by Rhonda M. Roorda. https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_dLwZfIpTT6SepDDtkcdQow

January 18, 2023, 7:00 PM: *A Tribute to Martin Luther King, Jr., 39 Steps, 39 Steps*, a play written by Michael Green, founding producer and director of Shades of Truth Theatre in Harlem, NYC, is about the last week of Dr. King's life before his assassination in Memphis, TN during which we will explore the personal dimensions of the civil rights leader's thoughts seldom seen in the public eye. Recommended reading: *The Radical King* edited by Cornel West. https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fWkQccLmTfyYSJCQrSTM9Q

Other topics, with dates to be determined, include:

February 2023: *The Voices of Latinx Vermonters*. Latinx Vermonters share their common and varied experiences of living in Vermont. Recommended reading: [Drown](#) by Junot Diaz.

March 2023: *White Supremacist Groups in Vermont*. We shall discuss the growing prevalence of White supremacist groups in Vermont, the difference between free speech and intimidating hate speech, and what is being done to protect BIPOC residents. Recommended reading: [White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide](#) by Carol Anderson.

April 2023: *Developing Black-Owned Agriculture in Vermont*. Black farmers share their hopes and challenges of developing Black-owned agriculture in Vermont. Recommended reading: [Freedom Farmers](#) by Monica White.

May 2023: *The Experience of Interracial Families in Vermont*. What are the experiences and challenges interracial families encounter in Vermont, especially in areas of the state where the BIPOC population is scarce? Recommended reading: [Race, Sex, and the Freedom to Marry: Loving v. Virginia](#) by Peter Wallenstein.

June 2023: A Conversation with the Vermont New American Advisory Council. Members of the Vermont New American Advisory Council talk about the hopes, struggles, and support networks of New Americans in Vermont. Recommended reading: [Call Me American](#) by Abdi Nor Iftin.

Archived to stream on demand:

October 5, 7:00 PM: *Black Republicans in the Era of Trump*. How wedded or estranged do Black Republicans feel with their party in the era of Trump? Recommended reading: [Black Elephants in the Room](#) by Corey D. Fields; recommended viewing: *Uncle Tom*, an Amazon Prime documentary about Black Republicans by Ryder Ansell, Larry Elder, and Justin Malone. Link to archived event: <https://archive.org/details/TTVTBlackRepublicans10052022>.

October 12, 7:00 PM: *Progressive LGBTQ Church in a Red State*. A conversation with Reverend Dr. Neil G. Thomas and members of Cathedral of Hope in Dallas, TX about life and ministry in a state whose laws and legislation condemn and suppress their existence. Recommended reading: [Unshamed: A Coming Out Guide for LGBTQ Christians](#) by Amber Cantorna. Link to archived event will be available soon.

The Mountain Gazette

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Coming events continued from page 2

Monday, October 31

Jericho Center Circle Trunk or Treat, 5:00 – 8:00 PM, Community Center in Jericho, Browns Trace, Jericho Center. The Community Center will be open with a Halloween photo booth, refreshments, and restroom. If you'd like to participate by decorating your trunk or vehicle and handing out treats, please contact ccjvermont@gmail.com.

Wednesday, November 2

Craft Group, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, District 5 Schoolhouse, Pleasant Valley Rd. (corner of Stevensville Rd.), Underhill Center. Spend a couple of hours working on your current project while socializing with your neighbors. The group meets every two weeks. Open to everyone. For questions or more information contact Amy Tower, 802-355-9671 or atowerinvt@gmail.com; or Julie Hehir, 802-899-3199 or juliehhehir@comcast.net.

Sunday, November 6

74th RCC Chicken Pie Supper Takeout, pickup 1:00 – 3:00 PM, Richmond Congregational Church, Richmond. The takeout-only meal serves 4-6 people, and is packaged for easy heating with a minimum of packaging waste: a 9"x9" foil pan with chicken and gravy and six biscuits to put on top, butternut squash in an oven-safe container, coleslaw, and a 9" pumpkin or apple pie (your choice). Reserve your dinner at <http://rccucc.org> for a suggested donation of \$65, with a portion of the proceeds to benefit the Richmond Food Shelf. Signup for meals ends Saturday, October 22 or when we are sold out. We are also looking for volunteers to prepare chicken and gravy, make dessert pies; to volunteer, go online to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0a48aba82ca31-chicken> or contact the church office, 802-434-2053 or church@rccucc.org.

HEALTH NEWS

Tai Chi at Cambridge Community Center

Tai Chi is sometimes described as moving meditation. The art contains movements that are so varied that they put into play every part of the body, with harmonious design and graceful patterns. Each form flows with the grace of a specific aspect of nature, working with nature's energy, such as the swaying motion of willow branches being coerced by a gentle breeze, or clouds slowly changing shape or form. Movements are slow and deliberate, without exerting force or power. The speed of the breathing matches the speed of the movement.

The times have changed (again)! Tai Chi is now being offered at the Cambridge Community Center, 22 Old Main St., Jeffersonville on Mondays 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM; Tuesdays 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM and 6:30 – 7:30 PM; Wednesdays 1:00 – 2:00 PM; and Fridays 6:30 – 7:30 PM.

Benefits of Tai Chi / Qi Gong include: release of stress, improved balance, increased energy, mental calmness, physical well-being, better circulation, and better overall health. Wear clothing that is comfortable and easy to move around in. Each class is \$10. All ages, beginners and experienced participants, are welcome! Bring a friend!

Contact Instructor Wade Prescott for easy registration, 727-557-4469 or inst.wade@gmail.com, or just come on down...

Weekly yoga with Dr. Mary Kintner

Local chiropractor Dr. Mary Kintner offers weekly 90-minute Hatha yoga sessions at 75 Irish Settlement Rd., Underhill Center, typically 5:30 – 7:00 PM. All abilities are welcome! The cost is \$15 per session, or a ten-class punch card for \$12 per session.

Please call Mary to RSVP, 802-899-5400. For more information: <https://jerichochiro.com/dr-mary-kintner-welcomes-you/additional-health-support-services/yoga-classes/>.

AgeWell seeks friendly visiting volunteers

AgeWell is seeking volunteers to provide regular social interaction and assistance to seniors in their homes. Help older Vermonters by delivering Meals on Wheels, providing friendly visits, grocery shopping, errands, assistance with medical appointments, organizing, bill paying, respite, minor home repairs, veterans visiting other veterans, and more.

Volunteers feel an incredible sense of satisfaction and reward seeing the impact they have on those they support. Time commitment is based on your availability; it can vary from one day a week to two days a month (Monday-Friday, between 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM).

Contact our Volunteer Department, 802-662-5249 or volunteer@agewellvt.org, for information. We are always looking for friendly visitors, senior companions, Meals on Wheels drivers, and respite volunteers!

You can make a difference by supporting Copley

It's a busy time of year for Copley Hospital Auxiliary. October kicks off our annual membership drive as well as fall meeting and luncheon, followed by our Thanksgiving Bake Sale.

Who are we? The Auxiliary serves as an important supporter of our community hospital by raising money through membership, bake sales, and other events, as well as proceeds from the Second Chance Thrift Store and Hospital Gift Shop — all of which are driven by dedicated volunteers. Over the years, thanks to our members, volunteers and community, our support has helped Copley Hospital purchase medical equipment, build and expand services including the Surgical Center, Emergency Department, and recently the MRI Suite. Our efforts have helped purchase smaller items and we ensure newborns of the Birthing Center receive a beautiful blanket.

To learn more about membership visit call Jill Baker, 802-888-8302, or visit copleyvt.org.

Our October 18 meeting and luncheon, open to members and guests, will be held at Copley Woodlands in Stowe. In addition to a wonderful luncheon prepared by Chef Jeff (there is a fee for the luncheon), Copley's Neurologist Jeanmarie Prunty, MD will talk about treatment for Parkinson's disease, followed by a tour of the facility. Call 802-888-8302 to register.

We are always looking for bakers for our annual Thanksgiving Bake Sale, which has become our signature "Pie Sale," on Tuesday, November 22. If you are interested in supporting with a pie please call Lois Keith, 802-888-3701; or if it's purchasing dessert for your Thanksgiving meal, please stop by, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM, at Copley on November 22.

We are proud of the work we do in support of Copley, our community hospital, and we invite you to join us.

Needle phobia with vaccinations

Parents have been asking me some pointed questions about what they can do to help their child be less fearful of getting vaccinations. This is especially important now, given the need to vaccinate against the flu and COVID.

Ways to help your child feel more in control

Prepare in advance: prepare them for the experience — not days in advance, but perhaps a day or two before the appointment.

Don't apologize for needing to go get vaccinated: apologies are when someone does something wrong. That is not what happens when your child is being immunized.

Create a positive story: saying the doctor will be giving you a pinch or putting some pressure on your arm to give you a vaccine to prevent you from getting sick and to keep you healthy is better than, "I know going to the doctor means you will get a painful shot."

Be understanding: it is okay to say that you understand their worries, rather than telling them it's not a big deal. Minimizing their concerns can make your child feel worse and think that you are not connecting with them.

Offer options: a great idea is to offer your child options for them to choose from to make them feel more in control during the visit. These options could include where they want to sit (such as in your lap), which arm they want to use, what stuffed animal they want to bring, and whether they want to watch or look away. Planning what you will do to celebrate after vaccinations have been given can also help.

Call ahead

Speak with your child's health care professional or their nurse ahead of time. This can help you learn what options might be offered to make things more comfortable and reduce the pain that might occur with a vaccination.

The art of distraction

Have your child focus on a video or sing a song together while the vaccine is being given. Other distraction techniques are to have them blow bubbles, spin a pinwheel, or use your thumb as an imaginary pop-up candle that your child needs to blow on to make the candle (or your thumb) disappear. Teaching your child to take slow, easy breaths in and out with you can also calm them down and lower their reaction to pain.

Most importantly: parents, stay calm. If you stay calm, your child will stay calm.

Hopefully, tips that I have shared reducing the pain of needle tips will inject just the right dose of advice when it comes to making the vaccination visit go smoothly.

Hopefully, tips like these will temper both you and your child when it comes to taming those temper tantrums.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Westford Conservation Commission should remain neutral

To the Editor,

The Westford Conservation Commission has recently come out with an opinion in the Westford Newsletter (in the electronic version, but not the printed version) in support of the Westford Waste Water project.

In regards to the signs asking to support the Westford Wastewater (sewage) Project being put up around town: Their goal is to pass a bond vote for a wastewater (sewage) facility to be built on the Maple Shade property on Brookside Road, which will set in motion a \$3+million municipal project, which will supply certain properties located in a portion of the Westford Town Center.

While there is about \$2.8 million in grant money available for installation, that is only the beginning of what this project eventually will cost taxpayers over time.

So, Before anyone decides on the Westford Waste Water project, here are some facts:

- the properties it will potentially serve will be approximately 38, which is less than 5% of the Grand List;
- for reference, there are about 980 taxpaying residents out of a total Westford population of approximately 2100 people;
- no one knows what the financial impact will be now or in the future for the taxpaying residents or the wastewater users; and
- there is no solid engineering plan, and a bond vote date has not been set.

While I think while everyone is entitled to their personal opinions, I do not think it's appropriate for a municipal body to support any project which will be voted on in the future.

A Commission should remain neutral. If individual members are in favor of the Waste Water project, then by all means — make your case to the public.

But the Commission should remain neutral and let the voters decide.

Barb Peck
Westford

Jeffersonville Food Shelf, Jeff Church, vandalized

To the Editor,

On Thursday morning (September 29) we discovered that



2023 Essex Rescue subscription to begin soon

The annual Essex Rescue subscription drive is soon to be underway. Residents can expect to see mailings arrive as soon as the second week in November.

The subscription program is a way for families in the Essex Rescue service area (city of Essex Junction, town of Essex, northern Jericho, Underhill, and southern Westford) to control the cost of emergency medical services provided by Essex Rescue while supporting this community emergency service.

The cost of the basic subscription plan is \$50 per household. If a household subscribes to Essex Rescue and a member of that household receives ambulance services from Essex Rescue during the remainder of the 2023 calendar year, the squad will bill the patient's insurance and there will be no other bill received by the patient for the ambulance costs. Essex Rescue will waive any denied coverage, co-pay, or deductible amount for which the patient would otherwise be responsible. A person may still be a subscriber even if they do not have health insurance coverage.

Interested persons can request a subscription application be mailed to them by emailing info@essexrescue.org, or complete the application and payment online at www.essexrescue.org.

Essex Rescue is a private, not-for-profit organization that is not affiliated with any municipality. Essex Rescue's operational costs are covered in a variety of ways. The squad collects insurance reimbursements from the insurance companies of the patients served, receives funds through the annual subscription and fund drive, and gets annual contributions from each town covered.

Essex Rescue is grateful for the generous support of the citizens in their service area. The squad was the first ambulance service in Chittenden County to be licensed for Paramedic level services and responds to over 2700 9-1-1 calls each year.

For more information about the 2023 subscription drive, becoming a volunteer, or to learn more about our organization, please contact Executive Director Colleen Ballard, 802-878-4859 ext. 2 or cnesto@essexrescue.org.

someone had broken in a Food Shelf door and managed to enter the upstairs. The perpetrators picked the wrong place to rob, because we do not keep cash on hand.

They did a job on smashing doors, upheaving files, items on shelves and in drawers. The two safes we kept in the copier room were destroyed, but they did not succeed in getting into them.

We are still working on the estimate of damages and lost items (which included our cross collection in a locked display case in the narthex). Our insurance has a \$1000 deductible.

The Food Shelf also sustained damages and stolen (non-food items).

Our hearts are in sorrow to know someone would do this to a house of worship, when all they needed to do was ask for help.

Thanks to the clean-up crew Art and Melody Tobin, Mike Montague, Becky Ainsworth, and Sharon McNally.

Melody Tobin
Jeffersonville

Crime in Jeffersonville

To the Editor,

I was saddened and angry when I read Melody Tobin's FPF posting October 1 about the church in Jeff being broken into, vandalized, and robbed. This is on the heels of its next door neighbor, Laundry Lounge, suffering same acts. Both are in the neighborhood where people have been breaking into/trying to break into vehicles.

I hope there is some coordinated effort between the police, Select Board members, citizens patrol/neighborhood watch, and additional cameras that can be monitored and other any other public safety entities.

Ann Greer
Jeffersonville

Vandalism of Jeff Church

To the Editor,

The Church in Jeffersonville does so much wonderful community work and helps so many people. The folks who tirelessly volunteer bring so much to our community. To have someone violate their sacred space and do so much damage is heartbreaking.

Perhaps we can all chip in and try to help them cover their deductible?

Linda Kopper
Cambridge

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Community columns continued from page 3

to the wall. I don't know what exactly I observed or what I thought I saw sticking out from one of the stones. Indeed they were neatly and artistically set in place to form the no-trespassing wall formidably. Or was the wall only a sheep barrier? With great effort, I rolled away the stone closest to the hot pan that I had laid upon the mossy ground.

Finding some recently disturbed earth and a few tattered remains of a man's silk shirt I was perplexed. Cleaning off some of the dirt and washing some away with a bit of spittle I made out the Neiman Marcus logo. This surely did not match the common apparel (flannel) of rural Jericho.

Surely my neighbor would have more than two words to say about this. Still, I resolved to use my steel pan of rock-rolling hard-earned homegrown vegetables, to defeat her stone face and her insinuation that she opposed my excavations of sacred soil as an intrusion on the Jericho heritage.

I bent low and lifted the now-only warm steel pan. Steel may be no match for granite, but steel at least when very hot, will cause moss to succumb.

And so having rolled an errant stone and not gathered moss, in fact having displaced moss, I nearly lost my head at what I laid my eyes upon only a few inches from the freshly disturbed earth, and the tattered out-of-place big-city man's shirt.

Where there had been moss, now in stark contrast to the surrounding green moss lay exposed a shocked face profile in stark white, except for the black eyebrow, a black red lined eye, and a blackened downturned mouth. The nose and ear looked outsized as though nose and ear had been used as handles to stretch the face to fit some fissure. It looked as if the face had intruded the surrounding strata. Its expression looked infused with a fear born of shock.

Needless to say, I did not deliver as my neighborly duty called. In fact, I have done my best to avoid eye contact with my neighbor, and to never ever dig up anything of Jericho's past, stone or otherwise, since that day. Indeed stone beats steel every time.

Verbally conservative as she is, the only make-nice she has since offered was to say, one day when we inadvertently both ended up in close vicinity of each other 'near the wall,' "I see you rolled a lot of stones and kept the moss from gathering. Did you find yourself getting ahead?"

Authors note: The last photo is of exposed rock (the white part) that looks like the profile of a human face. (The 'shocked' face the neighbor was slyly speaking of 'getting 'a - head').

Humming Bird

By Sue Kusserow

Special to the Mountain Gazette

When joy comes into my heart,
It brings with it the sound of bells:
Tiny silver bells the size of a flea's ear.
Small, quick hums of invisible wings
without a chorus or time to hastily prune,
Until a beak longer than itself
Has drunk a sip of soft sweet day...
And light...
And all good things.
There is no time to flutter its wings
On this blind trip to Mexico.
Led southward by a raucous Jay,
who doesn't know how to sing
but can still hear the tiny silver bells
that lead us from midnight to sunlight.

If we could listen, only listen,
And never say Goodbye.

Article 22: elective abortions dangerous misinformation

By George Till, State Representative, Chittenden-3

A lot of misinformation is being circulated regarding Article 22, which will appear as a ballot measure on Tuesday, November 8. As a member of the state legislature and a physician practicing obstetrics and gynecology (OB/GYN) for 40 years, I would like to offer my perspective.

In addition to being a member of the Vermont Legislature, I serve as the Division Chief of General OB/GYN at University of Vermont Medical Center (UVMC), the Division responsible for providing termination of pregnancy services at UVMC. Through these roles, I have learned the policies, health implications, and political landscape surrounding abortion rights in our state.

In summary, legislatively placed restrictions on reproductive rights are a huge risk to women's overall health.

Pregnancy terminations are very safe procedures, and the earlier in pregnancy they are done, the safer they are. When legislatures restrict access to reproductive healthcare, including abortion, we see a large overall increase in maternal morbidity and mortality. This is why passage of Article 22 is so important. It will change nothing about current restrictions regarding pregnancy terminations in Vermont, but only prevent political imposition of new restrictions in the future.

Perhaps the most common and disturbing piece of misinformation being circulated surrounding Article 22 is the idea that it will remove all restrictions on abortion and "enshrine elective pregnancy termination up to the time of birth." This is blatantly untrue.

There currently are and there will continue to be restrictions on abortion procedures in Vermont. What will be enshrined in our Constitution is that politicians (the Legislature and the Governor) will not determine what restrictions should be placed on abortion procedures, but rather that these restrictions will be left — as they are now, and as they should be — to the hospitals, professional medical organizations, and the Board of Medical Practice, who set standards of care with which providers must

comply in Vermont.

The Board of Medical Practice can revoke a physician's license for a single episode of "failure to conform to the essential standards of acceptable and prevailing practice." As such, practitioners are held to evidence-based standards. Additionally, state regulations require that every pregnancy termination be reported to the state, and if beyond 20 weeks, with a completed death certificate that requires extensive background information about the parents and medical situation.

There is not currently, nor will there be due to Article 22, any provider or facility in Vermont doing elective terminations beyond the gestational age of 21 weeks, six days, with 22 weeks being the currently accepted threshold of viability. Very rarely are terminations done after 21 weeks 6 days in Vermont, and those are done only in the hospital setting at UVMC. Hospitals are very highly regulated and the UVMC maintains clear guidelines prohibiting elective terminations from 22 weeks onward.

A pregnancy termination beyond 21 weeks, 6 days in Vermont only occurs in very specific circumstances, including for severe fetal anomaly, a fetal condition incompatible with life, or a dangerous, possibly life-threatening maternal health reason.

If a termination is requested beyond 21 weeks 6 days, an ethics consultation must be obtained to review the indications before the induction of labor or termination can be done. If the Ethics Committee does not agree, the termination is not done. We only do three to five terminations after 21+6 weeks per year at UVMC. Article 22 will not change that.

Some Vermonters may wonder: Why is it important to make this constitutional change if we already have laws protecting reproductive rights in Vermont?

In the last legislative session, there were no less than five proposed bills which would have restricted reproductive rights in Vermont. One stated specifically: "This bill proposes to narrow the right to reproductive choice." Without the proposed constitutional amendment, we can expect continued attempts to restrict reproductive rights in each and every legislative session.

Passage of Article 22 by popular vote on November 8 would be the final step of this multi-stage process to amend the Vermont state Constitution. The measure was originally approved by the House and Senate in the 2019–2020 legislative biennium and, as required, was passed again by both chambers in the 2021–2022 biennium. These were critical steps to protecting the right to access reproductive services in our state, but they will be meaningless if Article 22 is not passed by a popular vote on November 8.

Biodiversity by city/town in Vermont: Jericho's ranking

By Bernie Paquette

Jericho has a LOT of (species) neighbors! But how do we rank against other cities and towns in Vermont?

There is now a listing of towns and cities in Vermont that have a Biodiversity listing for their community. I am adding more VT cities and towns' biodiversity projects to the list as I find them.

By going to the link below you can then select observations or species to see how many each city or town has recorded on *iNaturalist*. You can also view the observations.

Note that when compared to the cities and towns listed so far, Jericho is third for observations at 24,588 and fifth at 2060 species. *iNaturalist* entries of observations in Jericho are automatically added to the Biodiversity of Jericho, Vermont project. Same process with other towns.

<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/vermont-biodiversity-by-city-or-town>

It's time for the four-year term for governor and legislators

By Bill Schubart

It's time again for my biennial screed against Vermont's two-year term for elected executive and legislative positions. I've watched the damage done by this narrow time horizon play out for the 50 years I've been observing Vermont politics. It's worth noting that Vermont and New Hampshire are the only remaining states in the nation that still have a two-year term for governor. But then again New Hampshire has always defied the norm with its 424 lawmakers. Vermont has 180.

Some time back, I would be asked annually by Sen. Bill Doyle to come and talk to his Government Operations Committee about the folly of the two-year term. My message is the same today, but the issue is considerably more urgent.

The pace of discovery — and therefore change — in business, education, communications, healthcare, and the environment due to increasingly complex technologies, pervasive special interests, and intersecting regulations demands a more deliberative process and planning than occurs when the Governor, legislators, and agency heads have a two-year employment contract.

Our short-term civic process is plagued with reactive posturing and nitpick lawmaking. An adverse event occurs. We wring our hands and create new laws, not taking the time to understand and address the root cause of the adverse event. Constantly cycling leadership terms only generate more reactivity and shortsightedness.

If we're to address the long-term problems and complex systems that beset our state and communities, we need to expand the opportunity timeline for our leaders to be successful. Otherwise, like Sisyphus, we'll be doomed to constantly re-addressing the painful results of our shortsightedness and lack of strategic planning.

If we do continue the two-year term for governor and legislators, we must fully understand the time-cycle's downsides.

Someone spends months begging for and spending money on media vying to become a leader. They're elected. They spend six months to a year learning the realities of the job they've been elected to fill; then they make needed changes in the leadership

team to ensure breadth of inputs, strategies, and skills, and then begin planning and addressing the issues they face. This means listening, deriving consensus, planning and deploying a new strategy or policy, and then... their term is up — unless the electorate chooses to extend it.

Although, as opponents of the four-year term argue, it's often the case that Vermonters extend the term for their politicians, but not always. 58 of Vermont's 82 governors have served only two two-year terms (one four-year term). Only since Governor Phil Hoff in the 1960s have Vermonters begun extending longer terms to their governors.

A new governor has no idea, or guarantee, that they will get to see their planning and hard work through to results. Meanwhile, 18 months in they need to start campaigning for an extension to their tenure. This often means having to make new promises to voters, rather than completing the work they have just initiated.

Sadly, campaign messaging and leadership strategies rarely align. Telling an electorate what they want to hear is "politics," while telling the complex truth about the challenges we face is the moral imperative for an elected leader.

I was active in the business community for some 45 years and never met an experienced leader who would assume responsibility for taking on leadership of an \$8 billion enterprise with a two-year employment agreement and a one-year budget horizon (<https://finance.vermont.gov/budget/budget-process>). By extending the time horizon to a three- to five-year budgeting-planning process, with annual adjustments, legislators and agency heads will have a longer time horizon in which to make, plan, and deploy substantive improvements, and Vermonters might get less politics and ideology and more pragmatic, participatory leadership.

Unlike many strategic issues, the four-year term doesn't seem to be a partisan issue. Former Governor Howard Dean opposes it (<https://vtdigger.org/2019/02/03/vermont-governors-divided-question-4-year-terms/>), stating that the two-year term provides leadership opportunities for change. His terse, if simplistic, response to the question was, "If it ain't broke don't fix it."

Former Governor Kunin's response, which favored a four-year term, was more deliberative, suggesting that the two-year term is a throwback to the days when governing was a part-time job, and she added that lobbyists gain too much power when the governor is busy campaigning for office so much of the time instead of doing the hard work of leadership.

Current Governor Phil Scott also supports a constitutional amendment to effect a four-year term, as does former Governor Jim Douglas.

In February of 2020 the initiative died (<https://vtdigger.org/2020/02/24/push-to-extend-gubernatorial-terms-to-four-years-dies-in-the-senate/>) in Senator (D-Windham) Jeanette White's Government Operations Committee, as she was on record opposing an extension of the term.

The discussion of a four-year gubernatorial term rightfully raises the question of whether it should also apply to legislators. I would argue that it should for the very same reasons. If the legislature is to tackle the complex issues of today, they need the tenure to listen, understand, deliberate, and make change in a reasonable timeframe, absent the pressures of political campaigning.

In this day and age, Vermont can only benefit from a four-year leadership term for governors and legislators, and at least a three-year budgeting cycle. It's also worth considering reestablishing a strategic planning group that watches demographic, environmental, economic, and technical change and challenges, and assesses and interprets data and trends for all branches of government — a look over the bow instead of the stern.

Finally, the cost of biennial campaigning in time, money, and distraction only benefits media vendors and special interests. The need to understand and address pressing problems is moved to the back burner, while change accelerates at an ever-more rapid pace.

Think about what didn't even exist in the last biennium.

JOiNPC September winners

By Bernie Paquette

The Jericho Observing Life in Nature Photo Contest received 22 entries in September. See the list of winners and a link to their photos below.

The final grand prize award winner will be chosen on November 1 from photos entered during May through October for a Pizza certificate prize (from Mountain High Pizza).

There are Four Benefits of "Jericho's Observations in Nature Photo Contest:" build community through friendly competition; insect observation and the contest can be a fun family activity; participants can contribute data to the *iNaturalist* database; and JOiNPC competition can raise awareness about issues that affect our natural environment/wildlife and raise awareness of the biodiversity of life in our own backyards.

The observers and photos chosen for a Creemee award are:

- Audrey612 / Jericho: Black Swallowtail (*Papilio polyxenes*) Its caterpillar is called *the parsley worm* because the caterpillar feeds on parsley.
- Sandywilmot / Underhill: Common Tree Crickets (Genus *Ocanthus*)

Both of these folks can contact me to make arrangements to pick up their award, Creemee gift certificate from either Jericho Country Store or Palmer Lane Maple.

View Audrey's photo at <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/133528675>, and view Sandy's photo at <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/134121350>.

View all the photo entries at <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/joinpc-jericho-observing-life-in-nature-photo-contest>.

Thanks to all participating in the contest helping us recognize our bond with all living things!

View the instructions on how to participate in the contest at <https://jerichovermont.blogspot.com/2022/04/joinpc-jericho-observing-life-in-nature.html>.

Send us your news.
mtngazette@gmavt.net

UVM HEALTH



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Other physicians/providers are available in the MVP Health Care network.

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CUB SCOUT NEWS

Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA — Westford

By Kevin Stockwell, Troop 635 Assistant Scoutmaster

Westford families — if your son or daughter is interested in joining Cub Scouts or Scouts BSA, please just let me know. Essex Cub Scout Pack 635 meets at the Holy Family Parish Center at 30 Lincoln St., Essex Junction at 6:30 PM on Tuesdays.

Cub Scouts is for kids in Kindergarten through grade 5. If you have children ages 11-18 and they would like to join Troop 635, let me know.

If you have any questions please reach out, stockwelljk@gmail.com.

Pack 839 is seeking Scouts to escape the great indoors!

By Chris Lenox, Cubmaster

Pack 839 is seeking boys and girls in grades K-5 to join us on our adventures.

Cub Scouts are at that magical age where everything is new and possible, and most important — fun! They build things, play with purpose, make friends, and work together. The life lessons learned here help form a foundation to embrace opportunity and overcome obstacles in life.

Come join us Mondays in October. Den meetings are every Monday at 6:00 PM at the Jeffersonville Second Congregational Church.

Here are just some of the adventure we have planned this year: camping at Lake Elmore, rock climbing at Petra Cliffs, caroling at The Manor, sledding, skiing, Pinewood Derby, trip to Boston Museum of Science.

Escape the great indoors!

Cub Scout Pack 620 registration continues

Interested in joining Cub Scouts? Pack 620 in Underhill/Jericho continues its annual registration period. Cub Scouts is open to both boys and girls, grades K-5! Scouting is a great chance to build a stronger family, create memories, build citizenship, learn new skills, create friendships that will last a lifetime, and so much more.

For an Introduction to Cub Scouts, go online to <https://www.scouting.org/programs/cub-scouts/>. Families are welcome to visit a pack and/or den meeting(s) to get a feel for scouting and to address any questions.

For more information, questions, or to register please email Andy, beatnickvt@yahoo.com and/or cubpack620vt@gmail.com.

For more information, go online to <https://www.facebook.com/events/1739218369778545> and <https://www.facebook.com/Pack620VT>.

LIBRARY NEWS

DEBORAH RAWSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The library is open, no appointment needed: Tuesday and Thursdays 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM, Wednesday and Friday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Saturday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, and Sunday 1:00 – 4:00 PM. All programs meet in person at DRML

You are invited to enjoy a lovely art display at DRML. The library loves hosting local artists; feel free to leave your name if you are interested in displaying.

Adult programs

Ongoing

Free COVID Test Kits: Need an at home COVID test kit? The Library is offering them only through curbside pick-up for community safety. Kits will not be available inside the building. Call or email rawsonlibrary@drml.org to arrange a pick-up so we can have them ready. Let us know the number of kits you need, up to four kits. Each kit contains two tests. We will let you know what bag number is yours.

Check out these great programs! All programs meet in person.

Thursday, October 20, 7:00 PM: Board of Trustees meeting, in-person. A virtual meeting is available for those who wish to remain remote. Please contact Holly, drawsonmemlib@yahoo.com, to receive the link.

Wednesday, October 26, 6:30 – 8:30 PM: Mah Jongg. Please join us as we explore the tile game of winds, dragons, and number tiles. If you like Rummy-style card games, you'll love Mah Jongg! All are welcome, no experience necessary! If you plan to attend, please email program_assistant@drml.org.

Thursday, October 27, 6:30 PM: Movie Discussion: *Apollo 11*. Join us at the library (in person or virtual) to discuss this 2019 award-winning documentary, a look at the Apollo 11 mission to land on the moon led by commander Neil Armstrong and pilots Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins. Please be sure to watch the movie independently before the meeting — on Hulu with a subscription, on the Roku Channel for free with ads, or you can check out a copy of the DVD from the library collection. If you are interested in joining, please let us know when you drop by the library, give us a call, or email program_assistant@drml.org. If you would like the Zoom link, please email program_assistant@drml.org.

Friday, November 11, 7:00 PM: Veterans' Day reading and PowerPoint presentation by Rick Heh, son of Richard J. Heh Sr., a WWII B17 Navigator / POW Stalag Luft III. Rick will read from his father's diary. Sponsored by the Underhill Historical Society.

Youth programs

Ongoing

Third Annual Scary Story Contest! Accepting submissions from writers 18 and under, through October 26. Terrify the DRML librarians with your unique tales of mayhem, horror, and mystery! Submit your scary story for a chance to win a yummy prize pack from Snowflake Chocolates, and join us Friday, October 28, 7:00 PM, to read them to each other! Requirements: stories should be two pages or fewer typed, or four pages handwritten. Please, no weapons used in the story. Illustrations aren't required, but if you want to include them go for it! Judging criteria: your librarians will judge based on creativity and originality and hair-raising-ness of entry. Illustrations, punctuation, and grammar are not included in judging criteria. How to enter: Email your story in a Word/Google doc or PDF to youth_librarian@drml.org, or print your story and drop it off at the library with your contact information.

Tuesdays at 3:00 PM: Story Time [PreK-K] Welcome back to the story corner for story time! We hope you can join us for jokes from Freddy the fox, stories, songs and felt board fun!

Story Walk® Enjoy the outdoors and a story! The walk starts on the right side of the building and wraps around the edge of the field toward the river.

Check out these great programs! All programs meet in person at DRML. Masks are recommended, but optional.

Fridays, 11:00 AM (except October 21 and 28): Stories and Songs with the Londons [preschool] Come sing, dance, and listen to stories with the Londons.

Wednesday, October 19, 3:30 – 4:30 PM: Spooky Slime [ages 6+] Icky green goo, suspicious red stuff? Must be spooky slime! Space is limited. Please sign up by stopping by the library, or contact 802-899-4962 or youth_librarian@drml.org.

Thursday, October 20, 3:00 – 5:00 PM: Animation Club [ages 8+] Animation club returns! Whether you are an old hat or new to it, we have the tools needed to make your own stop-motion videos. Space is limited! Please sign up by stopping by the library, or contact 802-899-4962 or youth_librarian@drml.org.

Saturday, October 22, 1:00 – 2:00 PM: Parent Toolkit Cafe [parents] We are thrilled to be working with Becky Sargis of The Childrens' Institute at Jericho (TCIAJ) to offer time at the library for parents to get together, talk about being parents, learn new parenting skills, and unlearn things that no longer serve them. No registration required.

Friday, October 28, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: LEGO Club [ages 6+] Love seeing the LEGO sculptures on display in the kids' room? Build and display your own when you come to LEGO Club! Space is limited. Please sign up by stopping by the library, or contact 802-899-4962 or youth_librarian@drml.org.

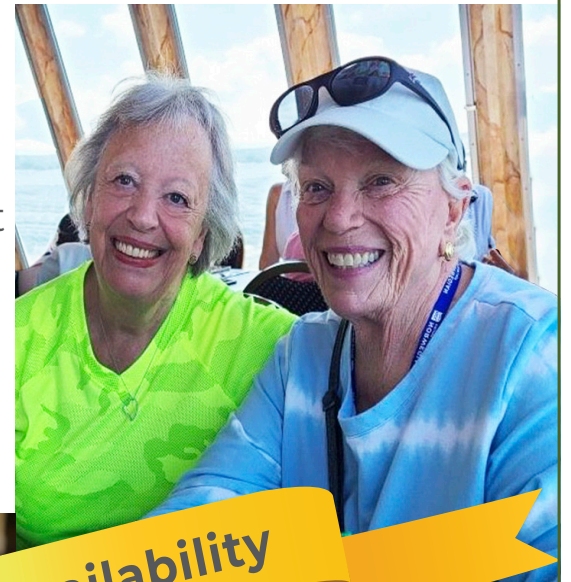
Library news continued on page 8

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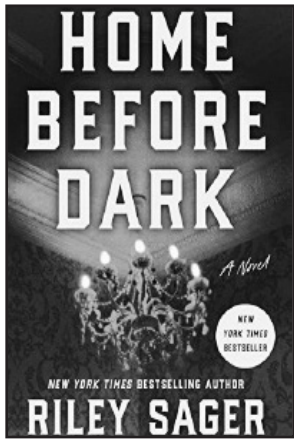
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An Age 55+ Community

WillistonPlace.com



Library news continued from page 7



Westford Public Library's Adult Book Group has a spooky pick for October: *Home Before Dark* by Vermont author Riley Sager. Every house has a story to tell and a secret to share. Twenty-five years ago, Maggie Holt and her parents moved into Baneberry Hall, a rambling Victorian estate in the Vermont woods. Three weeks later they fled in the dead of night, an ordeal her father recounted in a memoir called *House of Horrors*. His story of supernatural happenings and malevolent spirits became a worldwide

phenomenon, rivaling *The Amityville Horror* in popularity — and skepticism. Maggie was too young to remember any of the horrific events that supposedly took place, and as an adult she doesn't believe a word of her father's claims. When she inherits Baneberry Hall, her homecoming is anything but warm. The locals aren't thrilled that their small town has been made infamous. Even more unnerving is Baneberry Hall itself, a place where unsettling whispers of the past lurk around every corner. As Maggie starts to experience strange occurrences, the truth she uncovers about the house's dark history will challenge everything she believes. (from Amazon.com) Print copies at the Library; ebook, and audiobooks available on Libby. The Adult Book Group meeting is Wednesday, October 26, 7:00 – 8:00 PM at the Westford Library. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Friday, October 28, 7:00 PM: Scary Story Contest Celebration [all ages] Hear our young writers read their scary stories by the light of the fireplace, and see who won the spookiest story of them all this year. No registration required, just bravery!

Please visit drml.org for the most up-to-date information on programs at DRML. Contact information: rawsonlibrary@drml.org; www.drml.org; 802-899-4962.

JERICHO TOWN LIBRARY

We are open 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM Tuesday, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM Wednesday-Friday, and 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM Saturday. The library is completely mask-optional.

We have everything you need to make this year's Halloween costumes the best yet! Throughout October, we'll have a craft area set up in our upstairs space for you to come work on your costume. Sewing machine, hot glue guns, paint, fabric, feathers, yarn, and many, many miscellaneous craft supplies. Come by whenever the library is open.

Wednesdays, 10:30 AM: Playgroup for kids under 5. This fall, we'll have playgroup on Wednesdays at 10:30 AM instead of traditional storytime. Playgroup will take place in the children's area on the second floor of the library, and will be an informal program for kids to just PLAY and enjoy our great collection of toys! This is a wonderful opportunity for children under 5 to socialize, and for families to connect with other parents and caregivers in the community. The library is completely mask-optional, and there's no need to register. If you haven't seen it yet, our amazing second-floor play area was transformed a couple years ago with a generous gift from the King family, commemorating the life of beloved Jericho resident Kelly King. The second floor also features the Makerspace and some beautiful mosaics by local artist Mary Lacy. Some fan-favorite toys in the play area are the grocery store, kitchen, puppets, and of course, the train set! The play area is open whenever the library is.

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

VARNUM MEMORIAL LIBRARY JEFFERSONVILLE

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

Thursday, October 27, 4:00 – 6:00 PM: HomeShare Vermont hosts a presentation, with members of the HomeShare Vermont staff on hand. A brief informational PowerPoint presentation offering the benefits for those looking to share their home and guests who are seeking housing will be held at 4:30 PM. Anne Farley and Ric Cengeri will explain the process HomeShare Vermont uses to screen applicants to the program and to make matches. A question-and-answer session will follow. Light refreshments and snacks will be served. Free; no reservations required. HomeShare Vermont serves Lamoille, Addison, Chittenden, Franklin, Grand Isle, Orange and Washington Counties.

Wednesdays, 4:00 – 6:00 PM: Dungeons and Dragons. If you've ever been curious to give this amazing game a try, come by our event for an introduction. But be warned, once you start adventuring it can be difficult to stop... This is an introductory campaign for anyone interested. Recommended for ages 10-110. Feel free to come and see what it's all about. Any level of experience is welcome. This is intended to be a fun and welcoming learning experience for all involved. This event is led by an advanced player whose love of the game and of sharing learning with others makes for an extra-special introduction. First date was Wednesday, October 5. This group will meet every other week on Wednesdays (October 19; November 1, 15, 29) at the same time. Check our website calendar for more details: <http://varnumlibrary.org>.

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

The Varnum Library is not totally ADA compliant, but does offer an entrance ramp.

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

WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Congratulations to George E., our September Westford Passport Winner! George won a \$50 gift card to Sweet Clover Market. The Passport program runs through October; there is still

one more drawing (\$50 to Westford Country Store and Café). Passports can be picked up at the Library or the Town Office.

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

We are seeking artists to display their work at the library. Contact Librarian Bree Drapa, 802-878-5639 or westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com.

Thursdays, 6:30 – 9:00 PM, Fiber Arts is back as the Maker Group, now open to all makers — whether you knit, crochet, make jewelry, sketch, paint, paper craft, or any other art — all are welcome!

Children's events

Thursdays, 11:15 AM: Early Literacy Storytime. Ms. Bree presents fun stories, crafts, songs, and movement for children from birth to pre-school. October 20: Pumpkins. October 27: Halloween — wear your costume!

Wednesday, October 19, 7:00 – 8:00 PM: Glow-in-the-Dark Storytime! The lights will be out but there will be plenty to see for kids 4-8, but all are welcome! There will be a craft, too. Note: the library will be dark for most of this program. Flashlights, glow-in-the-dark effects, and black lights will be used. Stories will not be scary! Wear white or neon clothes or your PJs.

Fridays, October 21, 28, after school: Mini Coloring Club. Coloring is relaxing and fun! We'll work on a variety of projects using a variety of mediums. Great for grades 2-5 and for kids focused on coloring, art, and crafts. Meets after school until 5:00 PM; snack included. Kids can ride Bus#1 to the library, with note from home. Sign-up is required.

Sunday, October 20, 1:00 – 3:00 PM: Halloween Walk on the Common, with the Traveling Storyteller and refreshments at the Common Hall at 3:00 PM with Halloween themed stories, puppets and wiggles with Spookley the Square Pumpkin! Trick-or-Treat on the Common and enter a Spooky Table Decoration Contest! There will be Halloween fun and games at the Gazebo, and a take-home craft (available upon request). Bring a non-perishable item for the Westford Food Shelf.

Events for everyone

The Westford Food Shelf is now open twice a month, on the first Wednesday of each month (November 2), 4:30 – 5:30 PM, on the third Saturday (November 19), 8:00 – 9:00 AM. With increased openings, they need more inventory! The Westford Public Library has food collection bins at all curbside pickups from now on. These bins are for non-perishable food and household items.

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

FAIRFAX COMMUNITY LIBRARY

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

Youth events

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

Wednesday, October 19, 3:00 PM: Ghost Mud. Make squishy ghostly mud! Materials provided. Ages 8+

Wednesday, October 26, 3:00 PM: Pumpkin Painting. Paint a pumpkin just in time for Halloween! Materials provided. Ages 8+

Adult events

Thursday, date TBD: Library Book Club. Book and time TBD. 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 fairfaxlibrarian@gmail.com or 802-849-2420. All are welcome!

Tuesday, October 25, 6:00 PM: Mandarin Club with Hsian-Lan Cheng. Interested in learning Mandarin? Join Hsian-Lan at the library for lessons and snacks! You don't need to come to each club meeting, but registration is required for the day or days you would like to attend.

Family events

Through Saturday, October 22: Halloween Candy Donations. The library is collecting Halloween candy to help homes in high-traffic areas keep up with all the trick-or-treaters! If you would like to donate candy, feel free to drop it off during library hours. To sign up to receive donations, please contact 802-849-2420 or libraryfairfax@gmail.com by October 22.

Hours: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 10:00 AM – 5:30 PM (Fridays, 4:15 PM); Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00 AM – 7:00 PM; and Saturdays 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

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

RICHMOND LIBRARY

The Library has a new website. Same address, different look: <http://richmondfreelibraryvt.org>. We're still adding new content, but you'll find the same links to the catalog, digital resources, and program announcements.

Weekly children's programs at the Library run from September-May and follow the MMUUSD schedule for vacation days and weather closure days.

Wednesdays, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Storytime/Playgroup The good times kick off with stories and action songs in the Library Community Room and then the toys come out for free play with friends new and old. Co-sponsored by the Library and the Lund Center. Kids from infant-5 and their grown ups are invited to join the fun.

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

Monthly, third Fridays, October 21, November 18, and December 16: Hora De Cuento (Spanish Storytime). Are you

interested in hearing some great stories in Spanish? Join Spanish speaker Chichi Barrett for thirty minutes of picture book stories and rhymes. This program is a great introduction to Spanish for young children and a nice way for parents of older children placed in the Spanish Immersion Program to hear the language. Join us in the Community Room.

Model Trains in Vermont: During the month of October, we will be hosting a display from the Green Mountain Division of the National Model Railroad Association. Let's face it, model trains are fun and are quite simply, cool. The display will show examples of model railroading, ultra realistic scenes, and highly detailed locomotives that will amaze you. You can visit the national, regional, or division websites to get a taste of what's in store: www.nmra.org, www.nernmra.org, or www.greenmountainnmra.com.

Sunday, November 20, 3:30 PM, in the Library Community Room: author S. Lee Manning, editor turned lawyer turned comic and author, will share her writing and performing experiences. An award winning writer, Manning is the author of international thrillers *Trojan Horse* and *Nerve Attack*. Her third thriller, *Bloody Soil*, debuts in November. Manning also began performing as a stand-up comic after taking a class at the Vermont Comedy Club. In 2019, she was a semi-finalist in the Vermont's Funniest Comedian contest. Manning now lives in Vermont with her husband and very vocal cat Xiao, but frequently visits her daughter Jenny in California and her son Dean in New Jersey.

Stitch it Up! Need to do some sewing but don't own a sewing machine? Library to the rescue! Borrow our Brother XM2701 Sewing Machine. Ask for it at the desk.

The library has a variety of other "non-book" items to lend: a firewood moisture meter; blood pressure monitors; a Kill-O-Watt electricity meter; snowshoes for adults and youth. STEAM kits include a singing drum and meditation kit, a bird-watching kit, and other kits. StoryTime Bags contain five picture books and songs on various themes such as Friends, Pets, The Seasons, Things That Move, Numbers, and more.

New digital service with Hoopla: Borrow and enjoy audiobooks, eBooks, comics, movies, TV, magazines, or music everywhere you have a screen: your computer, your phone, your car, even your TV. All you need is your library card. Most titles can also be downloaded to your phone or tablet. Hoopla offers more content, in more places, than any other digital library platform. Links to Hoopla titles appear in the catalog (rfl.kohavt.org) or go directly to hoopladigital.com.

(Mostly) Fiction Book Group: contact Gwen Landis, 802-434-5012 or gwenie1972@yahoo.com, for information on participating.

Mystery Book Group: contact Maureen Parent, 802-434-2055 or msparent@gmavt.net, for information on participating.

Library hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM; Wednesday, 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM; and Saturday, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM. 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

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

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

ESSEX FREE LIBRARY

Library Hours: Monday-Friday, 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM; Saturday 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

Saturday, November 5, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM: Calling All Crafters! Friends of the Essex Free Library are holding the Cozy Nook Craft Fair in the Library and Memorial Hall. Tables cost between \$35 and \$45. Contact essexfreefriends@gmail.com or 802-872-8927 for more information.

Children's area

Wednesdays: Story Time with Ms. Emily, in the Library Back Garden (weather permitting) or in the Children's Area.

Fridays: Grab 'n Go Craft Kits while supplies last!

Fairy Village: Stop by to view the magical fairy village created by Ms. Emily and Ms. Noreen in the Children's Area window!

Adult area

Library of Things: New and just in time for Spooky Fun is a Ghost Hunting Kit (generously donated by Paranormal Investigators of New England) that may be borrowed for seven days by Essex Free Library cardholders.

If ghosts aren't your "thing" then how about a portable microphone generously donated by Big Heavy World — perfect for podcasters, musicians, and more! May be borrowed for seven days by Essex Free Library cardholders.

New releases and featured books: find out "What's New" weekly, online at http://Essexfreelibrary.kohavt.org/?browseCategory=essexfreelib_ashpen_new_books.

Digital resources: <https://essexfreelibrary.kohavt.org/DigitalResources>. Check out the digital resources offered with your library card, like *Consumer Reports*, *Libby/Overdrive*, take a new class, and more!

Large Print Book Collection: New titles every month and ABLE Library picks! If you or someone you know has difficulty reading print and still wants to enjoy books, please check out the Vermont State ABLE Library, a free talking book and braille library service. They serve patrons who are blind and visually impaired as well as patrons who have a physical or reading disability that stops them from being able to read standard print. They have a collection of large print books and digital talking books, a collection of books for children and teens, as well as print braille picture books and audio-described DVDs. They also have items for patrons who read braille. To learn more and apply, go online to <https://able.vermont.gov/> or contact the library.

Requesting donations: We are also interested in donations to increase the Library of Things for the community. Seeking games, puzzles, and fun items like CD players, lawn games, etc. for patrons to borrow and enjoy. Please call/email first due to limited space!

Check us out on Facebook and Instagram for updates on events! Share with us too [@essexfreelibrary](https://www.essexfreelibrary.org/); website <https://www.essexfreelibrary.org/>.

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

ART / MUSIC / THEATER

Live theater at Westford's Brick Meeting House: The Fairfax Community Theatre Company presents its fall production, *An Evening of One Acts*, where we combine three one-act shows into a delightful evening of theater Wednesday-Saturday, October 19-22, 7:30 PM at the Westford Brick Meeting House, VT Rt. 128, Westford.

Miss Civilization, a one-act comedy, tells the story of a young woman who matches wits with three burglars attempting to rob her house.

The Reckoning, a one-act thriller, tells the story of a chance meeting between a barber and a man who is in need of a "quick shave."

Overtones shows two women as they appear to each other, and their inner selves as they really are. Harriet and Margaret are two refined ladies, but Hettie and Maggie are their thoughts and emotions come to life.

Ticket prices are \$15 each, or two for \$25. You can purchase in advance by going to our Square Store: <https://checkout.square.site/buy/CBEPTC6ORGKXQFFP.JNTS.JFX2>, or tickets can be purchased at the door. For more information, call 802-849-2883.

Make a Fairy House Night Light at Poker Hill Arts and Studio Acanto, Poker Hill Rd., Underhill on Saturday, October 22, 10:30 AM. Step out of your normal routine and become an architect to the fairies! The house can hang on the wall or sit on a shelf and is timed to light up each night for six hours. Chris Gluck's expert guidance and all of the natural materials are provided, for \$50. This class will also be offered on Saturday, December 10, 10:30 AM. There is a Leaf Collage class offered on Saturday, December 3, 10:30 AM; this class includes printing and framing recommendations on how to make holiday gifts from the images that you create. Pictures and more information is available at <http://www.pokerhillarts.com/adult-classes>. Contact studioacanto@gmail.com to sign up or with questions.

Join the Idea Exchange for Teaching Artists. The Vermont Arts Council and Teaching Artists Connect have launched *Idea Exchanged for teaching artists*, a series of five virtual, bi-monthly meetings through May 2023, with goals to build community, provide support, share skills, and offer networking. Topics vary. The first session took place on September 28 and covered teaching residencies. Upcoming sessions, 4:00 – 6:00 PM, are:

- November 30, 2022: Teaching strategies and best practices;
- January 25, 2023: Nuts and bolts: The business of being a teaching artist;
- March 29, 2023: Marketing and communications;
- May 31, 2023: Successful collaborations.

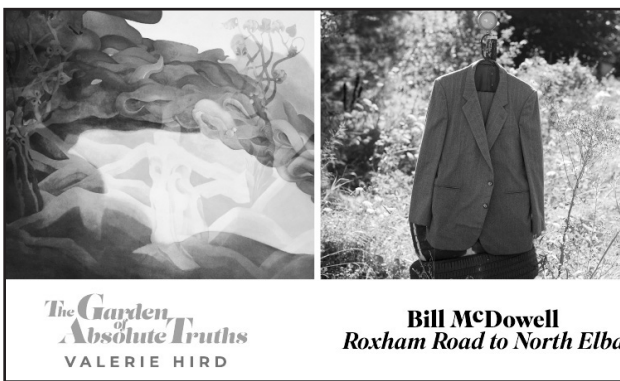
Learn more and register at <https://www.vermontartscouncil.org/grants/schools/teaching-artists>.

Artists in Schools Grants: support quality, multiday arts experiences in schools with Vermont teaching artists in residence and encourage collaborations between schools, youth, artists, and arts organizations. Learn more at <https://www.vermontartscouncil.org/grants/schools/artists-in-schools>.

Jericho through the Eyes of an Artist: Present, Past and Future at the Jericho Town Hall, presents an exhibit of established and emerging artists scheduled to run through Saturday, December 31, 2022. For more information see the Jericho Town website, <http://jerichovt.org/>. The exhibit is one of an ongoing series of shows that are part of a collaborative effort between the Town of Jericho and a committee of volunteers involved in the arts. Committee members include Catherine McMains, SelectBoard; Emilie Alexander, gallery owner; and artists Dianne Shullenberger and Carla Hochschild.

The Emile A Gruppe Gallery, 22 Barber Farm Rd., Jericho. Gallery hours: Thursday-Sunday, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM or by appointment, 802-899-3211.

Community Concerts @ First presents jazz pianist Tom Cleary on Sunday, November 13, 3:00 PM at the First Congregational Church of Essex Junction, 39 Main Street, Essex Junction. The concert will feature piano music by Vermont jazz composers James Harvey, Paul Asbell, Brian McCarthy, Ellen



The new fall exhibitions at Burlington City Arts (BCA) will bring the energy of the season to the galleries at the BCA Center when they open with an artist reception on Friday, October 21, 5:00 – 7:00 PM. On the first floor, Valerie Hird: The Garden of Absolute Truths brings Vermont-based and nationally acclaimed artist Hird to the BCA Center for her first solo show, to present a provocative visual exploration of humanity's shared myths through large-scale paintings, animated video, and three-dimensional sculpture. On the second floor in Bill McDowell: Roxham Road to North Elba, with more than 50 color photographs, McDowell creates a powerful and prosaic installation that links present and past and challenges us to consider complex ideas around debates over borders, migration, privilege, and racism. BCA Center's fall hours are Wednesdays-Fridays, 12:00 – 5:00 PM and Saturdays, 12:00 – 8:00 PM. PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Powell, and Lar Duggan, and sacred tunes by Duke Ellington. Come out to enjoy one of Vermont's finest jazz musicians and raise funds for the Essex Community Justice Center! The performance is part of the Community Concerts at First music series celebrating artists from Vermont and New England. Suggested donation of \$20 per adult (children under 18 free). Concert proceeds support First Congregational Church of Essex Junction's community outreach and Essex Community Justice Center. Space is limited. Tickets can be purchased in advance or at the door (cash, check, or credit card). Visit <https://sevendaystickets.com/events/community-concerts-at-first-tom-cleary-jazz-piano-11-13-2022>.

Visions of Vermont Fine Art Galleries (current hours: Wednesday-Sunday, 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM). Now showing through Sunday, November 6 at the Carriage Barn: work by Eric Tobin and other local and regional *plein air* painters.

BCA Elevation Grants: Burlington City Arts (BCA) has launched a brand-new artist funding program, the BCA Elevation Grant. Endowed with a total of \$35,000, this grant offers Burlington artists funding between \$500-5000 to assist with overcoming financial challenges to the creative process. Designed to support artists as pandemic-related funding sources run out, the Elevation Grant is open to individual artists and artists groups such as bands, dance troupes, and other collectives. While organizations and businesses are not eligible to apply, an artist working directly with an organization or business can apply for funding to support that work. Disciplines eligible for funding include, but are not limited to, music, dance, theater, literary arts, visual arts, design, film, and other trans-disciplinary fields. BCA launched its Community Fund Grants program in 2016 to support innovative projects that connect Burlington artists to community members who may not have frequent access to the arts. For the Elevation Grant, preference will be given to Vermont artists and groups who live or work in Burlington; artists with a strong connection to Burlington are also eligible to apply. In an effort to increase art resources with the following communities, BCA strongly encourages submissions from those who identify as people of color, as LGBTQ, or with disabilities, and those

who are veterans, immigrants, or low-income residents. A public review panel will announce grant recipients in December. Applications are due Tuesday, November 15; artists can apply at <https://burlingtoncityarts.awardsplatform.com/>. In coordination with the grant announcement, BCA is asking for community feedback on arts funding in Burlington and beyond via a brief survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GRDT782>.

Creative Aging Grants support skill-based instruction alongside opportunities for social engagement and community building in and through the arts for older adults. Applicants to the Creative Aging grant program are non-profits with 501(c)(3) status, such as arts organizations, area agencies on aging, or social service organizations for example. Organizations may apply for up to \$4000 to support activities designed for older adults aged 60+ led by experienced teaching artists. Priority is given to projects led by Vermont artists. Applicants may engage artists on the Council's Creative Aging Teaching Artist Roster. These are experienced teaching artists who have trained with Lifetime Arts to design creative aging programs that include skill-based instructional lessons and intentional social engagement opportunities. Applicants may submit proposals for projects led by teaching artists not on the roster. Teaching artist fees vary from artist to artist. Example projects may include: hiring a teaching artist to lead a series of photography workshops in an assisted living facility; hiring a teaching artist to lead remote workshops for older adults in their homes, supplying materials, providing opportunities for social engagement, and giving support to caregivers; and hiring teaching artists or mentors to work with older adults to capture and/or create a series of stories or poems through a partnership with an agency serving older adults. The grants are part of the Vermont Arts Council's Creative Aging Initiative, launched in 2021. For more information: <https://www.vermontartscouncil.org/grants/organizations/creative-aging>.

Creative Futures Grants call for applications: Funding is available for both non- and for-profits. During its 2022 session, the VT Legislature allocated \$9M of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to the Vermont Arts Council for grants to creative sector entities that have sustained economic harm due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Awards of up to \$200,000 will be available to creative sector non- and for-profit businesses, including sole proprietors, that can demonstrate economic harm caused by or exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic. Funding amounts will be based on 2019 (pre-pandemic) operating revenue. These funds are for any regular operating expenses including but not limited to payroll and benefits, utilities, rent, and insurance. Applications will be evaluated using the following criteria: severity of Covid-19 pandemic harm, community and cultural impact, economic impact. Full details are on the grant program web page. The seven segments of the creative sector economy (the collective enterprises, organizations, and individuals whose products and services are rooted in artistic and creative content) comprise Vermont's creative economy: culture and heritage; design; film and media; literary arts and publishing; performing arts; specialty foods; and visual arts and crafts. The program will be open for three rounds: round 1, deadline Tuesday, November 1, 2022, notifications by mid-December; round 2, opens January 3 with deadline February 28, 2023, notifications by mid-April; round 3 opens May 1, deadline June 30, 2023, notifications by mid-August. Applications that are not funded in one round may be reconsidered in the next round. Virtual Grantseeker Workshops to help applicants find out about the Creative Futures grant program and the application process, get tips for a strong application, and get questions answered. Workshops will be recorded and posted on the Council's website after the event; closed captioning will be provided. We invite you to contact us with specific accommodations you need to facilitate your participation in the workshop. Contact Michele Bailey, 504/ADA coordinator, mibailey@vermontartscouncil.org or 802-402-4614. Voice and relay calls welcome. For questions about the grant program, contact creativefutures@vermontartscouncil.org.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Avoid scams related to Hurricane Ian

Natural disasters draw scammers in the same way as lights attract insects.

This is true for the latest natural disaster in the United States, Hurricane Ian. Literally overnight, new charities have proliferated using text messages, telephone calls, and social media, all pledging to raise money for assistance to hurricane victims.

Don't fall victim to heart-wrenching stories and promises of relief. Step back and do a little research before donating.

Verify before you donate! The following websites review the truthfulness and accuracy of charities:

www.charitynavigator.com;
www.give.org; and
www.guidestar.org.

You can also call your local media providers for honest suggestions. Don't allow one tragedy to create another.

Never pay to charities in gift cards; it is a scam.

Volunteer Opportunities with United Way

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

ORGANIZE! — Shalom Shuk Synagogue Thrift Store serves the Burlington community and helps new Americans and those in need. They are seeking volunteers who will enjoy keeping their displays, shelves, and racks neat and organized, and also enjoy pleasant company and the satisfaction of helping to do good. Weekdays except Wednesdays, any time between 11:00 AM – 3:45 PM. Background check required. Contact Andie Lower, 802-864-0218 or office@ohavizedek.org.

IF WE BUILD IT, THEY WILL COME — Green Mountain

Habitat for Humanity is looking for volunteers to join their Community Builds on the second Friday of the month throughout the year. Upcoming dates are November 11 and December 9. Community Builds are for everyone, and no experience is needed. All tools are provided. Contact Bridget Mientka, 802-598-0355 or bmientka@vermonthabitat.org.

YOUTH MENTORING — Sadly, many young people in the community lack the ongoing attention and support of adult role models in their lives. Fortunately, many schools and local organizations provide mentoring programs that match young people, one-on-one, with caring adults who provide both academic support and the opportunity to share mutually enjoyable interests. Consider becoming a mentor in one of the following programs and gain the satisfaction of knowing that you are making a difference in the life of a child:

Big Brothers Big Sisters VT, <https://www.bbbsvt.org/>
Essex CHIPS, <https://www.essexchips.org/>
Franklin County Caring Communities, <https://fcccp.org/>
Grand Isle Mentoring, <https://www.mentorvt.org/agency/grand-isle-county-mentoring>

TESTING 1, 2, 3 — Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity is seeking volunteers to test donated electronics in their ReStores. If you're free for two to three hours during the week or on the weekend, join the electronics team and test anything from jukebox speakers to coffee makers to computer monitors. Experience helpful but not required. Email volunteer@vermonthabitat.org.

ON THE BOARD — Peer Teaching and Learning provides advanced learning opportunities for underserved populations, primarily adults with disabilities. They are looking to expand and enhance their Board of Directors and Board Committees with community volunteers age 18 and older. The Board meets remotely seven times a year via Zoom, with one in-person annual meeting. All Board work can be done remotely from any location. Help empower students to take ownership of their educational experience and share their passions while building self-confidence and expanding meaningful relationships with their peers and in their communities. Contact Steve Tavella, director@peerteachingandlearning.org.

LET'S DO LUNCH — Mercy Connections Community Lunch returned to their Center on Thursday, October 6, and every

Thursday thereafter into the holiday season. They are looking for volunteers, age 18 and older, to reheat delivered food and then help serve lunch. Average commitment time is 10:30 AM – 1:30 PM. Contact Maeve Keating, mkeating@mercyconnections.org.

THANKSGIVING COOKS NEEDED — Burlington Dismas House provides transitional housing for newly released prisoners. They will be providing a wonderful Thanksgiving meal for residents and guests at their Buell Street location and are looking for volunteers to help make this a memorable event. Volunteers are encouraged to enjoy the meal with the residents. Contact Hailey Leisten, 802-658-0381 or hailey@dismasoft.org.

Do you need help paying for afterschool care?

The State of Vermont has increased access to financial assistance to help more families cover the costs of afterschool and summer programs, so you can keep your kids safe and engaged while you're busy at work. The Child Care Financial Assistance Program, a subsidy, can help your family pay for child care.

To be eligible, your family must: have an accepted service need (reason) for child care; meet the income guidelines; and live in Vermont.

If your application is approved, we: let you know how much we will pay, for how many hours, and for what period; and send authorized payments directly to your provider. You pay your provider any co-payment you are responsible for.

To apply: complete the paper application; complete any additional forms that are required; gather copies of any required verification documents; and send your completed materials to your local community child care support agency (see below). If you get Reach Up, ask your case manager if they can authorize Child Care Financial Assistance for you. If they can, you won't have to complete an application.

Your local community child care support agency will determine your eligibility. If eligible, assistance may begin on the date they received your fully completed application. Staff in your local

OBITUARIES



Diana Westman Fuller of Cambridge, VT joined her beloved husband, Tom, on Thursday, September 22, 2022. Diana was born February 19, 1948 to the late Orson and Eleanor (Cutting) Westman. She attended Cambridge High School and that is where she met Thomas Lee Fuller. She always said she instantly knew that he was “the one.” They married August 24, 1968. Diana then went to nursing school while Tom spent a year in Vietnam. Upon his return, they spent a year living in Colorado and returned to Vermont to

start a family. They settled in Cambridge and went on to raise three children: Lesley (John) Tricou, Thomas (Libby) Fuller, and Lori (Fred) Stevens. Family was everything to Diana. Her greatest joys were her four grandchildren Connor Frederick Stevens, Blake Thomas Stevens, Sadie Elizabeth Fuller, and Aaron John Fuller. Diana lost Tom in 2020 after caring for him throughout a long illness. She is now with him again. Diana / Mom / “Bubby” will be missed. Donations may be made to Lamoille Home Health & Hospice.



Jennifer Lee Lowe of Underhill, VT was born some 45 years ago — early in the afternoon, on a Monday in January of 1977 in San Antonio, TX. Now, she has passed away — early, in the first hour of Thursday, September 29, 2022, in Burlington, VT. Jennifer considered herself to be a free-spirit — she never met a person that she wasn’t willing to befriend. She loved being surrounded by people, animals, and the beauty of nature. She especially enjoyed her cats; they gave her a sense of peace and tranquility and helped her

to stay grounded. Jennifer enjoyed many pastimes... She was invigorated by the camaraderie of watching football with friends and family — especially when her beloved Dallas Cowboys were playing. She cherished camping with her son, Dylan, and long-time partner Erik. She valued the relaxation of tending her gardens around her home in the flats of Underhill. She also enjoyed expressing her creativity and emotions through painting, writing, and poetry. Jennifer’s absolute greatest joy in life was her son Dylan Jared Titus. He was born to Jen and her husband at the time, Jared, in Hyannis, MA. Dylan, now 16 years old, has grown into a handsome, intelligent, thoughtful, and strong young man. Jen loved Dylan with every fiber of her heart and soul. Jennifer was born to Brian and Catherine Lowe (later, Catherine Allard) at the hospital where her maternal grandmother was Head of Nursing in San Antonio, TX. She began grade school in San Antonio — but soon moved to and finished the remainder of her public schooling in Northfield, VT. She graduated from Northfield High School in 1995. She attended college at Elon University in Elon, NC. While living in Northfield, Jen was raised well by her mother and step-father, William “Bill” Allard. After her time away at college, Jen and Jared lived in Chandler, AZ for a short time before moving back near Jared’s home town on Cape Cod, MA. Later, in 2004, they were married in a beautiful ceremony at the Allard family home in Northfield. Jen worked in the hospitality business in all the places she lived — from Northfield to Chandler and Cape Cod back to Burlington. She enjoyed connecting with her customers — although mostly

brief encounters, they sustained her connection with humanity and brought her enjoyment. Jennifer was predeceased by her mother Catherine Allard; maternal grandmother Jerry Perkinson; paternal grandparents Carol and John Lowe; and her uncle Steve Lowe. Jennifer will be sorely missed by her surviving family: her son Dylan Titus and ex-husband Jared Titus of Barnstable, MA, and Jen’s long-time partner, Erik Schulstad of Underhill, VT. Jen’s surviving maternal family includes her step-father William “Bill” Allard of Westminster, VT; brother Drew Allard of Northfield, VT; grandfather Gordon Perkinson of Northfield, VT; sister-like aunt Sara Steel, her husband Rick and their daughter, Luna of Topeka, KS; uncle John Wall and his family of NH; and uncle David Therrien, his wife, Lisa and their children of Alstead, NH. Jen’s surviving paternal family includes her father Brian Lowe and his wife Cynthia of San Antonio, TX; brother Mason Lowe of Dallas, TX; uncle Kevin Lowe and his wife Leigh and their daughter Lauren of Knoxville, TN; and close cousin John Lowe of Dallas, TX. Jen also had a special relationship with her father’s in-laws grandfather David Delgado, aunt Ruth Ann Delgado, and aunt Janet Cadena, all from San Antonio, TX. Jen also leaves behind many other aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, and countless close friends. A memorial service and celebration of Jennifer’s life will be held in late October. These plans are still being made — please check back at <http://awrfh.com/> for updates. The family asks that everyone (attendees or not) wear Jen’s favorite color, PURPLE, on this day to honor and celebrate Jennifer’s life!



Alan Robert Sheredy, 72, of Jeffersonville, VT passed away on Friday, September 30, 2022 at McClure Miller Respite House, Colchester, VT surrounded by his loving family. Alan was born on June 8, 1950 in Hartford, CT, son of the late Lester and Jeanette (Stankiewicz) Sheredy and raised in West Paterson, NJ. Alan attended high school at St. Anthony of Padua in Watkins Glen, NY where he gained his love for Formula 1 Racing, as every fall Watkins Glenn Raceway hosted the U.S. Grand Prix.

He then went to St. Peter’s University in Jersey City, NJ and continued his education at Vermont Law School, graduating in 1977. Alan married Andrea Vautour on June 30, 1979 and they shared 43 wonderful years together. Alan was the proud father of two children and they were the joy of his life. Alan settled in Jeffersonville, VT in 1978, opening his law practice and serving the area for 38 years. He sat on the boards of Lamoille Economic Development Corporation and Copley Hospital for many years. Alan was a racing enthusiast and loved riding and working on motorcycles and cars. He also enjoyed tennis, skiing, sailing, music, reading, and watching the NY Giants. He loved spending time with his family and friends, especially his children’s sporting events. Alan had the biggest heart and loved all animals. His great sense of humor kept everyone smiling. Alan is survived by his loving wife Andrea Sheredy, son Ryan Sheredy and Lo Wolf, daughter Casey Sheredy, father-in-law Roland Vautour, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law Victoria Vautour, Mark Delaney, Gregory Vautour, and Eric Vautour, his cousins Kathleen Stanier and Michael Risko. Visiting hours were held on Thursday, October 6, 2022 at A W Rich Funeral Home, Fairfax Chapel. Memorial services were held on Friday, October 7, 2022 at the Second Congregation Church, Jeffersonville with Reverend Arnold Thomas officiating. Inurnment will be private and at the convenience of the family. Memorial contributions

in Alan’s name may be made to Lamoille Home Health and Hospice, 54 Farr Ave., Morrisville, VT 05661. Please visit <http://awrfh.com/> to share your memoirs and condolences.



Donald F. Gingras, 61, passed away on Wednesday, October 5, 2022 at his home in Underhill, VT after a four-year battle with lung cancer. Donald was born in Burlington, VT on September 11, 1961, son of Arlene (Villeneuve) Gingras and the late James Gingras. Donny was a Vermonter through and through; born and raised in Burlington and in the summers grew up running around the woods of Cabot. He married his beloved wife Teri (Theresa Alene Child) in 1987 and they moved to Underhill and made it their home for the last 30 years. Together

they raised three beautiful girls, who were his pride and joy. He was most at home in the woods searching for that allusive eight-pointer. He could tell a story like no other and would talk your ear off if you would let him. He was a mechanic by trade and you could always find him in his garage covered in grease. His fascination with fixing up bicycles when he was young grew into a deep love for motorcycles, and he enjoyed many days on the open road, riding with his brothers and friends. Donald will be deeply missed by his family and friends but they will be reminded of him every day by the love and stories he left behind. He is survived by his wife Theresa Alene (Child) Gingras; his three daughters Amy Gratton her husband Andrew, Sarah Gingras, and Olivia Gingras; his three grandchildren Malachi, Sebastian, and Amelia Gratton; his mother Arlene Gingras; brother Eric Gingras, his wife Karen; sister Diana Bushell her husband Jack; sister-in-law Denise Gingras; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. He is also predeceased by his father James, and brothers Joseph and David Gingras. Visiting hours were held on Monday, October 10, 2022 at A W Rich Funeral Home. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Tuesday, October 11, 2022 at St. Thomas Church, Underhill Center, VT, concelebrated by Reverend Richard Calapan and Reverend Christopher Micale. Interment will immediately follow at Range Road Cemetery in Underhill Center. Please visit <http://awrfh.com/> to share your memories and condolences.



After several years of chronic pain and most recently Covid-19, **Barbara Pauline Broughton** passed into the arms of her Savior Jesus Christ on Friday, October 7, 2022. Born in Burlington, VT on June 17, 1939, Barbara was the daughter of George and Pauline (Laframboise) Shackett. She grew up in various towns in Addison County and attended schools in Middlebury. She graduated from Middlebury High School in 1957 and married her high school sweetheart, Bob, in 1958. Her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren were her pride and joy. Upon the birth of her first child she became a stay-at-home mom, raising and nurturing three wonderful children. In the early 1980s while volunteering with the Community Outreach Group at Fanny Allen Hospital, she created and established a program called “Footnoters” for

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Miscellaneous news continued from page 9

community child care support agency can answer your questions and help you apply, provide copies of any forms you need to fill out, and help you find a child care provider if you don’t already have one.

In Chittenden County, contact Child Care Resource, 300 Cornerstone Dr., Suite 128, Williston, VT 05495, 802-863-3367 or 1-800-339-3367; in Lamoille County, contact Lamoille Family Center, 480 Cady’s Falls Rd., Morrisville, VT 05661, 802-888-5229.

To see if your family qualifies, go online to <https://dcf.vermont.gov/benefits/ccfap>.

Child Care Capacity Grant program

Let’s Grow Kids is pleased to be working to increase the number of infant and toddler child care spaces in the state through Child Care Capacity Grants that are funded by the Federal Child Care and Development Fund, through partnership with the Vermont AHS Department for Children and Families, Child Development Division.

Grant projects should be informed by local community needs and must include either start-up of new programs or the expansion of existing programs that result in additional infant and toddler child care spaces.

For additional qualifications and information, please review the Child Care Capacity Grant program guidelines at https://letsgrowkids.org/client_media/files/MWFK_CDD_081722.pdf. If you are interested in applying for a Child Care Capacity Grant, please fill out this inquiry form at https://webportalapp.com/webform/mwfk_inquiry.

For more information about Let’s Grow Kids, go online to <https://letsgrowkids.org/>.

Get free trees, planted for you!

Do you own property along a stream or river? Does the stream have a vegetated buffer to stabilize the bank, shade the water, provide wildlife habitat, and protect water quality?

The Friends of the Winooski River is looking for properties needing streambank buffers for our Spring 2023 planting season. Any perennial stream qualifies.

For more information, please contact shawn@winooskiriver.org. Help protect your property and Vermont’s beautiful rivers and streams!

Volunteers needed for youth programs at Camp DREAM

DREAM is a nonprofit youth outreach program spread across Vermont and the Boston and Philly areas. Camp DREAM is an extension of this program where youth are able to experience camp at no cost to their families.

We are looking for adult volunteers to help with our fall overnight camp and future events as well. For further details, please email mvega-nipp@dreamprogram.org.

If you are interested in helping us out, please fill out this form! <https://forms.gle/N3KAZFphG2rkSHzN7>

Nellie’s weatherization assistance story

From the VT Dept. For Children And Families

“I’m 80 years old, I do things my own way, and I never ask for help,” said Nellie.

Well, almost never that is. Sixteen years ago, Nellie applied for and received free services from Vermont’s Weatherization Assistance Program. When her hot water heater would only work three days out of seven, she knew it was time to reach out again. So she called her local weatherization agency. They helped her apply and determined that she was eligible.

Nellie lives on Social Security and has been in her home since 1986.

The weatherization crew insulated her attic and basement and installed a new heat pump water heater. Now, Nellie’s electric bill is half of what it used to be. Her water heater works seven days a week. And her home stays cooler in the summer and warmer in the cooler months.

“They’ll come through and tell you what you need done and it doesn’t cost you anything. That’s the biggest thing. It was such a big help.”

Not only did the crew insulate and change out her hot water heater, but they also solved a mystery that had plagued her for years: the outlet in her guest bedroom never worked.

While insulating the attic, the crew found exposed wires that needed to be connected. Once they did that, Nellie plugged her vacuum cleaner into the outlet, and it worked!

“They were a very nice bunch of fellows that worked here. Just super nice people. And they cleaned up after themselves each day.”

If you’re eligible, the program can help improve the energy efficiency, safety, and comfort of your home and save you money

on your energy bills.

Services are free. Applying is easy. Your local weatherization agency can answer your questions and help you apply.

Learn more at <https://dcf.vermont.gov/benefits/weatherization>.

Make your home cozy this winter

From Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission Button Up season is here!

Button Up is Vermont’s annual campaign to cut energy use and help you prepare for winter. From tips on air sealing and insulation, to weighing the benefits of upgrades like energy efficient heat pumps, Button Up is here to help keep families warm and healthy.

There are a number of upcoming free, online events to help you identify what energy-related projects are best for your home. You can find them at <https://buttonupvermont.org/events>.

There are also two upcoming in-person events in South Burlington: Saturday, October 22, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, the South Burlington Energy Committee will be at Ace Hardware, 1961 Williston Rd.; and Saturday, November 5, 1:00 – 3:00 PM, the South Burlington Energy Committee will be at Lowes, 189 Hannaford Dr.

Learn more about Button Up Vermont, as well as tips, DIY projects, rebates and more at <https://buttonupvermont.org/>.

Save \$200 by switching to electric induction cooking

Green Mountain Power (GMP) customers can save \$200 when they switch from fossil fuel for cooking and install a new electric induction cooktop or range. Induction technology heats up and cools down faster than fossil fuel and provides great temperature control, all without indoor air pollution.

The new rebate is available for *installed* induction cooktops or ranges (not portable) and is valid on purchases made on or between October 1, 2022-December 31, 2023. Customers can apply for the rebate and see all the details on GMP’s website (<https://greenmountainpower.com/rebates-programs/home-and-yard/induction-cooktop-rebate/>).

The new induction rebate adds to GMP’s growing list of incentives to help customers save money when reducing their own carbon footprints. You can learn more about all the incentives available, including rebates for electric vehicle and heat pumps, plus home energy storage on the rebates and programs page (<https://greenmountainpower.com/rebates-programs/>) on GMP’s website.

SCHOOL NEWS

New grant for afterschool programs in Vermont

For every Vermont youth in an afterschool program, there's another one waiting to get in. Vermont Afterschool's Room for Me Grant can help by expanding existing afterschool programs and starting new ones.

Our kids need a place to go. Let's make room for them! For more information: <https://vermontafterschool.org/room/>.

Harvest Market thank you from the Coop

By Eliza Kramer

on behalf of Mansfield Cooperative School students

Thank you to everyone who stopped by our Harvest Market booth in Underhill and made our statistics unit possible! We made three types of snack mixes and in exchange for free samples asked visitors to our booth to fill out a survey for us. Using the data we collected from your surveys we have made numerous data displays in the form of line graphs, box and whisker plots, pie charts, and bar graphs.

After analyzing our data, we discovered that *Just Want S'more* was the most popular snack mix across all age groups. We also found that 70% of people who visited our booth over the whole weekend came on Saturday. Most visitors were between the ages of 17-45. The majority of our visitors came in groups of three to four, and more people had eaten beforehand by a small margin.

Since more people had eaten beforehand, we assumed as a group that perhaps people wanted dessert. This idea supports *Just Want S'more* being so popular. In fact, more than 4 times the number of people who liked *Pumpkin Party* and 7.5 times the number of people who enjoyed *Cranberry Craze* preferred *Just Want S'more*.

With your help and a few free samples, we've learned all about the statistical process, different data displays, and that you all tend to have a sweet tooth for *S'mores*! Thank you again for your support.

If you want to learn more about Mansfield Cooperative School, please follow our Instagram @mansfieldcooperative or visit our website <https://www.mansfieldcooperative.org/>.

Also, if you want to create your own *Just Want S'more* snack mix here is the recipe. We found that these ratios made the best flavor/texture combination!

Just Want S'more

- 2 cups Golden Grahams cereal
- 2 cups mini marshmallows
- 1 cup chocolate chips
- 1 cup Cocoa Krispies cereal

Help EWSD shape the future of our educational system

By Ben Dickie, EWSD Communications and Public Relations Coordinator

The Essex Westford School District is leading the way in making 21st century learning a reality for all students. We are seeking diverse perspectives from our students, families, staff, and the broader community in developing a *Portrait of a Graduate*. This will serve as a framework for helping us achieve our EWSD vision: growing hearts and minds, for a better today and tomorrow, every day, every way, every one.

Now more than ever, our students must be provided high-level learning opportunities that foster critical thinking, communication, collaboration, creativity, and other 21st century skills and mindsets. Our shared aspiration is that all our students have an educational experience that prepares them to be lifelong learners and contributors today and tomorrow.

We want our *Portrait of a Graduate* to be locally developed and globally positioned. We hope you will bring your voice and unique perspective to this collaborative process.

Over the next few months, the *Portrait Design Team* will explore the following questions: What are our community's hopes, dreams, and aspirations for our students? What skills and mindsets do our students need for success in this rapidly changing and complex world? What are the learning experiences we want our students to experience?

Our *Portrait Design Team* will meet in person on four upcoming Wednesdays to design the *Portrait of a Graduate*, and each meeting builds upon the other:

Meeting 1: October 19, 6:00 – 8:30 PM, Essex High School Cafeteria;

Meeting 2: November 9, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, Essex High School Cafeteria;

Meeting 3: December 14, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, Essex High School Cafeteria;

Meeting 4: January 11, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, virtual.

Here are a few resources you may wish to review in preparation for our time together:

Sample portraits: see how school systems across the country have engaged their larger community in developing a shared framework for students: <https://portraitofagraduate.org/>.

The Future of Work (short video): are we preparing kids for their futures? <https://teddintersmith.com/innovation-playlist/the-future-of-work/>.

Underhill/Jericho Playgroup has restarted

The Underhill/Jericho Playgroup has started up again this fall! This open playgroup will be held in the UID Building multipurpose room at 10 River Rd., Jericho, every Wednesday from 9:30 – 11:00 AM. We follow the MMUUSD calendar.

Geared toward children birth-5, this is a great opportunity for kiddos and caregivers to socialize and create connections within our community. There is no registration required, masks are optional, bring your own snack. We will also play outside on the playground when possible, so please dress for the weather.

Email underhillplaygroup@gmail.com to sign up for reminders and updates. Hope to see you there!

Explore NVU graduate programs, virtually

Virtual information sessions for Northern Vermont University graduate programs in counseling are coming right up. Register today!

M.S. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling Virtual Information Sessions:

- Wednesday, October 26, 6:30 – 7:30 PM
- Thursday, November 10, 6:30 – 7:30 PM
- Tuesday, November 15, 5:30 – 6:30 PM

M.A. in Counseling Virtual Information Session:

- Thursday, October 27, 5:30 – 6:30 PM

Register for each Graduate Program Virtual Information Session, online at <https://NorthernVermont.edu/GraduateInfoSessions>.

You can also schedule your own in-person or virtual information session, online at <https://NorthernVermont.edu/GraduateAdmissions>.

Questions? Reach out to Edward Bassett, NVU Graduate Admissions, Edward.Bassett@NorthernVermont.edu or 802-730-4880.

Obituaries continued from page 10

seniors and their foot care needs. The program was implemented at various senior sites and still exists, albeit modified, under UVM Home Health & Hospice. For more than 25 years she volunteered with the EJU Ecumenical Foodshelf, and also supported numerous Red Cross blood drives at Catalyst Church in Jericho, VT. Predeceased by her parents, she is survived by her loving husband Bob, to whom she was married almost 64 years, daughter Kim (Paul) Sonntag of Colchester VT, son Scott (Leslie) of South Burlington, VT, and son Matthew of Blue Hill, Maine. She is also survived by her grandchildren Kyle (Stephanie), Erin (Carlos), Luke (Chris), Steven, Sergei, Oliver, Eliza, and Grace, and by her great-grandchildren Alex, Amora, and William. She will be missed by many cousins and close friends. Barbara was a great cook and is remembered especially for her mashed potatoes and green bean casseroles (yes, there is a story for each!). She also loved gardening and spending time with family and friends. Barbara's family would like to thank the entire staff at Mansfield Place Assisted Living and all of the services of UVM Home Health and Hospice for the wonderful care and loving treatment provided to Barbara during her last weeks. It's been one hell of a ride and she will be greatly missed by her family, relatives and many friends. A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, October 29, 2022, 1:00 – 4:00 PM, at Catalyst Church, Raceway Rd., Jericho, VT. All are invited. Please visit <http://awrfh.com/> to share your memories and condolences.

SPORTS NEWS

Taekwondo Training at CES gym

Cambridge Martial Arts Academy (CMAA) is an independent school training in the traditional Korean martial art of taekwondo. CMAA promotes self-esteem, self-confidence, and character development, and provides students a physical outlet in an educational and controlled environment.

CMAA is a family oriented school, welcoming all people of good character regardless of age or ability. We offer structure and discipline for both children and adults in order to promote a

healthy lifestyle through the art of taekwondo.

CMAA promotes the tenets of taekwondo: courtesy, integrity, perseverance, self-control, and indomitable spirit! Our mission is to forge leaders and inspire our students to achieve their personal best, while fostering positive relationships with teammates.

Training is every Tuesday and Thursday, 6:00 – 7:00 PM at the Cambridge Elementary School gymnasium. For more information, contact cmaatkd@hotmail.com or visit <https://www.facebook.com/cmaavt>.



Mary Jane Cain (on left) and Hester Paterson sit in our garden on the memorial bench commemorating our Burlington Garden Club with a plaque and a sign, which also commemorates the years since the Club's founding (1934), and serves as a reminder of the continuing dedication of all members to the Club's mission. PHOTO BY CAROLYN BATES

Burlington Garden Club honors past presidents

Burlington Garden Club (BGC) members applauded the wonderful work of three honored members with a sign unveiled at the 4th annual picnic held at the Vermont Garden Park in South Burlington.

Past presidents of the BGC in the 1970s — Mary Jane Cain, Hester Paterson, and Louise Kolvoord — remain members of the garden club and were honored for their invaluable efforts in achieving our club's projects milestones. They continually inspire members through their dedication, one-on-one mentoring, and "can do" attitude, as related in remarks by Barbara Gaida and Linda Lane, current co-presidents. Their attention to detail and laser-sharp focus contributes to the continued success of the Burlington Garden Club, stated Doris Van Mullen, Vice President of the Federated Garden Clubs of Vermont.

The unveiling of the new sign *Honoring Our Past, Embracing the Future* is installed near the bench in the Burlington Garden Club area at VT Garden Park. The sign features pictures of three members who are honored for their commitment to the Club for many years and the club's mission statement: to stimulate knowledge and appreciation of horticulture; aid in the protection of the natural environment; provide instruction in indoor gardening and floral design; and encourage and promote garden therapy, civic plantings, youth gardening, and residential gardening.



Relaxing trails for autumn walks

Brewster Uplands, Jeffersonville: Who doesn't love a Vermont trail that starts at a covered bridge? The rolling Alden Bryan Trail (1.2 miles) meanders from the bridge through hemlock woods along the tranquil Brewster River and its cascades. Or check out the Pond Loop (1 mile), an easy level walk through mossy, ferny woods. Find a trail map at <https://vt.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Brewster-Uplands-Trail-Map.pdf>.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

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If you could talk to a dragonfly what would you ask them? It has been observed that dragonflies can move in a forward motion about 100 times their own body length every second — between 18 and 30 mph depending on species (Forest Wildlife). But are they fast at everything? I wanted to ask this Autumn Meadowhawk Dragonfly about #1 and #2, given that they have such a long (thorax) body. I do tend to be a bit unconventional. Still, my recent observation of a dragonfly pooping was, to me exceptionally exciting. The ‘crap’ shot out like a rocket (and landed beyond the leaf in the photo). That was so unexpected! Good thing I was focusing on the end of the thorax, which I usually try to get a detailed close-up photo of to help with the ID and sex of the individual. Now I know that a dragonfly is also a fast pooper — and a rocket-propelled one at that.

PHOTO BY BERNIE PAQUETTE

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