Meet the Underhill selectboard candidates

Daniel Kelsey



Hello, Underhill neighbors! My name is Dan Kelsey, and I'm excited to be running for a seat on our Town Selectboard. My husband and I moved to our lovely home on Pinnacle Ridge in September 2021, along with our two adorable Brussels Griffon dogs, who remind us daily of the joy, energy, and love that this playful breed brings. (Does anyone remember Verdell from *As Good As It Gets*?)

I grew up along the beautiful Connecticut shoreline in the towns of Clinton and

Chester, where community and nature were integral parts of daily life. In 2006, my career took me to New Jersey, but my heart has always been in a place like Underhill — a community that values its natural beauty and fosters a warm, inclusive environment.

In 2021, a year of many significant challenges but also fortunate moments, I married my husband, Andrew Seguel, and we decided to move to and make a new home in Vermont. My passions range from gardening and decorating to hiking and bird watching. I have been volunteering with the Vermont Institute of Natural Science to assist with transporting birds for rehabilitation. I treasure time spent with friends and am an avid supporter of our local Vermont breweries. I strongly believe in the importance

of maintaining an active lifestyle, including regular exercise, which not only enhances physical health but also contributes significantly to mental well-being and community vitality.

As a candidate for the Town Selectboard, I aim to bring my experiences and enthusiasm for community engagement to enhance our town's services and activities. I'm committed to promoting sustainable growth and maintaining the unique character that makes Underhill special.

Since relocating to Underhill with my husband in September 2021, we have been charmed by its stunning natural beauty and vibrant spirit of community. My aspiration to join the Selectboard springs from a profound admiration for our town's distinctiveness and my commitment to cultivating an environment where every person's voice is heard and valued.

Professionally, I have dedicated 18 years to Bayer Healthcare, where I serve as a Director in Research and Development within the Quality group. This role has sharpened my abilities in project management, critical thinking, and collaborative problem-solving — skills I am eager to apply to enhance our town's governance. My career has taught me the importance of meticulous attention to detail and proactive leadership, qualities essential for managing our town's diverse needs effectively.

Previously, I served on the board of directors for our former neighborhood's community club, an experience that enriched my understanding of balancing diverse opinions and managing resources effectively. These insights are directly applicable to the challenges and opportunities faced by the Selectboard.

Outside of my professional life, I find joy in spending time with my family, friends, and our two dogs. I am passionate about gardening, birdwatching, and maintaining an active lifestyle. These hobbies do more than enrich my personal life; they reflect my commitment to the health and beauty of our community.

In Underhill, we are fortunate to experience a friendly and evolving community atmosphere — a testament to the values we collectively cherish. With a focus on fairness, honesty, and diversity, I am committed to fostering open, kind communication. My approach to town governance will be decidedly non-political, concentrating solely on what best serves our community and supports its growth and prosperity.

I am eager to become more involved in community activities beyond my current engagements. By serving on the Selectboard, I hope to give back to the town that has welcomed us with open arms and to help craft innovative solutions that will benefit all residents. I am committed to being an accessible, responsive, and proactive member of the Selectboard, ensuring that our initiatives and decisions are transparent and result-oriented.

I warmly invite you to share your ideas, concerns, and hopes for our town with me. Let's work together to shape a future for Underhill that mirrors the best of what we envision for our community. I respectfully ask for your support and your vote to serve on our town's Selectboard.

Maureen Collins-Kolb



My name is Maureen Collins-Kolb and I am running for the Selectboard of the Town of Underhill. I am deeply committed to preserving the rural character and strong sense of community that make this such a special place to live.

My husband Jonah and I are parents of two young children attending Underhill Central School and we are active members and volunteers at the United Church of Underhill. We have worked to become deeply rooted in our community since we moved here.

I have lived and worked across the country, from a dude ranch in Colorado to rebuilding homes in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina to teaching health classes in Chicago's senior centers. Before we moved here to be closer to family, my husband and I spent 10 years living in rural central Illinois, running our farm management business and starting our family.

With a master's degree in public health, my career has focused on health promotion and disease prevention for older adults and risk behavior prevention for adolescents. This public health training and background helped to shape my perspective on the importance of "upstream factors" that influence the health and success of a community — things like good sidewalks and access to green spaces, in addition to bigger things like schools and libraries, make a difference in how accessible healthy options are for all residents.

In addition to my professional background, I have been actively involved in community engagement and leadership roles. In Illinois, I served as a precinct committee person for my local party, and worked to help get out the vote, represented my local precinct for the party meetings, and supported efforts to

promote early and absentee voting. I was on the board of our county history museum for eight years, with five of those years on the executive board, and was the chair of the annual festival which brought in an average of 100,000 people to our town for that weekend.

I believe that communities thrive when people who care show up to do the work to keep it a place where people want to live, work, and recreate. Maintaining what is best about a community while evolving to respond to the ever-changing needs of the residents takes time and attention. It is my hope to have the opportunity to be a part of this process here in Underhill. My priorities are to serve the best interests of the town with integrity and empathy; and to collaborate with town employees, volunteers, and stakeholders to ensure that it remains a place where families want to raise their children and where older residents can age with dignity.

Christopher Parker



Hello, my name is Christopher Parker. I've dedicated my life to serving my community with passion and commitment. Born in Rutland, VT, I moved to Florida with my family in the 1980s and recently returned to reside in Underhill, VT. I bring a unique perspective and a deep understanding of both my hometown and my adopted community.

Professionally, I have worked in the fire service for the last 35 years and currently serve as a Fire Department Administrator/ Firefighter EMT with the Underhill

Firefighter EMT with the Underhill Jericho Fire Department. In this role, I have demonstrated a strong commitment to public safety, community service, and efficient administration. My responsibilities include managing department operations, coordinating emergency response efforts, and ensuring the safety and well-being of our community.

I am also close to completing my bachelor's degree in Fire Department Administration, with just 15 credits remaining. This will further enhance my expertise and prepare me to contribute even more effectively to public service.

As a proud father of three adult children who reside in South Carolina, I understand the importance of family and community support. My personal experiences have shaped my values and commitment to creating a better future for all residents of Underhill

My platform is built on my extensive knowledge of local government and my vision for Underhill as a community of inclusivity, progress, positive change, and unity. I believe that by fostering open dialogue, embracing diversity, and working together cooperatively, we can overcome challenges and achieve our shared goals. I am committed to promoting transparency, accountability, and effective governance in all decision-making processes, ensuring that every voice in Underhill is heard and represented.

My goals include creating a thriving and prosperous future for Underhill and improving the quality of life for all residents. With a strong foundation in public service and a clear vision for the future, I am ready to bring my dedication and passion to the office of the Select Board. I am eager to leverage my skills and knowledge to instill positive change and ensure effective governance. For more information, please contact me at my email *Christophergparker72@yahoo.com*, or my cell 843-693-2698.

Harland Blodgett



I've lived in Underhill for over 60 years. I went to school in Underhill Center and graduated from Mount Mansfield High School, class of '74. I worked in construction; sheetrock, metal studs, and building acoustical ceilings. I was employed by DonVac for 19 years and L&N Interiors for 14 years. I am married and raised three kids in Underhill. They all went to the Underhill ID School and Browns River Middle School and

graduated from Mount Mansfield Union High School as well. I am retired and volunteer at the Lamoille Valley Fish and Game Club, running muzzle loader competitions, and was the President of the club for four years. I was Cub Master of Underhill-Jericho

Underhill special election to choose two new Selectboard members

A special town meeting and election will be held in Underhill on Tuesday, June 11 to elect two of four candidates running for the new Selectboard seats approved by voters last March. As with voting by Australian ballot at the March Town Meeting, a June 11 Special Town Meeting has been warned by the Town of Underhill, but the election itself is by Australian ballot with voting at the Underhill Town Hall, 12 Pleasant Valley Rd., Underhill Center. The four candidates running to fill the new positions are pictured and profiled in this edition of the *Mountain Gazette*. Those elected will serve a term that ends at Town Meeting on March 4, 2025, when new elections will be held.

Underhill will hold an information and discussion meeting on Wednesday, June 5 at 6:00 PM at the Underhill Town Hall. To join from your computer, tablet, or smartphone, go online to https://meet.goto.com/432286229 (to get the app and be ready when the meeting starts: https://meet.goto.com/install); or you may also dial in using your phone (Access Code: 432-286-229 United States: +1 (224) 501-3412).

Pack 620 for six years in the 1980s. From 2012-2019 I was a chartered organization representative for the United Church of Underhill and Pack 62; each June the Cub Scouts helped me with the community dinner at the Church. I have been an auditor for the Underhill Cemetery Committee for over 30 years and also an auditor for the Jericho-Underhill Water District for 20 years. I also enjoy fishing and hunting, Dutch oven cooking, and spending time with the grandkids. I've got some Dutch oven recipes to share if you are interested.

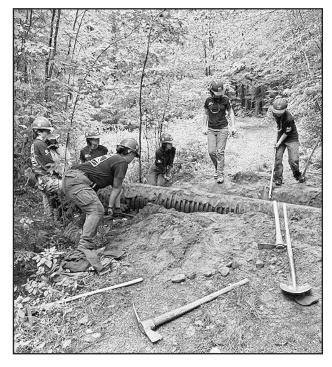
Position statement: I saw that Underhill had vacancies for Selectboard members and thought that after 60 years of living here, it would be a great way to give back to my community. I am retired and have the time for the position and clearly, after living and raising my family here for 60 plus years, you can see that I care about Underhill and its future.

Father's Day Fishing Derby Sunday, June 16



Fathers and kids of all ages, come to Jonesville on Sunday, June 16, for the Chittenden County Fish & Game Club's annual Father's Day Fishing Derby — considered one of the oldest fishing derbies in the nation — 8:00 – 11:00 AM. There will be prizes for children ages 14 and under, and trophies for age groups 5-14 years. Admission is free! Lunch will be available. Follow the signs from the Jonesville-U.S. Rt. 2 bridge to the Chittenden County Fish & Game Club, 1397 Wes White Hill Rd., Jonesville. Pictured above is two-year-old Jackson Heath and his dad Ben of Richmond, with Jackson's first ever trout!

NEWS



A crew from the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps working on improvements to the West Farm Trail in Cambridge's Brewster Uplands in summer 2023. The Loggers' Loop Trail network and the parking lot on Junction Hill Road will be closed for the first two weeks of June, starting Monday, June 3. The Pond Loop Trail and the upper parking lot on West Farm Road will be closed from mid-June through the end of August. Some sections of the Pond Loop Trail may have limited openings during construction in July and August. Please stay clear of work areas and respect all trail and parking lot closures during construction. Closure signage will be posted and updated throughout the summer. A trail closure map and project updates can be found on VLT's website at www.vlt.org/ brewster-trail-work. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Trail improvements at Brewster Uplands in Cambridge this summer

Restoration work will close trail sections and some parking areas June-August
Public trails at Brewster Uplands on Canyon Road off VT Rt.

108 will receive a major lift this summer, the Vermont Land Trust (VLT) has announced. Upgrades on nearly two miles of trails will enhance accessibility for people of all ages and abilities. They will also improve stream health and clean water in the Brewster River watershed.

Trail work this summer will take place on the Loggers' Loop Trail network and the Pond Loop Trail. Two associated parking lots on Junction Hill Road and West Farm Road will also be

Work on both trail sections will be done by Rabbit Tracks Trail Works, LLC of Eden, starting in June. The Loggers' Loop network will be closed for the first two weeks of June, and the Pond Loop trail will be closed from mid-June through the end

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

The Loggers' Loop Trail network — including the Junction Hill Trail, the Canyon Road Trail and the Old Carriage Road Trail — will reopen after work is completed in June.

The main parking lot on West Farm Road will remain open

throughout the summer.

Visitors are requested to stay clear of work areas and respect all trail and parking lot closures during construction. Information and updates can be found on VLT's website, www.vlt.org/ brewster-trail-work.

Laird MacDowell of the CTC said: "The Cambridge Trails Committee applauds the Vermont Land Trust for hiring Rabbit Tracks Trail Works, LLC to rebuild the one-mile-long Pond Loop Trail to be fully wheelchair-accessible, providing a rare flat, wooded trail for all users to complement the LVRT (Lamoille Valley Rail Trail) and Cambridge Greenway gravel trails. In addition, VLT will resolve a major issue with lifted culverts utilizing the same local contractor on the popular Loggers' Loop trail, which will greatly improve the trail and make it more bicycle friendly."

The Loggers' Loop Trail network and Junction Hill Road parking lot will be closed first half of June, starting the week of June 3. The network includes the Loggers' Loop trail and these adjacent trails: Junction Hill, Canyon Road, and the Old Carriage Road. Several lifted culverts will either be reset or replaced with shallow ford crossings that allow water to flow naturally across trails and forest roads. In addition, new water bars and grade reversals will be installed to improve drainage and help mitigate erosion and muddy conditions. These upgrades will improve stream and wetland function and enhance flood resilience in the

Mountain Gazette, June 6, 2024

This project is slated to take two weeks. The parking lot on Junction Hill Road will be closed along with the trails during

The Pond Loop Trail and upper parking lot on West Farm Road will close for two months. Once the Loggers' Loop work is complete, Rabbit Tracks Trail Works, LLC will transition to the Pond Loop Trail to complete accessibility upgrades on the trail, the pond overlook spur, and the upper parking lot on West Farm Road. This work is scheduled to start in the second half of June and should take eight weeks to complete. The entirety of the trail and the upper parking lot will be closed during that period.

Trail upgrades will incorporate best practices for universal trail accessibility provided by the U.S. Forest Service. The upper parking lot on West Farm Road will be improved to feature new ADA (American Disabilities Act)-compliant parking, better drainage and surfacing, and an improved driveway entrance.

"My family, friends, and I are very excited and thankful for all those involved in making these upcoming accessibility improvements possible," said Berni Kuntzelmann of Cambridge. This is a beautiful asset to our community and should be enjoyed by all, which these improvements will help to do. I look forward to exploring the new, improved Pond Loop Trail and parking lot in my mobility chair ASAP!"

The 600+ acre Brewster Uplands property was donated to VLT in 2006 by the Bryan family for all to enjoy. The Bryan family bought the land in 1939 and, over several generations, tended the working landscape and developed an extensive trail network. Today, VLT manages and stewards Brewster Uplands as an outdoor resource for the community and to protect and enhance its natural resources.

Rabies-positive raccoon found in Underhill

By Deb Moore, Underhill Town Health Officer

Yesterday (Thursday, May 30) a rabies-positive raccoon was found in Underhill. There was no human or domestic animal contact as it was contained at the Wildlife Refuge in Underhill. Rabies is a serious health care concern and below is information to update you. If you have further questions after reading, please contact me as your Town Health Officer (deb moore rn@yahoo. com) or the Vermont Rabies Hotline number at 800-472-2437. Thank you for your attention in this important matter.

If your pet or farm animal was exposed to a wild or stray animal that might have rabies: contact your veterinarian. Pets should be vaccinated for rabies. State law requires dogs and cats to be vaccinated — even barn cats.

If you see a wild or stray animal acting strangely, or are concerned about a rabies exposure, call the Rabies Hotline (1-800-4-RABIES) or report it to your town's animal control

Do not touch or pick up wild or stray animals — even baby animals — or try to make them into pets. Doing so can put yourself or your family at risk of exposure through a bite or a scratch. You can't tell if an animal has rabies just by looking at it. Interacting with young wildlife may result in them being orphaned or tested for rabies, which requires humanely euthanizing the animal. So, for their own sake, leave wildlife in the wild.

Learn more about rabies in Vermont — visit https://www. healthvermont.gov/disease-control/zoonotic-diseases/rabies.

Rabies is a deadly viral disease of the brain that infects mammals and is fatal to both humans and animals. In Vermont, rabies is most commonly found in wild animals such as raccoons, skunks, foxes, bats, and woodchucks. Cats, dogs, and livestock can also get rabies if they have not been vaccinated. Rabies virus is spread through the bite of an infected animal. Rabies is transmitted only when the virus is introduced into a bite wound, open cuts on the skin, or onto mucous membranes like the mouth

Please report bear encounters

By Jennifer Silpe, Underhill Animal Control Officer Animalcontrol@underhillvt.gov / 802-373-0893

Please help us understand this increase in bear activity. The Vermont state biologist would like you to report all encounters with bears; even those that are not aggressive.

Here is the link to report: https://anrweb.vt.gov/FWD/ BearIncidentPublic/AddMyIncident.aspx.

Thank you, Underhill, for continuing to pay attention to wildlife and respecting them, as we are the ones who encroached on their territory. If we heed the warnings and put away bird feeders, keep our outdoor cooking areas clean, and cover garbage, recycling, and compost, we will help keep the bears of Underhill alive.

Safe parking at Palmer Lane Maple in Jericho

Be well!

From Paul and Colleen Palmer, Palmer Lane Maple, Jericho

For our customers' safety and our neighbors' convenience, we ask our patrons to park in our designated parking areas, being sure to pull out of the road completely so as not to block the traveled portion of Old Pump Road.

We also ask that our parking areas only be used by customers and not used as public parking to go for a walk, run, or bike ride. We need all the parking we have at all times. We reserve the right to tow vehicles parked in our lots longer than the expected 30 minute maximum time.

During high volume traffic times, there are two alternate areas available for parking that are less than a minute walk from our

NEWS BRIEFS

shop. For your safety, always use the designated crosswalks and pedestrian crossing signals.

-The front parking lot of the Jericho Post Office is available at these times:

- Monday-Friday, after 5:00 PM;
- Saturday, after 12:00 PM;
- · Sunday, all day.

-The back parking lot of the Jericho Post Office is OFF LIMITS at all times, as Mail Carriers and Trucks need access to this lot at all times.

The Jericho Elementary School (JES) parking lot is available

- Monday-Friday, anytime after 2:30 PM (September 1-June
- 15, when school is in session); • Saturday or Sunday, anytime (September 1-June 15, when
- school is in session);
- Anytime when school is not in session.

For your safety, always use the designated crosswalks and pedestrian crossing signals.

Underhill Jericho Memorial Day Parade on video

By Angelike A. Contis, MMCTV

Mount Mansfield Community Television (MMCTV) was at the annual Underhill-Jericho Memorial Day Parade, and recorded

Enjoy the parade video online at https://bit.ly/3yCigJS (short for https://youtu.be/pb MMl5MxrU?si=bMDuwtjybogpNGdI).

Public input sought in Bolton for plan to manage Wheeler Field

By Brian Roberge, Bolton Town Administrator There will be an opportunity for members of the public to give

input to the Wheeler Field Management Planning Group on the Wheeler Field Management Plan.

Come to the West Bolton Golf Club on Monday June 10, 6:30 PM to learn about survey results and field layout ideas. Give your

Sponsored by the Wheeler Field Management Planning Group; thanks to Jeff and Mary Brown for use of the Club.

Reminder: rules dogs on trails in Westford

From the Westford Conservation Commission

Reminder from the Westford Conservation Commission about dog-owner behavior on our town trails:

- Please keep dogs leashed that are not under voice control.
- Be courteous to other trail users; some folks do not want dogs running up to them.
- · Clean up your doggy doodoo; bags are provided at kiosks at the Westford School. · Keep dogs off private property; our town trails abut and
- intersect private property. The weather is nicer now and there are more folks out on the

trails. Be respectful so everyone can enjoy them!

Town of Jericho highway updates

By Paula Carrier, Jericho Assistant Town Administrator The Town of Jericho started street sweeping the week of

Monday, June 3, weather permitting. Roadside mowing will be done on all paved town roads by Thursday, July 4. The Highway Department will be painting stop bars, yield

signs, and crosswalks starting the week of Monday, June 3, weather permitting.

Radar signs go back up on Skunk Hollow Road after June 3.

Brenda Steady announces candidacy for Vermont House

Brenda Steady of Milton announced Thursday she will run a campaign for Vermont Representative in district Chittenden 25, comprised of Westford and East Milton. Steady's main campaign theme is making Vermont more affordable for current residents and Vermont's future.

"As Vermonters are experiencing a monumental increase in education tax, it is hurting property owners and renters alike. These increases are impacting our families and our seniors, with many leaving or thinking of leaving our state. I will vote for fiscally responsible legislation that will protect our citizens. As a local government official I am proud of the budget oversight I have supported which has limited our increases to lower than

Steady has a long history of public service as a local government official and advocate, having served as a select board member for six years and a school board member for nine years prior. As a former school board member she understands the issues related to Vermont's education funding system. According to Steady, "The system is really broken and we can see it now. I will support Governor Scott's leadership for education funding reform and general budgetary restraint."

Steady also shares the governor's concerns over the coming carbon tax. "A carbon tax will hurt the working people. My opponent promised she would vote against a carbon tax in 2022; however, she voted for S.5 which will implement a fuel tax."

Steady is also a long time Justice of the Peace. "I love performing weddings for people of all walks of life, no matter who they are. Celebrating the best in all of us is important to me."

Contact Brenda Steady, candidate for House, at 802-893-0516 or steadyforhouse@gmail.com.

CSWD fall Rover dates announced

By Alise Certa, CSWD Board

The Rover, Chittenden Solid Waste District's (CSWD) mobile household hazardous waste collection unit, accepts a wide variety of household hazardous waste at no charge from Chittender County residents — business waste is not accepted. CSWD provides the Rover as a service to residents who cannot make the trip to the Environmental Depot, our permanent hazardous waste collection facility located in South Burlington.

The dates and locations of the Rover's fall schedule are:

- Saturdays September 7 Underhill Town Garage; • Saturday, September 28 — Bolton Fire Garage;
- Saturday, October 5 Huntington Fire Station.

For times and information on what the Rover accepts, please visit our website, https://cswd.net/hazardous-waste/rover/.

Can't make it to the Rover? Avoid the lines and schedule an appointment year 'round at the Environmental Depot! The Environmental Depot accepts more materials than the Rover and is always the best place to take your hazardous waste. Making an appointment is easy — just visit our Depot page and click the "make an appointment" button: https://cswd.net/chittendencounty-solid-waste-facilities/environmental-depot/.

News from the Jericho Town Hall

SelectBoard: In May, the SelectBoard held public informational meetings for each of the Village Centers to share the 60% Report of the Village Wastewater Study conducted by DuBois & King. The slides from each session can be viewed at https://jerichovt. org/wastewater-feasibility-study. Recordings of the meetings will be available.

Planning Commission: At its May 21 meeting, the Planning Commission viewed a presentation from their Bylaw Modernization Grant consultant David White in preparation

News briefs continued on page 3

COMING EVENTS

Summer's almost here: Farmers' Market season

Here are the particulars about our local Farmers' Markets:

- Jeffersonville Farmers' and Artisan Market rain or shine on Wednesdays, 4:00 PM dusk, 49 Old Main St., Jeffersonville, across from the painted silos. Visit this local marketplace of farmers, specialty food producers, and artisan crafts. More information on the Farmers' Market, live music, and family events is on their Facebook page (Jeffersonville Farmer's Market).
- Jericho-Underhill Farmers' Market Mills Riverside Park, Jericho, Thursdays, 3:00 6:30 PM. This wonderful community market supports local farmers, artisans, and musicians and serves as a community gathering space with access to fresh food and Vermont crafts. Information is online at https://www.jerichofarmersmarket.com/, where you can sign up for their weekly newsletter.
- Richmond Farmers' Market Volunteers Green, Richmond, Fridays, 3:00 6:30 PM. The Richmond Farmers' Market strives to strengthen the direct connection between producers and consumers by providing an inclusive space for all members of the community to convene over and celebrate local food, artisanal crafts, music, and more. The music and events schedule at https://richmond-farmers-market.square.site/entertainment. More information on the market and parking is available online at https://richmond-farmers-market.square.site/.

Ongoing Events

Summer Food Truck Nights in Underhill — monthly on third Fridays, June 21, July 19, August 16, and September 20, 5:00 – 9:00 PM at Moore Park, Underhill Center. Bring a lawn chair to chat with neighbors and enjoy food trucks and great music!

St. Thomas yard sale donation drop off days: St. Thomas Church at 6 Green St, Underhill Center, will be accepting donations every Tuesday from 4:30-6:00 PM and every Saturday from 8:30-11:00 AM. Please hold your big donation items like furniture, rugs, mirrors, dressers, tables, etc. until a few days before the sale, which is Friday-Sunday, June 21-23. Thank you!

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

The Jericho Historical Society meets at the Old Red Mill, VT Rt. 15, Jericho on the second Thursday of each month (June 13) at 6:00 PM. Visit our website for more information or to request a zoom invitation: https://www.jerichohistoricalsociety.org/events.html.

Craft Group: meets twice a month on Thursdays (June 13, 27), 6:00 – 8:00 PM, Deborah Rawson Memorial Library, 8 River Rd., Jericho. Open to anyone interested in coming with any craft they like: crocheting, rug hooking, knitting, needlepoint, watercolors, jewelry making, macramé... you name it! If you have any questions please contact Amy Tower, 802-355-9671 or atowerinvt@gmail.com, or Julie Hehir, 802-899-3199 or juliehhehir@comcast.net.

Waterville Country Church hosts a Community Meal the first Thursday of each month (June 6; note that because of the holiday, the July 4 meal will be held on Thursday, June 27). Come enjoy a relaxing homemade meal with neighbors at the church,

for updates to the current character-based zoning regulations

in the Riverside Village Center. For more information: https://

who showed up to help out on our semi-annual trail clean up day.

A big thank-you to Brian Stone and his crew at Garden of Eatin

Mobbs Committee: Special thanks to the wonderful volunteers

Conservation Commission: Bears find excellent habitat in

Jericho's natural spaces, and in order to help keep bears wild we

need to prevent them from being attracted to our yards in search

of food. Please take down, clean, and store your bird feeders until

December, and make sure your trash cans are securely stored.

If possible, place your cans by the curb for trash pickup on the

morning of your collection day (not the night before). Bears who

News briefs continued from page 2 -

jerichovt.org/planning-commission.

for providing volunteers with a delicious lunch!

or pick up meal(s) to go. Donations accepted. All donations will be given to a local nonprofit, charity, or community service organization. For information contact Susan Schill or Kim Pitt, watervillecountrychurch@gmail.com. Ask about delivery to shut-ins!

Yoga in Underhill Center, Tuesdays through July 23 — The Underhill Recreational Committee is pleased to offer a weekly by-donation Gentle Yoga Classes, 6:30 — 7:30 PM, at the Underhill Town Hall, Pleasant Valley Rd., Underhill Center. Diana Rose teaches these classes designed for all: no expectations, judgements, or prior experience needed. The class will begin with joint opening exercises and warm-ups, flow through a balanced series of standing, seated, and reclined poses with instructions and modifications available, and will finish with a guided relaxation meditation during the final resting posture. Please RSVP to InfinityOasis 1111@gmail.com or 802-345-9435; drop-ins are also welcome. Donations by cash/check/Venmo will be accepted but not expected. Please bring a yoga mat if you have one or Diana will have a few extras to borrow!

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

Bone Builders Class: at St. Thomas Catholic Church, Underhill Center, on Mondays/Wednesdays/most Fridays, 9:00 – 10:15 AM; first Friday of the month, 9:45 AM. Sponsored by the United Way of Northwest VT, RSVP Bone Builders is a free exercise program for men and women, designed to prevent the negative effects of osteoporosis. For more information contact Danielle Schwer, 802-861-7821 or danielle@unitedwaynwvt.

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

Coming Events

Friday, June 7

Open sanctuary, 4:30 – 6:30 PM, 2nd Congregational UCC, 16 Church St., Jeffersonville. Are you stressed, exhausted, anxious? There seems so much worry with little ability to fix or control what worries us. We are opening our sanctuary for people to come and *be*: be quiet, be in prayer, meditate. Come for a length of time that is best for you. We will have a variety of allage appropriate meditation stations (along with all the pews) that invite peace, rest, rejuvenation: put together a puzzle, or read a children's book, or meditate while molding clay. Give yourself a gift of quiet, rest, time-out for your body, mind, soul.

Friday-Saturday, June 7-8

Relay for Life of Chittenden County, 6:30 PM Friday-6:30 AM Saturday, Champlain Valley Expo, Essex Junction. Join

Cambridge Community Food Shelf needs volunteers

The Cambridge Community Food Shelf needs volunteers for

the following functions:
• greeter/computer sign in person — welcome the clients, and sign them in via computer, and send them downstairs to get food, on Tuesday shifts, 12:30 – 4:00 PM or 4:00 – 7:15 PM;

• helper to select food for the clients — work with the clients helping them decide which food they want and guiding them through the selections to provide them with the food they need, Tuesday shifts, 12:30 – 3:00 PM, 3:00 – 5:00 PM, or 5:00 – 7:15

• volunteer general maintenance tinkerer — can be called to come to the Cambridge Community Food Shelf and check out the situation and advise us about what to do when the refrigerator or freezer is "acting funny" or any of the other mechanical devices we utilize are not working properly, anytime we have a situation that needs attention

Please contact *cambridgevtfs@gmail.com* if you are interested in volunteering for the above positions or have any other questions.

Thanks to Mobbs Farm volunteers

By Pete Davis, Chair, Mobbs Farm Committee, Jericho

Spring trail day couldn't have taken place without the support of our wonderful volunteers and dedicated committee members. Thanks so much to all of you who came out on a morning in May to work for our semi-annual Trail Day.

Huge thanks to Brian Stone and his amazing crew at *Garden of Eatin'* for providing a delicious lunch for our hardworking volunteers.

If you couldn't make it today and would like to pitch in to keep the trails at Mobbs Farm in great shape, please feel free to send your contact information to *mobbschair@jerichovt.gov*. We'll be in touch for future special projects. Thanks for your support!

Westford Rec summer programming information

By Amanda Gifford, Westford Recreation CoordinatorArchery for June of 2024 was cancelled due to low registrations.
Parent & Me programs have coaches and are being organized

Summer Soccer is also being organized.

Stay tuned! Check in at https://westfordvt.us/recreation/ for more information what is going on with Westford Recreation!



This year's Summer Free Fishing Day in Vermont is Saturday, June 8, giving residents and visiting anglers the opportunity to go fishing without a license for the day in Vermont lakes and streams. Vermont's regular bass season also opens on June 8, marking the start of some of the hottest bass fishing action in the northeast. To learn more about fishing in Vermont or to purchase a fishing license, go online to https://vtfishandwildlife.com/.

PHOTO COURTESY OF VERMONT STATE PARKS

the American Cancer Society's $33^{\rm rd}$ Annual Relay For Life of Chittenden County, a high-energy community event to help end cancer as we know it, for everyone. This year's theme will be $Star\ Light,\ Star\ Bright\ —\ Wish\ Upon\ a\ Cure\ Tonight,\ and will celebrate and recognize survivors, thrivers, and caregivers. The funds raised by our passionate volunteers go towards cancer research, advocacy, and patient support, such as the HopeLodge in Burlington, a 24/7 hotline, and rides to treatment. To learn more or join, visit <math>http://www.relayforlife.org/chittendenvt.$

Saturday, June 8

VT Summer Free Fishing Day, all day, all Vermont lakes and streams. This is an opportunity for residents and visiting anglers to fish without a license for the day. Vermont's regular bass season also opens on June 8. To learn more about fishing in Vermont or to purchase a fishing license, go online to https://vtfishandwildlife.com/.

McClure Miller Respite House Jiggety Jog 5K, 9:00 AM, Mallets Bay School, 609 Blakely Rd., Colchester. The Respite House has served our community for over 30 years, providing medical care and compassion to those at the end of their lives, and the Respite House has always been driven by community support. This family-friendly event will feature lawn games, prizes, raffles, music, and more! Every dollar raised ensures compassionate, high-quality care is available to our community—and every dollar raised from this event goes directly to the McClure Miller Respite House. Help us meet our goal of raising \$100,000, which will provide over 110 days of care at the Respite House. To register for the Jiggety Jog 5K, or to donate directly to the McClure Miller Respite House, go online to https://give.uvmhealth.org/event/jiggety-jog-5k/e517778.

Shredfest, 10:00 AM — 1:00 PM, Union Bank, VT Rt. 15,

Jericho. Mount Mansfield Villages is hosting a free shredding event for our members, volunteers, sponsors, and the local

Coming events continued on page 5

Wood4Good update

By Eric Axelrod and family

We at Wood4Good continue our efforts in reducing heat insecurity by providing free firewood to families in need. We have helped over 250 families in the past two years. We could use your help volunteering. We are generally out every Saturday, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM (and other times as well).

We process our wood on Cilley Hill Road at the far end of the Davis Farm — thanks to Tammy and Gary Davis for their continued generosity in letting use their special land for processing, seasoning, and distribution.

We can always use some muscle to help us get things done, but we have easier tasks — like throwing wood in trucks — that kids can easily and safely be involved in. We recently had over 20 MMU kids out, and they killed it! We processed 7.5 cords of wood in just under two hours — pretty impressive.

We would love to have anyone who can join us, and if you'd like to help in a non-physical way, we need your help just as much. Please contact me, if you can help now or in the future or would like to be added to our weekly request.

Our Retail Stores are Open!



The Mountain Gazette

6558 VT Route 116, Starksboro, VT 05487 802-453-6354

mtngazette@gmavt.net

Deadline June 13, 2024 • Published June 20, 2024

Brenda Boutin - publisher, ad design/delivery Editor - Sara Riley

Letter Policy: Maximum 450 words

Letter Policy: Maximum 450 words
One letter per writer, per calendar month.

Must be signed for attribution with writers address and phone number. Send your news to

mtngazette@gmavt.net

become habituated to human foods are more likely to be involved in bear-human conflicts. Prevention is up to us! Read more at athttps://vtfishandwildlife.com/learn-more/living-with-wildlife/living-with-black-bears.

Jericho Food Hub Task Force: the Task Force recently collaborated with the Underhill Food Hub to create a brochure listing local formers and forms. The brochure was proiled to

listing local farmers and farms. The brochure was mailed to Jericho and Underhill residents and will also be available at Town Hall and our libraries as a resource to help residents support the local food economy. The Jericho Farmers Market opened for the 2024 season on Thursday, May 30, 3:30 PM.

Reimagining Town Meeting Task Force: Read updates from the committee and view upcoming meeting dates at https://jerichovt.org/jericho-town-meeting-2-0.

Neighbors: This month we feature Selectboard member Erik Johnson: https://jerichovt.org/Celebrating-Each-Other.

Cambridge Food Shelf needs donations of clothing

Vermont's warm weather is back!

The Cambridge Food Shelf's clothing "bank," which has free clothing available to anyone who needs it, is looking for donations of clothing for warm weather so we can refill and refresh our shelves.

We ask that all clothing is fresh and clean (no animal hair, no stains). Sizes needed:

• children, sizes 12 months to size 14;

• adults, all sizes.

Please, NONE of these: shoes, boots, toys, or swim suits.

Drop off clothing when we are open, Tuesday, 1:00-7:00 PM. The Cambridge Food Shelf is located at 16 Church St., Jeffersonville. Questions? Call 802-644-8911.

Thank you in advance!

HEALTH NEWS

Protect your health: test your private water system

From the VT Department of Health

Give your family (and your pipes) peace of mind by testing your private well or spring. You can now buy a kit through the Health Department's online webstore.

• Contaminants like bacteria, arsenic, and uranium are common in Vermont wells and springs. Since they often have no color, smell, or taste, testing is the only way to know if they're present.

• Early detection equals early prevention — testing now can save you money and headaches later on by catching water quality issues that can lead to plumbing problems or health issues.

How do I test?

Order by phone or go to https://www.HealthVermont.gov/ lab/forms and find our new webstore, where you can order the Homeowner Testing Package. This detects bacteria, inorganic chemicals, and radiation.

• This package includes 15 tests for a total cost of \$159. This comes out to \$3.60 a month over the recommended five-year testing schedule.

Learn more about testing and treatment at https://www. HealthVermont.gov/water.

Bike for Friends program how to request one

By Sam Lotto, Cambridge Area Rotary

The Bike for Friends (BFF) program is a partnership between the Cambridge Area Rotary and Bootleggers Bike Shop. The BFF mission is to provide high quality refurbished bikes to people of all ages. In turn, this provides them access to a lifelong activity that they otherwise may not have.

The recipient will get on a bike at no cost to them!

The funding to cover the cost to refurbish the bikes, and provide a new helmet, comes from a grant from the Richard Tom Foundation (https://www.richardtomfoundation.com/)

Due to generous community donations, we have built up an inventory of children's to tweens' road and mountain (MTN) bikes, as well as adult hybrid, road, and MTN bikes. We have numerous others in the BFF inventory.

If you know of someone who could benefit, please send an email to swlvt57@gmail.com asking for a one-page BFF request form. Once the form is returned, we will match your friend to a BFF-donated bike that will best meet their needs.

Do you have a Dragonheart?

Dragonheart Vermont invites you to try paddling in a Dragon Boat this summer — no experience necessary! Experience the thrill of dragon boat paddling, the second-fastest growing water sport in the world. Feel the physical benefits, enjoy the camaraderie and fun out on beautiful Lake Champlain.

All abilities are welcome. Dragonheart Vermont strives to strengthen and empower breast cancer survivors and supporters through the challenging sport of dragon boating, instilling in its members the values of teamwork, fitness and community giving.

Water shoes and moisture wicking lightweight clothing are suggested. All paddling and safety equipment will be provided.

Here are three ways to join us: • Try Paddling Day for All (minimum age 14, no maximum age) on Thursday, June 6, 5:30 - 7:00 PM at the Waterfront in Burlington. Free! To register, go online to https://forms.office.

com/r/nFkXq6eaMP. · Community Cancer Survivor Paddle Day on Saturday, August 3, 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM at the Waterfront in Burlington. Free! Hosted by the Dragonheart Vermont Breast Cancer Paddler Team. To register go online to https://forms.office.com/r/ HYcAzvrk6m.

• Lake Champlain Dragon Boat Festival on Sunday, August 4, at the Waterfront in Burlington (practice weekend July 20-21). The Festival needs you! No experience necessary, but minimum age 14. You can register a team or join a team that needs a paddler. This is a fundraising event which raises money for Vermonters with cancer. For more information about the Festival and to register (advance registration required) go online to https://secure.dragonheartvermont.org/event/lcdbf2024.

Please feel free to contact Patricia Bauer, pschm703@hotmail. com, with any questions. I hope to see you on the water this



LaCiNg Up for Cancer looking for teams

LaCiNg Up for Cancer is looking for more teams for this year's fundraising event that helps raise money for the Lamoille Area Cancer Network. The theme this year is Total Eclipse of the Heart. The event date is Saturday, June 22, 1:00 – 10:00 PM, and registration starts at 11:00 AM — all happening at People's Academy High School track at People's Academy High School, Copley Ave., Morrisville.

Are you or someone you know interested in starting a team, raising money for LACN, and enjoying a beautiful day with your community and neighbors? If yes, please reach out to Jill Baker at 802-888-8302 or Kathy Demars at 802-888-4651 — we'd love to have you join us!

Healthy Lamoille Valley news, volunteer opportunities

From Healthy Lamoille Valley

Thank you, Green Up Day volunteers! Thank you for Greening Up this year and completing our Green Up Day Survey to help us collect information about the impact of substances in our region. Keep it in mind for next year!

Seeking volunteers for Healthy Lamoille Valley's (HLV) Retailer Initiative. Are you a substance industry retailer or licensee? Are you a community member who wants to help support our Retailer Initiative? We are seeking coalition members interested in supporting this initiative whether you are a retailer or would like to help distribute packets to local Lamoille Valley retailers in your own town. Everyone has a role in youth substance misuse prevention — yes, tobacco, alcohol, and cannabis retailers too. We share a common goal of not wanting youth to have access to substances. Building on our work over the years, Healthy Lamoille Valley is in the midst of an updated retailer initiative and we are strengthening our meaningful relationships with our local retailers. Please contact alison@healthylamoillevalley.org for more information.

Healthy Lamoille Valley was excited to celebrate this year's work at our first annual prevention celebration held Wednesday, May 15 during National Prevention week! This was an exciting time to bring together and celebrate some of the amazing prevention work being done in our region. There were 65 attendees including 35 students. We celebrated with music, make-yourown ice cream sundaes, and free t-shirts celebrating the value of connections. Congratulations to the 2024 Prevention All Stars and many thanks to all who attended, volunteered, and shared their projects! Read more: https://www.healthylamoillevalley. org/prevention-celebration-2024.

Lamoille North Youth Coalition students co-facilitated a series of Substance Awareness and Refusal Skills Workshops for sixth graders this spring. Eleven Lamoille North Youth Coalition (LNYC) students worked with Healthy Lamoille Valley's Youth Coordinator to learn, practice, and co-facilitate a two-part workshop on substance awareness and decision-making skills for over 120 grade 6 students in the five Lamoille North elementary schools. Check out the highlights and feedback from students on our website, www.healthylamoillevalley.org/student-workshops.

Register a booth at Substance **Use Addiction Summit**

From Northwestern Medical Center

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

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

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

Please sign up and reserve your space at https://bit.ly/3X4mHHt (short for https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdsWo GFZYsM7MyeUoYGSYlDAZbn5yapI-52G4zvnZtxSVVoCA/ viewform.)

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



Stay injury-free this summer

By Mary Kintner
Working on your home and garden should be fun and rewarding. Take care of yourself by putting safety first and preventing injuries. Common injuries include fractures, sprains, sunburn, and blisters. By using some simple steps and commonsense procedures, you can more easily avoid these problems.

Begin by stretching your body before any activity. An injury is more likely to occur to someone inflexible and not "warmed up." A simple walk around your property can get your blood flowing, which helps loosen the muscles.

Organize your work are so you have what you need when you need it. Arrange your equipment in a way to reduce risk of tripping and falling. Use the right tool for the job — e.g., don't use a knife as a pair of scissors.

Make sure your equipment is functioning properly — e.g., don't use frayed cords, be sure ladders are properly secured, cutting tools should be sharp. These measures will help reduce your risk of getting injuries such as electrical shock, broken bones, cuts and bruises.

Use equipment that is ergonomically designed and sturdy. Wear protective gear such as gloves, knee pads, safety goggles, etc. Be sure your footgear is adequate for the job at hand — e.g., don't climb a ladder in flip flops!

To prevent sunburn, work in the shade, and wear sun block and a hat with a brim. If stinging insects are present, wear protective gear and insect repellant.

When working, keep ergonomics in mind. When lifting, use your legs and lift close to your body. Bend at the knees so your legs can do the work. If you need to turn, especially when carrying something, turn your whole body by turning your feet first (not at the waist).

Reduce repetitive motion injuries by taking breaks every half

Make sure you keep well hydrated by drinking water every 15-30 minutes. Coffee, tea, milk, beer, etc. are not water, and will not adequately hydrate your body.

Quit when you are tired! More injuries happen at the end of the day when you are fatigued. Quitting early saves time when contrasted to an injury or trip to the emergency room.

If you are injured, stop what you are doing. Use first aid when appropriate. If you have a blister or minor cut, clean, cover and elevate it. If it is bleeding profusely, seek immediate medical attention. If you are stung by an insect, rinse the site, and apply a baking soda paste or plantain (a common weed), chewed, as a

Sunburn is best treated by getting out of the sun. Minor sunburn can be treated by applying cool (not cold) water or aloe vera gel. If you get a painful sunburn that blisters or bleeds, seek medical attention.

If you have a bruise or pulled muscle, "RICE" it — that is rest, ice, compress, and elevate. The same applies to strains and sprains. Chiropractic care may be beneficial because it treats the musculoskeletal system.

Mary H. Kintner, D.C., R.N., is a chiropractor and nutritional consultant practicing in Jericho, VT.

Bicycle safety

With the weather getting nicer and nicer, parents have been pedaling lots of questions at me about bicycle safety. Let me see if I can gear up and answer some of those questions.

Make sure your child's bike fits properly:

• Don't buy a bike that is too big, expecting your child to grow into it, because they could lose control of it and hurt themselves.

• A bike is sized right when your child can sit on the seat with feet flat on the ground and the handlebar no higher than the shoulders.

• A first bike should have foot brakes in addition to hand brakes, since your child's coordination may not be good enough to control hand brakes.

Your child needs to have the right equipment.

- Helmets are a must, even for short rides. Most accidents happen near home in driveways, on sidewalks, or on bike paths, not just on streets.
- · A properly fitted helmet should meet standards set by the Consumer Product Safety Commission.
- A helmet should be bright colored to be visible to drivers, should sit level and not tilt forward or backward, and should not be worn on top of a baseball cap or other hat. The straps should fit snugly under the chin and only one finger maximum should fit between the chin strap and the chin.
- A football helmet or ski helmet is not a substitute for a bike helmet.
- Parents should be good examples and always use helmets.
- Children should wear fluorescent or bright colored clothing to help other motorists see them on the road.
- · Pant legs shouldn't be too loose fitting to avoid getting caught in the chains.

• Make sure shoes can grip the bikes pedals.

- Remind your children not to wear headphones or earbuds while riding so they can hear the traffic around them.
- Even with bike reflectors or a reflective vest, it is never safe for a child to ride at dusk or after dark.

A well-maintained bike is a safe bike.

- Make sure bicycles used by members of the family are tuned up at least once a season.
- This includes tires inflated, chains oiled and cleaned, handlebar and seat adjusted for height, and brake pads checked

Children need to learn the rules of the road.

- This must be done before they go off riding without you.
- Rules include riding with traffic, not against traffic.
- · Stop and look both ways before entering the street or at

• Use proper hand signals before turning.

• Respect and follow traffic signals even if they were put in place for cars. Hopefully, tips like these will put the brakes on any concerns

you have when it comes to keeping your child safe on a bicycle. Lewis First, MD, is Chief of Pediatrics at The University of Vermont Children's Hospital and Chair of the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Vermont's Larner College of Medicine

LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

VT Senate update: 2024 session ends

By Kesha Ram Hinsdale, State Senator **Chittenden-Southeast Senate District**

May 20

The 2024 legislative session and 2023-24 legislative biennium has now ended. We are likely to have a veto session on Monday, June 17, though it is unclear what the Governor will veto until

It's been an honor to work alongside you to redirect Montpelier's attention to the working people of Vermont. We have passed historic affordable housing reforms, flood recovery and climate resilience, child care accessibility, labor organizing and workers' rights, Medicare expansion, and online protections

As the first woman and first pregnant mother with a young child to serve as Chair of the Economic Development Committee in the Senate, I can truly tell you that it matters who sits at the head of the table. I am proud of our work to build an inclusive, welcoming, and fair economy for everyone.

I look forward to speaking with you about what we accomplished, and to respond to your thoughts and questions. At 24 weeks pregnant and with a precious one-year-old daughter, please just extend patience and grace with my response time!

Thank you for the privilege of serving, and enjoy the warm weather.

Vermont House update

By Thomas Stevens, State Representative Washington-Chittenden House District

May 13

As it always does, the Legislature came grinding to an end with a final vote on the Fiscal Year '25 budget. This year, we gaveled out at 2:30 AM on Saturday, May 11. We worked long enough to miss seeing the Northern Lights when we were done!

I'm sure we will have a deeper and more thorough report on what bills passed and were signed (or not) in the coming weeks, but for now, a few highlights of the final weeks of the session as the House and Senate ironed out their differences and reached some compromises:

H.687 throughout the session was known as the "Act 250" bill in the House. By the time it arrived back in the House from the Senate, it contained many important elements of H.829 and H.639, which were two of our major housing bills. In the end, many positive reforms were made to Act 250 land use regulations. These changes should retain the principles of conservation while relaxing some zoning regulation in order to allow communities to build more housing units without hurting our anti-sprawl tradition. Housing sections included revisions to the recently created VHIP program, which allows property owners the ability to apply for funds to help renovate units, as well as funding for a series of pilot programs for upstream eviction prevention, which is estimated to prevent up to 400 evictions a year. Also included in H.687 were important flood risk disclosure provisions for owners selling their properties, created in response to the 2023 flooding.

H.121 is an incredibly important and well crafted Data Privacy bill that includes elements of S.289, which was focussed on privacy for children. H.121 was opposed by those who benefit by having access to your personal data in order to sell it — mostly the big companies like Google or Amazon.

H.887 is the usually sleepy "yield bill," which is one of the "must pass" bills we consider every year. The yield bill is the basically the final word for the year regarding education spending. The state totes up the amount of money municipalities have voted to spend and divides it into the final statewide tax rate. The bill, this year, contained funding to "buy down" the tax rate. This is a rightfully controversial construct because it takes surplus funds and artificially lowers the tax rate in a way that must be paid for next year. This is because it is a one-time payment and not built into the funding structure. In essence, we'll be starting next year "in a hole" with respect to the Education Fund, and will have to account for this year's spending then. In the short term, the average increase has been lowered to approximately 13.5% statewide. Very high, to be certain, but nearly 40% lower than feared earlier this year.

There is no question that this was a difficult year, especially financially. The massive amounts of pandemic-related assistance funds have dried up, and establishing a workable budget that allowed for some programs created over the last several years to be continued took a lot of work. The House and Senate, as usual, had different ideas about priorities, and were able to work out those differences in a conference committee.

We will learn more in the days ahead about what is in store for us. The bills will make their way to the Governor, and he will choose to sign them or veto them, and if vetoed, we will head into Montpelier in mid-June to hold a Veto Session. After that, we will be able to provide you with a more succinct list of the bills we passed.

Thank you, as always, for your patience and support.

Update from the Vermont Senate

By Irene Wrenner, Senator, Chittenden North

The legislative session ended in the wee hours of Saturday morning, May 11, after a marathon series of voting sessions. Apparently, Friday night was even more exciting back home, thanks to the aurora.

Race to the finish line

The last week of the session brought a rash of bills to our desks, including one to relax Act 250 and allow housing to be built with less permitting in certain areas.

H.687 was brought to the floor after a late-night compromise was worked out, leaving Senators little time — in between regularly-scheduled committee meetings the next day — to read and analyze it before being asked to vote.

Several legislators raised concerns during our floor session and proposed amendments to specific parts of the bill. Without a hint of irony, sponsors of the bill reminded their peers that this was a bit late in the process to make changes. Given insufficient time to understand its contents and implications, I voted No.

New Division of Animal Welfare

H.626 is an answer to a number of animal cruelty cases across the state and the ongoing lack of a designated governmental entity to address complaints. I supported this bill, which creates a new Division of Animal Welfare to be housed in the Department of Public Safety, and designates a single employee to develop a comprehensive plan for handling animal cruelty cases, once

Miscellaneous Ag bill

The Senate passed an initial version of S.301, but was asked to consider two additions in early May. I approved of both updates. This bill now prohibits pet shops from selling dogs, cats, and wolf hybrids unless the pet shop lawfully offered animals for sale prior to July 1, 2024 and meets several qualifications. The measure is intended to eliminate the sale of puppies from puppy

Another recent addition: banning the sale of "paws or internal organs of a black bear separate from the animal as a whole.' Black bear gallbladders are used in Chinese medicine and their paws are used to make soup. The measure is intended to reduce poaching and the movement of bear parts to out-of-state markets. Timber trespass

For decades large quantities of wood have been taken from Vermont forests without payment to landowners by certain loggers. The crime families are well-established and well-known, but no law has protected landowners' interests until H.614 came along. Fines and felonies for land improvement fraud are defined in this bill, which I supported.

Right to Repair Ag Equipment

H.81 would have allowed Vermont farmers and loggers to independently repair their agricultural equipment, but the bill died after lawmakers in the House and Senate failed to agree on details, much to my disappointment.

Lawmakers introduced the bill last year, and they were quickly met with an onslaught of lobbying opposition from national interest groups and equipment manufacturers. The bill would have compelled manufacturers like John Deere, Caterpillar, or Husqvarna to offer the manuals, codes, diagnostics, and equipment parts necessary to repair farm and logging equipment at fair market value. In the weeks before adjournment, a lot of language changed on the Senate end to favor the manufacturers. The Senate also appeared to run out the clock by delaying its third reading: by the time H.81 returned to the House, no time was left to negotiate differences between the two versions.

At the Westford Senior Luncheon on Monday, June 10, House Rep. Julia Andrews and I will discuss recently passed legislation that impacts seniors and answer your questions from this biennium. Look for me at the Westford Library for Cards and Coffee or their Concerts on the Town Common, in between doorknocking this summer. Yes, it's an election year. Register to vote at https://olvr.vermont.gov/ if you're new to town!

Send email to iwrenner@leg.state.vt.us. I post highlights from the State Senate and our district at www.facebook.com/ SenatorIreneWrenner. Thank you!

Coming events continued from page 3 —

community. You may bring your personal papers in a bag or box. A SecurShred employee will put your papers in the secure truck to be shredded, and you can even watch the shredding process!

Sunday, June 9

Early Birder Morning Walk, 7:00 – 8:30 AM, Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd., Huntington. Who's singing, calling, nesting, or flying? Spring and early summer mornings are terrific for birding. Discover birds on an early morning ramble in the Museum's forest and meadows. Walks are led by experienced birders familiar with Vermont birds. Bring binoculars and good walking shoes. Early mornings are often damp with dew and boots are definitely in order, as is bug spray/tick repellent. Park at 900 Sherman Hollow Road in the Museum parking lot. Free, suggested donation: \$10-\$15. Limited to 12 participants; register for Museum events at https:// seven day stickets. com/organizations/birds-of-vermont-museum.Monday, June 10

Land, Lives, and Legacy: Learn about Wills and Estate **Planning**, 5:00 – 7:00 PM, Shelburne Farms, Shelburne. Join us for free advice on where to begin — or how to refine — a legacy plan that provides for the people and programs you care most about. Learn from expert panelists who will share their latest strategies and insights, helping you navigate the complexities of preserving your assets, providing for your loved ones, and securing your legacy for generations to come. Whether you are new to estate planning or already have a will or trust in place, come get you questions answered and find valuable tools and tips. Free. Panelists: Livia DeMarchis, Vice President, Trust Company of Vermont; Emilye Pelow Corbett, Senior Philanthropic and Planned Giving Advisor, VT Community Foundation; Richard Flood, Principal, Flood Financial Services; Moderator Adam Bartsch, owner, Northeast Estates and Trusts; Susan Fowler, Retired Vermont Probate Judge. Pleaser register: https://vlt.

planning/. Wednesday, June 12

The Rich History of Sports at Cambridge High School 1920-1967, 7:00 - 8:00 PM, Warner Lodge, 49 School St., Jeffersonville. Presented by Spencer Noble, the program is free, and all are welcome. Sponsored by the Cambridge Historical Society. The building is handicapped accessible. Refreshments will be served — homemade, of course!

org/events/land-lives-and-legacy-learn-about-wills-and-estate-

Sunday, June 16

Early Birder Morning Walk, 7:00 - 8:30 AM, Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd., Huntington. Who's singing, calling, nesting, or flying? Spring and early summer mornings are terrific for birding. Discover birds on an early morning ramble in the Museum's forest and meadows. Walks are led by experienced birders familiar with Vermont

birds. Bring binoculars and good walking shoes. Early mornings are often damp with dew and boots are definitely in order, as is bug spray/tick repellent. Park at 900 Sherman Hollow Road in the Museum parking lot. Free, suggested donation: \$10-\$15. Limited to 12 participants; register for Museum events at https:// sevendaystickets.com/organizations/birds-of-vermont-museum.

Saturday, June 22

Catalyst Church Craft Fair and Flea Market, 10:00 AM 2:00 PM, Catalyst Church, Raceway Rd., Jericho. New date! If you've got some crafts or cool items you want to sell, email Portia at athena87@gmail.com to RSVP your booth. There is a \$20 booking fee; all fees will go towards helping cover the costs of our Summer Bible Camp.

Sunday, June 23

Early Birder Morning Walk, 7:00 - 8:30 AM, Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd., Huntington. Who's singing, calling, nesting, or flying? Spring and early summer mornings are terrific for birding. Discover birds on an early morning ramble in the Museum's forest and meadows. Walks are led by experienced birders familiar with Vermont birds. Bring binoculars and good walking shoes. Early mornings are often damp with dew and boots are definitely in order, as is bug spray/tick repellent. Park at 900 Sherman Hollow Road in the Museum parking lot. Free, suggested donation: \$10-\$15 Limited to 12 participants; register for Museum events at https:// sevendaystickets.com/organizations/birds-of-vermont-museum. Sunday, June 30

Early Birder Morning Walk, 7:00 - 8:30 AM, Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd., Huntington. Who's singing, calling, nesting, or flying? Spring and early summer mornings are terrific for birding. Discover birds on an early morning ramble in the Museum's forest and meadows. Walks are led by experienced birders familiar with Vermont birds. Bring binoculars and good walking shoes. Early mornings are often damp with dew and boots are definitely in order, as is bug spray/tick repellent. Park at 900 Sherman Hollow Road in the Museum parking lot. Free, suggested donation: \$10-\$15. Limited to 12 participants; register for Museum events at https://

sevendaystickets.com/organizations/birds-of-vermont-museum. Sunday, June 30

Early Birder Morning Walk, 7:00 – 8:30 AM, Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd., Huntington. Who's singing, calling, nesting, or flying? Spring and early summer mornings are terrific for birding. Discover birds on an early morning ramble in the Museum's forest and meadows. Walks are led by experienced birders familiar with Vermont birds. Bring binoculars and good walking shoes. Early mornings are often damp with dew and boots are definitely in order, as is bug spray/tick repellent. Park at 900 Sherman Hollow Road

in the Museum parking lot. Free, suggested donation: \$10-\$15. Limited to 12 participants; register for Museum events at https:// sevendaystickets.com/organizations/birds-of-vermont-museum.

Saturday, June 29

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

Saturday, July 6

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

Saturday, July 13

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

Thursday, July 18

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

Sunday, July 21

10th Annual Blueberry and ice Cream Social, 3:00 – 5:00 PM, District No. 5 Schoolhouse, 32 Pleasant Valley Rd., Underhill Center. Hosted by the Underhill Historical Society at the restored Old Schoolhouse. Bring your favorite blueberry dessert to share and enjoy ice cream, music, beverages, and fun conversation.

COMMUNITY COLUMNS

ETHAN TAPPER bittersweet work of tending a changing world

After eight years, Ethan Tapper has moved on from being Chittenden County Forester — but is not leaving Vermont and not leaving readers without his vision of forest management. His book How to Love a Forest, a reimagining of forests and our relationship to them, will be published in September. You can pre-order How to Love a Forest at https://ethantapper.com/book, and from there find links to keep up with Tapper's news and work.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ETHAN TAPPER

How to Love a Forest

By Ethan Tapper

As I write this, I'm finishing up my last couple weeks as the Chittenden County Forester for the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation. My last day in this role was May 31, marking eight years to the day since I started this job in 2016. Over the last eight years I've met thousands of you in the woods, led hundreds of public events and written more than 70 articles for a dozen community newspapers. I've written Forest Management Plans for the Andrews Community Forest, the Westford Town Lands, the Catamount Community Forest, the Huntington Community Forest, the Huntington Town Forest, the Milton Town Forest, the Indian Brook Conservation Area, and the Carse Addition to the Hinesburg Town Forest. I've been humbled to receive several honors and distinctions, most recently as the National Outstanding Inspector of the Year for the American Tree Farm System. Serving as the Chittenden County Forester has been a massive honor, and a dream come true — and now it's time for me to do something else.

For six years, I woke up every morning at 5:00 AM and wrote for an hour before heading to work in the woods. Gradually, these writings became a book called How to Love a Forest: The Bittersweet Work of Tending a Changing World, which will be coming out in September. I was inspired to write How to Love a Forest by my work as a forester, as well as by my experience caring for my own 175-acre parcel — "Bear Island" — that I bought in 2017. I found that there were lots of books about forests and other ecosystems and the threats that they face, but none about what we actually do about it: what it means to love an ecosystem in a world of young, simple, degraded forests, in a climate crisis and a biodiversity crisis, in a changed and changing world. Bear Island became a catalyst for the book — a forest that had every problem that a forest could have. I had to ask myself if it would be a greater kindness to Bear Island to leave it to suffer alone, or to do everything in my power to make it healthy again.

In a world in which many people believe that loving forests means simply leaving them alone, How to Love a Forest proffers a more complex vision: that in this moment truly caring for forests means taking action to protect them, and that the actions we must take will often be as counterintuitive, uncomfortable, and bittersweet as cutting a tree to make a forest healthy again. How to Love a Forest is a reimagining of forests and our relationship to them that is beautiful and hopeful and empowering. You can pre-order How to Love a Forest anywhere that books are sold or at https://ethantapper.com/book. Pre-ordering really helps, so please pre-order if you can!

I will also be starting my own consulting forestry company - Bear Island Forestry. Bear Island Forestry will provide consulting forestry services to private landowners: advising landowners, writing Forest Management Plans, and overseeing forest management projects. Bear Island Forestry's work will be grounded in the principles of ecological forestry: managing forests for biodiversity, ecological integrity, and resilience above all else. I will also be consulting with government agencies, NGOs, and companies to incorporate these principles into their work, as well as to improve their communication around ecosystem management projects. Learn more about Bear Island Forestry at https://www.bearislandforestry.com/.

Finally, I will be continuing to do public speaking, social media, and public education, and outreach. I am very active on Instagram, using the handle @HowToLoveAForest, as well as on YouTube and TikTok (also at @HowToLoveAForest) and Facebook. You can stay apprised of what I'm up to by signing up for my email list at https://ethantapper.com/.

My hope is that this career shift will allow me to effect a larger change in our understanding of forests and what it means to care for them — building a larger platform from which to advocate for forests, responsible forest stewardship, and conservation. I hope that you will follow along, pre-order the book, and that you'll be hearing from me soon!

Ethan Tapper is a forester and author from Bolton. Ethan previously served as the Chittenden County Forester, before leaving to start his own business — Bear Island Forestry — in

MMCTV news

By Angelike Contis, MMCTV

Hitting the field and stage: so far this year there have been 150+ hybrid municipal meetings, but with the warmer weather, Mount Mansfield Community Television (MMCTV) has been out in the field (literally) a lot!

Mount Mansfield Union High School (MMU) student Derek Hefel recorded the Underhill/Jericho Memorial Day Parade (view it at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pb_ MMI5MxrU). He's part of our terrific team of pros and students that have been streaming MMU spring sports, from softball to tennis. Watch (and please subscribe) on YouTube at https://bit.ly/4bESvqU (short for https://www.youtube.com/ playlist?list=PLm9TgJr7n7xflRUinzBHzfJ_D63K0Owr8). So far, we have filmed 15 games; thanks to AGS Vermont, Inc (known locally as Jericho/Richmond Market) for helping to underwrite the series! And a special shoutout to our Browns River Middle School volunteer Gabe! We share many of these games with our sister stations around Vermont. We've also streamed three MMU concerts in recent weeks and will stream the final concert on Thursday, June 6 and MMU Graduation (live from MMU) on Saturday, June 15.

Coming to the Airwaves Near You: on Friday, May 17, MMCTV got the FCC's seal of approval for our Low Power Radio application. We have three years to build and already are running with the name WRUJ (for Richmond, Underhill, and Jericho). If you'd like to get involved, please reach out! We are getting a group together and will draw on board member Kate Blofson's extensive experience with community radio as a starting point.

No-Nonsense Gardening with Mary Houle: if you've ever admired the flowers outside of Richmond Town Hall, or the greenery within, it's the work of master gardener and longtime Richmond resident Mary Houle. MMCTV invited Mary to share some of her expertise in the new series No Nonsense Gardening. MMCTV's Madeline Daly has made it happen, producing the first set of short videos. Watch online at https://bit.ly/3yEZCRy (short for https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLm9TgJr7n7xfAeVpG75knzKI7S6nmRFN).

Eclipse fever: crowdsourced totality goes viral as a whopping 21 people and six folks from MMCTV contributed to our Eclipse recap video! Go online to https://www.voutube.com/ watch?v=MhaefogveqE to relive April 8 totality. 1400 views so far and counting... enjoy!

Planting filmmaking seeds: MMCTV director Angelike has been assisting a group of sixth graders at Camel's Hump Middle School who are putting final touches on a video about planting a new row of seedlings on the banks of the Winooski River near Richmond's Volunteers Green. Following up on a similar effort in 2021, they are offering a line of defense against future floods.

2024 summer camps: MMCTV has expanded its summer educational offerings by having two weeks of TV camp this July. The first week (July 8-12) is for grades 5-6 and the second week (July 15-19) is for grades 7-8. Here's the link to register online: https://bit.ly/4e1lTt6 (short for https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSefAcec_yPJ1A3bi3cf5EMOaxVSw_ vv0RawCy5qybWuWE_KRA/viewform). For the fifth year, we will be a part of Crowdsourced Cinema VT, where students remake a scene from a Hollywood movie. This year's film is Home Alone. We'll also work in a civics component, where students will learn a little about the local democratic process, through a side project. Finally, MMCTV will again be a partner in Deborah Rawson Memorial Library's Animation Camp, June 24-28.

Eco programming: continuing on the green theme of this newsletter, here are two more viewing suggestions. MMCTV field producer Tegan Greenberg recently recorded the program Healthy Soil, Healthy Earth (https://archive.org/details/ttojhealthy-soil-healthy-earth-04222024) with local farmers and soil experts at the Jericho Community Center; and Beavers: Beacons on Hope (https://archive.org/details/ vlcbeavers-beaconsof-hope-04182024) with Author Leila Philip (Beaverland) in Shelburne.

Bears and people in Vermont

By Sara Riley
A bear was euthanized — shot — by a VT Fish and Wildlife game warden in Underhill on Friday, May 24. There had been many reports of its bold and aggressive behavior by more than a few residents over the previous several weeks, and reportedly game wardens were actively looking for this bear. A news report (https://www.mynbc5.com/article/aggressive-bear-euthanizedunderhill-vermont/60899168) said that instead of retreating, the bear had moved aggressively toward the game warden.

is that the threat posed by an aggressive bear now eliminated. I hope I never come face to face with an irritable and/or hungry bear.

The bad news is that a wild animal had to be destroyed, a very sad thing. Those who defend the bear — after all, bears were here first; it was just trying to find food, to survive but there is more to the story.

Ten years ago and more, there were not so many bears in our woods, so humans tended to encounter them far less often. I have walked the woods in New England all my life (the past 35 years mostly in and around Underhill), and for most of that 65+ years I did not see more of bears than a single footprint, once. But in recent years Vermont (and likely other states) has made an effort to protect bears and to increase their numbers. This has been successful. Now we read of them all over New England, including striding confidently through a Vermont village (scared the bejeezus out of me), in the suburbs of southern Connecticut, in the deep woods of Maine, and everywhere in between.

A year or so ago while walking my leashed dog in the forest land above my property, I was approaching a very dense grove of young popple trees. Suddenly there was a LOUD, deep, breathy, grunted warning HOUFF HOUFF HOUFF coming from the thicket. Only three animals in our woods are large enough to make so loud and deep a sound, and no deer or moose would do so. I immediately backed up 30', then turned and quietly went away, back down the hill. No need for a visual to confirm that it was a mama bear with cub(s). Anything else would have melted back into cover and I'd never have known it was there.

But not all encounters can be avoided. And with so many bears now, more bears are competing for their normal food sources in the woods. Bears are not gregarious; their increased population



Bee-like imposter — all buzz, no sting "Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee. The hands can't hit what the eyes can't see." - famous saying in the ring from Mohammed Ali. Bare-eyed Mimic Fly, Mallota bautias (https://www. inaturalist.org/observations/170351549) is a species of hoverfly (Diptera: Syrphidae) ...known for being particularly bee-like. It is found in eastern North America. — Wikipedia The Bare-eyed Mimic Fly is often found in groups at the top of a hill or other elevated area. When it flies it produces a loud buzz. It does not bite or sting. — Minn. Seasons PHOTO BY BERNIE PAQUETTE

must push some of them out of the woods and into contact with humans and their grills, trash, compost, pets, and chickens.

So we have a problem. We love bears — in the woods, not in our backyards if we are sensible. But between so many more bears and so many more people living in one habitat, more conflict is bound to occur.

People are unlikely to be willing to abandon their beloved homes in the woods. And the natural habitat of bears is those

The only option is to follow the advice VT Fish and Wildlife gives about living with bears: https://vtfishandwildlife.com/ learn-more/living-with-wildlife/living-with-black-bears https://vtfishandwildlife.com/press-release/composting-bearsmind. "No one wants bear conflicts to escalate to the point that killing the bear is necessary to protect public safety," said Game Warden Lt. Robert Currier in a prepared statement. "Vermonters have a responsibility to stop these kinds of conflicts before they escalate. Proactive conflict prevention is the safest thing for the bears and for people.'

Now is the time for Mental Health First Aid

By Bill Schubart

May is Mental Health Awareness Month and in our world today there's plenty of reason to want to be aware.

Vermont has established as a policy if not in practice that physical and mental health deserve and must receive an equitable healthcare commitment and investment. But our metrics for mental health wellness, especially among our young and aging populations, show that we're failing in delivering on physical and mental health parity. Still, there are some positive changes

The mental health system has been allowed to deteriorate for years. What was left of the Vermont State Hospital in Waterbury was closed permanently in 2011 after severe damage by hurricane Irene and has never been replaced. Its existence was an acknowledgement that mental illness requires treatment, but it delivered care that ran the gamut from inspired (The Pig Barn and its innate understanding of the healing capacity of caring for animals) to inhumane (the cells in the basement where "mental defectives" were essentially incarcerated) which ended in the early '60s.

In 1915, the Brandon Training School opened. Named originally "The Vermont State School for Feebleminded Children" — no doubt in response to the rising enthusiasm for eugenics at UVM — it further reflected our poor knowledge of the science and epigenetics of mental health, and closed permanently in 1993.

We've learned a lot in the intervening years. We now understand the critical role that trauma plays in disrupting both mental and physical health. In the '50s when I was a child, no one had ever heard of or imagined what we now understand as adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). That's not to say they didn't exist, but a sort of "family code of honor" meant that one kept them to oneself. Whether sexual abuse, physical abuse, pregnancy out of wedlock, family suicide, an incarcerated family member, alcoholism, or drug addiction (yes, pharmaceutical drug addiction was common back to World War I; it existed in my own family), these facts were kept quiet. The good news for mental health today is that we acknowledge these issues more freely. This has opened new paths to treatment such as "traumainformed awareness and counseling" and recovery.

The newest approach in cutting-edge science is calling into question the very existence of "mental illness" as we have understood it, while clearly acknowledging the existence of the symptoms of mental illness. New research at Harvard Medical School and McLean's Hospital, presented in the book Brain Energy by Christopher Palmer M.D., the Director of the Department of Postgraduate and Continuing Education at McLean Hospital and Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at

Community columns continued on page 7

LIBRARY NEWS

DEBORAH RAWSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Summer hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10:00~AM-8:00~PM; Wednesday and Friday 10:00~AM-6:00~PM; Saturday 10:00~AM-2:00~PM; Sunday — closed for the summer; Monday — closed.

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

Saturday, June 15: the library will be closed for floor cleaning. Summer Reading: Youth ages 0-18 may register online now for the summer reading program, *Adventure Begins At Your Library*, then pick-up a goody bag and reading log at Deborah Rawson Memorial Library (DRML) or Jericho Town Library (JTL) beginning Tuesday, June 11. Read (or be read to) at least 60 minutes a week and record the time in the reading log. Show the log to a librarian at DRML or JTL, and you may pick a prize from the treasure box. You may visit one treasure box one time per calendar week through Saturday, August 24. If all participants read a combined total of 700 hours this summer, DRML will host cosmic bowling at the library! All who register online will be entered into an end-of-the-summer drawing for raffle prizes.

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

June featured artist: Watercolor works by Jericho resident Jane R. Sandberg are on display in the library in June.

Adult programs

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

Tuesdays, 7:00 - 8:00 PM: French Conversation Chez Henry. All levels of French speakers, as well as the French curious, are welcome to this informal conversation group.

Tuesday, June 11, 7:00 PM: Deborah Rawson Book Lovers (DRBL). This month DRBL will read and discuss <u>How the Irish Saved Civilization</u>: The Untold Story of Ireland's Heroic Role from the Fall of Rome to the Rise of Medieval Europe by Thomas Cahill. Reserve the book via the library's online catalog or by calling the library. For more information, contact *Christine@cstaffa.com*.

Thursdays, June 13 and 27, 6:00 – 8:00 PM: Crafters Group. Bring any craft you can transport and join this group for conversation and camaraderie in the Fireplace Room. Questions? Please contact Amy Tower (802-355-9671 or atowerinvt@gmail. com) or Julie Hehir (802-343-0034 or juliehhehir@comcast.net).

Thursday, June 13, 6:30 – 8:30 PM: Mah Jongg. Come explore this popular tile-based game, developed in China in the 19th century.

Thursday, June 20, 7:00 PM: Library Board of Trustees Meeting. The meeting is open to all. Those who wish to attend remotely may email Holly, *drawsonmemlib@gmail.com*, to receive a link.

Tuesday, June 25, 7:00 PM: Mystery Book Group. Inspired in part by the woman who became India's first female lawyer, The Widows of Malabar Hill by Sujata Masseyis a multicultural story set in 1920s Bombay. Attorney Perveen Mistry is investigating a suspicious will on behalf of three Muslim widows, when the case takes a murderous turn. Call or visit the library, or use the online catalog to reserve book. To attend via Zoom, email Holly at drawsonmemlib@yahoo.com_for the link.

Thursday, June 27, 3:00-6:00 PM: Book Sale. Shop at the Jericho Farmer's Market and make a stop at the library's \$5-a-bag clearance book sale in the Big Red Barn.

Youth programs

Tuesdays (except June 25), 10:30 AM: Baby - Toddler Story Time [birth to Pre-K] Join us to meet other parents, caregivers, and little ones, as we play finger games, lap bounce, sing, dance, and read a story or two.

Tuesday, June 4, 3:00-4:00 PM: Making Maps [all ages] We have all the supplies you need to create new worlds in a treasure map, a road map, or even a space atlas. The only limit is your imagination. Options will be provided for all ages.

Wednesday, June 5, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: Fun with Vacuum Science [ages 8+] Vacuums don't suck! Find out why when science educator Greg Wolf joins us for a cool afternoon of vacuum science experiments. Check Greg out on social media @wolf. science. Please sign up when you call, email, or visit the library. Thursday, June 6, 3:00 – 4:30 PM: Read to Wyatt [all ages]

Thursday, June 6, 3:00 – 4:30 PM: Read to Wyatt [all ages] Wyatt, a Bernese Mountain dog trained as a therapy dog, wants to hear you read to him. Sign up for your spot when you call, email, or visit the library.

Fridays, June 7 and 21, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: LEGO Club [ages 6+] Use our giant tub of LEGOs to build anything you want. Need some inspiration? We have cards for that! Please sign up when you call, email, or visit the library.

Saturday, June 8, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Pride Pins [all ages] Drop in and use our button maker to create pins, magnets, or key chains to show your pride and allyship.

Friday, June 14, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: STEM Stations [ages 8+] Mess around with Makey Makey, create with the 3D Doodle Pen, or spend some time with LEGO Spike playing with coding and hardware.

Tuesday, June 18, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: Maker Day: Cricut Stickers [ages 8+] Use our Cricut machine to create vinyl stickers for your water bottle, laptop, or wherever you put cool stickers. Please sign up when you call, email, or visit the library.

Wednesday, June 19, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: Adventure Club: Reading Passports [ages 6+] Create your own passport-sized reading journal and decorate it with themed stickers. Can you fill it with a read from every continent?

Thursdays, June 20 and 27, 3:00-6:30 PM: Farmer's Market Fun [all ages] Visit the library's booth at the Jericho Farmer's Market for book giveaways, activities, and lots of fun. DRML and JTL staff will take turns manning the booth weekly.

Saturday, June 22, 1:30 PM: Summer Kickoff with VINS [all ages] Our friends from the Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS) are coming with some very special raptor friends.

Monday-Friday, June 24-28, 9:00 ÅM – 12:00 PM: Animation Camp [ages 8+] In addition to learning animation software, we will play around with camera angels, lighting, genres, and more. Friday at noon we'll premier all the week's creations for family and friends. Space is limited to eight. Register at the library, by phone, or by emailing *youth_librarian@drml.org*.

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

JERICHO TOWN LIBRARY

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

Building accessibility note: we are working hard on a project to make our historic building accessible to all Vermonters, but visitors must currently use a set of stairs to get to the front entrance of the building and a longer staircase to reach the second floor. We are committed to serving all members of our community; if you cannot enter our current building and would like to attend one of our programs, please reach out so that we can try to modify our plans.

Tuesdays and Saturdays, 8:00 – 9:00 AM: Community Yoga at Jericho Town Library. Join Deanna Bartlett, 200HR, Trauma-Informed, Accessible Yoga School Certified Yoga Teacher for in-person community yoga designed for all levels. Please bring your own mat and any props you like for your practice. Suggested donation \$14; all donations optional and go directly to the instructor (cash and Venmo accepted at the time of class, please reach out to *catherine@jerichotownlibraryvt.org* or 802-899-4686 if you have questions about why we are offering these classes on a donation-based model). Drop-ins welcome; preregistration encouraged at the Jericho Town Library website. For more information contact *deannabartlett0703@gmail.com*.

Please join us for the following weekly programs and special events at Jericho Town Library in Jericho, VT.

Thursdays, $9:30-10:00\,\mathrm{AM}$: Storytime Yoga. This interactive, movement-based storytime is designed for kids ages 6 and under (with an accompanying adult).

Thursdays, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Playgroup. Make new friends and enjoy our second floor play area for two hours of unstructured play. Kids 6 and under (with an accompanying adult).

Saturdays, 9:00-10:00 AM: Romp & Rhyme. Drop in for a short storytime, followed by unstructured play on the second floor of the library. Babies and toddlers (with an accompanying adult).

Find us on Facebook and Instagram (@jerichotownlibrary) for regular updates on our programs, services, and collections. 802-899-4686, library@jerichotownlibraryvt.org, www.jerichotownlibraryvt.org.

VARNUM MEMORIAL LIBRARY JEFFERSONVILLE

Seeds are available in the seed catalog, and you don't have to leave any to take any — so come get your garden-dreaming started. We also have all the Red Clover, Golden Dome, and Green Mountain Book award nominees available, thanks to the Cambridge Area Rotary.

As always, the most up-to-date program information can be viewed on our website: www.varnumlibrary.org.

This month we offer:

Tuesdays, 10:00 –10:30 AM (-ish): Story Time for all ages. Tuesdays, 3:30 – 5:00 PM: Scavenger Hunt and Board Games. Wednesdays, 10:00 –10:30 AM (-ish): Story Time for all ages. Thursdays, 10:00 – 11:00 AM: Coffee and Conversations.

We're always happy to see you at the library! Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Friday/Saturday 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM; www.varnumlibrary.org, 802-644-2117.

WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Library director Bree Drapa was on a recent episode of *Across the Fence* recommending some great books for Summer Reading! View the episode online at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IP6ePNrkHQk.

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

Many BBC television series are available for free on biblio+, including the comedy Mr. Sloane and the crime series Happy Valley! The entire biblio+ service is ad-free without streaming limits. All you need to get started is a library card. See our Resources page on our website, www.westfordpubliclibrary.org, for more information!

The Westford Public Library will be accepting donations for our Fourth of July Book Sale. Please, stick to these times only: Saturdays, June 15, 29, 9:00 – 11:00 AM. ACCEPTING: books, DVDs, and audiobooks in good condition. NOT ACCEPTING: VHS tapes, cassettes, CDs, textbooks, encyclopedias, magazines, and moldy or damaged books. Ask yourself, "Would I lend this to a friend?" If the answer is no, then keep it out of the book sale. Do not use the book drop for donations as it damages the library books

Save the date: Saturday, June 8, for a Welcome Baby Tea! We are celebrating all children born from March 2023-March 2024. If your child was born in Westford, you will receive an invitation in the mail in the beginning of May. If you have moved into town and your child fits into that age category, you are invited too! Please contact the library with your child's information. We can't wait to celebrate our littlest patrons!

Over Time, a multimedia exhibition by Westford resident Janet Jaffe, will be on display in the library through the end of June. Jaffe will display her quilts and other art inspired by her world travels.

Adults

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

Children

Thursdays, 11:30 AM: Early Literacy Storytime. For birth to pre-school. We will sing songs, read stories, move and do crafts! No sign up needed, all ages are welcome.

The Westford Food Shelf is now open twice a month, on the first Wednesday of each month (June 5), 4:30 – 5:30 PM, on the third Saturday (June 15), 8:00 – 9:00 AM. With increased openings, they need more inventory! The Westford Public Library has food collection bins at all curbside pickups from now on. These bins are for non-perishable food and household items.

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

FAIRFAX COMMUNITY LIBRARY

The library will be closed much of this month to public patrons as we pack up and move to our temporary location in Georgia. With any luck, we will be able to officially open our doors there on June 17! June will also be the start of the summer reading program! This year, we will be collaborating with our neighbors down the street — the Georgia Public Library. While our new location is perfect for books, there isn't much room to do the same kinds of large programs that we usually do during the summer. Thankfully, The Georgia Library has agreed to let us borrow their space for some of our big programs. In addition, our patrons are encouraged to go to both the Fairfax and Georgia programs! Event information for both of our libraries will be listed for the coming months, so be sure to double check the location!

Please sign up at least one week before the program date — all events are free unless noted. Where pre-registration is required, please call 802-849-2420 or email libraryfairfax@gmail.com.

Libraries continued on page 8

Community columns continued from page 6

Harvard Medical School, focuses on metabolic dysfunction as evidenced in an analysis of human mitochondria, showing a connection to the symptoms of mental disorders.

Patients with symptoms such as anxiety disorder, depression, and even bipolar disorder have seen recovery when their diets are changed, hinting at the relationship between what is still conventionally called mental illness and the wide use of chemical soil amendments to support an industrial processed-food supply. This research has given rise to the science of psycho-nutrition.

Ironically, here at home in Vermont Governor Scott has just vetoed a bill designed to limit the use of neonicotinoids, which is only one of the three major toxins systematically applied to our soils and draining into our waterways.

But for now, a practical response draws on the venerable tradition of volunteer fire brigades and emergency medical services teams (EMS) in communities around the state. These dedicated first responders and emergency medical technicians (EMTs) are well trained in first aid diagnostics and treatments. They respond to calls for help, whether at the scene of an accident resulting in traumatic injury or at home emergencies such as a cardiac arrest or diabetic coma.

Medical advances and first-aid training have migrated some emergency care into ambulances, so emergency care starts with EMTs in the ambulance in radio contact with medical personnel at the hospital, so that emergency room personnel are aware and ready for an arriving patient.

A promising new healthcare model has emerged in the last decade that parallels our community EMS services. It focuses on emergency mental health crises and is called Mental Health First Aid. As of 2023, more than three million people in the U.S. have received training in Mental Health First Aid (MHFA), including First Lady Michelle Obama, by some 1500 certified instructors.

What is the size of the problem? Vermont's older population is our fastest growing age group. If trends continue, by 2030, one in three of us will be over 60 and older adults have high rates of late-onset mental health challenges like anxiety and depressive disorders, often brought on by loneliness or lack of regular human connection. Males over 75 have a higher rate of suicide than any other population cohort. Mental Health First Aid for Older Adults can be a protective factor for our family members, neighbors, colleagues, and friends.

When we think of Mental Health First Aid, we must also take stock of the rising rate of mental distress in our young people. Mental illness does not discriminate by age. It is spiking in our oldest and youngest populations.

Suicide rates among our young are rising. Many of our emergency rooms are filled with young people suffering from suicidal ideation or attempts at suicide, self-harm, depression, anxiety, addiction, and eating disorders, and we have little or no care facilities for them. And these mental health manifestations are rising in our schools, which struggle to find and fund resources to deal with them.

The case for addressing mental health crises among our youngest and oldest populations is urgent and training in Mental Health First Aid is a critical step in the right direction.

By way of example, you come home after work and find your live-in grandfather despondent and talking to himself about ending his life. You know there's a gun in the house. Or perhaps your teenage son has disappeared from family events and meals, lives on his cellphone, and no longer responds to questions about his wellbeing. A person trained in MHFA would be able to identify and respond to symptoms like these.

We will also need trained MHFA-trained people available in our hospitals, nursing homes, colleges, and schools. Mental Health First Aid is akin to cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR). We can always use more people knowing how to apply CPR and the more people trained in CPR, the safer we all are.

If you need emergency mental health care, or know someone who does, you can reach out for help to https://vermontcarepartners.org/youth-and-adult-mental-health-first-aid/. Locally, United Way is offering free training in June.

Physical and mental wellbeing are integrally linked, and we are finally developing the resources to care for both in an emergency. This is progress in healthcare.

VT State Park passes are free for foster kids age 4 and up! All children/youth in DCF custody over the age of 4 are eligible for free VT State Park passes. Please visit Park Pass at https:// bit.ly/4bpjWF9 and complete the request. You should receive your child (children's) card(s) within two weeks of submission. Please reach out if you have any questions: Carrie Deem, PHOTO CONTRIBUTED Carrie.Deem@Vermont.gov.

Clutter Barn accepting donations June 8, 15

The United Church of Underhill's Clutter Barn will accept donations on Saturdays, June 8 and 15 from 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM. We are only taking spring and summer clothing — no winter clothes please. We are not taking shoes, but we take boots. Also, no cookbooks. For a complete list of items we no longer accept, please go to our website http://unitedchurchofunderhill.com/ serve/clutter-barn/,

Our next tag sale is Saturday, June 29, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Be sure to get our business card from the greeter. It lists our donation days and tag sales for the 2024 season. Also, if you would like a receipt for tax purposes, our greeter has them available.

Here's the drill for donating: Please enter the church parking lot from Park Street. We unload one car at a time.

Before you donate, you are required to sort your donations. At home, please sort and box, bag, or crate your items into the following categories to speed up the drop-off process: toys, games, and puzzles; spring and summer clothing (separate bags for baby, children, and adult); small electronics and appliances; household items, glasses, dishes; linens and bedding; fabric, sewing and craft items; sports; books (separate bags for children's, teen, adult); boots; pictures and frames; tools; wooden items; office supplies; holiday decorations; small pieces of furniture, such as chairs and tables.

FYI: We are not accepting skis, boots and poles, artificial Christmas trees (plain and decorated), VHS tapes and cassette tapes, health and beauty powders, bed frames, shoes, cookbooks. Thanks for donating!

What to do for an injured turtle

By Ann Greer, Jeffersonville

If you come across injured turtles — or other wildlife species you can contact one of Vermont's Wildlife Rehabilitators. The State of Vermont maintains a list by town at https:// vtfishandwildlife.com/sites/fishandwildlife/files/documents/ Learn%20More/Living%20with%20Wildlife/Rehabilitation/ Wildlife_Rehabilitator_Locator.pdf. If you see an R it means they take care of reptiles.

Hopefully alert drivers slowing enough to see what is in the road ahead of them will prevent injuries.

A call to VT Fish and Wildlife can also be made for assistance:

United Way Volunteer Connection

GET CONNECTED TO VOLUNTEERING — United Way's

Volunteer Connection site is set up to help connect agencies and volunteers. Go online to https://unitedwaynwvt.galaxydigital. com/ to learn more about these and other opportunities.

MAKE DREAMS COME TRUE - Camp DREAM is a yearround adventure camp welcoming children and families from low-income households, offered at no cost. They are in need of up to 50 volunteers to help maintain and build their outdoor adventure base. Come share a fun and rewarding day! Contact mfoote@dreamprogram.org.

MENTORS AND MEALS - Spectrum Youth & Family Services invites volunteers to make a difference in the lives of young people in the community by volunteering in the following ways: mentoring a youth at Spectrum, or donating a meal at one of the drop-in centers. Plan on enough food for 25-30 servings. They are also looking for youth ages 18-26 with tutoring experience to help out in their Resource Space for multicultural and New American youth. Contact rmajoya@spectrumvt.org.

SHARING THE GREAT OUTDOORS - C.I.D.E.R. (Champlain Islanders Developing Essential Resources) is seeking outdoor work volunteers to assist senior and disabled Grand Isle County residents with seasonal chores such as spring cleanup, garden planting and maintenance, lawn mowing, leaf raking, and snow shoveling. There may also be some light repairs. Volunteers can work regularly or on a one-time, as-needed basis. Contact resource@cidervt.org.

RIDE TOGETHER - Green Mountain Transit has instituted a new program dedicated to providing community members with short-term, focused instruction on how to ride the city bus, specifically GMT's fixed route public system. Ride Together volunteers provide classroom instruction including topics such as reading bus schedules, planning and making bus trips, using the

Miscellaneous continued on page 9

Libraries continued from page 7 —

For up-to-date info about programs, visit our website http:// www.fairfaxvtlibrary.org, where you can also find a link to the interactive Google calendar.

Wednesdays, June 19 and 26, 10:30 AM: Preschol Story Time at the Georgia Library. 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.

Saturday, June 22, 1:00 PM: Summer Reading Kickoff! With 802 Reptiles! No registrations required. Please meet us at the Fairfax Town Office.

Wednesday, June 26, 3:00 PM: Paper Lantern Hot Air Balloons at the new location at the Georgia Library. Make a decorative hot air balloon out of a paper lantern — materials provided. For ages 8+ Please register at libraryfairfax@gmail.com or 802-849-

Adult events

Thursday, July 25, 4:00 PM: Library Book Club. This month's book is The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown. Meet in the Georgia Library; a Zoom link will be available for those who want to attend remotely. To borrow a copy of the book or request the Zoom link, contact libraryfairfax@gmail.com or 802-849-

You can check out more than just books: snowshoes, a telescope, a microscope, STEAM kits, jewelry supplies, Bloxels, and a C-Pen ReaderPen!

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

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

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

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

RICHMOND LIBRARY

Summer construction: Thanks to Town of Richmond ARPA funding, the Richmond Free Library will be "under construction" this summer to repair the woodwork (May) and paint the entire building (September). While we won't need to close the library, there may be a brief time when one or both handicapped parking spots or the sidewalk from Bridge Street are blocked or are within the construction area. As with last summer, the construction crew will work to minimize any disruptions. If handicapped access is unavailable, your library staff is happy to meet you in the parking lot to pick up or drop off books — just give us a call at 802-434-3036. The beautiful murals on the library were saved and returned to Radiate!

The Library will be closed on Wednesday, June 5, 12:00 – 5:00 PM, for a staff meeting. Please stop in from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM or 5:00 - 8:00 PM that day for service.

Children

Summer Reading Program — Every summer we join the VT Department of Libraries (and libraries across the country) in offering reading program materials around a common theme. This year the theme is Adventure Begins at your Library. Registration for the program will begin on Tuesday, June 18. A flyer detailing all the special programs and events happening at the library this summer will be available at the library in early June. Below are a few of the first special programs of the summer:

• Friday, June 21, 10:00 AM: Alyx the Magician is more than magical, she is a kids' fun expert! Weaving books into her program, she will amaze, entertain, and fill the room with laughter. Don't miss this show! All ages are welcome to join us

• Monday, June 24, 1:00 PM: Thingamajigs and Doodads. Drop in to help us use up all sorts of left over craft supplies like duct tape, paints, pom poms, feathers, pipe cleaners, stickers, googly eyes, streamers, and sparkle glue. We'll throw in lots of boxes, tubes, containers, and cardboard and you can let your imagination run wild as you create the best whatchamacallit possible. For kids 6-12.

• Tuesday, June 25, 1:00 - 3:00 PM: Portable Mini Golf Company. We will have a 9-hole minigolf course and everything else necessary for kids to enjoy a fun round of golf at the library. The event will take place rain or shine outdoors (indoors if wet). Drop by for your turn to test your skill on this fun course. No registration is required is required for ages 4 and up.

• Wednesday, June 26, 10:30 AM: Avian Adventure. Staff from the Green Mountain Audubon Center will guide us through the basics of birding through active games about bird song, migration, and identification. Best suited for youth ages 5-10.

Wednesday, June 26, 6:30 PM: Family Toad Trivia. Why did the toad cross the road? Join Katie from the organization In Defense of Animals for a fun family vs. family trivia night. Gather up your team and test your knowledge about toads, frogs, salamanders and all things amphibian. Cookies will be provided. Please register in advance for this fun family event for all ages.

Golden Dome Book Nominees We are all waiting to learn who Vermont students in grades 4-8 have voted in as winner of the 2023 Golden Dome Book Award. Winners of all Vermont Youth Book Awards are announced by the first week of June. The list of nominees for 2024-2025 is out and we have brand new copies of each book ready to be checked out and enjoyed over the summer.

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

Saturday, June 8, 10:00 AM: Is an ADU Right for You? Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) are becoming an appealing option to use extra space, generate income, provide independent but close-by housing for family, and work to address housing shortages in our community. ADUs have been around for centuries and include everything from basement apartments to standalone cabins. Learn about different types of ADUs, the local zoning and permitting process, state incentives and VHIP, financing, and what it's like to actually build and own an ADU.

Tuesday, June 11, 6:00 PM: (Mostly) Fiction Book Group. Join us in the Mezzanine Lounge to discuss The House in the Cerulean Sea by TJ Klune. Contact Gwen Landis, 802-434-5012 or gwennie1972@yahoo.com, for information on joining this

Thursday, June 20, 7:00 PM: Mystery Book Group. Join us in the Mezzanine Lounge to discuss The Sacred Bridge by Anne Hillerman. Contact Maureen Parent, 802-434-2055 or msparent@gmavt.net, with any questions.

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

Trustees Meetings are on the second Monday of the month (June 10) via Zoom until further notice. All meetings are open to the public.

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

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

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

ESSEX FREE LIBRARY

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

Closed June 18, 2:00 – 5:00 PM for a Town Employee Event. Reopening 5:00 - 8:00 PM.

Closed June 19, in observance of Juneteenth.

All library programs are free and open to the public.

Children's Area

Summer Reading Program begins on Monday, June 17! The theme is Adventure Begins at Your Library. Sign up online or in person at the library. We need everyone's help to grow a jungle in the children's room, and see how many rows you can fill out for the Children's Summer Reading Bingo! Details on the website.

Friday, June 21, 1:00 PM, Memorial Hall (5 Towers Rd.): Alyx the Magician. We are so excited to welcome her and her magical act back for a visit!

Wednesdays, June 26-August 7, 2:00 - 3:00 PM: Make and Build Group. Are you creative? Want to make something during the summer? Join us for a STEM or arts/crafts activity! Group is limited to a maximum of 20 participants. Materials are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. Details on website.

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

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

Exploration Station — ongoing. Check out the blue table for this week's challenge.

Musical Storytime: 11:00 AM. Rock'n'read with one of our fabulous librarians!

Saturday, June 8, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM: Zentangle with Julia Davenport. For adults. Enjoy this beautiful art form that welcomes slowing down and tapping into your creativity. No prior art experience needed. Limited class size. Register through the website.

Thursday, June 6, 12:00 – 1:00 PM: Noontime Book Group. Night of the Living Rez by Morgan Talty. Set in a Native community in Maine, this riveting debut collection is about what it means to be Penobscot in the 21st century and what it means to live, to survive, and to persevere after tragedy.

PhotoVoice Gallery Display through Saturday, June 15 photographers from Maple Ridge Lodge display their work.

Noreen's Creative Card Classes are on Summer Break. See you in September!

Adventure Begins at Your Library Summer Reading Program Book BINGO Begins Monday, June 17! For ages 16+. Grab a Book BINGO sheet and create BINGOs with books read June 17-Aug 10. Bring your sheet to the front desk and earn a raffle ticket for each BINGO completed to be entered into the Book Bundle Raffle. Winners drawn Monday, August 19. Details on the website.

Adventure Begins at Your Library Smartphone Photo Contest submissions accepted from Monday, June 17 through 5:00 PM on Tuesday, August 6. Community voting Monday-Friday, August 12-16. Winners will be announced Monday, August 19. Open to Essex Town residents ages 16+. Photos must be taken between January 1, 2023 to the present. Categories: Essex Excursions (in Essex Town), Vermont Ventures (in Vermont), Adventures Abroad (anywhere else!). See website for entry form

Tuesday, June 18, 6:00 – 7:00 PM: Evening Zentangle with Julia Davenport. For adults. Enjoy this beautiful art form that welcomes slowing down and tapping into your creativity. No prior art experience needed. Limited class size. Register through

Thursday June 27, 6:30 – 6:30 PM: Lawn Games for Adults. For ages 18+. Bring your friends and enjoy the summer evening in the Library's back garden playing bocce, corn hole, and ladderball! Light refreshments provided.

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

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

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

Fridays, 1:00 – 3:00 PM: Rummikub for Adults.

Museum Passes are available for year 'round fun!

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

Essex Free Library, 1 Browns River Rd., Essex; 802-879-0313; @essexfreelibrary; website https://www.essexfreelibrary. Miscellanous continued from page 8 -

Transit app, paying the fare, using bike racks, etc. Volunteers also provide field instruction to put classroom lessons into practice. Flexible scheduling and free training from GMT. Volunteers will receive free bus passes to use when fares resume. Contact 802-

540-6873, Ext. 550, or *ridetogether@ridegmt.com*. GUARDIAN AD LITEM – The Guardian Ad Litem Program (GAL) serves the thousands of Vermont children who are part of proceedings in the family court division. Many are victims of abuse or neglect, accused of delinquent acts, or are simply lost. The court experience is confusing and scaring to these young people, and they need someone to help them understand what is happening. The GAL Program ensures that every court has trained volunteers to serve as caring and independent child advocates to advocate for children involved in court cases. Judges appoint a GAL who will make recommendations to the court in the child's best interests in and out of court until the case is over. Training and support are provided to help volunteers make a difference in a child's life. Contact janice.santiago@vermont.gov.

HOTLINE – Steps to End Domestic Violence maintains a 24/7 hotline to provide direct service to those affected by domestic violence. Hotline volunteers provide emotional support, safety planning, and connection to services such as emergency housing, legal assistance, and youth programs. Volunteers respond to hotline, chatline, and emails and maintain call records in the electronic database. Volunteers should commit to taking at least two 4.5 hour shifts a month. Training is provided, and volunteers will have at least two "shadow shifts" and reporter training. Shifts are available Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Contact

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

Dental/vision insurance for businesses and employees

By Pat Ripley, LEDC

Did you know the Lamoille Economic Development Corporation (LEDC) and the Lamoille Chamber of Commerce work together to offer group dental and vision insurance plans for its member businesses and organizations?

This is one of the many benefits of becoming a LEDC/Lamoille Chamber member. To learn more about membership benefits and what it means to become a part of our team, check out www. lamoilleeconomy.org.

Or you can join now using this simple online form: https:// lamoilleeconomy.org/membership-payments/.

VTrans project updates

Richmond - Bolton U.S. Rt. 2 Rehabilitation

Traffic impact: Traffic Control with one-lane of alternating travel on U.S. Rt. 2 between Kenyon Road and Lemroy Court between 7:00 PM - 7:00 AM, Sunday-Thursday. Flaggers will be present within various other project work locations. Please follow the posted speed limits.

Project update: Completed paving the leveling course on US Rt. 2 between Kenyon Road and I-89 Exit 11 southbound on-ramp; began paving the wearing course of paving (final) began at approximately Kenyon Road and proceed east towards the Richmond Village; installed new sidewalk ramps at the intersection of U.S. Rt. 2 and Bridge Street/Jericho Road.

Construction activities: The following was the anticipated

work schedule for the week that began Sunday, May 19: Sunday-Thursday, 7:00 PM – 7:00 AM (nighttime work):

• weather permitting, continue the installation of the wearing

course of pavement (final) from approximately Kenyon Road proceeding to Lemroy Court;

• bridge joint work on the bridges near Snipe Ireland Road and VT Rt. 117.

Monday-Thursday, 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM, and Friday, 7:00 AM 12:00 PM:

• continue the installation of new roadway signage.

Traffic impact: Traffic Control with one-lane of alternating travel on U.S. Rt. 2 between Kenyon Road and Lemroy Court Sunday-Thursday, 7:00 PM – 7:00 AM. Please follow the posted speed limits.

Project update: Completed paving the final wearing course on the abutting side roads; shoulder work; installed audio messaging for pedestrian crossing at the Main Street and Jericho/Bridge Street intersection.

Construction activities: The following is the anticipated work schedule for the week beginning Sunday, June 2:

Sunday through Thursday, 7:00 PM - 7:00 AM (nighttime

- · weather permitting, driveway tie-ins between Kenyon Road and Lemroy Court.
- structure clean-out.
- weather permitting, complete final pavement markings.
- begin project punch list items.

Please use caution and follow the posted speed limits!

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

Completion date: July 2024

Richmond US Rt. 2 Bridge #29 Replacement

Traffic impact per working hours below:

- U.S. Rt. 2 Traffic control will be present allowing for intermittent one-lane of alternating travel;
- · I-89 motorists will encounter a lane closure for both northbound and southbound travel or passing lanes from 6:00

Special notice: as of May 28, the I-89 northbound passing lane between MM 75.45 to MM 76.79 will be closed for several months for the erection of the steel members for the new bridge.

Project update: completed the pier construction; completed the support wall; paved the shoulder for the temporary traffic pattern. Construction activities: The following was the anticipated work schedule for the week that began May 20:

Monday-Thursday, 7:00 AM - 3:00 PM, and Friday, 7:00 AM12:00 PM:

- · construction of the crane pads in preparation for steel
- · continue construction of bridge Abutment 2 and its support wall on the east side of the project site. May 30

Traffic impacts below:

- U.S. Rt. 2 has no anticipated lane closures this week.
- northbound passing lane closed to northbound traffic between Mile Marker 75.45 to Mile Marker 76.79.
- Monday-Tuesday, June 3-4, 6:00 AM 3:00 PM, southbound traffic will encounter a passing lane closure. • Wednesday, June 5, southbound traffic will be reduced to one
- lane from Mile Marker 77.29 to Mile Marker 75.71. This new lane configuration will be in effect for the next several weeks. • Wednesday-Friday, June 5-7, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, motorists
- will encounter intermittent rolling roadblocks to all for material being delivered onsite. • northbound and southbound traffic entering the traffic control
- zone shall expect the zipper merge to be implemented. Please follow the direction of the traffic control signs and devices.

Project update: Continued with crane assembly and crane pad construction.

The following is the anticipated work schedule for the week

beginning June 3:

Monday-Friday, 7:00 AM – 3:00 PM:

- continue the installation of traffic barrier to separate northbound and southbound traffic within the I-89 northbound and southbound barrels.
 - continue with crane assembly and crane pad construction.
 - materials to be delivered onsite within the I-89 median.

Please use caution and follow the posted speed limits! Project type: complete bridge replacement

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

Completion date: September 2025

Cambridge-Johnson VT Rt. 15 resurfacing project update

Location: VT Rt. 15 from the VT 15/ VT108 junction in Cambridge, continuing 9.1 miles to a point east of the VT 100C intersection in the Village of Johnson. *May 17*

Traffic impacts:

Monday-Friday, May 20-24, 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM, motorists can expect three traffic control packages with alternating oneway traffic on VT Rt. 15 (VT 15) in Cambridge and Johnson within the project limits from the VT 15/VT 108 junction in Cambridge to just east of the VT 100C intersection in the Village

In observance of Memorial Day, crews will be off the roadway on Friday, May 24, by 12:00 PM and will return on-site on Tuesday, May 28, at 7:00 AM.

Motorists are encouraged to slow down and use caution while traveling within the project area. Motorists are advised to expect delays in traffic and add extra time to their travel schedule.

Construction activities: crews will continue conducting slope work, including ditching, clearing, and installing stone fill along VT 15 in Cambridge and Johnson. Crews will install new guardrail along VT 15 in Cambridge near the Vermont Agency of Transportation District #8 garage, moving west. Crews will also conduct ledge and rock removal along VT 15 just outside the Village of Johnson limits, continuing west. May 24

In observance of Memorial Day, crews will be off the roadway on Friday, May 24, by 12:00 PM and will return on-site on Tuesday, May 28, at 7:00 AM.

Traffic impact and duration: Tuesday-Friday, May 28-31, 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM, motorists can expect up to three traffic control packages with alternating one-way traffic on VT Rt. 15 (VT 15) in Cambridge and Johnson within the project limits from the VT 15/VT108 junction in Cambridge to just east of the VT Rt. 100C intersection in the Village of Johnson.

Motorists are encouraged to slow down and use caution while traveling within the project area. Motorists are advised to expect traffic delays and add extra time to their travel schedule.

Construction activities: crews will install new guardrail and conduct rock removal along VT 15 in Cambridge, near the VT Agency of Transportation District #8 garage, and move west. Starting near Timshel Drive in Cambridge, crews will install underdrain along VT 15 and continue westward. In Johnson, crews will focus on rock removal along VT 15.

Traffic impact and duration: Monday-Friday, June 3-7, 7:00 $AM - 7:00 \hat{P}M$, motorists can expect up to three traffic control packages on VT Rt. 15 (VT 15) in Cambridge and Johnson. There will be alternating one-way traffic controlled by flaggers within the project limits from the VT 15/ VT108 junction in Cambridge to just east of the VT 100C intersection in the Village of Johnson.

On Monday, June 3 during daytime hours, the Village of Johnson will be working on VT 15, which is expected to impact

Miscellaneous continued on page 10

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Safety announcement for electric bike riders

On May 20 I received a call at Jericho Town Hall from a person who almost got hit by electric bikes on the sidewalk four times this past weekend. He said it was not the same bike rider. He said they are adult bike riders. The area of concern is going downhill by Joe's Snack Bar towards the Jericho Cafe & Tavern.

The electric bikes on the sidewalk are unsettling because they are quiet and "sneak up on you, so you don't know that they are there." The electric bikes tend to travel faster than the traditional bikes. This pedestrian has not had a problem with traditional bikes on the sidewalk as they yield the right of way to the pedestrian.

It can be tricky riding bikes on VT Rt. 15 but please pay extra attention if you are riding down hill by Joe's Snack Bar, as there are a lot of pedestrians on the sidewalk in that area.

Thanks for your attention,

Jessica Alexander Jericho Town Clerk

Gratitude for the **Underhill Jericho Fire Department**

I am so grateful to the UJFD for the amazing response they had to my call for help when my CO detector went off last week. They were at my home right away, and when they discovered that indeed we had CO filling our house, we immediately had the entire crew at our home and working together beautifully; to put it bluntly, saving our lives. I was home alone with my kids and my husband was out of town so the care and concern and amazing sense of rescue the department provided is an overwhelming gratitude I am still reveling in.

So, thank you JUFD, and Vermont Gas, and Green Heat for identifying my faulty igniters in my water heater and giving us a safe home to live in. We are grateful.

And to all neighbors — please update your alarms — our hardwired one didn't go off due to renovation construction dust. We were alerted to the CO by a random alarm we had plugged in responding to a toaster oven fire the previous week. Also please have your furnaces and water heaters inspected regularly know now how important this is to do! Thank you, Jericho community, neighbors and friends. It's hard to put into words this feeling of awareness of our need for one another and how important that is.
With gratitude,

Katie Coons Jericho

Blueberry, raspberry plants donated to JeriHill Seniors

Many thanks to Kyle Albee and Branch Out Burlington (BOB) for their generous grant of five blueberry and five raspberry plants to JeriHill Senior Apartments in Jericho.

BOB is a wonderful organization that supports non-profits by providing trees and bushes for the enrichment of the properties of schools, parks, housing developments, and more.

The residents of JeriHill are very grateful for this gift and are planting the bushes now! Thank you Kyle and BOB!

Judy Wade

Supports Collins-Kolb, Underhill Selectboard candidate

To the Editor,

I would like to share my support and gratitude for Maureen Collins-Kolb as a candidate for our Selectboard. While Maureen's background and qualifications speak for themselves, I also personally have not been to a town or church function where Maureen wasn't volunteering her time to help events run more smoothly since she and her family moved to Underhill. Maureen's dedication to our community is already so apparent, it isn't surprising to me that she is willing to take up yet another role that will allow her to support and improve our town. Many thanks to Maureen for all that she continues to do for our citizens,

particularly our children, and for wanting to further her reach of care and collaboration within our town.

Danielle Edwards Underhill

Support for Maureen Collins Kolb for Underhill Selectboard

I am writing to share my support for Maureen Collins Kolb for Underhill Selectboard. Since Maureen and her family moved to Underhill, she has become actively involved in the life of our community, willingly sharing her time and talents for the benefit of all. Her background and skills are well matched for our Selectboard. She is a talented communicator who shares her thinking and reasoning in a manner that encourages others to consider new ideas. She is a respectful listener who is willing to hear other points of view. She does her homework to understand issues and asks clarifying questions for better understanding. She has a great sense of humor which combined with her intelligence and commitment make her an excellent candidate for our hardworking Selectboard. Underhill is fortunate to have such a leader willing to serve on our Selectboard.

Liz Manz Underhill

Gratitude for including Foster Care News

To the Editor,

This is just a "thank you" for always including Foster Care news and information in the Mountain Gazette when you can. It is SO appreciated and helps us spread the word about the needs of foster care providers. We are always recruiting caregivers and sometimes have very specific and highly specialized needs; so, your continued support and endorsement truly helps us find families who can and will provide care to children and youth in

Mary Collins VT Department of Children and Families

OBITUARIES



Douglas Robert Boardman, Sr. passed away from natural causes Thursday morning, May 9, 2024, at his home in Underhill Center, VT. He was 87 years old. He was born on a farm in Tunbridge, VT to Ted and June (Rogers) Boardman and grew up in East Montpelier, VT. As the oldest child, he was responsible for starting the wood stove at the one-room schoolhouse down the road. He met the love of his life, Sandra Jean Somers, the oldest daughter in the iconic Somers Hardware family, while

a student at Montpelier High School. Like characters in a fairy tale, they were born on the same day, same year, in different parts of Vermont. Destiny brought them together, and their love story lasted for more than 60 years until Sandra's death in 2014. Doug was active in track and baseball at Montpelier High and joined the U.S. Navy after graduation. He proudly served as a postmaster on the USS Norfolk and traveled the world. Sandy joined him at the naval base in Malta and they started their family. He was very proud of his Navy service. Upon leaving the Navy, Doug earned an associate's degree in business, later owning a plumbing and heating supply house in Poughkeepsie, NY. When Doug and Sandy returned to Vermont and settled in Underhill Center in 1985, he started Boardman Enterprises, eventually becoming one of the oldest certified master plumbers in Vermont, and he

never officially retired... Doug was a long-time little league coach in both New York and Vermont and loved coaching. He also supported and took great pride in the accomplishments of his children and grandchildren. Doug and Sandy enjoyed traveling and visited every state except Alaska, which he still wanted to visit. After Sandy's death he began a new pastime writing a popular column in the Mountain Gazette, which chronicled (*) his adventures growing up in Vermont and beyond. He was preceded in death by his parents, his beloved wife Sandy, his son Jeffrey, and grandson Lucas Richardson. He is survived by his children: Doug Jr. and wife Jacqui Gale of Johnson, VT; Pamela Burkhardt and husband Will of Emigrant, MT; Randy and wife Sharon of Jericho, VT; and Stephanie Richardson and husband Peter of Barre, VT; and by his grandchildren (Evelyn, Caleb, Cole, and Maggie) and his son-in-law Joe Perry. He is also survived by his sisters Vivian and Gail, brother Greg, sisterin-law Linda (Somers) Bongiolatti, "best friend for life" Bill Bugbee and his wife Pearl, and many nieces and nephews. A memorial service was held on Monday, May 20, 2024 at Guare and Sons Funeral Home in Montpelier, VT with family viewing and a service. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Mount Mansfield Villages, www.mountmansfieldvillages.org, which was a great help to Doug and his family during the past two years. Those wishing to express online condolences may do so at www.guareandsons.com.

(* We at the Mountain Gazette are saddened to hear of Doug

Boardman's passing. We well remember and enjoyed reading his columns — what a lot he had to say, all of it interesting and most of it with wry humor that was a joy to read. We send condolences to his family and friends; he will be missed. — Brenda Boutin and Sara Riley)



Roger Morin, 74, formerly of Underhill, VT, a kind and vibrant soul who touched the lives of many, peacefully succumbed to his battle with Alzheimer's disease on Saturday, April 20, 2024 at Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital in Plattsburgh, NY. Roger was a man of warmth and charisma, who was a friend to everyone. His heart belonged to the joys of golfing, horseback riding, skiing, and dancing. It was through his passion for horses that he found his beloved wife Katherine, also

known as Bea. For 12 beautiful years, Roger and Bea forged horse camping memories during summer months amidst the serene and hilly landscapes of Vermont. Their adventures extended to retracing Roger's ancestry in Québec, exploring Percé, Montmagny, and Ham Nord, and meeting long lost cousins. Roger was a member of the Vermont Horse Council for many years, ultimately becoming president in 2011. Roger was also a member of The Lucky Trail Riders and Dog River Trail Clubs.

Obituaries continued on page 11

WORSHIP SERVICES

Mount Mansfield Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Sunday services at MMUUF are held at 9:30 AM on the second and fourth Sundays of each month, September-June. Services are led by members of the fellowship and by invited guest speakers, including visiting UU ministers and leaders of other faiths. Each service explores a different topic. Worship, reflect, and sustain one another, within an inclusive spiritual community, built on values of honoring and affirming the worth of every person, striving for justice, participating in the world community, and respecting the natural web of existence. Services will be held at our Barn, located opposite Packard Road at 195 VT Rt. 15, Jericho, and also over Zoom; please contact info@mmuuf.org or 802-899-2558 for how to join virtually. Learn more at https:// 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 community. We are young and old; straight and LGBTQIA; singles, couples, and families; believers, questioners, and questioning believers. We are an Open and Affirming and Reconciling church, which means all ARE truly welcome. We are the Old Fashioned Harvest Market Church, the Clutter Barn Church, and a church of fellowship, mission, and service. We gather to worship together virtually and in-person every Sunday morning at 10:00 AM for a traditional but lively service with music, and Sunday School and nursery for the children. We welcome you to join us for worship or just come in, be still, and

contemplate your faith. Located at 7 Park St., Underhill. Pastor's office (with voicemail) 802-899-1722; church secretary email secretary@ucu.church. For instructions on joining worship from home, please see https://unitedchurchofunderhill.com/joiningworship-from-home/.

Second Congregational Church, Jeffersonville

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

Jericho Congregational Church

"An Historic Church Proclaiming an Eternal Message" On the Green in Jericho Center, VT Senior Pastor, David Coons and Youth Pastor, Pete Anderson Sunday School at 8:30 AM for all ages Fellowship time at 9:30 AM Worship Service at 10:00 AM

Nursery care provided Youth group 6:15 PM Sundays in our Sunday school building

All are welcome at Good Shepherd, Jericho

You are invited to worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on VT Rt. 15 at 9:00 AM every Sunday. The building is accessible — all are welcome! There are varied musical styles in worship services, including Folk, Contemporary, Celtic, Latin American, and traditional. Weekday online offerings include Centering Prayer. We are an open-minded Christian community with a focus on social justice issues, where people from different faith traditions, along with those who aren't sure where they belong or what they believe, seek the support of a spiritual home. We welcome you in the name and love of Christ. More information is at www.goodshephrdjericho.org.

Calvary Episcopal Church

Calvary Episcopal is a welcoming, caring, Christian community called to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ, grow our

spiritual gifts, and serve our neighbors. The Spirit is stirring in this little church. Come be a part of it! Calvary is located at 370 VT Rt. 15 in Jericho and worships Sundays at 9:30 AM. The parish administrator can be reached at calvarychurchjericho@ gmail.com or 802-899-0453.

St. Thomas Catholic Church

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

Covenant Community Church — "Come As You Are!"

What is the Covenant? The unique character of the Covenant is expressed in the design of the logo — people united in Christ, people serving people in God's name, and people bringing people to Christ. The basis of the design is symbolic of four people facing north, south, east, and west. Note that each one's arms are outstretched, indicating the church's outreach in mission and service to the world. The four are part of the whole, yet their hands do not touch, symbolizing their unity in the freedom and evangelical warmth that characterizes the Covenant. The geometric arrangement of the four figures results in a cross-like pattern, representative of the center of our faith. The center circle symbolizes the unity and the bond of fellowship which we call "the Covenant."

Sunday: Bible Study, 9:00 – 9:45 AM; Worship Service: 10:00 – 11:00 AM; Coffee Hour: 11:00 AM – ?

Covenant Community Church, 1 Whitcomb Meadows Lane, Essex (VT Rt.15 across from John Leo's)

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.

Miscellaneous continued from page 9

traffic. This work is independent of the Cambridge-Johnson VT 15 Resurfacing Project.

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

Construction activities: crews will continue drainage work along VT 15 in Cambridge and conduct ledge removal throughout the project limits. There is potential for crews to lower structures along VT 15 in Johnson.

Rebates available tor new water heaters

From Efficiency Vermont

They say there's no such thing as a free lunch... but there are (some) free water heaters. With federal funding, for a limited time you may be eligible to get up to 100% of your costs reimbursed to replace your old water heater with a new, energy-efficient heat pump water heater, which can cut your monthly energy costs in

Here are the details: moderate-income Vermonters are eligible for 90% of costs covered (up to \$4500); lower-income Vermonters are eligible for 100% of costs covered (up to \$5000).

Even if you don't qualify for the above rebates, you can still receive \$600 back and pair your project with low-interest financing through Efficiency Vermont's Home Energy Loan. Federal tax credits and additional electric utility incentives can help you save even more.

View the offer details online at https://www.efficiencyvermont. com/hpwh.

There are a lot of other great incentives that you might be eligible for, too. Our new calculator makes it easier than ever to see all of your options in one place, customized for your household. Check out the other incentives customized for your home at https://www.efficiencyvermont.com/calculator.

Respite care for foster parents

There is often confusion around respite care: what it is, how to access it, and how to offer it because it just may be the right and best way for someone to ease into foster care.

What is respite? Respite provides foster parents with breaks so

they can get things done, relax, and re-energize. It also provides children with opportunities to experience new things and develop new relationships with other caring adults. Respite providers care for children for short periods of time such as a few hours, a weekend, or up to a week or two. This can also include giving children and youth daily rides to and from school or weekly rides to after school activities

Sometimes foster families feel nervous or guilty about using respite care. Everyone needs a break! People with their own biological children get babysitters, depend on their relatives and their friends. Respite doesn't have to be a long event. It may just be for a few hours or a few days. Taking care of yourself helps you take care of the children. Sometimes you get a placement and you already had plans lined up. What works really well is finding a respite provider who will provide ongoing respite.

Children often really enjoy respite too. It's a break for them sometimes, too. Many respite homes make it a mini-holiday for the kids by doing special things and having special treats.

You can call 1-800-649-5285 if you need help after hours, on weekends, and on state holidays.

How can families offer respite care? Many families provide respite care before taking on full-time care. Some respite families are retirees or grandparent age. They love seeing kids for the weekend and getting to dote on them regularly when the foster family needs respite. It's perfect for families that don't feel like they can make the commitment to school, doctor's visits, and

In Vermont, to provide formal respite care, you:

- must be at least 18:
- · can be single, married, living with a partner, or joined through civil union;
- must not have had a foster care license denied or revoked. Applications are considered regardless of disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity/expression, race, religion, or sexual

orientation. You'll be reimbursed a nightly or hourly rate.

- How to get approved for respite care:
- call the Resource Coordinator in your local Family Services

• complete the application the Resource Coordinator provides. Respite can be provided in your home, the child's foster home, or the community. If you'll be providing respite in your

home, a worker may visit your home to make sure it meets the requirements:

- · we conduct background checks on members of your household;
 - the district office approves or denies your respite application.

Free symposium on working with asylum-seekers

Everyone is invited to a free, interactive, practical symposium on Friday, June 14, 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM at Vermont Law and Graduate School, Chase Center, South Royalton, locused on welcoming New Americans to Vermont. Join others from around Vermont to learn about and discuss working with and advocating for asylum seekers and other Vermonters seeking humanitarian immigration relief. The event is hosted at Vermont Law and Graduate School (VGLS) in South Royalton and co-sponsored by Vermont Asylum Assistance Project, Vermont Asylum Support Network, Vermont Afghan Alliance, and the VGLS Center for Justice Reform Clinic.

This symposium will cover the law, practice, and experience of asylum-seeking in Vermont. This event is for everyone and no previous experience is required. The event is also available via ive streaming, or via a recording.

Professionals and individuals with lived experience from around Vermont will discuss topics including the basics of humanitarian immigration law, the ways in which immigration status impacts access to services and benefits, practicing cultural humility and trauma-informed advocacy, language access, and know-your-rights for undocumented Vermonters. The event will also include a collaborative workshop with professionals and lay advocates serving asylum seekers, undocumented Vermonters, and other Vermonters seeking immigration relief, on best case management practices.

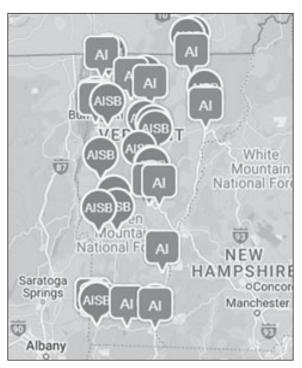
Thanks to our generous sponsors, registration is free and a complimentary lunch will be served. If you can't join in person, we will stream online and also record for those who RSVP.

To register and for more information, the program flyer, and detailed agenda go to www.vermontlaw.edu/news-and-events/ event/welcoming-new-americans-symposium.

Contact info@vaapvt.org with any questions. Submitted on behalf of the Chittenden Asylum Seekers Assistance Network.

ART / MUSIC / THEATER





Visit Vermont public art with a new interactive map from the Vermont Arts Council — Public art influences the way people see and connect with a place. Murals, sculpture, memorials, functional or landscaped architectural elements, community art projects, digital media, performances, and festivals all add value, providing opportunities for people to experience art, even for those who have never set foot in a gallery, museum, or theater. And it can be a key attribute in making communities healthier and more vibrant. Now you can learn more about Council-supported public art projects around Vermont with our new interactive map. Find public installations of sculpture, visual art, kinetic art, and more across Vermont and get directions to them with a click. Learn more about public art and use the map online at https://www.vermontartscouncil.org/programs/public-art/.

The Emile A Gruppe Gallery in Jericho presents a new show titled Window on Vermont, featuring works by members of the Green Mountain Chapter of the Embroiders' Guild of America. Included in the show is a *Myriorama* a sequence of same-sized pieces featuring Vermont themes, stitched by Vermonters, that hang on a common rail. Through Sunday, June 9, artists from the Guild will be at the Gallery every weekend to give informative talks and share information about their work. Please see the Gallery website (https://www. emilegruppegallery.com/current-show) a schedule of events. Items for sale include notecards, pins and ornaments among other larger items, all of which are great gift ideas. Emile A Gruppe Gallery, Barber Farm Road, Jericho.

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

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

Underhill Food Truck Night Summer

Underhill Food Truck Night Summer Schedule: Underhill Food Truck Nights are back for another summer of food and live music, presented by the Underhill Recreation Committee! Mark your calendars for the following dates: Friday, June 21: *Red Hot Juba*; Friday, July 19: *King Me*; Friday, August 16: *The Buckhollers*; Friday, September 20: Blake Matteson, followed by the *Barn Rats*. All Food Truck Nights are in Moore Park in Underhill Center and are from 5:00 – 8:00 PM except for September 20, which is 5:00 – 7:30 PM. Hope to see you there!

Jeffersonville Art Jam — save the dates: the Cambridge Arts Council looks forward to seeing you at the Jeffersonville Art Jam on Saturdays, June 22 and 29 (rain dates Sundays, June 23 and 30), 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM. The festival takes place on Main Street in Jeffersonville, beginning at the Visions of Vermont Gallery (100 Main St.) and extending eastward on the south side of the street. This free event features gallery shows, artist demos, a sidewalk art festival, live music, food and

fun — something for everyone. If the weather cooperates, we may also have sidewalk art events on Sundays (June 23 and 30) as well. Events and venues so far include: Visions of Vermont hosting the Northern Vermont Artists Association's 93rd June Juried Show, which ends June 29; the Carriage House Gallery featuring work by landscape masters Emile Gruppe, Aldo T. Hibbard, Thomas Curtin, Robert Blair, Eric Tobin, and others; music under the mini circus tent at 1:00 PM (June 22 Mango Jam Zydeco, June 29 tbd); a sidewalk art fest with artist booths; Bryan Memorial Gallery presenting three shows: 40 Years Together (celebrating their 40th anniversary), New England Waterways and Legacy 2024. Please contact 802-644-1418 or cambridgeartsvt@gmail.com if you have questions or ideas for the Art Jam.

Fall Open Studio / Underhill Art Council: There is a motion afoot to have a gathering of local artists and artisans on Saturday, October 5 from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM in the Underhill Town Hall. The idea would be similar to past efforts by our artistic community; however, the focus would be to have a day to show and sell artwork and fine craft as a part of the Vermont Open Studio supported by the Vermont Crafts Council. The intention is to make available a place for those artisans who don't have their own studio space or folks who might like to join in a collective. There may be a small nominal fee to participate. Those funds would go directly to support Open Studio. We imagine adding in food vendors and music as possible to the event. If you are interested in this potentially fun and colorful activity or have questions, please email Betsy Chapek, echapek4@gmail.

Weekly Burlington Literature Group meets on Tuesdays, via Zoom: Michael Sevy of Jericho co-leads this weekly virtual book group and would welcome new committed readers to our sessions. The group met for years meeting in person, but since the has met via Zoom every Tuesday at 6:30 PM. We break down interesting, challenging books into weekly segments of 60-100 pages to discuss form, content, and our impressions in a friendly online forum. Details can be found at https:// nereadersandwriters.com/ or by emailing info@nereadersandwriters.com. Our next author is Nobel Laureate Patrick Modiano and we will be reading two of his novels, Missing Person and Suspended Sentences. Schedule details for Missing Person: June 4, Chapters 1-16; June 11, Chapter 17 to end. Schedule details for Suspended Sentences: June 18, Afterimage; June 25, Suspended Sentences; July 2: Flowers of Ruin.

The Bryan Memorial Gallery in Jeffersonville in their 40th season presents the Legacy 2024 Collection (through Sunday, December 22 in the East Gallery) features the works of 17 contemporary artists and includes selected works by Mary Bryan and Alden Bryan. The Legacy Collection continues to honor the tradition of artists who visit Vermont and New England specifically to paint. The Bryan Memorial Gallery opened two new exhibitions this spring. The first: New England Waterways (through Sunday, July 7) in the Middle Room Gallery, tasks artists of all mediums to depict the waterways and shorelines around New England, lake, river or the ocean. Stop in to see the artists who successfully tackled this waterway challenge! The second: 40 Years Together (through Sunday, August 25) in the Main Gallery,

celebrates the Gallery's 40th anniversary with a vast collection of historical and contemporary works as well as a selection of Mary and Alden Bryan's original paintings. Artists were asked to create works with subject matter from this region of Vermont, highlighting Jeffersonville, Lamoille County, and the landscapes that artists have been coming to paint for over one hundred years. Gallery Wednesday-Sunday, Hours: 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM or appointment Mondays and Tuesdays. Additional information: Stephen Gothard, Director, 802-644-5100 or info@bryangallery.org www.bryangallery.org.

At Bryan Fine Art Gallery in Stowe through Sunday, July 14: Evoking Vermont's Landscape. Six talented Vermont artists showcase their original interpretations of the state's diverse scenery, celebrating Vermont's natural surroundings in works that capture the spirit of Vermont, each artist bringing their own flair and interpretation. Participating artists: Ken Rush, Danby; David Pound, Stowe; Steve Clark, Vergennes; Kate Follett, Jacksonville; James Rauchman, Morrisville: Pardue, Mathew N.

Ferrisburgh. Free admission. For more information about this and other upcoming exhibitions and events: www.bryangallery. org. Bryan Fine Art Gallery, 64 S. Main St., Stowe. Hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Sunday 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM; Friday, Saturday 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM. For more information contact 802-760-6474 or info@bryangallery.org.

Monthly Essex Art League meeting on the first Thursdays, **September-June** — Artists and art lovers are welcome to join Essex Art League (EAL) and participate in our year-round, weekly en Plein Air gatherings. We meet each Thursday to paint in a different and beautiful location in the area. Joining EAL also avails you of opportunities for field trips to shows and galleries as well as participating in workshops. The Essex Art League has been open to artists and art lovers from throughout Vermont for 50+ years. For our June 6 meeting: summer potluck kicks off EAL summer recess. Those looking for more information may go to our website http://essexartleague. com/.

SongFarmers, a community music jam — a place for friends and neighbors to play music just for the fun of it. SongFarmers meets on every third Wednesday of the month (June 19), 6:00 - 8:00 PM at the Jericho Community Center, Browns Trace, Jericho Center. For people of all ages who want to play folk, Americana, blues, bluegrass, Celtic, and more on acoustic instruments - no electronics except keyboard and bass. Everyone who wants to will have a chance to lead songs. Common tunes with simple chord progressions are encouraged so that everyone can play along. Both songs and instrumentals are great. Please note this is not a performance, open mic, or lesson. Folks who want to sing, or just enjoy the gathering, are welcome. Bring snacks and drinks if you like, but no alcohol. Free. Registration is appreciated; contact CommunityJamJUVT@gmail.com.



Obituaries continued from page 10 -

He helped coordinate the Extreme Trail Challenge presented at the Everything Equine and Canine Exhibits of the Essex County Fair Grounds in Vermont during 2013 and 2014. Roger was a proud Division 1 U.S. Army veteran of the Viet Nam War. Upon returning home, he supported numerous American Legions and Veterans of Foreign War organizations. Trained as a mechanic, he established several auto repair businesses, leaving a lasting mark over the years in Florida and Vermont. His last business spanned three decades in Underhill, VT. After gaining a passion for the sport from his father, Roger played golf on courses in New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, and anywhere else he happened to be visiting. Prior to becoming ill, he especially enjoyed Tuesday evenings with his Plattsburgh, NY Barracks golf league. Roger leaves behind his cherished family: wife Katherine (Bea), stepson Mike Bilyeu, grandson Aedan Bilyeu, son Mac Verdi with wife Kristen, and granddaughters Brianna, Giavanna, and Giulianna, his mother Lucille, sisters Crissy Starai, Lorainne Tomlinson,

Paulette and husband Petter Appolonia, brother-in-law Glenn Call and wife Eileen, as well as many aunts, uncles, nephews, nieces, and cousins. He was predeceased by his sister Annette, brother Bobby, father Maurice, horses Chance and Domino, and bulldogs Matty and Fangy. To his beloved grandson Aedan, Roger was not just a grandfather but a kind and generous Pépé, leaving behind cherished memories. A memorial to honor and celebrate Roger's life will be arranged at a later date. To share a photo, story, or offer online condolences, please visit http://www. rwwalkerfh.com. The arrangements have been entrusted to the R.W. Walker Funeral Home, 69 Court Street, Plattsburgh, NY. A memorial service was held at Calvary Episcopal Church, 370 VT Rt. 15, Underhill, VT on Saturday, May 25, 2024; a private burial took place following the service. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Community Hospice & Palliative Care, 4266 Sunbeam Rd., Jacksonville, FL 32257, or make a gift online at https://thefoundationcares.org/give/.

Christine Wheatley (Burns), Kit to those who knew her, passed away peacefully on Monday, February 5, 2024 surrounded by her family after an 18-month struggle with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) in Freeport, Maine. Kit's full obituary may be found in the March 7, 2024 edition of the Mountain Gazette (https://www.mountaingazetteofvermont.com/, then



select 2024 followed by March 7; page 8-9). A funeral service will be held on Tuesday, June 18, 2024 at 10:00 AM at St. Thomas Church, Underhill, Vermont, followed by a burial in St. Thomas Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Kit's name may be made to Hospice of Southern Maine (https://www.hospiceofsouthernmaine.org) or to the ALS Association, Northeast Territory (www.als.org).

SCHOOL NEWS

Cambridge Community Pavilion update and call to action

From Deb Nevil, CES PTA

The Cambridge Elementary School (CES) Parent Teacher Association (PTA) has some good news to share: the Better Places Crowdfunding campaign for Cambridge Community Pavilion was launched on May 1! We have a \$20,000 goal to receive a 2:1 matching grant through DHCD's Better Places program. As of May 14, we have raised \$10, 810.

Cambridge residents will soon be able to enjoy a 30'x42' timber frame pavilion with electricity thanks to the crowdfunding campaign. Please join us to get to our goal. There are donation levels for everyone.

Please find our crowdfunding site and donate at http:// patronicity.com/cambridgecommunitypavillion.

We are requesting a call to action! We would like this project to represent all in this community, as the pavilion will be there for all to use. We are challenging the community in the following

- 100 people donate \$10;
- 50 people donate \$20;25 people donate \$40;
- 20 people donate \$50;
- 10 people donate \$75; or
- 5 people donate \$100.

The campaign is sponsored by the VT Department of Housing

and Community Development's Better Places program, and offered through the crowdfunding platform developed by Patroncity. The campaign is led by the CES PTA.

If the campaign reaches its \$20,000 dollar amount by June 30, 2024, the Cambridge Community Pavilion will receive a matching grant of \$40,000 from DHCD's Better Places program.

Please share the news with your friends and families. We have great things planned for this wonderful community!

MMUUSD last day of school June 18

From John Alberghini, MMUUSD Superintendent

Planning for summer care and camps has become increasingly difficult for families over the past several years as school cancellations due to weather, flooding, and other emergencies have extended the school year. In an effort to support families in effectively planning for the summer, we are setting the last student day for this year on Tuesday, June 18.

Based on the number of emergency school closures so far this year, we will meet our traditional number of 178 school days. The state requires 175 student days. Therefore, if we have additional school closures, MMUUSD will repurpose the student days for staff professional development and set the last student day on Tuesday, June 18. This is a practice that will continue in subsequent school years.



The Cambridge Historical Society is sponsoring The Rich History of Sports at Cambridge High School 1920-1967, a presentation by Spencer Noble, at Warner Lodge, 49 School St., Jeffersonville, on Wednesday, June 12, 7:00 - 8:00 PM. The program is free, and all are welcome. The building is handicapped accessible. Refreshments will be served homemade, of course!

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

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

mtngazette@gmavt.net

SENIOR NEWS

Age Well Grab'n'Go meals

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

Jericho's Age Well Grab'n'Go Senior Meal this month is June 12, with pickup at Community Center in Jericho (CCJ), 329 Browns Trace, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Suggested Donation \$5. These are nutritious "heat and eat" meals. This month, the meal is meatloaf with brown gravy, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, wheat bread with butter, apple crisp with topping, and milk. Please register by Friday, June 7 by contacting CCJ Manager Jen Greenwood, ccjvermont@gmail.com or call/text 802-274-4024.

Bolton will now have Age Well Grab'n'Go meals delivered to the Bolton Fire Station on the second Wednesday of each month (June 12); pick up times between 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM. To order a meal, please contact Robin Pecor-Brunell, 802-434-3042 orrpecor@hotmail.com, by the Friday before the meal is to be delivered.

Richmond will offer Age Well Grab'n'Go meals on Thursdays, June 6 and July 4, with pickup between 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM at Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Church Richmond, 64 W Main St., Richmond. Please call 802-865-0360 to order a meal by Friday before the meal is to be delivered.

Underhill offers its Grab'n'Go Senior Meal on Wednesday, June 26, St. Thomas's Church, 6 Green St., Underhill Center. Pickup times: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Menu: beef Stroganoff with mushroom sauce over rotini, Brussels sprouts, wheat roll with butter, peaches, milk. Please register by Thursday, June 20 by contacting Teri, office@stthomasvt.com or 802-899-4632. No delivery available; suggested donation \$5.

For more information about AgeWell and their services, visit http://www.agewellvt.org.

ou are invited!

The Mountain Gazette will publish the 2024 Senior photos from Mount Mansfield Union High School in the June 20 issue (deadline June 13).

> Please help us in honoring these wonderful students with a congratulations ad.

Pricing starts at \$33.00 for a business card. Larger sizes available.

Please see the attached rate card on page 14 for more information or email Brenda Boutin at mtngazette@gmavt.net.

SPORTS NEWS



Trail update at Mills Riverside Park By Bruce Blokland

The Fieldstone West Loop trail is approximately half a mile in length and has an undulating elevation gain of 60 feet. It is accessed by walking up the main Connector Trail, from the park's bridge. The Connector Trail passes the playing fields, the pavilion, and Eagle's Meadow before it begins to climb to reach the Fieldstone West Loop trailhead.

The Fieldstone West Loop is clearly signed, and the trail is

marked by yellow triangles affixed to trees. Walkers can easily find their way as they wander through a hardwood forest and past lichen-encrusted stone walls. Poor drainage, seeps, and heavy rainfalls, combined with ever-increasing foot traffic contributed to damaging erosion and constant muddy trails. It is perhaps the most-traveled trail in the woods.

In order to combat the erosion and eliminate the muddy sections, the Jericho Underhill Park District (JUPD) hired Rabbit Tracks Trail Works to repair a large section of the Fieldstone West trail. The repair work began last summer but due to constant rains and poor trail conditions through the summer of 2023, the work was not completed.

The spring of 2024 proved to be fairly dry, and Rabbit Tracks was able to tackle the remaining sections of trail remediation in mid-May. Generally speaking, the repairs to the Fieldstone West Loop trail incorporated the installation of many new culverts, extensive ditching, French drains, and elevating the trail tread above the muddy sections utilizing geo-grid anchored with stone and covered with a fine aggregate stone surface.

Rabbit Tracks completed the trail repairs on Friday, May 24; the trail remained closed to foot traffic until May 26 to allow the finished aggregate surface to settle and firm up.

JUPD also asks that horses remain off the Fieldstone West Loop until mid-June.

Users of the Mills Riverside Park trail network include walkers, runners, mountain bikers, horseback riders, cross-country skiers, and snowshoers. What these travelers will find now is a trail surface that is smoother, dryer, less muddy, and much firmer — and will remain so for many years to come.

MMU sports photos: lacrosse, tennis, ultimate

From Terry Healy, Jericho

Here are the latest batch of photos for MMU. As always, best viewed on something larger than a phone. I hope you like them.

- MMU Boys Varsity Lacrosse vs. South Burlington, May 17: https://lostinvermont.com/mmu-boys-varsity-lacrosse-vs-south-burlington
- MMU Girls Varsity Lacrosse vs. Hartford, May 20: https://lostinvermont.com/mmu-girls-varsity-lacrosse-vs-hartford
- MMU Boys Tennis vs. Middlebury, May 10: https://lostinvermont.com/mmu-boys-tennis-vs-middlebury
- MMU Boys Ultimate vs. Multiple, May 11: https://lostinvermont.com/mmu-boys-ultimate
- MMU Girls Ultimate vs. Milton, May 14: https://lostinvermont.com/mmu-girls-ultimate-vs-milton
- MMU Girls JV Lacrosse vs. CVU, May 15: https://lostinvermont.com/mmu-girls-jv-lacrosse-vs-cvu

Underhill Town Pond Opening Party June 8

From the Underhill Recreation Committee

There will be an opening party for the Underhill Town Pond and Recreation Area on Stevensville Road on Saturday, June 8, 2:00-4:00 PM. Come down to the pond for a celebration party!

The pond will be open for swimming, there will be an ice cream truck as well as the normal fun and games like tennis and pickleball.

Hope to see you there!

August 25 Dinner at the Vineyard to benefit youth basketball

As summer schedules are filling up, save the date and mark your calendars for the second annual Dinner at the Vineyard to benefit Mount Mansfield Youth Basketball League (MMYBL) on Sunday, August 25, 4:00 – 7:00 PM (rain date Monday, August 26). Hosted at the Huntington River Vineyard. Reservations will be required, \$20/adult and \$10/child. More information will be available in early August when reservations are being accepted. Please spread the word... we hope to see you there! For more information or with questions, contact admin@mmybl.org; Instagram mmybl_vt.

Registration open Wolverine Youth Football

Registration for the 2024 Fall Season Wolverine Youth Football is open! Our website https://ceyfa.org/ provides lots of information about our program. Registration (with payment) is due on or before August 1, 2024. Find the registration form and payment information at https://ceyfa.org/ under the Registration tab (scroll down).

The CEYFA (Chittenden East Youth Football Association) Wolverines program serves student athletes in grades 1-8 in the towns of Jericho, Underhill, Richmond, Huntington, and Bolton. We are one of approximately 16 teams that comprise the Northern Vermont Youth Football League (NVYFL). Our mission is to offer each athlete the opportunity to enjoy the sport of football in a positive and safe environment. All coaches are certified by

the USA Football Organization for the highest of safety standards and the health and well-belling of our student athletes.

The Wolverine program runs mid-August through October, with a long history of Championship football.

The teams are comprised of Flag Football and Tackle Football:
• Flag — grades 1-4 play 7vs.7 flag football without equipment.
The teams are further broken down into grades 1-2 and 3-4.

• Tackle — grades 5-8 with equipment provided. The teams are further broken down into grades 5-6 and 7-8. Player weight limits are unlimited, but to run/catch offensively the league has set limits to enhance safety of all players.

The Wolverines will also have plenty of preseason activities this summer starting Tuesday, June 18. These optional workouts, training, and just having fun are open to all age groups. All are welcome to stop by and discover what the Wolverines are all about

Come be part of a team, build strong relationships, learn life lessons, and build memories that will last a lifetime while learning the game of football!

Cambridge Rec recommends

Pick-up Pickleball and Basketball! Tai Chi! Pilates! The full schedule of what's available from the Cambridge Recreation is online at https://cambridgeccvt.myrec.com/info/activities/default.aspx.

Kick It by Eliza, with Amy — Wednesdays, June 12, 19, and 26 at 5:30 PM at Cambridge Community Center. \$12 per class.

Summer Aqua Fitness at Smuggs: Aqua Deep and Aqua Strong. Aqua Deep at Courtside Pool starts Friday, June 21 and runs weekly at 9:15 AM. Buoy belts will be provided. Aqua Strong is at Mountainside Pool on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:15 AM, beginning June 18. A Summer Pass is not required for these class offerings. For class description and pricing, visit https://www.smuggs.com/. Email AEA instructor Laura Thomason, moveinthewater@gmail.com, for more information.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



Sam Graulty of Jericho is the new Events Manager at VLT, helping to plan and execute VLT's events on the land as well as online. A graduate of UVM's Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, Sam joined VLT in April after serving as the Program Coordinator at Generator Makerspace in Burlington for three years. He has also led outdoor programs and taught at an independent school. In a happy coincidence with his current role at VLT, Sam is a volunteer on the Jericho town

committee for Mobbs Farm, a natural area open to the public for recreation that VLT helped protect in 2022. "I'm very excited to work with VLT, especially through events," said Sam. "I love helping to deepen people's understanding and relationship with the landscape. There are so many opportunities and I'm excited to work with partners, communities, VLT staffers and others to continue to offer great programs while developing new opportunities!" Whenever possible, Sam heads outside — on bikes, boats, skates, and skis; or (if it's rainy) he might stay in to make greeting cards out of old magazines.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

MILLS RIVERSIDE PARK TRAIL MAP South Hill cop Training to the state of the state



Five-year-old Nala Brooks and her dad Thomas of Richmond with a first place trophy in her age group for taking home a whopping 18-inch brook trout, one of the larger (brook trout) ever taken in the derby's history. This year, the Chittenden County Fish & Game Club's annual Father's Day Fishing Derby is on Sunday, June 16, 8:00 – 11:00 AM.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Summer Free Fishing Day June 8

Vermont's annual statewide Summer Free Fishing Day is Saturday, June 8 this year, and it will be highlighted by a free family fishing festival in Grand Isle as well as opening day of the state's regular bass fishing season.

"Vermont's Free Fishing Day gives resident and nonresident anglers the opportunity to go fishing without a license for the day in Vermont lakes and streams," said Fish and Wildlife Commissioner Christopher Herrick. "Free Fishing Day is a great opportunity for an experienced angler to be a mentor to friends who have not gone fishing before. A day on the water could lead to a lifetime of great experiences and healthy local food."

Free Fishing Day in Vermont also will be celebrated at the "Grand Isle Family Fishing Festival," to be held at the Ed Weed Fish Culture Station at 14 Bell Hill Rd., Grand Isle. The festival will run from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM.

Designed for young or novice anglers and families, this exciting event offers basic fishing instruction and the chance for kids to catch big trout in a hatchery pond. No prior fishing experience is needed, and Vermont Fish and Wildlife will be supplying fishing rods, reels, and bait for use by participants.

Vermont's regular bass season also opens on June 8, marking the start of some of the hottest bass fishing action in the northeast. The season opens each year on the second Saturday in June and extends through the last day of November.

To learn more about fishing in Vermont or to purchase a fishing license, go online to https://vtfishandwildlife.com/.

COLLEGE NEWS

Angela Bellizzi of Cambridge, VT has been named to the Winter 2024 President's List at Southern New Hampshire University, Manchester, NH.

Hayden Felkel of Jericho, VT graduated from Paul Smith's College, Paul Smiths, NY in May 2024. Felkel earned an AAS in Arboriculture and Landscape Management.

Zachary Fisher of Waterbury, VT, a member of the Class of 2024 at Stonehill College, Easton, MA, will begin working at British Petroleum after graduating from Stonehill College on Sunday, May 19, 2024.

Ceilidh Rose Kiegle of Jericho, VT, a senior majoring in literature, was named to the Dean's List for the Spring 2024 semester at Clarkson University, Potsdam, NY.

Linden Malmgren of Jericho, VT was sworn in as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Armenia. She is one of 21 new volunteers to serve in the country. Malmgren earned her bachelor's degree from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, Canada. She will serve as an education volunteer in Armenia.

Shaelyn McAnulty of Underhill, VT has been named to Winter 2024 Dean's List at Southern New Hampshire University, Manchester, NH.

Jessica Pouliot of Westford, VT has been named to the Dean's List for the Winter 2023 Practical Nursing term at Vermont State University, Randolph Center, VT.

Grace Solod of Underhill, VT, graduated with a bachelor's degree from Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA. Solod majored in Biology and Biotechnology.

Emily Tanski of Waterbury, VT has been named to the Winter 2024 President's List at Southern New Hampshire University, Manchester, NH.

Elizabeth Walko of Jericho, VT has been named to the Winter 2024 President's List at Southern New Hampshire University, Manchester, NH.

MOUNTAIN GAZETTE RATE SHEET 2024

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

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

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

Total regular circulation 3500

OPEN RATE

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

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

1/16 page - \$49.50 3 1/4" x 3"

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

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

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

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

> Full page - \$390.00 10 1/4 " x 15 1/2"

Business directory ads: \$18 each, must buy 5 consequtive issues (\$90.00 pre-paid) No changes. Size 3 1/4" x 1 1/2"

Classified ads: \$6.50 for 25 words, 10 cents for each additional word

Prepaid contracts available - Save up to 20%.
Purchase six ads of any size and run within 12 monthe.
Call Brenda Boutin, advertising manager at 802-453-6354 for details

Subscriptions \$35.00 per year - 24 issues

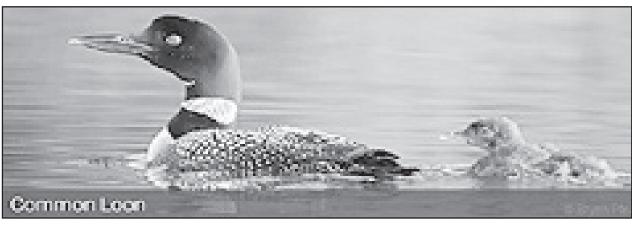
Inserts 1-4 pages, 8 1/2" x 11" Cost \$45.00 prepaid per 1000 Must purchase full circulation

> Publicatin: First and Third Thursday/Month Deadlines: Thursday before publication Copy - 12:00 Noon Advertising 5:00 PM

The Mountain Gazette, 6558 VT RTE 116, Starksboro, VT 05487

Phone: 802-453-6354 mtngazette@gmavt.net

www.mountaingazetteofvermont.com



A loon chick follows its parent on a lake in Vermont.

PHOTO FROM HTTPS://VTECOSTUDIES.ORG/WILDLIFE/BIRDS/WATER-BIRDS/COMMON-LOON/

Fish Lead Free Project encourages anglers to protect loons

The Fish Lead Free Project launched by the Vermont Center for Ecostudies (VCE) in partnership with local lake associations and the VT Fish & Wildlife Department aims to help anglers adopt loon-friendly fishing practices more easily.

VCE and partners have installed collection tubes at boat access areas at 24 bodies of water across the state for anglers to easily and safely discard lead sinkers plus unwanted monofilament lines and hooks. By getting lead out of people's tackle boxes, loon biologists hope to reduce future loon and other wildlife

In 2007, a ban on the sale and use of lead sinkers one-half-ounce or less in Vermont yielded mixed results. Within the law's first decade, loon mortality rates attributed to lead tackle decreased three-fold. However, VCE has documented a substantial increase in lead fishing gear mortalities from 2019-2023, averaging two to three loons dying from lead each year.

"Despite efforts to reduce instances of lead poisoning in loons it remains one of the leading causes of death among the state's adult loons," says VCE loon biologist Eric Hanson. "Since 2019, 20% of all adult loon deaths were attributed to ingestion of lead sinkers, monofilament lines, and hooks.'

Lead is widely known for its neurotoxic effects on both

people and animals. When it comes to loons, consuming even a small split lead fishing sinker is fatal. Typically, by the time a loon shows symptoms of lead poisoning it's too late, and the only humane option is euthanization. "Thankfully, affordable non-lead sinker options exist," says VT Fish & Wildlife's Bird Biologist Jill Kilborn. "And we wanted to provide a convenient option for safely disposing of lead tackle as anglers swap out with safer alternatives."

VCE's lead gear collection tubes have a unique design that is based on a model created by Friends of Waterbury Reservoir. At each site, volunteers and lake association members will monitor tube use, while VCE will track data and properly dispose of collected tackle. Lead tackle collection tubes are located at the following boat access areas on Vermont lakes and ponds: Caspian, Dunmore, Echo (Charleston), Elmore, Fairfield, Fairlee, Great Averill, Harvey's, Hortonia, Iroquois, Joe's, Little Averill, Morey, Neal, Ninevah, Parker, Raponda, Ricker, Shadow (Glover), St. Catherine, Waterbury, Woodbury, and Woodward. Many solid waste collection sites will also recycle metals.

Please keep an eye on the VCE webpage https://vtecostudies. org/projects/lakes-ponds/common-loon-conservation/vermontloon-conservation-project/loons-and-lead-tackle/ for an updated list as more sites become available.

To learn more about lead tackle and loons, email loon@ vtecostudies.org.



The Mountain Gazette is a hometown newspaper serving Bolton, Cambridge, Jeffersonville, Jericho, Underhill, and Westford; it has been doing so for the past 23 years.

The newspaper works to deliver information of interest to a wide variety of readers, including but not limited to news and news briefs, health information, legislative reports, letters to the editor, library news, obituaries, art/ music/theater, senior citizens, school news, and sports. We present columns written by community members and others we deem interesting, such as one by Chittenden County Forester Ethan Trapper.

The paper is a vehicle where readers can submit poems, short stories, and photos for publication. Another column features college news and notes.

In June we print the photos of the graduating class from Mount Mansfield Unified Union High School.

We would like to invite you to join our advertising

community. Your ad would appear in our printed paper. We store-

and business-drop (and place in libraries and town offices) printed papers in our core communities of Bolton, Cambridge, Jeffersonville, Jericho, Underhill, and Westford, as well as in Essex, Essex Junction, Hinesburg, Huntington, Richmond, and Fairfax.

Each edition of the Mountain Gazette is loaded to the home page of our website www.mountaingazetteofvermont. *com*; the website also maintains an archive that preserves the entire paper including advertisers for every edition since 2008. For each edition, we post a link to the current edition on our website to our Facebook page.

> Please contact Brenda Boutin, publisher and advertising manager, at 802-453-6354 or mtngazette@gmavt.net for more information or to discuss advertising.

> > Thank you.

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

mtngazette@gmavt.net

ou are invited!

The Mountain Gazette will publish the 2024 Senior photos from **Mount Mansfield Union High School** in the June 20 issue (deadline June 13).

> Please help us in honoring these wonderful students with a congratulations ad.

Pricing starts at \$33.00 for a business card. Larger sizes available.

Please see the attached rate card on page 14 for more information or email Brenda Boutin at mtngazette@gmavt.net.

THERE'S ROOM FOR YOU IN THE DIRECTORY **BUSINESS**

2 columns x 1.5" - \$18.00 each - No change ads Must purchase 5 consecutive issues -\$90.00 prepaid.

2 columns x 3" - \$25.00 each - No change ads Must purchase 5 consecutive issues - \$125.00 prepaid.

2 columns x 4" - \$35 each - No change ads Must purchase 5 consecutive issues - \$175.00 prepaid.

Contact Brenda Boutin at mtngazette@gmavt.net

LANDSCAPE & GARDEN



113 Route 15, Jericho • 899-8900

Growing well rooted paints and relationships since 1983 Design • Stonework • Planting • Patios • Water Features www.creativelandscapingvt.com • Like us on 🖪 @creativeLGC

ROBERT SCHANTZ Horticuralist 113 Route 15, Jericho, VT 05465 robertschantz@msn.com

Ph 802-899-8900 Fax 802-899-4957 Cell 802-363-4445

HANDYMAN/CONSTRUCTION

Jay and Jeremy

802-373-0018 or 802-370-8704

fully insured - Beferences

HANDYMAN/CONSTRUCTION



PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

All Phase Property Maintenance, LLC

Sanding & Salting Services

Fully Insured



24 HR **Service**

Lawn Care & Gardens, Fence Installation/Repair, Pressure Washing, Stone-Concrete Walkways, Walls and Patios, Firewood, Light Trucking, Driveway Installation & Repair York raking, Brush hogging, Snow Plowing, Sanding & Salting, Electrical & much more

Office: 899-2919 - Cell: 734-8247

Stephan Griffiths Jr. - Owner allphase87@email.com

Essex, VT 05452

Seeking donations for Camp Dream

By Kate Fooshee, Camp DREAM Activities Coordinator Camp DREAM is a 501(c)(3) non-profit in Fletcher. We offer free summer camp to kids in low-income housing, and we are looking for some loans/donations if you are getting rid of anything!

Loan, mid-June to mid-August: two goats (non-milking); and four to six ducks

Donations: PFDs; dehumidifier; couch/ futons; metal shelves; kayaks; canoes; free-standing canoe rack.

If you would like to learn more about the organization, here's our website: https://www.dreamprogram.org/dream-adventurebase. Please feel free to contact Kate (katefooshee@gmail.com) with any questions! Thank you for your generosity.

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

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

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

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

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

Wreck Camp: a Happy Accidents **Art Summer Day Camp**

At Wreck Camp, campers ages 4-11 explore artistic processes, build summer bonds, and have camp fun! The camp will be held on weekdays (Monday-Friday) at the Jericho Elementary School, 8:30 AM - 1:30 PM.

The camp is run by local comics cartoonist and licensed art educator Ben Cohen.

- Each week has a theme:
- Superhero: July 22-July 26;
- Robot: July 29-August 2;
- Magical: August 5-August 9;
- Monsters: August 12-August 16.

Sign up for one week at a time, or the entire month. Space is limited, but you can reserve a spot today — join online at https:// www.thewreckcamp.com.

VTSU Johnson **Summer Athletics Camps**

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

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

• Boys Basketball Camp, Sunday-Thursday June 16-20, day and overnight;

- Boys and Girls Volleyball Camp, Monday-Thursday, June 24-27, day only;
- Boys and Girls Soccer Camp, day only, three sessions, all Monday-Friday: July 8-12 (session 1), July 15-19 (session 2), July 22-26 (session 3);
- · Girls Softball Camp, Sunday-Thursday July 14-18, day and overnight;
- Girls Basketball Camp, Sunday-Thursday August 11-15, day and overnight.

Girl Scout camps in Vermont

Registrations are open for Girl Scout day camps and overnight camps for this summer! Our nearest day camp is located in Richmond on a lovely parcel in the woods, and our overnight camp is in Thetford, VT. If that's your jam, come join us!

Here are the postings from Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains:

Join us for a summer of fun at Camp Twin Hills! Camp Twin Hills is located in Richmond, VT and offers one-week and twoweek sessions for campers in kindergarten through grade 10. Visit the link to learn more about our programs and bus routes: https:// www.girlscoutsgwm.org/en/activities/camp-and-outdoors/twinhills.html.

Join us for a summer of fun at Camp Farnsworth! Camp Farnsworth is located in Thetford, VT on Lake Abenaki and offers sessions ranging from four days to two weeks for campers in grades 1-12. Visit the link to learn more about our programs: https://www.girlscoutsgwm.org/en/activities/camp-andoutdoors/farnsworth.html.

Lake Champlain Yacht Club's Junior Sailing Camps

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

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

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

Summer camp registration open at Saxon Hill School

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

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

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

Camps run weekly from June 10-August 12, 9:00 AM – 3:00

See our website for more information and to register: https:// sax on hill school. org/summer-camp. html.

Chittenden County Soccer School

By Eric Barker

Registration is open until Saturday, June 22 for Chittenden

County Soccer School (CCSS) 2024, Monday-Friday, July 8-12 at Mills Riverside Park in Jericho. All players receive a camp tee and team award. We have a dedicated and experienced coaching staff returning again this summer to day camp options, and age groups range from 5-16+.

email barkereric15@gmail.com, with Please questions. Or visit our website: https://sites.google.com/view/ chittendencountysoccerschool/home.

BCA Summer Camps

Secure a summertime filled with creative fun for the young artists in your life — Burlington City Arts' (BCA's) summer camp registration is now open. With an abundance of unique offerings for ages 6-17, half-day options to combine to create a full-day camp (see catalog at https://secure.rec1.com/VT/ burlington-vt/catalog) and an Aftercare Art Club that goes until 5:00 PM, you can create a custom camp experience that supports your whole family.

Spaces are limited and they go fast, so be ready and browse the options, submit a scholarship application (https://www. burlingtoncityarts.org/form/apply-for-a-youth-scholarship), create an account or locate your login at https://secure.rec1. com/VT/burlington-vt/catalog and be ready with your camper's full information for checkout. You can also peruse our camp registration FAQs (https://www.burlingtoncityarts.org/sites/ default/files/2023-12/Camp_2024_FAQ_edited.pdf) to get all the tips and tricks that will make registering a breeze.

Green Mountain Conservation Camp registration open

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

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

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

Information and registration are available at https:// vtfishandwildlife.com/learn-more/gmcc.

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

Vermonter summer programs at Smuggs for kids ages 7-15

This summer, dive into the adventure that awaits at Smugglers' Notch Resort in Jeffersonville. Smuggs Camp is your ticket to extraordinary summer memories, filled with unique experiences you won't find anywhere else. Transportation is available for \$10 per day, per child round trip to and from Burlington, Jericho, and Essex. The cost is \$119 (one program is \$129) per day, per child, for programs available Monday-Friday, June 17-August 30: High Adventure' Mountain Bike; STEM Projects, Problems, and Puzzles; Wilderness and Survival Skills, Arts and Crafts, and Discovery Camp.

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

Stowe Children's Theatre: Seussical Jr. camp

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

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

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

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

Option 3: Production Camp for those interested in the arts of

Scenic Design and Lighting Learn Design. together what it takes to put all of the technical elements of a show together; no experience needed. For information, https://stowechildrenstheatre. com/product/seussical-jrproduction-camp-2024/.

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

We are offering a 25% tuition discount for siblings. Feel free to use the CODE: ge is el 24 stowe.

Questions? Contact Molly the Director, stowechildrenstheatre@gmail. com or 802-730-4157.



